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 SOHO HOUSE CITY GUIDES

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# ROME

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 A guide by members, for members to all the best places to eat, drink, shop, party and meet. Discover the Soho House side of the city.

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# ANTLER

FOR THOSE WHO TRAVEL OFTEN. SINCE 1914.

Benvenuti a Roma, we're so happy you're here. Now that you've arrived at the House, why not head up to our rooftop, order a Negroni (or two) and make a plan for your visit.

A fresh breath of creative energy is blowing through 'la bella Roma', a place that's steeped in tradition. The buzzing city is home to world-famous palazzos, basilicas, mausoleums, millennia-old statues, and ancient archaeological sites.

As this new guide shows, Rome is now a blend of the old and

the new. Contemporary art galleries can be found in deconsecrated ninth-century churches. A variety of quirky, independent boutiques offer a mix of home-grown talent and experimental fashion from the world's best international designers. Iconic buildings by architects Zaha Hadid and Richard Meier now compete with the masterworks of Francesco Borromini et al.

A lot of this new energy has emerged from the district of San Lorenzo, where **Soho House Rome** opened in 2021. The area has a grittier, more

bohemian feel due to The Sapienza University of Rome, and also its network of art galleries and studios.

Spanning 10 floors with a rooftop pool, 360° city views from Cecconi's Terrazza, a state-of-the-art spa, a members' loft co-working space on the first floor, plus a range of bedrooms and apartments, **Soho House Rome** is the ideal spot for exploring the city.

So, consider this – our first-ever printed Rome city guide, created in partnership with our friends at Antler and featuring all the hottest tips from our members in the know – your ultimate companion to making the very best of your trip.

Giorgia Tozzi, Soho House  
Rome General Manager

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WELCOME

Soho House Rome



## All about Rome's coolest areas

## NEIGHBOURHOODS

### San Lorenzo

An abundance of street art and graffiti, record stores, indie boutiques and pop-up cinemas gives San Lorenzo its artsy, bohemian atmosphere, with a reputation as a hub for creativity.

### Testaccio

With a former slaughterhouse-turned-food market as its beating heart, the district of Testaccio is one of the culinary hotspots of Rome and the place where many of its most famous dishes were born.

## NEIGHBOURHOODS

San Lorenzo

## All about Rome's coolest areas

## NEIGHBOURHOODS

### Prati

Prati's wide boulevards, pretty parks and art nouveau buildings are home to high-end tailors and chic restaurants, which cater to the affluent Romans who live in the area.

### Monti

A once bohemian enclave on the outskirts of Rome, Monti has transformed into a hipster destination with vintage stores, vegan gelato shops,

and family-run restaurants and trattorias. A visit to Piazza di Spagna in the city centre – one of the most famous spots with Scalinata di Trinità dei Monti (the Spanish Steps) – is a must.

### Trastevere

One of the city's prettiest districts, the small and winding, ivy-draped lanes of Trastevere is where you'll find the perfect spot for a lively aperitivo or two.



## NEIGHBOURHOODS



Monti

## The art you'll find around Soho House Rome

ART

The art collection at **Soho House Rome** in the main club area has been curated around the theme of 'saints and sinners'. A mix of works by internationally renowned artists, with an emphasis on those from the Lazio region, it explores the age-old concept of good and evil in a myriad inventive new ways – from Mary Magdalene to Italian football's ultra fans.

The work of Italian artists, such as Andrea Martinucci, Gianni Politi, Silvia Giambrone, Claudio Verna, Elisa Montessori, Emiliano Maggi and Gio Pistone, reflects the vibrancy of the

contemporary art scene and contributes to the atmosphere of the space.

Meanwhile, in the ground-floor studio, the collection features a series of pieces that responded to the pandemic. During 2020, the House commissioned works where various artists collaborated. These include Thomas Heatherwick, Xaviera Simmons, Dread Scott, Sol Calero, Zoë Buckman, Ilit Azoulay, and Leung Chi Wo. There is also a rooftop mural of vivid bodies and faces in motion by Pistone that captures the joy of 'la dolce vita' in bold colour.

