

Industrial villages in Italy

An **industrial village** is a type of self-contained community, built from the late 18th century onwards by landowners and industrialists to house their workers. The villages were usually located close to the workplace, but they were physically separated from them and often consisted of quite high quality housing. In Italy, there are two amazing examples: one is Crespi d'Adda village, in Lombardy, which has been a World Heritage Site since 1995; it was built at the

end of the 19th century to provide housing and social services for the workers in a cotton textile factory erected on the banks of the River Adda. The other one is Leumann village, near Turin. Built in Liberty style between 1875 and 1907, it included two residential areas which housed about one thousand people. An elementary school, a little railway station, a church, a food shop and other necessary social services were built around the houses. The village has recently been restored.



Leumann industrial village near Turin.

1 Read the text and decide if the following statements are true or false.

1. Industrial villages were special settlements built to accommodate factory workers.
2. The construction of industrial villages began in the late 1800s.
3. These villages are usually near the workplace.
4. The quality of the houses was poor.
5. The industrial village of Crespi D'Adda was built for the workers of a food processing factory
6. Leumann village was built in Baroque style.
7. Leumann village had essential facilities for everyday life of the workers
8. Recently, Leumann village has undergone a restoration process.

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