



The world around you has a story

DORA is an audio guide to the places around you. It offers carefully researched stories about buildings, landmarks, neighborhoods and public spaces, helping people understand what they encounter as they move through a city. Instead of searching through articles or following a fixed walking tour, users can simply open Dora, discover what is nearby and press play.

[\[Download Dora\]](#)

ESSENTIAL FACTS

App: Dora: Landmarks & Stories

Platform: iPhone

Founded: 2024

Founder: Volele Talleyrand

Available cities: New York, Paris, Amsterdam, Barcelona, Milan and Palermo

Content: Human-researched and human-written, with AI narration

Pricing: Free to download, with passes or monthly and annual subscriptions

Website: doraguide.com

App Store: <https://apps.apple.com/it/app/dora-landmarks-stories/id6746723814?l=en-GB>

Contact: hello@volele.co

ABOUT DORA

Dora was created for moments of spontaneous curiosity: when you notice a building, church, monument or street and want to understand what you are looking at.

The app offers carefully researched audio stories connected to real places. Users can listen to a single story, follow a curated route, create their own walk or shake their phone for a suggestion.

Unlike a traditional guided tour, Dora does not require advance planning or a fixed schedule. It is designed to fit naturally into a walk, an errand or an afternoon spent exploring.

Every Dora story is researched and written by our team, then narrated using AI-generated voices. The technology delivers the story, but the research, writing and editorial decisions remain human-led.

Dora is currently available for iPhone.

WHY I BUILT DORA

At the beginning of 2024, I started splitting my time between New York City and Palermo, Italy. All of a sudden, I found myself in a city full of incredible buildings, churches, and history but very little infrastructure for me to learn about my surroundings or how they ended up there.

Every walk, grocery run or errand became a reason to explore but I increasingly got tired of having to stop, open Google and try to find the name of this or that landmark without being able to soak up its history while noticing every detail of the facade. I wanted to look at what was in front of me and learn about its backstory without reading off the screen of my phone. I thought of signing up for a regular guided tour but the schedule was too strict: I had to book, clear my calendar, and immerse myself in my surroundings on somebody else's time. I needed the flexibility to discover my new neighborhood and city as I took care of daily life tasks. That's when the idea for Dora came up.

I wanted to solve that problem for myself and the many travelers and dwellers who want to learn about a place in the moment, without having to plan ahead or look away from it. I wanted to create something that could fit naturally into everyday life—an audio companion for a walk, an errand or an unexpected discovery—and make the history of a city feel more accessible, immediate and connected to the world in front of you.

— Volele, Founder

HOW DORA WORKS

Discover what is nearby

Open the map to find stories, landmarks, neighborhoods and routes around your current location.

Choose a place

Select something that interests you, follow a recommendation or shake your phone to receive a spontaneous suggestion.

Arrive and press play

Listen to a carefully researched story while standing in front of the place it describes.

Continue exploring

Move on to another nearby location, follow a curated route or create a route based on your own interests.

KEY FEATURES

Stories for individual places

Listen to self-contained stories about buildings, landmarks, neighborhoods, public spaces and natural sites.

Nearby discovery

See what is around you and choose where to begin based on your location and interests.

Curated routes

Explore collections of places connected by geography, history, culture or a shared theme.

Create your own tour

Select the places that interest you and let Dora organize them into a walk.

Shake

Shake your phone when you cannot decide what to explore next. Dora will suggest a place or tour.

Roam with Friends

Explore together while keeping each person's listening experience synchronized.

Transcripts

Read along while listening or return to the story later.

Favorites

Save places and stories for future visits.

THE STORIES

Dora treats every story as a piece of editorial work. Locations are selected for their historical, cultural, architectural, artistic or natural significance. Research draws on reliable primary and secondary sources wherever available, and each story is shaped specifically for listening on location. The writing is designed to be informative without sounding like an encyclopedia entry. Stories establish the setting, identify the most compelling details and help listeners notice what is physically around them. Dora's editorial process is human-led. AI is used to narrate the finished scripts, not to replace research, writing or editorial judgment.

WRITTEN BY PEOPLE, NARRATED BY TECHNOLOGY

Dora uses AI-generated narration to make a growing library of stories available in a consistent audio format. The underlying research and writing are produced and reviewed by our editorial team. The role of the narration technology is to deliver those stories clearly while allowing the listener to keep their attention on the surrounding place. This combination lets Dora expand across cities while maintaining an editorial approach grounded in research, context and human judgment.

AVAILABLE CITIES

Dora currently includes stories in:

- New York
- Paris
- Amsterdam
- Barcelona
- Milan
- Palermo

Additional cities and stories are being developed. Users have the option to request which cities they'd like next.

PRICING

Dora is free to download. Users can listen to free stories and previews before choosing a subscription.

Passes

Day pass: \$0.99

3-Day Pass: \$2.99

Weekly Pass: \$4.99

Subscriptions

Monthly: \$4.99

Yearly: \$39.99

Availability and pricing may vary by App Store region.

For any questions and inquiries: hello@volele.co