

PiazzaDante

PiazzaDante.it is an Italian website created by the UTET group. UTET – the acronym stands for *Unione Tipografica-Editrice Torinese* – is a large Italian publishing house that publishes encyclopedias, dictionaries, and professional journals. Much of the information regarding Italian culture contained in UTET's publications is available online on the PiazzaDante.it site. Access to the site is free, but users are required to register and log in. The following are instructions for getting registered and also for using some of the site's features.

Registration

1. Go to <http://www.piazzadante.it>
2. On the left side of the page, in the box with the header “utenti registrati [registered users],” click on the link “Perchè registrarsi [Why register]?”
3. In the upper center area of new page click on the link for “Registrazione gratuita [Free registration].”
4. In the box that opens (“Autoregistrazione [Self-registration]”) fill in the fields that are marked by an asterisk (*). The following translations may be helpful:
 - Nome [First name]
 - Cognome [Last name]
 - CAP [Zip code]
 - Nazione [Country] (For some reason, the folks at PiazzaDante.it seem to consider American states countries unto themselves! Just click on your state.)
 - Anno di Nascita [Year of Birth]
 - Sesso [Sex]
 - Istruzione [Level of schooling] (in most cases, students will select “Superiore”),
 - Professione [Profession] (in most cases, students will select “studente universitario”)
 - Come hai saputo del sito? [How did you learn about the site?] (select “Passaparola [Word of mouth]”)
 - Figli di età scolare [School-aged children?] (most students will select “No”)
5. Click on “Registrati [Register]” to submit registration request (note that you must have cookies enabled on your browser to use PiazzaDante).
6. PiazzaDante.it will send an e-mail to whatever e-mail address you provided during the registration process containing your logon id and your initial password for access to the site. You can change the latter by going to <http://users.piazzadante.it/> and selecting “Cambia la password [Change password].”

Cool Stuff

When you are registered and have logged in, click on the “Home” link. You should see a box entitled “Ricerca [Research].” There are three helpful tools here. The first is the “Enciclopedia [Encyclopedia]” – great for getting information on different aspects of Italian culture, including places, people, etc. The second is the “Dizionario Italiano Garzanti [Garzanti Italian Dictionary],” an extremely thorough Italian dictionary. The third useful tool is the “Dizionario Hazon Garzanti [Hazon Garzanti Dictionary].” This is an electronic version of an English-Italian / Italian-English dictionary. If you want to look up the Italian translation of an English word check the “Inglese-Italiano” button. If you want to look up the English translation of an Italian word check the “Italiano-Inglese” button.