

# PITCHER & FLACCOMIO

RENT, SELL AND MANAGE PROPERTIES  
IN FLORENCE AND TUSCANY

## WELCOME

After the recent heatwave, the weather has finally cooled to the usual humid summer that we know and love! While the Italians escape to the seaside, stores may be closed but there is plenty to see and do. Relax at the beach on the Arno, enjoy free yoga in La Cascine, and spend your nights under the stars for concerts in Fiesole. We've kept the list of swimming pools for you to check out, and there are exhibits and feasts to keep you busy all across Tuscany. Don't forget the sunscreen and mosquito repellent! With best wishes, from SUZANNE, CORSO, BEI, EGLA, VANNI, ANNA PIA, RAFFAELLA, AND MARISA.

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# PITCHER & FLACCOMIO PICKS FOR AUGUST

## **BEST HOLIDAY: THE SUMMERTIME FERRAGOSTO NATIONAL HOLIDAY**

Known as the day when absolutely everything is closed, Ferragosto is the key date during the Italian summer holidays. The 15th of August is the Feast of the Assumption, and marked the last day of the summer harvest and the start of a well-earned rest, traditionally in the form of a two-week holiday. Now, Italians take their holidays anytime during July to August, but the Ferragosto holiday holds strong and you can expect almost every Italian to have the day off. Do as they do, and treat yourself to a visit to the seaside, a picnic, or a party outdoors!

## **BEST EVENT: THE WORLD IN SANTO SPIRITO**

The Cultural Association **Bang** is once again hosting a series of **free performances** featuring music, literary events, and interviews in the vibrant heart of the Oltrarno district in Florence, **Piazza Santo Spirito**. From **Jazz to Blues**, **Cuban** music to **orchestral** performances, local Florentine musicians to internationally renowned ones, this year's show promises to be of high caliber. The musical events are scheduled to begin at 9:30 PM, while the cultural events will take place at 7 PM. [See the program.](#)

## **BEST P&F RENTAL: A DELIGHTFUL APARTMENT LOCATED IN A FASCINATING AREA OF FLORENCE, WITH A UNIQUE GLASS ROOM**

Piazza Pitti is a semi-circular piazza leading up to the monumental Palazzo Pitti and the Boboli Gardens, on the south side of the river Arno, just a few minutes walk from the famous Ponte Vecchio. It is a 3-minute walk to Piazza Santo Spirito featuring Brunelleschi's beautiful Church and a daily food and clothing market. The location is convenient for shopping, restaurants, most museums, and is near many artisan workshops. It is approximately a 15-minute walk to Piazza della Signoria and the historical monuments on the north side of the river. [More information and photos.](#)



## **BEST TRADITION: THE FEAST OF SAN LORENZO, August 10**

San Lorenzo is the co-patron of Florence and every year on 10th August the San Lorenzo district becomes the place of the popular festival par excellence. The Basilica of San Lorenzo, which is also

the first consecrated church in the city center, will be the center of all the celebrations. The community comes together in the evening for the traditional distribution of watermelon and lasagna at around 9pm in Piazza San Lorenzo, as well as a concert of classical music in the churchyard. The festivities begin with the Historic Procession of the Florentine Republic that starts at 10am from Piazzetta di Parte Guelfa and arrives at the Basilica in Piazza San Lorenzo, where a holy mass is celebrated.

### **BEST OUTDOOR CINEMA: CINEMA IN VILLA AT THE VILLA BARDINI**

(From [The Florentine Magazine](#)) One of the most beautiful city spots opens up for the perfect summer night hideaway. The [Cinema in Villa](#) program offers film screenings enjoyed in the great outdoors of Villa Bardini. Classic 90s blockbusters to Oscar award-winning new hits will be screened throughout the summer, with free screenings for families on Thursdays. [See the whole program here.](#)

### **BEST FESTIVAL: BALAGÀN CAFÉ AT THE SYNAGOGUE, Until the end of August**

In the beautiful setting of the garden of Via Farini, in front of the imposing nineteenth-century Synagogue, Thursday evenings organized by the Jewish Community of Florence under the patronage of the Municipality of Florence. Every Thursday from 22 June to 31 August in the garden of the Florence Synagogue. Opening at 19:00, on the occasion of the Balagan Café it will be possible to visit the Synagogue at night with guided tours. For the apericena, places are limited and reservations are compulsory on the [Synagogue website](#).

