

# Locarno Film Festival Treasure Hunt

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**LocarnoKiDS**



# PARDY



**Ciao! I'm Pardy,  
the Ascona-Locarno mascot.  
Do you want to come  
on a treasure hunt with me?**

Today is a special occasion. I'm going to take you to discover all the secrets of the Locarno Film Festival, held every year on the shores of Lake Maggiore. Together we can find out everything there is to know about this amazing festival that's famous all over the world. Let's go!



FAMILY  
Destination

LA  
ROTONDA

 **ASCONA  
LOCARNO**

## Where to start

We'll start our tour by walking down the famous red carpet that film stars flock to. Once we've walked down the whole carpet, we'll be in Piazza Grande, right in the middle of the festival. In the evenings, this is where awards are given out to the best actors, directors and other people who work in the film industry. The shape of the award reminds me of something... Yes, it's a leopard, like me! Would you like to know what it takes to organise a film festival and show interesting movies to so many people? Let's find out together!

### Stage 1

To make a cinema, the first thing you need is a good film, but that's not enough. You also need a screen, a projector and lots of seats. Take a look for yourself.

**?** How many seats are there in the front row under the big screen?

### Stage 2

Now turn around and look at the huge screen where they project the films. It was the architect Livio Vacchini who came up with the idea. One day the festival asked him to think about building a new cinema but he had the weird idea of turning the square itself into a cinema. But there was one thing missing... A screen! So, he built one of the biggest in the world.

**?** How long do you think it is?

(Need a tip? Measure it with your steps: every step is probably about a half a metre...).

13 m  26 m  52 m

### Stage 3

To make a cinema, there's something else you need. As well as a screen and lots of seats, you need a projector! Can you find it? I'll give you a clue...it's inside a really funny booth that some people think looks like a hamburger box. But not everyone knows that the first booth, in the early 1970s, was made by sticking two swimming pools together! Let's get a bit nearer for a closer look.

**?** Can you help me count how many windows there are??

### Stage 4

Let's go for a walk around the square.

**?** Can you see those big letters? What do they spell out?

If you can't see the word straight away, move back a bit and look at them all together.

Yes, our wonderful destination! Do you want to find out more secrets about the Locarno Film Festival? Let's keep going and leave Piazza Grande behind us.

### Stage 5

We've walked to a big white and gold building with a red square in front of it. It's the famous PalaCinema! The building has those gold tiles on its roof because the designer thought that when they moved in the wind, they would recreate the movement of a leopard's fur! It's true, watch me jump up and down...

**?** If I wanted to grab the flag from the PalaCinema's balcony, how high would I have to jump?

1 m  4 m  15 m

### Stage 6

Let's go to the GranRex. It's one of the Locarno Film Festival's oldest cinemas and, because it underwent a long restoration a few years ago, it's now as good as new! Every year, the festival tells the story of the cinema of the past here: the Retrospective.

**?** What shape is the staircase in the atrium?

Curved  Straight  Zig-zag

### Stage 7

We're now going to walk along the arcades in the square and admire the shop windows. Shops, bars and restaurants are decorated in the colours of the festival.

**?** Look carefully... can you see what the two colours are?

### Stage 8

Let's go back to where it all began.

In August, many years ago, the first film in the first year of the Locarno Film Festival was projected on the lawn of this famous hotel in the city. It was 1946 and the film was "O Sole Mio" directed by Giacomo Gentilomo. You can see the Grand Hotel if you walk along the arcade after the Madonna del Sasso funicular station until you start to smell chips frying. Turn left and you'll find the park where I like relaxing when it's hot!

**?** I love lying in the shade of one of our typical trees. Do you know what type of tree it is?

Fir  Palm  Bamboo

**?** We've found out a lot of secrets about the festival. I'm curious, which is your favourite?

## So now what?

This is the end of the treasure hunt. Cross the street to the Info Point at Locarno Station. My friends are waiting for you with a surprise!

If you want to see a film or find out more secrets about Ascona-Locarno, ask them. They're experts!

Ascona-Locarno Turismo  
Piazza Stazione / Stazione FFS  
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Opening hours  
Monday - Friday: 09.00-18.00  
Saturday: 10.00-18.00  
Sunday: 10.00-17.00

See you soon so we can go on more adventures together!

