



RENT, SELL AND MANAGE PROPERTIES  
IN FLORENCE AND TUSCANY

## WELCOME

Winter has arrived, but the nights are warmed by the gentle glow of Christmas lights cast through the streets. It's time to rug up, venture out, and enjoy the festive streets. Take a stroll with your loved ones beneath the twinkling decorations that fill Florence with the magic of the season. The festive German market brings Piazza Santa Croce to life with people enjoying mulled wine, sausages, treats and treasures. Live music adds a special touch, as strangers find themselves dancing and singing together with the Christmas anthems of the year! Be sure to taste the delicious *castagnaccio* chestnut cake that sweetens the season, and have a look at our enormous list of Special Christmas Markets in Florence. Then it's time for the Capodanno concerts and parties; let's close 2025 with beauty and celebration. The city is at its finest! With best seasons wishes, from SUZANNE, CORSO, BEL, EGLA, VANNI, ANNA PIA, RAFFAELLA, AND MARISA.

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# PITCHER & FLACCOMIO PICKS FOR DECEMBER

## BEST EVENT: FLORENCE ON ICE VILLAGE OPENS FOR THE SEASON

The Florence Ice Village is back again at the Fortezza da Basso from 28 November to 31 January. This includes the traditional Santa Claus Village from 28 November to 6 January, along with Europe's largest ice rink, a huge range of street food, and shows and entertainment for young and old.

After the success of last year's edition, the large panoramic wheel, or [Florence Eye](#), 55 metres high with a breathtaking view of Florence's skyline. The wheel will begin turning in the area on the side of Piazzale Oriana Fallaci, and will be open every day from 10:00 to 24:00 until 30 April 2026.

In addition, until 31 January 2026, there will also be [Florence On Ice](#), the longest ice rink in Europe, around the fountain in the gardens of the Fortezza. For Christmas holidays, until 6 January 2026, the Christmas Village will also be open, with attractions such as Santa's House, the Post Office, the xMas experience and the Chocolate Factory, the Laboratory of Wonders, Christmas street food, popcorn and roasted chestnuts. See the website for the Florence Eye and all its activities and attractions [here](#)!

## BEST P&F RENTAL: A DELIGHTFUL APARTMENT LOCATED IN A FASCINATING AREA OF FLORENCE. THE GLASS ROOM IS ABSOLUTELY UNIQUE.

Between 1868 and 1869 Fyodor Dostoevsky wrote *The Idiot* while living in this building. A luminous apartment featuring a loggia with large windows, located in a wonderful area. 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 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE, December 8**

December 8 in Italy is a national holiday that celebrates the Immaculate Conception. This day of festivity unofficially starts the countdown to Christmas as many Italian families traditionally use this day to set up and decorate their Christmas tree and Nativity scene in their homes. On December 8 in Florence's historic centre the large Christmas tree is set up in Piazza del Duomo. The lighting of the Christmas tree is accompanied by an official public ceremony with the participation of Florence's Mayor. Also in Piazza del Duomo, the impressive Nativity Scene is built in the front and left of the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore. Both the Christmas tree and the Nativity scene are up until January 6, the day of Epiphany. In the Cathedral of Florence, the traditional Christmas Eve Mass is celebrated by the Cardinal of Florence at midnight (Vigil prayers start at 11pm). On Christmas morning, the Mass is celebrated at 10:30am, in conjunction with the Pope's blessing in Rome.

## **BEST FESTIVAL: FLORENCE LIGHTS UP! THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHT THAT ILLUMINATES THE CITY, December 7 to January 7**

From December the 7th to January 7th Florentines and tourists will be invited to take part in a light journey, an imaginary trip from the city's squares to the celestial vault. Florence is preparing to light up with THE Florence Light Festival that sheds new light on the monuments and squares of the city. The event will offer video-mapping, projections, light games, artistic installations, educational activities, special visits to museums, shows and cultural meetings. As usual, many spaces of the city will be involved: on all Ponte Vecchio, Palazzo Vecchio, Palazzo Medici Riccardi, Piazza Santa Maria Novella and the Oltrarno, with particular attention to the Towers and the city gates and the neighborhoods outside the historic center. [More information.](#)

## **BEST PARTY: NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATIONS, December 31**

Put your warmest coat over your fanciest clothes (and perhaps some thermal layers) and head to central Florence for the annual celebration of outdoor concerts! While the final schedule is yet to be announced, traditionally Piazza della Signoria hosts a classical concert starting around 11:15 pm. This year look for jazz, pop and rock to be happening in all the major piazzas including Piazza della Signoria, Piazza San Lorenzo and Piazza Carmine. If you're looking for a party with all the works, The Hard Rock Cafe is famous for their New Year's party, or you could ring in the New Year at Manifattura Tabacchi, Tuscany Hall, Space Nightclub, or XO Club and Lounge, where there'll be huge parties going all night. With all of Florence theatre's also staging special events and performances, you can choose the ambience right for you to celebrate the New Year in Florence! Find all the action here at this dedicated [website](#).

