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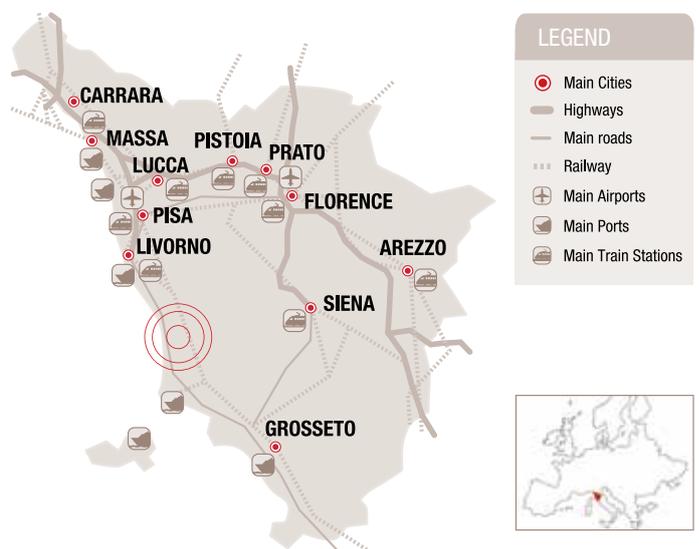
FOLLONICA

LA FONDERIA I (FOUNDRY I)

Overview:

The Fonderia 1 complex is between the historical centre and Central Park; it is in a privileged position that turns the antique foundry into a new communication port between the construction nucleus and the Ferriere Park, which has been at the edge of the new city for too long.

The Fonderia is part of the Grand Ducal Ironworks, a complex dating back to the 16th century, with important extension work being done at the start of the 19th century that produced signs of particularly prestigious industrial architecture. After the ex ILVA plant in Follonica was closed (21st February 1960), the buildings deteriorated greatly



and were inserted into the complex and detailed "Parco Centrale" (Central Park) Sustainable Urban Development Project, financed by the Tuscany Region (Integrated Urban Plans of Sustainable Development - Piani Integrati Urbani di Sviluppo Sostenibile P.I.U.S.S.) with structural funds from the POR CREO programme and the Follonica Municipal Administration.



Structure description:

Entering from via Roma, the central nave of the foundry will represent a piece of the city, a Covered Square that can host exhibitions and trade fairs. The central and north-eastern nave will remain unchanged both to guarantee the original spatial perception and to give the building a large space that is totally free both vertically and horizontally.

The south-western nave will be divided into two areas, with a new wooden floor having a steel structure, to divide the generous volume into two levels and create a pleasant area that runs along and faces the central nave.

The large intermediate floor will have all the equipment necessary for guaranteeing fast, flexible and suitable fittings for exhibitions and trade fairs. The exhibitors will be able to freely define their spaces and, thanks to the numerous cable connection points, light, position and exalt at best the individual pieces they choose.

Above the entry door, which highlights and defines access to the new covered square, there is a lounge area, a place where you can read a book or use the wireless apparatus supplied by the new structure.

The curved room on the north-eastern section of the ground floor will be fitted out as a free space for activities connected with organizing the Carnival, according to the great float tradition of Follonica.

On the ground floor, in the south-western face, four small curved spaces will host the lift and the tourist office which, at quota zero, opens naturally to the public.

In the north-eastern section of the first floor, two large rooms will host multifunction rooms for lessons or conferences for small groups of people. The administration and management offices of the whole complex will be positioned in the south-western section of the first floor.

There will be a café-bar that can be used independently from the rest of the building, and which will become one of the attraction poles of the area. To guarantee maximum flexibility, this business can live autonomously and remain open even until late.

Almost like a Roman church without its roof, Fonderia 1 shows its constructions, revealing a history full of additions, lacerations and fragments.

This “clear perspective box” is made of strong walls that once held wartime equipment, and then represented the outermost limits of Cast Iron working, which the City of Follonica knew how to turn into a refined art.



Key advantages:

ROAD NETWORK AND PARKING

Sustainable tourism-culture: The protection of industrial and mineral sites, integrated with the notable naturalistic resources and dazzling examples of medieval architecture and art, which both exist abundantly in the area, make the Colline Metallifere (Metalliferous Hills) a unique itinerary for sustainable tourism-culture.

Advantages for startup companies

All the buildings inside the ex ILVA area are part of a historically interesting real estate complex that can be used easily because of its central position in the city. The State Property Agency has made them available to the Follonica Municipality for 50 years, therefore for a time period that is suitable for starting and continuing business activities. Their tenancy is free for the first two years of company or business startup, with the subsequent definition of lease agreement at the end of the first two-year period for the activities started by the interested companies.

For more information please contact:

Stefano Cellini – Production and Tourism Manager
Follonica Municipality
ph. 0039 566 59374
Mob. 0039 348 3573041
e-mail. scellini@comune.follonica.gr.it

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info@investintuscany.com - www.investintuscany.com



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