

# PITCHER & FLACCOMIO

RENT, SELL AND MANAGE PROPERTIES  
IN FLORENCE AND TUSCANY

## WELCOME

Easter fills Italy with colour and pageantry, as the spring flowers reflect the honouring of rebirth and renewal. Enjoy time with your loved ones, sharing special easter bread and eggs with surprises inside. Music and art fill the city as Tuscany warms up beneath the sunshine, and the nights remain cool. Revel in laughter for April Fools Day and seek out the gardens of Florence as they come into bloom, with best wishes from SUZANNE, CORSO, BEI, LESLIE, VANNI, ANNA PIA, RAFFAELLA, AND MARISA.

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## PITCHER & FLACCOMIO PICKS FOR APRIL

### **BEST EVENT: SCOPPIO DEL CARRO ON EASTER SUNDAY. April 21**

The *Scoppio del Carro*, The Explosion of the Cart, has been celebrated in Florence for more than 350 years, dating back to the First Crusade. 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. 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*' - a mechanical bird shaped like a dove with an olive branch in its beak, representing the Holy Spirit - '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 with plumes of purple smoke - the unofficial colour of Florence. The Procession starts at 10.00, and the Explosion of the Cart is at 11.00.

For more things to do over the Easter weekend, check out these great tips from [Visit Florence](#) and [Discover Tuscany](#).



### **BEST P&F RENTAL: A COSY APARTMENT WITH ANTIQUE FEATURES**

The Parte Guelfa is a section of Florence where the political party called the Guelfi met in medieval times. It is now a narrow street next to a palazzo of the same name, right near the Piazza Repubblica, Straw Market and the Ponte Vecchio. It is within walking distance of all of the important monuments and museums, restaurants, super market, boutiques and the river Arno. Situated on the first floor, this apartment is perfect for a couple, and can sleep up to four.

See [more photos and information here](#).

### **BEST FESTIVAL: THE 2019 GELATO FESTIVAL FLORENCE, April 6-7**

Each stage of the Ice Cream Festival is a mine of gastronomic discoveries. new and original flavors, classic and traditional but always delicious. There are performances by star chef and gelato masters, presenting the most prestigious companies in the sector. They will share traditions and secrets of the fantastic world of Italian ice cream, unique and desirable all over the world. Enter the world of the best Italian gelato, and buy a ticket to participate in all the events of the Ice Cream Festival. Taste all the flavors and reward what you like best - the winner of the Best Italian Gelato will participate in the European Gelato Competition to fight for the chance to be the European Champion!

Piazzale Michelangelo, Website: <http://www.gelatofestival.it/en>

## **BEST ANNIVERSARY: LIBERATION DAY NATIONAL HOLIDAY, April 25**

“E questo è il fiore del partigiano ... morto per la libertà!

“Bella Ciao”

“On April 25, you’ll hear this refrain throughout every corner of Italy, sung on street corners by small groups, played on the radio or performed by bands in parades and local plazas. Set to the melody of a traditional folk song, “Bella Ciao” was the anthem of the Italian resistance movement during World War II, often sung by the left-wing anti-fascist rebels who fought against the atrocities of the Nazis and the leader of Italy, Benito Mussolini. Even today, the lyrics are symbolic of the sacrifices made for freedom.

While Italy has been a democratic republic since 1946, many Italians remember a time when they did not have such freedom. That history is honored throughout Italy on April 25 with La Festa della Liberazione, or Liberation Day, festivities. Every year, the entire country joins together to celebrate its liberation from the Nazis and pay tribute to those who lost their lives in the fight to free their country.”

[Read more about the history of Liberation Day here.](#)

## **BEST EXHIBITION: HEROES - BOWIE, BY SUKITA, Until June 28**

(from: [the florentine.net](#))

80-something Japanese photographer Masayoshi Sukita is best known for his long collaboration with the one and only “White Duke,” David Bowie. Out of it came the distinctive cover portrait for *Heroes*, Bowie’s twelfth studio album, carrier of his chart-topping song of the same name. OEO Firenze Art and Le Nozze di Figaro have teamed up with the Città Metropolitana di Firenze and the Comune to spotlight Sukita’s most iconic photographs of his creative hero and friend Bowie. Around 90 photographs—some of them on display in Italy for the first time—will be exhibited in Palazzo Medici Riccardi, while a range of related events and concerts will run concurrently. For more information, see [www.oeoart.com](#).

