

PITCHER & FLACCOMIO

RENT, SELL AND MANAGE PROPERTIES
IN FLORENCE AND TUSCANY

WELCOME

“To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake, it is necessary to stand out in the cold.” The slumber of winter can hardly resist the excitement of February, as Florence and Tuscany awaken with Carnevale celebrations, the romance of Valentines Day, and the launch of the year’s cultural programs including Black History Month Florence. There are so many good reasons to wear your best coat and take to the streets, the abundance of music, performance, historical parades, and new restaurant openings won’t disappoint. Enjoy the last bite of the winter chill with all its magic. With best wishes, from SUZANNE, CORSO, BEI, LESLIE, VANNI, ANNA PIA, RAFFAELLA, AND MARISA.

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PITCHER & FLACCOMIO PICKS FOR FEBRUARY

BEST EVENT: IL CARNEVALE CELEBRATIONS IN VIAREGGIO! From February 4

The celebrations for Il Carnevale happen all over Tuscany, but by far the most famous and exciting is the famed Carnevale in Viareggio. There are many chances to see the Masked Parade in February, with 5 days of processions spread over the month as well as the “Great Ending Fireworks”. If there was ever a time to make the trip outside of Florence, this is it. The parades, parties, fireworks, masked balls, theatre, and culinary events are truly over-the-top. Wear clothes you don't care too much about, because it's a given that you'll end up sprayed with foam and sprinkled with confetti! Old, young, and everyone in-between, joins in the silliness. Read [all about the history of Carnevale here](#). And find [dates and more information here](#).

BEST P&F RENTAL: AN APARTMENT NESTLED IN AN OLD CONVENT IN A GREAT PART OF TOWN

An apartment built in an old convent, quiet and clean, not sophisticated but comfortable situated in a super convenient location, ideal for anyone attending a conference or international exhibition being close to the Fortezza, the terrace is an added bonus and it is suitable for a large family or a group of friends. This conveniently located apartment is nestled midway between the Santa Maria Novella train station and the Fortezza da Basso/ Palazzo Congressi complex, in via Faenza. San Lorenzo market with the fruit and vegetable stalls and the 1st floor restaurant hall open late into the evening, is only 5 minutes walk and the vicinity to the train and bus stations make this apartment especially well positioned for living or touring. [More information and photos here](#).



BEST TRADITION: CALCIO STORICO HONOURS THE BATTLE OF THE SIEGE, February 17

*Still unconfirmed for 2023, but a great event if it goes ahead this year! The Calcio Storico honour a historical siege with the Annual *Partita dell'Assedio*. It was the siege of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, on the 17th of February 1530 that gave us both the custom of changing the guard but also strengthened the tradition of this famous game of Calcio Storico reenacted every year between the four factions of Florence. Intended as a statement of indifference to the danger that stalked the city outside of the city walls, these events had a strong symbolic impact of solidarity on those within the boundaries. “The Battle of the Siege”, when Florence struggled without allies against the Imperial troops of Charles V, signalled the return of the Medici family after their exile. Even under the stress of the battle, the match served as a challenge to the foreign troops, demonstrating just how little the

Florentines felt the weight of threat just beyond its walls – even though they eventually fell in August 1530. This game, a mix of soccer, rugby and American-styled football will be reenacted in traditional Bianco and Verde costume (the Green team against the White team) on the 17th of February in front of the Santa Croce Church at 2 pm.

BEST ANNIVERSARY: FLORENCE HONOURS ANNA MARIA LUISA DE MEDICI, February 18

February 18 celebrates the greatest patroness of the arts in Florence history, Anna Maria Luisa de' Medici. The last of the ruling line of the Medici, she left behind an extraordinary legacy in the form of The Family Pact, which bequeathed the considerable artistic patrimony of the family, accrued over three centuries, to the city of Florence. The Pact was to prevent any of the patrimony from being removed from Florence or the state of Tuscany. Instead, she insisted, everything must remain in Florence, for all time, "for the use of the public and to attract the curiosity of foreigners." In honour of Anna Maria Luisa, Florence opens its Civic Museums with free entry for the public on the day of her death, February 18. Be sure to include a visit to the Medici Chapels to pay your respects. Civic museums: Palazzo Vecchio, Museo del Novecento, Brancacci Chapel, Santa Maria Novella, Museo Stefano Bardini. Read more about [the history of Anna Maria Luisa here](#).

