

5 YOUTH HOSTEL: Building that, following the wish of Pope Leo XII was used for the education of plebeian girls, and then directly by the nuns of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ founded by **S. Maria De Mattias**. Today the building is a hostel, made up of 15 rooms, each with its bathroom, having from 2 to 6 beds.

6 SAINT JAMES SQUARE: Characteristic square at the core of the historic centre, where the oldest cult place of the city located. **SAINT JAMES CHURCH**, deconsecrated, is presently an auditorium. It was already mentioned in 1200, then known as Our Lady of Graces, and was successively dedicated to the Saint following the wills of Count James I (1363), then lord of Maenza, that expressed the wish to be buried into one of its chapels. There former façade was once placed where there is now the remarkable XIIIth-century portal and the quatrefoil rose-window in peperino marble.

7 CHURCH OF SAINT MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION:

Planned by the Architect Cipolla, it has been built in 1846. During the papacy of **Leo XIII**, it was embellished with paintings and holy furnishing given by the Pope. Restored after the earthquake of 1915, and after the damaging caused by the II World War. The neoclassic façade is characterised by a Ionic arcade and two symmetric bell towers. The inside church has three aisles, and the central one is higher, lined with pillars and arches dividing it from the side aisles. The church has a font and a tabernacle of the XVI century. Above the main altar is placed a big piece of 1874 showing the Assumption of Mary painted by V. Pasqualoni. Some more canvases and devotional statues decorate the altars of the side chapels. Worth of interest is the **"Our Lady of the Cherry"** (XIV century), part of fresco now in the sacristy but formerly located into the Church of Saint James.

8 BARONIAL CASTLE: Founded in XII century like a tower by the **Counts of Ceccano**, it was therefore enlarged in XIII century, and gained importance becoming an inheritance of each second born of the family. In 1274 Hannibal II gave hospitality to **Saint Thomas of Aquino**, uncle of his wife Francesca. The Saint come here moribund, and after the "miracle of the herrings" he wanted to be led in Fossanova Abbey, where he died soon after. The fortress was enlarged at the end of the XII century by **Raymond of Cabannis**, son of Margherita de Ceccano, like the plaque at the entrance reminds. At the half of 1400 the castle passed to the **Caetani** family, and thereafter to the other houses that held the feud. The last owners were the **Pecci Counts**, that during the 30's sold it to the accountant Micozzi of Rome, that let it fall into disrepair. In 1965 it has been bought by Province of Latina and restored. Presently it composed by 4 floors and 25 rooms. Noteworthy are the drawbridge and the ravelin tower, the grotesque frescoes of the first level (XVI century) a wide living-room with a fireplace and portals with the coats of arms of the Caetani family, and Saint Thomas' room (2nd floor). The castle includes the Civic Museum and the Centre for Cartographic Documentation.

A LITTLE HISTORY ABOUT THE TOWN: About the origin of the name of this town there are two hypothesis: the first explains it with the name of the legendary Etrurian hero **Magentius**, that fought against Aeneas, the second one finds its origin in the German town of **Mainz**, a name perhaps donated by a German aristocrat. The present inhabited place whose origin date back probably to 9th century, is located on a hill at the height of 358 asl. Subsequently the **Counts of Ceccano** raised its castle. This family, that had a leading role amid the feudal lineages of southern Latium dominated the place from 1123 to 1436. Maenza appears in the testament of the Count John I de Ceccano (1224), assigned with other feuds to this second born Berardus I that settled there and enlarged the city and the former tower of XIIIth century. Afterwards his grandchild Hannibal II welcomed in the castle **Saint Thomas of Aquino**, his wife's Francesca uncle. Maenza was seized around the end of 1200 by Pope Boniface VIII with other territories to punish the lords that look part in the rebellion that culminate in the "outrage of Anagni", and the Counts of Ceccano got it back in 1304 with James I. This one, assigned Maenza to her niece Rita, who has married with **Raymond of Cabannis**, since 1384 restored the castle and enlarged the town wall. Will his daughter Margherita, bride of Francis III Caetani, the city definitively passed to his family. In 1606 was transferred to the **Aldobrandini** family and thereafter to the **Borghese** and **Antonelli** house, to finally end to be owned by the **Count Pecci**, the family of Pope Leo XIII, that has a young man often spent his summer in the town. His family intensely enhanced the religious and artistic life of the place, and owned it until 1930. In 1928 the municipality of Maenza and Roccasecca were suppressed and grouped together with Priverno. During the II World War, the city centre was damaged by a bombing. In the post-war period the city was restored as a Municipality.

