

PITCHER & FLACCOMIO

RENT, SELL AND MANAGE PROPERTIES
IN FLORENCE AND TUSCANY

WELCOME

“Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home.” (Edith Sitwell)

You may prefer snuggling indoors with a rich winter stew and a heavy red wine to warm the bones, but there are also many good reasons to wear your best coat and take to the streets of Florence this month! The start of the new year fills the last month of winter with excitement, as Florence and Tuscany awaken with Carnevale celebrations, the romance of Valentines Day, and the launch of the year’s cultural programs including Black History Month Florence. The abundance of music, performance, historical parades, and new exhibitions won’t disappoint, so do head out in the best of company before retreating back to the warm hearth of home to reminisce on all your adventures! Enjoy the last bite of the winter chill with its magic. From SUZANNE, CORSO, BEI, EGLA, VANNI, ANNA PIA, RAFFAELLA, AND MARISA.

JUMP TO YOUR FAVOURITE SECTION

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PITCHER & FLACCOMIO PICKS FOR FEBRUARY

BEST EVENT: THE THIRD EDITION OF THE CARNEVALE DI FIRENZE, February 8-9

Following the exceptional success of previous editions, the Cultural Association ‘Il Carnevale di Firenze’ returns! The festivities will kick off with an exclusive Grand Ball, a gala dinner held in the majestic Salone dei Cinquecento. After dinner, guests continue the evening in the enchanting Sala delle Armi at Palazzo Vecchio, where an after-party will unfold in a magical and captivating atmosphere. The following day, the creativity and energy of Carnival will fill the historic center of Florence. Over 300 artists and musicians will come together to create spectacular choreographies and performances, allowing the public to follow the parade group. The event will culminate in Piazza della Signoria, where a prestigious jury will select the winners of the 2025 edition, honoring the most creative, original, and spectacular teams. [Buy tickets here](#) or enjoy the parade for free!

BEST P&F RENTAL: A QUIET APARTMENT WITH NATURAL LIGHT, FILLED WITH BEAUTIFUL ARWORKS, ANTIQUES, AND CUSTOM FURNISHINGS

Via Gustavo Modena is a very quiet residential street on the northern periphery of the historic centre of Florence. It is close to public transport and is approx 15 minutes from the Duomo (Florence cathedral) by foot and all the major museums and historical sights. San Marco square with the museum of the Fra Angelico frescos is close by. This square is also a hub for a lot of the municipal buses and being near Florence’s University and the Accademia gallery, it is an area filled with coffee bars, restaurants and boutiques of all sorts. [More information and photos here](#).



BEST TRADITION: CALCIO STORICO HONOURS THE BATTLE OF THE SIEGE, February 17

The Calcio Storico honour a historical siege with the Annual Partita dell’Assedio. It was the siege of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, on the 17th of February 1530 that gave us both the custom of changing the guard but also strengthened the tradition of this famous game of Calcio Storico reenacted every year between the four factions of Florence. Intended as a statement of indifference to the danger that stalked the city outside of the city walls, these events had a strong symbolic impact of solidarity on those within the boundaries. “The Battle of the Siege”, when Florence struggled without

allies against the Imperial troops of Charles V, signalled the return of the Medici family after their exile. Even under the stress of the battle, the match served as a challenge to the foreign troops, demonstrating just how little the Florentines felt the weight of threat just beyond its walls – even though they eventually fell in August 1530. This game, a mix of soccer, rugby and American-styled football will be reenacted in traditional Bianco and Verde costume (the Green team against the White team) on the 17th of February in front of the Santa Croce Church at 2 pm.

BEST ANNIVERSARY: FLORENCE HONOURS ANNA MARIA LUISA DE MEDICI, February 18

February 18 celebrates the greatest patroness of the arts in Florence history, Anna Maria Luisa de' Medici. The last of the ruling line of the Medici, she left behind an extraordinary legacy in the form of The Family Pact, which bequeathed the considerable artistic patrimony of the family, accrued over three centuries, to the city of Florence. The Pact was to prevent any of the patrimony from being removed from Florence or the state of Tuscany. Instead, she insisted, everything must remain in Florence, for all time, "for the use of the public and to attract the curiosity of foreigners." In honour of Anna Maria Luisa, Florence opens its Civic Museums with free entry for the public on the day of her death, February 18. Be sure to include a visit to the Medici Chapels to pay your respects. Civic museums: Palazzo Vecchio, Museo del Novecento, Brancacci Chapel, Santa Maria Novella, Museo Stefano Bardini. Read more about [the history of Anna Maria Luisa here](#).

