

# PITCHER & FLACCOMIO

RENT, SELL AND MANAGE PROPERTIES  
IN FLORENCE AND TUSCANY

## WELCOME

Spring is almost here and Florence is bursting with freshness. The exhibitions change over, signature ingredients shift for the season, and colour comes back into the streets. This month Florence always shows off her best, and with good reason, as it's the month of the Florentine New Years Celebration! And not only. This month we also celebrate Women's Day, Father's Day, the Feast of the Annunciation, as well as the launch of fresh exhibitions and a flood of hit shows and concerts in the theatres. Mamma mia! So much to choose from! As we farewell the winter and lift our faces to the sunshine and colours of early Spring, we remember to also venture into the Tuscan countryside so we can truly appreciate everything this spectacular region has to offer. With best wishes, from SUZANNE, CORSO, BEI, EGLA, VANNI, ANNA PIA, RAFFAELLA, AND MARISA.

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# PITCHER & FLACCOMIO PICKS FOR MARCH

## **BEST EVENT: CAPODANNO! THE FLORENTINE NEW YEAR AND THE FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION, March 25**

It's time to celebrate! Still today, Florence celebrates a special New Year's Tradition on March 25th at Piazza della Santissima Annunziata. Until 1750, the beginning of the calendar year would fall on March 25, roughly coinciding with the arrival of spring. This date is also the day of Christ's conception with the Annunciation of the Angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary, exactly nine months before the birth of Jesus. Although the Gregorian calendar was introduced in 1502, the Florentines have held to their tradition and continue to celebrate Capodanno Fiorentino on March 25th. Between 1250 and 1750, Florentines would gather at the Church of the Santissima Annunziata, where there is a famous medieval mural of the Annunciation. According to legend, the artist fell asleep having completed everything on the mural except for the face of the Madonna. When he awoke, the face of the Virgin Mary had been completed for him by angelic masters. And so, even today, citizens and authorities come on this day to pay tribute to the Madonna. Enjoy a historical parade, a special market fair, and then concerts of music. Find all the information about [the day's program here](#) and [here](#).

## **BEST P&F RENTAL: A MODERN, SPACIOUS AND WELL EQUIPPED APARTMENT IN A CENTRAL LOCATION**

A luminous, modern and quiet apartment that is centrally located. Piazza Salvemini is a popular area in the heart of Florence on the north side of the river. It is very near the Duomo and the S. Ambrogio open air market, as well as some of the most important museums and monuments. Close by are a supermarket, a post office, and many shops, restaurants and services. More information and photos [here](#).



## **BEST TRADITION: THE EASTER HOLIDAY AND EVENTS, March 28-April 1**

(From: [DiscoverTuscany.com](#)) If you're giving up your vices for Lent, the end is in sight. Easter in Italy is not a short celebration but rather, celebrated over five days starting the Thursday before Easter Sunday and finishing the following Monday. It starts with a wide range of religious and folkloric events then ends with colourfully wrapped chocolate eggs with hidden surprises and picnics in the countryside. There is a wide range of things to do in Florence on Easter Sunday and Monday as well as in the surrounding areas. Easter in Tuscany for many signals the beginning of spring, with its colourful blossoms and mild temperatures. The event is also synonymous with parades recreating events from the Crusades, revocations of religious events, elaborate floral decorations in churches like that in San Casciano and many folkloric festivals. Read more about the Easter parades and festivities, as well as what to do over the Easter weekend [here](#) and [here](#).

## **BEST PARADE AND HISTORICAL EVENT: SCOPPIO DEL CARRO ON EASTER SUNDAY, March 31**

The annual Easter tradition dating back to the First Crusade! The Scoppio del Carro, The Explosion of the Cart. Marking both Easter and Spring, the ignition of the cart guarantees good crops, a successful harvest, stable civic life and bountiful trade, as well as signifying the passage of new holy fire to light those extinguished on Good Friday.

