

Paradise	Cain and Abel
Noah	Abraham and Isaac
Jacob and Esau	Joseph
Moses	Joshua
David	King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba



## **CHEAT SHEET TO FLORENCE'S GATES OF PARADISE**

Everyone visiting Florence will stop to admire the Golden doors of the Baptistery installed right across from the façade of the Cathedral that took Lorenzo Ghiberti 27 years of his life to complete. Their name stuck after Michelangelo proclaimed them worthy of decorating the doors of Paradise itself. The ten square reliefs represent several biblical episodes from the Old Testament, beginning at the top left with the creation of Adam and Eve, their fall from Grace and their expulsion from the Garden of Eden and ends with King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba.

The ten panels you see today on the door are perfect reproductions placed there after the flood of 1966 when quite a few of them fell to the ground and were saved from being lost in the churning waters of the Arno river only by the iron gate that stands in front of them and their weight. The originals of course have been transported for safe keeping in the museum.