ITINERARIO



MAENZA

Aquila regnabit



COMUNE DI MAENZA



COMUNE DI CECCANO



ITINERARIO

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1 SAINT REPARATA SQUARE: Welcoming square having in its centre an artistic fountain with octagonal basement, work of G. Olivieri (XIX century). On the left the architectural complex of Saint Reparata. The original church of the XV century is still nowadays a cultural place. The related convent belonged to the Franciscan friars until 1873, then become barracks and afterwards school.

2 LOGGIA OF THE MERCHANTS: Covered square of medieval origin (XIII century), presently used for various demonstrations. On the lower level some so called "flags door" witness the ancient shops of Jewish community. On the higher-level stone sits and wide windows with view of the Amaseno Valley.

3 MAIN DOOR: On the right of the Merchant's Loggia, there was an ancient doorway to the village. It is dominated by the eagle, symbol of the Counts of Ceccano, and above it the tower shows its Ghibelline battlements. This is still nowadays the city coat of arms.

4 PECCI PALACE: Elegant building, once owned by the Counts Pecci, coming from the near town of Carpineto Romano, family of the **Pope Leo XIII**, that often spent his summer in the family residence. Recently restored, it is partly private and partly public.

We kindly ask you to review to monuments on:



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Foto: Francesco Nardacci



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Foto: Sara Carallo



Foto: Sara Carallo

Castello Baronale di Maenza
Valle dell'Amaseno

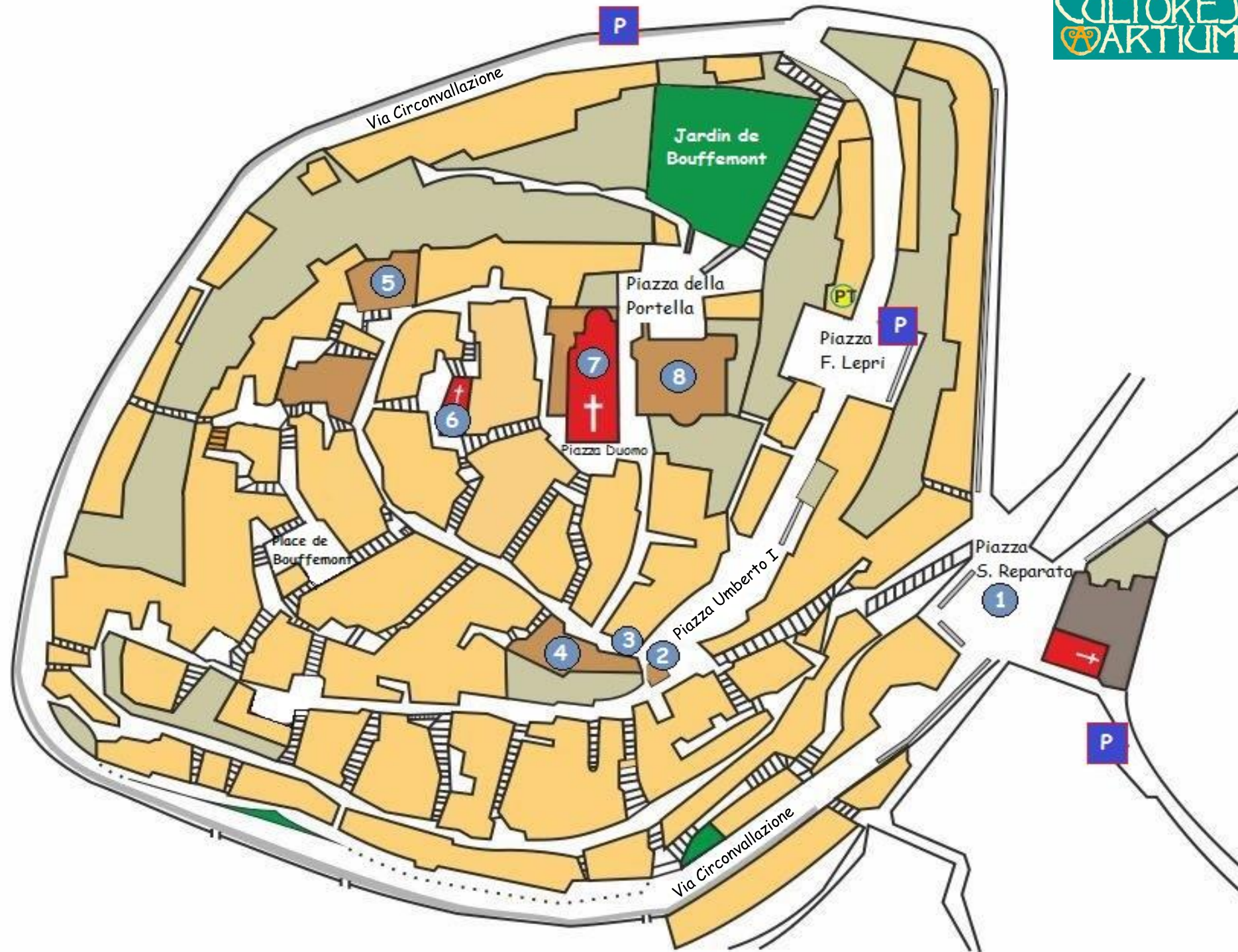
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MAENZA



