[Template:Redirect](/wiki/Template:Redirect" \o "Template:Redirect) [Template:Infobox Italian comune](/wiki/Template:Infobox_Italian_comune) **Milan** ([Template:IPAc-en](/wiki/Template:IPAc-en) or [Template:IPAc-en](/wiki/Template:IPAc-en);[[1]](#cite_note-1) [Template:Lang-it](/wiki/Template:Lang-it) [Template:IPA-it](/wiki/Template:IPA-it); [Lombard](/wiki/Lombard_language), [Milanese variant](/wiki/Milanese): *Milan* [Template:IPA-all](/wiki/Template:IPA-all)),[[2]](#cite_note-2) is the capital of the [Lombardy](/wiki/Lombardy) region and the [first most populous](/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Italy_by_population) city in [Italy](/wiki/Italy). The population of the city proper is 1.3 million while the urban area is 5.5 million, the [5th-largest](/wiki/Largest_urban_areas_of_the_European_Union) in the [EU](/wiki/EU). The [Milan metropolitan area](/wiki/Milan_metropolitan_area), known as *Greater Milan*, is a polycentric area of 7 to 10 million people.[[3]](#cite_note-3)[[4]](#cite_note-4)[[5]](#cite_note-5)[[6]](#cite_note-6) Milan is part of the so-called [Blue Banana](/wiki/Blue_Banana): in terms of [GDP](/wiki/GDP), the city has the [3rd-largest economy](/wiki/List_of_cities_by_GDP) among EU cities after [London](/wiki/London) and [Paris](/wiki/Paris), and the largest among European non-capital cities.[[7]](#cite_note-7)[[8]](#cite_note-8) Milan is a leading [global city](/wiki/Global_city),[[9]](#cite_note-9) with strengths in the [arts](/wiki/Arts), [commerce](/wiki/Commerce), [design](/wiki/Design), [education](/wiki/Education), [entertainment](/wiki/Entertainment), [fashion](/wiki/Fashion), [finance](/wiki/Finance), [healthcare](/wiki/Healthcare), [media](/wiki/Media_(communication)), [services](/wiki/Service_(economics)), [research](/wiki/Research), [tourism](/wiki/Tourism). Milan was named as "*the moral capital of* [*Italy*](/wiki/Italy)", and it is one of the most important cities in [Europe](/wiki/Europe). Its business district hosts [Italy's Stock Exchange](/wiki/Borsa_Italiana) and the headquarters of the largest national and interntational banks and companies. The city is a major world [fashion](/wiki/Fashion_in_Milan) and [design](/wiki/Design) capital, well known for several international events and fairs, including [Milan Fashion Week](/wiki/Milan_Fashion_Week) and the [Milan Furniture Fair](/wiki/Milan_Furniture_Fair).[[10]](#cite_note-10)[[11]](#cite_note-11)[[12]](#cite_note-12) The city hosts numerous cultural institutions, academies and universities, with 11% of the national total enrolled students.[[13]](#cite_note-13) Milan's museums, theatres and landmarks (including the [Milan Cathedral](/wiki/Milan_Cathedral), [Sforza Castle](/wiki/Sforza_Castle) and [Leonardo da Vinci](/wiki/Leonardo_da_Vinci) paintings such as [The Last Supper](/wiki/The_Last_Supper_(Leonardo_da_Vinci)), a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](/wiki/UNESCO_World_Heritage_Site)) attract over 9 million visitors annually.[[14]](#cite_note-14) Milan is the second Italian city with the highest number of accredited stars from the [Michelin Guide](/wiki/Michelin_Guide).[[15]](#cite_note-15) The city hosted the [Universal Exposition](/wiki/Universal_Exposition) in [1906](/wiki/Milan_International_(1906)) and [2015](/wiki/Expo_2015). Milan is home to two of Italy's major football teams, [AC Milan](/wiki/A.C._Milan) and [FC Internazionale](/wiki/Inter_Milan).

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## Toponymy[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

The etymology of Milan ([Lombard](/wiki/Lombard_Language): *Milan* [Template:IPA-all](/wiki/Template:IPA-all)) is uncertain. One theory holds that the [Latin](/wiki/Ancient_Rome) name [*Mediolanum*](/wiki/Mediolanum) comes from the Latin words *medio* (in the middle) and *planus* (plain),[[16]](#cite_note-16)[Template:Unreliable source?](/wiki/Template:Unreliable_source?). However, some scholars believe *lanum* comes from the Celtic root *lan*, meaning an enclosure or demarcated territory (source of the [Welsh](/wiki/Welsh_language) word 'llan', meaning a sanctuary or church) in which Celtic communities used to build shrines.[[17]](#cite_note-17) Hence, *Mediolanum* could signify the central town or sanctuary of a Celtic tribe. Indeed, the name "Mediolanum" is borne by about sixty Gallo-Roman sites in [France](/wiki/France), e.g. [Saintes](/wiki/Saintes,_Charente-Maritime) (*Mediolanum Santonum*) and [Évreux](/wiki/Évreux) (*Mediolanum Aulercorum*).[[18]](#cite_note-18) In addition, another theory links the name to the [boar sow](/wiki/Wild_boar) (the [*Scrofa semilanuta*](/wiki/Scrofa_semilanuta)) an ancient emblem of the city, fancifully accounted for in [Andrea Alciato's](/wiki/Andrea_Alciato) *Emblemata* (1584), beneath a woodcut of the first raising of the city walls, where a boar is seen lifted from the excavation, and the etymology of *Mediolanum* given as "half-wool",[[19]](#cite_note-19) explained in Latin and in French.

The foundation of Milan is credited to two [Celtic peoples](/wiki/Celts), the [Bituriges](/wiki/Bituriges) and the [Aedui](/wiki/Aedui), having as their [emblems](/wiki/Emblem) a ram and a boar;[[20]](#cite_note-20) therefore "The city's symbol is a wool-bearing boar, an animal of double form, here with sharp bristles, there with sleek wool."[[21]](#cite_note-21) Alciato credits [Ambrose](/wiki/Ambrose) for his account.[[22]](#cite_note-22)

## History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

### Antiquity[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

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[thumb|Ruins of the Emperor's palace in Milan. Here](/wiki/File:Ruins-imperial-complex-milan-.jpg) [Constantine I](/wiki/Constantine_I) and [Licinius](/wiki/Licinius) issued the [Edict of Milan](/wiki/Edict_of_Milan). Around 400 BC, the Celtic [Insubres](/wiki/Insubres) settled Milan and the surrounding region.[[23]](#cite_note-23) In 222 BC, the Romans conquered the settlement, renaming it [Mediolanum](/wiki/Mediolanum). Milan was eventually declared the capital of the [Western Roman Empire](/wiki/Western_Roman_Empire) by Emperor [Diocletian](/wiki/Diocletian) in 286 AD. Diocletian chose to stay in the [Eastern Roman Empire](/wiki/Eastern_Roman_Empire) (capital [Nicomedia](/wiki/Nicomedia)) and his colleague Maximianus ruled the Western one. Immediately [Maximian](/wiki/Maximian) built several monuments, such as a large circus [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), the Thermae Herculeae, a large complex of imperial palaces and several other buildings.

