

THINGS TO DO IN FLORENCE
PROVIDED BY GONZAGA IN FLORENCE
DEAN JASON HOUSTON, PH.D.



MUSEUMS

UFFIZI

The Gallery entirely occupies the first and second floors of the large building constructed between 1560 and 1580 and designed by Giorgio Vasari. It is famous worldwide for its outstanding collections of ancient sculptures and paintings (from the Middle Ages to the Modern period). The collections of paintings from the 14th-century and Renaissance period include some absolute masterpieces: Giotto, Simone Martini, Piero della Francesca, Beato Angelico, Filippo Lippi, Botticelli, Mantegna, Correggio, Leonardo, Raffaello, Michelangelo and Caravaggio, in addition to many precious works by European painters (mainly German, Dutch, and Flemish).

Moreover, the Gallery boasts an invaluable collection of ancient statues and busts from the Medici family, which adorns the corridors and consists of ancient Roman copies of lost Greek sculptures. <https://www.uffizi.it/en/the-uffizi/artworks>

Tickets: <https://www.uffizi.it/en/tickets>

GALLERIA DELL'ACCADEMIA (Michelangelo's David)

The Galleria dell'Accademia di Firenze is home to some of the most important painting and sculpture collections in the world, including sculptures by Michelangelo, his renowned David among them, and a rich collection of early Italian painting. The collection of plaster casts and models by Lorenzo Bartolini and his student Luigi Pampaloni in the Gipsoteca in the monumental Salone dell'Ottocento is just as significant. And the museum is also home to musical instruments that belonged to the grand dukes of Tuscany, Medici and Lorraine, most of which were in the collection of the Conservatorio Luigi Cherubini of Florence.

<https://www.galleriaaccademiafirenze.it/en/collections/>

Tickets: <https://www.galleriaaccademiafirenze.it/en/tickets/>

DUOMO COMPLEX

There are different kind of tickets, that may include partl or all the monuments in Piazza del Duomo: Cathedral, Brunelleschi's Dome, Giotto's Bell Tower, the Baptistery of San Giovanni, Santa Reparata and the Opera del Duomo Museum. You can choose which ones you want to visit; all the tickets are valid for 3 days. Please note: walking up the Cupola (Dome) is

challenging, especially to those who suffer from claustrophobia.

<https://duomo.firenze.it/en/home>

Tickets:

https://operadumofirenze.skiperformance.com/en/store#/en/buy?skugroup_id=3006

THE LOCALS SUGGEST

MUSEO BARDINI

The museum takes its name from its creator Stefano Bardini (1836-1922), amongst the most prominent Italian antiquarians, that after being a merchant for several years, decided to turn his private collection into a museum and to donate it to the Municipality of Florence.

After long and accurate restoration work aimed at reestablishing the configuration which its founder had originally given the exhibition. Stefano Bardini trained as a painter, became famous as a restorer and put together a collection of artworks with the love and passion for the Renaissance. Thanks to him, the aesthetic taste for Renaissance architectural decorations--stucco sculptures and terracotta sculptures-- was rediscovered. The original decorations of the rooms of the present-day Museum, which was actually the Bardini's antiques showroom, can now be enjoyed. On account of its uniqueness, the blue color employed was imitated by many, including Jacquemart-Andrè in Paris and Isabella Stewart in Boston.

Tickets: https://ticketsmuseums.comune.fi.it/5_museo-stefano-bardini/

MUSEO DEGLI INNOCENTI

The Museum is located in the monumental complex designed by Filippo Brunelleschi, the seat of the Istituto degli Innocenti of which the Museum is a part. Created to exhibit the works of art of the ancient Spedale, a large centre for orphans, the Museum has been transformed into a exhibit that allows visitors to discover a cultural heritage that is unique in the world because it is deeply linked to the work carried out in favor of children. The exhibition is divided between art, history and architecture, composing a story that links the past and the present of the Istituto degli Innocenti, which has been committed to promoting children's rights for six centuries. The unity between the works of art, architecture and documentary memory bears witness to an uninterrupted history of welcoming and helping children and families: a continuity between the old Spedale and the Institute, now a Public Personal Services Agency (PSA) committed to promoting the rights of children and adolescents through the management of educational and reception services and training, research and documentation activities. Next to the Museum entrance there is the access to the Caffè Verone. The Caffè del Verone is situated in the former drying room of the Ospedale degli Innocenti. A splendid terrace framed within a magnificent 15th century loggia, overlooking Florence. The Caffè del Verone offers a cafeteria and restaurant service, with the possibility of eating hot dishes on the spot and having an aperitif while enjoying an enchanting view of the Duomo. The café is also accessible to those without a Museum ticket.

