

Who was Andrea Doria

Andrea Doria, the **Admiral** who in 1528 **had liberated the city of Genoa from the French and given life back to the Republic**, certainly occupied a very important place in the memory of the Genoese who fought against the occupying Austrians two centuries later. He was 62 years of age at that time and the Genoese offered him the rank of Doge which Andrea refused, preferring the title of **father of the homeland**.



Portrait of "*Andrea Doria*"

Thus, he became the undisputed lord of the city, remaining, however, without any of the institutional offices that would have prevented him from continuing to do what he liked best: sailing and fighting on the high seas.

As Captain and Lieutenant General of Charles V he also led the fighting against the Turks of Suleiman II.

During the last fifteen years of his life, he was forced to protect his own physical safety, threatened by an uninterrupted series of plots, which profoundly changed his character and his relationship with the Genoese. In fact, he became violent and despotic, behaving like a true dictator. But, in the memory of his fellow citizens, the stains of the last years were cancelled and in their memories remained the positive image of the father of the homeland, invoked every time the independence of the city was threatened.

Andrea died in 1560 at the age of ninety-four.