### **BEST DINING OUT: BISTRO 84 ROSSO, REVIEWED BY ONE OF OUR BELOVED NEWSLETTER READERS AND REGULARS, JOHN TAN AND JOHN NEILL**

On our return to Florence it was very high on our ‘must do’ agenda that we returned to be yet again delighted by Chef Matteo’s unique culinary skills ..so if modern Italian cooking is on your list ..do not fail to seek out this slightly “off the beaten track“ establishment.

Not only is the comfortable interior completely original & delightful in itself...the stunningly clever & thrilling dishes sent out from this kitchen not only are artistic in presentation - the Chef resists the ordinary European notions of modern plating with his own original take .. they are original & refreshing - but in the end you cannot eat style, can you?

Good food must thrill the palate & here this dedication is taken to new levels of refinement & an exquisite melding/balancing of flavors. Experiment is here in play unashamedly, & inevitably it has to be understood not all new combinations necessarily are liked as much as others ..this being admitted, in no way dampens one’s keen anticipation of how Chef Matteo will interpret the next course...& the delights just keep coming!

We chose to dine a la carte as against their multi-course option, having enjoyed that experience hugely on the previous occasion > coming here shortly after the Bistrot had opened earlier this year. From a perspective of personal favorites , by a whisker my scampo beat my husband’s gorgeous beef, but really the culinary delights being myriad & endlessly pleasing..choosing best is well nigh impossible. Fine wine by the glass was accompanied by front of house service that we relished

because it was ...impeccable.

The hallmark of that refinement remains unique - but rarely delivered - it is a combination of discreetly personal & friendly professionalism. We can't speak highly enough of how we were waited upon. Bistrot 84 is most highly recommended. [Read their review on TripAdvisor.](#)

## BEST OF THE REST

### FREE YOGA CLASSES AT LA CASCINE PARK

This group was born with the intention of sharing a common passion, Yoga, with as many people as possible. A rotating team of yoga instructors from studios all over Florence and Tuscany come to present classes free to the public every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, in the months of June, July, August and September. Classes start at 7.15 pm and end at 9.00 pm, on the grass surrounding the Fountain of Piazzale del Re. Bring a mat or a beach towel and the desire to feel good together!

Participation, free and free, in the sessions, means that participants must take complete responsibility for their own safety, while the teachers are required to stay within the levels of a lesson suitable for everyone. \*\*Pitcher and Flaccomio tip: Bring mosquito repellent to ensure a more comfortable class!

Find the group [here on facebook.](#)

### FIRENZE DALL'ALTO, FLORENCE FROM ABOVE

For those who love to see the city from a different perspective, "Firenze dall'alto" (Florence from above) is a series of initiatives that tell the story of the city from the unprecedented and privileged views of the rooftops and terraces of its palaces. Concerts, talks, performances and guided tours with an enthralling and immersive stratigraphic tale run from the end of June to September: 10 meetings, 10 points of view, 10 different experiences of cultural production and fruition to tell the Florence of today and tomorrow in its relationship with the territory, the communities and the challenges of contemporaneity. The venues chosen for 2023 are: Terrazza Antica Torre Tornabuoni, San Salvatore a monte, Terrazza del Palazzo della Borsa, Limonaia Strozzi, Forte Belvedere, Terrazza Caffè del Verone, Terrazza Osservatorio Arcetri, Villa Bardini, Manifattura Tabacchi and the Torre della Zecca. Free entry for all events! [Website.](#)

### ESTATE FIORENTINA 2023, THE SUMMER LONG FESTIVAL OF EVENTS AND PERFORMANCES THROUGHOUT FLORENCE, May until September

For the Florentine Summer 2023, the 15 major festivals that form the centre of this summer explosion of arts and culture are back! The events span from music, cultural debates, art exhibitions, and itinerant tours to discover Florence, all the way through to literary festivals and live talk shows. We are set for a summer of creativity and entertainment! The fifteen featured festivals are: Apriti Cinema in the Uffizi Square (that includes the film festivals: Festival dei Popoli, Lo Schermo dell'arte, Nice, Middle East), Secret Florence (made up of Fabbrica Europa, Lo Schermo dell'Arte, Musicus Concentus, Tempo Reale, and Danza Virgilio Sieni), La Citta dei Lettori, Sagra in Musica sotto le stelle, Florence Dance Festival, Firenze dall'alto, the Festival su Désert, MusArt Festival,

Italian Brass Week, Copula Mundi, Firenze Jazz Festival, Cirk Fantastik!, Florence Folks Festival, Genius Loci, Lattexplus, and many many other special events. At the website, you can find all the event listings day by day. For the whole program: <http://estatefiorentina.it/>