## **BEST FESTIVAL OF ARTS AND CRAFTSMEN: MIDA, THE MOSTRA INTERNAZIONALE DELL’ARTIGIANATO AT FORTEZZA DI BASSO, April 24 - May 1**

An event which has hosted the most important master craftsmen of history inside a privileged space, where tradition and innovation merge to create extremely valuable handmade products. Every year, you can admire the works of the ancient Florence workshops, as well as remote arts which are being rediscovered through the fair itineraries, following a harmonious path among the Italian regions and the countries of the whole world. Unique pieces, modelled by experienced hands, dedicated to people who want to stand out. Classical, modern, ethnic, contemporary, feasible - any kind of style here finds its ideal dimension. Opening Times: everyday from 10.00 to 22.30 (last day closing at 20.00)

Website: <http://www.mostraartigianato.it/en/the-fair.html>

## **BEST DINING OUT: SENZ’ALTRO BISTRO**

In the super hip area of Sant’Ambrogio, this bistro serves some of the best food in town. It’s a tiny place, so be sure to book a table, and then settle in for incredible dishes including the not to be missed pork

ravioli with apples. Expect creative and modern twists on Tuscan cuisine, a good wine list, and in a fresh and modern atmosphere. Find them on [facebook](#). Address: Borgo la Croce 21/r

## BEST OF THE REST

### **EASTER WEEKEND HOLIDAY, April 18-22**

Don't forget to mark in your calendars that the holiday will close many stores over the Easter weekend, while Italians flood out of the city to visit family and spend Springtime together. For things to do over the Easter weekend, check out these great tips from [Visit Florence](#) and [Discover Tuscany](#).

### **VIVICITTA HALF MARATHON FLORENCE, April 7**

(from: [visitflorence.com](#))

If you're a runner more than a cyclist, you'll surely want to participate in one of the most traditional Florentine non-competitive race of the annual calendar: the Vivicità Half Marathon Florence. A wonderful opportunity to mix sport and culture, surrounded by a one-of-a-kind artistic and cultural background, more info about the race story, registration fees on the official website, where you'll also find information about the other non-competitive races that will be organized as part of the same manifestation, like that dedicated to kids and the guided tour.

[Official Webpage](#)

### **FIRENZE TANGO FESTIVAL, April 25 - 28**

Celebrating the 17th Edition of Firenze Tango Week, there is a week long program of tango-themed events including dances, DJs, and performances. There are numerous events you can sign up for, including music and dance workshops and lessons. A week to keep you on your toes, and put rhythm into your body... some sizzle for Spring! Website for the full program: <http://www.firenzetangofestival.it>

### **FLORENCE BIKE FESTIVAL, April 12-14**

(from: [visitflorence.com](#))

A bike will set you free!

A festival for everyone, for all ages, all the "cycling" tendencies, all the formal requirements, aimed at athletes, amateurs, families, urban cyclists, cyclists, enthusiasts, and bikers.

[Official Webpage](#)

### **#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

### **GIACOMO ZAGANELLI PUTS TOURISTS AT THE CENTRE OF A NEW EXHIBIT AT THE UFFIZI GALLERY, Until April 24**

The new exhibition by Giacomo Zaganelli at the Uffizi makes tourists reflect on the alteration of their visit brought about by digital technology. *Grand Tourism* is composed of three videos by the same artist: Illusion, Everywhere but nowhere and Uffizi Oggi, where Zaganelli urges a reflection upon the identity of today's tourism, in particular upon the habit of looking at artworks (and not only) through smartphones, video cameras and similar devices. The three videos composing "Grand Turismo" are meant to be a sort of break of the public's visit where each visitor is thus expected to reconsider the experience s/he has just gone through. [More information at the website](#)

### **FEMALE PERSPECTIVES: WOMEN, SOCIAL COMMITMENT AND TALENT 1861-1926, Until May 26**

This year, 2019, **the Uffizi Galleries** and **Advancing Women Artists** are celebrating International Women's Day (March 8) with an exhibition devoted to the professional commitment and talent of women in Italy from the late 19th and to the early 20th centuries. In this period, the city hosted women of the calibre of Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Jessie White Mario, Theodosia Garrow Trollope and Margaret Fuller. The exhibition, pans out in a scenic fashion around a central core of large works, thus allowing its female protagonists to emerge as the true stars of the show. [More information here.](#)

### **ANTONY GORMLEY: ESSERE, AT THE UFFIZI GALLERY, Until May 26**

"Can an object be the catalyst for new thoughts and behaviours?" (Antony Gormley)

In the Aula Magliabechiana of the Uffizi, this exhibition brings together works of different materials and scales that explore the body in space and the body as space. There will be 12 works on show in the new gallery on the ground floor, where natural light will play into 12 distinct vaulted spaces defined by six stone columns and no internal walls. Two further works will be placed inside the Gallery and another one on the terrace. At the core of the exhibit, there is a dialogue between two sculptures, *Passage* and *Room*, realized 35 years apart and both dealing with the space of the body.