Info and tickets: <https://www.museodeglinnocenti.it/en/>

MUSEO STIBBERT

The Stibbert Museum is one of the most peculiar places in Florence: this house museum, set up in the 1800s by its owner, Frederick Stibbert, boasts a spectacular display of the excellent collections that Stibbert left to the city upon his death, particularly the famous collection of weaponry, as well as artworks and objects of everyday life in European, Islamic and East Asian civilizations, especially Japanese. The Sala della Cavalcata is splendid, where life-sized European and Ottoman knights are staged in military formation. Visitors can also admire katana and armor coming from Japan and which belonged to real samurai.

The same eclectic style, the same curiosity for the past and the exotic characterize the park that surrounds the villa, with groves, pavilions, statues, fake ruins and a small Egyptian temple.

In addition to the weaponry and armor collections, Stibbert also owned scores of costumes, paintings, tapestries, furniture and applied arts, making the total number of objects conserved in the museum over 50,000.

<https://www.visittuscany.com/en/attractions/stibbert-museum-in-florence/>

INCREDIBLY BEAUTIFUL, BUT LESS CROWDED

PALAZZO DAVANZATI also known as the Museum of the Historic Florentine House

A special museum that reconstructs, in an original building, what a elegant home would have looked like in Florence during the 14th century. A historical and sociological look at what life might have been like for the well-to-do Florentines living during the late Middle Ages and Renaissance. <https://www.bargellomusei.beniculturali.it/musei/4/davanzati/>

BARGELLO

Dedicated to Medieval and Renaissance art, from the moment of its foundation, the Bargello's collection brought together some of the most important works of Renaissance sculpture: masterpieces by Donatello, Luca della Robbia, Andrea del Verrocchio, Michelangelo Buonarroti, and Benvenuto Cellini, drawn largely from the Medici-Granducal collection. Subsequently, the museum's holdings were enriched with superb examples of bronzes, ceramics, waxes, enamels, medals, ivories, tapestries, seals, and textiles, some from the Medici collections and others from suppressed convents or private collectors.

Info and tickets: <https://www.bargellomusei.beniculturali.it/musei/1/bargello/>

MASACCIO'S FRESCOES AT THE CARMINE

The Brancacci Chapel is situated in the south transept of the Basilica del Carmine, best known for its fresco cycle with the Stories of St. Peter, painted by Masolino da Panicale and the young Masaccio, it was left unfinished in 1427 and was only completed by Filippino

Lippi between 1481 and 1483. One of the fresco cycles most emblematic of the Florentine Early Renaissance, it is remarkable for the stringent handling of perspective that imparts unity to the scenes, the powerfully innovative approach adopted by Masaccio causing those that he painted to stand out among their fellows.

https://cultura.comune.fi.it/system/files/2023-03/BrancacciENG_ridotto.pdf

Tickets: <https://cultura.comune.fi.it/pagina/musei-civici-fiorentini-cappella-brancacci-santa-maria-del-carmine/orari-e-biglietti>

CONVENT OF SAN MARCO

Right across the street from Gonzaga in Florence, this Dominican convent from the 15th century was home to some of Florence most famous (and infamous) citizens: Cosimo il Vecchio, Savonarola, and Michelangelo to name a few. But, beyond the beauty of this Renaissance church and convent, Fra Angelico developed the Renaissance style with his many frescoes and paintings that still adorn this building. His "Annunciation" is considered an absolute masterpiece of spiritual Renaissance art. Former Florentine mayor Giorgio La Pira, who was mayor in 1963, remarked that "Florence is at the center of the world, and at the center of Florence is San Marco and Fra Angelico's Annunciation."