A thirty-foot carved and painted wooden cart (the present version is over 150 years old) is pulled by flower-bedecked white oxen from Porta al Prato to Piazza del Duomo. A very special Easter Sunday mass is held, a ritual that includes one of the best daytime fireworks displays in the world. It was during the pontificate of Leo X (Giovanni de' Medici, 1513-1521), that the 'colombina' - a mechanical bird shaped like a dove with an olive branch in its beak, representing the Holy Spirit - was used for the first time. During the singing of the Gloria of the Easter Mass, the deacon lights a holy fire, kindled from three historic stone chips that were obtained during the crusades of 1099 from the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem. The colombina 'flies' down a line through the open doors of the cathedral, where the Holy Fire is used to light a fuse attached to the dove. It flies back to the cart where it ignites the explosion, erupting fireworks into the Easter sky, as well as plumes of purple smoke - the colour of Florence. Piazza del Duomo, The Procession starts at 10.00, and The Explosion of the Cart is at 11.00

## **BEST EXHIBITION: LAST CHANCE TO SEE MAPPLETHORPE - VON GLOEDEN. BEAUTY AND DESIRE, ON DISPLAY AT MUSEO NOVECENTO, Until March 6**

From September 23 to February 14, 2024, the Museo Novecento pays tribute to one of the most significant figures in 20th-century photography, Robert Mapplethorpe, in a unique comparison with the photographs of Wilhelm von Gloeden and a selection of photographs from the Alinari Archive. The exhibition is the second major exhibition of this museum dedicated to photography, a practice that has revolutionized the history of art since the 19th century. "Beauty and Desire" draws inspiration from a series of artworks that highlights Mapplethorpe's intense artistic production, emphasizing the connection between his work and classical aesthetics, as well as his sculptural approach to photography, which is evident in his studies of both male and female nudes and still life, equating bodies with objects in a sculptor's vision and sensibility. [Website.](#)

## **BEST DINING OUT: SAPORIUM LOUNGE AND TAPAS BAR**

Following the philosophy of Borgo Santo Pietro Saporium, founded on the principles of biodiversity and regenerative agriculture, Saporium Firenze is the Florence location of this Michelin awarded restaurant. The food is sourced and inspired by their own organic farm, culinary and herb gardens, and artisanal dairy. The concept of the menu, deeply rooted in the estate and its surroundings, is to share with guests the beauty of taste and the rich complexity of each season. It's about taking only the best, freshest ingredients and executing a beautifully creative dish with simplicity to encourage a health and wellness choice. Executive chef Ariel Hagen and his team – along with the master gardener, forager, cheesemaker, baker, fermentation specialist, butcher, restaurant manager and sommelier – take you on a delicious journey where you will enjoy the art of "farm-to-plate cuisine" of Borgo Santo Pietro. [Website.](#)

## BEST OF THE REST

### **FESTA DELLA DONNA, March 8**

Shower the streets in yellow! March 8 is celebrated as International Women's Day, and in Italy it is known as the Festa della Donna. get ready for spring colour because the symbol is the bright yellow mimosa flower. Fifteen million bunches of mimosa are bought each year to honour the women of Italy. It was the idea of Teresa Mattei, a partisan in WWII, who held the rank of Company Commander in the Garibaldi Youth Front. It was proposed that violets be the flower, but she said it should be a flower readily available to all, even the poorest of the poor, growing wild in March all over the country. She was the youngest person elected to the Constitutional Assembly after the war and was also the national leader of the Union of Italian Women. Read all about the fascinating history of the day worldwide [here](#).

### **BEST DEAL FOR MARCH: FREE MUSEUMS FOR WOMEN**

Free Entry for Women! On Friday, March 8 - Women's Day - Italy is offering all women free entry into all of the state-run museums. Florence will also open the city-run museums to women of all ages. So take the opportunity to celebrate the wonderful women in your life. Follow the tradition and give them a sprig of yellow mimosa, and be sure to also spring for champagne!

