

The aim is to make the Etruscan Museum of Murlo (SI) a museum for everyone, by means of a museum itinerary with display and communication solutions which, while paying attention to welcoming people with disabilities, are not thought of as dedicated but are usable by all.

A project of great cultural value and social importance, which touches on the themes of hospitality, inclusion, the various diversities and the means for overcoming the physical, sensory and cognitive barriers that prevent autonomous visits.

To sum up, with the «A MUSEUM FOR EVERYONE» project, the intention is to increase the number of presences of disabled people, intervening to improve, through suitable means of information, physical accessibility to premises enabling disabled people to fully exploit all the museum can offer. The association intends to set up information material (Internet site, prospectuses and brochures), organize the presentation of the completed project and establish meetings with interested parties.

The Municipality of Murlo, the University of Siena with the Department of Historical Sciences and Cultural Heritage and the Laboratory Forbidden NOT to touch, the Florentine Institute of Prehistory of Florence and the Cultural Association of Murlo participate in the project.

The activity was developed on two levels, the theoretical, cognitive and preparatory level of a general nature, which was carried out through the exhibition "Forbidden NOT to touch", open from 05/21/2021 for over six months.

At the same time, in order not to go beyond mere principle, the first two stations and the new external ramp were presented and are not only more functional but also aesthetically grafted into the architectural context of the Castle.

After a study on the needs and characteristics of our museum, special tactile explanatory panels were designed for the first two exhibits, choosing two of the most significant of the two historical periods of Poggio Civitate: the cut-out acroterion of the horse and rider of the first building of the orientalizing period and the now famous one that has become the symbol of Murlo, the lord with the hat of the archaic period, known as the Cappellone.

The panels synthetically represent the two finds in relief, with different surfaces to the touch according to the parts of the figure represented, the captions are designed for the visually impaired, with increased characters in relief and, for the blind, in the Braille alphabet, so as to allow "everyone" to visit independently. The exploration and understanding of the whole thing is guided by a QR code, which can be consulted with a smartphone, which, through an audio, explains how to analyze and understand the work. The Italian version is also supplied with a video in Lis (Italian sign language), in order to also cover the needs of the deaf.

The next move was then both to decide how to give a condensed version of the complete history and contents of the museum for future users, which and how many exhibits to reproduce, and how to find the necessary resources to complete it.

The study and in-depth examination, together with the museum director, led to the

decision to highlight the following themes by creating workstations relating to the banquet, the laboratory, daily life, the funerary area and the four slabs representing the important aspects of the life of Poggio Civitate (the banquet, the horse race, the meeting, the wedding).

All the new panels installed in the Museum have the same characteristics and functions as the first two.

An important part of the reproductions (those in ceramic) has been entrusted to an artisan artist from Murlo, confirming the close connection between the museum and its territory.

As far as the financial aspect is concerned, in addition to the allocations of the Municipal Administration of Murlo and the services of the University of Siena, the intervention of the Cultural Association of Murlo, but above all with an online fundraising programme which contributed approximately 60% of the total investment.

The ground covered so far was presented on 11 June 2023.

At the same time, an itinerary for children with workstations has been planned, and in part already implemented, through the creation of interactive materials and games aimed at increasing awareness of issues relating to accessibility and the use of all the senses which become an integral part of the visits and of the laboratories we promote.

In collaboration with the Fondazione Musei Senesi and with the Coordination of Tuscan Museums For Alzheimer's, the project dedicated to Alzheimer sufferers and their carers was launched with the consequent accreditation of the structure to the National Health System.

All this to really make the Archaeological Museum of Murlo as much as possible

A MUSEUM FOR EVERYONE