<https://www.beniculturali.it/luogo/museo-di-san-marco>

CHIOSTRO DELLO SCALZO

Just a few steps away from GIF, this little hidden treasure features a remarkable fresco cycle by high Renaissance master Andrea del Sarto and his friend and fellow painter Franciabigio. The frescoes depict twelve monochrome scenes of the life of St. John the Baptist, patron of the brotherhood and of Florence, and four Virtues. The original name "Scalzo" was given as cross-bearers in the Confraternity's processions were barefooted (*scalzi*) as a sign of humility. The Brothers belonging to the Confraternita wore a long simple black robe and cowl exactly as depicted in the glazed terracottas of the lunette above the entrance portal.

Where: Via Camillo Cavour, 69

Free access

ORATORIO DI S. MARTINO

The tiny Church of San Martino al Vescovo, founded in the 10th century and thought to be where Dante Alighieri married, was rebuilt in 1479 by the Compagnia dei Buonomini di San Martino. The Confraternity set up in 1441 to help affluent families who had fallen on hard times. The frescoes depict scenes from the Life of Saint Martin and Works of Charity and are attributed to the workshop of Domenico Ghirlandaio. The lunettes are of both historic and artistic interest, giving a glimpse of life in 15th-century Florence.

<https://www.buonominidisanmartino.it/>

Where: Piazza S. Martino, Florence

When: 10.30am-12.30pm, 2.30pm-5pm

Friday afternoon, Saturday afternoon and Sunday closed.

CHURCHES

BASILICA DI S. CROCE

Called the 'Pantheon of Italian glories', Santa Croce hosts the graves of myriad famous people such as Ghiberti, Machiavelli, Michelangelo, Galileo, Alfieri, Foscolo and Rossini. Construction of the Basilica of Santa Croce started in 1294 based on a design by Arnolfo di Cambio.

With its impressive Gothic architecture, its beautiful frescoes, altarpieces, precious stained-glass windows and numerous sculptures, this Basilica is one of the most important expressions of the history of Florence from the thirteenth century onwards. The church contains works by Cimabue, Giotto, Maso di Banco, Giovanni da Milano, Brunelleschi, Michelozzo, Donatello, Domenico Veneziano, Della Robbia, Benedetto da Maiano, Giuliano da San Gallo, Bronzino, Vasari, Canova and others. The presence of works by Giotto and his whole school, provide a wonderfully complete view of the fourteenth century.

<https://www.santacroceopera.it/en/organise-your-visit/>

BASILICA DI S. MARIA NOVELLA

The Basilica of Santa Maria Novella is one of the most significant churches in Florence, with its colored marble, elegant form and works of art kept inside. The basilica and adjoining cloister were built by the Dominican Order in the 13th century, starting with the small Church of Santa Maria delle Vigne, called this because of the countryside which surrounded it at the time. The inside of the church, the first example of Gothic architecture in Florence, is a treasure trove of artwork. Starting with Masaccio's 1424 *Holy Trinity*, the fresco in which he experimented with perspective for the first time, thus becoming the pinnacle of Renaissance art. At the end of the nave, Giotto's great *Crucifix* from 1290 stands at a striking height of 4.5 metres and is one of the spectacular pieces from the artist's earlier works. The spectacular white and green marble front was started in 1350, when the lower part was designed in the Romanesque style, while the upper part was only finished in 1470 by Leon Battista Alberti. The entrance ticket gives access to the entire Santa Maria Novella monumental complex, allowing to visit not only to the basilica but also all the Dominican spaces and the cloisters, including the famous Green Cloister which contains frescoes by Paolo Uccello, the Spanish Chapel, frescoed by Andrea Bonaiuto and the Cloister of the Dead. <https://www.smn.it/en/>

HIDDEN GEMS

SS. APOSTOLI

The Romanesque church of Santi Apostoli is one of the oldest churches of the city. According to legend it was founded by Charlemagne, but documents state it in 1075. It stands very close to the **Roman baths** in the attractive **Piazza del Limbo**, where unbaptized babies were buried (limbo) in the middle ages. Inside the church fine marble columns and capitals; a tabernacle of the Sacrament by **Giovanni della Robbia**. At the beginning of the left nave, in a niche, visitors can see the three flints putatively from the Holy Sepulchre in

