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Popular with Slow Food fans, this veteran restaurant is lovingly run by the Tranchina family. In the kitchen is matriarch Giovanna, whose allegiance to seasonal and local ingredients drives beautiful, nostalgic dishes like minestra con tenerumi, fiori di zucca e caciocavallo (soup of cucuzza leaves, zucchini flowers and caciocavallo cheese) and
polpettine di finocchio selvatico in agrodolce (wild-fennel patties in sweet-and-sour sauce).null Art and food combine at this restaurant-cum-art gallery on Ecclestone Place, just down from Victoria. It's from Enzo and Robert Scalzo - the chaps behind the Pâtisserie Valerie chain - and its Grade II-listed setting certainly should be a good match for all the
British art adorning the walls. As switched on sorts might infer, there's an Italian theme to the food here. Traditional, Neapolitan pizzas - made with Caputo Blue flour - are prominent, complemented by pastas, risottos and meatier mains such as sirloin steak with a green peppercorn and brandy sauce, and pancia di maiale cotta due volte - twice
cooked belly of pork, with creamed potatoes and apple cider dressing. Italian and Sicilian wines dominate on a list that that ventures to South Africa, Chile and the US, too. Peroni, London Pride, Leffe Blonde and Bud are the beers on offer. Keep an eye out for special events and live music - there's jazz every Friday night. It famously straddles seven
hills, but Rome often feels like several cities. There's the ancient one, of course - the Rome of emperors and fountains, each more spectacular than the next. There's the Dolce Vita vibe, still, in elegant boutiques, bars, and restaurants,
and landmark hotels still on Via Veneto. But Rome is also modern, with formerly residential neighborhoods such as Testaccio, Monti, and Ostiense now as attractive to tourists for their nightlife as the classic areas. It all swirls together into one timeless gumbo. In the space of a day you can go from a Roman emperor's home to a hipster market; you
can peel away the layers simply by stepping down into the basement of a church. Of course, all this excess needs some restraint. You should find that in the Vatican; but instead, you'll find Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel there. So when it all gets too much, there are the parks: the Giardino degli Aranci with its sublime views of the dome of St Peter's;
the Villa Borghese, whose sprawling grounds contain several museums; and the Via Appia Antica, a Roman road strewn with mausoleums, catacombs, and ancient aqueducts. Even out in nature, Rome can't help but go over the top. Central European Standard Time Fall is famously stunning in Rome, known for soft-lit afternoons and a warming sun. To
avoid the crowds, go in early-to-mid December — the religious visitors start piling in for the Pope's Christmas address after that — or in January and February. Currency: Euro(Check the current exchange rate) Language: ItalianI don't speak Italian: Non parlo italianoI'm lost: Mi sono perso/aHow much is...: Quanto costa...I would like...: Vorrei...How
do I get to...: Per andare a...Learn more Italian phrases Calling Code: +39 Capital City: Rome Trains: Roma Termini is one of the biggest railway stations in the country, perfectly placed on the high-speed lines for fast access to Naples, Florence, Milan, and beyond. Fast direct trains to Fiumicino airport also leave from here. Buses: Rome has a decent
bus network although there's not much coverage in the historic center. It's easy to get out to places just beyond the city walls, such as Testaccio, Piramide, and the Via Appia Antica however. The metro system skims the city walls, such as Testaccio, Piramide, and the Via Appia Antica however. The metro system skims the city walls, such as Testaccio, Piramide, and the Via Appia Antica however. The metro system skims the city walls, such as Testaccio, Piramide, and the Via Appia Antica however.