## **BEST DINING OUT: LOBSTER ROLLS ARRIVE IN FLORENCE!**

The real lobster roll has arrived in Florence. And no, it's not a knockoff: it's the real American. Mason's Famous Lobster Rolls – opened just a few days ago, just steps from Ponte Vecchio.

American vibes, warm buttered bread, and super fresh lobster! The star of the show is the Lobster Roll, a soft sandwich filled with Maine lobster. But that's not all! The menu also offers crab rolls, shrimp rolls, and other seafood specialties. Everything is prepared fresh, with a modern twist and a nod to American tradition. Early crowd favorites are the Avocado Roll and the Diavolo! Want to start the evening off right? There's also the Aperilobster: spritz + chips + 3 mini rolls. [Website](#).

## BEST OF THE REST

### **THE FESTA DEGLI OMAGGI, THE TRADITIONAL FESTIVAL OF GIFTS!, December 18**

The "Festa degli Omaggi" is a time-honoured event that has been taking place at Christmas time for more than a thousand years; its aim is to wish well and celebrate both the religious and temporal power in Florence. The "Corteo della Repubblica Fiorentina" parade, in Renaissance costume, leaves from the Palazzo di Parte Guelfa, seat of the parade itself and heads towards Piazza San Giovanni where the greeting is addressed to His Eminence the Archbishop of Florence in front of the door of the seat of the Archbishopric. Passing through the streets of the old town the parade reaches the courtyard by Michelozzo in Palazzo Medici Riccardi, seat of the Prefecture and the Metropolitan City, for the traditional Christmas and New Year's greetings to the delegate of the Metropolitan City and the Prefect of Florence. The entire parade of the army of the Corteo della Repubblica Fiorentina, concludes its greeting to the city Authorities in Palazzo Vecchio, in the ancient Salone dei Cinquecento hall, where it arrives in the late afternoon. [Website](#).

### **NEW YEARS CONCERT AT TEATRO VERDI BY THE ORCHESTRA OF TOSCANA, January 1**

The Orchestra della Toscana's new year opens, as is tradition, with a special concert. On the podium, Diego Ceretta, principal conductor of the ORT, delivers an operatic program combining elegance and theatricality, featuring soprano Giuliana Gianfaldoni and tenor Riccardo Della Sciucca. Two young but already established performers, regular guests at major Italian and European theaters. The concert represents a festive yet unconventional occasion, designed to welcome the coming year with the communicative power of the voice and the musical quality that distinguishes the ORT. [More information and tickets](#).

### **FOUR SEASONS OPEN DAY, December 14**

The PIC EO artists of the Trisomia 21 Association (working to support those with Down syndrome and their families) can be found in the spectacular Gherardesca Garden as part of the annual charity event that sees entertainment, gourmet food by local producers and more, with all proceeds donated to Trisomia 21 and Contesto Ets. [Website](#).

### **NIGHTTIME OPENINGS OF THE VASARI CORRIDOR**

From [The Florentine Magazine](#): Running every Friday evening through December 26 (excluding August 15), the Vasari Corridor, which reopened last December after 8 years, will host special nighttime visits. These guided group tours do not require a ticket to the Uffizi Gallery and offer a rare opportunity to experience the corridor's unique architecture and atmosphere after dark. Tours run from 7-11pm, with ten slots per group running every 20 minutes. The visit lasts approximately 45 minutes, and full price admission is 20 euro. Advance booking is required either online, via call center, or in person at the museum's ticket office.

## **50 DAYS OF CINEMA FILM FESTIVAL AT CINEMA LA COMPAGNIA**

The 50 Days of Cinema in Florence is "The festival of festivals" that brings cinema, in all its variety and splendor, to the city between October and December. An intense program, which holds together important and historic international festivals, for 50 days of culture, art, events, previews, meetings with directors and actors. The Festivals are held at the Cinema della Compagnia, in conjunction with other venues around the city on occasion.

dal 5 al 10 dicembre – [River to River Florence Indian Film Festival](#)

11 dicembre – [NICE Festival per Irish Film Festa](#)

See the whole program [here](#).

