



Fact sheet Villages of Tuscany

General information

Name of the village	BARGA
Province	LUCCA
Tourist information	The Pro Loco, a local association that deals with the promotion of tourism, culture and events in the territory of Barga, is located in Palazzo Pancrazi, on Via Di Mezzo, n 47 Open daily: approx. 09:00 – 20:00 Phone: +39 391 323 0236 Email: prolocobarga@gmail.com The Palace is now the main headquarters of the Municipality of Barga and houses the offices of the administrative, cultural, financial and territorial planning areas. Events and temporary exhibitions are also held inside. Accessibility Information: The main access is characterized by the presence of two steps. It is advisable to contact the Municipality for updated information on any accessible alternative routes or entrances. At the time of the visit it was closed therefore no other facilitated access could be verified.





Figure 1 Palazzo Pancrazi



Figure 2 Information point

TESTED BY: [Handy Superabile Social Promotion Association](#) in 2026

Please note The following information refers to the date of verification shown at the bottom of each sheet. **The Association** is not responsible for any significant changes made by the property after the visit.

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Description



Located in the heart of Garfagnana, in the province of Lucca, the small Barga surprises with its simple and authentic beauty. With just under 10,000 inhabitants, it is an ideal starting point to discover the Garfagnana, a historic area of the Lucca hinterland characterized by hills and mountains.

The area offers a cool climate throughout the year, breathtaking views and villages that have remained almost intact over the centuries. Inside the walls of the castle, an intricate succession of alleys and carriageways houses important works of art, stately palaces and coats of arms of ancient noble families, testimony of a rich and prestigious past.

The area was inhabited by Ligurian and Etruscan populations and later by the Romans. The name of Barga appears for the first time in the year 993 in an official written document. The castle and the village were controlled by the Bishops of Lucca until 1341 when Barga decided to voluntarily submit to the Republic of Florence to defend itself from Lucca's expansionist aims. In this period Barga therefore became an important Florentine





garrison located in Garfagnana and under Florentine influence trade, silk production and copper processing grew.

During the year, numerous festivals and events take place in the municipality of Barga, which animate the territory and enhance local traditions. During the summer, the Fish and Potato Festival (1–17 August), "Le Piazzette" (July) and the Pig Festival in San Pietro in Campo (August) were held. In the following months, the Barga Castagna (31 October–2 November) and Barga in Cioccolato (6–8 December) are scheduled.

How to reach BARGA

By car	From the north, Take the A1 motorway and then follow the signs for Genoa-Livorno, Viareggio and finally Lucca. Exit at Lucca est and follow the signs for Lucca, Borgo a Mozzano, Fornaci di Barga and finally Barga, on the SS 445 state road. From the south, A1 motorway and then the A11, and then exit at Capannori. At this point, continue in the direction of Lucca, Borgo a Mozzano and Fornaci di Barga, following the signs for the SS 439 state road. Once you get here, follow the signs for Barga on the SS 445.
By plane	From Florence "Vespucci" Airport (80/90 km away) From Pisa "Galilei" Airport (about 40 km away)
Assistance service for people with disabilities	YES
Embarkation/disembarkation of passengers with reduced mobility	con sedia di cortesia e ambulift/finger





Tactile paths for the blind and visually impaired	YES
There is a toilet room accessible with grab handles	YES
By train	
Nearest station	In Barga there is a railway station called Barga - Galliciano and located on the Lucca - Aulla line. To get to Barga by train, you can leave from Lucca or Pisa Centrale. From Lucca there are on average 5 trains per day operating the route and more frequently than those departing from Pisa. They are direct trains and take about 40-50 minutes each way. From Pisa, on the other hand, trains to Barga are mostly not direct. In both cases the cost of the ticket is € 5.90; the direct train takes about 1 hour and 15 minutes, while the other, with the change in Lucca, takes about 1 hour and 30 minutes. More information on costs and timetables on the official website of Trenitalia.
Assistance service for people with disabilities	No assistance is provided at this station. Contact the service through the Blue Room of reference (RFI) at the toll-free number 800906060 (from a landline) or at the national number +39 02323232 (from a landline or mobile) to receive information on any nearest railway station that offers the service.
Sala blu di riferimento	Firenze
Presente in stazione un locale wc accessibile con maniglie di sostegno	YES