place for rides from airports Fiumicino and Ciampino, with prices clearly marked on doors. Car service: Most hotels can arrange transfers; those to and from Fiumicino are normally good value, with prices only a little higher, but with no risk of arguments over fares and supplements at the end. Each suite at the Rooms of Rome is a pastiche of
historical and modern references. Courtesy of The Rooms of Rome Address: Via S. Remo, 3/int C3, 00182 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 345 178 1615Book Now Alda Fendi paused her fashion career to launch an art foundation; this hotel, which doubles as a gallery, is the next step. Below the Palatine Hill and near the Bocca della Verità (immortalized in
Roman Holiday) it's an 18th-century palazzo stripped to the brick bone and rebuilt by Jean Nouvel. There are mind blowing Palatine views from the terrace, while guests have out-of-hours access to exhibitions located in the hotel. Address: Via Labicana, 125, 00184 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 7759 1380Book Now No hotel in the city can claim such
a jaw-dropping view as this modern, tranquil retreat which sits plum opposite the Colosseum. Enjoy the panoramas from the rooftop restaurant; or book a front-facing room to see one of the world's most famous buildings from your bed. This is one place that's worth splashing out for a fabled room with a view. David Cicconi The Inn at the Roman
Forum. David Cicconi Address: Via degli Ibernesi, 30, 00184 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 6919 0970Book Now History lovers, this one's for you. After breakfast, take a look at the underground level, where archeologists have dug down to find Roman ruins – part of Trajan's Forum, just around the corner. Then head to the roof terrace, where the
views of the Eternal City are endlessly spectacular. Rooms mix the grandiose with the contemporary. Address: Via della Fontanella di Borghese, 56, 00187 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 342 886 1007Book Now Looking for a hotel fit for royalty? This is the place for you – the childhood home of Napoleon Bonaparte III, former French emperor. The
staircase is a marble architectural marvel, the ceilings are coffered and the walls are clad in silken damasks. The apartment-sized suites are more modern - so you don't feel like you're sleeping in a museum. Address: Via di Campo Marzio, 46, 00184 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 8115 7571Book Now Within the grand Palazzo Magnani, an 18th-
century mansion in the super-central Campo Marzio area, is this intimate, 13-room hotel. With most rooms holding two double beds, it's a great pick for friends and family. Leave room in your suitcase for a few bottles from the in-house liquor store which sells exclusively Italian-brewed booze. Address: Via dei Gigli d'Oro, 12, 00186 Roma RM,
ItalyPhone: +39 06 6880 3579Book Now One of the mini hotels that Rome does so well, this former family home now holds six rooms that bring a startling contemporary feel to the cobbled street behind Piazza Navona. 'Floating' beds hover under ancient beams; stark white chairs sit beside a carved fireplace. The tiny breakfast room doubles as a bar
Courtesy of Hotel Hassler Address: Piazza della Trinità dei Monti, 6, 00187 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 699340Book Now Everyone from Tom Cruise to Princess Diana have been welcomed to the Hassler by owner Roberto Wirth — incredibly, this world-famous grande dame, perched at the top of the Spanish Steps, is still family-owned and run
hands-on. It's a sumptuous, marble-drenched affair as you'd expect from one of Rome's fanciest five stars — its slogan, "stairway to heaven," is no mere PR puff. The seventh-floor, guests-only terrace has once-in-a-lifetime 270-degree views of the Eternal City — with the dome of St Peter's straight ahead, the Spanish Steps unfurling beneath, and
seagulls swooping overhead. Courtesy of Villa Spalletti Trivelli Address: Via Piacenza, 4, 00184 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 4890 7934Book Now If it feels like you're staying at the home of Roman aristocracy, that's because you are - the Spalletti family opened their home to guests in 2004, and you'll still find their family photos dotted about.
Rooms are super-comfy and traditional, but it's the public areas that are the real draw, from the stately drawing rooms to the garden outside and the spectacular hot-tubbed rooftop. Courtesy of Leading Hotels of the World Address: Via Vittorio Veneto, 72, 00187 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 421111Book Now Lady Gaga is rumored to have stayed
here in 2021; back in the day, the buzzing Via Veneto was the heart of the Dolce Vita scene. It may be an art deco grande dame but it's thoroughly modern, with slick décor and neutral palettes. Perched above the city, you'll get panoramic views of Rome from the terrace. Address: Via della Penna, 22, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 361
0841Book Now Everyone from Federico Fellini to Rupert Everett has spent time at the art deco Locarno, near the Tiber at the Villa Borghese level. Not that you'll want to venture far from the opulent rooms, with their damask walls, sensual heavy drapes and retro herringbone parquet. Stay in for cocktails at the bar to catch some dolce vita. Address:
Via Urbana, 6, 00184 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 4891 3446Book Now A converted townhouse in hipster Monti offers 15 guest rooms surrounding a pretty courtyard. The look's contemporary-meets-urban, with exposed stone walls, creams-on-creams and pops of color from the modern art. Address: Lungotevere delle Armi, 22/23, 00195 Roma RM,
ItalyPhone: +39 06 322 6776Book Now Another hotel owned by fashion royalty, this Tiber-side retreat of dogtooth floors and painted ceilings, all wrapped in an art nouveau palazzo. Pick from a room in the villa itself or the Garden House – an easy
stagger from the Michelin-starred restaurant. Address: Piazza della Trinità dei Monti, 6, 00187 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 06 6993 4726Website This extraordinary Michelin-starred restaurant sprawls over the sixth floor of the iconic Hassler Hotel at the top of the Spanish Steps. The views of the city are incomparable; and the food, by 29-year-old
wunderkind Andrea Antonini, matches it. The six-course tasting menu (with multiple amuse bouches) is a stunningly inventive take on traditional Roman and Italian food, from pumpkin flowers stuffed with prawns and spaghetti with mint, pecorino and sea urchin, to a sublime take on Italy's famous rabbit dish, coniglio al cacciatore. Reservations
recommended. Courtesy of Urbana 47 Address: Via Urbana, 47, 00184 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 4788 4006Website This is in hipster Monti, and it doesn't disappoint. Locally sourced food with an extra zing – like three types of pepper on the cacio e pepe pasta – it also does take-out pasta (or freshly rolled, if you're staying in an apartment).
