

PITCHER & FLACCOMIO

RENT, SELL AND MANAGE PROPERTIES
IN FLORENCE AND TUSCANY

WELCOME

"Natale con i tuoi, Pasqua con chi vuoi!"

(Christmas with your family, Easter with whoever you like!)

Easter fills Italy with colour and pageantry, as the spring flowers reflect the honouring of rebirth and renewal. This Sunday the city will gather outside of the Duomo to celebrate the Exploding Cart, the beloved Florentine Easter tradition that is over 350 years old. Enjoy time with your loved ones, sharing special easter bread and eggs with surprises inside. Music and art fill the city as Tuscany warms up beneath the sunshine, and the nights remain cool. Revel in laughter for April Fools Day and seek out the gardens of Florence as they come into bloom. "Buona Pasqua" from all of us, with best wishes from SUZANNE, CORSO, BEI, EGLA, VANNI, ANNA PIA, RAFFAELLA, AND MARISA.

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PITCHER & FLACCOMIO PICKS FOR APRIL

BEST EVENT: SCOPPIO DEL CARRO ON EASTER SUNDAY, April 20

The Scoppio del Carro, The Explosion of the Cart, has been celebrated in Florence for more than 350 years, dating back to the First Crusade. A thirty-foot carved and painted wooden cart (the present version is over 150 years old) is pulled by flower-bedecked white oxen from Porta al Prato to Piazza del Duomo. A very special Easter Sunday mass is held, a ritual that includes one of the best daytime fireworks displays in the world. During the singing of the Gloria of the Easter Mass, the deacon lights a holy fire, kindled from three historic stone chips that were obtained during the crusades of 1099 from the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem. The 'colombina' - a mechanical bird shaped like a dove with an olive branch in its beak, representing the Holy Spirit - 'flies' down a line through the open doors of the cathedral, where the Holy Fire is used to light a fuse attached to the dove. It flies back to the cart where it ignites the explosion, erupting fireworks into the Easter sky with plumes of purple smoke - the unofficial colour of Florence. The Procession starts at 10.00, and the Explosion of the Cart is at 11.00.

BEST P&F RENTAL: A THREE BEDROOM APARTMENT FULL OF LIGHT, AN EASY WALK FROM ALL THE CITY'S MONUMENTS

The apartment is full of light, and the furnishings are a mixture of modern and antiques. Via dei Rustici is located in the heart of Florence, running perpendicular to the River Arno, on the north side. It is within an easy walk from most of the city's most famous museums and monuments. 15 minutes walk leads to the Sant'Ambrogio open-air fruit and vegetable market. General shopping is close by in the famous street called Via dei Neri, which leads directly to the Palazzo Vecchio and



Piazza della Signoria. The apartment is also situated near several theatres ("Il Teatro Verdi" and "La Pergola") which host numerous concerts throughout the year, including performances of the "Maggio Musicale" (the May musical festival) in the spring. [More photos and information.](#)

BEST ANNIVERSARY: LIBERATION DAY NATIONAL HOLIDAY, April 25

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

“Bella Ciao”

“On April 25, you’ll hear this refrain throughout every corner of Italy, sung on street corners by small groups, played on the radio or performed by bands in parades and local plazas. Set to the melody of a traditional folk song, “Bella Ciao” was the anthem of the Italian resistance movement during World War II, often sung by the left-wing anti-fascist rebels who fought against the atrocities of the Nazis and the leader of Italy, Benito Mussolini. Even today, the lyrics are symbolic of the sacrifices made for freedom. While Italy has been a democratic republic since 1946, many Italians remember a time when they did not have such freedom. That history is honored throughout Italy on April 25 with La Festa della Liberazione, or Liberation Day, festivities. Every year, the entire country joins together to celebrate its liberation from the Nazis and pay tribute to those who lost their lives in the fight to free their country.” [Read more about the history of Liberation Day here.](#)

BEST SPRING GARDENS: INTERNATIONAL IRIS GARDEN AND THE ROSE GARDEN, From April 25 until May 20

The Iris is the symbol of Florence, the deep red of the Giglio di Firenze! Until May 20, you should spend part of every day in the Iris Garden above Florence, breathing in fresh air, avoiding the crowds and restoring your spirits. Expect beautiful flowers, meticulously refined over generations by the careful hands of their keepers. Even if you're not passionate about flowers, it is a refreshing splash of early summer colour in a beautiful city.