Jerusalem, linked to the ceremony of the **Scoppio del Carro** (explosion of the cart) and the lighting of fireworks. Mass in English: <https://www.santiapostoli.com/mass-schedule>

S. FELICITA

Between Ponte Vecchio and Piazza Pitti, located in a small square to the left (so small you might miss it!) is this tiny Renaissance church with a chapel (to the right of the entrance) that has two important masterpieces by Pontormo: the Deposition and the Annunciation. The chapel was used by the Lorraine Grand Dukes, who would attend Mass from the Vasari Corridor. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2l-FpQ44m3k>

S. SPIRITO

Piazza Santo Spirito, 30 It's often closed but if you happen to find it open ... go inside! The Church of the Holy Spirit, begun by Brunelleschi in 1444 and completed by others, is one of the purest examples of Renaissance architecture. <https://www.basilicasantospirito.it/en/basilica-di-santo-spirito-english/>

RESTAURANTS

TRADITIONAL TUSCAN

L'ORTONE

Traditional, with a modern twist.

<https://www.lortone.it/en/>

GILDA BISTROT

Cozy, little, stylish, more Italian than just Tuscan food.

<https://www.gildabistrot.it/>

ANTICO RISTORO DEL CAMBI

Best Florentine steak, according to locals.

<https://www.anticoristorodicambi.it/en/>

TRATTORIA ACCADI

Traditional, cozy, the new Japanese owner and chef seems to even have improved the fried.

[Borgo Pinti, 56, 50121 Firenze FI](#)

RISTORANTE CAFAGGI

A 100-year-old restaurant, interiors frozen in the 60s, very good traditional Tuscan food.

<https://www.ristorantecafaggi.com/>

[Via Guelfa, 35 rosso, 50129 Firenze FI](#)

TRATTORIA SERGIO GOZZI

Traditional, still loved by locals, very easy going, simple good dishes.

[Piazza di San Lorenzo, 8R, 50123 Firenze FI](#)

LOCALE

In you want to experience something quite unique.

<https://www.locafirenze.it/en/home-2/>

FISH

BURRO E ACCIUGHE

In the Oltrarno, where Florence is still lived and enjoyed by Florentines.

<https://www.burroeaccughe.com/en/>

[Via dell'Orto, 35/R, 50124 Firenze FI](#)

OSTERIA DEL PESCE

Right out of the touristic chaos, in a very lively residential district. Refined fresh fish dishes.

<https://osteriadelpescefirenze.it/>

[Via Vincenzo Gioberti, 140, 50136 Firenze FI](#)

FISHING LAB

<https://www.fishinglab.it/en/>

[Via del Proconsolo, 16r, 50122 Firenze FI](#)

Located in the palazzo which hosted the judges and notaries guild from the 13th to the mid-16th centuries. On its walls a fine fresco cycle includes the oldest known portrait of Dante Alighieri.

VEGETARIAN

L'OSTERIA VEGETARIANA

<http://www.osteriavegetariana.it/>

IL VEGETARIANO

The oldest vegetarian in Florence. Very easygoing, fantastic cakes!

<https://il-vegetariano.com/>

GLUTEN FREE

QUINOA

<https://ristorantequinoa.it/>

SGRANO

<https://www.sgranoglutenfree.it/>

ROOFTOP BARS

<https://www.therooftopguide.com/rooftop-bars-in-florence.html>

SHORT TRIPS

FIESOLE

The Roman "*Faesulae*" boasts Etruscan origins and was the region's epicenter for quite some time. Fortified in 1325, it was also a Medici family favorite. In the 18th and 19th centuries, Fiesole witnessed the construction of many villas and gardens, becoming a top destination among foreigners. And besides its rich history and culture, it's easy to reach! Hop in a taxi or take the **bus** (line 7) to get there.