[Tickets and more information.](#)

### **JOHANN PAUL SCHOR'S GOLDEN FLOAT: THE EPHEMERAL SPLENDOR OF THE BAROQUE CARNIVAL, AT PALAZZO PITTI, Until May 5**



An opportunity to admire a very recent and spectacular acquisition for the Uffizi: Johann Paul Schor's major work depicting the feast held in Rome by Prince Borghese in 1664. Festivities in the age of the Baroque were all creativity and magnificence: huge triumphal floats, masks and allegories, spectacular stage designs and endless surprises. All of this is to be found in the exhibition, which focuses on the image of the sumptuous masquerade organised by Prince Giovanni Battista Borghese for the carnival in Rome in 1664.

[Tickets and more information.](#)

### **ANIMALIA FASHION AT THE PITTI PALACE, Until May 5**

Clothes like sculptures, fabric and embroidery like paintings: everything in the rooms of the **Museum of Costume and Fashion** in Pitti Palace helps to recreate a kind of zoological stroll amid the creations of contemporary designers conjuring up the most unexpected of animal worlds. From France and Italy to China and Russia, the clothing on display provides visitors with an astonishing overview of what **Nature** has to offer **Haute Couture** in terms of inspiration and atmospherics, and **Art** as a product of imagination and creativity. The exhibition explores the relationship that fashion establishes with animals in an entertaining and poetic manner, yet at the same time it sounds an alarm bell at a time when climate change and the superpowers' dwindling interest in environmental issues are endangering countless species. [Tickets and more information here.](#)

### **KIKI SMITH: WHAT I SAW ON THE ROAD, AT PALAZZO PITTI, Until June 2**

Kiki Smith, born in 1954 in Nuremberg, is one of the leading lights in contemporary art and a militant feminist whose works form part of the collections of some of the leading international museums (the MoMA in New York, the Museum of Modern Art in San Francisco, the Haus Esters Museum in Krefeld and the Fundació Joan Miró in Barcelona, to name but a few) and who won the 51st Venice Biennale by acclamation with her installation entitled *Homespun Tales* in 2005.

[Tickets and more information.](#)

### **VERROCCHIO, THE MASTER OF LEONARDO DA VINCI, AT PALAZZO STROZZI, Until July**

The exhibition, with a special section at the Museo Nazionale del Bargello, brings together for the first time Verrocchio's celebrated masterpieces and capital works by the best-known artists associated with his workshop in the second half of the 15th century, such as Domenico Ghirlandaio, Sandro Botticelli, Pietro Perugino and Leonardo da Vinci, his most famous pupil, also reconstructing Leonardo's early artistic career and interaction with his master thanks to outstanding loans and unprecedented juxtapositions.

Read [all the details here](#) and a wonderful article about the [500th Anniversary of Leonardo here](#).

## **DANCE AND THEATRE**

### **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. This is truly one of the most stunning theatres in Europe, and their program is full of music, dance, musicals, and variety shows. OUR PICKS FOR THIS MONTH:

[Peter Pan the Musical](#) for the whole family and [Enrico Nigiotti](#) on his Cenerentola Tour to rock out.

To see the full list of shows (there's something every night!) go to: <http://www.teatroverdifirenze.it/en/>

### **THEATRE AND MUSIC AT TEATRO DELLA PERGOLA AND TEATRO NICCOLINI**

The Teatro della Pergola is a historic opera house in Florence, Italy, built in 1656 under the patronage of Cardinal Gian Carlo de' Medici. The Teatro Niccolini is the oldest of the modern theatres in Florence, which shares its history with Teatro della Pergola.

#### **OUR PICK AT TEATRO DELLA PERGOLA:**

[Essere Leonardo Da Vinci](#) - Being Leonardo Da Vinci, April 16

Massimiliano Finazzer Flory stages the true story of *Leonardo da Vinci*. A unique show with the Renaissance face and language of Leonardo to celebrate the scientist, the painter, the designer, the man, his machines that changed the way of thinking about art even 500 years after his death with the technique, the science.

#### **OUR PICK AT TEATRO NICCOLINI:**

Feb 23 - May 4: [Viaggio nel Cocomero](#)

The Teatro Niccolini of Florence, in the palace of the historic Via del Cocomero, has presented shows since the seventeenth century the Academy of the Infuocati. Come and learn the history, as young actors share the stories of the rooms, the characters that animated them, and the secrets of this unique building.

To see the whole program for both theatres: <http://www.teatrodellapergola.com/>

### **THEATRE AT TEATRO RIFREDI, NOW EASY TO ARRIVE ON THE TRAM LINE**

The theater hall was first built as a working and social structure in 1913. At the end of the 60s, a group of young people decided to try creating theatrical experiences. The tradition continues, and now the theatre brings in fantastic international acts to present alongside contemporary Italian performances. OUR PICK FOR THIS MONTH:

April 4 and 5: [La Bisbetica Domata](#)

The Taming of the Shrew is one of Shakespeare's first comedies. At the center of this incisive version of the Shakespearean masterpiece is the power of words, where the characters, dressed in simple jackets, with the name of the respective character engraved on the back, enter the scene, above all, on fast rolling ladders, giving rhythm to the entire structure of the comedy.