By public and private transport	
Nearest bus stop	In Barga, there are several bus stops. One of the main stops is the "Fermata Barga Fosso"
Presence of adapted buses with ramp	It is advisable to contact the toll-free number 800142424 for extra-urban Autolinee Toscane
Presence of taxis with adapted ramp	NO
Eventual notes	To reach Barga by bus, you usually pass through Lucca, which is the main connection point in the area. Once you arrive in Lucca, take an extra-urban bus operated by Autolinee Toscane (which replaced the old Vai Bus lines). Buses leave from Piazzale Verdi, the city's main bus station, and the journey to Barga takes about an hour or so. The most used line is the Q05, which directly connects Lucca to Barga. If, on the other hand, you are already in Garfagnana, you can take advantage of the local connections: From Castelnuovo di Garfagnana line Q60, From Pieve Fosciana line Q59 From Castelvecchio Pascoli line Q77, all useful lines to reach Barga without passing through Lucca.





Parking

Public parking nearby	Coming from Lucca from the SP7, you can access the Piazzale del Fosso car park. Adjacent we find Piazza della Vittoria where there are n. 4 CUDE stalls marked right near the main access to the village from the Porta Reale. Free parking Piazzale Lorenzo de' Medici 160 meters from Largo Roma. Matteotti car park 180 meters from the village. Free Fiat parking via Piero Gobetti about 170 meters away.
Type of public parking floor	asphalt
Presence of parking space reserved for people with disabilities	YES
Eventual notes	Within the village there is a ZTL with the exception of residents, public transport and vehicles with a CUDE permit.