### **FESTA DEL PAPA (OR, FOR THE TUSCANS) FESTA DEL BABBO, March 19**

(Text from: [visitflorence.com](http://visitflorence.com)) All of Italy refers to the father figure as papà, in fact it is only in Tuscany that they use the word Babbo (even Pinocchio, born in Collodi Tuscany, used this endearment when talking to his father). Italy celebrates all fathers/papà/babbo on the holy day dedicated to San Giuseppe (St. Joseph) which is March 19th. So give your Dad a hug (or a call, if he isn't with you in Tuscany now) and head over to the pastry shops which will be filled with “fritelle”, fried dough and rice balls covered in sugar.

### **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 a community dedicated to challenging flattened narratives about African and African Diasporic cultures and disseminating culturally diverse programming. Follow their [Facebook](#) and [Website](#) for details of the program.

### **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](http://www.musefirenze.it)

## EXHIBITIONS

### **REPOSE AND RESIST: A BLACK HISTORY MONTH FLORENCE EXHIBITION AT M.A.D., THE MURATE ART DISTRICT, until March 30**

The collective exhibition, curated by Black History Month Florence, examines the concepts of rest and healing in relation to Afro-descendant cultural production. The exhibition brings together a group of international artists and is enriched by a documentary film made by Bradly Dever Treadaway in relation to a retreat, from which the exhibition takes its name, held in Giverny, France, following a collaboration between The Recovery Plan and the Terra Foundation for American Art. [Website](#).

### **ROBERT INNOCENTI ON SHOW AT PALAZZO MEDICI RICCIARDI, Until March 26**

"I get lost when dealing with words; instead, images are my world" - Roberto Innocenti, the only Italian illustrator awarded the Hans Christian Andersen Award (2008), is the protagonist of the exhibition at Palazzo Medici Riccardi. The exhibition offers visitors the opportunity to delve deeper into Innocenti's work between the 20th and 21st centuries through his paintings rich in detail and innovative in their overall visual impact. His unmistakable style, characterized by the clarity of perspective typical of the Florentine tradition and a modern cinematic vision, invites the reader to explore a world that appears more real than ours. [Website](#).

### **ANSELM KIEFER ON SHOW AT PALAZZO STROZZI, Until July**

Palazzo Strozzi presents a major exhibition dedicated to one of the greatest masters of the 20th and 21st century art, Anselm Kiefer. The exhibition allows direct contact with the art of the German artist thorough new and historical works that engage in a profound dialogue with the Renaissance architecture of Palazzo Strozzi, including a new work especially created for the palace's internal courtyard. Fallen Angel is a journey that reflects on topics such as identity, history, and philosophy. Through painting, sculpture, installation and photography, Kiefer's art offers deep introspection into the human condition, in a complex weaving of connections between the past, present and future. [Website](#).

### **DIVINA SIMULACRA AT THE GALLERIE DEGLI UFFIZI, Until June**

The main statues of the ancient Medici collection are now on display on the ground floor of the Uffizi. The Uffizi's most beautiful ancient statues on display in the rooms of the Vasari Museum: in these spacious rooms, visitors will be able to see and admire them up close, in all their beauty. This is the great exhibition 'Divina Simulacra. Masterpieces of Classical Sculpture from the Gallery'. On display for the first time are individual replicas of classical marble groups that, in the historical setting, are located in different places in the Gallery. [Website](#).



## **ART NOUVEAU ON DISPLAY AT THE MUSEO DEGLI INNOCENTI, Until April 2024**

The first exhibition in Florence dedicated to Alphonse Mucha, the most important Czech artist, father of Art Nouveau and creator of iconic images. In the late 19th and early 20th century, Paris was considered the capital of art world. It was the period of the so-called Belle Époque, there was great enthusiasm, and Alphonse Mucha, also thanks to his meeting with Sara Bernhardt, became the most famous and disputed artist of the time. His works, illustrations, theatre posters and nascent advertising became available to all. It is to this exceptional artist that Arthemisia and the Museo degli Innocenti are dedicating the upcoming great Florentine exhibition. [Website](#).