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

## **FILMS, LECTURES, AND PRESENTATIONS**

## MIDDLE EAST NOW FILM FESTIVAL, April 2-7

(from: [theflorentine.net](http://theflorentine.net))

“Remix” is the theme at the tenth edition of film festival Middle East Now, which will feature 44 films from Afghanistan, Syria, Iran, Israel, Turkey, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. In celebration of the ten-year milestone, the festival takes a look back, starting with its spotlighted director, Asghar Farhadi, the two-time Academy Award winning Iranian superstar who featured at the first edition when he was still an unknown. Farhadi’s participation brings with it a broadly Iran-focused section, headquartered at the Cinema Stensen. For the full program, see [www.middleastnow.it](http://www.middleastnow.it).

## BRITISH INSTITUTE LECTURE & CONCERT SERIES

Every Wednesday at 18.00, the British Institute presents a lecture, concert or other event in the Sala Ferragamo in the Harold Acton Library, which is followed by an informal drinks reception.

April 3: [Becoming Michelangelo](#). A lecture in English by Alan Pascuzzi

April 10: [Killing Caesar](#). A lecture in English by Simon Gammell for Shakespeare Week

April 17: [Resurrection: the Iconography of Easter](#). A lecture in English by Mark Roberts

For more information about events or membership, [see the website](#).

## ORIGINAL LANGUAGE FILMS: ODEON CINEMA

The stunning Odeon Cinema was opened in 1922, built into the interior of Renaissance treasure, Palazzo Strozzi. The original palazzo design was by Filippo Brunelleschi. This month’s English language films include: **Dumbo, The Aftermath, Peterloo, Avengers Endgame**. This month’s Special Events/ Screenings include: **Capire Il Passato per Vivere Felici, Il Vegetariano**.

[Find the whole schedule here](#)

## TARANTINO UNCHAINED FILM FESTIVAL AT THE CINEMA LA COMPAGNIA, Until May

Take a break from the Renaissance and grab the popcorn for a film binge! Special screenings dedicated to one of the masters of American cinema, Quentin Tarantino. The program celebrates the 25th anniversary of his cult classic, “Pulp Fiction”. Cinema: Via Camillo Cavour 50/r. Films begin at 21.00.

April 1: Kill Bill Vol. 1

April 29: Grindhouse

May 6: Django Unchained

May 27: The Hateful Eight

# MUSIC

## OPERA DI FIRENZE: MAGGIO MUSICALE FIORENTINO

From May until June is one of the most successful annual opera festivals in Florence that was founded in



1933 by conductor Vittorio Gui. Now the Fondazione Maggio Musicale Fiorentino supports both the festival, and a year round program of musical, dance, and operatic events spread across multiple venues including the spectacular, custom built Teatro dell'Opera di Firenze. OUR PICK FOR THE MONTH:

[The Rossini Game](#) April 13 and 14

The Rossini Game is a show. The Rossini Game is a game. The Rossini Game is a story. The life of one of the greatest composers of history told through his extraordinary music, the most significant events of the period, the characters who loved and revered the great musician, or hated him. A plot in which the large and small public is involved "live" as if the great Rossini were still among us to delight us with his enormous personality and his frenetic musical mind.

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

### **AMICI DELLA MUSICA**

The Amici della Musica of Florence presents various concerts at one of the jewels of Florence, Teatro della Pergola. Works by Rossini, Schumann, Schubert, Brahms, Bach, Beethoven and Mozart are only a small sample of what will be performed. OUR PICK FOR THE MONTH:

[Martha Argerich with the Cuarteto Quiroga](#) April 12

BACH: Match n. 2 for piano solo in C minor, BWV 826

HAYDN: Quartet in C major op. 74 n. 1 Hob.III: 72

SCHUMANN: Quintet op. 44

There are concerts every evening, so [see the full program here at the website.](#)

### **JAZZ PROGRAM AT THE ROOFTOP CAFFÉ DEL VERONE WITH ITS STUNNING VIEWS OF FLORENCE**

The Caffé del Verone is located in the historic Istituto degli Innocenti, in the ancient drying room where linens were stretched to dry in the late fifteenth century. Now it is a stunning caffè with the best views of the city, and hosts a regular jazz program and events. The Verone Jazz program includes a short interview with each performing artist to introduce the public to their music. Concerts are free and open to the public while seats last. Every concert will have a pre-show aperitivo starting at 7pm.

