

LIVORNO





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HISTORY: Livorno has a population of approximately 150,000. The name of Leghorn is probably the English sailors' version of Livorno. The city owes its origin to the Pisanis who built a castle there in the tenth century. It was destroyed several times by Pisa's rivals, Genoa and Florence, and as often rebuilt. In 1390 it was bought by Gian Baloazzo, Visconti, Duke of Milan, and after his death, it was bought by Genoa. Finally in 1421, it was acquired by Florence, who at that time was trying to develop her maritime commerce. It was one of the Florentine fortresses occupied by Charles VII of France on his descent into Italy in 1491. Its prosperity dates from the sixteenth century, when Grand Duke Cosimo dei Medici began to build the new port designed to take the place of Porto Pisano, which had silted up. His work was continued by Ferdinand I (1587-1609), who built the great mole and made a proclamation of religious liberty in order to attract strangers to the city. Moors expelled from Spain, Greeks who had fled from the Turks, Roman Catholics driven from England, Italians threatened by the Inquisition, and above all the persecuted Jews found refuge here. Its trade steadily increased and Livorno became a port second only to Genoa.

During the Renaissance, true to its tradition of liberty, it was the most radical and democratic city in ruscany. After the formation of the Kingdom of Italy its privileges as a free port were abolished, and it became a naval dockyard as well as an important center of Italian commerce.

Livorno, which is the port of Florence and of the Lower Arno basin, is built on the southern extremity of the beach-fringed plain of Pisa and is 10 miles south of the mouth of the Arno River. With a population of 150,000, this town forms the nucleus of the modern city, which has spread to the east and southeast. The old part is built on a pentagonal peninsula, which is limited on its seaward side by the basins of the Darsena Vecchia and Laraeau Nuova, on the east by the connection between Piazza Carlo Alberto and the mainland, and on its other sides by the connection between Piazza. The Follo Reale is spanned by numerous bridges.

The principal industries of Livorno are shipbuilding, metallurgy and general engineering. Other large industrial establishments include glass works, an important paint and varnish factory, cotton mills, flour mills, distilleries, a canning factory, the Solvay Soda Plant, the Montecant Fertilizer Plant, and the Stanic Refinery. The smaller industries include the manufacture of crystalized fruits, soap, rubber goods, furniture and Singer Sewing Machines.

Livorno is the seat of the Italian Naval Academy and the Italian Naval War College, both of which are located just outside the city. As the Italian Navy Postgraduate School is located at the Naval Academy, there are numerous Italian naval officers in Livorno.



The Count of Monte Cristo, Alexandre Dumas's famous character, sailed from Leghorn to the island of Monte Cristo, in search of his fabulous treasure.

As a result of war damage there is not much of interest in Livorno. Terrania, a popular summer resort located about eight miles from Livorno, has good beaches, hotels, and restaurants. Visitors should not miss going to Pisa and Florence, both of which have sightseeing splendors famous the world over.

Beyond Pisa, about 20 kilometers, is an old walled town called Lucca, which is well out of the tourists' path. A drive to Lucca through a fertle and picturesque countryside and a trip around the old narrow and twisting streets are well worth seeing.

FLORENCE

Florence, with a population of 300,000, is beautifully situated on the River Arno in Tuscany, 60 miles from Leghorn. After being a Tuscan colony and a Roman military station, it developed in the Middle Ages into a flour-ishing independent city state. The 15th century—the epoch of the great Medici family—was the golden age of Florence. A few of the men who, either by birth or residence in the city, helped to create its matchless renown as a center of art are the writers Dante (1265-1321) Boccaccio (1313-1375), and Machiavelli (1469-1527) and the painters Giotto (1276-1337), Michelangelo (1475-1654) and Raphael (1483-1520). Among the most noteworthy of the host of splendid buildings are the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore (mainly 14th century) with the Campanile known as Giotto's Tower, the Baptistry of San Giovanni, the Palazzo Vecchio, and the Palazzo Pitti with its magnificent picture gallery. Six graceful bridges once spanned the river, but most of these were damaged or destroyed by the Germans in their retreat northward in August 1944.

PISA

Pisa, with a population of 50,000, stands on both banks of the river Arno at its mouth and 14 miles from Leghorn. Originally a Truscan settlement, then a Roman colony, Pisa rose to greatness in the Middle Ages when it became a free city and one of the greatest naval and commercial powers in the Mediterranean. The artistic pride of Pisa lies in the Piazza del Duomo, in the northwest corner of the town, with the wonderful group of buildings comprising the Cathedral (11th-12th century), the Baptistry (12th century), the Campo Sante or Cemetary, and the Campanile (1173), better known as the Leaning Tower. The latter consists of tiers of marble columns on round arches forming open galleries, and is 179 feet high and leans 13 feet out of the perpendicular. It was from observing the oscillations of a suspended lamp in the Cathedral that Galileo, a native of Pisa, discovered his celebrated principal of the pendulum. Another building of interest is the Gothic Santa Maria della Spins.