BEST FESTIVAL: 8th EDITION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH FLORENCE, Until March

Black History Month Florence is a cross institutional network for Black cultural production that celebrates the diversity of Afro-descendent Cultures in the context of Italy. The initiative is engaged in programming, advising and co-promoting over 50 events annually within the month of February, through a network formed and supported by the Comune, foundations, institutions, cultural associations, museums, schools and venues dedicated to art and to music. Black History Month Florence is broken down into BHMF Film, BHMF Art, BHMF Workshop, BHMF Talk, BHMF Food, BHMF Tours, BHMF Kids and BHMF Theatre/Dance forming a community dedicated to challenging flattened narratives about African and African Diasporic cultures and disseminating culturally diverse programming. Follow their [Facebook](#) and [Website](#) for the release of the program.

BEST PARADE: CHANGING OF THE GUARD IN PIAZZA DELLA SIGNORIA, February 3

The Changing of the Guard begins with a parade through the streets of Florence, and then ends with the traditional ceremony of the Changing of the Guard. Enjoy the spectacle of drums and costumes as the "Gonfalone", the Banner of Florence, or the Historical Parade of the Florentine Republic, arrives in the centre of the Arengario, in front of Palazzo Vecchio. There are two armed soldiers positioned on either side, together with the captain and an officer who complete the Guard. Find the [times and routes here](#).

BEST DINING OUT: YOUR CHOICE FROM THE FLORENTINE'S LIST OF HOT NEW OPENINGS IN FLORENCE

A new year always brings restaurant openings, but never have so many quality locales come all at once and with so many international flourishes. Enjoy this list by Helen Farrell of four spectacular

new restaurants on the Florence food scene. Read all about **Il Gusto di Xinge, Menchetti dal 1948, Ramen & Poke, and Bistrot 84 Rosso**. [Read the article here](#).

BEST OF THE REST

THE FLORENCE INTERNATIONAL MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL, XIX EDITION, February 10-12

The Il Trillo Music School and Florence International Arts Expo, directed by tenor Cigon Kim, present the 2023 edition of the festival dedicated to traditional Korean and European music. During the festival there will be classical and modern music masterclasses, music therapy training sessions held by teachers from the school and guest lecturers, design courses and art exhibitions. The event is sponsored by the City of Florence, the Centro Associazioni Culturali Fiorentine, the Amici della Lirica Foyer and the Italian Association of Tuscany Music Schools. [Website](#).

WINE LOVERS DELIGHT: L'ANTEPRIMA AT THE FORTEZZA, February 12

Over a hundred producers will be setting up to present - for the first time this year - their new vintages. Don't miss the opportunity to spend the day from 9:30 to 21:00 to savor over 500 types of wines. After the great success of last year, the special preview of the Consorzio Vino Chianti and of the Consorzio Tutela Morellino di Scansano, returns again to the Fortezza da Basso in Florence. 110 companies sharing their absolute best in the Cavaniglia pavilion, which will be entirely occupied by stands and events. Get [more information here](#).

TRAM-E D'ARTE: GUIDED TOURS OF LESSER-KNOWN FLORENCE BY TRAM

In January and February, three guided journeys along Florence's tram-lines to discover a new, sustainable, and conscious way to see a lesser known, but fascinating side of the city, as well as its more contemporary aspects. The free guided tours will be offered in both Italian and English held by certified and knowledgeable local guides, and will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00/12:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The tours include: "Isolotto, the Soul of a Neighbourhood", "Music, Fairs, and Painters along the Mugnone", and "Novoli: Precious Treasures between Past and Present". Participation is entirely free until available spots have been filled. Reservation required. [Website](#).

TASTE 2023, THREE DAYS DEDICATED TO JAZZY TASTES AT THE FORTEZZA DI BASSO, February 4-6

Taste, the three-day event dedicated to the excellence of taste, is back. The theme of this edition of Taste, from 4 to 6 February 2023 at the Fortezza da Basso in Florence, is Jazz music, which gives its name to the title of the kermesse: Jazzy Taste is tastes, perfumes, flavours that are sought after, cultivated, invented and rediscovered in continuous experimentation and involving experiences, and focused on the choral nature of the five senses. More and more companies of international haute cuisine operators are present, just as the public of foodies, who participate in great numbers in the events scheduled both at the show and at the collateral events in the city (Fuori di Taste), is growing

in number and passion. [Website](#).

