



Italian Castles Award

A.R.I. Section of Scandicci (Firenze), sponsored by A.R.I. Regional Committee of Tuscany and in co-operation with A.R.I. Section of Mondovì (Cuneo) that releases the "Italian Castles Award" (DCI – Diploma dei Castelli d'Italia), institutes to permanent the "Tuscan Castles Award" (DCT – Diploma dei Castelli della Toscana) for OM and SWL, in order to promote the castles of Tuscany and add to the reputation of this region's great historical value.

AWARD RULES

Art.1

The list of the "Castles of Tuscany" is taken from the list of "Italian Castles Award", downloadable on the Internet websites dcta.no-ip.org and www.dcia.it, it concerns exclusively the territory of Tuscany and is divided in 10 sections, one for each of its 10 Provinces.

Art.2

The "Tuscan Castles Award D.C.T." will be released to every OM or duly authorized SWL on presentation to the Award Manager of the A.R.I. Section of Scandicci (P.O. Box 30 I-50018 Scandicci - FI), of the following documents:

- a) one letter undersigned either by applicant and two Amateur Radio Operators duly authorized, who guarantee the truth of what has been declared in the letter and the respect of the rules of the country of origin;
- b) the list of the QSO references, containing: reference of the Castle, Callsign of the station, Date and Hour UTC, Band; it is strongly advisable to send an electronic file of the list, formatted in sections / fields separated by "semicolon" (file type "CSV"), each record made of following sections:
 - a. reference of the Castle: text format PP-NNN where P=province and N=progressive number of the Castle;
 - b. station callsign: format free text;
 - c. date UTC: format "DD/MM/YYYY";
 - d. hour UTC: format "HH:MM";
 - e. band: format text must indicate the band in meters (es: for the activations in 40 meters band the field must contain "40m" and not real frequency or other, for the activations in VHF it will have to indicate "6m" or "2m" and not "50MHz" or "vhf");
 - f. the last record must have empty sections;
- c) correct amount of fees depending on requests according to award rules;
- d) phone number or e-mail address, to be reached by the Award Manager; QSL can be requested by the Award Manager; the valid list of references are those assigned by the Technical Award Manager of the Italian Castles Award (D.C.I.).

Art.3

The D.C.T. Award is printed on one A4 format paper sheet; the Honor Roll Plate will have various graphical patterns, as decided by the Award Manager.

Art.4

The award and the plate are available in both versions of Band (HF and VHF) and Category (OM, SWL and Castles Activator). Every acknowledgment, diploma or plate it will be numbered in progress. QSOs with Castles of Tuscany working stations are valid since 1 January 2001. QSOs via repeater or both crossband or crossmode are excluded.

Art.5

In order to get the Award, the applicant will have to prove he have contacted and confirmed with QSLs the following minimum number of Castles:

- a) Italian stations: 25 Castles of Tuscany in at least 5 Provinces;
- b) Foreign stations: 15 Castles of Tuscany in at least 3 Provinces;
- c) VHF stations: 10 Castles of Tuscany in at least 3 Provinces.

Endorsement are provided for:

- a) every Province with at least 5 confirmed Castles;
- b) advances of:
 - a. Italian stations: 50 and 75 further confirmed Castles;
 - b. Foreign stations: 30 and 45 further confirmed Castles;
 - c. VHF stations: 15 and 20 further confirmed Castles.

The Honor Roll Plate is provided for:

- a) Italian stations: 100 Castles;
- b) Foreign stations: 50 Castles;
- c) VHF stations: 30 Castles;

with at least 3 Castles for every Province.

Eventually a special rank called "Hall of Fame" will be put on display, to list each Award and Honor Roll appointed station. The rank will be published and updated by the Award Manager on the Internet site of A.R.I. Section of Scandicci and every year the first classified of every category (Italian, Foreign and VHF stations) will be prized.

Art.6

Radio Amateurs who have activated at least 5 Castles of Tuscany can obtain the Castles Activator Award version. Endorsement are provided every further 5 activated Tuscany Castles. A Honor Roll Plate is provided for Activators who has activated at least 30 Tuscany Castles. A special rank called "Activators Hall of Fame" will also be published to list every Award and Honor Roll appointed Activator stations. The rank will be published by the Award Manager on the Internet site of A.R.I. Section of Scandicci and every year the first station will be prized. Photos in format "JPEG" or "GIF" of the activations are appreciated and will be shown on the Internet site: please send them to <mailto:dct@ariscandicci.it>. All information and changes will be notified on the Internet site dcta.no-ip.org, on bulletins and newsletters.

Art.7

The award fees are:

- a) for every award 6,00 Euro or 7,00 US\$ (outside Europe 7,00 Euro or 8,00 US\$);
- b) for every Plate Honor Roll 18,00 Euro or 20,00 US\$ (outside Europe 20,00 Euro or 22,00 US\$);
- c) Endorsement do not cost, but pre-addressed and pre-freed envelopes are mandatory (SASE or else 1IRC).

The payment may be sent out directly into an envelope.

Art.8

D.C.T. holders are authorized to use the logo on the own QSL and mailing.

Art.9

A.R.I. Section of Scandicci keeps the right to abolish and/or modify graphically the diploma and/or the plate layout, partially or totally change the above-said rules and change the amount of fees to its unquestionable judgment.

Art.10

To all that is not indicated in these Regulations, please consider as valid the rules of the D.C.I. (Diploma dei Castelli d'Italia).

Please note: translations may bring to misunderstanding the rules. Therefore the Award Manager will refer solely to the Italian version.