If you're in Florence, don't forget to add Fiesole to your list of **day trips**. Located on a hilltop overlooking the Arno and Mugnone valleys, this charming town offers an unrivaled view of Florence and its surroundings. Fiesole's beautiful countryside, **archaeological** remains and wealth of artistic **masterpieces** will blow you away.

<https://www.visittuscany.com/en/ideas/things-to-do-and-see-in-fiesole/>

PRATOLINO – VILLA DEMIDOFF

A green space a few kilometers from Florence, the Medicean Park of Pratolino is one of the largest in Tuscany and since 2013 also one of the Tuscan UNESCO World Heritage sites. The park is part of the complex of Villa Demidoff, the splendid estate located in Vaglia. A perfect destination for a day trip (take a taxi or the bus 25A). The estate was purchased in 1568 by Grand Duke Francesco I de' Medici, who commissioned Buontalenti to convert it into a Villa. Left abandoned by Ferdinand III and Leopoldo II of Lorraine, the Villa was demolished, and its park restored according to the tradition of the English garden. Today you can visit this splendid park, which artificial grottos, fountains and unique artworks such as the *Apennine Colossus*, the famous statue-fountain by Giambologna, Cupid's grotto and the Mugnone fountain in the chapel, designed by Buontalenti in 1580. It is nice place for an extended walk along gravel roads and small paths, immersed in a refreshing natural environment. <https://www.visittuscany.com/en/attractions/pratolino-medici-park/>

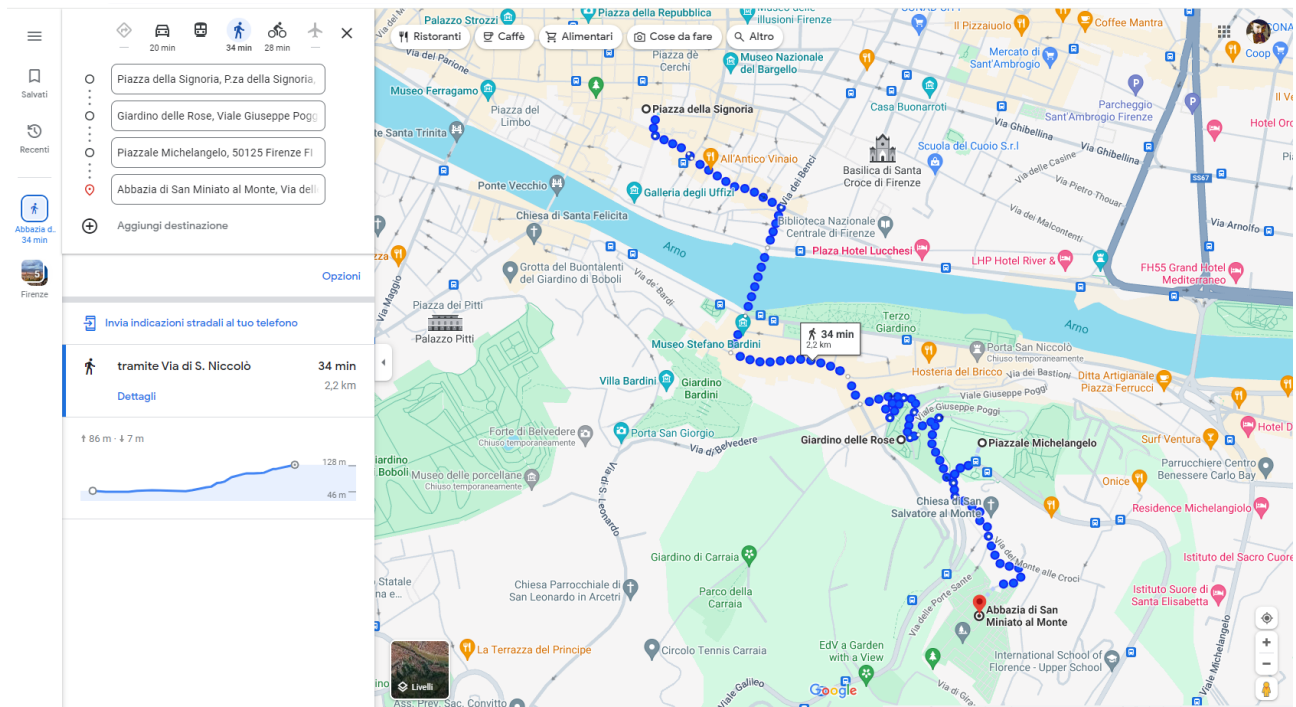
In you want to plan something special and tailor-made, we suggest this company:

