



MUSEUM OF WEAPONS AND OF WEAPON TRADITION GARDONE V.T.

Via XX Settembre, 31 - 25063 Gardone V.T. (BS)
 Phone +39.030.831574 - www.museodellearmi.net
 Open all year round (please check opening hours on website)
 Full price ticket € 5,00 - reduced-price ticket € 3,00

Facilities are accessible to disabled visitors

Useful information

Tourist Information and Museum Booking Center of Trompia Valley
 Phone +39.030.8337495 | +39.030.2809556
 Mobile phone +39.345.3422015 (Saturdays and Sundays only)

<http://cultura.valletrompia.it/musei>

cup@cm.valletrompia.it

[cup-vt.vc.](https://www.facebook.com/cup-vt)

We offer, upon reservation, daily guided tours, educational activities, summer school camps and tourist packages for school trips and groups (please check our website for availability). Also, we rent our museum site to organize theme meetings and tastings.



MUSEUM OF WEAPONS AND OF WEAPON TRADITION GARDONE VAL TROMPIA

WEAPON HISTORY AND TRADITION OF VALLE TROMPIA



VILLA MUTTI BERNARDELLI



Close to the historical inhabited centre of the county town, the villa arises as a typical 18th century noble residence and it is employed today as a cultural centre of the town of Gardone V.T., hosting the Town Library.

It is arranged with two factory buildings I-shape linked containing

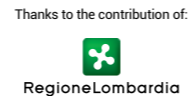
a court, while on the eastern part a garden used as a **public park** is located. On the **ground floor** some frescoed rooms are particularly interesting, among which the vast living rooms with a black marble fire-place dating back to "1749", the adjacent 15th century hall and the dining room with a panelled ceiling. From this room you can access to the **former private chapel** where a nice 16th century marble low-relief is preserved, showing the *Holy Mary on the Throne with Baby Jesus*. The **upstairs**, today partially reserved to the **Historical Hunting Archive**, has been divided into different rooms.

MUSEUM SYSTEM OF VALLE TROMPIA

ITINERARY OF THE PLACES THAT CAN BE VISITED



Scan to listen



2015



In the thousand-year history of the steel industry in Valle Trompia the weapon tradition in Gardone is particularly relevant. This town is deeply connected with this manufacturing tradition. The weapons made in the forges of Gardone, which have already been documented in the XV century, explain the privilege allowed to Valle Trompia by the Republic of Venice, as being functional to a war economy that featured the destiny of the Serenissima. The Gardonese production, which involved also the nearby towns and villages, had a further increase after the visit of the vice-king of Italy Sir Eugenio di Beauharnais in 1806, when the Royal Military Armoury was opened in Brescia, with a branch precisely in the town of Gardone Val Trompia. Along all the 19th century, together with the 19th century industrialization, the Armoury was employed as a national manufacturing site, very productive during war-time. The weapon tradition of Gardone V.T., a vital source for the economy of the valley, is still very active and appreciated internationally. In order to tell the story of this activity, which has been touching the lives of Gardone V.T. citizens, the town has been promoting, along with the Museum System, the establishment of the **Museum of weapons and armour tradition** at **Villa Mutti Bernardelli**, which also hosts the Town Library and the **Historical Hunting Archive**.





THE MUSEUM ITINERARY

Located over the Town Library, the **Museum of weapons and armour tradition** employs the second floor and the attic of Villa Mutti Bernardelli. On top of displaying a prestigious **exposition of historical weapons**, the Museum contextualizes the local armour tradition in the life of the community, simultaneously focusing on the knowledge of the ancient families of the armour masters of Gardone V.T. The museum collection has been collected thanks to private donations and acquisitions, as well as thanks to the deposit concession of precious pieces by private collectors. Including also hand-to-hand weapons, the collection concentrates on portable fire, defence, hunting and military weapons. The exposition itinerary is organized according to the chronological development of weapons starting from the XV century and, accompanying the glass showcases there are numerous panels and videos, functional to an efficient explanation of the specific technologies and manufacturing methods involved. Flagship of this collection, that itself justifies a visit to the museum, is the **stunning two-fire pistol with gardonese barrel by Lazzaro Cominazzo** (XVII century). Stops you can't miss if you'd like to embark in an ideal tour in the armour history of Gardone V.T. are the **private collection of the Weapon Factory Pietro Beretta from Gardone V.T.**, unfortunately not open to the public, and the **Luigi Marzoli Museum of Weapons**, set up in the viscount dungeon of the Castle of Brescia.



HISTORICAL HUNTING ARCHIVE



Adjacent to the **Museum of weapons and armour tradition**, the **Historical Hunting Archive (HHA)** has been inaugurated in 2007, realized with the objective to survey, preserve and promote the hunting depositions attributed to a wide documentary spectrum. Accessible to a historian, a researcher, a student or simply to a curious tourist, today this particular patrimony can be consulted through archived data systems and descriptive surveys directly at the HHA or in the sites where the documents are preserved.








The articulate inventory offers a first global picture of hunting activities, of their regulations, techniques, as well as of their social and economic dimensions; also, the contents that the archive is promoter and preserver, are substantial of the community methods to intend and "govern" the territory, and, in this sense, they offer themselves as important contributions to the historical and environmental research. Regarding the ethnographic aspect HHA has recently started to inventory the artefacts of the Province of Brescia used to practice hunting activities between the XIX and the XX century; the archived material and cultural patrimony will be enhanced with an exhibition at the **Museum of weapons and armour tradition**.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Part of Villa Mutti Bernardelli attic hosts the educational area. The Museum, in fact, offers labs dedicated to Primary and Secondary School students, with innovative ideas, annually renewed and activities conceived to recognize the materials, the instruments and the measuring criteria, the technologies and the working methods involved. At the beginning of every school year the Museum System collects all the educational proposals dedicated to the school and organized groups, and, on top of those, other activities are proposed divided into three itineraries which embrace the whole territory: **The Iron and Mining route**, **Worship places** and **The Woods** narrate.



OTHER SERVICES

-  Group guided tours (upon reservation)
-  Exposition spaces
-  Italian, English and German Audio guide
-  Town Library
-  The Museum in one click
-  Historical Hunting Archive
-  Conference Room

TO BE DISCOVERED IN GARDONE V.T.

- S. Maria degli Angeli Basilica** (XV century) guided tours are also available making a reservation at CUP.
- S. Marco Parish Church** (XVI century, wooden altar of SS. Sacramento by C. Tortelli) guided tours are also available making a reservation at CUP.
- Pieve of S. Giorgio**, suburb of Inzino (V-XVII centuries; XIII-XV century frescoes; canvas by G. Cossali, P. Ghitti, P. Scalvini, G. Anselmi).
- S. Martino Parish Church**, suburb of Magno (XVII century; canvas by P. Ghitti, P. Scalvini; XVI century wooden sculpture of Holy Mary by C. Zamara).
- Stallino Holiday Home**, loc. Caregno. Ideal location for groups that offers educational tours and overnight sleeping (info and reservation at CUP).
- The War Paths**: resort of Domaro, 952mt above sea level (WWI and WWII locations); resort of Anveno (peak; WWI and WWII locations).
- Milani Hunting Hut**: monumental hunting hut (beginning of XVIII century, 1.185mt above sea level).



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Simoni Carlo and Ghigini Franco (ed.), *The Path of the Iron and the Mines in Valtrompia*, Grafo, 2010
Historic Town Archive: documents from 1624 to 1958
(info: <http://cultura.valletrompia.it/archivi>)
www.lafucinadivulcano.it