Figure 3 Piazzale Lorenzo De' Medici car park

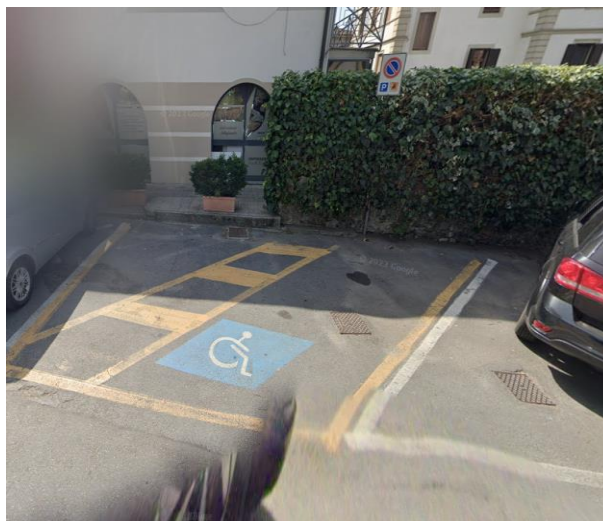


Figure 4 Matteotti car park, Via Giovanni Pascoli



Figure 5 Largo Roma car park



Figure 6 Fiat parking





Figure 7 Via Roma Parking



Figure 8 Parking lot of the Fosso, Via Marconi



Figure 9 Via Roma

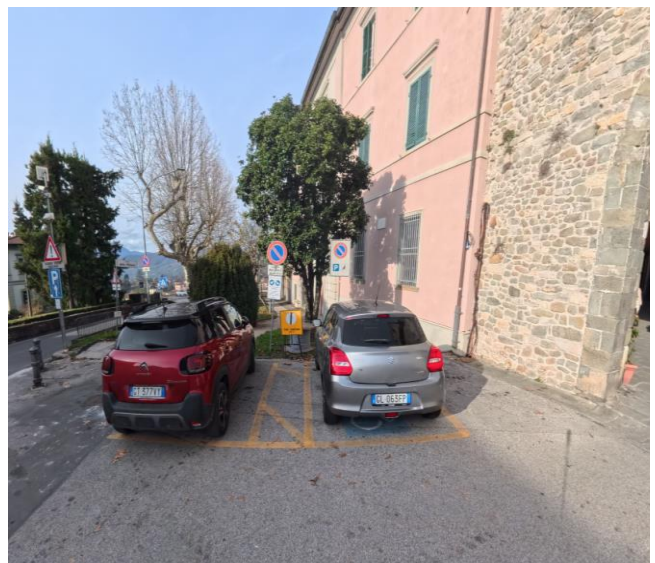


Figure 10 n. 4 reserved stalls Porta Reale

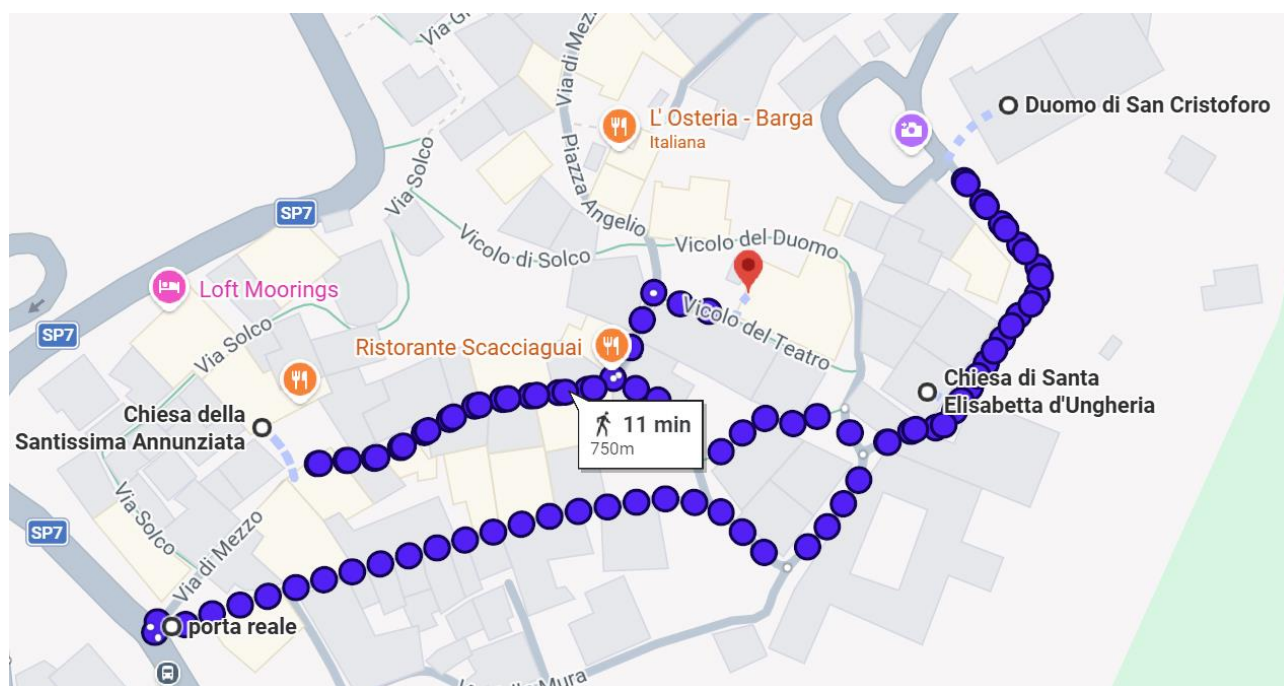




Pathway from the car park to the entrance

Pathway from the car park to the starting point	Mostly flat
Distance from parking to entrance	A few meters walk from the center
Type of trail surface	Asphalt
There are indicators and tactile maps	NO

Description of the itinerary



Length	750 meters
Along the itinerary there are maps and tactile signs for the blind	NO