TESTO 2023, THE BOOK LOVERS FESTIVAL AT STAZIONE LEOPOLDA, February 24-26

At the Stazione Leopolda, from February 24 to 26, the fair which aims to examine the book in all its forms, from its genesis to its arrival on the shelves. It will showcase the entire production chain that brings a book to life. It is built around the value of the book, analysing the different phases that go into the creation of a text, starting with the birth of an idea to its production, to the arrival of a book in bookshops and the final phase in which the pages arrive in front of the reader's eyes. [Website](#).

DANZA IN FIERA: INTERNATIONAL TRADE&SHOW DANCE EVENT AT FORTEZZA DI BASSO, February 24-26

All you need is dance! Danzainfiera is the largest and most original international exhibition dedicated to dance. Expect a full program of shows and performances, alongside the official trade show for industry professionals. Danzainfiera is a unique platform of its kind, where the exhibition spaces and meeting places alternate with the stages and the classrooms to accommodate a vast program that embraces all dance styles. See [the spectacular events program here](#).

FLORENCE WINTER SALES

While some sales have already started, after the Epiphany of January 6th all the stores of Florence will begin their major sales to clear out their Autumn and Winter stock, in order to make room for the new season arrivals. You can expect savings of at least 50%, which often reach 70% towards the end of the month as stocks dwindle. It's the perfect time to grab a few last minute winter coats to help survive the winter chill of January!

THE CARD DEL FIORENTINO MUSEUM PASS FOR RESIDENTS TO ENJOY

From: [The Florentine Magazine](#). The exceptional offer available to residents of Florence and the metropolitan area makes museum visits much easier, giving you access to guided tours and unlimited admissions to many of the city's most popular cultural venues for just 10 euro. Unlock unlimited entry to the [Florentine Civic Museums](#), with three guided tours hosted by [MUS.E](#) included as part of the great gift idea launched by the [Comune di Firenze](#). Read all about it [here](#)!

HOT THERMAL BATHS TO EASE THE WINTER CHILL

Winter is the season to enjoy the range of beautiful hot springs located in Tuscany, both to warm you up and for all the rumoured health benefits! There are a number of different springs, some free and some with spa facilities designed to help you pass the entire day relaxing out of the city centre. Check out their websites to see which one you like, and don't be afraid to try the plunge from the hot springs to the cold lakes - they swear it's good for you! A list of Tuscan Thermal Baths:

Terme di Bagno Vignoni (Siena)

Grotta Giusti (Pistoia)

Terme di Gambassi Stabilimento Acqua di Pillo (Florence)

Terme di Firenze (Florence)

Terme di Montecatini (Pistoia)

Terme di San Casciano dei Bagni Fonteverde (Siena)

Terme di Saturnia (Grosseto)

Terme Calidario (Livorno)

#DOMENICOALMUSEO : STATE MUSEUMS FREE FOR EVERYONE, AND CIVIC MUSEUMS FREE FOR RESIDENTS ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

On the first Sunday of every month, Florence opens up all of its state and civic museums free for residents of the city, or people born here. Here's a list of the state museums free to all: Uffizi, Accademia, Bargello, Medici Chapels, Pitti Palace (all museums), San Marco, Palazzo Davanzati, Medici Villas. And civic museums free to residents: Palazzo Vecchio, Arnolfo Tower, Santa Maria Novella, Stefano Bardini Museum, Fondazione Salvatore Romano, Museo del Novecento, Brancacci Chapel in Santa Maria del Carmine. You'll find more information at: www.musefirenze.it

EXHIBITIONS

SAURO CAVALLINI'S WORKS ON DISPLAY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN FLORENCE, AT THE PALAZZO STROZZI SACRATI IN PIAZZA DEL DUOMO, Until February 28

Sauro Cavallini, one of the most prolific artists of the second half of the 20th century, experienced the horror of extermination camps during the Second World War: in September 1943 at the age of 16, he was arrested by the fascist police and imprisoned in the Gradaro camp in Mantua, where he remained for about a year. The months of imprisonment profoundly marked Cavallini's life and when he began to practise sculpture, the nightmares of imprisonment took shape and resulted in his first works of art that he would not repeat in the more than 50 years that followed. Today, those works take on a value as a testimony to a particularly painful past and 16 of those iron and brass works, created between 1961 and 1963, will be exhibited for the first time in Florence in the exhibition scheduled from 26 January to 28 February 2023 in the rooms of Palazzo Strozzi Sacrati, seat of the presidency of the Regional Council of Tuscany. [Website](#).