See who's playing each week here at their [Facebook page](#)

### **NIGHTS OF MUSIC AT THE AUDITORIUM DI SANTO STEFANO AL PONTE VECCHIO**

Enjoy a wonderful concert at Auditorium Santo Stefano al Ponte Vecchio, located in the Piazza Santo Stefano just a few steps from Ponte Vecchio and Piazza della Signoria. *Before selected concerts*, indulge in Tuscan cuisine between the 18th-century walls of Guelfi and Ghibellini Restaurant at Relais Santa Croce in the heart of Florence. You'll find performances of Vivaldi, The Three Tenors, and La Traviata regularly on the schedule each month. OUR PICK FOR THE MONTH:

#### **Concerts by the Florence Chamber Orchestra, April 7, 8, 14, 15**

Hear the famous works by the greatest masters of classical music performed by talented soloists,

accomplished singers and the Orchestra da Camera Fiorentina in one of the most important venues located in the magnificent city of Florence. [Tickets and more information](#)

[See the whole program for the Auditorium here.](#)

### **CLASSICAL CONCERTS AND OPERA AT ST MARK'S CHURCH, INCLUDING SPECIAL ITALIAN DINNER ON SELECTED DATES**

In the beautiful and intimate setting of St Mark's Church, the performances are complete operas, apart from one or two slight adaptations to suit the intimate setting. They also have a full Cultural Program that runs throughout the year - a very special place to visit while in Florence.

This month's program includes: **Love Duets, La Traviata, La Bohème, Marriage of Figaro**

[The complete schedule here](#)

### **OPERA AND CLASSICAL MUSIC WITH DINNERS AT THE ICONIC CHIESA DI SANTA MONICA, FIRENZE, Various dates through APRIL**

Situated in the heart of Florence, between the San Frediano and San Spirito districts, the 15th-century Church of Santa Monaca offers an intimate and attractive location for classical music and opera performances. Enjoy a wonderful program of Opera, Classical Music, and Concert events, often pairing the evenings with Tuscan styled dinner at a nearby restaurant. The program for this month includes: **Italian, Romantic, and Classic Italian Opera Selections**

[More information, including dinner menus and ticket bookings](#)

## **NETWORKS AND SOCIAL GATHERINGS**

### **SPEAKEASY MULTILINGUAL FIRENZE, WEEKLY HAPPY HOURS**

New to town and want to meet locals and get an insider experience of Florence? The weekly Speakeasy Happy Hours are a chance for y'all to get out of your usual little worlds and meet all kinds of people. Forty to eighty people come every week from a dozen countries. English and Italian dominate but smatterings of many other languages can be heard. French, Spanish, German, Dutch, Russian, and even Persian, Chinese, and Arabic, here and there.

Wednesdays at 19:30, L'Appartamento. [Website here.](#)

### **THE CULTURAL SALON: SPECIAL EVENTS, TALKS, AND GATHERINGS FOR THE CULTURALLY CURIOUS IN FLORENCE**

This is a strong community of culture seekers, which covers everything from lectures, exhibitions, artist studio visits, pot luck aperitivi, and social events with plenty of opportunity for networking and meeting people. Their events range from morning talks to evening social occasions, so there's something to suite everyone's schedule. Get a real insiders glimpse into life in Florence, and discover the creative and intellectual fabric of Florence. Find them [here](#) and [here](#).

## **EXPAT WOMEN IN FLORENCE: SOCIALISE WITH MONTHLY MEETUPS FOR WOMEN**

The Expat Women in Florence group has been running for some years now, with monthly social meetups to enjoy aperitivo in company and hot spots around town. The group has a strong social support theme; there are often fundraisers and callout for charity support throughout the year, with a real focus on women supporting women. Find them [here on facebook](#).

## **WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF FLORENCE**

Running since 1991, the network has a focus on professional, english speaking women in Florence, bringing them together and also offering social opportunities throughout the year. You can expect Guest Speakers every month, as well as their annual Networking Fair where members and non-members can share their businesses and products with each other over pot-luck aperitivo. Find them [here](#) and [here](#).

## **OPEN MIC NIGHTS**

### **OPEN MIC NIGHT AT OSTELLO TASSO FLORENCE: FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH**

The best combined literary and musical open mic in town, coming up to its fourth year of monthly community and magic. Come one, come all, to either perform or just listen—it's always free. Full bar--bring your own food or snacks. Sign up begins at 8:30, and sets limited to 8 minutes per person. See you there! More information: <https://www.facebook.com/openmicflorence/>

### **STORYTELLERS FLORENCE AT TODO MODO BOOKSHOP, FEBRUARY 2**

Storytellers Florence is the Florence extension of Storytellers Rome which is a monthly English language oral storytelling event. Each month a theme is voted on by members of the group and people are invited to share a personal story based on that theme. The event is free and participation is not required to attend. Come and join us! Todo Modo Bookshop and Cafe. For more information, and to vote on the monthly theme, see the [facebook group](#).

### **SHOWCASE OPEN MIC AT THE VIRGIN ROCK PUB , FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH**

Florence is filled with creative and talented performers and The Showcase at The Virgin Rock Pub is designed to give them a unique and special stage, hosted by Florence singer-songwriter Patti DeRosa. All creative spirits are invited to come and share their material, or just listen. The open mike begins at 9:00pm and performers can sign up (usually 3 songs). Tutti sono benvenuti! [More information here](#).