ACCESSIBILITY OF THE VILLAGE:

It is important to be aware that the historic center of Barga, with its fascinating medieval layout, presents objective challenges from the point of view of accessibility. The village is in fact characterized by narrow streets, steep slopes and paved stone or cobblestone pavements that are highly irregular in several places. In addition, the main pedestrian connections to the points of greatest interest are interrupted by challenging staircases. If you can walk around the village in a short time thanks to its small size, the situation changes radically for those with reduced mobility. For these reasons, if you want to easily reach symbolic places, the use of an electric thrust engine or the presence of a companion is strongly recommended. Even where the route is free of vertical architectural barriers, the inclination of the carriageway and the disconnections of the road surface significantly slow down the journey. Working on accessibility means first of all informing with transparency, to guarantee everyone a safe and dignified visit.

PATHWAY FROM THE ROYAL GATE TO THE CHURCH OF ST. ELIZABETH

The recommended itinerary begins in Piazza della Vittoria at the Fosso car park, located adjacent to the **Porta Reale**. Known in medieval times as *Porta Mancianella* because it is oriented towards the town of Manciana. The structure took its current name in 1787 to honor the triumphal visit of the Grand Duke of Tuscany Pietro Leopoldo I of Lorraine. This famous passage, which preserves the ancient carved coat of arms of the city on the outside and valuable terracotta decorations inside, is the main entrance to the historic center and the perfect starting point for visiting the town.

Crossing it you can directly access the historic center, characterized by narrow streets, intimate squares and ancient buildings that testify to the history and tradition of the village.

Once you pass the door, you enter directly into **Via del Pretorio**. This is one of the most important streets in the historic center: in the past, it was the street used by governors and judges sent from Florence to climb to the top of the hill, where the palaces of power were located. Taking this first uphill stretch, the **Church of St. Elizabeth of Hungary** immediately stands as the first architectural stronghold and monument of the itinerary.

The church is part of the large complex of the ancient **Conservatory of Santa Elisabetta**, founded in 1456 by Blessed Michele Turignoli as a monastery of Franciscan friars and





nuns; later, in 1788, the structure was transformed into a school for girls (called the conservatory), but the church remained the religious center of the complex.

The Church is a valuable sacred building with a single nave, founded in the fifteenth century as part of a Franciscan complex. Inside it houses a heritage of excellence, including precious Della Robbia terracotta and a rare wooden crucifix of the thirteenth century. Thanks to this historical and artistic stratification, the complex represents a significant testimony of the Franciscan presence in Barga and one of the main places of interest in the village, fundamental for the enhancement of the city's cultural identity.

Accessibility

Church of St. Elizabeth of Hungary: At the time of the inspection it was closed.

The entrance to the church is characterized by 4 steps. No facilitated entry was detected.

Via del Pretorio is **completely uphill**, steep and winding, which climbs the promontory of the mountain spur.





Figure 11 Porta Reale entrance



Figure 12 Interior of Porta Reale



Figure 13 entrance to the church of St. Elizabeth of Hungary



Figure 14 church interior





PATHWAY FROM THE CHURCH TO THE CATHEDRAL OF SAN CRISTOFORO and PALAZZO PRETORIO

Motor accessibility between the Church of Santa Elisabetta and the monumental summit area of Barga (including the **Cathedral of San Cristoforo and the Praetorian Palace**) requires the total exclusion of the traditional route passing through Piazza Beato Michele, due to the presence of a medieval staircase that is completely impassable in wheelchairs.

The accessible alternative route runs entirely along **Via del Pretorio** for a total distance of about **180 meters**.

Leaving the church, stay on Via del Pretorio keeping to the right — in the opposite direction from the monumental staircase — to go up the paved street that runs along the ancient Conservatory.

This section of the route has a medium gradient but which tends to accentuate significantly in the final part, where there is a very steep driveway ramp.

