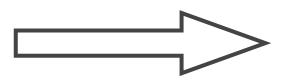
### Our City Map

I found this map in a shop once and I thought, wow! What a big city. I love my city, as it sits not far from the Mediterranean Sea. Sitting in our little state of Italy, I feel safe and at ease after Charlemagne captured Florence. I just remember how my ancestors were in this awful empire between the German "Goths" and the Byzantines. Now, the town has made a name for itself. The Count of Tuscany made it so our government can govern itself and not have another influence! My family was able to prosper well in this city! I live among the rich in the 12th century!







# Florence: A Glorious City

**Derek Brockhaus** 



House of Medici

## Our Stunning Church and Relics

The Beaty of our Cathedral lies in the colorful marble structure that surrounds the whole church. Even though it was not finished when I was there, I was still in awe of the giant pillars and the Virgin sculpture in the front. I love the new murals on the walls of the cathedral. It reminds me of the stories the priests told us about the bible! There were plans of making a lot of sculpture just for this church. This will bring in a lot of people who can visit these magnificent pieces of art. The one thing, that strikes me every time I'm around the church, is the bell tower. I can see this bell tower from anywhere in Florence! One relic that we are very proud of, is the Altar of Saint Zanobius, which contains items from the Saint himself!



#### Some Key Features...

Surrounding Florence are vineyards, farms, villas, and small hills. Small Roman military colonies still remain near the city! The flowing Arno river passes through the city going north and south. Not far from Florence are the Apennines mountains, which provide us with boulders and marble to make our cities beautiful! The rivers though, are important to the city of Florence because it helps us with washing and dyeing the cloth. This allows us to be a cloth industry, which brings in much of our wealth. The most important building, besides the cathedral, is the Tower of Palazzo Vechhio. It holds the legislative and executive branches of our government.





#### The Elegant Lifestyle

The women in Florence were the caretakers of the home and the children will play with other children. The women had a lot of freedom compared to other places. The men would work in businesses. One major business was the cloth industry because of the ease of water that goes through the city. If you were wealthy, you lived in fancy homes with lavish banquets and intricate dishes. They would also share utensils!

#### Sources:

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