BEST FESTIVAL: 10th EDITION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH FLORENCE, Until March

Black History Month Florence is a cross institutional network for Black cultural production that celebrates the diversity of Afro-descendent Cultures in the context of Italy. The initiative is engaged in programming, advising and co-promoting over 50 events annually within the month of February, through a network formed and supported by the Comune, foundations, institutions, cultural associations, museums, schools and venues dedicated to art and to music. Black History Month Florence is broken down into BHM Film, BHM Art, BHM Workshop, BHM Talk, BHM Food, BHM Tours, BHM Kids and BHM Theatre/Dance. Follow their [Instagram](#) and [Website](#) for the release of the program.

BEST PARADE: CHANGING OF THE GUARD IN PIAZZA DELLA SIGNORIA, February 3

The Changing of the Guard begins with a parade through the streets of Florence, and then ends with the traditional ceremony of the Changing of the Guard. Enjoy the spectacle of drums and costumes as the "Gonfalone", the Banner of Florence, or the Historical Parade of the Florentine Republic, arrives in the centre of the Arengario, in front of Palazzo Vecchio. There are two armed soldiers positioned on either side, together with the captain and an officer who complete the Guard. Find the [times and routes here](#).

BEST DINING OUT: SANTABARBARA RESTAURANT -2 YOUNG CHEFS AND 20 SEATS

Two young chefs under 35, a restaurant with an informal style, and four menus with pop prices promise to shake up the world of Florentine dining. Santabarbara is the new entry in the city scene: a small place in Via Pier Capponi 72/A in the Piazza della Libertà area. In the kitchen are two young chefs and owners: Alessio Ninci and Lorenzo Chirimischi. They have experience in fine dining and even starred restaurants. They have chosen a flexible and affordable formula, and the result is an "instinctive, territorial and contemporary" cuisine available in four menus with prices ranging from 25 to 60 euros with small plates to share and courses to savour. Santabarbara is a table & kitchen: it has 20 seats and a pass counter to distribute dishes directly to guests. The restaurant's furnishings are informal with background music based on rock & hip-hop. Open from 7.30pm to 10.30pm, closed on Sunday. [Website](#).

BEST OF THE REST

FLORENCE LITERARY SOCIETY LAUNCHES WITH ITS FIRST YEAR OF OFFICIAL WORKSHOPS AND PUBLISHING DAY EVENT

The Florence Literary Society aims to serve the international writing community of Florence by creating a cohesive and thriving alliance of writers of all levels and genres. You may live in Florence or just be passing through, you may be starting your writing journey or already be a published author. Wherever you stand, we believe in harnessing the enthusiasm and energy of creatives of all stripes, from writers and translators to essayists, travel writers, poets and more. [Become a member now!](#) Watch this space for updates on the upcoming publishing day and [sign up](#) for the newsletter to keep up to date with monthly writing events in Florence.

IL CARNEVALE CELEBRATIONS IN VIAREGGIO! From February 4

The celebrations for Il Carnevale happen all over Tuscany, but by far the most famous and exciting is the famed Carnevale in Viareggio. There are many chances to see the Masked Parade in February, with 5 days of processions spread over the month as well as the "Great Ending Fireworks". If there was ever a time to make the trip outside of Florence, this is it. The parades, parties, fireworks, masked balls, theatre, and culinary events are truly over-the-top. Wear clothes you don't care too much about, because it's a given that you'll end up sprayed with foam and sprinkled with confetti! Old, young, and everyone in-between, joins in the silliness. Read [all about the history of Carnevale here](#). And find [dates and more information here](#).

TASTE 2025, THREE DAYS DEDICATED TO FOOD AND WINE AT THE FORTEZZA DI BASSO, February 8-10

Under the deep blue night sky, the stars of the upcoming edition of Taste(Florence, Fortezza da Basso, February 8-10, 2025) shine brightly: a stellar lineup of sweet and savory delights ready to be enjoyed. These culinary marvels dazzle on their own, but when they come together, they form brilliant new constellations – delightful pairings of flavors that captivate and surprise. In February,

the event theme will be "Born Under the Sign of Taste." The Fortezza da Basso will transform into a constellation of culinary wonders, where new trends, experiences, and discoveries intertwine. We'll unveil new exhibition areas, highlighting innovative themes, emerging trends, and today's most relevant topics. [Website](#).

