

life. Just to the west of Piazza Castello, bars and bookshops fill the Quadrilatero Romano (Turin's 'Latin Quarter').

Information

BOOKSHOPS

Elibreria Luxemburg (☎ 011 561 38 96; Via Battisti 7) Anglo-American bookshop.

Touring Club Italiano (☎ 011 562 72 07; Via San Francesco d'Assisi 3) Map and guidebook heaven.

EMERGENCY

Police station (☎ 011 5 58 81; Corso Vercellio 10)

INTERNET ACCESS

1PC4YOU (☎ 011 83 59 08; Via G. Verdi 20g; per hr €8; ☎ 9am-10pm Mon-Sat, noon-10pm Sun)

LAUNDRY

Lav@sciuga (www.lavasciuga.torino.it; ☎ 8am-10pm) Branches at Piazza della Repubblica 5, Via Sant'Anselmo 9 and Via Vanchiglia 10 provide free internet access for customers.

LEFT LUGGAGE

Stazione Porta Nuova (opposite platform No 16; 1st/next 12hr €3/2; ☎ 6am-midnight)

MEDICAL SERVICES

Farmacia Boniscontro (☎ 011 53 82 71; Corso Vittorio Emanuele II 66; ☎ 3pm-12.30am) Night pharmacy.

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Ospedale Mauriziano Umberto I (☎ 011 5 08 01; Largo Turati 62) Hospital.

Pharmacy (☎ 011 518 64 67; Stazione Porta Nuova; ☎ 7am-7.30pm)

MONEY

A bank, ATM and exchange booth can all be found within Stazione Porta Nuova; others

are dotted throughout the city. A 24-hour automatic banknote-change machine can be found outside **Unicredit Banca** (Piazza CUN).

POST

Post office (Via Alfieri 10; ☎ 8.30am-7pm Mon-Fri, to 3pm Sat)

TOURIST INFORMATION

The tourist board's call centre (☎ 011 53 51 81; www.turismotorino.org; ☎ 9.30am-9.30pm) can provide updated information and assistance for visitors.

Circolo Culturale Maurice (☎ 011 523 11 76; www.mauriceglbt.org, in Italian; Via della Basilica 3-5) Gay and lesbian information.

Tourist office (☎ 011 53 51 81; ☎ 9.30am-7pm) At Stazione Porta Nuova; offers a free accommodation and restaurant booking service.

Tourist office (☎ 011 53 51 81; ☎ 8am-11pm) At the airport.

Sights

Turin's boulevards and beautiful piazzas are lined with some outstanding museums.

PIAZZA CASTELLO

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Turin's central square shelters a wealth of museums, theatres and cafes. Essentially baroque, the grand piazza was laid out from the 14th century to serve as the seat of dynastic power for the House of Savoy.

The piazza is dominated by **Palazzo Madama**, a part-medieval, part-baroque castle built in the 13th century on the site of the old Roman gate. It was named after Madama Reale Maria Cristina, the widow of Vittorio Amedeo I, who lived here in the 17th century. Today, part of the palace houses the **Museo Civico d'Arte Antica** (☎ 011 443 35 01; Piazza Castello; adult/child €7.50/6; ☎ 10am-6pm Tue-Fri & Sun, to 8pm Sat), containing a sumptuous collection of works that document the city's artistic movements post-Italian unification.

In the northwestern corner of the square is the baroque **Chiesa di San Lorenzo**, designed by Guarino Guarini. The church's richly complex interior compensates for the spare facade.

Statues of the mythical twins Castor and Pollux guard the entrance to the **Palazzo Reale** (☎ 011 436 14 55; Piazza Castello; adult/child €6.50/3.25; ☎ 8.30am-7.30pm Tue-Sun) and, according to local legend, also watch over the border between the sacred ('white magic') and diabolical ('black