

# 5 uncommon things to visit in Milano





# 01

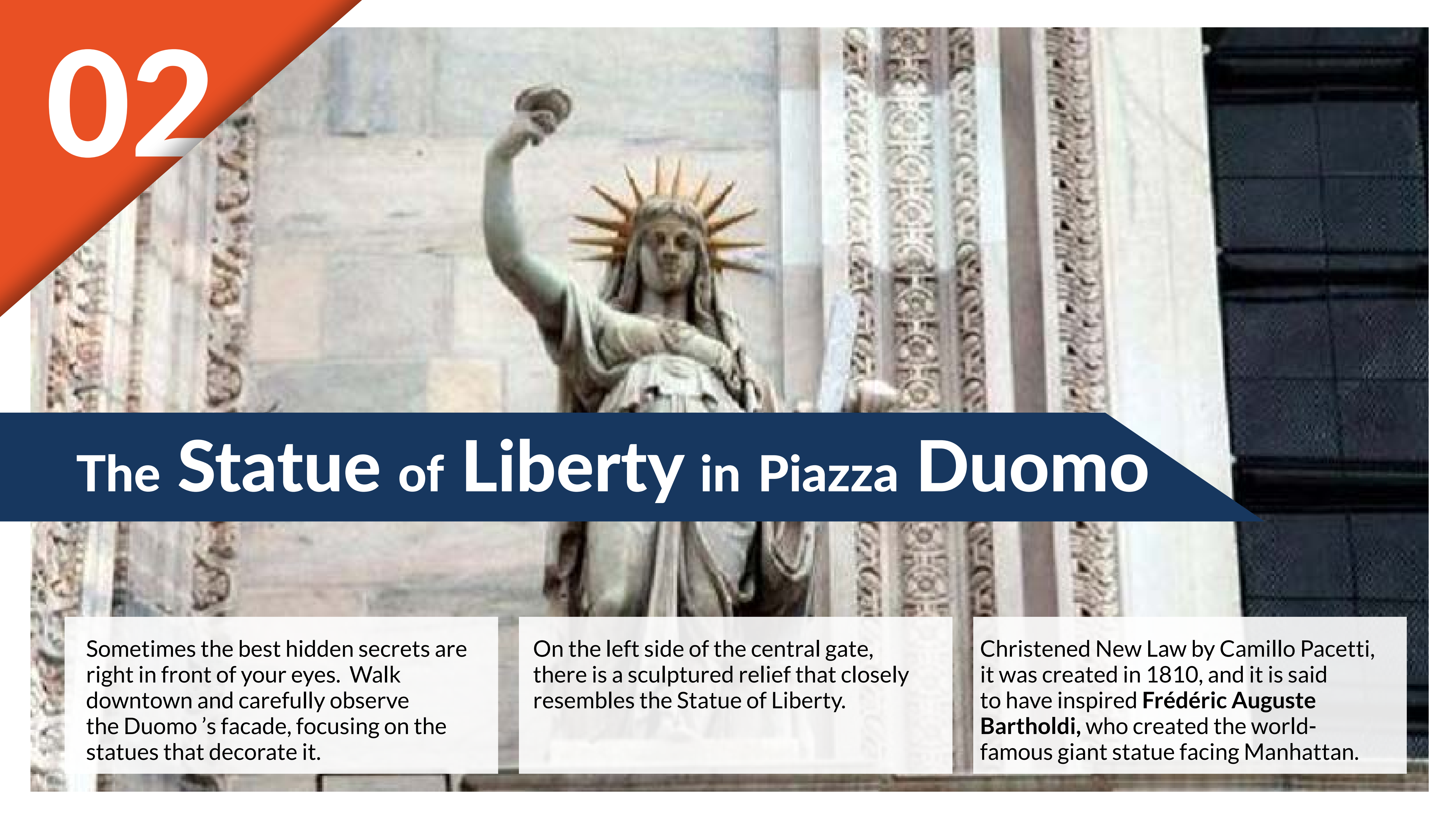
## villa Necchi Campiglio

In interwar Milano, the gilded world met (and partied) at the home of Nedda and Gigina Necchi and Angelo Campiglio: Villa Necchi Campiglio, today one of the most beautiful house-museums in Milano. In the heart of Quadrilatero del Silenzio (the Silence Quadrangle), a few steps from the M1 Palestro metro stop, the building was designed in the early

