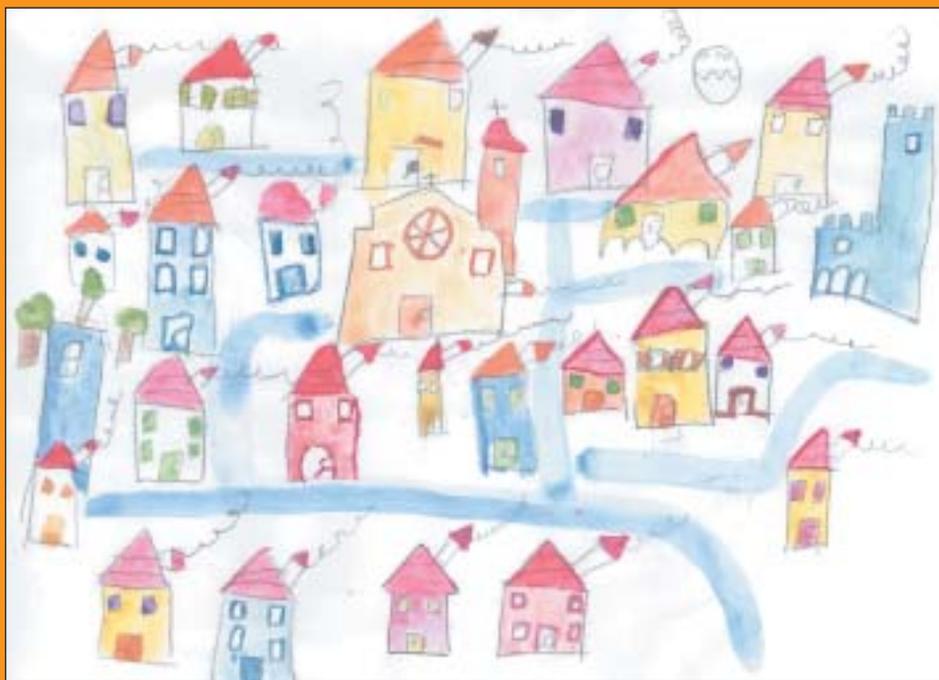


YOUNG TOURIST STROLLING AROUND THE CASTLE OF LATERINA

A Guidebook for children

Traduzione a cura di Claudine Camilleri



**Edited by Laterina Nursery School,
with the collaboration of Laterina Local Council
and the Cultural Society "La Rocca"**

Dear young tourist,

Some time or other we all went sightseeing with our mum and dad . Since we generally think that visiting monuments and other historic places of interest is quite boring, we thought of setting up this booklet exclusively for YOU.

This way, if you come and visit our village, you won't get bored at all. Here you can find our drawings, our photos and some information about what you'll see during your walk.

We will relate to you all about when our village was a castle and all through our streets, there were knights and dames, archers and jesters, merchants and falconers.

We will however use simple wording so that you can understand, learn and enjoy yourself.

Then, within this booklet you'll find some simple games that you can play with your parents once you return home or to your hotel.

That way, as you're colouring, cutting and pasting, you'll always remember our little village and keep it amongst your most dear memories of your holiday in Tuscany.

The children of "Arcobaleno" Nursery School
(Rainbow)



THIS IS OUR VILLAGE... ISN'T IT BEAUTIFUL???!?!?

After you leave your car in the carpark beneath the bastion walls, give your hand to mummy or daddy and start climbing up the hill towards the village.

Are you out of breath?!.....Oh no you aren't. I know you're a strong and fit child.

Now relax and start observing.

You are in our main square called "Piazza della Repubblica" (Republic Square)

Here there are three important buildings.....

Now start your visit.

Close your eyes and try to think about this village and how it could have been many years ago.

Open your eyes and.....

PIAZZA DELLA REPUBBLICA (REPUBLIC SQUARE)

This is the main square of our village.

It is the place where people love to meet, talk and stay together.