ART



Artwork by Andrea Martinucci

## The member picks: art spots to visit

Selected by Isabelle Sciamma,  
art and lifestyle editor and PR

### 1 Sant'Andrea de Scaphis

In the heart of Trastevere, this deconsecrated ninth-century church is now one of Rome's best contemporary art galleries. Founded by Gavin Brown, it hosts impressive installations and attracts a good crowd during opening nights.  
**santandreadescaphis.com**

### 2 Casa Balla

Close to the MAXXI museum of Rome (a must-see for Zaha Hadid's architecture), you can visit Giacomo Balla's house. The futurist painter transformed his Roman apartment with art: from the walls and ceilings to furniture and ceramics, everything is covered with his colourful patterns and geometric shapes.  
**casaballa.maxxi.art**

### 3 S.A.L.A.D

Short for San Lorenzo Art District, S.A.L.A.D. was founded by artist Alessandro Calizza.

His walking tours are the best way to discover artists' studios, street art and galleries that are off the beaten track.  
**sanlorenzoartdistrict.it**

### 4 FOROF

Founded by Giovanna Caruso Fendi, FOROF is a foundation that combines archaeology and contemporary art. Situated at the Imperial Forums, the space invites contemporary artists to experiment with Rome's historical heritage.  
**forof.it**

### 5 Palazzo Altemps

The sheer beauty of this aristocratic mansion – one of the sites of the National Roman Museum – is reason enough to visit. It's also home to ancient sculptures that belonged to families of Roman nobility.  
**museonazionale romano.  
beniculturali.it**



## Eat and drink your way around Soho House Rome

## FOOD & DRINK

Food and drink accompanied by a great view is integral to the Soho House experience, and none more so than in Rome. Enjoy a cold Aperol Spritz in the 10th-floor rooftop bar, before tucking into a plate of Cacio e Pepe in the open-air Cecconi's Terrazza, with a 360° view of the Eternal City. Potted lemon trees, a stone Palladina-patterned floor, a pizza oven and sparkling lights add to the atmosphere for a laid-back dining experience.

First opened in London's Mayfair, Cecconi's Terrazza offers handmade pasta, seafood and pizza inspired by traditional Venetian food. Favourites include our famous Spaghetti Lobster, which makes lunch an indulgent occasion. Meanwhile, in the ninth-floor restaurant, the club menu – which is served in Soho Houses all over the world – is accompanied by seasonal Roman dishes inspired by local flavours and ingredients.

FOOD & DRINK

Cecconi's Terrazza

**The member picks:****where to eat and drink**

Selected by Sabrina Quartieri, lifestyle journalist, and Giorgia Tozzi, Soho House Rome General Manager

**1 L'Archeologia**

A celebration of regional food amid mausoleums, aqueducts and catacombs in a 19th-century building in the heart of ancient Rome. The wine cellar in an underground tomb dates back to the first century AD and is intriguing. [larcheologia.it](http://larcheologia.it)

**2 Al Vero Girarrosto Toscano**

Close to Via Veneto is this restaurant, where you can enjoy Tuscan dishes such as Crostini, Ribollita, homemade pasta and grilled meat. Famous film directors of the 1950s and 1960s, like Federico Fellini, often spent an evening here. [alverogirarrostotoscano.it](http://alverogirarrostotoscano.it)

**3 Pianostrada**

In the centre, near Campo de' Fiori, is Pianostrada, which is run by women with an open

kitchen and a pretty garden. Creative Italian food with an international twist is enjoyed at the table and at the counter. [@pianostrada](https://www.instagram.com/pianostrada)

**4 Sora Margherita**

This is one of the oldest Roman trattorias in the heart of the city, where you can tuck into traditional dishes, such as artichokes, fettuccine and handmade agnolotti. Try the classic ricotta cake with sour cherries. [soramargherita.com](http://soramargherita.com)

**5 Salumeria Roscioli**

A few steps away from Campo de' Fiori, this historic restaurant serves authentic Roman food and has a cellar with more than 2,800 wines. Plus, a great selection of cocktails. [salumeriaroscioli.com](http://salumeriaroscioli.com)



FOOD & DRINK

Al Vero Girarrosto Toscano



**The member picks:****cool places to shop**

Selected by Valentina Ilardi, creative director

**1 MdE**

This store is a fashion dream, where you can find top designers such as Rick Owens and Yohji Yamamoto mixed with the latest rising stars from all over the globe, like London's Grace Wales Bonner. **mdefashion.com**

**2 Galassia Roma**

A staple boutique in the city centre with a focus on up-and-coming Japanese and Belgian designers. Expect experimental tailoring and offbeat accessories in a predominantly black and white colour palette. **galassiaroma.com**