While you are so close, it is the perfect time to visit the stunning Florence Rose Garden. Open all year around, the roses are in full bloom throughout May, and with over 350 different types of roses to enjoy, this is a heavenly treat for your senses. Also in the rose garden are sculptures by Belgian artist, Jean Michael Folon, which sit against the Florence city backdrop beautifully. There is also a Japanese Garden with a waterfall and tea pagoda that was a gift to Florence from the city of Kyoto.

Iris Garden: Piazzale Michelangelo, Cnr of Viale dei Colli and Piazzale Michelangelo

Opening Hours: Daily 10am-12.30pm & 3pm-7pm, Web: www.irisfirenze.it

Rose Garden: Piazzale Michelangelo, Viale Giuseppe Poggi, Opening Hours: Daily 9.00 - Sunset

BEST DINING OUT: TWO RESTAURANTS TO TRY AT FLORENCE’S NEWEST LUXURY OPENING, THE HOXTON HOTEL

This month our tips come from the goddess of gourmet, [Martina Bartolozzi](#):

There are some exciting new openings in Florence in the Libertà-Cavour neighborhood! Check your calendars, and find a time to visit [Alassio Firenze](#) and [Enoteca Violetta](#), at Florence’s newly opened [The Hoxton Hotel](#). The enoteca offers a curated selection of local and international wines, and is a great place to enjoy an aperitivo accompanied by classic snacks, gourmet bites and fine charcuterie. The restaurant’s menu, curated by Chef Fondatori, offers Mediterranean dishes inspired by the Italian coasts, with Ligurian influences as well as a few iconic, local classics. The space evokes coastal Alassio with vaulted ceilings, Italian art, Murano chandeliers, and fine marble, plus an open kitchen and a charming courtyard for outdoor dining. Even though they’ve both been open less than a month, the atmosphere already feels cozy and welcoming.

BEST OF THE REST

THE SPRING PLANT AND FLOWER MARKET, PRESENTED BY THE TUSCAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR OVER 170 YEARS, April 25 - May 1

A favourite for all those with a green thumb! This year the Spring Plant and Flower Market Exhibition, always held in the charming Giardino dell'Orticoltura from April 25 to May 1. More than 70 specialized exhibitors will offer a wide range of products in the fields of floriculture, horticulture and fruit growing, along with gifts and handicrafts. During the event, visitors will be able to participate in a rich cultural program, including courses, workshops, talks, book presentations, lectures and free seminars. [Website](#).

THE BELOVED FIRENZE FLOWER SHOW RETURNS TO THE CORSINI GARDENS, April 6 and 7

Spring has finally arrived and, here in Florence, so has the annual flower show loved by all the Florentine community. Held at the beautiful Corsini Garden, this year's exhibition of rare flowers and plants will surely be unforgettable. With gardening tips and demonstrations, workshops, food and drinks, there will be something for everyone to enjoy. Florence in bloom is one of the best parts of Spring. Find more information [here](#).

MIDA, THE MOSTRA INTERNAZIONALE DELL'ARTIGIANATO AT FORTEZZA DI BASSO, April 25 - May 1

An event which has hosted the most important master craftsmen of history inside a privileged space, where tradition and innovation merge to create extremely valuable handmade products. Every year, you can admire the works of the ancient Florence workshops, as well as remote arts which are being rediscovered through the fair itineraries, following a harmonious path among the Italian regions and the countries of the whole world. Unique pieces, modelled by experienced hands, dedicated to people who want to stand out. Opening Times: everyday from 10.00 to 22.30 (last day closing at 20.00). See more information at the [website](#).

