

# EUROPE FOR CITIZENS 2014-2020

## *IMMIGRATION for INTEGRATION... tell your story!*

**2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022**



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Europe for Citizens Programme  
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**Castagnole delle Lanze** is an Italian village located in Piedmont in the District of Asti, bordering on the district of Cuneo. It has a geographical and territorial location that places it on the edge of Langhe and Monferrato. The name of Castagnole delle Lanze is made up of two parts: the first comes from the Latin name “castinea” that means “small chestnut” and the second one takes the name of the aristocrat “Lancia” family who owned the territories between 1190 and 1206. Castagnole delle Lanze is divided into two urban areas: the old village, located in the hilltop, and the new area called “San Bartolomeo”. The old village has just awarded an important recognition: it has been admitted in the association “I borghi piu’ belli d’Italia”. Last year the “orange flag” of the Italian Touring Club has been assigned to Castagnole delle Lanze.

Despite being a small village, Castagnole delle Lanze has got a department for European Politics and it has been organizing twinnings since 1996 involving first the towns of **Brackenheim** (DE) and **Charnay-lès-Mâcon** (FR), followed by **Zbroslawice** (PL) in 2007, **Tarnalelesz** (HU) 2011 and **Valledolmo** (IT) in 2019.



An assigned agency in charge of managing the twinning, connected to the Town Hall offices, has been created by people of Castagnole delle Lanze. It was first a committee and then, since 2013, an **Association**, whose purpose is to promote European culture and citizenship, especially among young people. Castagnole delle Lanze has been running twinning projects even since 2010. Poverty, volunteer work, European memory, democratic participation of citizens, inclusion and immigration have been the main themes of these projects.



The project “Immigration for Integration... Tell your story” has the aim to **encourage intercultural dialogue and mutual understandings** through the participation of the citizens on local, national and European level, starting from the **importance of roots and memories of remembrance** in order to overcome stereotypes, prejudices and any kind of discrimination about immigrants and all people coming from other Countries. The European citizens feel and be aware of this means for young and old prejudices win, create bonds of different languages and customs and working with volunteer spirit of cooperation associations.

### General aims:

- fight any kind of discrimination;
- enhancing the awareness of the past through the deep understanding of their own roots and histories;
- fostering dialogue and mutual understanding.

### Specific aims

- Increasing integration and participation of immigrants in civic, social and working life of the country where they live;
- Raising awareness on the immigration history that in the past involved each country of the project in order to better understand the causes of the "new" immigration;
- Building links with citizens of third countries, including through efforts to ensure sharing of experiences and values.



## PROJECT PROGRAM 2nd – 5th DECEMBER 2022

### CASTAGNOLE DELLE LANZE

#### Friday 2nd December

**Arrival** of the delegations in the afternoon and first welcome at the Carlo Giovannone Square in front of the Secondary School "C. Vicari".

**Meeting** between kids/teenagers from the delegations: Italy, France, Poland, Germany, Hungary.

**Program Presentation** and organization of activities.

**Hospitality and accommodation** in families for the adult members of the delegations.

**8 p.m.:** Shared Dinner with "Friciule" and traditional products. Meeting and entertainment in the Parish Hall of San Bartolomeo.

#### Saturday 3rd December "IMMIGRATION DAY"

**Breakfast** for kids/teenagers with their carers

**Breakfast** in the hosting families for adults.

**9 a.m.:** **Departure to Genova**, a town that has played an important role in the history of immigration, thanks to his port. It has been representing, for centuries, a place of welcome and a point of passage for who was in transit.

**Guided tour in the Museum of Immigration**, a place for a thought about immigration, inclusion and integration.

**Walk along the waterfront and lunch.**

**5 p.m: Departure to Castagnole delle Lanze**

**8 p.m:** Evening-congress at the Parish Hall with projection of the **Video-story of Immigration from yesterday to today** made by kids/teenagers of the European twinning delegations, by the students of the schools of Castagnole thanks to the personal stories of the participants to the Italian Course of the CPIA of Castagnole delle Lanze, the experiences of foreign people living in our country and the tales of immigration and integration of citizens in our community. During the evening will speak experts and history teachers.

Valledolmo community will take part with stories about the history of Italian immigration from the south to the north of the country. During the night there will be moments of intercultural exchanges with typical dances and songs of each partner country.

Institutional moment with the speeches of the Mayors from the Twinned Towns. Sharing of experiences about the importance of Twinning in our communities in order to contribute to the integration and inclusion of those who are still forced to leave their home country.

Dinner with typical traditional dishes

### Sunday 4th December 2022

**Breakfast** for kids/teenagers with their carers

**Breakfast** in the hosting families for adults

**10 am** Inauguration of the monument dedicated to Mr. Gianfranco Fassone, Mayor who started our Twinning story.

Tour of the renovated historic center of Castagnole delle Lanze and visit to the wall of the Twinning, the path of the Nativity Scene along the streets of the old town and the Christmas exhibition by the local artist Marcello Giovannone

**11 am Holy Mass** in the Church of San Bartolomeo

**12 am** Community Aperitif-lunch at the Parish Hall

Young and adults with Italian families will have lunch together in order to discuss about the experiences shared during the previous days and to plan future activities together trying to strengthen what has been built.

**2.30 pm** Meeting at the Castagnole delle Lanze Railway Station, a symbol of intersection of paths, routes and stories of humanity.

Visit to the Train Museum.

Walk through vineyards and hazelnut groves to reach the Chapel of San Defendente.

**4 p.m.** Launch of the Remembrance Room where the stories of immigration of yesterday and today will be shared by adults, teenagers, children and families of each delegation.

The boys of the choir of the Secondary School "C. Vicari" will perform Christmas carols of the Italian and European tradition.

**7.30 pm Pizza Party** at the Parish Hall: cultures continue to weave together through personal stories of immigration, songs, typical dances and planning future activities on the next twinning meetings.

### Monday 5th December 2022

Shared breakfast for kids/teenagers with their carers and with hosting families for adults.

Greetings and departure of the delegations.

All the lunches and dinners have been thought in the perspective of sobriety, in respect of the moment we are living and of the theme of the project.

## BEST PRACTISES FOR INTEGRATION

- ❖ **Welcoming your neighbors with feeling of brotherhood and friendship**
- ❖ **Getting inside the strong feeling of peace, to know each other and establish a close cooperation between citizens of different cultures with different habits as comparison tool**
- ❖ **Win prejudice and fear of those you do not know and their different life styles**
- ❖ **Working with volunteer spirit of cooperation and associationism**
- ❖ **Promoting and carrying out information and awareness-raising initiatives on the meaning of the immigration and integration as an important civic value, experience and grow more and more every day the awareness of being citizens of Europe**
- ❖ **Disseminate the civic values of freedom, tolerance and solidarity**
- ❖ **Raise awareness among young people through the school education giving them a good example through concrete actions of solidarity and creating bonds between young people of different languages and customs**
- ❖ **Integrate your neighbors in society and the world of work to make him feel accepted and useful, most cultures to live together peacefully in the same territory, assimilate the alien in their own culture to be in fact a citizen of the nation**