**3 Tricots**

Another must-visit boutique in the Parioli district. Sisters Flaminia and Fabrizia Baldelli are the owners, and they're

famous for their sharp selection and excellent taste in garments and accessories. **tricotsroma.com**

**4 Dylan Tripp**

The most fashionable florist in Rome. If you need to send a thank you to someone special before you leave our city, have Dylan take care of it. You'll find the most unusual selection of shapes and colours. It's also great for inspiration – he's always ahead of the trends. **dylantripp.com**

**5 La Jolie Fille**

Founded by Michele Capalbo, who has worked with Roberto Cavalli and Chiara Boni, this local brand is known for its timeless design. Classic shapes are revisited in bold colours and high-quality fabrics. **lajoliefile.it**

SHOPPING

MdE



The must-buys to take  
home in your Antler suitcase

SHOPPING



**1 The cross-body bag**

Lemaire Croissant Bag, €1,178  
[mdefashion.com](http://mdefashion.com)

**2 The towel**

Soho House Rome Pool  
Towel, €75  
[sohohome.com](http://sohohome.com)

**3 The sunglasses**

Balenciaga Sunglasses, €355  
[tricotssroma.com](http://tricotssroma.com)

**4 The bouquet**

Dylan Tripp Flowers, POA  
[dylantripp.com](http://dylantripp.com)

**5 The boots**

Rick Owens Beetle Bozo  
Tractor Boots, €1,174  
[galassiaroma.com](http://galassiaroma.com)

SHOPPING



Antler suitcase

The rolling programme of events at **Soho House Rome** reflects the vibrancy of the city and ensures that our creative community can use the space to relax, connect and have fun. For live music, we've hosted performances from the likes of Gaia and Myss Keta. We also run a Live on the Roof series with exciting emerging talent.

Elsewhere, the House is very much connected to the art scene: we regularly have temporary exhibitions by Rome-based up-and-coming artists, and previously collaborated with Tuttacittà

where around 30 galleries displayed works at the House. We also have a collaboration with the art magazine *CURA*.

For our food-loving members, there are regular pop-ups for our One Night Only series with dedicated menus created by renowned Italian chefs, such as Max Mariola and Ciro Scamardella.

Whether you're in town to party, meet new people or treat your tastebuds, the daily events programme means that there'll always be something to suit everyone.

A close-up, low-angle shot of a hand reaching up to touch a large, reflective disco ball. The ball is covered in a grid of small, square mirrors that catch and reflect light, creating a shimmering effect. The hand is positioned at the bottom center, with fingers spread, reaching towards the bottom edge of the ball. The background is dark and out of focus, with some blurred lights visible in the lower right corner.

NIGHTLIFE

Soho House Rome

## The member picks: where to dance the night away

Selected by Mary Gehneyi,  
DJ, and Luca Mazzullo, Soho  
House Head of Membership  
& Communications

### 1 Drink Kong

Located in the neighbourhood of Monti (close to San Lorenzo), Drink Kong has been named as one of The World's 50 Best Bars for 2023. It's a great meeting point for locals, especially for an aperitivo or after-dinner drink.

**[drinkkong.com](http://drinkkong.com)**

### 2 Alcazar Live

If you're a live music lover or a fan of the clubbing scene, head to Alcazar Live in Trastevere. It has an amazing weekly programme for a good night out in Rome.

**[alcazarlive.it](http://alcazarlive.it)**

### 3 Lanificio

This club is situated within a post-industrial complex near the river Aniene, which also contains a restaurant, Lanificio Cucina. If you want

to dance to hip-hop, Touch The Wood Club is the best party, founded by DJs Marco G and Mr Kite.

**[lanificio.com](http://lanificio.com)**

### 4 Rashōmon Club

A place that makes a true clubber feel at home, with two rooms, a cocktail bar and a garden set-up, where you can find your space and listen to pure techno. It always offers excellent artistic programmes.

**[rashomonclub.com](http://rashomonclub.com)**

### 5 The Sanctuary Eco Retreat

Head to Colle Oppio in the city centre near the Colosseum and you'll find this timeless space. Enjoy good music, drinks and dinner, then you'll probably end up dancing in Sanctuary's Club, which always invites some great DJs.

**[thesanctuaryecoretreat.com](http://thesanctuaryecoretreat.com)**



NIGHTLIFE

Drink Kong



**The member picks:**  
**Plan your *passeggiata***  
**around the Italian capital**

Selected by Francesco  
Gasparri, actor

### 1 Veio Regional Park

About an hour away from Rome and spanning 15,000 hectares, discover waterfalls, woods and archaeological remains that date back to ancient Etruscan times.

