

A Heritage for All

Held in the iconic **Palazzo Berlam** (known as the “red skyscraper”) that faces onto the Gulf of Trieste, the **Historical Archive** is recognised by the Italian state as a **cultural asset** for its “international significance” and importance “to the economic development of Trieste”. The archive is managed by a team of professional archivists. The documents are accessible to historians, researchers and anybody with an interest in the subject matter, with more than **65,000 index cards** that can be searched electronically and more than **3,000 digital reproductions** of financial statements, minutes, statutes, account books, and photographs and printed material of that period.



Visits are available by appointment
from Monday to Thursday
9:30-12:30 / 14:30-16:30

Open to the general public
Exhibition room, consultation room,
cloakroom for personal effects, PC
workstations and tools for archival research.

Guided tours of the document collection
must be booked in advance.

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Historical Archive





The Generali Group Historical Archive is an ocean full of pearls and life.

Documents, photographs, and pieces of the company's history that clamour to be told.

Voices that echo among those shelves since the nineteenth century: the words of Kafka employed in the offices in Prague; or the opening of the Suez Canal, which revolutionised the map of travel and global traffic of the time; Umberto Nobile's documentation for the historic scientific expedition to the North Pole; or space insurance.

Threads that from every corner of the planet and every turn of history converge towards the upper Adriatic, towards Trieste: Generali Life Stories - Extraordinary Tales of Ordinary Lives.

Two Centuries of Stories and History

The **Assicurazioni Generali Historical Archive** is among the largest insurance archives in existence, **containing all documents produced by the company's Trieste Head Office since its founding in 1831**. This includes articles of incorporation, statutes, budgets, minutes of executive meetings, account books, technical documentation regarding departments and divisions, correspondence within the executive ranks, tools of the actuary's trade, as well as a vast quantity of marketing and audiovisual materials.



CURRICULUM VITÆ

The Archive also preserves the important archival collections of the company **President's office**, the **Head Offices in Venice and Milan**, and of the **Anonima Grandine** and **Anonima Infortuni** subsidiaries. The documents reflect the unique twin-headed hierarchy of Generali, in which the Trieste Head Office was responsible for the Habsburg territories and foreign lands, as well as general management, while the Venice Head Office was charged with matters regarding the Italian peninsula. For a long time, this structure was also reflected in Generali's two symbols, the imperial eagle and the winged lion. The documents in the Archive offer a glimpse into the past and offer us an opportunity to see and understand who we were and, more importantly, who we are today.

The Archive's Gems

The Archive also holds authentic gems, items that tell the history of Europe. These include the papers that tell the story of Generali since its founding, such as the articles of incorporation from 1831, the pioneering 18th century Italian hail charts, insurance policies such as those for **Pope Pius X**, **Pope John XXIII** and **Charles I**, the last emperor of Austria, photo albums, illustrated memoirs from participation in global trade fairs and jubilee volumes to mark anniversaries of the company. Famous signatures appear alongside less high-profile objects that became part of everyday life, such as the posters by **Beltrame**, **Boccasile** and **Dudovich**, the colourful advertising brochures printed in different languages and the fire marks that can still be seen affixed to homes and buildings today. The document trove contained within the Generali Group's Historical Archives is further enriched by the documentation from the Historical Archives of INA Assitalia in Rome and Toro Assicurazioni in Turin.