### **PULPIT OPEN MIC - PART OF THE ST MARK'S CULTURAL PROGRAM, APRIL 30**

A monthly open mic night with only two rules: A five-minute time limit, and absolutely NO NOTES allowed. We don't mind what you talk about. Tell us a story, have a political rant, slam some poetry, or

take us on a whimsical journey through your thoughts. To help you, Pulpit provides musical accompaniment to give your talk that extra flow. Entry by donation. [More information here.](#)

## MARKETS

Florence is full of bustling markets that are a great place to find bargains, enjoy the atmosphere, or spend the day browsing extraordinary antiques, artisan crafts, and delicious typical foods that Florence has to offer. Florence's markets are an integral part of local life and can be found throughout the many districts of the city. Here are some of the most frequented markets in town:

### **SANTO SPIRITO ANTIQUE MARKET: FIERA DI OLTRARNO**

If you are looking for arts and crafts, antiques, or house wares, this is a great place to look!

When: The second Sunday of every month, 9.00 to 19.00, Where: Piazza Santo Spirito

### **LA FIERUCOLA FARMERS MARKET IN SANTO SPIRITO AND SANTISSIMA ANNUNZIATA**

The Fierucola is not just your typical farmers market, it features artisan crafts, as well as organic and biodynamic produce created on a small scale. You'll also find oils, jams, wines, and baked goods. The Fierucola market is a feast for all of the senses and is definitely worth visiting!

Piazza Santo Spirito: On the third Sunday of the month, Year Round (except for August)

Piazza Santissima Annunziata: First weekend of the month from September to December

### **MERCATO DELLE PIANTE**

My favourite market for buying seasonal plants, flowers, and herbs. Located beneath the archways along Via Pellicceria, enjoy the burst of colour and nature that brightens Piazza della Repubblica each week.

When: Every Thursday from 10.00 to 19.00, Where: Via Pellicceria

### **FORTEZZA ANTIQUARIA**

At this popular antique market you can find almost anything old your heart desires. Located in the beautiful square beside the Fortezza da Basso, you'll find everything from large furniture pieces to old records and coins.

When: Every third weekend of the month (on Saturday and on Sunday) , Where: Piazza Vittorio Veneto

### **MERCATO DELLE PULCI**

Here you can find furniture and vintage objects from the past like prints, coins and jewellery. It's worth a trip if only to get insights on Italy's past through the artefacts displayed in these cluttered stalls.

When: Monday through Saturday 09:00 to 19:30 and on the last Sunday of the month. Where: Largo Pietro Annigoni, 50122 Firenze

### **LA CASCINE EVERYTHING MARKET**

La Cascine market is situated in the very beautiful Cascine Park, the biggest green space in the city, well worth a visit just to admire the beautiful views. The Cascine Market is the biggest and cheapest market in town! If you're searching for fruits, vegetables, plants and flowers, jams, cheeses, salami, clothing, house ware stands, antiquities, shoes, vintage, or anything else you can think of, this is the place to come!

When: Tuesdays from 07:00 to 14:00, Where: Viale Lincoln in the Cascine Park

## **IL MERCATALE IN PIAZZA DELLA REPUBBLICA**

Once a month the Piazza della Repubblica, formerly the location of the ‘Mercato Vecchio’, becomes the centre of the work of local farmers and artisans. Around 90 different manufacturers sell all kinds of local produce: wine, oil, fruit and vegetables, salami, cereals, cheese, honey and other typical products, predominantly from organic farming.

Piazza della Repubblica, First Saturday of the month from 8 am – 8 pm (except January, July & August)

## **SANT’AMBROGIO MARKET**

Located in Piazza Ghiberti and Piazza Sant’Ambrogio, the market is both inside and outside. Take a walk and find out fresh fruits, vegetables, clothes, flowers, shoes and stalls appliances, then enter if you are looking for fresh meat or fish, pasta, general groceries or good cheeses. Are you hungry? Then you should sit at the inner restaurant (good and cheap). The market is open every weekend (except on Sunday) from 7 to 14.

## **SAN LORENZO MARKET**

The San Lorenzo market has it all, but is best known for its selection of leather accessories such as hand-bound journals, wallets, belts, and larger leather items such as hand crafted jackets and fur. The San Lorenzo Market also has a great selection of souvenir clothing, stationary, ceramics, shoes, vintage clothing, and scarves. If you are looking for a deal it is most likely that you will find it here! Don’t be afraid to bargain for a better price.

