

# TURIN



Panoramic view of Turin from the hills

Turin is a flourishing, industrious and cosmopolitan European city, which enjoys state-of-the-art technology and architectural developments. The city boasts a rich culture and history, and is known for its numerous art galleries, restaurants, churches, palaces, opera houses, piazzas, parks, gardens, theatres, libraries, museums and other venues.

Turin is well-known for its baroque, rococo and neo-classical architecture. Much of the city's public squares, castles, gardens and elegant palazzi (such as **Palazzo Madama**), were built by Sicilian architect Filippo Juvarra, who modeled these buildings on the Baroque and classical style of Versailles. Examples of these French-themed edifices include the **Royal Palace of Turin**, the **Palazzina di Caccia di Stupinigi** and the **Basilica di Superga**.



Palazzina di Caccia di Stupinigi

Turin is sometimes called the "cradle of Italian liberty", due to it being the birthplace and home of notable politicians and people who contributed to the Risorgimento, such as **Cavour**. The city currently hosts some of Italy's best universities, colleges, academies, lyceum and gymnasia, such as the **Polytechnic University of Turin**.



Egyptian Museum

Prestigious and important museums, such as the **Egyptian Museum** and the **Mole Antonelliana**, home to the renowned **National Cinema Museum**, are also found in the city. Turin's several monuments and sights make it one of the world's top 250 tourist destinations, and the 9th most popular city in Italy in 2008.

Turin used to be a major European political centre, being Italy's first capital city in 1861 and being home to the **House of Savoy**, Italy's royal family.

It was the capital of the Duchy of Savoy from 1563, then of the Kingdom of Sardinia ruled by the Royal House of Savoy and finally the **first capital of a Unified Italy**.

Turin is well known as the home of the **Turin Shroud**, the football teams Juventus FC and Torino FC, the headquarters of automobile manufacturers **Fiat**, **Lancia** and **Alfa Romeo**, and as host of the **2006 Winter Olympics**. Several International Space Station modules, such as Harmony and Columbus, were also manufactured in Turin.