### **BOAT RIDES ON THE MAGNIFICENT ARNO RIVER**

An hour's journey in which you will be welcomed by the river and sheltered from the hustle and bustle of the city, while the city of Florence flows by the sides of the boat. The profession of the Renaioli dates back to the beginning of the 20th century. Most of the boats were destroyed during the flood that struck Florence in 1966. In 1995, the Associazione dei Renaioli decided to restore them as they were part of the city's historical heritage. After retrieving the crafts from the riverbed, the members of the Association personally restored them following the traditional technique known as cafalatura. Today the Renaioli boats have been restored to their ancient splendor and are ready to carry you along the waters of the Arno river. Organised by the Renaioli, there are many secondary tour sellers you can book through (just google), or you can contact them directly through whatsapp or by calling the number on their website to organise your seat on these river boat rides for summer: <http://www.renaioli.it/>

### **GIARDINO DELL'ARTECULTURA, Until September**

The Giardino dell'ArteCultura is back from May 28 till September. It is one of the most popular summer spaces in Florence and offers every day a rich program of events for all tastes and all ages. This well-equipped space, inside the Garden of Horticulture in Florence, offers every evening various art and entertainment initiatives for adults and, for children, in the park not far from Piazza della Libertà. Events schedule available on the [official Website](#).

### **ESTATE FIESOLANA, Until September**

Fiesole's Roman amphitheater is a step or two above your average spot for catching a Saturday night music gig or theatre show. Once again, the venue bridges the ancient past with artists of the present, hosting a series of summer shows in a range of genres. Already announced are music such as Stefano Bollani and Makaya McKraven, true alchemists of jazz, Alice with her tribute to Franco Battiato, the refined sound of BowLand, and Irene Grandi in a blues version. For the international music scene, Suzanne Vega, recognised as one of the leading singer-songwriters of her generation, will take the stage in Fiesole, accompanied on guitar by Jerry Leonard, a long-time collaborator also of David Bowie. In September comes Roberto Cacciapaglia and the Pink Floyd Legend with Atom Heart Mother. On Wednesday 21 June, the Roman Theatre, as is tradition, will host the day dedicated to Music Day, one of the most important events of cultural value celebrating the summer solstice in more than 120 countries around the world. The evening, organised by the Scuola di Musica di Fiesole, is free admission with prior booking. For the full program and tickets, see [www.estatefiesolana.it](http://www.estatefiesolana.it).

### **THE SAN NICCOLO TOWER IS OPEN FOR VISITS**

On the Festa di San Giovanni in June, the San Niccolò Tower is also opened for the season until the

end of September. The medieval tower dates back to 1324 and once formed a part of the old walls around the city. It is the only one of the city towers to retain its original height of 60m (the others were lowered during the siege of 1529 to make them less vulnerable to cannonball fire). This year you can make the climb (around 200 steps) between 5pm and 8pm each day, with visits beginning every 30 minutes. For Bookings write to [info@muse.comune.fi.it](mailto:info@muse.comune.fi.it)

## **#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)

## **SWIMMING POOLS IN FLORENCE**

### **SWIMMING IN FLORENCE: POOLS, POOLS, WHERE ARE THE POOLS?**

It's too hot to function some days in the city, and the need to find a pool is relentless, unless you're lucky enough to have a friend with one at home or a hotel with great amenities! If you're on the search for a quick dip, here are your best options. One small note: most pools now require a swimming cap for use.

#### **Le Pavoniere**

The famous swimming pool of La Cascine park, with a restaurant, bar, open air swimming pools, and an outdoor stage for a nightclub set up during the summer nights. Open Every Day from 10.00 until 18.30. Via della Catena 2, La Cascine park, [Website](#)

#### **La Piscina Goffredo Nannini, Comunale di Bellariva**

Three pools to enjoy including a 50m olympic pool, a learning pool, and a play pool, with 3.5 hectares of park, bar, and restaurant for relaxing. Open Monday to Friday 10.00-18.00, Saturdays, Sundays, Festivi: 09.30-19.00. Lungarno Aldo Moro 6, San Niccolo, [Website](#)

#### **Rari Nantes Florentia**

The reopening of the bar and restaurant area means that after the pool you can enjoy parties every night on the Arno! They also program Yoga Dolce: Tuesdays and Fridays 09.00-10.00, Aperi yoga: Tuesdays and Thursdays 18.00-19.00. Piscina Gigi Raspini, Lungarno Francesco Ferrucci 24, [Website](#)