In the last section, the itinerary connects to a curvilinear paved ramp that allows you to overcome the final difference in height

The **Cathedral of Barga** is one of the most extraordinary examples of Romanesque architecture in Tuscany. Built starting before the year 1000 and enlarged over the centuries, the building impresses with its monumental façade made of blocks of local stone called *Alberese di Barga*. The main portal is embellished with an arch carved with acanthus leaves, an architrave depicting a grape harvest scene and two columns surmounted by stylophore lions. Inside, the church houses artistic masterpieces of immense value, including a famous thirteenth-century pulpit (or ambo) attributed to the school of Guido da Como and the monumental polychrome wooden statue of the patron saint, St. Christopher. Positioned on a large panoramic terrace known as *the Arringo*, the Cathedral dominates the Serchio Valley offering a spectacular view that sweeps from the Apuan Alps to the Tuscan-Emilian Apennines.

The Cathedral is also remembered in **a poem by Giovanni Pascoli**. In fact, the poet lived for a long time in Castelveccchio, near Barga, from which he could hear the **sound of the cathedral bells**.





Adjacent to the Cathedral is the **Praetorian Palace**, one of the symbolic buildings of the historic center of Barga, which in medieval times represented the main center of civil and administrative power. Built in **the first half of the fourteenth century** to house the Podestà and Vicars sent from Florence, it still retains the characteristic **fourteenth-century loggia** on the ground floor, under which the ancient units of measurement used in local trade, including the *arm*, the *bushel* and the *half bushel*, are engraved in stone. The façade and the interiors are embellished with coats of arms of the Florentine governors and valuable frescoes from the historical period.

Enclosed within the walls of the thirteenth-century Palazzo Pretorio, the **"Antonio Mordini" Civic Museum** offers a unique journey through time.

The exhibition rooms open like a window on local history, where prehistoric fossils, ancient Ligurian tombs and Etruscan bronzes dialogue with sculptures and sacred furnishings from the Middle Ages. The most evocative contrast of the building can be felt going down to the basement: here the atmosphere becomes gloomy and solemn within the walls of the ancient medieval prisons, where the isolation dungeon and the torture room have been faithfully reconstructed, offering a raw and realistic cross-section of the justice of the Podestà era.

Accessibility

Duomo: In the square there is a small parking lot, without reserved spaces.

The building overlooks the whole village and access to the square in front of the church is possible from a very steep driveway ramp.

Once you have passed the final ramp, you will arrive on the large Arringo lawn, directly on the large flat square.

The space in front of the Cathedral of San Cristoforo is large, flat and easy, also offering one of the best panoramic views of the Garfagnana.





The entrance to the Duomo is characterized by 7 wide steps. No facilitated access was noted.

The **Praetorian Palace** can be reached by crossing an area with turf.

Access to the museum is facilitated by the presence of ramps and is also accessible to people with motor disabilities.

The entrance doors are made of glass with manual push opening.

The museum is equipped with an elevator with a push-button panel with Braille numbering.

Free wheelchair loan is available at the ticket office.

Admission is free for people with disabilities and for a companion. The staff is trained to welcome visitors with specific needs.

However, at the time of the inspection it was not possible to verify the interior spaces, as the museum was closed to the public.

For info: Switchboard : +39 0583 711100 or +39 0583 724573.

