

56 UNIVERSITY OF TORINO A guide to discover UniTo

# Torino, international city of innovation

### A strategic location

Torino is situated on the Po River in Italy's north-western Piemonte Region, close to the Alps, and to beautiful countryside, rivers and lakes. Torino has an efficient transport system, 3 main train stations, and an international airport: Rome, Madrid, Frankfurt, Moscow, Paris and other key world destinations are easy to reach.

## An international people-friendly city

Torino has more than 40 consulates representing EU and extra-EU countries and a distinctly international and intercultural flavour. Torino is linked with 44 cities worldwide through twin-city and other agreements, and hosts many international events every year. Visitors and newcomers will find it easy to meet others and enjoy the city's dynamic social and cultural life.

### A base for international agencies

Torino is the location chosen for the European Training Foundation (ETF), the EU agency that assists developing countries in the fields of education, training and labour market systems. In addition, Torino is a strategic centre for the United Nations: its international campus in the city is home to the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), the International Training Centre of the ILO (ITC-ILO), and the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC).

### A centre for manifacturing and service industry

Torino is a business and manufacturing centre of importance in Italy and in Europe. Capital of the Italian automotive and car design industry, the city is also a centre of excellence for the aerospace industry. In addition, it is home to well-known publishing and print media houses, luxury brands, and food and wine producers. Torino was the first Italian city to develop a television and film industry, and parts of the old city centre are often used as sets for well-known TV serials and movies. Leading banks and insurance companies are based in Torino.

## An "open laboratory" for the urban innovation

The City of Torino is committed to a strategic redesign of its policies in support of local development, aimed at strengthening the penetration of new technologies and to create social impact, to bring new opportunities to its citizens and businesses.

Recently, the City signed a "Memorandum of Understanding - Torino Social Impact: City Lab for Change" with some local partners and is open to collaboration with others in order to create an open and collaborative platform of public and private subjects engaged in supporting entrepreneurship with social impact.

In this context, the local Administration intends to promote models and forms of economic development capable of responding in an innovative way to the current main challenges, as well as contributing to improving the competitiveness and attractiveness of the Torino economic system, generating more and better jobs. In particular, the City intends to create an open ecosystem favourable to the birth and growth of frontier innovation and sharing.

The characteristics of the evolutionary model of "Torino City Lab" are based on 3 main elements:

- Transparency, understood as the sharing of tangible and intangible assets (technology, laboratories, information on the city and its citizens, models and practices of social innovation)
- Openness and creation of an innovation ecosystem
- Agility in carrying out activities thanks to administrative, operational and simplification tools.



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# Piemonte, a region to discover

# Museums, Modern Art and UNESCO Royal Residences

Torino has a Baroque city centre, several museums, including the Egyptian Museum, the National Museum of Cinema and the National Automobile Museum, great theatres, and a number of royal residences listed among the UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Modern art lovers can enjoy the GAM Modern Art Gallery, the Rivoli Castle Museum of Contemporary Art, the Merz Foundation and the Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Foundation, each with important artworks from Torino's Arte Povera movement.





### Food and cuisine

Torino's history and the region's prosperity have contributed to the creation of the city's reputation as a centre of excellence for high-quality cuisine and excellence in food products. Torino and the Piemonte Region are renowned for traditional antipasti, agnolotti (a special local type of ravioli), quality local meats, superb cheeses, and excellent ice cream and patisserie. Torino is also a centre for the food industry, and exports chocolate, wine, cheese and coffee worldwide.

