Museo Civico e Gipsoteca Bistolfi

Category: Museum
business description: The Civic Museum is located in the ancient Augustinian convent of Santa Croce which in its two cloisters preserves frescoes by Guglielmo Caccia known as il Moncalvo with the help of Giorgio Alberini. Twenty-four rooms are home to more than five hundred works which represent a rich heritage closely linked to the history of the town and Piedmontese and Lombard art.

The Museum is divided into two sections: the Picture gallery, on the first floor, exhibits a fine series of paintings with works by Martino Spanzotti, Guglielmo Caccia known as il Moncalvo, Niccolò Musso (Self-portrait), Pietro Francesco Guala, Angelo Morbelli. The exhibition is completed by several marble busts dating from the Roman period, ancient wooden sculptures and ceramics.

On the ground floor are the five rooms of the Gipsoteca (Plaster cast gallery) of Leonardo Bistolfi (1859 – 1933), one of the few Italian collections able to illustrate the entire creative path of a sculptor in its fullness. More than 170 works of the symbolist maestro from Casale who achieved international fame are on show: sculptures in terracotta, raw earth, Plasticine modelling clay, sketches and models in plaster, works in marble and bronze and some drawings and paintings.

The museum offer is also enriched by the exhibition entitled “Carlo Vidua. Una vita in viaggio, dal Monferrato all’Estremo Oriente (1785-1830)”, the extraordinary ethnographic collection of Carlo Vidua, known as the Traveling Count because from 1818 until the year of his death he traveled tirelessly around the five continents, buying, gathering and recovering any type of material that he was curious about and that could bear witness to the place, customs and people he had just visited.

In the small cloister you can admire the Renaissance portal from the former Church of Santa Maria di Piazza.

From 6 September 2025 to 6 January the Museum will host the exhibition "Piero Francesco Guala, ritrattista e pittore tra sacro e profano". Dai ritratti dei marchesi Scarampi di Camino alle opere del Museo Civico di Casale Monferrato".

Opening times:
Thursday 8.30 am -12.30 pm and 2.30 pm - 4.30 pm;
Friday, Saturday, Sunday and public holidays 10.30 am -1 pm and 3 pm - 6.30 pm;

CHRISTMAS CLOSURES
24-25-31 DECEMBER
1 JANUARY

Tickets: full price €8 reduced €5 (students up to 29 years of age, over 65s, affiliated associations); reduced €4 for groups; free (to 16 years of age, invalids and carers, Museum Pass holders, on the occasion of Casale Città Aperta - second Sunday of the month and preceding Saturday, in August only Sunday). For other admission rates refer to the Museum website.

* USEFUL INFO ON ACCESSIBILITY *

The Picture Gallery is mostly accessible to people with physical disabilities; there are several steps along the way.
The Plaster cast Gallery is completely accessible to people with physical disabilities.
Vidua Room: inaccessible; the "Wunderkammer 4.0" project has been implemented providing barrier-free use of part of the Egyptian collection of Carlo Vidua with tactile and multimedia mode.
Presence of diaper changing area and child/mother area.

* * * * * * * * *

SMARTPHONES BECOME AUDIO GUIDES FOR THE WORKS OF THE CIVIC MUSEUM AND BISTOLFI PLASTER CAST GALLERY (also for younger visitors)

"Welcome to the Civic Museum and Leonardo Bistolfi Plaster cast gallery of Casale Monferrato. These are the first words that the visitors to the civic collections can hear of the audio track directly on their smartphone thanks to the new QR codes present in the Museum rooms.

Fabio Fazi, an actor from Casale, has recorded the thirty-nine audio tracks which will accompany visitors from the moment they set foot inside the museum.

Easy texts, which will provide useful information to understand the story and historical and artistic value of the collections held and exhibited by the Civic Museum of Casale Monferrato.

There are also five audio tracks along the route dedicated to younger visitors, making it possible to involve families with children and transform the visit into a shared moment. Starting with a short story of the Museum, the children can get to know the figure of Nicolò Musso, explore and contextualize the three great portraits present in the Risorgimento Room, and more.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

AUDIO GUIDES AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH

The audio guides of the Civic Museum of Casale Monferrato are now also available in English, making the visit to one of the key cultural centers of the area more accessible and inclusive.

The service will be usable through personal devices, with direct access via QR code or dedicated links which will make the contents available to visitors to offer an engaging and in-depth experience, suited to those approaching the heritage of Casale for the first time and to those looking for a more in-depth approach.

* * * * * * * * *

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR SCHOOLS
For more information refer to the Museum website.

subject Manager: Comune di Casale Monferrato
Phone 2: +39 (0142) 444.309
Admission fee: Yes
other: Admission tickets
Full ticket: €8
Reduced ticket: €5
- Students up to 29 years of age
- 60+
- Affiliated Associations (Touring Club Italiano, Italia Nostra, Coop Members, Unicredit)

Reduction for Groups / events: €4:
- groups of more than 10 people
- special initiatives such as Museum Festival, European Heritage Days and Families at the Museum

Free admission:
- children up to 16 years of age without educational activity
- educational activity for compulsory schools located in Casale Monferrato and the area of Monferrato Casalese
- invalids and carers of invalids
- journalists with order membership card
- inauguration of exhibitions
- holders of Museum Subscription Card (The Civic museum sells this card)
- special initiatives and evening openings for town events

phone: +39 (0142) 444.249
E-mail: museo@comune.casale-monferrato.al.it

. each second weekend of the month during Casale Città Aperta (in August only on Sunday)
- children who are holders of the "cultural passport" plus two companions.

Wi-Fi: No
Guided visits: Yes

other: Christmas Holidays Closed
December 24-25
January 31-1

Services for the disabled: Yes
other: The Art Gallery is mostly accessible to people with physical disabilities; there are some steps along the route.
The Plaster cast gallery is totally accessible to people with physical disabilities.
Sala Vidua: not accessible, the "Wunderkammer 4.0" project has been created for use without physical barriers with tactile and multimedia methods of a part of the Egyptian collection by Carlo Vidua.
Presence of a diaper changing area and an area dedicated to children/mothers.
Animals welcome: No
Catering services: No

conference rooms:

Lunette Room
Bookshop : Yes
Bath with changing top: Yes
Children playing area : Yes
Luggage Storage: No
educational facilities: Yes
informative publications:

leaflets, brochures on the Museum and on the city

Events / Special activities:

Family Friendly Room for new mothers, and their babies. A private area in which to breastfeed, bottle-feed or change children in peace and with the necessary comforts.

Assessment

Noted in guide book: High
Prestige of the place: High

Links

http://www.comune.casale-monferrato.al.it/Museo/Audioguide

https://comune.casale-monferrato.al.it/vivere-il-comune/vivere-casale-monferato/eventi-cultura-turismo/cultura-2/museo-civico-e-gipsoteca-leonardo-bistolfi/

Photos











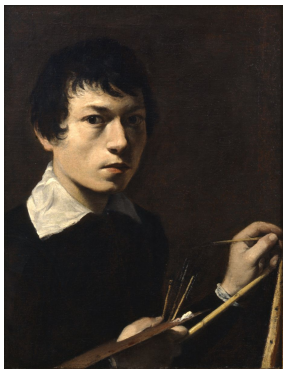





MONFERRATO ON TOUR

www.monferratontour.it