TESTO 2024, THE BOOK LOVERS FESTIVAL AT STAZIONE LEOPOLDA, February 28-March 2

At the Stazione Leopolda, the fair that aims to examine the book in all its forms, from its genesis to its arrival on the shelves. It will showcase the entire production chain that brings a book to life. It is built around the value of the book, analysing the different phases that go into the creation of a text, starting with the birth of an idea to its production, to the arrival of a book in bookshops and the final phase in which the pages arrive in front of the reader's eyes. [Website](#).

DANZA IN FIERA: INTERNATIONAL TRADE&SHOW DANCE EVENT AT FORTEZZA DI BASSO, February 21-23

All you need is dance! Danzainfiera is the largest and most original international exhibition dedicated to dance. Expect a full program of shows and performances, alongside the official trade show for industry professionals. Danzainfiera is a unique platform of its kind, where the exhibition spaces and meeting places alternate with the stages and the classrooms to accommodate a vast program that embraces all dance styles. See [the spectacular events program here](#).

HOT THERMAL BATHS TO EASE THE WINTER CHILL

Winter is the season to enjoy the range of beautiful hot springs located in Tuscany, both to warm you up and for all the rumoured health benefits! There are a number of different springs, some free and some with spa facilities designed to help you pass the entire day relaxing out of the city centre. Check out their websites to see which one you like, and don't be afraid to try the plunge from the hot springs to the cold lakes - they swear it's good for you! A list of Tuscan Thermal Baths:

Terme di Bagno Vignoni (Siena)

Grotta Giusti (Pistoia)

Terme di Gambassi Stabilimento Acqua di Pillo (Florence)

Terme di Firenze (Florence)

Terme di Montecatini (Pistoia)

Terme di San Casciano dei Bagni Fonteverde (Siena)

Terme di Saturnia (Grosseto)

Terme Calidario (Livorno)

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

EXHIBITIONS

MP5: THE THIRD DIMENSION, ON SHOW AT MUSEO NOVECENTO

The Third Dimension is a single work divided into two sections. The first is a sequence of black and white figures painted standing next to each other, occupying the internal walls of the cloister of the former Leopoldine, suspended in a sort of spatial and temporal limbo. In the loggia on the upper floor, the artistic work acquires the forms of an intertwined ribbon choreography, characterized by figures linked to each other who touch each other, embrace each other, kiss each other in an unwinding of desires and affections without interruption, placing on stage the sensuality of intimacy and the eroticism of difference naturally and without shame. [More information.](#)

THE GREAT HALL: GIORGIO VASARI FOR COSIMO DE' MEDICI, Until March 9

Palazzo Vecchio, on the occasion of the 450th anniversary of the death of Cosimo I de' Medici and Giorgio Vasari, hosts the exhibition: Giorgio Vasari for Cosimo I de' Medici. An opportunity to delve into the history of the creative process behind the decoration of the Sala Grande and into the renovation programme promoted by Cosimo I, who commissioned the work, and carried out by Giorgio Vasari, its main architect. The exhibition is completed by a documentary section: in addition to the drawings illustrating the decorative project by Giorgio Vasari, assisted by Vincenzo Borghini, there are preparatory sketches for some famous ceiling and wall scenes, such as the drawings of the Presa di Porta Camollia and the Battle of Marciano, as well as letters and correspondence, including the opinion of Michelangelo Buonarroti and a newspaper of the Medici workshops, whose files are kept in the State Archives and can be seen in the display case. [Website.](#)

OFFICINA BARDINI: THE ART OF WOOD, Until February 24

Until February 24, 2025, the Stefano Bardini Museum in Florence will host the exhibition Officina Bardini: The Art of Wood, a fascinating journey through the wood craft tradition that characterized the workshops led by Stefano Bardini, the so-called "prince of antiquarians," and his son Ugo between the late 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. The exhibition presents the second project dedicated to the famous antiquarian, following the event organized in 2022 for the centenary of his passing. This edition focuses on the craftsmanship and production that made the Bardini workshops famous, true centers of excellence in woodworking and restoration. Here, "stylish

objects and furnishings” were created and restored, which fascinated an international commissioning body attracted by the dream of the Italian Renaissance. [Website](#).