Reservations recommended. Address: Via Monte dè Cenci, 9, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 6880 6629Website Family-owned since 1860, this stalwart of the Jewish Quarter — which dates back over 2,000 years and was behind many of the city's most famous dishes — serves some of Rome's most memorable meals from rich-sauced pasta to the
city's famous carciofi alla giuda artichokes. Eat outside on the pedestrianized, cobbled square. Reservations recommended. Address: Via Labicana, 125, 00184 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 9761 5109Website It's all about the view at Aroma, the rooftop restaurant of Palazzo Manfredi hotel, which looks square onto the Colosseum. It has a retractable
roof and glass doors that open up, leaving you to watch circling seagulls in the Colosseum's spotlights. Executive chef Giuseppe di Iorio's tasting menus take you through Roman classics, jazzing them up with modern touches. Address: Vicolo del Malpasso, 9, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 687 7365Website Chef Giulio Terrinoni has won a
Michelin star for the "striking originality" at his restaurant, 'For Me.' Go for the full 10-course tasting menu at dinner to get a handle on his work; for something more informal, try lunch, where he makes tapas-style "tappi." Reservations recommended. Address: Via Giovanni Branca, 100, 00153 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 574 6585Website The
Testaccio has long been known for its hearty restaurants. This laidback osteria is one of the best - and serves one of the best cacio e pepe in Rome. Don't miss the rosetta ripiena: bread rolls stuffed with pancetta, pecorino and mozzarella. Address: Piazza Tarquinia, 4 a/b, 00183 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 7720 7354Website Young chef Sara
Cicolini has created an ultra-modern take on the "quinto quarto" - the 'fifth quarter,' or Rome's beloved offal. Unlike more traditional places, here it's jazzed up, so you'll get dishes like a frittata poached around a heart of chicken offal; wagyu heart tartare; and oxtail meatballs with a sauce of peanut and cocoa powder. Address: Via Guglielmo
Calderini, 64, 00196 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 323 5531Website Stanley Tucci raves about the cacio e pepe at this restaurant, run by Japanese chef Kotaro Noda, who's won a Michelin star for his imaginative takes on classic Roman dishes. It's much cheaper than your average high-class restaurant, though; his five-course tasting menus start at
just €50 ($60). Reservations recommended. Address: Via dei Giubbonari, 21, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 687 5287Website This is a true Roman institution – a deli-restaurant hybrid using top-quality ingredients. Sit at the counter to watch platters of everything from cold cuts to anchovies being prepared, and try the pizza rossa, straight from
the Roscioli family's own bakery. Reservations recommended. Address: Corso Vittorio Emanuele II, 250, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 6813 9022Website Ciro Scarmadella is the young chef at the helm of this super-sophisticated Michelin-starred restaurant, but maître d' and host Alessandro Pipero is the one whose name it bears. Try the
This is one place you'll want to eat inside, since it's dug into the side of the Monte Testaccio: a grassy hill formed by a Roman rubbish dumb of terracotta amphorae - which you can see through a glass wall in the main room. Address: Salita de' Crescenzi, 31, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 6880 3034Website Forget the touristy location, right by
the Pantheon; this is the real, Roman deal, going back three generations. In a tiny, wood-lined room, and on tables outside, the Bib Gourmand holder serves classic Roman pasta dishes, seared pajata, and the signature dessert – a sour cherry tart. Reservations recommended. Address: Via dei Banchi Vecchi, 14, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06
9944 8583Website There are hundreds of wines (literally – over 800 at the last count) to choose from at this gorgeous, old-timey bar in a building dating back to the 16th century. There's a rotating selection by the glass; pair yours with their extremely elevated bar snacks. Address: Piazza del Colosseo, 1, 00184 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 3996
7700Website All roads famously lead to Rome – and once you get there, sometimes it feels like all roads in Rome go past the Colosseum. The great amphitheater is every bit as spectacular as you imagine – book a ticket that includes a guided tour of the underground area, to see the gateways and holding pens for the animals and gladiators before they
were sent out to fight. Address: Via della Salara Vecchia, 5/6, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 3996 7700Website The sprawling Roman Forum has several entrances, but start from the one behind Piazza Venezia for the most spectacular route, walking through the grand Arch of Titus and through the ancient city, the Colosseum looming at the