With the [Edict of Milan](/wiki/Edict_of_Milan) of 313, Emperor [Constantine I](/wiki/Constantine_I) guaranteed [freedom of religion](/wiki/Freedom_of_religion) for Christians.[[24]](#cite_note-24) After the city was besieged by the [Visigoths](/wiki/Visigoths) in 402, the imperial residence was moved to [Ravenna](/wiki/Ravenna). In 452, the [Huns](/wiki/Huns) overran the city. In 539, the [Ostrogoths](/wiki/Ostrogoths) conquered and destroyed Milan during the [Gothic War](/wiki/Gothic_War_(535–554)) against [Byzantine](/wiki/Byzantine_Empire) Emperor [Justinian I](/wiki/Justinian_I). In the summer of 569, a [Teutonic tribe](/wiki/Teutons), the [Lombards](/wiki/Lombards) (from which the name of the Italian region [Lombardy](/wiki/Lombardy) derives), conquered Milan, overpowering the small [Byzantine army](/wiki/Byzantine_army) left for its defence. Some Roman structures remained in use in Milan under Lombard rule.[[25]](#cite_note-25) Milan surrendered to the [Franks](/wiki/Franks) in 774 when [Charlemagne](/wiki/Charlemagne) took the title of "King of the Lombards" (before then the Germanic kingdoms had frequently conquered each other, but none had adopted the title of King of another people). The [Iron Crown of Lombardy](/wiki/Iron_Crown_of_Lombardy) dates from this period. Subsequently, Milan became part of the [Holy Roman Empire](/wiki/Holy_Roman_Empire).

### Middle Ages[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

[thumb|Milan as it appeared in 1493, woodcut from the](/wiki/File:Nuremberg_chronicles_f_72r_1.png) [Nuremberg Chronicle](/wiki/Nuremberg_Chronicle).

During the [Middle Ages](/wiki/Middle_Ages), Milan prospered as a centre of trade due to its position. The war of conquest by [Frederick I Barbarossa](/wiki/Frederick_I,_Holy_Roman_Emperor) brought the destruction of much of Milan in 1162. Milan took the lead role in the formation of the [Lombard League](/wiki/Lombard_League), formed in 1167. The war between the German emperor and the [Italian communes](/wiki/Italian_commune) continued for years, ending with the Italian victory at the [battle of Legnano](/wiki/Battle_of_Legnano). As a result of the independence that the Lombard cities gained in the [Peace of Constance](/wiki/Peace_of_Constance) in 1183, Milan became a duchy. In 1208 [Rambertino Buvalelli](/wiki/Rambertino_Buvalelli) served a term as [podestà](/wiki/Podestà) of the city, in 1242 [Luca Grimaldi](/wiki/Luca_Grimaldi), and in 1282 [Luchetto Gattilusio](/wiki/Luchetto_Gattilusio). The position was a dangerous one: in 1252 Milanese heretics assassinated the Church's Inquisitor, later known as [Saint Peter Martyr](/wiki/Peter_of_Verona), at a ford in the nearby *contado*; the killers bribed their way to freedom, and in the ensuing riot the *podestà* was almost lynched. In 1256 the archbishop and leading nobles were expelled from the city. In 1259 [Martino della Torre](/wiki/Martino_della_Torre) was elected *Capitano del Popolo* by members of the [guilds](/wiki/Guild); he took the city by force, expelled his enemies, and ruled by dictatorial powers, paving streets, digging canals, and taxing the countryside. However he brought the Milanese treasury to collapse; the use of often reckless mercenary units further angered the population, granting an increasing support for the Della Torre's traditional enemies, the Visconti. The most important industries in this period were armaments and wool production, a whole catalogue of activities and trades is given in Bonvesin della Riva's "de Magnalibus Urbis Mediolani".

[thumb|150px|The](/wiki/File:IMG_3734_-_Milano_-_Stemma_visconteo-_sull'Arcivescovado_-_Foto_di_Giovanni_Dall'Orto_-_15-jan-2007.jpg) [*Biscione*](/wiki/Biscione): the coat of arms of the House of Visconti, from the Archbishops' palace in [Piazza Duomo](/wiki/Piazza_del_Duomo,_Milan).

On 22 July 1262 [Ottone Visconti](/wiki/Ottone_Visconti) was created [archbishop of Milan](/wiki/Roman_Catholic_Archdiocese_of_Milan) by [Pope Urban IV](/wiki/Pope_Urban_IV), against the Della Torre candidate, Raimondo della Torre, [Bishop of Como](/wiki/Roman_Catholic_Diocese_of_Como). The latter thus started to publicize allegations of the Visconti's closeness to the heretic [Cathars](/wiki/Catharism) and charged them of high treason: the Visconti, who accused the Della Torre of the same crimes, were then banned from Milan and their properties confiscated. The ensuing civil war caused more damage to Milan's population and economy, lasting for more than a decade. Ottone Visconti unsuccessfully led a group of exiles against the city in 1263, but after years of escalating violence on all sides, finally, after the victory in the [Battle of Desio](/wiki/Battle_of_Desio) (1277), he won the city for his family. The [Visconti](/wiki/House_of_Visconti_(Milan)) succeeded in ousting the [della Torre](/wiki/Della_Torre) forever, ruling the city and its possession until the 15th century.

Much of the prior history of Milan was the tale of the struggle between two political factions: the [Guelphs and the Ghibellines](/wiki/Guelphs_and_Ghibellines). Most of the time the Guelphs were successful in the city of Milan. However, the Visconti family were able to seize power (signoria) in Milan, based on their "Ghibelline" friendship with the German Emperors.[[26]](#cite_note-26) In 1395, one of these emperors, Wenceslas (1378–1400), raised the Milanese to the dignity of a duchy.[[27]](#cite_note-27) Also in 1395, [Gian Galeazzo Visconti](/wiki/Gian_Galeazzo_Visconti) became duke of [Milan](/wiki/Duchy_of_Milan). The Ghibelline Visconti family was to retain power in Milan for a century and a half from the early 14th century until the middle of the 15th century.[[28]](#cite_note-28) In 1447 [Filippo Maria Visconti](/wiki/Filippo_Maria_Visconti), [Duke of Milan](/wiki/List_of_rulers_of_Milan), died without a male heir; following the end of the Visconti line, the [Ambrosian Republic](/wiki/Golden_Ambrosian_Republic) was enacted. The Ambrosian Republic took its name from St. Ambrose, popular patron saint of the city of Milan.[[29]](#cite_note-29) Both the Guelph and the Ghibelline factions worked together to bring about the Ambrosian Republic in Milan. However, the Republic collapsed when in 1450, Milan was conquered by [Francesco Sforza](/wiki/Francesco_I_Sforza), of the [House of Sforza](/wiki/House_of_Sforza), which made Milan one of the leading cities of the Italian [Renaissance](/wiki/Renaissance).[[29]](#cite_note-29)[[30]](#cite_note-30)

### Early modern[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

[thumb|right|The late 16th-century city encircled by the](/wiki/File:Braun_Milano_HAAB.jpg) [Spanish walls](/wiki/Walls_of_Milan#Spanish_walls).