#### **Piscina Poggetto-Flog**

Totally renovated and ready for the 2019 summer! Open every day from 10.00-19.00 up until September. Via Michele Mercati 24b, Open every day from 10.00-19.00 [Website](#)

#### **La Costoli**

An olympic sized swimming pool, two outdoor pools, and a children's pool, all equipped with a bar, snacks for sale, and lots of grass for picnic lunch. The Costoli swimming pool in Campo di Marte will be open to the public until Friday, Sunday: 10.00-18.00. Viale Pasquale Paoli, Campo di Marte

### **Firenze Camping in Town**

A campsite where you can pay for day access to use their two swimming pools, one for children and one for adults. There is also a restaurant/pizzeria, and all the amenities of the camp site including pool tables and lounging areas. Via Generale C.A. della Chiesa, 1/3, [Website](#)

### **B-Side, Virgin Active, and Klab**

This is the only reason I might pay for a gym membership - to use the swimming pools. Spread across several locations, both companies have a few swimming pools on site, plus you get to use all the other benefits as well like sauna, steam room, turkish baths, oh, and equipment for exercising if that's your thing! Check out their websites for all the details: [B-Side](#), [Klab](#), and [Virgin Active](#)

### **Asmana Wellness World**

Known by Florentines as the place to go for spa indulgence, Asmana has indoor and outdoor pools, beauty and massage treatments, whirlpools, salt pools, saunas and steam rooms. It may be too hot for the steam (the summer humidity is free!) but it's a great time to take advantage of their cool swimming pools. Find the [prices and information here](#).

## **EXHIBITIONS**

### **YAN PEI-MING, PITTORE DI STORIE, AT PALAZZO STROZZI**

Palazzo Strozzi hosts Yan Pei-Ming, Painting Histories, the largest exhibition ever devoted to this Franco-Chinese artist in Italy and part of the Palazzo Strozzi Future Art project developed in partnership with the Fondazione Hillary Merkus Recordati. Renowned for a profound and passionate reflection on painting in today's art, Yan Pei-Ming combines history and contemporaneity, famous works of art, public figures and intimate subjects in his monumental canvases. For more details, see the [website](#).

### **LUCA GIORDANO, MAESTRO BAROCCO A FIRENZE, ON SHOW AT PALAZZO MEDICI RICCARDI, Until September 5**

Many works by the Italian Baroque master Luca Giordano will be on display for a limited exhibition in Palazzo Medici Riccardi. The exhibition will include paintings commissioned by wealthy and prominent Florentine families of the time as well as some of his sketches that are on loan from the National Gallery in London. [Website](#).

### **LIGHT, GAZE, PRESENCE, Y.Z. KAMI ON DISPLAY ACROSS FLORENCE, Until September**

The exhibition of Y.Z. Kami (Tehran, 1956) presents a selection of works exhibited for the first time in Florence in some of the city's most beautiful sights: Museo Novecento, Museo di Palazzo Vecchio,

Museo degli Innocenti and, exceptionally, in the millenary Abbazia di San Miniato al Monte (from 17 February to 24 September 2023). The exhibition is a journey into the pictorial universe of the Iranian-American artist, who has lived and worked in New York since the 1980s. With a selection of 24 works located in some of the most prestigious Florentine cultural institutions, Light, Gaze, Presence brings together some of the main strands of Y.Z.'s artistic research. Kami in a close dialogue with the extraordinary medieval and renaissance masterpieces housed there.

## DANCE, THEATRE AND MUSIC

### **SUMMER AT LA LIMONAIA, Until September**

The Limonaia opens **every day** with an eventful summer program and a comfortable food & beverage area! This is one of the most important recreational and cultural centres in the city of Florence, with a large indoor area in the old lemon greenhouse of the Villa Strozzi where you can eat or get together for an aperitif while enjoying concerts, screenings and quality shows amongst the beautiful gardens and grounds. This summer there are markets, talks, festivals, and everyone's favourite nightly dance events with guest DJs, musicians, parties and more. [See the program.](#)

### **SAGRATI IN MUSICA SOTTO LE STELLE, Until September 15**

From 9 June to 15 September, enjoy the the concerts of "Sagrati in Musica sotto le stelle", the event organised by the Associazione Toscana Classica and consisting of 23 FREE events ranging in musical genres from classical to jazz, rock and electronic music, but all aimed at educating people to listen to music with an awareness of the importance of listening, in order to ward off the deterioration of the church parvises involved: Santi Michele e Gaetano, Santa Felicita, Sacra Famiglia, Santa Maria del Carmine, the Misericordia Piazza Duomo parvis, Isolotto and Santa Croce. [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:

### **THE ORCHESTRA OF TOSCANA (ORT) PRESENTS VILLE E GIARDINI INCANTATI 2023**

A much beloved Summertime tradition, presented in collaboration with Teatro Verdi. Tuscany's famed orchestra brings to life exceptional compositions in the gardens of some of Tuscany's most beautiful villas. A chance to enjoy music in the atmospheric surrounds of Florentine gardens and history. [See the program here.](#)

### **85TH FESTIVAL OF THE 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. For tickets, and to see the full festival program, see the [website](#).

## FILMS, LECTURES, AND CULTURAL EVENTS

### APRITI OUTDOOR CINEMA IN THE LOGGIA OF THE UFFIZI GALLERIES

A wide programme of open air films at the Loggia of the Uffizi gallery by Lo schermo dell'arte with **films in original version and subtitled**. The complete programme of the film festival goes to **7 August**. Showcasing both Italian and international cinema, there will also be reviews and previews, accompanied by guests such as authors, actors, directors and critics, in collaboration with Tuscan international festivals such as Festival dei Popoli, Lo schermo dell'Arte, Nice, Middle East. [See the program here](#).

### THE NEW CINEMA ASTRA PRESENTS ORIGINAL LANGUAGE FILMS

This contemporary new hub for cinema and culture is exploding with events, all located in the vibrant area of Piazza Beccaria. This week enjoy screenings of the global hits **BARBIE**, **Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny**, and **Daisies** amongst programming from across Europe. With up to six screenings a day, there is always a chance to experience the best of contemporary European cinema. [See the website for more information](#).

### CINEMA IN VILLA AT THE VILLA BARDINI

One of the most beautiful city spots opens up for the perfect summer night hideaway. The Cinema in Villa program offers film screenings enjoyed in the great outdoors of Villa Bardini. Classic 90s blockbusters to Oscar award-winning new hits will be screened throughout the summer, with free screenings for families on Thursdays. [See the whole program here](#).

### (NOT ONLY) CINEMA, AT MANIFATTURA TABACCHI

Until **August 27**, enjoy this open air **cinema** (with films in original language too), and **meetings** at the iconic venue **Manifattura Tabacchi**. A rich selection of films, themes and images, a programme in perfect balance between classic titles, new discoveries and thematic in-depth studies. Inauguration on 26 July with musician Frankie hi-nrg mc presenting the premiere of the film Rheingold by award-winning director Fatih Akin, the true story of a German rapper of Kurdish origin; an overwhelming work that mixes biographical film, training novel and thriller. Free admission. [See the program](#).

## AUGUST WISHES

Let the sun fill you with energy, as the piazzas bustle with life and the nights ring out with music. We hope you get to enjoy the seaside and a small summer break in the tradition of Italy.

All the best,

The Staff of Pitcher and Flaccomio

*Newsletter written and compiled by Marisa Garreffa.*

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P&F

## CLASSIFIEDS



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

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

Asking Price 1,000,000 Euro



### **SALE – Bolognese modern Villa - 5 km from Historic Center**

Free standing on 3 sides, refurbished, approx. 370 sq. mt.(3700 Sq. Ft) plus 600 Sq. Mt. (6000 Sq. Ft.) of garden. 4 Bed, 5 Bath. Air Conditioning, light and views, gated complex.

Asking Price 1,190,000 Euro



### **SALE – Via Nazionale, San Lorenzo area – Historic Center**

Top floor with elevator, good conditions, approx. 140 sq. mt.(1400 Sq. Ft), plus 30 sq. mt. (300 sq. ft.) of terraces. 3 Bed, 3 Bath. Autonomous heating, air con.

Asking price 1,100,000 Euro



**SALE – Fiesole Portion of Farmhouse – 5 km from Historic Center**  
Free standing on 3 sides, approx. 250 Sq. Mt. (aprox. 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 – Ponte Vecchio Tower Apt – Historic Center**

Refurbished attic with elevator, approx. 80 Sq. Mt. (aprox. 800 Sq. Ft.) plus 12 Sq. Mt. (120 Sq. Ft.) of private terrace. 1 bed, 1 bath; autonomous heating, air con., views, light.

Asking Price 1,800,000 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

**PITCHER & FLACCOMIO**

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