Email cultura@comunedibarga.it or museocivico@sistemamusealebarga.it





Figure 15 exterior of the church of St. Elizabeth of Hungary



Figure 16 Ramp for cathedral



Figure 17 Cathedral





Figure 18 Duomo entrance with steps



Figure 19 inside the Cathedral



Figure 20 inside the Cathedral



Figure 21 back of the Cathedral and terrace



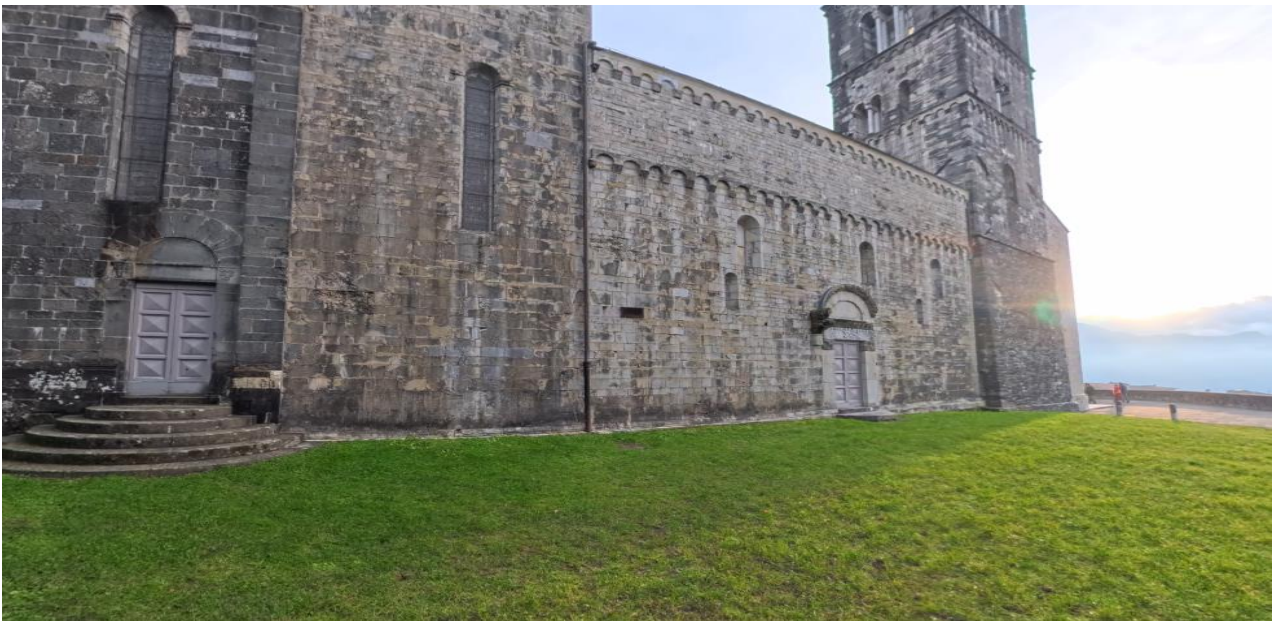


Figure 22 back of the Cathedral



Figure 23 Praetorian Palace





Figure 24 grass path towards the Museum

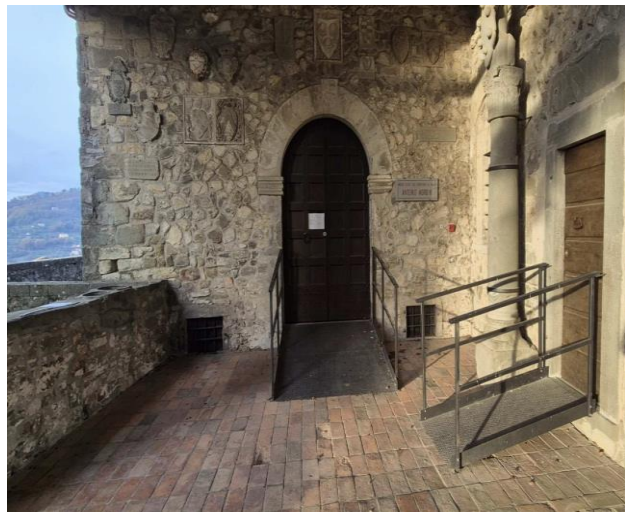


Figure 25 access ramps to the Museum

PATHWAY FROM THE CATHEDRAL TO THE CHURCH OF THE SANTISSIMA ANNUNZIATA

Continuing along Via di Mezzo, after a few meters of paved road slightly uphill it reaches a widening where there is the Church of S. Annunziata.