Milan's last independent ruler, [Lodovico il Moro](/wiki/Lodovico_il_Moro), called French king [Charles VIII](/wiki/Charles_VIII_of_France) into Italy in the expectation that France might be an ally in inter-Italian wars. The future king of [France](/wiki/Kingdom_of_France), [Louis of Orléans](/wiki/Louis_XII), took part in the expedition and realized Italy was virtually defenceless. This prompted him to [come back a few years later](/wiki/Italian_Wars) and claim the Duchy of Milan for himself, his grandmother having been a member of the ruling [Visconti](/wiki/House_of_Visconti) family. At that time, Milan was also defended by [Swiss mercenaries](/wiki/Swiss_mercenaries). After the victory of Louis's successor François I over the Swiss at the [Battle of Marignan](/wiki/Battle_of_Marignan), the duchy was promised to the French king [François I](/wiki/François_I_of_France). When the Spanish Habsburg [Charles V](/wiki/Charles_V,_Holy_Roman_Emperor) defeated François I at the [Battle of Pavia](/wiki/Battle_of_Pavia) in 1525, [northern Italy](/wiki/Northern_Italy), including Milan, passed to [Habsburg Spain](/wiki/Hapsburg_Spain).[[31]](#cite_note-31) In 1556, Charles V abdicated in favour of his son [Philip II](/wiki/Philip_II_of_Spain) and his brother [Ferdinand I](/wiki/Ferdinand_I,_Holy_Roman_Emperor). Charles's Italian possessions, including Milan, passed to Philip II and remained with the Spanish line of Habsburgs, while Ferdinand's Austrian line of Habsburgs ruled the Holy Roman Empire.

The [Great Plague of Milan](/wiki/Italian_plague_of_1629–1631) in 1629–31 killed an estimated 60,000 people out of a population of 130,000. This episode is considered one of the last outbreaks of the centuries-long [pandemic](/wiki/Pandemic) of plague that began with the [Black Death](/wiki/Black_Death).[[32]](#cite_note-32) In 1700 the Spanish line of Habsburgs was extinguished with the death of [Charles II](/wiki/Charles_II_of_Spain). After his death, the [War of the Spanish Succession](/wiki/War_of_the_Spanish_Succession) began in 1701 with the occupation of all Spanish possessions by French troops backing the claim of the French [Philippe of Anjou](/wiki/Philip_V_of_Spain) to the Spanish throne. In 1706, the French were defeated in [Ramillies](/wiki/Battle_of_Ramillies) and [Turin](/wiki/Battle_of_Turin) and were forced to yield northern Italy to the [Austrian Habsburgs](/wiki/Habsburg_Monarchy). In 1713, the [Treaty of Utrecht](/wiki/Treaty_of_Utrecht) formally confirmed Austrian sovereignty over most of Spain's Italian possessions including [Lombardy](/wiki/Lombardy) and its capital, Milan.

[thumb|150px|Milanese patriots fight](/wiki/File:Episodio_delle_cinque_giornate_(Baldassare_Verazzi).jpg) [Austrian](/wiki/Austrian_Empire) troops during the [Five Days](/wiki/Five_Days_of_Milan)

[Napoleon](/wiki/Napoleon) invaded Italy in 1796, and Milan was declared capital of the [Cisalpine Republic](/wiki/Cisalpine_Republic). Later, he declared Milan capital of the [Kingdom of Italy](/wiki/Kingdom_of_Italy_(Napoleonic)) and was crowned in the Duomo. Once Napoleon's occupation ended, the [Congress of Vienna](/wiki/Congress_of_Vienna) returned Lombardy, and Milan, along with [Veneto](/wiki/Veneto), to Austrian control in 1815.[[33]](#cite_note-33) During this period, Milan became a centre of lyric opera. Here in the 1770s [Mozart](/wiki/Wolfgang_Amadeus_Mozart) had premiered three operas at the [Teatro Regio Ducal](/wiki/Teatro_Regio_Ducal). Later [La Scala](/wiki/La_Scala) became the reference theatre in the world, with its premières of [Bellini](/wiki/Vincenzo_Bellini), [Donizetti](/wiki/Gaetano_Donizetti), [Rossini](/wiki/Gioachino_Rossini) and Verdi. [Verdi](/wiki/Giuseppe_Verdi) himself is interred in the [Casa di Riposo per Musicisti](/wiki/Casa_di_Riposo_per_Musicisti), his present to Milan. In the 19th century other important theatres were *La Cannobiana* and the *Teatro Carcano*.

On 18 March 1848, the Milanese rebelled against Austrian rule, during the so-called "[Five Days](/wiki/Five_Days_of_Milan)" ([Italian:](/wiki/Italian_language) *Le Cinque Giornate*), and Field Marshal [Radetzky](/wiki/Joseph_Radetzky_von_Radetz) was forced to withdraw from the city temporarily. The [Kingdom of Sardinia](/wiki/Kingdom_of_Sardinia) stepped in to help the insurgents; a [plebiscite](/wiki/Plebiscite) held in Lombardy decided in favor of unification with Sardinia. However, after defeating the Sardinian forces at [Custoza](/wiki/Battle_of_Custoza_(1848)) on 24 July, Radetzky was able to reassert Austrian control over Milan and northern Italy. A few years on, however, Italian nationalists again called for the removal of Austria and [Italian unification](/wiki/Italian_unification). Sardinia and France formed an alliance and defeated Austria at the [Battle of Solferino](/wiki/Battle_of_Solferino) in 1859.[[34]](#cite_note-34) Following this battle, Milan and the rest of Lombardy were incorporated into the Kingdom of Sardinia, which soon gained control of most of Italy and in 1861 was rechristened as the [Kingdom of Italy](/wiki/Kingdom_of_Italy).

The [political unification of Italy](/wiki/Italian_unification) cemented Milan's commercial dominance over northern Italy. It also led to a flurry of railway construction that had started under Austrian partronage (Venice–Milan; Milan–Monza) that made Milan the rail hub of northern Italy. Thereafter with the opening of the [Gotthard](/wiki/Gotthard_Rail_Tunnel) (1881) and [Simplon](/wiki/Simplon_Pass) (1906) railway tunnels, Milan became the major South European rail focus for business and passenger movements e.g. the Simplon Orient Express. Rapid industrialization and market expansion put Milan at the centre of Italy's leading industrial region, though in the 1890s Milan was shaken by the [Bava-Beccaris massacre](/wiki/Bava-Beccaris_massacre), a riot related to a high [inflation rate](/wiki/Inflation_rate). Meanwhile, as Milanese banks dominated Italy's financial sphere, the city became the country's leading [financial centre](/wiki/Financial_centre).

### Late modern and contemporary[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

[thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Bundesarchiv_Bild_102-12689,_Mailand,_Signallampen_im_Straßenverkehr.jpg)[Piazza del Duomo](/wiki/Piazza_del_Duomo,_Milan) in the 1920s.

In 1919, [Benito Mussolini's](/wiki/Benito_Mussolini) [Blackshirts](/wiki/Blackshirts) rallied for the first time in [Piazza San Sepolcro](/wiki/Chiesa_di_San_Sepolcro_(Milano)) and later began their [March on Rome](/wiki/March_on_Rome) in Milan. During the [Second World War](/wiki/Second_World_War) Milan [suffered extensive damage from Allied bombings](/wiki/Bombing_of_Milan_in_World_War_II).[[35]](#cite_note-35) When Italy [surrendered](/wiki/Armistice_between_Italy_and_Allied_armed_forces) in 1943, German forces occupied most of Northern Italy until 1945. As a result, resistance groups formed.[[36]](#cite_note-36) As the war came to an end, the American [1st Armored Division](/wiki/1st_Armored_Division_(United_States)) advanced on Milan – but before they arrived, the resistance seized control of the city and executed Mussolini along with several members of his government. On 29 April 1945, the corpses of Mussolini, his mistress [Clara Petacci](/wiki/Clara_Petacci) and other Fascist leaders were hanged in [Piazzale Loreto](/wiki/Piazzale_Loreto).

[thumb|upright|The](/wiki/File:Grattacielo_Pirelli.JPG) [*Pirellone*](/wiki/Pirellone), symbol of the modernity and audacity of the [Italian economic miracle](/wiki/Italian_economic_miracle).

