

ACCESSIBLE VISITOR GUIDE OF THE ANGEVIN CASTLE OF GAETA FOR BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED VISITORS

(Last update January 2026)

This guide provides practical information to support visits by blind and partially sighted visitors and their companions.

For further information, confirmation of available services, or specific access needs, please contact us using the details below.

1. Contact and Visitor Support

Bookings, assisted access and guided visits:

Telephone: [+39 0776 2994990](tel:+3907762994990)

Email: scire@unicas.it

[Accessible website](https://www.castelloangioinodigaeta.it/): <https://www.castelloangioinodigaeta.it/>

2. Visitor information

Guide dogs are welcome in all areas of the Castle.

An accessible information desk is available, staffed by trained personnel who can provide assistance and explain the accessible resources available along the visitor route.

The information desk is located in the reception area, immediately after entering the Castle.

Sheltered spaces are available throughout the Castle in case of bad weather or for rest breaks. Seating is provided.

Refreshment Facilities

The reception area includes seating and vending machines offering coffee, drinks, and snacks.

Toilets

The toilets are located inside the Castle, at a total walking distance of approximately 30 meters from the reception area. Following are step-by-step directions to reach them:

- From the reception area, go up six steps (a stairlift platform is also available)
- Proceed straight ahead for approximately 4 meters until you reach a wall. A few centimeters to your right, you will find the handrail of the accessible walkway.
- Turn right at a right angle and follow the handrail straight ahead for approximately 25 meters.
- When the handrail ends, turn left at a right angle and proceed straight ahead for approximately 2 meters until you reach a wall. The entrance to the toilets is located on the same wall, to your right, approximately 1 meter away.

Level Changes and Vertical Circulation

Inside the Castle, to the left of the reception desk, there are six steps with handrails. A stairlift is available as an alternative. All other changes in level along the visitor route are managed via: accessible ramps and walkways with handrails, staircases with handrails or accessible lifts.

Ground Surfaces

The external forecourt, where visitor parking is located, has a smooth, even concrete surface. Inside the Castle, the visitor route includes: historic stone slab flooring, modern flooring with an even surface, accessible walkways with smooth, non-slip surfaces.

3. Getting There

Address

Angevin Castle of Gaeta, Via Angioina, Salita Castello, 04024, Gaeta (LT), Italy

Opening Times

1 June-30 September: open Monday to Sunday: 10am-1pm and 4pm-7pm

1 October-31 May: Monday to Thursday open by appointment only; Friday to Sunday 10am-1pm and 3pm-5pm

Travel and Transport

- **BY CAR:** The Castle is easily accessible by car. Visitors may drive into the large forecourt reserved for visitors and their vehicles. Designated accessible parking bays are available in the same area. Visitors may drive up to the entrance threshold, where the reception area is located. The route from accessible parking to the reception area is free of architectural barriers.
- **BY TRAIN AND TAXI:** The nearest railway station is Formia–Gaeta, approximately 10 km from the Castle. Taxis are available outside the station and can take visitors directly to the entrance of the Castle reception area, where information desk staff are present.
- **BY TRAIN AND BUS, WITH WALKING ROUTE (IMPORTANT INFORMATION).** This option is described for its sensory experience, as the uphill walk to the Castle offers Mediterranean sounds and scents. Please note: The walking route and required bus changes do not meet accessibility standards. This option is recommended only if accompanied, for visitors who are physically fit to climb multiple stairways, and while wearing suitable footwear. From the train station, take a bus to the harbor area. From there, take a bus to Gaeta and get off at the terminus in Piazza

Traniello. From this point, the uphill walk to the Castle begins, using stairways.

4. Tactile and Sensory Features

The visitor route inside the Castle includes:

- an introductory tactile information board, with pictograms and Braille text, available at the information desk in the reception area
- an interactive multi-sensory 3D tactile model of the Castle, available to all visitors. The model includes audio descriptions and Braille text. It is located on a large table near the reception area, approximately 5 meters from the information desk counter
- tactile orientation maps and Braille captions mounted on panels, available on each floor of the visitor route
- a wide range of audio descriptions, accessible by scanning the raised QR codes on the panels using a smartphone
- the use of headphones or earphones is recommended
- multimedia installations featuring sound environments and narrative storytelling.

5. Overview of the Visitor Route

The educational and multi-sensory visitor route extends across multiple spaces within the Castle.

The following overview, in order starting from the reception area, outlines the spaces and movements involved:

1. Start of the visit. Visitor entrance and reception area. Information desk and tactile exploration of the introductory information board.
2. Movement: within the same space, approximately 5 meters from the information desk.
3. Visit: multi-sensory and interactive experience of the 3D tactile model.
4. Visit: Chapel of San Teodoro - Digital Library. Opportunity to explore the Castle and its surrounding area using the Digital Library station equipped with: JAWS screen reader, navigation keyboard, headphones for listening.

Tactile experience of the information panel with tactile map and audio description, accessible by scanning the raised QR code next to the map.

5. Movement: return to the visitor entrance and reception area.
6. Movement: ascend six steps with handrails. A stairlift is also available.
7. Visit: historic Entrance of the Castle. Tactile exploration of the information panel with tactile map and audio description, accessible by scanning the raised QR code next to the tactile map.
8. Movement: proceed along an accessible walkway with non-slip flooring and handrails on both sides, continuing straight ahead for approximately 30 meters, with a gentle upward slope. Information: accessible toilets are located a few meters from the end of the walkway.
9. Movement: Castle courtyard, an outdoor space with modern stone paving that is even and non-slip.
10. Visit: Bourbon Cells. Tactile exploration of the information panel (Braille and tactile map) and audio description accessed via raised QR code. Experience of multimedia installations and storytelling.
11. Movement: return to the courtyard and proceed to Floor 01 via staircases with handrails or the accessible lift.
12. Visit: Dormitory A – Floor 01. Tactile exploration of the information panel (Braille and tactile map) and audio description via raised QR code.
13. Movement: Return to the stairs or accessible lift and proceed to Floor 02.
14. Visit: Dormitory A – Floor 02. Tactile exploration of the information panel (Braille and tactile map) and audio description via raised QR code. Experience of multimedia installations and storytelling.
15. Movement: Proceed along a series of accessible walkways with varying slopes, all equipped with handrails.
16. Visit: Piedmontese Cells. Tactile exploration of the information panel (Braille and tactile map) and audio description via raised QR code. Experience of multimedia installations.
17. End of the visitor route.
18. Movement: return to the ground floor, the Castle courtyard, and the reception area, this can be done using the accessible lift, or the wide spiral staircase with handrails located further along the route, or by retracing the route taken and using the same lift or staircases with handrails used for ascent.