other end. Address: Viale VaticanoPhone: +39 06 6988 4676Website A jurisdiction of its own in the middle of Italy, the Vatican dominates Rome. Visit St Peter's basilica — the largest church in the world — to see Michelangelo's "Pietà," a heartrending tribute to motherhood, as well as his giant dome. Leave the best part of a day to explore the Vatican
Museums, home to masterpieces such as the ancient sculpture group Laocoön, Raphael's frescoes and, of course, the Sistine Chapel. Address: Piazza di Trevi, 00187 Roma RM, ItalyEarly mornings and late nights are the best time to see the Trevi Fountain, the city's most outrageous monument to the baroque age. While you're there, head up the
nearby Quirinal Hill - the highest of the seven - to the grand piazza outside the presidential palace, for superb views. Address: Piazzale Napoleone I, 00197 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 841 3979Website Set within the Villa Borghese gardens - with some of the loveliest grounds in Rome - is this superb art gallery which occupies a grand 17th-
century villa. The marble-clad interiors are glorious, but even they're outshone by the contents: a room full of Caravaggios and the hall of lifelike Bernini sculptures for starters. Address: Piazza Augusto Imperatore, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyWebsite The mausoleum of Rome's first emperor, Augustus, was once the grandest, highest building in the city.
Over the centuries it lost its marble cladding, its roof and much of its elegance, but following a 13-year restoration it reopened to the public in 2021 – ancient Rome's newest site. The Tiber has one of Europe's loveliest riversides, studded with historical remains and buildings and shaded by trees. The stretch from the Foro Boario – where two ancient
temples sit opposite the Bocca della Verità - up to the marble Ponte Sisto, is lovely, passing the grand synagogue and the mid-river island, Isola Tiberina. Or go from the grand Piazza del Popolo, past the Mausoleo di Augusto and the mid-river island, Isola Tiberina. Or go from the grand synagogue and the mid-river island, Isola Tiberina. Or go from the grand Piazza del Popolo, past the Mausoleo di Augusto and the mid-river island, Isola Tiberina.
emperor Hadrian, which then became the Pope's fortress. Address: Via Labicana, 95, 00184 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: + 39 06 774 0021Website This church not far from the Colosseum is a prime example of Rome's layered history – and here you'll get to peel back time, tier by tier. The current church is medieval; underneath is an early Christian basilica
from the fourth century; and below that is a mithraeum (an ancient Roman temple) and a Roman house. Getty Images Address: Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Roma RM, ItalyWebsite It's just off the tourist map (literally), beyond the Circus Maximus, which means this jaw-dropping Roman bath complex is rarely visited. Wander the sprawling
complex to see mosaics still in situ, hulking walls and arches, and - if it's having a special opening - the underground mithraeum. Address: Foro Traiano, 85, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 2276 1280Website This lesser known site has a fantastic sound-and-light show taking you straight back to ancient Rome. Ruined Roman houses in the bowels
of a grand palazzo have not only been excavated - so you walk above them on glass floors - but projectors show you how it would have been 2,000 years ago. Address: Via Vittorio Veneto, 27, 00187 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 8880 3695Website A memento mori warning to the Dolce Vita set, this church crypt on the famous Via Veneto houses the
remains of 3,700 bodies - assumed to be capuchin monks. But it isn't gruesome - the bones and skulls have been arranged artistically, into altarpieces, chandeliers, and even a Grim Reaper skeleton brandishing a scythe. Address: Piazza Pietro D'Illiria, 00153 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 6710 5457Follow the avenue of skinny pine trees to watch the
sun set over St Peter's. This lovely little park atop the Aventine hill has prime views of the city skyline - and points straight towards Michelangelo's famous dome. Paolo Gaetano/Getty Images Address: Via dei Condotti (technically Via
dei Condotti, though it's never referred to as such) and its cobbled side streets. Address: Via dei Coronari, 57, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 686 4224Website Italy's best known 'nose' and parfumier to the great and good including the Queen of England, Laura has created dozens of exclusive perfumes and scents at her laboratory on trendy Via
dei Coronari. Address: Via di Pallacorda, 1, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 689 2401Website Master tailor Piero Albertelli made elegant clothes for royals and celebrities across the globe. Although he passed away in 2018, his team continues, making made-to-measure shirts, coats and sweaters. There's a ready-to-wear collection, too. Address:
Via dei Coronari, 197, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 6871645Website Lisa Corti was born and brought up in Ethiopia, and she pays homage to her upbringing with her bright, highly patterned textiles. You'll find everything from throws and curtains to tablecloths and bed covers; as well as interiors there's also a collection of kaftans and kurtas.