During the post-war economic boom, a large wave of internal migration (especially from rural areas of [Southern Italy](/wiki/Southern_Italy)), moved to Milan. The population grew from 1.3 million in 1951 to 1.7 million in 1967.[[37]](#cite_note-37) During this period, Milan was largely reconstructed, with the building of several innovative and modernist [skyscrapers](/wiki/Skyscraper), such as the [Torre Velasca](/wiki/Torre_Velasca) and the [Pirelli Tower](/wiki/Pirelli_Tower).[[38]](#cite_note-38) The economic prosperity was however overshadowed in the late 1960s and early 1970s during the so-called [Years of Lead](/wiki/Years_of_Lead), when Milan witnessed an unprecedented wave of street violence, [labour strikes](/wiki/Labour_strike) and [political terrorism](/wiki/Political_terrorism). The apex of this period of turmoil occurred on 12 December 1969, when [a bomb](/wiki/Piazza_Fontana_bombing) exploded at the National Agrarian Bank in Piazza Fontana, killing seventeen people and injuring eighty-eight.

In the 1980s, with the international success of Milanese houses (like [Armani](/wiki/Armani), [Versace](/wiki/Versace) and [Dolce & Gabbana](/wiki/Dolce_&_Gabbana)), Milan became one of the world's fashion capitals. The city saw also a marked rise in international tourism, notably from America and Japan, while the stock exchange increased its market capitalization more than five-fold.[[39]](#cite_note-39) This period led the mass media to nickname the metropolis *"Milano da bere"*, literally "Milan to drink".[[40]](#cite_note-40) However, in the 1990s, Milan was badly affected by [Tangentopoli](/wiki/Tangentopoli), a political scandal in which many politicians and businessmen were tried for corruption. The city was also affected by a severe financial crisis and a steady decline in textiles, automobile and steel production.[[38]](#cite_note-38) In the early 21st century, Milan underwent a series of sweeping redevelopments. Its exhibition centre moved to a much larger site in [Rho](/wiki/Rho_(Italy)),[[41]](#cite_note-41) New business districts such as [Porta Nuova](/wiki/Porta_Nuova_(Milan)) and [CityLife](/wiki/CityLife_(Milan)) [[42]](#cite_note-42) were constructed. With the decline in manufacturing, the city has sought to develop on its other sources of revenue, including publishing, finance, banking, fashion design, information technology, logistics, transport and tourism.[[43]](#cite_note-43) In addition, the city's decades-long population decline seems to have come to an end in recent years, with signs of recovery as it grew by seven percent since the last census.[[44]](#cite_note-44)

## Geography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

### Topography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

[thumbnail|Panorama of Milan with the Alps in the background.](/wiki/File:Milan_panorama.jpg) [thumbnail|Map of central Milan.](/wiki/File:Map_central_milan02.jpg)

Milan is located in the north-western section of the [Po Valley](/wiki/Po_Valley), approximately half-way between the river [Po](/wiki/Po_(river)) to the south and the foothills of the [Alps](/wiki/Alps) with the great lakes ([Lake Como](/wiki/Lake_Como), [Lake Maggiore](/wiki/Lake_Maggiore), [Lake Lugano](/wiki/Lake_Lugano)) to the north, the [Ticino](/wiki/Ticino_(river)) river to the west and the [Adda](/wiki/Adda_(river)) to the east. It is flat, the highest point being at [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) [above sea level](/wiki/Above_mean_sea_level). The administrative commune covers an area of about [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), with a population, in 2013, of 1,324,169 and a population density of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert). A larger urban area, comprising parts of the provinces of Milan, Monza e Brianza, Como, Lecco and Varese is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) wide and has a population of 5,264,000 with a density of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert).

The concentric layout of the city centre reflects the [*Navigli*](/wiki/Navigli), an ancient system of navigable and interconnected canals, now mostly covered.[[45]](#cite_note-45) The suburbs of the city have expanded mainly to the north, swallowing up many communes to reach Varese, Como, Lecco and Bergamo.[[46]](#cite_note-46)

## Climate[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

[thumbnail|Palazzo Dugnani and](/wiki/File:Palazzo_Dugnani_in_Milan.jpg) [Montanelli Gardens](/wiki/Giardini_Pubblici_Indro_Montanelli) covered in snow in 2006.

Milan has a [humid subtropical climate](/wiki/Humid_subtropical_climate) (Cfa, according to the [Köppen climate classification](/wiki/Köppen_climate_classification)) with [continental](/wiki/Humid_continental_climate) (Dfa) influences. Milan's climate is similar to much of Northern Italy's inland plains, with hot, sultry summers and cold, foggy winters. However, the mean number of days with precipitation per year is one of the lowest in Europe. The [Alps](/wiki/Alps) and [Apennines](/wiki/Apennines) mountains form a natural barrier that protects the city from the major circulations coming from northern Europe and the sea.[[47]](#cite_note-47) During winter, average temperatures can fall below freezing ([Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert)) and accumulations of snow can occur: the historic average of Milan's area is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) in the period between 1961 and 1990, with a record of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) in January, 1985. In the suburbs the average can reach [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert).[[48]](#cite_note-48) The city was affected by the [Baroque](/wiki/Baroque) in the 17th and 18th centuries, and hosted numerous formidable artists, architects and painters of that period, such as [Caravaggio](/wiki/Caravaggio) and [Francesco Hayez](/wiki/Francesco_Hayez), which several important works are hosted in [Brera Academy](/wiki/Brera_Academy). The [Museum of Risorgimento](/wiki/Museum_of_the_Risorgimento_(Milan)) is specialized on the history of [Italian unification](/wiki/Italian_unification) Its collections include iconic paintings like [Baldassare Verazzi's](/wiki/Baldassare_Verazzi) *Episode from the Five Days* and [Francesco Hayez's](/wiki/Francesco_Hayez) 1840 [*Portrait*](/wiki/File:Francesco_Hayez_047.jpg) *of Emperor* [*Ferdinand I of Austria*](/wiki/Ferdinand_I_of_Austria). The [Triennale](/wiki/Triennale) is a design museum and events venue located in Palazzo dell'Arte, in Sempione Park. It hosts exhibitions and events highlighting contemporary Italian design, urban planning, architecture, music, and media arts, emphasizing the relationship between art and industry.

Milan in the 20th century was the epicenter of the [Futurist](/wiki/Futurism) artistic movement. [Filippo Marinetti](/wiki/Filippo_Tommaso_Marinetti), the founder of Italian [Futurism](/wiki/Futurism) wrote in his 1909 "[*Futurist Manifesto*](/wiki/Futurist_Manifesto)" (in Italian, *Manifesto Futuristico*), that Milan was "*grande...tradizionale e futurista*" ("*grand...traditional and futuristic*", in English). [Umberto Boccioni](/wiki/Umberto_Boccioni) was also an important [Futurism](/wiki/Futurism) artist who worked in the city.Today, Milan remains a major international hub of modern and contemporary art, with numerous modern art galleries. The [Modern Art Gallery](/wiki/Modern_Art_Gallery_(Milan)), situated in the Royal Villa, hosts collections of Italian and European painting from the 18th to the early 20th centuries.[[102]](#cite_note-102)[[103]](#cite_note-103)[[104]](#cite_note-104)The [Museo del Novecento](/wiki/The_Museum_of_Twentieth_Century_(Museo_del_Novecento)), situated in the [Palazzo dell'Arengario](/wiki/Palazzo_dell'Arengario), is one of the most important art galleries in Italy about 20th-century art; of particular relevance are the sections dedicated to [Futurism](/wiki/Futurism), [Spatialism](/wiki/Spatialism) and [Arte povera](/wiki/Arte_povera).

