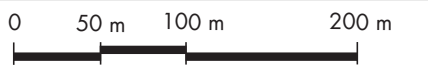


Accessible Venice



 accessible area

- 1 Former Church of Santa Marta
- 2 Ex Cottonificio
- 3 Church of San Sebastiano
- 4 Church of Angelo Raffaele
- 5 Former convent of the Sisters of St. Theresa
- 6 Teatro Universitario G. Poli
- 7

Santa Marta

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Accessible Venice

The Santa Marta area is located in the westernmost tip of Venice where council housing and 19th and 20th century buildings have replaced the antique settlements. It is home to several important examples of industrial archaeology that played an important role in the life of the city: from the gasometer to the aqueduct, from the huge hangars of the Cotonificio, the former cotton factory, to the former Ligabue warehouses. Over the years, so many of these buildings have been converted into university departments that the area has been transformed into a university quarter. The area is also strategically placed near to the port which bustles with tourists on their way to and from a host of tourist resorts (Croatia, Slovenia, Greece, etc.).

[1] Take a No. 4.1 or 5.1 “motoscafo”- the small water-bus transporting only one wheelchair at a time - from Piazzale Roma or Ferrovia stops or a No. 6 motoscafo from Piazzale Roma, and get off at **Santa Marta**.

[2] Once you have got off the landing-stage turn right and head for the former **Church of Santa Marta**, a 14th century building that has been converted into a congress centre/exhibition space.

[3] Continuing along the wharf of the commercial port you will reach the **ex Cotonificio** buildings now housing various university departments (the IUAV institute of architecture and Ca’ Foscari University of Venice). Standing on the roof is a sculpture entitled “Ali”, or Wings, a work symbolising freedom made by the architect Massimo Scolari for the 1991 Biennale as a door for the Arsenale and subsequently donated to the University. Just a few

Santa Marta

yards from the former Cotton Factory are the **ex Magazzini Ligabue**, a group of preindustrial red brick warehouses originally used as a free zone and recently refurbished and converted into university lecture halls.

[4] Continuing along the San Basilio bank you can admire the Giudecca island on your right with the magnificent Mulino Stucky building, an important example of 19th century industrial archaeology now housing a hotel and congress centre. After going up the ramp alongside the hydrofoil terminal of the Stazione Marittima (the Cruise Terminal), take the Calle dei Frati to the 15th century **Church of San Sebastiano**, one of Venice’s leading art venues thanks to its magnificent cycle of paintings by Paolo Veronese, who is buried there. Worth a closer look are the painted organ doors and ceiling of the sacristy, accessible after going up two steps (10 cm), where you can admire the *Coronation of the Virgin, the Four Evangelists, the Virtues and Scenes from the Old Testament*. Inside the main body of the church are various works by Paris Bordone and Jacopo Sansovino as well as a *St Nicolas* by Titian. Adjacent to the church is the **ex-convent of San Sebastiano**, which now houses the humanities faculty of Ca’ Foscari. The entrance hall is of particular architectural significance. Designed by Carlo Scarpa in 1978 it acts as a dialectic link between buildings from different eras, combining a range of contrasting surfaces: the entrance is distinguished by an L-shaped cornice made from Istrian limestone with stepped moulding cut away at the top to hold the antique statue of St Sebastian.

[5] After leaving the church go to Campazzo San Sebastiano; after passing Campo drio al Cimitero you will reach the **Church of Angelo Raffaele**

which has a marble statue group including the Archangel Raphael decorating its impressive façade. There are two entrances to the church: the main entrance has two steps while the side entrance is accessible.

[6] Returning to the wharf keep going until you reach the ex-cotton factory. If you cross the university campus (during opening times) you can reach Fondamenta dei Bari overlooked, on the other side of the canal, by the Church of San Nicolò dei Mendicoli, a 12th century church with a Veneto-Byzantine campanile. Going along the embankment you will reach the **former convent of the Sisters of Saint Theresa** built around a single large arched cloister (now a university faculty). The two wings of the convent enclose the simple façade of the Church of Santa Teresa which dates to the early 18th century. Leaving the convent complex, on the other side of the rio, you will see the “Casa dei 7 camini”, the House of 7 Chimneys, an interesting example of minor residential architecture: in 1996, the building was raised 40 centimetres using an experimental engineering technique to protect it from the high water.

[7] Going along the Fondamenta Santa Marta which leads to the landing stage you will pass **Teatro Universitario “Giovanni Poli”**, a fully accessible theatre hosting shows linked to leading Venetian cultural events.

For further information on accessibility and opening hours:
www.chorusvenezia.org
www.unive.it
www.iuav.it