FLORENCE TANGO DAYS, THE FIRENZE TANGO FESTIVAL, April 25-26

This edition of Firenze Tango Week is titled "Florence Tango Days, Tango, Art, and Good Life", a week long program of tango-themed events including dances, DJs, and performances. There are numerous events you can sign up for, including music and dance workshops and lessons. A week to keep you on your toes, and put rhythm into your body... some sizzle for Spring! See the [website](#) for the full program.

VIVICITTA HALF MARATHON FLORENCE, April 6

It's on! Get ready to experience an exciting race, through streets and historical monuments of one of the most beautiful cities of art and culture in the world, open for the occasion to professional and amateur runners from all over the world. This is one of the most popular Florentine races of the annual calendar: the Vivicità Half Marathon Florence. This year the sign ups are SOLD OUT so it's going to be a huge year. But don't miss the chance to be in the center of Florence cheering on the runners as they go by, the energy will be incredible. [Official Webpage](#)

LA DEMOCRAZIA DEL CORPO DANCE FESTIVAL, Until May

Until May, enjoy the international Festival La Democrazia del Corpo ("Democracy of the Body") by Virgilio Sieni. The "Democracy of the Body" proposes a cycle of performance works intended as excursions exploring the body. This year the theme is: Suspending the journey. *"When the rainbow of human cultures has sunk into the void dug by our fury; as long as we exist and a world exists – this tenuous arch that binds us to the inaccessible will resist: and will show the reverse path to that of our slavery..."* Claude Lévi-Strauss, Tristes Tropiques. Please click here to get the whole [programme](#).

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

TRACEY EMIN, SEX AND SOLITUDE AT PALAZZO STROZZI, Until July 20

Palazzo Strozzi in Florence dedicates the largest exhibition ever held in Italy to a provocative and controversial living artist: Tracey Emin. Sex and Solitude. Her first successes date back to the 1990s with works such as The bed or the Tent, which caused a sensation but propelled her into the Olympus of art. Hard hit by the events of life - the latest a devastating tumour - she infuses her works with very physical and bodily aspects such as sex, abortion, illness, thereby linking art to life. All this is expressed in different artistic disciplines, from drawing to painting, from photography to video, made explicit in the exhibition with 60 works. [Website](#).

GIANELLI: IL CIELO SOPRA FIRENZE, Until May 15

These huge street sculptures are already the talk of the town. *I Cielo sopra Firenze* is the title of the new exhibition by the artist Emanuele Giannelli. Giannelli's exhibition is inspired by Wim Wenders' famous film *The Sky Above Berlin*, but the parallels do not stop at the title: just as in Wenders' film the guardian angels move around the city, visible only to children, the artist tells of the visionaries in Florence who looked to the sky and were able to build its history thanks to their thinking. [Website](#).

BOTTEGHE FIORENTINE: A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION AT VIA DEI BARDI, Until May 31

The photographic exhibition by Guido Cozzi will be inaugurated on January 25, 2025, at the Istituto de' Bardi of Florence, in the prestigious Palazzo Capponi. The exhibition takes visitors on a visual journey through some of the city's artisan workshops: restorers, decorators, bronze workers, blacksmiths, carpenters, gilders, jewelers, bookbinders, and many more. These crafts once formed the economic and social fabric of the city's neighborhoods and, despite modern challenges, continue to preserve an ancient knowledge. At the Tethys Gallery on Via de' Vellutini 17r, a small complementary exhibition will be set up, featuring images of historic workshops that are no longer in operation. [Website](#).