When: 9:00 - 20.00. Where: Piazza San Lorenzo

## **MERCATO CENTRALE**

Florence's central market, Mercato Centrale, was once the main shopping centre in Florence and today it is still the place to find the freshest products and produce. There are stands selling everything from all kinds of fowl, meats (including wild boar), fish and Tuscan products including wine, biscotti, cheese, and salami. Mercato Centrale also has a handful of restaurants located inside that offer fantastic fresh meals at very inexpensive prices. Now, on the upper floor is a cornucopia of shops making ready-to-eat specialties and is open from 10am to midnight.

When: 07:00 to 14:00. Closed Sundays and public holidays.

Where: Piazza del Mercato Centrale, San Lorenzo neighborhood

## **MERCATO NUOVO AND THE PORCELLINO**

Mercato Nuovo has been around since the 11th century, and was first known as the straw market. A smaller market, it is located beneath the loggia and sells leather goods, t-shirts, scarves, and souvenirs, though the prices are slightly higher than the Mercato of San Lorenzo. It is often referred to as the “Porcellino” market, for the famous bronze statue of a boar, “il Porcellino”, located on the south side. Legend has it that if you rub his snout and put a coin in his mouth, you will return to Florence. After years of rubbing, the bronze needed some cosmetic surgery after nose became too thin! You can see a brief and charming film about the new snout here: <https://vimeo.com/144481651>

When: Open everyday 08:00 to 19:00, Where: Loggia del Mercato Nuovo

# **EXHIBITIONS OUTSIDE OF FLORENCE**



## **THE BEST OF CONTEMPORARY ART AT GALLERIA CONTINUA IN SAN GIMIGNANO**

A contemporary and international art gallery in the heart of Tuscany. Galleria Continua opened in San Gimignano (Italy) in 1990. Occupying a former cinema, Galleria Continua established itself and thrived in an entirely unexpected location, away from the big cities and the ultramodern urban centres, in a town - San Gimignano - steeped in history, timeless, magnificent. Current Exhibitions:

### **NIKHIL CHOPRA, DRAWING A LINE THROUGH LANDSCAPE, Until April 7**

Chopra's artistic practice ranges between live art, photography, installations, drawing and sculpture. In large part improvised, his performances dwell on issues such as identity, the pose and self-portraiture, the role of autobiography, reflects on the process of transformation and the part played by the duration of performance.

### **ILYA & EMILIA KABAKOV, THE EMINENT DIRECTION OF THOUGHTS, Until April 7**

The Kabakovs' work is infused with a poetic dimension which is both melancholic and fantastical, capable of communicating shared and universal meaning.

### **GIOVANNI OZZOLA, OCTILLION, Until April 7**

The artist frequently engages with fundamental philosophical issues, such as the meaning of life and the existence of man, the journey as metaphor, exploration as a means of confronting ancestral fears, the dialectics of light and dark, awareness of the passing of time.

### **NARI WARD, DOWN DOORS, Until April 7**

The sculptures put on show convey an almost animistic conception of used and discarded and objects born of the assembly of various narrative elements. Artist work forms part of the long tradition of Afro-American culture for which he is one of the most important mouthpieces. [More information here](#)

## **LUIGI PECCI CONTEMPORARY ART CENTRE, PRATO**

Since opening in 1988, the Luigi Pecci Contemporary Art Centre has built a collection of over 1000 works which map artistic trends from the 'sixties up to the present day: painting, sculpture, cinema and video, installations, works on paper, artist books, photographs, graphic art, applied arts and commissioned projects. Current Exhibitions:

### **THE MUSEUM IMAGINED, STORIES FROM 30 YEARS OF CENTRO PECCI, Until June 25**

Curated by Cristiana Perrella .

In collaboration with Irene Innocente, Elena Magini, Marta Papini, Maria Teresa Soldani.

The 30th birthday has been taken as a chance to reinterpret and reactivate the spaces and functions of Centro Pecci after the expansion completed in 2016. The exhibition will be accompanied by a insightful program of activities connected with literature, music, performance and theatre.

[More information here.](#)

## **VOLAREARTE AT PISA AIRPORT: NOW IN ITS THIRD YEAR**

## Until 2019

(From [discovertuscanycan.com](http://discovertuscanycan.com))

“Well into the third edition of this initiative by the Henraux Foundation together with the Tuscany Airports, you will find a collection of 9 sculptures from Park Eun Sun gracing the Pisa airport.

This renowned Korean artist, a long time resident of Versilia, arrived in Italy to satisfy his desire to work with Apuane marbles. His artwork, known on an international level, is remarkable for the pure geometric forms composed of bi-color slabs of marble.”

Galileo Galilei Airport, Pisa

## FUN, FESTIVALS AND FOOD OUTSIDE OF FLORENCE

Here we put **just a taste** of the many, many events that are happening all throughout the beautiful villages of Tuscany - brought to you from our wonderful friends at [Discover Tuscany](http://DiscoverTuscany.com). We encourage you to check out the Discover Tuscany website and immerse in the full list of markets, medieval fairs, music festivals, wine celebrations, and traditional fairs and parades. See the full list of [special events for April here](#).