Milan is home to many public art projects, with a variety of works that range from sculptures to murals to pieces by internationally renowned artists, including [Arman](/wiki/Arman), [Francesco Barzaghi](/wiki/Francesco_Barzaghi), [Alberto Burri](/wiki/Alberto_Burri), [Pietro Cascella](/wiki/Pietro_Cascella), [Maurizio Cattelan](/wiki/Maurizio_Cattelan), [Leonardo Da Vinci](/wiki/Leonardo_Da_Vinci), [Giorgio de Chirico](/wiki/Giorgio_de_Chirico), [Claes Oldenburg](/wiki/Claes_Oldenburg), [Igor Mitoraj](/wiki/Igor_Mitoraj), [Michelangelo Pistoletto](/wiki/Michelangelo_Pistoletto), [Arnaldo Pomodoro](/wiki/Arnaldo_Pomodoro), [Aldo Rossi](/wiki/Aldo_Rossi) and [Domenico Trentacoste](/wiki/Domenico_Trentacoste).

### Music[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) Milan is a major national and international centre of the performing arts, most notably opera. Milan hosts [La Scala](/wiki/La_Scala) operahouse, considered one of the most prestigious operahouses in the world,[[105]](#cite_note-105) and throughout history has hosted the premieres of numerous operas, such as [*Nabucco*](/wiki/Nabucco) by [Giuseppe Verdi](/wiki/Giuseppe_Verdi) in 1842, [*La Gioconda*](/wiki/La_Gioconda_(opera)) by [Amilcare Ponchielli](/wiki/Amilcare_Ponchielli), [*Madama Butterfly*](/wiki/Madama_Butterfly) by [Giacomo Puccini](/wiki/Giacomo_Puccini) in 1904, [*Turandot*](/wiki/Turandot) by [Giacomo Puccini](/wiki/Giacomo_Puccini) in 1926, and more recently [*Teneke*](/wiki/Teneke), by [Fabio Vacchi](/wiki/Fabio_Vacchi) in 2007. Other major theatres in Milan include the [Teatro degli Arcimboldi](/wiki/Teatro_degli_Arcimboldi), [Teatro Dal Verme](/wiki/Teatro_Dal_Verme), [Teatro Lirico](/wiki/Teatro_Lirico_(Milan)) and formerly the [Teatro Regio Ducal](/wiki/Teatro_Regio_Ducal). The city also has a renowned [symphony orchestra](/wiki/Orchestra_Sinfonica_di_Milano_Giuseppe_Verdi) and [musical conservatory](/wiki/Milan_Conservatory), and has been, throughout history, a major centre for musical composition: numerous famous composers and musicians such as [Gioseppe Caimo](/wiki/Gioseppe_Caimo), [Simon Boyleau](/wiki/Simon_Boyleau), [Hoste da Reggio](/wiki/Hoste_da_Reggio), [Verdi](/wiki/Giuseppe_Verdi), [Giulio Gatti-Casazza](/wiki/Giulio_Gatti-Casazza), [Paolo Cherici](/wiki/Paolo_Cherici) and [Alice Edun](/wiki/Alice_Edun) are or were from, or call or called Milan their home. The city is also the birthplace of many modern ensembles and bands, including [Camaleonti](/wiki/Camaleonti), [Camerata Mediolanense](/wiki/Camerata_Mediolanense), [Gli Spioni](/wiki/Gli_Spioni), [Dynamis Ensemble](/wiki/Dynamis_Ensemble), [Elio e le Storie Tese](/wiki/Elio_e_le_Storie_Tese), [Krisma](/wiki/Krisma), [Premiata Forneria Marconi](/wiki/Premiata_Forneria_Marconi), [Quartetto Cetra](/wiki/Quartetto_Cetra), [Stormy Six](/wiki/Stormy_Six) and [Le Vibrazioni](/wiki/Le_Vibrazioni).

### Fashion and design[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article)

[thumb|150px|](/wiki/File:Jacquelyn_Jablonski_Versace.jpg)[Versace](/wiki/Versace) [Fashion show](/wiki/Milan_Fashion_Week) in Milan.

Milan is widely regarded as a global capital in industrial design, fashion and architecture.[[106]](#cite_note-106) In the 1950s and 60s, as the main industrial centre of Italy and one of Europe's most dynamic cities, Milan became a world capital of design and architecture. There was such a revolutionary change that Milan’s fashion exports accounted for $726 million (U.S. currency) in 1952, and by 1955 that number grew to $2.5 billion.[[107]](#cite_note-107) Modern skyscrapers, such as the [Pirelli Tower](/wiki/Pirelli_Tower) and the [Torre Velasca](/wiki/Torre_Velasca) were built, and artists such as [Bruno Munari](/wiki/Bruno_Munari), [Lucio Fontana](/wiki/Lucio_Fontana), [Enrico Castellani](/wiki/Enrico_Castellani) and [Piero Manzoni](/wiki/Piero_Manzoni) gathered in the city.[[108]](#cite_note-108) Today, Milan is still particularly well known for its high-quality furniture and interior design industry. The city is home to [FieraMilano](/wiki/FieraMilano), Europe's largest permanent trade exhibition, and [Salone Internazionale del Mobile](/wiki/Milan_Furniture_Fair), one of the most prestigious international furniture and design fairs.[[109]](#cite_note-109) Milan is also regarded as one of the [fashion capitals](/wiki/Fashion_capital) of the world, along with [New York City](/wiki/New_York_Fashion_Week), [Paris](/wiki/Paris_Fashion_Week), and [London](/wiki/London_Fashion_Week).[[110]](#cite_note-110) Milan is synonymous with the Italian prêt-à-porter industry,[[111]](#cite_note-111) as many of the most famous [Italian fashion](/wiki/Italian_fashion) brands, such as [Valentino](/wiki/Valentino_SpA), [Gucci](/wiki/Gucci), [Versace](/wiki/Versace), [Prada](/wiki/Prada), [Armani](/wiki/Armani) and [Dolce & Gabbana](/wiki/Dolce_&_Gabbana), are headquartered in the city. Numerous international fashion labels also operate shops in Milan. Furthermore, the city hosts the [Milan Fashion Week](/wiki/Milan_Fashion_Week) twice a year, one of the most important events in the international fashion system.[[112]](#cite_note-112) Milan's main upscale fashion district, [*quadrilatero della moda*](/wiki/Quadrilatero_della_moda), is home to the city's most prestigious shopping streets ([Via Monte Napoleone](/wiki/Via_Monte_Napoleone), [Via della Spiga](/wiki/Via_della_Spiga), [Via Sant'Andrea](/wiki/Via_Sant'Andrea), [Via Manzoni](/wiki/Via_Manzoni) and [Corso Venezia](/wiki/Corso_Venezia)), in addition to [Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II](/wiki/Galleria_Vittorio_Emanuele_II), one of the world's oldest shopping malls.[[113]](#cite_note-113)

### Languages and literature[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article)

[thumb|150px|Monument to](/wiki/File:Alessandro_Manzoni_statue.jpg) [Alessandro Manzoni](/wiki/Alessandro_Manzoni) in Piazza San Fedele.

