

A walk through the Castello “sestiere”

3 hour

Castello, the eastern “sestiere”, was probably the first one of the would-be city to be inhabited by the refugees who, running away from the barbarian invaders, left the mainland and moved to the lagoon in between the V and VII century. It covers a wide area of the city, still densely populated that has somewhere maintained the look and the atmosphere of a little village. The route, starting from Saint Mark's square, will proceed eastwards through Campo Santa Maria Formosa and Campo Santissimi Giovanni e Paolo, the second most important open air space of the city in the past, home to the gothic Basilica founded by the Dominicans and the magnificent Scuola Grande di San Marco.

Leaving behind the impressive baroque façade of the church of Santa Maria dei Derelitti and getting to the Palladian church of San Francesco della Vigna, the exploration of the furthest boundaries will include a stop in front of the imposing entrance to the Arsenal, once the shipyard of the Republic of Venice, and another along Via Garibaldi, a colourful and lively area, to end up on the small, secluded island of San Pietro, owning its name to the former cathedral of Venice before the Basilica di San Marco became itself the seat of the bishop at the beginning of the XIX century.

Entry fees are additional and are to be paid by the client at the site.

[supplement for pick up: port/station/p.le Roma](#)

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