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|----------|--------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
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| 2 | LOGGIA OF THE MERCHANTS | 6 | SAINT JAMES SQUARE |
| 3 | MAIN DOOR | 7 | CHURCH OF SAINT MARY |
| 4 | PECCI PALACE | 8 | BARONIAL CASTLE |

WHERE TO EAT:

«Il forno»

Via Circonvallazione, tel 0773 951393

Pizzeria «Bar centrale»

Piazza S. Reparata, tel 0773 951347

Pizzeria «L'artigiano»

Viale della Repubblica, tel 0773 951727

Pub - Paninoteca «Il vecchio lampione»

Viale Circonvallazione, tel 0773 951689

Ristorante «A due passi da»

Via Unicef, tel 0773 952929 – 347 2860982

Ristorante «Ferri»

Via Circonvallazione, tel 0773 951376 – 340 3697159

Ristorante «La sorgente»

Loc. Monte Acuto, tel 0773 951378

Agriturismo «La fattoria di Carlotta»

C.da Farneto, tel 0773 951238 – 338 6447877

Ristorante «Le Farneta»

C.da Farneto, tel 0773 951962 – 331 3509400

Ristorante «Da Saverio»

C.da Farneto, tel 366 4510 734

Osteria «Ammene»

Via Mad. Dei Martiri, tel 0773 951882

Pizzeria «Seventy club»

Via Carpinetana, tel 329 4050199

Pizzeria «Da Nonna Orgilla»

Via Circonvallazione, tel 0773 1714670

Agriturismo «La fattoria di Casacotta»

Via di Casacotta, tel 0773 951192

WHERE TO SLEEP:

B&B «La loggia dei mercanti»

Viale della Repubblica, tel 0773 951704

B&B «Villa Bruna»

Via Unicef, tel 0773 952929

«La Mariposa»

C.da Farneto, tel 0773 951481

Ostello «S. Tommaso D'Aquino»

HOW TO ARRIVE:

By car; A1 Roma – Napoli, exit Frosinone, S.R. 156 direction Latina, exit for Maenza;

By train; railway line Roma Termini – Formia, stop Priverno-Fossanova, Co.tra.l. Bus