## **SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MARKETS**

### **MERCATO TEDESCO DI NATALE OPENS THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, November 15 - December 21**

Hot mulled wine, great beer and a salty, smoky wurstel – all can be found in Piazza Santa Croce starting at the end of November, at the Mercato Tedesco di Natale (German Christmas Market). Traditional German food and craft products fill the square, there are also seventeen other countries represented in over fifty stands. A small Christmas village of charming wooden huts, with open areas of tables and chairs where you can sit and enjoy some of the rich German food on offer. Don't forget to try the apple strudel and the hot mulled wine! Open daily from 10am - 10pm, and until 11pm on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

### **INTERNATIONAL CERAMICS FAIR WITH ITS CHRISTMAS EDITION, Dec 6 and 7**

After last year's success, the International Ceramics Fair returns to Florence in its Christmas version, with a market exhibition entirely dedicated to artist ceramics. 40 artists will exhibit their unique creations on Saturday, Nov. 30, and Sunday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., in Ognissanti Square. Each ceramicist will display unique creations designed specifically to celebrate Christmas. From delicate tree ornaments to elegant tableware, visitors will have the opportunity to find original, refined and high-quality gift ideas that are the result of each artist's craftsmanship.



## **MERCATINO IN A PALAZZO: “NATALE PER FILE” AT THE PALAZZO CORSINI, December 12-14**

One of the most treasured events of the December calendar, this Christmas market raises funds for charities held every year in Palazzo Corsini. You'll find gourmet products and gift ideas, with proceeds going toward the non-profit organisation FILE's palliative care support. There will be over 60 exhibitors, including big brands and boutique artisans, with clothing for men, women, children, design items, household linen, modern objects, jewellery, perfume, cosmetics, wine and food products, books, toys, and many other curiosities. 10am-7pm, Palazzo Corsini, Lungarno Corsini 10.

## **CHRISTMAS MARKET UNDER FLORENCE'S FERRIS WHEEL, Until January 6**

For Christmas holidays, until 6 January 2026, the Christmas Village will be open beneath the Florence Big Wheel, with attractions such as Santa's House, the Post Office, the xMas experience and the Chocolate Factory, the Laboratory of Wonders, Christmas street food, popcorn and roasted chestnuts. [Website](#).

## **CHRISTMAS AT MANIFATTURA TABACCHI, Throughout December**

Manifattura Tabacchi is getting ready for Christmas: the Factory awaits you with its [shops and ateliers](#), offering a unique shopping experience across fashion, sport and design, and with [restaurants and cafés](#) featuring an exclusive food & beverage selection. A full calendar of events and activities for adults and children is scheduled throughout December. There is live music, pop-up stores, festival markets, and food events galore. See the full program [here](#).

## **CHRISTMAS MARKET AT THE PARCO SAN DONATO IN NOVOLI, Daily until January 6**

Sitting right in the middle of Novoli's shopping center, you can explore a plethora of vendors selling everything from decorations to jewellery, spices and more. Before retreating inside the mall to pick up your essentials, be sure to get yourself a snack from any of the Tuscan or Neapolitan food vendors. [Website](#).

## **CHRISTMAS FAIR AT THE HAROLD ACTON LIBRARY, December 5**

Don't miss our annual Christmas Fair at the Library! Come along on Friday 1st December from 15.00 to 18.00 and enjoy lots of different stalls selling books and handmade, unique products, gifts and goods. We will have a tea and cakes station, and homemade baked goods on sale. Join the raffle and why not buy a Library Membership as a present for a friend or for a family member! You can find the perfect Christmas present and help raise funds for our wonderful library at the same time. Come along with your friends and family to start your seasonal celebrations. Entry is FREE. [Website](#).