<https://www.outoftheboxflorence.com/>

<https://www.instagram.com/outoftheboxflorence>

WALKS

WALKING UP TO S. MINIATO



ROSE GARDEN

The Rose garden is a green terrace right below Piazzale Michelangelo overlooking the historic center of the city and enjoying a breath-taking view equal in beauty to that from

Forte Belvedere. The Garden has been entirely redesigned better to display the works by Folon. Visitors will be able to admire the unique view of Santa Maria del Fiore and Palazzo Vecchio through the big suitcase of Partir; they will rest next to Folon's man on the timeless bench of Je me souviens; they will pet the "Chat", the large cat sleeping on the grass among rosebushes. In the garden there is also a ... corner of Japan! The Japanese garden was donated to the Municipality of Florence by the twin city of Kyoto.

PIAZZALE MICHELANGELO

Florence seen from above is a singular experience. Not just a perfect photo opportunity, but a moment of wonder. You are looking at the city that gave birth to incredible artists, amazing scientists and an enthralling history of discovery and power that has filled novels and movie theaters.

No matter what time of day, you will find that Piazzale Michelangelo truly offers a stupendous view over Florence. Don't be surprised if you also see it written as Piazzale *Michelangiolo*, this is from the archaic Florentine pronunciation and most definitely the one you see on street signs or the brown and white signs that indicate historic landmarks. In any case, however you spell it, it is one site that should not be missed. It may be a classic tourist stop, but it never fails to capture the heart and imagination of those who follow the path to the very top.

