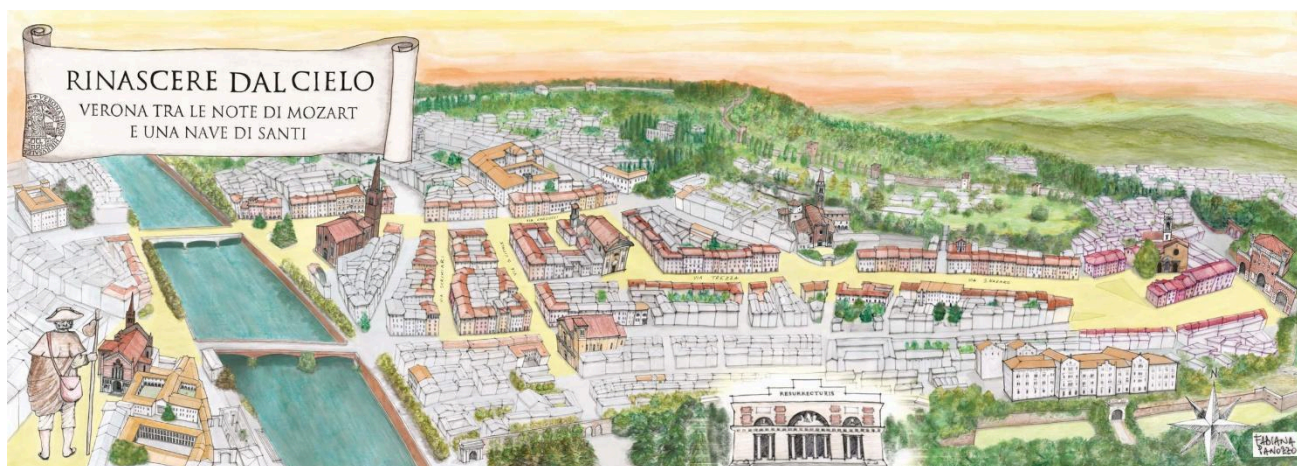




VERONA MINOR HIERUSALEM UNA CITTÀ DA VALORIZZARE ASSIEME

REBIRTH FROM HEAVEN, VERONA BETWEEN MOZART'S MUSIC AND A SHIP OF SAINTS



Veronetta. The area of the city across the Adige River, which remained under Austrian rule, was renamed during the Napoleonic era—originally with a hint of snobbery—as Veronetta, or "Little Verona." Following the river along the *rive gauche*, this part of Verona extends from Santo Stefano, skirts the imposing Monumental Cemetery, and reaches its eastern boundary at Porta Vescovo.

Along the way, it winds through the picturesque and eclectic neighborhoods of San Giovanni in Valle, Isolo, San Paolo, and the university district.

Less frequented by tour buses and tourists, yet undeniably vibrant, colorful, and full of surprises, this is a place where Verona's ancient history blends seamlessly with its evolving future. Here, old artisan workshops meet piano bars, university faculties coexist with ethnic restaurants, and local markets thrive alongside internet cafés, art galleries, and repurposed barracks. It is a neighborhood where students, retirees speaking only Veronese dialect, people from diverse cultures, nuns, shopkeepers, and artists live together in harmony. This is the heart of ancient Verona, once shaped by water—the Adige, streams, and canals—now transformed into *lungadige*, narrow alleys, and winding streets. Nestled between the river, gardens, and hills, it's a place

FONDAZIONE VERONA MINOR HIERUSALEM

Piazza Vescovado 7, 37121 Verona VR

E-mail : segreteria@veronaminorhierusalem.it - PEC: veronaminorhierusalem@pec.it - Tel : 3421820111

of frescoed palaces, museums, convents, and churches brimming with hidden treasures.

The Verona Minor Hierusalem itinerary, "*Reborn from the Heavens – Between Mozart's Notes and a Ship of Saints*," offers a unique opportunity to explore, experience, and connect with the essence of this original and distinctive Verona. This journey invites you to take in the serene atmosphere of an area steeped in inspiration, with stops at stunning churches where welcoming volunteers offer guidance and unlock deeper insights into their hidden meanings.

Following a lightning bolt-shaped path—symbolizing a deep connection with the heavens and inviting quiet contemplation—the journey begins just within the embrace of the river, at the dual-layered church of San Fermo Maggiore. This architectural masterpiece, shaped by centuries of evolution from early Christian origins to Benedictine and later Franciscan influences, features an extraordinary wooden ceiling crafted to resemble the hull of an inverted ship. In this flipped cosmos, a larch vessel sails a celestial sea, watched over by 416 saintly icons standing in eternal vigil.

Crossing the river via Ponte Navi, you reach San Tomaso Cantuariense, located at the heart of the ancient island in the river. Here, you can admire its harmonious Renaissance architecture and still hear the music of the organ, which bears the initials of a thirteen-year-old Mozart who played it in 1770, leaving an unforgettable mark. Continuing into the university district, where the legacy of the great sixteenth-century architect Sanmicheli can still be felt, you arrive at the church of San Paolo in Campo Marzio. Like a precious art gallery, it reveals masterpieces, including the magnificent *pala argentea* by Paolo Veronese in the Marogna Chapel. Even more remarkable is the treasure housed in Santa Maria del Paradiso: here, the largest reliquary in Europe contains 31,000 relics, reinforcing the connection between Verona and Jerusalem.

Heading towards the hillside, surrounded by stunning Renaissance gardens, contemporary mosaics in monasteries, and sweeping panoramic views, lies the complex of San Nazaro and Celso, stretching along the ancient Roman road, Via Postumia. Here, you will discover a remarkable gem of the Renaissance: the Chapel of San Biagio, with its dome and its radiant, illusionistic blend of painting and architecture.

The journey ends in the square near Porta Vescovo, at the small church of Santa Toscana, once part of the Holy Sepulchre. A place of arrival and

FONDAZIONE VERONA MINOR HIERUSALEM

Piazza Vescovado 7, 37121 Verona VR

C.F.: 93282300230 - P.IVA: 04664130236

E-mail : segreteria@veronaminorhierusalem.it - PEC: veronaminorhierusalem@pec.it - Tel : 3471820111

departure for countless pilgrims, it houses the touching polychrome wooden *Compianto* by Zebellana. This church serves as the ideal point of convergence for the Water, Earth, and Heaven itineraries of Verona Minor Hierusalem—a city reborn, thanks in part to those who continue to uncover and rediscover its treasures.

Text by Davide Adami

Translations by Elisa Mosele

FONDAZIONE VERONA MINOR HIERUSALEM

Piazza Vescovado 7, 37121 Verona VR

C.F.: 93282300230 - P.IVA: 04664130236

E-mail : segreteria@veronaminorhierusalem.it - PEC: veronaminorhierusalem@pec.it - Tel : 3471820111