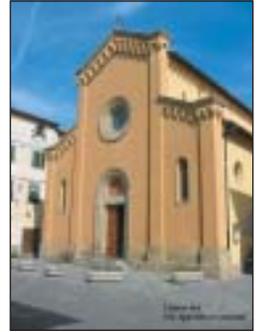
Three important buildings overlook this square:

THE CHURCH OF SAINTS IPPOLITO AND CASSIANO

Many years ago, instead of this church, there was a smaller one:



The Church of St. Mary. The bigger church was found at the *Pievi*, a place on the outskirts of this village which you can see if you take a look from the bastion wall in the square. If by any chance, you see an old man relaxing in the sun, ask him to



point it out to you. The people of Laterina, however, thought it was very dangerous to go to

Mass so far away from the bastion walls and they decided to enlarge the church inside the castle and give it the same name.

(Follow the map)

LA LOGGIA DEL GRANO (THE WHEAT MERCHANT'S LODGE)

Many years ago, since there was no shop where people could buy bread, the merchants sold the wheat under the arcades. Then it was taken to the mill where it became flour and mummies baked bread at home.

(Follow the map)



IL PALAZZO DEL PODESTÀ (THE PALACE OF THE PODESTÀ)

Next to the “Wheat Merchant’s Lodge” you can see a palace with many coats of arms hung on its wall:- this is the Palace of the *Podestà*. The *podestà* was like a mayor who was in charge of the castle for six months and every time a new one arrived, he hung up his coat of arms on the wall to let the people know that he too, was one of the rulers of Laterina. (Follow the map)

Try to.....

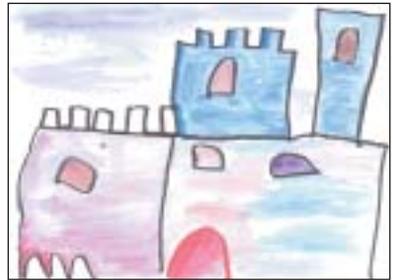
Before you go on, if you like, you can try to pull out the sword out of the rock. If you manage to do it, you’ll be crowned *podestà* of this village and if you don’t, you can make do with a nice picture.

LA ROCCA (THE ROOK)

When the castle was built the rook did not exist. But you should know that both the Aretians and the Florentines always liked Laterina a lot and they always



fought to conquer it. Because of this, in



around 1300, the Florentines built a Rook so that they could observe the enemy from a long distance and defend the castle.

(Follow the map)

TORRE DEL GHIANDERINO (GHIADERINO GATE)



This gate remained the same as when it was built many years ago. Long ago there were even another two like it with



a small tower from where the enemy could be observed. Once there was even a great wooden door which was closed every evening so that no one could enter.

(Follow the map)

LA VIA DELL'AMORE (THE STREET OF LOVE)

As you walk along this little street, you can see the countryside in the north of Laterina and a building made of red bricks, with a chimney. These are the outskirts of Laterina called "*Le Fornaci*" (meaning The Furnaces), where they used to, and still do, make bricks. Even the name "Laterina" could mean "a factory of bricks". From here you can also see "*Le Balze*" (meaning crags): they are "pyramids" of soil, large pieces of clay which have eroded over the years, until they came to have this particular shape. This beautiful landscape might have been liked also by Leonardo da Vinci since it seems that he included it in the famous painting "*La Gioconda*" (Follow the map)



Try to...

Remember this street when you grow up... you could come back with your boyfriend or girlfriend. Look for the grating of the small window where you can find little bows which all the lovers tied while they promised each other eternal love in this romantic place. (Follow the map)

SAN ROCCO (ST. ROQUE)

This little church was built in around 1500. It was dedicated to St. Roque because he was the patron saint who protected people from the plague, a horrible disease which often caused many people to die.

(Follow the map)



Try to....