## **DANCE, THEATRE, CINEMA AND MUSIC**

### **STARRY NIGHT IMMERSIVE CONCERTS AT THE CATTEDRALE DELL'IMMAGINE**

The Starry Night Concerts take our spectators to the stars through a polyhedric program of pop music with a classical twist at the exclusive Cattedrale dell'Immagine in Florence, known for its immersive experiences. The Starry Night concerts go beyond the traditional concert format: as the spectators enjoy the music, they are slowly enveloped in the starry skies projected in high resolution on all the surfaces of the Romanic church. The result is a breathtaking and utterly unique event. The special concert event for March is: **Disney Beneath the Stars**. [Book tickets here](#).

### **ALICE IN WONDERLAND 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. This month enjoy Alice in Wonderland: A great literary classic in an all-Tuscan edition: the musical features a cast of 15 exceptional performers and will make adults and children relive the emotions and continuous surprises that only Wonderland can offer. The engaging music, with over forty wonderful hand-sewn costumes and the spectacular sets all set the stage for an unforgettable show.

[More information and bookings here](#).

### **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](#).

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

## FILMS AND CULTURAL EVENTS

### **6TH EDITION OF FIRENZE ARCHEOFILM AT CINEMA LA COMPAGNIA, March 6-10**

The sixth appointment of Florence Archeofilm arrives, the great annual International Film Festival of Archeology, Art and Environment, organized by Archeologia Viva (Giunti Editore) as part of the events promoted by "tourismA". For each edition, documentaries produced worldwide are selected. Free entry, no reservation required! [Website](#).

### **CINEMA A PALAZZO: FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL AT THE FRENCH INSTITUTE**

Since 1915, the cinema of the French Institute of Florence has contributed to spreading the French language and culture in the heart of Florence. Until May 30th, on Mondays, the "Cinema a Palazzo" cycle returns, which programs French and Francophone films in V.O. with subtitles in Italian and/or English; Thursday is instead dedicated to the "Cineclub", a new cycle of screenings introduced by director Augustin Martinez. [Website](#).

### **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](#).

### **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](#).

## MARCH WISHES

We hope the change of season brings you fresh energy, new ideas, and a fruitful blooming of the seeds planted in winter.

All the best,

The Staff of Pitcher and Flaccomio

*Newsletter written and compiled by Marisa Garreffa.*

## CLASSIFIEDS



### **SALE – Ponte Vecchio Apt – Historic Center**

Refurbished first floor apt with elevator, approx. 150 Sq. Mt. (approx. 1500 Sq. Ft.). 2 bed, 2 bath; autonomous heating, doorman, condo terrace on roof.

Asking Price 1,200,000 Euro



### **SALE – Fiesole Portion of Farmhouse – 5 km from Historic Center**

Free standing on 3 sides, approx. 250 Sq. Mt. (approx. 2500 Sq. Ft.), plus small 60 Sq. Mt. (600 Sq. Ft.) of dependance and 1000 Sq. Mt. (10000 Sq. Ft.) of private garden. 4 bed, 4 bath; autonomous heating.

Asking Price 1,085,000 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 850,000 Euro



### **SALE - Duomo Attic Apt - Historic Center**

Refurbished top floor apt with elevator, approx. 55 Sq. Mt. (approx. 550 Sq. Ft.), plus small loft area. 1 bed, 1 bath; autonomous heating, air con., furnished.

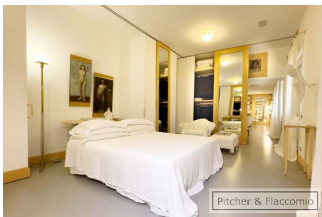
Asking Price 650,000 Euro



### **SALE – Chianti Farm House - 35 Km South of Florence**

Farm Complex to be refurbished, approx. 600 Sq. Mt. (approx. 6000 Sq. Ft.) with 2 acres of land and garden. Electricity and water already in place. Hill top position, easy access.

Asking Price 900,000 Euro



### **SALE – Santa Maria Novella – Historic Center**

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

Asking Price 2,200,000 Euro

**PITCHER & FLACCOMIO**

Lungarno della Zecca Vecchia 30 - 50122 FIRENZE ITALIA - TEL +39 055 2343354 - FAX +39 055 5609916  
sales@pitcherflaccomio.com - www.pitcherflaccomio.com