ESCHER ON SHOW AT MUSEO DEGLI INNOCENTI, Until March 2023

The Museo degli Innocenti in Florence hosts an anthological exhibition dedicated to the brilliant Dutch artist Maurits Cornelis Escher. The spaces of the historic Museo degli Innocenti will host more than 200 works by the Dutch artist, who was discovered by the general public in recent years and has become one of the most beloved artists worldwide. In his famous engravings and lithographs Escher creates a unique, imaginative, impossible world where art, mathematics, science, physics and design converge, as well as representing Italy in many of his works. [Website](#).

INSIDE BANKSY: AN IMMERSIVE MULTIMEDIA EXPERIENCE

The Cathedral of the Image will become the home of the world's street art by hosting, within the monumental complex of Santo Stefano al Ponte, the world premiere of the unauthorized immersive digital exhibition dedicated to the subversive and satirical British writer Banksy. Inside Banksy is a spectacular immersive event realised by Crossmedia with the curatorial contribution of Gianni Mercurio, in which the creative path Banksy is told: the most subversive and satirical artist on the world street art scene. A real story that unfolds through a wise mix of images, sounds, music that can immediately evoke underground culture of Bristol. [Website](#).

HONOURING WANDA FERRAGAMO: WOMEN IN BALANCE 1955-1965

The new Museo Ferragamo exhibition showing until 18 April 2023 is dedicated to the figure of Wanda Miletti Ferragamo: Wanda Ferragamo took over the reins of the family business when her husband died, transforming an artisan women's shoe workshop into a fashion house, thus changing her own life and that of her family. Starting from her figure, the exhibition describes the female reality in Italy between the 1950s and the 1960s, in the light of the deep socio-economic changes that characterised the years of the economic boom, with women searching for new life models, searching for a balance between work and family life. Guided tours are available both in person (Italian, English, French and Spanish) and online (Italian and English only). Reservation (by phone or e-mail) is compulsory. [More information](#).

DANCE, THEATRE AND MUSIC

CONCERT FOR THE HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY AT PALAZZO PITTI, February 12

On Sunday **12 February**, the Shaboruz Quartet (Scuola di Musica di Fiesole) present an important concert in the Sala Bianca of the Palatine Gallery and Royal Apartments in **Palazzo Pitti**, for the Holocaust Remembrance Day, with which the Shoah tragedy is commemorated every year. The concert is an initiative of the Embassy of the Republic of Germany in Italy and organised by the Scuola di Musica di Fiesole in collaboration with the Jewish Community of Florence and Le Gallerie degli Uffizi. Free entrance for the concert included in your ticket to enter Palazzo Pitti. [Website](#).

PERFORMANCES AT TEATRO VERDI

The 'Teatro Pagliano' assumed its current name, 'Teatro Verdi,' in 1901. It was built during the Grand Ducal period in Florence on the former site of the fourteenth century Stinche Prison. Our pick for this month:

Casanova, the Pop Opera - The musical theatre colossal set in 18th-century Venice and dedicated to one of the world's best-known Italian characters, GIACOMO CASANOVA, brings 21 performers to the stage, 2 hours of music and 35 songs sung live, 120 costumes, 30 scene changes, immersive sets and innovative stylistic choices.

For more information and to book tickets: <http://www.teatroverdifirenze.it/en/>

THEATRE AND MUSIC AT TEATRO DELLA PERGOLA

The Teatro della Pergola is a historic opera house in Florence, Italy, built in 1656 under the patronage of Cardinal Gian Carlo de' Medici. Just one of the offerings this month:

Come Tu Mi Vuoi - A masterpiece of Luigi Pirandello, perhaps by far the least performed, chosen by director Luca De Fusco who frequently presents works by the Sicilian author. He brings this piece to the stage with Lucia Lavia, the protagonist of a dark and existentialist performance, closer than ever to our times.

For more information and to book tickets: <http://www.teatrodellapergola.com/>

MAGGIO MUSICALE FIORENTINO

The Theatre of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino owes its name to the prestigious Maggio Musicale Festival, the oldest in Italy, a first that it shares in Europe with the festivals of Salzburg and Bayreuth. Founded in Florence in 1933, the festival quickly became a centre of dissemination of the great European musical culture indicating and proposing new and unconventional ideas, in regards to classical repertoire and contemporary compositions. This month's pick:

Federico Maria Sardelli - Festival di Carnevale dedicated to Faust and Goethe: On 5 February, the Istituto Giovanni Battista Lulli is organising a symphony concert conducted by Maestro Federico Maria Sardelli at the Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, with music by Lulli.

See the full program [here at the website](#).

