

TRUTH IN TRAVEL

CONDÉ NAST

MARCH 2017

Traveler

SCOTLAND • ROME • SHANGHAI • PERU • GASCONY

Style,
Design, and
Culture
Around the
World



Rome

Founded: 753 a.c.
Soccer Hero: Francesco Totti
Iconic Symbol: She-wolf
Pasta Topper: Pecorino

5
 Average number of espressos
 a Roman drinks per day.

How to Get There
 Alitalia, American, and
 Delta fly direct from JFK; Alitalia,
 American, and United from
 O'Hare; and Alitalia from LAX.



What Is SPQR?
 The acronym that appears all over
 town stands for *Senatus*
Populus Que Romanus, "the
 Senate and People of Rome."



up at some gelateria or in another ivy-covered square.) Anyone who wants to know what really makes an authentic *cacio e pepe* or carbonara (starchy pasta water, not cream) knows it's worth sacrificing another day in the Vatican to join the locals in the trattorias of Testaccio and the Jewish Ghetto. If you're still craving a culture fix, head to the newer, lesser-known spots north of and around the Piazza del Popolo (but know where to grab your pizza afterward). What follows is how to get out of monument-checklist mode and *live* like a Roman, with tips from the native and transplanted designers, writers, and hoteliers who know best. →

We wouldn't be the first to call Rome the world's greatest outdoor museum. And no matter how many times we go to the Eternal City, we stop dead in our tracks at the first glimpse of the Pantheon as we turn into the Piazza della Rotonda. Ditto the Trevi

Fountain, the Spanish Steps, and the Colosseum (all recently restored—*grazie* to Fendi, Bulgari, and Tod's, respectively). But what we realize, especially if we've been to Rome more than once, is that the monuments themselves are not the

destination. They are, rather brilliantly, the backdrop to a lifestyle we came here for. We are

📍
 Outdoor dining in the
 Piazza di Santa
 Maria in Trastevere.

talking about the Roman *la dolce vita*—the art of lingering over long lunches and carafes of house wine in villa-lined piazzas, strolling down impossibly narrow cobblestone *vicoli* with no particular destination in mind. (You'll almost always end



Where Romans Weekend

Monti skirts the ancient Forum, yet this effortlessly hip Roman enclave, with its ocher villas and cobblestone lanes, somehow still remains under the tourist radar. If you come in the morning, slices of *ciambellone* cake will still be warm from the oven at **Panificio Monti** (which is way better than the trendier-looking Zia Rosetta, nearby). Take your slice down to the Renaissance fountain in the Piazza della Madonna dei Monti to eat with the Colosseum at your back.

Then spend a couple of hours browsing the racks in the ateliers near the via del Boschetto (see our picks at bottom left) before sitting down to a long lunch of fettuccine with artichokes and lentils at **L'Asino d'Oro**. Walk it off on the via Urbana, perhaps our favorite street in the area for its ivy-draped cafés, and at boutiques like **Moll Flanders**, one of Monti's excellent consignment shops, where you can pick up Ann Demeulemeester coats and Fiorentini & Baker boots.

Then get to the via Panisperna for a Negroni at the **Sacripante Art Gallery's** gorgeous old turn-of-the-century bar before moving on to the wildly popular **Ai Tre Scalini**, which pairs killer stuffed *pizzette* with Tuscan reds for *aperitivo*. There'll be a crowd to get in (Romans infamously do not form lines), but it moves fast.



A sitting room inside Villa Spalletti Trivelli.

IN MONTI, IT'S ALL ABOUT THE INDIE BOUTIQUES

Ashanti Galleria

Raffaele Cinzio sells his chunky brass and silver rings at the front of this boutique, and Italian oil paintings in the gallery attached at the back.

Le Gallinelle

Monti's fashion matriarch Wilma Silvestri launched her label here in 1989. Today, she still hand-sews her thick wool coats and skirts in the shop.

Le Noù

Eugenia Barbari and Leila Testa's silk handbags and felt jackets are worth getting an extra suitcase for.

Tina Sondergaard

The Danish seamstress has a cult following who can't get enough of her vintage-style mod pieces and tailored dresses.



My Perfect Day: Fashion Royalty Delfina Delettrez Fendi

"I'll start with..."

A strong coffee from my favorite place in Rome, the eighteenth-century **Caffè Greco** on the via Condotti. It's where Goethe and Gogol used to sit and exchange ideas."

"Then I'll head to..."

The **Coppedè Quarter**. Just north of the center, it's a hidden gem—even to locals—and was completed by Gino Coppedè in the 1920s. The area fuses medieval, Art Deco, and Mannerist architecture and inspires so much of my design."

"Lunch is always at..."

Settimio al Pellegrino, in the Centro Storico, which feels like you're eating at your grandparents' house. I love the *cacio e pepe*. It's close enough to my jewelry boutique on the via del Governo Vecchio, so I'll check in there afterward."

"Late at Night..."

Is the best time to stop by the Trevi Fountain, when the water and stone shine in the moonlight. There is usually no one there, which feels magical."

WHERE WE ALWAYS TEND TO STAY

Hassler Roma

Rome's original grande dame atop the Spanish Steps had been feeling a bit tired of late, but the spruced-up terrace rooms (request one with the old-world bathrooms) make us want to check in again. Plus, you can't beat the gilded Hassler Bar for a spritz.

Hotel Eden

When the renovation of this institution near the Villa Borghese is completed next month, it will have a Sonya Dakar and Officina Profumo Santa Maria Novella spa.

J.K. Place Roma

This punchy spot in front of the Museo dell'Ara Pacis is perfectly situated for anywhere you need to go, and when you return at night the *aperitivo* scene at the J.K. Cafe is one of the buzziest in town.

Portrait Roma

It's Ferragamo-owned, so no surprise this intimate villa off the Spanish Steps nails the design: Seriously roomy suites have silk curtains and retro '50s club chairs.

Villa Spalletti Trivelli

We love this old palace near the Quirinale for its new rooftop terrace with daybeds, Jacuzzis, and complimentary bar.

25

Hundred

Number of fountains with potable mineral water around town, a nod to the Empire, when running water meant wealth.