It offers the opportunity to discover a Baroque jewel hidden in the heart of the historic center, located a few steps from the fourteenth-century *Porta Reale*. Built starting in **1595** on the initiative of the most influential Barga families, this single-nave building houses on the high altar an artistic treasure of inestimable value from the Cathedral: the two **fourteenth-century wooden statues** of the *Annunciation* and the *Announcing Angel*, masterpieces of Tuscan sculpture of the early fourteenth century. In addition to the evocative period atmosphere and the rich decorations of the side chapels, the church houses the valuable canvas of the *Madonna and Child with Saints* made by the well-known local painter **Baccio Ciarpì** — master of the famous artist Pietro da Cortona — and a valuable **historical organ from 1673** installed on the stone choir.





Accessibility

The church of S. Annunziata can be reached along Via di Mezzo, a paved road slightly uphill.

The entrance is preceded by a staircase consisting of 3 steps (height 12–16–18 cm).

The outer door is wide, while the inner door is about 65 cm wide.

The interior is accessible. No other facilitated admissions were noted



Figure 26 exterior of the Church of S. Annunziata and access door





Figure 27 façade of the Church of S. Annunziata



Figure 28 church interior

PATHWAY FROM THE CHURCH TO THE TEATRO DEI DIFFERENTI

The best itinerary is to walk backwards along Via del Pretorio to the Porta Reale, as the alternative is to walk along long and steep stairways that are not easy.

From Porta Reale you walk along the Via di Mezzo to reach the alley of the Theater, where the theater is located.

The **Teatro dei Differenti** in Barga is one of the most important and historically dense cultural centers of the Serchio Valley, famous nationally for having been the backdrop to crucial moments in Italian literature and history; it originated in 1668, when the representatives of the main local families founded the Accademia degli Indifferenti, which later became the Accademia dei Differenti, with the aim of promoting theatrical culture among the young people of the village. On **November 26, 1911**, on its stage, the poet **Giovanni Pascoli** delivered the famous speech "The great proletarian has moved". After a period of mixed fortunes and overcoming the damage of the Second World War, the theatre experienced an **extraordinary international rebirth starting in 1967**.

The building has an articulated theater hall with three orders of boxes, with an oval plan, according to the typical structure of Italian theaters. Even today, the Teatro dei Differenti





carries out an intense cultural activity, hosting prose performances, traditional events and exhibitions, as well as the Barga Jazz international music festival, active since 1986.

Accessibility:

Theatre: Access to the theatre is on a ramp with a slope varying from 6 to 9% in paved pavement.

The stalls of the theater are located on the ground floor and are the **most easily accessible area** for those who move in wheelchairs or have reduced mobility, presenting no insurmountable vertical barriers from the main entrance.

A little further on there is a small square where there are **some free stalls**.

Admission is allowed to people with disabilities; for information you can **contact the numbers** +39 0583 724791 / +39 0583 724727 or the e-mail address cultura@comunedibarga.it





Figure 29 Theatre





Figure 30 Theatre ramp



Figure 31 inside the theatre

EXTRA ITINERARY "CHURCH OF SAN ROCCO"

The **church of San Rocco** is located outside the village and to reach it you have to cross the provincial road and the Corrado and Leo Lombardini bridge.

This building was born as part of a religious complex founded in 1456 by Michele Turignoli, a friar of the Third Order of St. Francis, with the intention of welcoming young women who had retired to religious life. Over time the complex developed to include a large monastery, a church with a bell tower, a vegetable garden and several annexed rooms.

Later transformed into a conservatory, the complex represents a significant testimony of the religious and social history of Barga. The church is in fact adjacent to the large conservatory of the same name, with which it forms an important architectural ensemble.

Accessibility:

In front of the church there is a small free parking lot. The entrance is accessible





Figure 32 façade of the church of S. Rocco



Figure 33 Church entrance

EXTRA ITINERARY "CONVENT OF SAN FRANCESCO"

The Convent of San Francesco is located outside the village and precisely next to the hospital of Civile di Barga. From the SP 7; walk along Via dei Frati for about 800 meters.