## **CHRISTMAS ADVENT OUTDOOR MARKET AT LE CASCINE, Sunday December 21**

Special Sunday edition of the regular Le Cascine weekly market (usually on a Tuesday), so you can rummage all the treasures and find everything you need. This is truly a market that has everything, and all at the best low prices. Viale Abramo Lincoln, Le Cascine Park from 8.00-18.00. Tram T1, stop Cascine/Carlo Monni. [Website](#)

### **CHRISTMAS HANDICRAFT VILLAGE IN PIAZZA SANTA MARIA NOVELLA, December 19 until January 6**

Sixteen wooden booths arrive in Piazza Santa Maria Novella for the Christmas markets organised by the 'Ars Manualis' association and focused on handmade products. From the long weekend of the Immaculate Conception, the stands decorated in Christmas style showcase the excellence of Tuscan handicrafts, goldsmiths, leather goods, bookbinding, textiles, ceramics, wood, Signa hats, Florentine mosaics and food and wine. Hours: every day from 10 am to 8 pm. Where: Piazza Santa Maria Novella. Info on the [Ars Manualis Facebook page](#)

### **CHRISTMAS AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FIERUCOLA, 7-8 December, and 21 December**

The "La Fierucola" association, which promotes the agriculture of small family businesses and traditional craftsmanship, is organizing three Christmas markets in Florence in 2025, with dates already announced. It starts on 7 and 8 December with the classic Fair of the Immaculate Conception and voluntary associations, in Piazza Santissima Annunziata from morning to evening. Finally on Sunday 21st December the Christmas Fierucola arrives with stalls of small producers in Piazza Ognissanti from 9am to 7pm. [Website](#).

### **THE CREATIVE FACTORY MARKET PRESENTED BY ASSOCIAZIONE HEYART, December 12-14**

The Creative Factory is back in Piazza Ciompi with its most eagerly awaited appointment, in its Christmas version, of the hand made market aimed at promoting creativity and youth enterprise. Self-production, uniqueness and research, selection of materials, experimentation and rediscovery of craftsmanship. Creative Factory is the perfect opportunity to buy Christmas gifts, support small artisans but also a way to support local manufacturing traditions. 9:30am-8:00pm with free entry. [Website](#).

## **MORE EXHIBITIONS AND CULTURAL EVENTS**

### **HELEN CHADWICK AT THE MUSEO NOVECENTO, Until March 1**

Helen Chadwick: Life Pleasures, the first major Italian retrospective dedicated to one of the most radical and influential British artists of the late twentieth century. Running from 25 November 2025, coinciding with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to 1 March 2026, and organised in collaboration with The Hepworth Wakefield and Kunsthaus Graz, the

exhibition traces the artist's entire career, from her early experimentations in *In the Kitchen* (1977) to the celebrated *Piss Flowers* (1991–92). A pioneer of abject art and a key figure of the British avant-garde, Chadwick combined aesthetics, irony, and unconventional materials to explore the body, matter, and representation. The retrospective highlights the enduring relevance of her work, underscoring her decisive contribution to contemporary artistic languages and feminist discourse. [Website](#).

### **CENTOVENTI : VILLA ROMANA 1905-2025, Until March 8**

In celebration of the 120th anniversary of Villa Romana, the Museo Novecento presents the exhibition *CENTOVENTI: Villa Romana 1905-2025*. Villa Romana has established itself from the very beginning as a free and independent space, dedicated to artistic experimentation and international dialogue. Over time, it has supported young and innovative art, aiming to build new traditions through critical reflection on the past and present. The exhibition explores the ongoing dialogue between the residency on Via Senese and the city of Florence, highlighting Villa Romana's role in creating relationships, influences, and original visions, despite its seemingly peripheral location. Since 1905, the Villa has hosted artists and intellectuals who have transformed it into a laboratory of experimentation and openness to the contemporary world. [Website](#).

### **THE ROSE THAT GREW FROM CONCRETE, Until January 6**

"The Rose That Grew From Concrete" is a site-specific exhibition at the Museo Sant'Orsola in Florence, Italy, featuring works by 13 artists inspired by Tupac Shakur's poem and the concept of resilience. The show, which opened in September 2025 and runs until January 2026, transforms the historic, still-under-renovation ex-monastery into a space for contemporary art and cultural regeneration. The exhibition focuses on the site's history of occupation and abandonment, with artists reinterpreting cycles of construction and decay as a foundation for rebirth. [Website](#).

### **TOULOUSE-LAUTREC, A JOURNEY THROUGH THE PARIS OF THE BELLE ÉPOQUE, Until February 22**

The Museo degli Innocenti is hosting an exhibition dedicated to Henry de Toulouse-Lautrec, the great painter, illustrator and graphic innovator born in Alby, France, in 1864. Visitors to the ancient and prestigious Museo degli Innocenti will be able to admire over 170 works by the French artist, some of which come from Hamburg and others from the Toulouse-Lautrec Museum in Albi. Recognised as someone who was able to capture the nightlife and bohemian spirit of Montmartre in Paris with an ironic and profound gaze, Toulouse-Lautrec was also able to show the dark side behind that glittering world. [Website](#).

