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Cristina Cagianelli

See **PISA**
with **GALILEO**

The Cathedral, Leaning Tower
and other Miracles

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Second Edition

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This book has been published to mark the 950th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the historic Cathedral in Pisa.

The Municipality of Pisa conceived the general project of which it was a part. Entitled “Pisa A.D. 2014”, the project aimed to showcase the widespread iconography of the Pisan Romanesque style and its indelible traces alongside the extraordinary artistic and cultural heritage of the monuments in Cathedral Square, placing them at the centre of the city’s tourist promotion.

“Pisa A.D. 2014” was a literary project designed for young people, which was integrated into a broader tourist promotional plan. Its defining feature was its collaboration with schools worldwide, which intended to explore contemporary traits and the beauty of the inspiring Pisan Romanesque cultural heritage.

This book has been circulating among schools in San Francisco, Tokyo, and Dubai and has anticipated the public exhibition of a magnificent alabaster copy of the Bell Tower of Pisa. Measuring 2.5 meters in height, the model was crafted from 2,5000 pieces in scale by the alabaster masters of the Arte in Bottega Association of Volterra.

The publication of this new edition in the Jubilee year of 2025 is particularly significant. It strengthens the connection between the immediate perception of the monuments’ materials, enhanced by the elegant ornamentation and the two-tone marble, and the spiritual principles and values that have inspired them over the centuries.

The above traits are unique characteristics that are difficult to replicate and yet still very much present. Evidence of them can be found in many different areas of the Mediterranean basin. They are most clearly expressed in the monumental complex of the Duomo, which was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1987.

It is precisely this latter recognition, of which the 40th anniversary will soon be celebrated, that underlines the silent role of this monumental site as a cultural ambassador of universal significance. This role deserves to be acknowledged and promoted among the young people around the world, to whom this book is dedicated.

Paolo Ghezzi

President of the Rotary Club Pisa 2025-2026



Colour code to highlight contents

Cathedral	red for buildings, monumental areas and museums
Pisa	orange for places
1064	green for dates
Galileo Galilei	blue for proper names
Arch	bold for the words quoted in the Glossary

Colour code for the Walks

●	red for Walk no. 1
●	blue for Walk no. 2
●	yellow for Walk no. 3
●	pink for Walk no. 4



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