In the late 18th century, and throughout the 19th, Milan was an important centre for intellectual discussion and literary creativity. The [Enlightenment](/wiki/Age_of_Enlightenment) found here a fertile ground. [Cesare, Marquis of Beccaria](/wiki/Cesare_Beccaria), with his famous [*Dei delitti e delle pene*](/wiki/Dei_delitti_e_delle_pene), and Count [Pietro Verri](/wiki/Pietro_Verri), with the periodical *Il Caffè* were able to exert a considerable influence over the new [middle-class](/wiki/Middle_class) culture, thanks also to an open-minded Austrian administration. In the first years of the 19th century, the ideals of the [Romantic movement](/wiki/Romanticism) made their impact on the cultural life of the city and its major writers debated the primacy of Classical versus [Romantic poetry](/wiki/Romantic_poetry). Here, too, [Giuseppe Parini](/wiki/Giuseppe_Parini), and [Ugo Foscolo](/wiki/Ugo_Foscolo) published their most important works, and were admired by younger poets as masters of ethics, as well as of literary craftsmanship. Foscolo's poem [*Dei sepolcri*](/wiki/Dei_sepolcri) was inspired by a Napoleonic law that—against the will of many of its inhabitants—was being extended to the city. In the third decade of the 19th century, [Alessandro Manzoni](/wiki/Alessandro_Manzoni) wrote his novel [*I Promessi Sposi*](/wiki/The_Betrothed_(Manzoni_novel)), considered the manifesto of Italian Romanticism, which found in Milan its centre; in the same period [Carlo Porta](/wiki/Carlo_Porta), reputed the most renowned local vernacular poet, wrote his poems in [Lombard Language](/wiki/Lombard_Language). The periodical [*Il Conciliatore*](/wiki/Il_Conciliatore) published articles by [Silvio Pellico](/wiki/Silvio_Pellico), [Giovanni Berchet](/wiki/Giovanni_Berchet), [Ludovico di Breme](/wiki/Ludovico_di_Breme), who were both Romantic in poetry and patriotic in politics. After the [Unification of Italy](/wiki/Italian_unification) in 1861, Milan lost its political importance; nevertheless it retained a sort of central position in cultural debates. New ideas and movements from other countries of Europe were accepted and discussed: thus [Realism](/wiki/Realism_(arts)) and [Naturalism](/wiki/Naturalism_(literature)) gave birth to an Italian movement, [*Verismo*](/wiki/Verismo). The greatest *verista* novelist, [Giovanni Verga](/wiki/Giovanni_Verga), was born in Sicily but wrote his most important books in Milan.

In addition to Italian, approximately 2 million people in the Milan metropolitan area can speak the [Milanese dialect](/wiki/Milanese_dialect) or one of its [Western Lombard](/wiki/Western_dialects_of_Lombard_language) variations.[[114]](#cite_note-114)

### Cuisine[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) [thumb|right|](/wiki/File:Homemade_panettone_with_bread_machine,_December_2010_(5232148128).jpg)[*Panettone*](/wiki/Panettone), traditional Christmas cake.

Like most cities in Italy, Milan has developed its own local culinary tradition, which, as it is typical for North Italian cuisines, uses more frequently [rice](/wiki/Rice) than [pasta](/wiki/Pasta), [butter](/wiki/Butter) than [vegetable oil](/wiki/Vegetable_oil) and features almost no [tomato](/wiki/Tomato) or [fish](/wiki/Fish). Milanese traditional dishes includes [*cotoletta alla milanese*](/wiki/Cotoletta)*,* a breaded veal (pork and turkey can be used) cutlet pan-fried in butter (similar to Viennese [Wiener Schnitzel](/wiki/Wiener_Schnitzel)). Other typical dishes are [*cassoeula*](/wiki/Cassoeula) (stewed pork rib chops and sausage with [Savoy cabbage](/wiki/Cabbage)), [*ossobuco*](/wiki/Ossobuco) (braised [veal](/wiki/Veal) shank served with a condiment called [*gremolata*](/wiki/Gremolata)), [risotto alla milanese](/wiki/Risotto) (with [saffron](/wiki/Saffron) and beef marrow), *busecca* (stewed [tripe](/wiki/Tripe) with beans), and *brasato* (stewed beef or pork with wine and potatoes). Season-related pastries include *chiacchiere* (flat fritters dusted with sugar) and *tortelli* (fried spherical cookies) for [Carnival](/wiki/Carnival), *colomba* (glazed cake shaped as a dove) for [Easter](/wiki/Easter), *pane dei morti* ("Deads' Day bread", cookies aromatized with [cinnamon](/wiki/Cinnamon)) for [All Souls' Day](/wiki/All_Souls'_Day) and [panettone](/wiki/Panettone) for Christmas. The *salame Milano*, a [salami](/wiki/Salami) with a very fine grain, is widespread throughout Italy. Renowned Milanese cheeses are [gorgonzola](/wiki/Gorgonzola) (from the [namesake](/wiki/Gorgonzola,_Milan) village nearby), [mascarpone](/wiki/Mascarpone), used in pastry-making, [taleggio](/wiki/Taleggio_cheese) and quartirolo.

Milan is well known for its world-class restaurants and cafés, characterized by innovative cuisine and design.[[115]](#cite_note-115) [Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of), Milan has 157 Michelin-selected places, including three 2-Michelin-starred restaurants;[[116]](#cite_note-116) these include [Cracco](/wiki/Cracco_Peck), Sadler and il Luogo di Aimo e Nadia.[[117]](#cite_note-117) Many historical restaurants and bars are found in the historic centre, the [Brera](/wiki/Brera_(district_of_Milan)) and [Navigli](/wiki/Navigli) districts. One of the city's oldest surviving cafés, [Caffè Cova](/wiki/Caffè_Cova), was established in 1817.[[118]](#cite_note-118) In total, Milan has 15 cafés, bars and restaurants registered among the Historical Places of Italy, continuously operating since at least 70 years.[[119]](#cite_note-119)

### Sport[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]

Milan hosted the [FIFA World Cup](/wiki/FIFA_World_Cup) in [1934](/wiki/1934_FIFA_World_Cup) and [1990](/wiki/1990_FIFA_World_Cup), the [UEFA European Football Championship](/wiki/UEFA_European_Football_Championship) in [1980](/wiki/1980_UEFA_European_Football_Championship) and most recently the [2003 World Rowing Championships](/wiki/2003_World_Rowing_Championships), the [2009 World Boxing Championships](/wiki/2009_World_Amateur_Boxing_Championships), and some games of the [Men's Volleyball World Championship](/wiki/FIVB_Volleyball_Men's_World_Championship) in [2010](/wiki/2010_FIVB_Volleyball_Men's_World_Championship) and the final games of the [Women's Volleyball World Championship](/wiki/FIVB_Volleyball_Women's_World_Championship) in [2014](/wiki/2014_FIVB_Volleyball_Women's_World_Championship).