### **PALAZZO STROZZI PRESENTS FRA ANGELICO: THE EXHIBITION, Until January 25**



The Basilica di San Lorenzo complex host's Humanitas - La Forza dell'Amore, which presents Andrea Roggi's monumental bronze sculptures. The Tree of Life, a favorite subject for the Tuscan artist, is represented in his works through the union of matter and spirit: his human figures, embracing each other in a synthesis of strength and tenderness, look like tree trunks and their arms, turned towards the sky, become olive branches, while the roots, inserted into the globe, represent the deep and essential bond with nature. You can see the full exhibition using your ticket to visit the San Lorenzo Church complex.

### **OCEANS: DAVID DOUBILET AT VILLA BARDINI, Until April 12**

Underwater photography comes to Florence with Oceani, the Italian debut of David Doubilet (New York, 1946), one of the world's most renowned nature photographers, at Villa Bardini. Doubilet, who has been collaborating with National Geographic since 1971 and is still active today at the age of 79, has explored the Earth's oceans for over half a century, becoming an international reference point in the field of underwater photography. His photographs combine aesthetics, science and storytelling, thanks in part to his invention of the over/under technique, which involves simultaneous shooting above and below the water's surface. [Website.](#)

### **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: Uffizi, Accademia, Bargello, Medici Chapels, Pitti Palace (all museums), San Marco, Palazzo Davanzati, Medici Villas. And civic museums: Palazzo Vecchio, Arnolfo Tower, Santa Maria Novella, Stefano Bardini Museum, Fondazione Salvatore Romano, Museo del Novecento, Brancacci Chapel in Santa Maria del Carmine. [More information here.](#)

## **DECEMBER WISHES**

Each year's end is a chance to appreciate what has past, while looking ahead to the new year with all its seasons of change to come. We wish you warm nights by the fire or in the warmth of the trattorie, savouring the intimacy of the season, and reflecting on love, friendship, and connection of all kinds.

All the best,

The Staff of Pitcher and Flaccomio

*Newsletter written and compiled by Marisa Garreffa.*

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# CLASSIFIEDS



## **SALE – Albizi Attic – Historic Center**

Top floor, 60 steps up, listed with the Fine Arts, to be upgraded, approx. 150 Sq. Mt. (approx. 1800 Sq. Ft.) and 80 Sq. Mt. (800 Sq.Ft) of terraces. 2 bed, 3 bath, sunny, views, and centrally located. For more info please contact us directly.

Asking Price 1,300,000 Euro



## **SALE – Lungarno Apt – Historic Center**

Top floor (69 easy steps, possible elevator), listed with the Fine Arts, approx. 140 Sq. Mt. (approx. 1400 Sq. Ft.) and 10 Sq. Mt. (100 Sq.Ft) of terrace. 3 bed, 2 bath, quiet, and centrally located, some works required.

Asking Price 700,000 Euro



## **SALE – Bagno a Ripoli Villa – 10 Km from Florence**

Modern style free standing villa, approx. 450 sq. mt.(4500 Sq. Ft), and 5000 Sq.Mt. (50.000 Sq. Ft.) of garden. 8 bed, 7 bath, air conditioning, pool autonomous heating.

Asking price 2,200,000 Euro



## **SALE – San Frediano Town House – Historic Center**

In good condition, approx. 280 Sq. Mt. (approx. 2800 Sq. Ft.) and 180 Sq. Mt. (1800 Sq.Ft) of terrace. 4 bed, 3 bath, quiet, car parking, air conditioning.

Asking Price 1,800,000 Euro



## **SALE - Monte San Savino Farm House - Tuscany**

Free standing, refurbished stone house approx 360 Sq. Mt. (3600 Sq.Ft.), surrounded by 10.000 Sq. Mt. (2.5 acres) of garden. 6 Bed, 4 Bath, autonomous heating, pool.

Asking Price 870,000 Euro



## **SALE – San Miniato Apt – Historic Center**

First and top floor, refurbished, approx. 160 Sq. Mt. (1600 Sq. Ft.). plus 30 Sq. Mt. (300 Sq.Ft.) of terraces. 2 bed, 3 bath plus study on loft; quiet, high decorated ceilings views.

Asking Price 2,500,000 Euro

**PITCHER & FLACCOMIO**

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