BLUE REVOLUTION AT MANIFATTURA TABACCHI, Until February 15

Indigo blue, denim blue: the colour of jeans, of work clothes, the clothing of young people. To this colour is dedicated an exhibition taking place at the Manifattura Campus of Polimoda, in the spaces of Manifattura Tabacchi. And so what may seem like a simple clothing exhibition - blue r/evolution - is not just an exhibition about clothing, but rather a profound reflection on how a single fabric can reflect, challenge and redefine social narratives. On the theme of jeans, historical archives, art installations, photographs and garments were combined to reflect on the relationship between clothing, personal identity and the social transformations of our time. [Website](#).

DANCE, THEATRE, AND MUSIC

THEATRE AND MUSIC AT TEATRO DELLA PERGOLA, TEATRO RIFREDI 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. The Teatro Rifredi was first built as a working and social structure in 1913, and at the end of the 60s, a group of young people decided to try creating theatrical experiences and the venue transformed into a theatre. You can find the full programming for all three of these beautiful theatres on the [Tuscany Theatre Website here](#).

AMICI DELLA MUSICA

If you ever wanted to listen to classical music in a theatre where you could imagine Verdi or Mozart to walk in any second go to the jewel box Pergola Theatre. The Amici della Musica of Florence presents various concerts at the Teatro della Pergola. Works by Rossini, Schumann, Schubert, Brahms, Bach, Beethoven and Mozart are only a small sample of what will be performed. [Tickets and more information](#).

MAGGIO MUSICALE FIORENTINO

The Theatre of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino owes its name to the prestigious Maggio Musicale Festival, the oldest in Italy, a first that it shares in Europe with the festivals of Salzburg and Bayreuth. Founded in Florence in 1933, the festival quickly became a centre of dissemination of the great European musical culture indicating and proposing new and unconventional ideas, in regards to classical repertoire and contemporary compositions. See the full program [here at the website](#).

PERFORMANCES AT TEATRO VERDI: INCLUDING THE MUSICAL CATS

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: Cats, The Musical:** After the great success with record numbers last season, Cats is the title that changed the history of this genre of show and that does not suffer the passage of time, winning the hearts of audiences of all ages. For the first time, and with the author's permission, Cats will be set in Rome, in a hypothetical and futuristic 'dump' of works of art and archaeological finds, with the Colosseum in the background. An irresistible colony of humanised cats sing and dance on the ruins of the Eternal City in a magical atmosphere marked by fantasy, drama, romance and great music. For more information and to book tickets: <http://www.teatroverdifirenze.it/en/>

FILMS AND OTHER CULTURAL EVENTS

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE PROGRAMMING AT LOCAL FLORENCE CINEMAS:

Especially for those living here long term, a night at the cinema enjoying a film in our first language is a beloved tradition that we miss! More and more of Florence's cinemas are introducing film screenings in Original Language. Be sure to look for the words "Original Language" or "O.V." or "V.O." (Original Version/Versione Originale) when you're looking up film times, to be sure you're getting the right session! Otherwise you will see the film with Italian language audio dubbed over. Here's a list of the cinemas in the center of Florence with original language as a part of their programming.

GIUNTI ODEON CINEMA

A beloved Florence favourite. Once an old cinema, and now a stunning bookshop and cinema with events and restaurant. In the evening at 9:00 PM, the cinema space lights up with screenings in the original language with subtitles and restored versions." [Buy Tickets here.](#)

CINEMA LA COMPAGNIA

Cinema La Compagnia is in easy reach on the beautiful Via Cavour, and is home to the best cinema festivals from around the world. A second home for the film crowd in Florence, and they show original language films regularly. [See their program here.](#)

SPAZIO ALFIERI CINEMA

Spazio Alfieri, located in the Santa Croce area, is a space for cinema, theatre, music, gastronomy, design and visual arts. Their cinema program now includes regular films in Original Language announced at the start of each month. In January, the lineup included: Moana, Conclave and Nosferatu. [Check the schedule here](#) to see February's films as soon as they're announced.