The complex of the Convent of San Francesco consists of a fifteenth-century building with a simple layout, with a rectangular plan and a cross vaulted roof.

The church was built around 1490 and is preceded by a small cloister, also dating back to the fifteenth century. The interior is characterized by the presence of numerous glazed terracottas of Della Robbia production (Della Robbia lands), decorative elements of particular artistic importance widespread in Tuscany between the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.





Accessibility:

The entrance to the church and the cloister remains on the aforementioned street.

At the threshold we find n. 2 steps (5 – 10 cm), then for access to the church we find another threshold of 20 cm.

Both the church and the cloister are accessible on the plain.

No other facilitated accesses and parking stalls for vehicles with a CUDE permit have been identified.



Figure 34 convent entrance seen from the inside





Figure 35 Convent entrance from the outside



Figure 36 internal cloister



Figure 37 Church entrance



Figure 38 church interior





EXTRA ITINERARY "GIOVANNI PASCOLI HOUSE MUSEUM"

From **Porta Reale**, going down along the main road (Via Giovanni Pascoli / SP7) and leaving the village behind you can follow the road signs in the direction of Castelvechio Pascoli / Galliciano along the hairpin bends of the SP7. From here turning towards Castelvechio and past the hamlet of San Pietro in Campo, follow the clear brown signs for the "*Casa Museo Pascoli*" turning right onto Via dei Conti and then entering Via Casa Pascoli.

The Giovanni Pascoli House Museum is the house where the poet lived from 1895 to 1912, the year of his death, first as a tenant and later as an owner. Here he spent one of the most fruitful periods of his literary production: the surrounding landscape and local life profoundly influenced many of his best-known poetry collections. The house, divided into seven rooms spread over three floors, still retains the original organization of the spaces, the furnishings and numerous personal objects of the poet. On the first floor there is the study with the library, consisting of about 12,000 volumes, which can be consulted on request. On the ground floor there is the archive, which collects manuscripts and a collection of historical newspapers. After the poet's death, his sister Maria Pascoli took care of the preservation of the house for a long time, keeping its layout intact. Upon his death in 1953, the building passed to the Municipality of Barga, which began restoration and adaptation work, including the introduction of electric lighting.

Accessibility:

The road climbs slightly up to the hill of Caprona, where you will find a parking lot dedicated to visitors a few steps from the entrance of the villa.

The House Museum is partially accessible to people with motor disabilities: it is possible to visit the exhibition and the first floor, while not all levels are accessible.

Admission to the museum is via guided tour and reservations are required at least 24 hours in advance. For information and reservations: tel. + 39 0583 766147.

N.B: It was not possible to make the visit and the virtual 360, as the birthplace of Giovanni Pascoli is located outside the town of Barga and the time with which we





had concluded the itinerary of the village did not allow an adequate shot due to lack of natural light.



Figure 39 path to the Pascoli house museum



Figure 40 entrance



Figure 41 Parking



Figure 42 museum entrance





Figure 43 External building and garden



Figure 44 museum interior



Figure 45 museum interior





Medical practices/healthcare facilities

Hospitals near the property	San Francesco Hospital, Address Via dei Frati 32, Barga (LU) Tel. Tel. +39 0583/7290 Main services: Emergency room, General medicine, Gynecology and obstetrics, Paediatrics, Radiology, dialysis, laboratory analysis
Other healthcare facilities	Barga Health Address Viale Giovanni Pascoli, 26 – Tel +39 350 019 6313, info@bargasalute.it Services: Specialist visits, Clinical analyses, Multidisciplinary outpatient clinics Mon–Sat: approx. 08:00–19:00 Simonini Pharmacy Via Canipaia, 9 – Barga +39 0583 722700 Chiappa Pharmacy Viale Giovanni Pascoli, 22 – Barga +39 0583 723102 It also offers health services (ECG, test, CUP, etc.).

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