Try to remain silent for some time. You might hear the lament of the canon. According to a legend, at the end of the Second World War, a soldier who was returning from the front stopped to rest on the stairs of the church. At that point, the canon came out and invited him to help him celebrate Mass. When the soldier returned to this village, he told the people what had happened but he was told that the canon had been dead for many years. From that time on the legend of the canon ghost has been forwarded down from generation to generation and at times it is useful to keep the children quiet. "If you don't obey, I'll call the canon....." I advise you to be as good as can be while you continue this visit.

TORRE GUINIGI (GUINIGI TOWER)

This tower was built in 1300 by the Florentines. At the beginning it was

higher but then it was lowered because it was in danger of falling. Before this tower was built there was another one exactly like it at the Ghianderino Gate and it was called Fiorentina Gate because it faced Florence. In 1800, then, the tower took its name from Count Guinigi who bought it together with the beautiful palace next to it. (Follow the map)



Try to.....

Try to put in your head and your hands in the pillory..... How does it feel!? A bit tight doesn't it?

Can you imagine that many years ago whoever committed something wrong was left imprisoned in this way?

Thank Goodness we're in modern times!!!!!!!



PALAZZO GUINIGI (GUINIGI PALACE)

The palace you're admiring was built in 1600, by the Buratti family, a very rich and important family from Laterina. Then Count Guinigi bought it together with the tower. Now the palace is divided into many parts, but at that time it was one big house with many servants. The count and the countess had their own private garden and even a wood all for themselves. This was the public garden which you might just have been through.

(Follow the map)

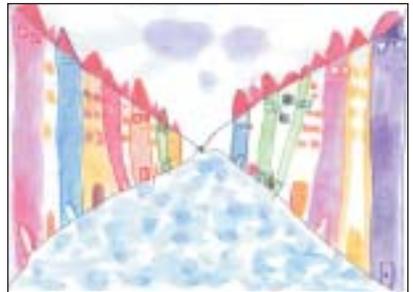


CORSO ITALIA (MAIN STREET)

It is the most important street of the village. Many years ago it was called *Borgo Maestro* (meaning the main street) or also *Borgo Diritto* (meaning Straight street). Here you could find all the

shops of artisans and merchants . At that time one could hear many noises, that of the blacksmith hammering the iron or the carpenter sawing wood. Now , in this street there are the traditional shops of our village. There's

also one who sells toys... don't miss it!!!



Try to.....

Stop a bit.....if it's the right time you can find many children playing in this street. In fact cars cannot pass from the central part of this street. If you want you can stop and play and learn some interesting games from the Laterina children... You might be lucky enough to find someone from our school. It is lovely to stroll around a village and admire places of interest, but it is even more beautiful to get to know the people who live there!!!

Now let's play!!!

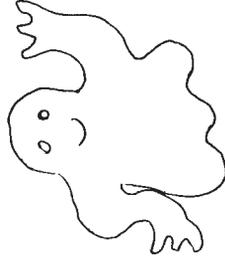
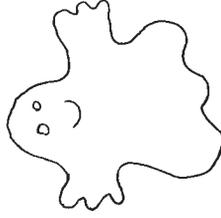
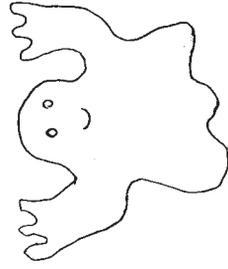
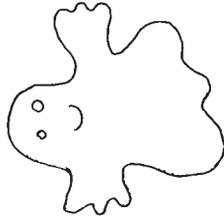
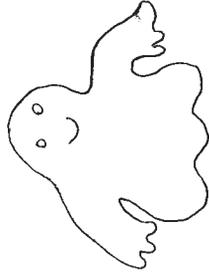
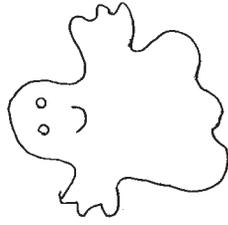
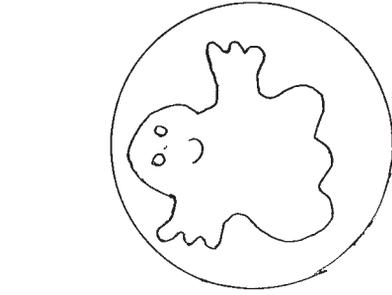
Il cappello del giullare