Address: Via dei Prefetti, 11, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 679 3481Website This eyeglass brand has been going strong since 1961, and it shows in the retro designs. You'll find bright colors, the odd leopard print and even octagonal frames – they're design objects in themselves. Address: Via dei Pianellari, 14, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone:
+39 335 824 0400Website Artists and artisans tend to have been squeezed out of the city center in recent years. Wood sculptor Ferdinando Codognotto is one of those who remains – his extraordinary works of art can be seen around the city, while his workshop is on a cobbled street behind Piazza Navona. Address: Via dei Chiavari, 39, 00186 Roma
RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06 6830 7297Website Elisa Nepi handcrafts brightly colored bags, made from vegetable-dyed Tuscan leather (which she personally selects). Try her two-tone satchels, over-shoulder bags and wallets. Address: Via dei Chiavari, 73, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 339 272 5780Website Step back in time into this mosaic
workshop, where pots of tesserae line the shelves and ancient designs are propped up against the walls. Artisans Tiziana Ferraresi and Francesca Nicosia split the large tesserae over a spiked tree stump – just as the ancient Romans used to do. They teach mosaic classes, too. Address: Via di S. Pantaleo, 68-69, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 06
6880 2547Website 'Strategic Business Unit' isn't the most authentically Italian-sounding name, but these slick jeans, button-downs and t-shirts bear all the hallmarks of Bel Paese fashion. The ultra-soft denim comes from Japan, though it's tailored in Italy. Address: Le Tartarughe Eat & Drink, Piazza Mattei, 00186 Roma RM, ItalyPhone: +39 392 413
2158Website Rita Salvadori grows 80,000 chili pepper plants on her biodynamic Tuscan farm, including some of the spiciest strains on the planet. They're sold here, at this great little café and deli – try her chilli-laced salt and jam. Trastevere is one of the
center's trendiest neighborhoods, with exceptional restaurants and buzzing bars alongside quiet lanes and cobblestone streets that feel far from a city. This has always been an area of artists and there's still a boho feel to the air. Testaccio: A port of ancient Rome, this Tiber-side district south of the city center used to be best known as
the location for the city's slaughterhouse. Today, that slaughterhouse hosts modern art exhibitions, and there's a slew of trendy bars straddling this and Ostiense, the district next door. As a working class area, its restaurants have always been top-notch. Monti: Hipsters love Monti, the former down-at-heel neighborhood sitting between Termini
railway station and the Colosseum. Back in ancient times, this was the Suburra (slums); more recently it was the Red Light district. But in the last couple of decades, its cobblestone streets have been transformed by artisans, bars, and boutique stores, making it Rome's nightlife capital, spiraling off from Piazza della Madonna dei Monti. Vatican City.
This is of course the seat of the Catholic faith, and life revolves around the church here in the Vatican, an independent city stage within Rome. You're here for the museums and St Peter's Basilica of course, but there are other finds, such as the Auditorium Conciliazione concert hall and its chic Chorus Caffe. Campitelli: If you're here for all things
ancient, this is where you'll spend most of your time. Campidoglio; the Colosseum skims its edge. Campo Marzio: If you're looking to splash some cash, you'll want Campo Marzio. One of the most ancient areas of Rome, it pairs sites such as the
Mausoleo di Augusto and the Ara Pacis with the chic shopping streets around Via Condotti and the Spanish Steps, and finishes at Via del Corso, where you'll find the high-street stores. Fall in Rome is spectacular – so much so that there's a name for the city's warm and sunny October days: ottobrata, where temperatures can hit the 70s in the sun.
Winters are mild, although January temperatures can plummet to the 40s, and it can rain. Spring, like fall, is a beautiful time to go, with trees in blossom and temperatures in the 60s. Summer is hot and humid – so much so that most Romans abandon the city for the month of August. Scooterino: Ride-sharing app to beat Rome's notorious traffic – on a
VespaiOs | Android FREE NOW (was MyTaxi): Taxi-hailing appiOs | Android Street Art Roma: Maps out Rome's street artiOs only Probus Rome: Bus schedules, routes, live updatesiOs | Android
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