

1) **What is a favorite place to go locally?**

Favourite places to go locally are the **downtown area of Pordenone** and "**Cinestar**", a big cinema in the outskirts of the city. The first is full of shops, restaurants and bars. It is the best place where to buy clothes or shoes and it is a wonderful place to go even for taking a simple walk alone or with friends. The second isn't a simple cinema but more like a leisure complex because there are also a club, restaurants, a small arcade and bars. It is a favourite place to spend the day with friends and have a lot of fun. Another popular place is **Lignano**. It is about 30 minutes by car from Pordenone. It is on the coast of the Adriatic sea, not far from Venice. It's a very famous seaside resort where people from all over the world go in summer. There are many things to do such as going to the beach or to theme parks, such as Acquasplash, playing beachvolley, going to one of the many discos. You can also visit a **zoo** with lots of wild animals.

Da Dalt, Presot, Scapolan, Mele, Mummolo, Rorato, Marcuz



The City Hall Loggia(XIVth cent.) at one end of Corso Vittorio Emanuele



the City Hall and a view of the Duomo bell tower



Contrada Maggiore (now corso Vittorio Emanuele). On the right Palazzo Ricchieri, home of Civic Museum of Art (sec. XIV). Foto di Assunta Romor.

2) What is a good local restaurant & type of food there?

According to us, a good local restaurant is the **pizza-shop Catina** in the downtown of Pordenone. Here there is made a fantastic and delicious pizza, the typical food of Italy, the best place in the world about food. Catina is one of the oldest eateries in Pordenone. Inside it is very cosy, there are a lot of rooms decorated with many of mirrors. In the summer you can eat outside and enjoy looking at the crowd strolling by. There are many more restaurants,

pizzerias, wine bars where local food is served. The most typical/traditional food is "**frico**", that is fried cheese on a bed of potatoes. You eat this especially in winter.

Da Dalt, Presot, Scapolan, Mele, Mummolo, Rorato, Marcuz

3) What is a description of the town and surrounding area?

Pordenone is located in a plain, between the **Prealps** and the **Adriatic Sea**. **Lignano** is one of the most popular seaside resort on the coast, it is about 40 minutes away by car. If you like to go skiing you can reach **Piancavallo** in about half an hour. We think we are very lucky because everybody can find what they like.

The rural areas surrounding Pordenone are characterized by corn-growing - corn is the most popular crop. There are also industrial areas and industrial complexes. One example is "**Electrolux**" where household appliances are manufactured. Near Pordenone, in Casarsa, there is also the **Jacuzzi** manufacturing complex. The name Jacuzzi is very popular in Casarsa and you can find various families that go by that name.

In Pordenone live a little less than 50,000 people, many people work in the industry sector but there are also many people who work in the trade sector, in banks, offices, etc... A description of the town would be quite different. There are many ancient buildings and a very beautiful square: Piazza XX Settembre. Pordenone is rather old and you can still see in the old section of town precious buildings dating back to the XIVth century and older. The majority of them have been restored and now they are one of the best sights of the town.

The name Pordenone comes from the Latin "**Portus Naonis**" : a port on the **Noncello** river. Noncello is not very large but along its banks you can find some lovely spots and you can cross its bridges to get into town.

2^D



a view of the Noncello river



Aerial view of Pordenone and the Duomo bell tower



Lignano



at the top of Monte Cavallo

- 4) **What describes what your high school is like as far as schedule, classes, and things you like or not like about it?**

Our high-school is called "**Michelangelo Grigoletti**" after a local XIXth cent. painter. It is located in the north side of Pordenone, near the fire-fighters barracks.

It's got about 55 classrooms and also English, Biology, Chemistry, IT laboratories and some gyms.

All around there's a wide green garden.
This school was designed by an Australian designer.

Our school has about 1,300 students. We are grouped together into groups of about 25 students (a class) Inside the group we all follow the same curriculum. In our stream we study 9 subjects: Italian, Latin, English, Maths, Biology, History, Art, R.E, P.E.

Our school offers a theoretical approach and most of the students attend university after getting their diplomas. There are four different streams: one focuses on languages, one on scientific topics, one on technologies. Our stream is called Ordinario (standard).

According to the stream the number of lessons per week varies slightly. In our stream we stay at school from 8.10 to 12.30 and have five lessons - most of our schoolmates finish school at 13.25. All of us attend school also on Saturdays, like all Italian students. We like our school, it is quite large and you can make many friends and learn lots of things. Saturday is the best day because we don't have maths in our schedule. What we don't like is that we can't park our scooters near the school because there are many restrictions about parking.

You can find more info about our school at www.liceogrigoletti.it

Jacopo, Carlo & Eric, Jessica, Eugenia, Chiara e Valentina.

5) What type of stores are there in your downtown area?

There are many popular Italian chain stores like Coin, Intimissimi, Calzedonia...In the centre there is a department store, and many smaller local stores. Twice a week there is a very colorful open-air market with many different stalls selling everything from food, vegetables, fruit to clothes, shoes, jewellery etc. Once a month there is also an antiques market where you can find antique furniture, paintings, lamps, books. In the outskirts of town you can find some medium-size shopping malls like **Centro Commerciale Meduna** o **Serenissima**.



Meduna shopping mall

6) What parks or places of interest are there for teenagers to go?

Pordenone has many parks such as **S.Valentino** park and Galvani park. The biggest one is "**Galvani**". Teenagers like this place because it gives them the opportunity to meet their friends and spend time together. The park is open all day and there you can find benches where to sit but also areas where you can play soccer, volleyball and other sports.

Another popular place is the **London's pub** where teenagers can drink something and have fun because there is a big screen where you can see some films, football matches; or you can listen to music.

In addition there is the main important street in the downtown area called "**Corso Vittorio Emanuele**" where you can walk and window-shop.

Valeria, Eva e Giovanna



A view of the central Corso Vittorio Emanuele

- 7) **If you were to take a friend visiting from out of town to a local event (at any time of year), what event would that be?**

Pordenone has two main traditional celebrations: Epiphany Eve and the 25 April. On 5th January (**Epiphany Eve**) there is a big **bonfire** and people eat "**pinza**" (a sort of spiced sweet bread with figs and nuts) and drink mulled wine. On 25th April (**St. Mark Day**) people go to the country to have a **picnic**; the most important food is omlette with vegetables. In February, if you don't want to go to Venice, you can enjoy the fancy dress and float parade that takes place on the last weekend before the end of carnival. It is usually a very lively event but it takes place during the coldest time of the year.



The Carnival Fancy-Dress parade

More recent but already quite established events, are: **Pordenone Legge**, a book festival where you can meet famous writers from Italy but also from abroad and speak with them about their books. This takes place in the last weekend of September. In October Pordenone hosts the most important event for silent-movie fans and experts in the world: the **Pordenone Silent Movie Film Festival**. Have you ever heard of it?

All year round, then there many events held at the **Pordenone Exhibition Area**: about flowers, technology, hobbies, etc.

Virginia, Elena, Nikla, Alberto, Jessica



Pordenone coat-of-arms