WEATHER: The climate is moderate for a city in this latitude. In the fall and winter, nights become quite chilly but with temperatures rising considerably during the day. Very little snow falls in Livorno; one snowfall a year is average. Winds are infrequent, and are determined by snow conditions on the mainland and Corsica.

TRANSPORTATION: Train and bus terminals are both located in the train station, situated about one mile northeast of Livorno. The depot itself is new and modern, containing above average station facilities. Passenger service by rail is adequate. First and second class compartments are clean, neat, and comfortable; however dining car service is poor and expensive. Connections to Pisa and Florence are good, leaving every hour or two during the day; the trip to Florence takes slightly less than two hours. There is only one good day train to Rome, an express which makes the journey in approximately four hours. Bus transportation is provided by the C.I.T., and is considered excellent. Busses leave the city for Pisa every half hour and for Rome several times a day.

HOTELS:

EXCELSIOR

Address - 1 Via Cassuto

Phone - 23450

Class - 1st

Distance from Landing - 1/2 mile

BROGI - (Considered inferior quality) Address - Viale Italia 109 Phone 21640 Class - 2nd Distance from Landing - 1 mile CITTA DI LIVORNO

Address - 32 Via di Franco

Phone - 22263

Class - 2nd

Distance from Landing 1/4 mile

ASTORTA

Address - 96 Via Ricasoli

Phone - 22250 Class - 1st

Distance from Landing - 1/2 mile

PALAZZO SUL MARE

Address - Viale Italia 195

Phone - 29071

Class - 1st

Distance from Landing - 1 mile

WANDA

Address - Via Ravizza 24 Ardenza

Phone - 20657

Class - 2nd

Distance from Landing - 1 mile

CAVOUR

Address - Piazza Cavour 25

Phone - 23604

Class - 2nd

Distance from Landing - 1/4 mile

CORALLO TERMINUS

Address - Piazza Dante (Stazione)

Phone - 24784 Class - 1st

Distance from Landing - 1 mile

NOTE: Price per day for 1st class, including various taxes, will average about 1,200 lire for room and bath, plus 12% service charge.

RESTAURANTS: Restaurants and bars are located in the vicinity of Piazza Cavour. The best bars and restaurants are in the better hotels, the Palazzo, the Corallo, the New Hotel Astoria, and at the Bagna Pancalki, which faces the sea opposit the Palazzo Hotel and is open during the warm months. Ceccarelli's on Via Sardi is a good restaurant which caters to Americans; waiters speak English. The Imperial restaurant at Terrania is also good.

LA LANTERNA:

Address - 2 Via dei Fanciulli

Class - 1st

Speciality - Canneloni & Filet

LA PARMIGIANA

Address - 2 Piazza Luigi Orlando

Class - 1st

Speciality - Ravioli

ASTORIA

Address - 96 Via Ricasoli (HOTEL)

Class - 1st

Speciality - Excellent food of variety

IL ROMITO

Address - Via Aurelie

Class - 1st

Speciality - Any type of fish

ZIA ROSA

Address - Via di Franco

Class - 2nd

Speciality - Pizza Pie

L ATTIAS

Address - Attias

Class - 2nd

Speciality - Roasted meat

NOTE: There are no safe sources of fresh milk available on the Italian market. No local ice cream, butter, cheeses, etc., are safe unless purchased through Army sources. The Snack Bar at Camp Darby is the only safe source of Dairy Products.

Personnel should not eat uncooked fruit or vegetables while ashore. Water should not be drunk unless it has been chlorinated. Wines are very good to excellent, depending on the price. Whiskey is Italian made and not very good. Local beer is inferior and cognac is not the best; good imported beers are available. Coca-Cola is made and bottled in Livorno and is very popular. (BEWARE OF UNCOOKED SEAFOODS)

POINTS OF INTEREST: As a result of war damage there is not much of interest in Livorno. One attraction is the Italian Naval Academy, located just outside of town. A visit to the Montenerao Sanctuary, which presents an elevated view of the city and gulf about eight miles from Livorno, has been recommended.

CAMP DARBY

EUROPEAN EXCHANGE SERVICE: The Camp Darby Post Exchange carries a complete assortment of merchandise found in a major PX. Special buys at the Darby PX include Italian accordions and musical instruments, linens, handworked blouses, cameos, and Florentine leather articles.