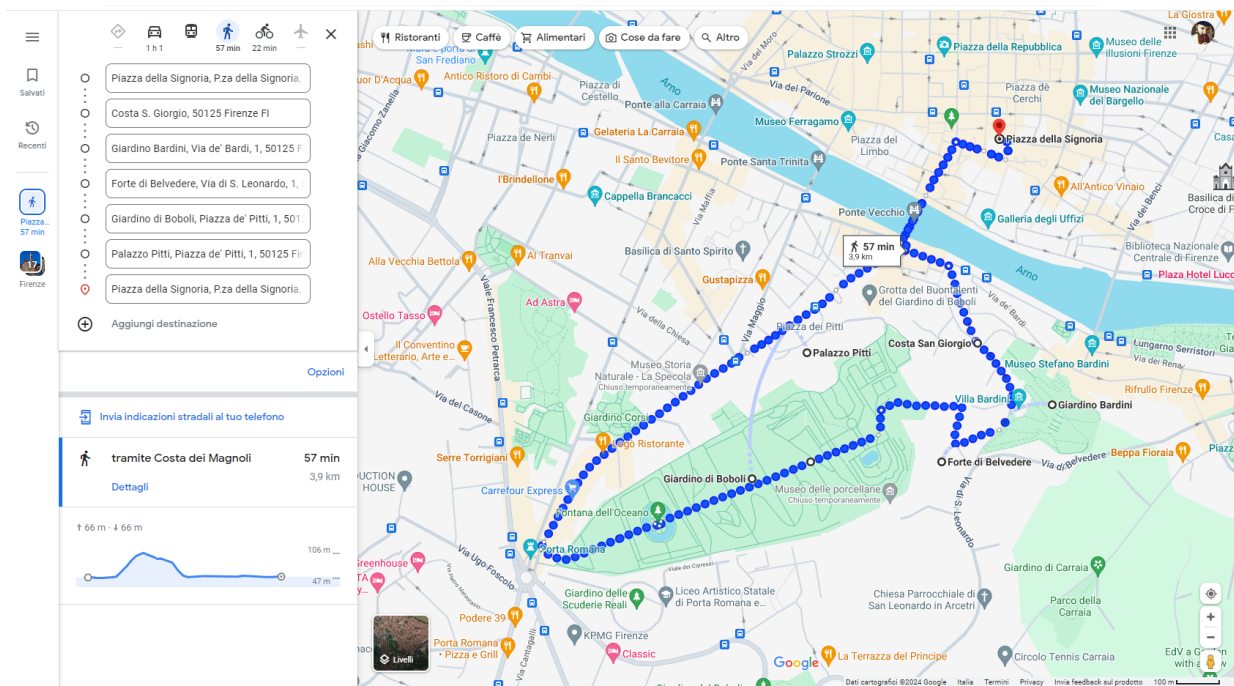
S. MINIATO

San Miniato is one of the highest expressions of Romanesque architecture in Florence. Inside the church we are immediately captured by its unique, spiritual atmosphere. Its geometrical façade decorated with white and green marbles, its unique spiritual atmosphere and the stunning view from its terrace make of San Miniato a compulsory sight during a visit to Florence and a favorite destination of walks and city breaks for the Florentines. <https://www.guidemeflorence.com/2021/03/19/san-miniato-al-monte/>

Up for more walking?

<https://www.feelflorence.it/en/node/12776>

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS



Cross Ponte Vecchio, turn left and then climb up the Costa de' Magnoli and Costa S. Giorgio. See on the right Galileo Galilei's home and then on the left there's the Villa Bardini. Inside, there's an incredible garden, with fantastic view on the monuments and, in Spring, a beautiful, enormous wisteria blossoms. <https://www.villabardini.it/en/villa-garden/garden/>

After the garden you can walk outside the most ancient city walls through Posta S. Giorgio to see Forte Belvedere, a beautiful XVI sec, fortress, perfectly conserved, where you can enjoy a 360# view on Florence and the surrounding hills. <https://www.feelflorence.it/en/node/12034>

Then you can decide to immerse yourself in the most characteristic Tuscan landscape made of villas and olive oil trees and walk the via S. Leonardo or go back to the town center through the wonderful Boboli Garden, that has a less known access from behind the Forte Belvedere. <https://www.feelflorence.it/en/node/12095>

ARTISANS & SHOPS

SANTA MARIA NOVELLA OLD PHARMACY - PROFUMES

You don't need to buy something to visit this ancient pharmacy near the church of Santa Maria Novella. Just walk through the doors of this old pharmaceutical shop, established by Dominican friars in 1221: in their gardens, they cultivated medicinal herbs that were used to prepare medications and balms. <https://eu.smnovella.com/>

AQUAFLORE – PROFUMES

Aquaflor fragrances are created in their own laboratory in Florence, in an ancient and prestigious palace: Palazzo Corsini Antinori Serristori, a few steps away from Piazza Santa Croce. They also create personalized fragrances. <https://www.aquaflor.it/en>

SCUOLA DEL CUOIO – LEATHER SCHOOL & SHOP

Scuola del Cuoio was founded after World War II through the collaborative efforts of the Franciscan friars of the Monastery of Santa Croce and the Gori and Casini families, Florentine leather artisans since the 1930's. Their mission was to give orphans of the war a means to learn a practical trade with which to earn a living.

Santa Croce, with its strategic position along the banks of the Arno river, since the 13th century has been the district where the tanneries that required great quantities of water were concentrated. The tanners of Via delle Conce and Via dei Conciatori, just a few steps from the garden entrance of the Monastery and Scuola del Cuoio, were an important part of the Santa Croce neighborhood with the dyers of Corso dei Tintori and even the soap makers of via dei Saponai. The streets of the neighborhood keep alive the memory of their origins: Corso dei Tintori (Dyer's street), Via delle Conce (Tanneries' street), Canto delle Mosche (Flies' place, from the many insects that the remains of the process would attract). At the beginning of the ninth century, along the river, between Florence and Pisa, a district of tanneries was settled and named, perhaps not by chance, Santa Croce Sull'Arno, which is today renowned as one of the best tanning districts in the world.