### 2 Sutri

Another place to visit just outside Rome is Sutri – a small medieval town with walls that were built from blocks of tuff volcanic rock. The necropolis and remains of the old amphitheatre are a must-see.

### 3 Galeria Antica

Park your car at the Da Claudio restaurant and then walk for about 6km to discover this ghost town, which was abandoned after the Middle Ages and has lovely views of the ruins covered by vegetation.

### 4 Via Appia Antica

Start from the Domine Quo Vadis church and visit the Gladiator School of Rome to learn about fighting techniques. Continue along the Appia, the first of the great Roman roads, and see the ancient city ruins, basilicas and catacombs.

### 5 Villa Borghese

Wander around this park in the city centre and you'll see monuments, statues and the historic villa. A visit to Galleria Borghese art museum is unmissable.

### 6 Verano Monumental Cemetery

The Verano Monumental Cemetery (a stone's throw from the House) is also beautiful. It's the largest and oldest cemetery in the city, and the temple monuments under the maritime pines are true works of art.

EXPLORE

Villa Borghese



## Behind the design of Soho House Rome

DESIGN

Set inside a repurposed 10-storey building next to The Sapienza University, **Soho House Rome** offers 49 bedrooms, 20 apartments, a gym and Cowshed spa, a restaurant, a rooftop bar, a screening room, private events, and co-working spaces. The location of this building in the up-and-coming San Lorenzo district gave the Soho House design team an opportunity to do something fresh and modern compared to what is typically offered in a city that's steeped in tradition.

The story of how a specific shade of olive green came to be the defining colour of the House typifies the approach to the building's design. When Soho House Founder, Nick Jones, visited the site during the renovation, he walked

outside onto the street in San Lorenzo and spotted a car in a shade of green that became the signature colour of the House, which is used in many of its interiors. It was a key reference for the rich and warm tones found inside, with nods to different eras including the Art Deco period, and the 1960s and 1970s.

The rooftop, with its panoramic views of the city, features outdoor fabrics and patterns designed by local artist Vincenzo d'Alba, who was inspired by the red tiles of the pool. The lemon trees, which allow members to pluck the fruit from up above while dining at Cecconi's Terrazza, is one of the many details that makes **Soho House Rome** a special place.



DESIGN

Soho House Rome

## The member picks: all of Rome's (lesser-known) architectural hotspots

Selected by Diego  
Thomas, architect

### 1 Church of Tor Tre Teste

Designed by Richard Meier and completed in 2003, the Jubilee Church has become an icon of modern architecture. The three imposing white sails symbolise the journey to the new millennium and are definitely worth seeing.

### 2 Quartiere Coppedè

This architectural complex was designed by the architect Gino Coppedè between 1915 and 1927, blending Liberty, Art Deco, Gothic, and Baroque styles. The Beatles famously jumped into the Fountain of the Frogs here after a concert.

### 3 Pasquino statue

This Hellenistic statue from the third century BC is the most famous of the 'talking statues' used by Roman

people in the pontifical era to display satirical placards about the political life of Rome and Italy.

### 4 Hertziana Library

Located in Palazzo Zuccari, this late Renaissance building reopened in 2013 with a glass courtyard by architect Juan Navarro Baldeweg. Open from Monday to Friday, it's worth exploring this fusion of ancient and modern architecture.

### 5 The optical illusion of St Peter's dome

Walking along Via Piccolomini, both day and night, you can experience a fascinating optical illusion with the dome of St Peter's seeming to recede as you approach due to the unique layout of the buildings.

DESIGN



Hertziana Library

**Still on the hunt for more Rome must-dos?**

Visit the 'Travel Tips' section of the Connect feed in the Soho House app to find other members for city-break gold.



Contributors: Francesco Gasparri, Mary Gehnyei, Valentina Ilardi, Luca Mazzullo, Sabrina Quartieri, Isabelle Sciamma, Diego Thomas, Giorgia Tozzi. Writer: Alfred Tong. Photographers: Lavinia Cernau, Emma Jude Jackson, Finn Lafcadio O'Hanlon, Giulia Venanzi. Illustrators: Chiara Brazzale, Mike Lemanski.





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# Explore our House in Rome

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Soho House Rome

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