ARMY COMMISSARY: The commissary is located next door to the PX. Commissary privileges are also available to visiting personnel who enjoy the same privileges at their home stations.

THRIFT SHOP: This shop is located on Harmon Avenue next to the Commissary Sales Store.

AUTOMOTIVE PARTS STORE: This store has spare parts, accessories, batteries and tires.

FINANCE OFFICE: At the Finance Office authorized personnel can exchange dollars into lire or any other authorized currency. A branch of the Bank of America and Italy is located in the APO building.

OTHER FACILITIES: The American Red Cross and US Army Post Office.

SPECIAL SERVICES: The command's Special Services maintains the following activities:

- 1. Motion Picture Theater.
- 2. Bowling Alley-beverages and sandwiches are sold here.
- 3. Tennis, baseball, football and softball fields.
- 4. Riviera Service Club-- music entertainment, shuffleboard, cards, ping-pong, billiards, craft shop, art studio and a photo lab are available.
- 5. Library and Music Room-- large variety of magazines, newspapers, books of all kinds including the latest publications.

CLUBS AND OPEN MESS: The Idle Hours Club is for the lower four enlisted grades and is located on Camp Darby. The club is open nightly and offers dance music as well as reasonably priced food and drinks.

The Gateway is an excellent club for NCO's. It is located on Via Pisorno in Livorno. An orchestra plays for your dancing and listening pleasure.

The Logistical Command Officers Open Mess is located on Camp Darby. The club is open to all officers and their guests. Meals, drinks and dancing are available.

SNACK BAR: Offers snacks, sandwiches, full meals, etc. Stars and Stripes newsstand is located in the same building.

TRANSPORTATION: Extensive bus services are operated between Camp Darby and Livorno. There are two routes to Livorno. One is by way of Via Aurelia, and the other Via Tirrenia (by the NCO Club, Officers' Club, American Beach, US Army Hospital). In Livorno busses leave from behind the Palazzo Grade building and the RTO. (Schedule of busses not known at present time).



TRAFFIC REGULATIONS: It is essential that you know the local traffic regulations and speed limits. The customs, ideas and attitudes of Italian motorists and pedestrians differ from those back home. Statistics indicate high vehicle accident rates and hazardous driving conditions. You must be constantly on the alert and DRIVE DEFENSIVELY. Observe all restrictions including local speed limits. If you are ever involved in a traffic accident the same procedure is to be followed as back in the United States.

HEALTH HINTS:

Water: Water from local sources is considered non-potable and must be treated.

Dairy Products: Buy milk, butter and cheese only at the commissary. Local milk and dairy products, including those labelled as "Pasteurized" have a higher bacteria count than is considered safe for U.S. personnel.

Meat: You are advised to rely on the meats and products obtainable at the commissary.

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables: These items should be thoroughly washed and soaked for 30 minutes in mikrolene solution if they are to be eaten raw. Mikrolene is available at the commissary.

Sea Foods: Avoid all uncooked fish or other sea foods. Serious intestinal diseases may result from eating raw oysters or mussels.

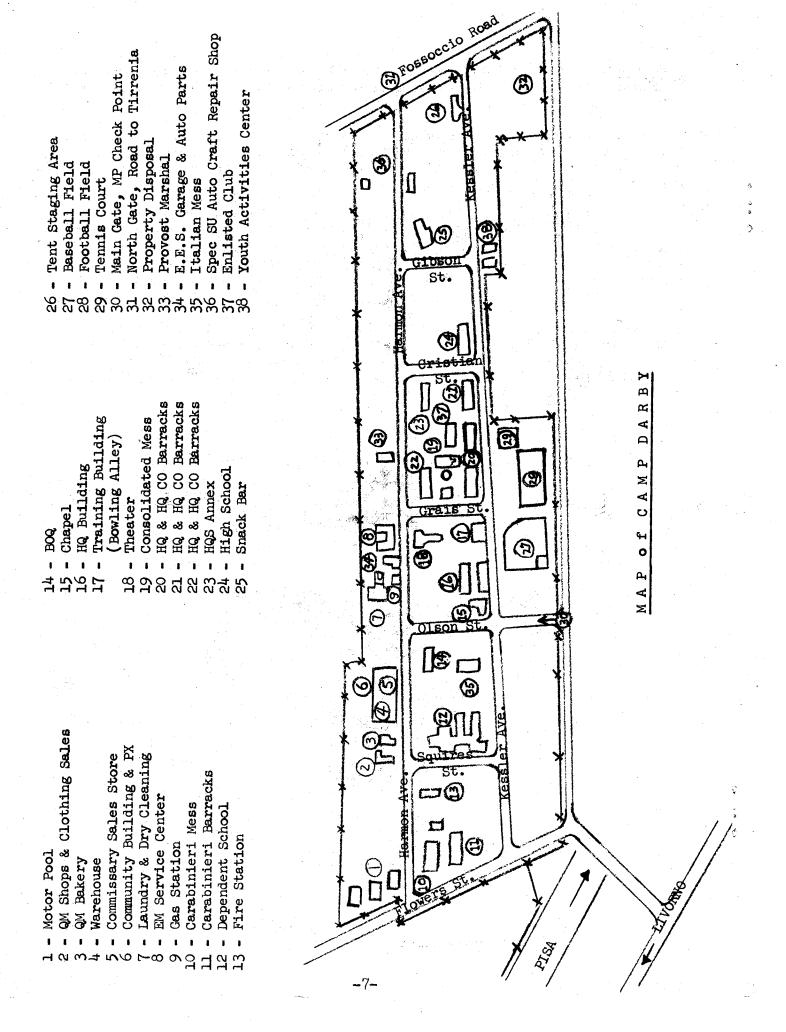
Restaurants: Avoid establishments which are not clean and sanitary. Meat and fish should be well cooked. Avoid drinking tap water. Bottled water is available in most restaurants.