The tanned hides were used for centuries for city's the leather manufacturing and at the Monastery itself to cover the great manuscripts. Post-war Scuola del Cuoio brought those traditions back to the Monastery. The friars converted the old dormitory space for the school and the first workbenches were placed in the corridor. During the Renaissance, the Medici family donated this dormitory to the Franciscans and commissioned architect Michelozzo for its construction. The main corridor, with its vaulted ceiling and coats of arms of the Medici family over the doorways and mantle, is also decorated with frescoes executed by the school of Domenico Ghirlandaio. <https://scuoladelcuoio.it/en/>

ALESSANDRO DARI - JEWELS

A maestro goldsmith and sculptor from Florence, Alessandro Dari infuses his deep-rooted passion for art into every piece of handcrafted jewelry. As the pioneer of the "Perceptual Dynamism" movement, Dari stands as a multifaceted artist, bridging classical music and a pharmaceutical background into his creative process, reviving the Renaissance spirit in each unique creation. His journey continuously sparks fresh inspiration, leading to the crafting of world-class, unique artistic jewels that transcend time and place.

<https://www.alessandrodari.com/>

PAOLO PENKO – ARTISAN GOLDSMITH WORKSHOP

Florence-inspired jewels. <https://www.paolopenko.com/?lang=en>

PESCI CHE VOLANO

Little artisan shop. Different kind of crafts, colorful and original.

<https://www.pescichevolano.com/>

MAESTRI DI FABBRICA

A place where you can shop different kind of craftsmanship and have an aperitivo meanwhile. <https://flawless.life/en/italy/florence/maestri-di-fabbrica>

BUSATTI - FABRICS

Tessitura Busatti was established in 1842 in Anghiari (the village where the battle portrayed by Leonardo da Vinci took place) in the cellars of the Morgalanti Palace, where the looms still weave precious textiles to this very day. It was the French troops, following the Italian campaign, to install the first machines for the carding of the wool used to make uniforms for the Napoleonic army. The uniforms were then dyed blue using woad flowers (Isatis tinctoria), the same flowers used by Piero della Francesca to give a light blue tint to his paintings. In the following decades, the Busatti family, once again in possession of the building, expanded the production with the addition of shuttle looms that now as then, with precision and quality, weave linen, cotton and hemp for the production of high-quality manufacturing products. www.busatti.com <https://shop.busatti.com/en> Busatti shop in Florence: Borgo Tegolaio, 51/R, 50125 Firenze FI

FOOD AND WINE TO SHIP HOME

S. LORENZO MARKET

The San Lorenzo Market (also known as Mercato Centrale) is very popular for those, tourists and not, who are looking for food and wine experiences. On the ground floor: fruits, vegetables, meat, fish and bread sellers. Have the chance to taste on site. On the first floor the Central Market hosts delicatessen shops and restaurants with different vocation, in an open space, until midnight. The Central Market has an imposing iron, cast iron and glass structure built in the 19th century when a completely new design of the historic center has been put on. In 1860 Florence became the new capital of the Kingdom of Italy and took on its present appearance, clearly inspired by the great European capitals, Paris first. The construction of new markets was the main project of the new concept of the city. The Market (called central or San Lorenzo) was built between: Via dell'Ariento, Via S. Antonino, Via Santa Chiara and Via Panicale, destroying the existing residential structures, the so-called Camaldoli di San Lorenzo. The interesting project was by Giuseppe Mengoni, the same author of Milan Gallery, and it was inaugurated in 1874 during an International Agricultural Exhibition. <https://www.mercatocentrale.com/florence/>

S. AMBROGIO MARKET

The covered market of Sant'Ambrogio hosts **food shops** and like the San Lorenzo market dates back to the end of 19th century. In 1860 Florence became the new capital of the Kingdom of Italy and took on its present appearance, clearly inspired by the great European

capitals. The construction of **new markets** was the main project of the new concept of the city. The market of Sant' Ambrogio, built in the large vegetable garden in the block beyond Santa Croce towards the walls, with a cast iron structure, was inaugurated in 1873 about a year before than San Lorenzo market.

The covered market is the very beating heart of the neighbourhood; outside the building all around the market more stalls can be found with different items such as flowers, clothes, household objects. <https://mercatosantambrogio.it/>