THE IMPRESSIONISTS IN NORMANDY, AT THE MUSEO DEGLI INNOCENTI, Until May 4

150 years after the first exhibition of the Impressionist movement in Paris in 1874. Normandy, thanks to the colours of its sky, the sparkle of its water and its verdant valleys has been immortalised through the gaze of painters such as Monet, Renoir, Delacroix and Courbet, the protagonists of this exhibition along with many others: an exceptional corpus of more than 70 works that tell about the Impressionist movement and its close links with the territory. The masterpieces on display tell of the intellectual ferment of exchanges, comparisons and collaborations between the greatest artists of the time who, immersed in a dazzling nature of intense colours and scintillating panoramas, gave Normandy the emblematic image of the cradle of Impressionism. [Website](#).

DANCE, THEATRE, AND MUSIC

PERFORMANCES AT TEATRO VERDI: INCLUDING SLAVA'S SNOWSHOW

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: **SLAVA'S SNOWSHOW**. I have seen this show myself years ago in Australia, and it is one of the most memorable and meaningful theatre experiences I've ever been to! Slava's Snowshow is a genre in itself, managing to be as spontaneous and magical as the first day it was performed, transporting adults into a world of childhood wonder and amazement. [Website](#).

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](#).

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.

GIUNTI ODEON CINEMA: THIS MONTH "AMADEUS"

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: THIS MONTH "A REAL PAIN"

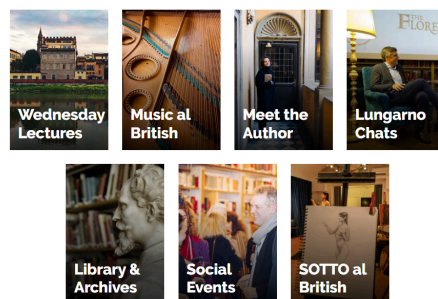
Cinema La Compagnia is in easy reach on the beautiful Via Cavour, and is home to the best cinema festivals from around the world. A second home for the film crowd in Florence, and they show original language films regularly. [See their program here.](#)

SPACE CINEMA: THIS MONTH “SNOW WHITE”

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.](#)

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.](#)

APRIL WISHES

The hills of Florence are bursting into colour, as the landscape awakes after winter. May your wishes for the year bloom along with the flowers of Spring!

All the best,

The Staff of Pitcher and Flaccomio

Newsletter written and compiled by Marisa Garreffa.

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CLASSIFIEDS



SALE – San Lorenzo Apt – Historic Center

Top floor, with elevator, listed with the Fine Arts, refurbished, approx. 140 Sq. Mt. (aprox. 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 – Ognissanti Attic – Historic Center

Top floor no elevator, good conditions, approx. 60 sq. mt.(600 Sq. Ft) plus 25 Sq.Mt. (250 Sq.Ft.) of terrace, 1 Bed, 1 Bath. hair con., autonomous heating.

Asking Price 495,000 Euro



SALE – Ponte Vecchio Loft - Historic Center

Refurbished loft apartment, approx. 180 sq. mt.(1800 Sq. Ft), 2 bed, 3 bath, autonomous heating. Huigh decorated ceilinegs, out door balcony.

Asking price 1,350,000 Euro



SALE – Piazza Azeglio – Historic Center

Second and top floor (possible elevator), refurbished, approx. 140 sq. mt.(1400 Sq. Ft), 2 Bed, study, 3 Bath. Autonomous heating, air con.

Asking Price 870,000 Euro



SALE – De Neri Apt – Historic Center

Refurbished third floor, apt with elevator, approx. 130 Sq. Mt. (aprox. 1300 Sq. Ft.). 2 bed, 2 bath; autonomous heating, Air Con..

Asking Price 1,500,000 Euro



SALE - Bargello Apt - Historic Center

Third floor with elevator, approx. 140 Sq. Mt. (aprox. 1400 Sq. Ft.), 3 Bed, 2 Bath. Autonomouos heating, Air. Con. Sunlight and views.

Asking Price 890,000 Euro

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