Incolla su un cartoncino il cappello del giullare. Poi ritaghalo e coloralo

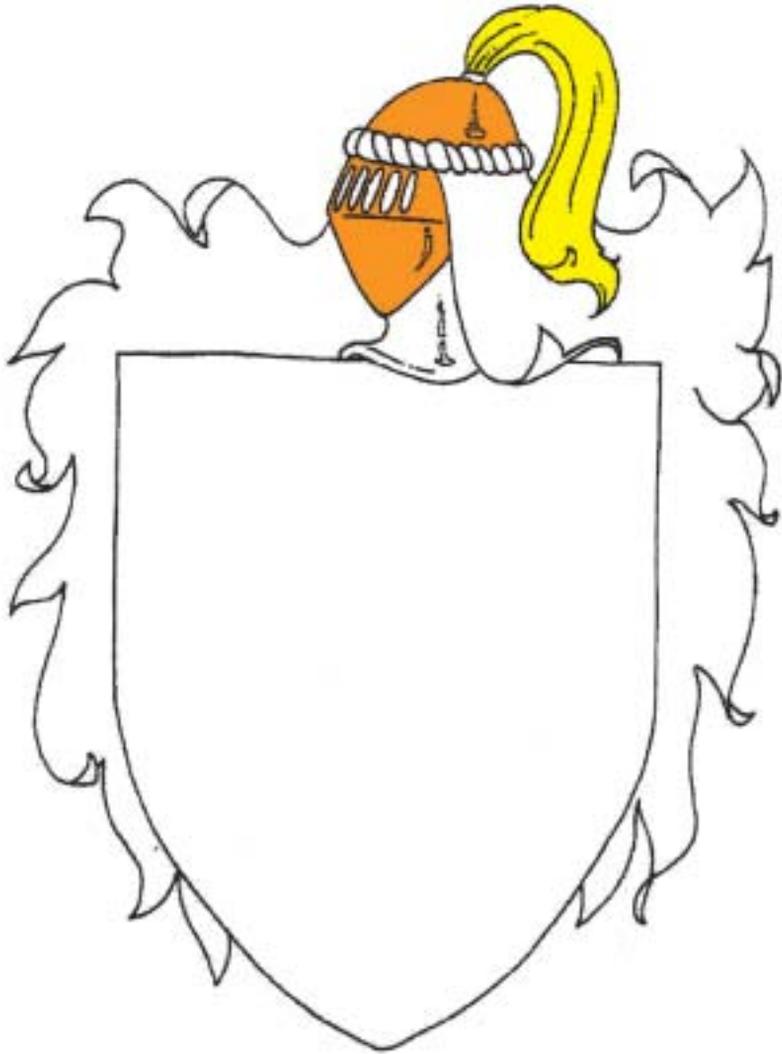
(PASTE THE JESTER'S HAT ON A PIECE OF COLOURED CARTON - THEN CUT IT AND PASTE IT)

*Giunto... arrivano i fantasmi!
Help.... the ghosts are coming!*



*Cerca i fantasmini uguali al modello e poi colora.
Find the ghosts which are the same as the example.*

Lo Stemma



Conosci lo stemma della tua famiglia?
Disegnalo e coloralo.

Se non lo conosci inventalo tu. Sarà bellissimo!
(DO YOU KNOW THE COAT OF ARMS OF YOUR FAMILY?
DRAW AND COLOUR IT. IF YOU DON'T KNOW IT INVENT IT
YOURSELF. IT WOULD BE BEAUTIFUL!)

Mappa di Laterina

Laterina Map



If you liked our village invite other children to visit the castle.