1930s by architect Piero Portaluppi, made the headlines for the presence of a private swimming pool in the villa's garden: it was an absolute first in the city. The villa was equipped with cutting-edge technologies: internal intercoms, sliding armored doors and a virtuous system for the recovery and recycling of water for the swimming pool, garden irrigation,

and the heating system. Discover it all during your visit, along with the rich collection of works of art that adorn the interiors. Then, do as the guests of the Necchi family did: stop by the coffee counter and enjoy the poolside atmosphere.

[www.cognitofirms.com/FAI11/VillaNecchiCampiglio2](http://www.cognitofirms.com/FAI11/VillaNecchiCampiglio2)

A photograph of the Statue of Liberty in Piazza Duomo, Florence. The statue is a green patina, standing on a pedestal, with its right arm raised holding a torch. It is positioned in front of the ornate facade of the Duomo di Firenze, which features tall, fluted columns and intricate carvings. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the statue.

# 02

## The Statue of Liberty in Piazza Duomo

Sometimes the best hidden secrets are right in front of your eyes. Walk downtown and carefully observe the Duomo's facade, focusing on the statues that decorate it.

On the left side of the central gate, there is a sculptured relief that closely resembles the Statue of Liberty.

Christened New Law by Camillo Pacetti, it was created in 1810, and it is said to have inspired **Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi**, who created the world-famous giant statue facing Manhattan.



# 03

## House of the Omenoni

Let's stay in the area. Did you know that the Barbarians dwell 500 meters from the Duomo and the Teatro alla Scala? There are eight barbarian giants sticking out of facade of Palazzo Leoni-Calchi, in Via degli Omenoni 3, another hidden jewel of Milano.

The imposing Renaissance sculptures of Svevo, Quado, Adiabene, Parto, Sarmata and Marcomanno are named after the main Barbarian tribes of defeated by the Roman Empire. Some see similarities with Michelangelo's Prigioni, and they are not wrong: the Arezzo-born

Leone Leoni, owner of the building and promoter of its renovation in 1542 was a sculptor who worked for the Mint of Milano and a great art lover. His collection included Leonardo's Codex Atlanticus which can be now be admired at Biblioteca Ambrosiana.

# 04

## The Secret Courtyard of Corso Magenta

Despite its rather common name, **Casa Rossi** is anything but conventional. Located in Corso Magenta 12, it is a site of wonder. Enter the inner courtyard (you have to be lucky because it's not always accessible to the public) and

look up: the five-storey architecture, designed by pillars, capitals and windows, cuts a perfect octagon shape of the sky. All very eminently instagrammable.

Walk ten minutes more and you can reach the *Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie and Leonardo's Last Supper*

(reservation required:  
[cenacolovinciano.org/en/](http://cenacolovinciano.org/en/))



# 05

## Chiesa San Bernardino alle Ossa

Walk towards Via Larga, until you reach **Piazza Santo Stefano**, and be brave: you are about to cross the "*Stretta dei morti*", today Vicolo di San Bernardino. Go through the gate of the church of San Bernardino alle Ossa and go to the

Ossuary. In a small chamber shrouded in dim light, skulls, vertebrae, femurs and ulnas cover the walls and frame the jambs and columns of the chapel. And on November 2, Day of the Dead, legend has that the little girl whose

bones are found at the altar comes back from the dead to drag all the other skeletons into a macabre dance.

[www.sanbernardinoalleossa.it/](http://www.sanbernardinoalleossa.it/)



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