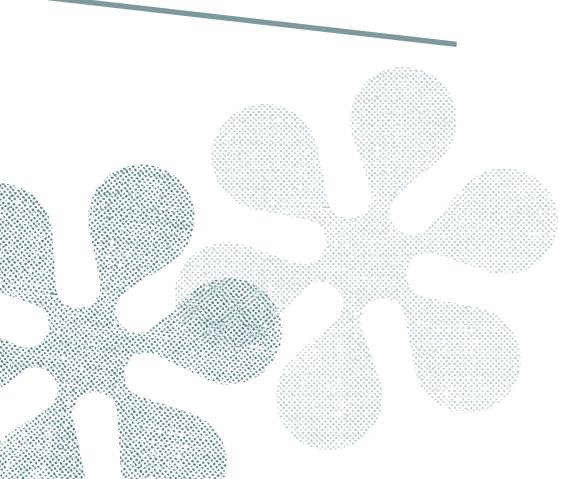


### **Nature and UNESCO sites**

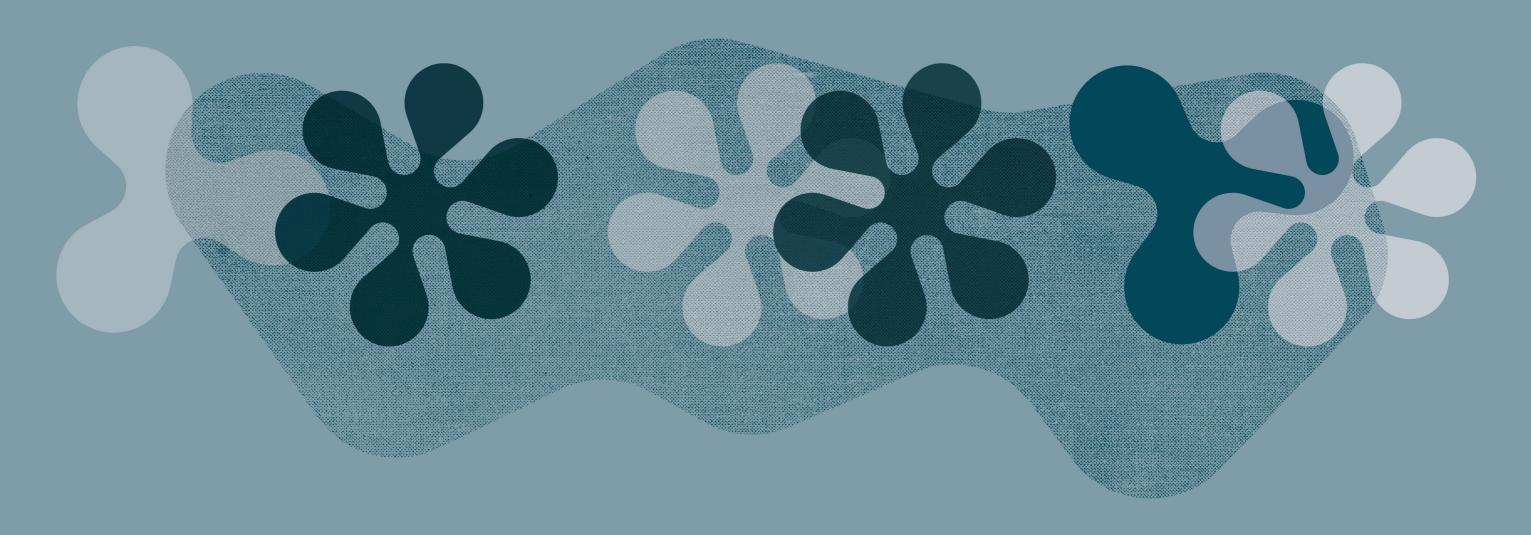
Torino's parks and two rivers together with the nearby mountains and lakes provide a great leisure environment. Piemonte has Langhe-Roero and Monferrato included on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the Langhe-Roero and Monferrato Vineyard Landscape of Piemonte, south of Torino, consists of five distinct winegrowing areas. Langhe-Roero and Monferrato is one of Italy's most important wine-producing areas, and is also a "cultural landscape", the result of the combined work of both nature and humankind. It lies within easy reach of Torino by car and by train.

### **Events**

Torino hosts a wide range of national and international events. To name just a few: Artissima and Paratissima, both international contemporary art fairs; the Salone Internazionale del Libro di Torino; the Salone del Gusto and Terra Madre international fair of Italian and world food products; the Torino Jazz Festival; and the Torino Film Festival.







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