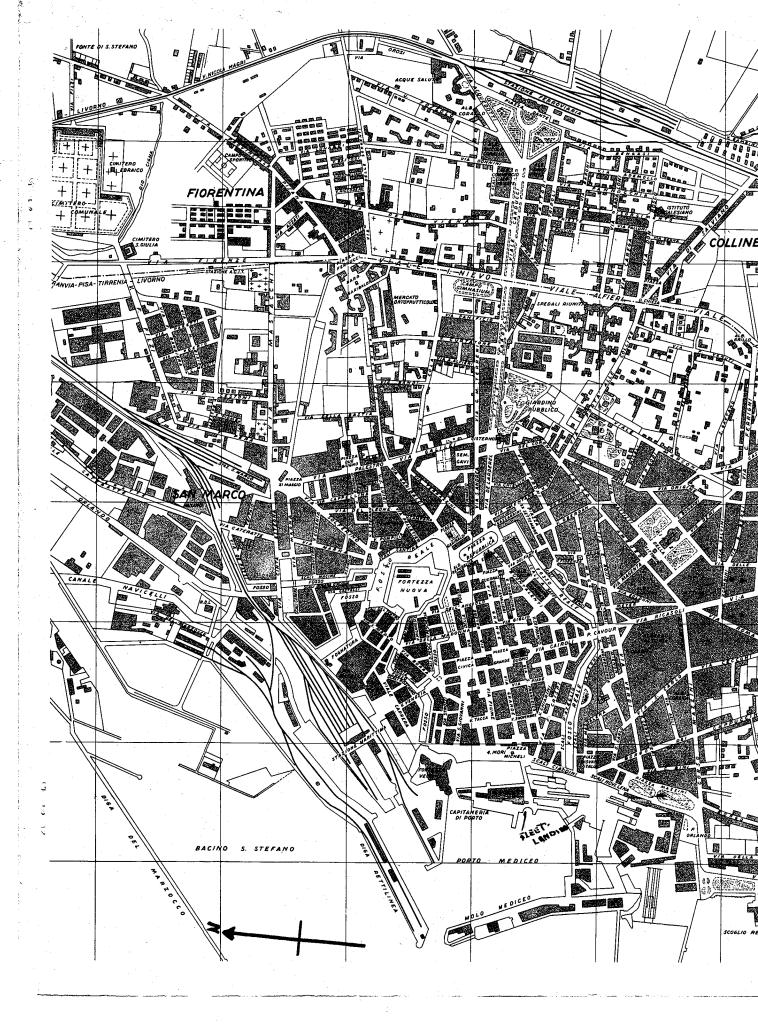
Ice-Cream: Obtain your ice-cream only through Army Exchange outlets or commissaries. The ice-cream plant is inspected regularly to insure you from unsafe and/or unhealthful products. Do not let the children purchase from local vendors.

SHOPPING: Items of purchase at Leghorn include Italian leather goods, jewelry, ceramics, mosaic, marble and alabaster figurines. The Army PX at Camp Darby usually has a nominal selection of items from various European countries. If items are purchased on the local market, be sure to discuss the purchase in detail before paying for the item. The Italian people are accustomed to and expect a great deal of bargaining prior to a sale. Prices are "marked up" accordingly for this purpose.

A very attractive shopping section along the Via Grande is located on either side of the Palazzo Grande. Souvenirs, linens, leather goods, straw goods, and clothing are available. There is an Italian version of the American 10 cents store diagonally across the square from the Palazzo Grande with a good selection of small items.

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