ASTRA CINEMA

This new hub for cinema and culture in Piazza Beccaria is simply exploding with events. With up to six s

creenings a day, there is always a chance to experience the best of contemporary European cinema,

as well as original language films. [See the website for more information.](#)

SPACE CINEMA

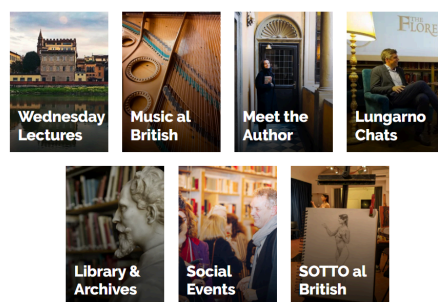
This one is an easy tram ride from the center to the San Donato tram stop, where you'll find Space Cinemas on the top floor of the large San Donato shopping complex. This is the biggest cinema complex in Florence, with multiple screening rooms and films every day. [See their schedule here.](#)

CINEMA IL PORTICO

A little further out, in the area on the other side of Piazza Beccaria, is this beautiful cinema with a 300 seat cinema, and a smaller 100 seat cinema. They now screen original language films also, so check out their [original sound cinema times here.](#)

THE BRITISH INSTITUTE CULTURAL PROGRAM IN THEIR STUNNING HAROLD ACTON LIBRARY

A beloved favourite in Florence, The British Institute continue their offerings of Wednesday lectures, concerts, and other cultural treats in the stunning location of the historic Harold Acton Library, and now also in their new contemporary space, SOTTO al British. Enjoy exquisite views of the Arno River together with the majesty of the library, and its cultural events. See the full month's program of lectures and events [here.](#)



LIFEDRAWING AT SOTTO AL BRITISH

Every Monday night from 19:00-21:00 (except public holidays), a life drawing session led by artist Tom J. Byrne. A social, life drawing event prepares the spirit for a creative week and is a great way to meet new and interesting people. There is no instruction given but through sharing insights and discussion over a glass of wine after drawing, people can exchange drawing methods. The session is from 19:00 - 21:00 and consists of short warm up poses followed by longer poses as the evening moves along. [More information here.](#)

FEBRUARY WISHES

As we savour the last slumber of winter, we wish you love and celebrations for all that the year will bring.

All the best,

The Staff of Pitcher and Flaccomio

Newsletter written and compiled by Marisa Garreffa.

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CLASSIFIEDS

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SALE – Chianti Farm House - 35 Km South of Florence Farm
Complex to be refurbished, approx. 600 Sq. Mt. (approx. 6000 Sq. Ft.) with 2 acres of land and garden. Electricity and water already in place. Hill top position, easy access.

Asking Price 900,000 Euro



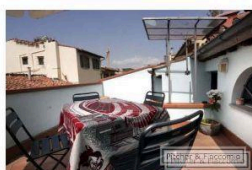
SALE – Ponte Vecchio Apt – Historic Center
First and top floor, listed with the Fine Arts, refurbished, approx. 120 Sq. Mt. (1200 Sq. Ft.). 2 bed, 3 bath plus study on loft; quiet, high decorated ceilings and centrally located

Asking Price 1,050,000 Euro



SALE – Ponte Vecchio Loft - Historic Center
Refurbished loft apartment, approx. 180 sq. mt.(1800 Sq. Ft), 2 bed, 3 bath, autonomous heating. High decorated ceilings, outdoor balcony.

Asking price 1,350,000 Euro



SALE – San Lorenzo Apt – Historic Center
Top floor, with elevator, listed with the Fine Arts, refurbished, 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

Asking Price 780,000 Euro



SALE – Ponte Vecchio Apt – Historic Center
Refurbished first floor apt with elevator, approx. 150 Sq. Mt. (approx. 1500 Sq. Ft.). 2 bed, 2 bath; autonomous heating, doorman, condo terrace on roof.

Asking Price 1,200,000 Euro



SALE - Bargello Apt - Historic Center
Third floor with elevator, approx. 140 Sq. Mt. (approx. 1400 Sq. Ft.), 3 Bed, 2 Bath. Autonomous heating, Air. Con. Sunlight and views.

Asking Price 990,000 Euro

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