AMICI DELLA MUSICA

If you ever wanted to listen to classical music in a theatre where you could imagine Verdi or Mozart to walk in any second go to the jewel box Pergola Theatre. The Amici della Musica of Florence presents various concerts at the Teatro della Pergola. Works by Rossini, Schumann, Schubert, Brahms, Bach, Beethoven and Mozart are only a small sample of what will be performed. [Tickets and more information](#).

FILMS, LECTURES, AND CULTURAL EVENTS

EVERYTHING, EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE, NOW SHOWING IN ORIGINAL LANGUAGE AT CINEMA LA COMPAGNIA

The acclaimed film starring Michelle Yeoh and Jamie Lee Curtis nominated for the 2023 Oscars. Evelyn Wang (Michelle Yeoh) runs a small laundromat, has a teenage daughter she no longer understands, a jaded father, and a marriage on the rocks. A routine check by an IRS employee (Jayme Lee Curtis) pulls her into a 'compelling adventure in the multiverse to experience the different versions of herself, the result of the different choices made during their parallel existences with the aim of saving the fate of the universes, and restoring harmony to her family. Original language

version with Italian subtitles. [Website](#).

THE BRITISH INSTITUTE CULTURAL PROGRAM IN THEIR STUNNING HAROLD ACTON LIBRARY

A beloved favourite in Florence, The British Institute continue their offerings of Wednesday lectures, concerts, and other cultural treats in the stunning location of the historic Harold Acton Library, and now also in their new contemporary space, SOTTO al British. Enjoy exquisite views of the Arno River together with the majesty of the library, and its cultural events. To see the full month's program of lectures and events, [see the website here](#).

WEEKLY SOCIAL LIFE DRAWING SESSIONS AT SOTTO AL BRITISH

Every Monday night from 19:00-21:00 (except public holidays), a life drawing session led by artist Tom J. Byrne. A social, life drawing event prepares the spirit for a creative week and is a great way to meet new and interesting people. There is no instruction given but through sharing insights and discussion over a glass of wine after drawing, people can exchange drawing methods. The session is from 19:00 - 21:00 and consists of short warm up poses followed by longer poses as the evening moves along. [More information here](#).

FEBRUARY WISHES

As we savour the last glimmer of winter, we wish you love and celebrations for all the year will bring.

All the best,

The Staff of Pitcher and Flaccomio

Newsletter written and compiled by Marisa Garreffa.

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CLASSIFIEDS



SALE – Quarrata Farm House– 25 km West of Florence
Free standing stone farm house, to be totally refurbished, approx. 500 sq. mt.(5000 Sq. Ft), plus 1 hectare (3 acres) of land. Electricity already in place, water well.

Asking Price 460,000 Euro



SALE – San Niccolo' - Historic Center

First floor, (with elevator), good conditions, approx. 400 Sq. Mt. (approx. 4000 Sq. Ft.). Several living areas, 3 bed, 4 bath, plus study, gym and cellar. Quiet, natural light, autonomous heating system, Air Con.

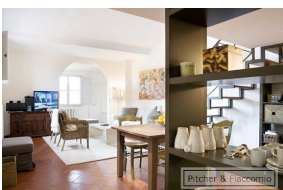
Asking Price 1,900,000 Euro



SALE – Costa san Giorgio – Historic Center

Top floor apt, approx. 150 Sq. Mt. (1500 Sq. Ft.) on two levels, 4 bed, 3 bath; quiet, natural light, autonomous heating, views over Florence.

Asking price 890,000 Euro



SALE – Via Maggio - Historic Center

Top floor, with elevator, refurbished, approx. 65 sq. mt.(650 Sq. Ft), 1 Bed, 1 Bath. Air Conditioning, light and views.

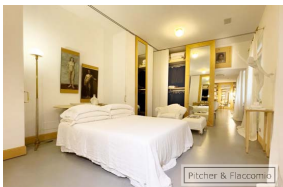
Asking Price 410,000 Euro



SALE – Piazza Azeglio – Historic Center

Second and top floor (possible elevator), refurbished, approx. 140 sq. mt.(1400 Sq. Ft), 2 Bed, study, 3 Bath. Autonomous heating, air con.

Asking Price 950,000 Euro



SALE – Santa Maria Novella – Historic Center

Second floor, with elevator, refurbished, approx. 300 Sq. Mt. (aprox. 3000 Sq. Ft.). 3 bed, 3 bath, plus study; autonomous heating, air con., and centrally located

Asking Price 2,200,000 Euro

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