### **APERITIVO (DI) VINO, SIENA GRAND HOTEL CONTINENTAL, April 4,11,18 & 25**

The Wine Cellar of this hotel hosts over 3,000 bottles from 60 different cellars. Every week they will offer a buffet aperitif with a DJ set and dedicate the wine selection to a specific cantina. Do a bit of wine tasting, even if you are just visiting the city! 15€ per person. Guest wine cellars open for tasting in April: on the 4th - San Polo - Montalcino, 11th - Tenuta Stella, 18th Castelveccchi and on the 25th - Losi.

[Facebook Event](#)

### **VILLA GRABAU IN LUCCA, April 7**

The meeting is directly at the entrance gate of Villa Grabau at 15:00. We will visit the park, see the splendid lemon house and finally visit the ground floor of the villa, with the furnishings. The visit will highlight both the botanical peculiarities of the park and the historical and artistic heritage. Reservations are mandatory at [info@lagiunchiglia.net](mailto:info@lagiunchiglia.net)

### **DOLCI, DOLCEZZE E MOTORI IN SIENA, April 12 - 14**

Siena, desserts and cars! Alongside products such as panforte, ricciarelli, cavallucci, cantucci, and the schiacciata di Pasqua, accompanied by sweet and liqueur wines that will offer the public the opportunity to learn about some of the area's excellent wines guests are also invited to enjoy the national auto tuning rally in Piazza del Campo

### **SAGRA DELLA CIPOLLA AT BAGNONE**

Enjoy a delicious food festival based on local recipes for the Treschietto onion; a culinary festival

dedicated to a particular variety of onions which have been cultivated in this territory for many years. The Treschetto onion, distinguished for its flattened shape, ruby red color on the outside and white with red streaks on the inside, it is the main Ingredient both cooked and raw in many dishes,. Come out and try a few. (The fair opens on Saturdays open from 5 pm and on Sundays from 12 noon).

[Official Webpage](#)

## APRIL WISHES

Let your wishes for the year begin to bloom along with the flowers of Spring.

All the best,

The Staff of Pitcher and Flacomio

*Newsletter written and compiled by Marisa Garreffa.*

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P&F



**SALE – Fiesole Apt with Florence views – 3 km from Florence**  
 Ground floor apt. to be refurbished, approx. 110 Sq. Mt. (1100 Sq. Ft.), plus approx 10 Sq. Mt. (100 Sq. Ft.) of out door space. 2 bed, 2 bath; quiet, natural light, superb views over all Florence.

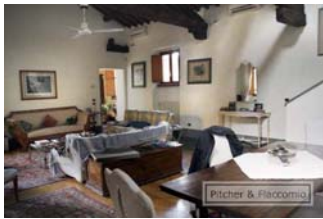
Asking Price 620,000 Euro



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

First and top floor, listed with the Fine Arts, refurbished, approx. 120 Sq. Mt. (1200 Sq. Ft.). 2 bed, 3 bath plus study on loft; quiet, high decorated ceilings and centrally located

Asking Price 980,000 Euro



**SALE – Tornabuoni Attic – Historic Center**

Second and top floor in old tower of 1200 in good conditions, approx. 200 Sq. Mt. (2000 Sq. Ft.). Superb living dining space with original roof and wooden beams, 3 bed, 2 bath; quiet, private and sunny.

Asking Price 840,000 Euro



**SALE – Volterra Farm House –**

Free standing refurbished of approx. 380 Sq. Mt (approx. 3800 sq. ft.), plus 100 Sq. Mt (1000 Sq. Ft.) of barn and 1,5 hectares (5 acres) of garden. 4-5 Bed, 4 bath. Autonomous heating, pool and garage.

Asking Price 2,100,000 Euro



**SALE – Tornabuoni Attic – Historic Center**

Third floor, refurbished, approx. 140 Sq. Mt. (1400 Sq. Ft.) plus 50 Sq. Mt. (500 Sq. Ft.) of private terrace. 3 bed, 2 bath; nice small building, natural light out door space

Asking Price 900,000 Euro



**SALE – Bagno a Ripoli Villa – 3 Km from Florence**

Free standing modern villa, 440 sq. mt. (aprox. 4.400 sq. ft.) surrounded by 4.000 Sq. Mt (40.000 Sq. Ft.) of garden. 5 bedroom 5 bathrooms, autonomous heating, air conditioning, car parking; stunning views over Florence.

Asking Price 2.480.000



**SALE – Duomo Apartment – Historic Center**

Third floor, aprox. 160 sq. mt. (aprox. 1600 sq. ft.), with independent small studio and bathroom. 4 bedroom, 4 bathroom, views, autonomous heating, good natural light.

Asking price 695,000 Euro