Milan is the only city in Europe that is home to two [European Cup/Champions League](/wiki/UEFA_Champions_League) winning teams – [Serie A](/wiki/Serie_A) renewed football clubs [A.C. Milan](/wiki/A.C._Milan) and [F.C. Internazionale Milano](/wiki/F.C._Internazionale_Milano). Both teams have also won the Intercontinental Cup (now [FIFA Club World Cup](/wiki/FIFA_Club_World_Cup)). With a combined ten Champions League titles, Milan is tied with Madrid as one of the cities that have won more European Cups. They are the most successful clubs in the world of football in terms of international trophies. Both teams play at the UEFA 5-star rated Giuseppe Meazza Stadium, more commonly known as the [San Siro](/wiki/San_Siro), that is one of the biggest stadiums in Europe, with a [seating capacity](/wiki/Seating_capacity) of over 80,000.[[120]](#cite_note-120) The Meazza Stadium hosted the [2016 UEFA Champions League Final](/wiki/2016_UEFA_Champions_League_Final), in which [Real Madrid C.F.](/wiki/Real_Madrid_C.F.) defeated [Atlético Madrid](/wiki/Atlético_Madrid) 5-3 in a [penalty shoot out](/wiki/Penalty_shoot_out). A third team, [Brera Calcio](/wiki/Brera_Calcio) F.C. plays in [Seconda Categoria](/wiki/Seconda_Categoria).[[121]](#cite_note-121) There are currently four professional [Lega Basket](/wiki/Lega_Basket) clubs in Milan: [Olimpia Milano](/wiki/Olimpia_Milano), Pallacanestro Milano 1958, Società Canottieri Milano and A.S.S.I. Milano. Olimpia Milano won 26 [Italian Championships](/wiki/Lega_A) as well as 3 [European Champions Cups](/wiki/Euroleague). The team play at the [Mediolanum Forum](/wiki/Mediolanum_Forum), with a capacity of 12,000 where it has been hosted the final of the [2013-14 Euroleague](/wiki/2013-14_Euroleague). In some cases the team play also at the [PalaDesio](/wiki/PalaDesio), with a capacity of 6,700–8,000.

Milan is also home to Italy's oldest American football team: [Rhinos Milano](/wiki/Rhinos_Milano), that won 4 Italian Super Bowls. The team play at the [Velodromo Vigorelli](/wiki/Velodromo_Vigorelli), with a capacity of 8,000. Milan has also two cricket teams, Milano Fiori (currently competing in the second division) and Kingsgrove Milan, who won the Serie A championship in 2014. The world famous [Monza](/wiki/Autodromo_Nazionale_Monza) [Formula One](/wiki/Formula_One) circuit is located near the city, inside a suburban park. It is one of the world's oldest [car racing](/wiki/Auto_racing) circuits. The capacity for the [F1](/wiki/Formula_One) races is currently of over 113,000. It has hosted an F1 race nearly every year since the first year of competition, with the exception of 1980.

## Education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=27)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Politecnico_di_Milano_Bovisa_3.jpg)[Politecnico di Milano](/wiki/Politecnico_di_Milano), building in Bovisa district.

Milan is home to some of Italy's most prominent educational institutions. Milan's higher education system includes 7 universities, 48 faculties and 142 departments, with 185,000 university students in 2011 (approximately 11 percent of the national total)[[13]](#cite_note-13) and the largest number of university graduates and postgraduate students (34,000 and more than 5,000, respectively) in Italy.[[122]](#cite_note-122) Founded in 1863, the [Politecnico di Milano](/wiki/Politecnico_di_Milano) is the oldest university in Milan. The Politecnico is organized in 16 departments and a network of 9 Schools of engineering, architecture and industrial design spread over 7 campuses in the [Lombardy](/wiki/Lombardy) region. The number of students enrolled in all campuses is approximately 38,000, which makes Politecnico the largest technical university in Italy.[[123]](#cite_note-123) The [University of Milan](/wiki/University_of_Milan), founded in 1923, is the largest public teaching and research university in the city, with 9 faculties, 58 departments, 48 institutes and a teaching staff of 2,500 professors.[[124]](#cite_note-124) A leading institute in Italy and Europe in scientific publication, the University of Milan is the sixth largest university in Italy, with approximately 60,000 enrolled students.[[125]](#cite_note-125)[thumb|](/wiki/File:Brera_Academy_Main_Court.png)[Brera Academy](/wiki/Brera_Academy) main court. [thumb|](/wiki/File:Università_degli_Studi_di_Milano_-_sede_via_festa_del_perdono_-_Ca'_Granda_-_cortile_interno.JPG)[University of Milan](/wiki/University_of_Milan) cloister.

Other prominent universities in Milan include: the [*Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore*](/wiki/Università_Cattolica_del_Sacro_Cuore), a private institute founded in 1921 and located in the [Basilica of Sant'Ambrogio](/wiki/Basilica_of_Sant'Ambrogio), famous for its law and economics teaching, currently the largest Catholic university in the world with 42,000 enrolled students;[[126]](#cite_note-126) the [Bocconi University](/wiki/Bocconi_University), a private management and finance school established in 1902, ranking as the seventh best [business school](/wiki/Business_school) in Europe;[[127]](#cite_note-127) the [University of Milan Bicocca](/wiki/University_of_Milan_Bicocca), a multidisciplinary public university with more than 30,000 enrolled students;[[128]](#cite_note-128) the [IULM University of Milan](/wiki/IULM_University_of_Milan), specializing in marketing, information and communications technology, tourism and fashion;[[129]](#cite_note-129) the [Università Vita Salute San Raffaele](/wiki/Vita-Salute_San_Raffaele_University), linked to the [San Raffaele](/wiki/San_Raffaele_Hospital) hospital, is home to [research](/wiki/Research) laboratories in neurology, neurosurgery, diabetology, molecular biology, AIDS studies and cognitive science.[[130]](#cite_note-130) Milan is also well known for its fine arts and music schools. The [Milan Academy of Fine Arts](/wiki/Brera_Academy) (Brera Academy) is a public [academic institution](/wiki/Academic_institution) founded in 1776 by Empress [Maria Theresa of Austria](/wiki/Maria_Theresa_of_Austria); the [New Academy of Fine Arts](/wiki/Nuova_Accademia_di_Belle_Arti_Milano) is the largest private art and design university in Italy;[[131]](#cite_note-131) the [European Institute of Design](/wiki/Istituto_Europeo_di_Design) is a private university specialized in fashion, industrial and interior design, audio/visual design including photography, advertising and marketing and business communication; the [Marangoni Institute](/wiki/Istituto_Marangoni), is a fashion institute with campuses in Milan, London, and Paris; the [Domus Academy](/wiki/Domus_Academy) is a private postgraduate institution of design, fashion, architecture, interior design and management; the Pontifical Ambrosian Institute of Sacred Music, a [college of music](/wiki/College_or_university_school_of_music) founded in 1931 by the blessed cardinal A.I. Schuster, archbishop of Milan, and raised according to the rules by the Holy See in 1940, is – similarly to the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music in Rome, which is consociated with – an Institute "ad instar facultatis" and is authorized to confer university qualifications with canonical validity[[132]](#cite_note-132) and the [Milan Conservatory](/wiki/Milan_Conservatory), a [college of music](/wiki/College_or_university_school_of_music) established in 1807, currently Italy's largest with more than 1,700 students and 240 music teachers.[[133]](#cite_note-133)

## Transport[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=28)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) [thumbnail|The orange](/wiki/File:Milano--mailand-atm-sl-747517.jpg) [ATM 1500](/wiki/ATM_Class_1500) tram is an iconic symbol of Milan. [thumb|right|New Metro 5 Line at Garibaldi Station.](/wiki/File:Linea_5_lilla_-_metropolitana_di_Milano_-_Stazione_Garibaldi.JPG)

Milan is one of southern Europe's key transport nodes and one of Italy's most important railway hubs. Its five major railway stations, such as the [Milan Central station](/wiki/Milano_Centrale_railway_station), are among Italy's busiest.[[134]](#cite_note-134)[[135]](#cite_note-135) Since the end of 2009, two [high speed train](/wiki/High-speed_rail) lines link Milan to Rome, [Naples](/wiki/Naples) and [Turin](/wiki/Turin–Milan_high-speed_railway), considerably shortening travel times with other major cities in Italy.

The [Azienda Trasporti Milanesi](/wiki/Azienda_Trasporti_Milanesi) (ATM) operates within the metropolitan area, managing a public transport network consisting of an [underground rapid transit network](/wiki/Milan_Metro) and tram, [trolley-bus](/wiki/Trolleybus) and [bus lines](/wiki/Bus). Overall the network covers nearly [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) reaching 86 [municipalities](/wiki/Comune). Besides public transport, ATM manages the interchange [parking lots](/wiki/Parking_lot) and other transportation services including [bike sharing](/wiki/BikeMi) and [car sharing](/wiki/Car_sharing) systems.[[136]](#cite_note-136) [Milan Metro](/wiki/Milan_Metro) is the [rapid transit](/wiki/Rapid_transit) system serving the city, that with 4 lines and a total length of more than [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) is one of the largest in Europe. The recently opened M5 line is undergoing further expansion and the construction of the M4 line has been approved. The [Milan suburban railway service](/wiki/Milan_suburban_railway_service) comprises 10 lines and connects the metropolitan area with the city centre through the [Milan Passerby underground railway](/wiki/Milan_Passerby_Railway). Commonly referred to as "Il Passante", it has a train running every 6 minutes (and in the city functions as a subway line with full transferability to the Milan Metro).

The city tram network consists of approximately [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) of track and 17 lines.[[137]](#cite_note-137) Bus lines cover over [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert). Milan has also [taxi](/wiki/Taxicab) services operated by private companies and licensed by the City council of Milan. The city is also a key node for the national road network, being served by all the major highways of Northern Italy.

National and international [intercity bus service](/wiki/Intercity_bus_service) connects Milan with all Italian cities and main European destinations with an annual traffic of over 2 Millions passengers.[[138]](#cite_note-138) City main bus station is the Lampugnano bus terminal, nearby Lampugnano metro station.

Milan is served by three [international airports](/wiki/International_airport). [Linate](/wiki/Linate_Airport), the oldest and the only airport lying within the city limits, is mainly used for domestic and short-haul international flights, and served 9 million passengers in 2014.[[139]](#cite_note-139) [Malpensa International Airport](/wiki/Malpensa), the second busiest airport in Italy (about 19 million passengers in 2014), is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) from central Milan and connected to the city by the "*Malpensa Express*" railway service. The airport of [Orio al Serio](/wiki/Orio_al_Serio_Airport), near the city of [Bergamo](/wiki/Bergamo), serves the low-cost traffic of Milan (8.8 million passengers in 2014).[[140]](#cite_note-140) Milano [Bresso Airport](/wiki/Bresso_Airport), operated by Aero Club Milano, is a [general aviation](/wiki/General_aviation) airport. [Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## International relations[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=29)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

### Twin towns – Sister cities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=30)]

Milan has fifteen official [sister cities](/wiki/Sister_cities) as reported on the city's website.[[141]](#cite_note-141) The date column indicates the year in which the relationship was established. [São Paulo](/wiki/São_Paulo) was Milan's first sister city.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **City** | **Country** | **Date** |
| [São Paulo](/wiki/São_Paulo) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 1961 |
| [Chicago](/wiki/Chicago) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 1962 |
| [Lyon](/wiki/Lyon) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 1967 |
| [Frankfurt](/wiki/Frankfurt) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 1969 |
| [Birmingham](/wiki/Birmingham) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 1974 |
| [Dakar](/wiki/Dakar) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 1974 |
| [Shanghai](/wiki/Shanghai) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 1979 |
| [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 1981 |
| [Tel Aviv](/wiki/Tel_Aviv) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 1997 |
| [Bethlehem](/wiki/Bethlehem) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 2000 |
| [Toronto](/wiki/Toronto) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 2003 |
| [Kraków](/wiki/Kraków)[[142]](#cite_note-142) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 2003 |
| [Melbourne](/wiki/Melbourne) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 2004 |
| [Daegu](/wiki/Daegu)[[143]](#cite_note-143) | [Template:Flag](/wiki/Template:Flag) | 2015 |

The partnership with the city of [St. Petersburg](/wiki/St._Petersburg), [Russia](/wiki/Russia), that started in 1967, was suspended in 2012 (a decision taken by the city of Milan), because of the prohibition of the Russian government on "[homosexual](/wiki/Homosexual) propaganda".[[144]](#cite_note-144)

### Other forms of cooperation, partnership and city friendship[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=31)]

Milan has the following collaborations:[[145]](#cite_note-145) [Template:Colbegin](/wiki/Template:Colbegin)

* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Bilbao](/wiki/Bilbao), Spain
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Guangzhou](/wiki/Guangzhou), China
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Copenhagen](/wiki/Copenhagen), Denmark
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Barcelona](/wiki/Barcelona), Spain
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Moscow](/wiki/Moscow), Russia

[Template:Colend](/wiki/Template:Colend)

## See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=32)]

[Template:Portal](/wiki/Template:Portal)

* [Largest cities of the European Union by population within city limits](/wiki/Largest_cities_of_the_European_Union_by_population_within_city_limits)
* [Outline of Italy](/wiki/Outline_of_Italy)

## References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=33)]

### Notes[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=34)]

[Template:Reflist](/wiki/Template:Reflist)

### Bibliography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=35)]

[Template:Refbegin](/wiki/Template:Refbegin)

* Acts of [international convention](/wiki/International_law) "Milan Capital", Convegno archeologico internazionale Milano capitale dell'impero romano 1990; Milano Altri autori: Sena Chiesa, Gemma Arslan, Ermanno A.
* Agostino a Milano: *il battesimo* – Agostino nelle terre di Ambrogio: 22–24 aprile 1987 / (relazioni di) Marta Sordi (et al.) Augustinus publ.
* Anselmo, Conte di Rosate: istoria milanese al tempo del [Barbarossa](/wiki/Barbarosa) / Pietro Beneventi, Europia publ.
* [The decline and fall of the Roman Empire](/wiki/The_History_of_the_Decline_and_Fall_of_the_Roman_Empire) ([Edward Gibbon](/wiki/Edward_Gibbon))
* The later [Roman empire](/wiki/Roman_Empire) (Jones), Blackwell and Mott, [Oxford](/wiki/Oxford)
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* Milano capitale dell'Impero romano: 286–402 d.c.—album storico archeologico.–Milano: Cariplo: ET, 1991.—111 p.: ill; 47 cm. (Pubbl. in occasione della Mostra tenuta a Milano nel) 1990.
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)

[Template:Refend](/wiki/Template:Refend)

## External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=36)]

[Template:Commons](/wiki/Template:Commons) [Template:Americana Poster](/wiki/Template:Americana_Poster)

* [Template:Official website](/wiki/Template:Official_website)
* [City of Milan](http://milan.arounder.com/)—official Virtual Tour website
* [ATM—Milan's Transportation Company](http://www.atm-mi.it/en/)
* [Rete Metropolitana di Milano](http://www.sottomilano.it/) [Template:It icon](/wiki/Template:It_icon)
* [Template:Wikivoyage-inline](/wiki/Template:Wikivoyage-inline)
* [Milano on The Campanile Project](http://thecampanileproject.org/campanile/index.php/lombardia/milano)
* [Videotour in Milan](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Esfu3Ei9UJ8)

[Template:Milan landmarks](/wiki/Template:Milan_landmarks) [Template:Navboxes](/wiki/Template:Navboxes) [Template:Use dmy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_dmy_dates)

[Template:Authority control](/wiki/Template:Authority_control)

[Category:Former capitals of Italy](/wiki/Category:Former_capitals_of_Italy) [Category:Milan](/wiki/Category:Milan) [Category:Populated places established in the 1st millennium BC](/wiki/Category:Populated_places_established_in_the_1st_millennium_BC)