



DININGGUIDE

VENICE

GOURMET SHOPPING

IS ALSO A MUST WHEN IN VENICE. HERE ARE A FEW OF OUR FAVOURITE SHOPS TO PICK UP SOME DELICIOUS AND DELECTABLE TREATS.

MASCARI

Venice and its outlying areas produce some of the very best wines in Italy. The two best regional producers, in our opinion, are Quintarelli and Romano Dal Forno. These two cult wineries produce some of the very best red wines on the planet. Especially prized and astronomically priced are their Amarones. Amarones are slightly-sweet, fruity, full-bodied and luscious wines; the grapes are semi-dried in the sun to concentrate the wine's flavours. The slightly more moderately priced Valpolicellas from both wineries are also worth collecting. The problem with cult wines, though, is that no wine stores ever stock them. Mascari, however, does. Don't be fooled by the frontage - you'll think you've walked into a candy store. Ask the very knowledgeable manager to recommend some wines for you and he'll introduce you to the best-stocked wine store in the city. Mascari also stocks other super-yummy things like dried porcinis.

Mascari

tel: 041 52 29 762

381 Ruga dei Spezieri, San Polo

D: Cross Rialto Bridge into San Polo. Walk straight. Ruga dei Orefici turns into Ruga dei Spezieri. Mascari will be on your left.

ALIANI GASTRONOMICA

Just minutes from Mascari, and also in San Polo, is Aliani. This lovely and high-end gourmet shop stocks some truly spectacular hams, other meats, cheeses and other amazing produce.

Aliani Gastronomica

tel: 041 522 4913

654 Ruga Vecchia San Giovanni, San Polo
D: Cross Rialto Bridge into San Polo. Walk straight and then take the first left, which is Ruga Vecchia San Giovanni. Aliani will be on your left.

RIALTO PRODUCE MARKETS

Just over the Rialto Bridge and in San Polo are some of the best food / produce markets in town. Once over the bridge, turn right and walk straight, keeping the water on your right. You'll see some great open-air stalls and end up at the fish and meat market.

TWO MORE VERY COOL STORES TO CHECK OUT IF YOU HAVE SOME TIME.

GIANNI BASSO

If you want handprinted cards and other stationery, lovingly produced by a master, go here. Gianni uses an old Gutenberg press, handblends his inks, and takes his time to print the most beautiful stationery around. He only takes cash, so make sure you bring your Euros.

Gianni Basso

tel: 041 523 4681

5306 Calle del Fumo, Cannaregio

D: Refer to directions for Ostaria Boccadoro, Calle del Fumo starts at Campo Wildman.

OTTICA VASCELLARI

We're big fans of the hand-made acetate spectacle frames sold at this family-owned store. Very sexy frames and classic designs.

Ottica Vascellari

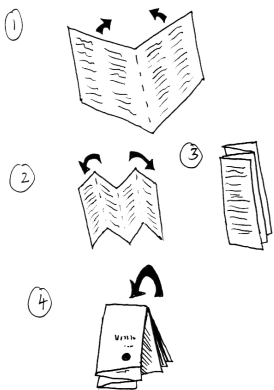
tel: 041 522 9388

1030 Ruga Rialto, San Polo

D: Just a bit further down the road from Aliani Gastronomica.

LA SERENISSIMA CAN BE A GOURMAND'S PARADISE, IF YOU KNOW WHERE TO EAT. GET PAST THE RIDICULOUSLY OVERPRICED TRATTORIAS THAT TOUT TOURIST MENUS AND SERVE FOOD SO BAD YOU WOULDN'T FEED IT TO YOUR DOG, AND YOU'LL DISCOVER SOME WONDERFUL CAFES AND RESTAURANTS THAT WILL MAKE YOUR STAY IN VENICE AS DELICIOUS AS IT IS ROMANTIC.

1. FOLD PAGE IN HALF.
2. FOLD EACH HALF IN HALF AGAIN.
3. CLOSE ACCORDIAN STYLE.
4. FOLD OVER SO THAT VENICE CITYGUIDE COVER FACES YOU.



THIS LITTLE GUIDE LISTS OUR FAVOURITE PLACES TO DINE IN THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL CITY. WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THEM AS MUCH AS WE DO. AND WHILE YOU MAY NOT SEE THAT MANY OTHER TOURISTS IN THESE ESTABLISHMENTS, YOU WILL FIND THEM CROWDED WITH LOCALS. SO MAKE SURE YOU MAKE RESERVATIONS.

AFTER FLIPPING TO PRINT, THIS SIDE SHOULD BE DOWN AND PAPER SHOULD FEED IN THIS DIRECTION.
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C O R T E S C O N T A

This may be one of Venice's very best and

most little known restaurants. I love this place for lunch. When it is beautiful, you'll want to

sit out in the green, lush and semi-covered courtyard. The food here redeems Venice and

proves beyond a doubt that this often too-

touristy city does offer some amazing food. To me, discovering Corte Sconta was a revelation.

Akin to listening to Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band for the very first time; reading The

Princess Bride for the first time; finally seeing Desmoiselles D'Avignon in person; the first-

ever taste of top quality toro sushi or sashimi; or that first sip of a Quintarelli Amaronne (which

is another thing you should do when in Venice). In other words, it's one of those life-changing

first experiences that makes you realize you just may have been missing out on some pretty

amazing things for most of your life. Start your meal with a shared plate of appetizers; ask your

waiter what's fresh. Then have some lovely pastas. Wash this down with some well-chilled

Prosecco.

Corte Sconta

tel: 041 522 7024

Castello, 3886 Calle del Festrin

D: Get off at the Arsenal e vaparetto stop. Walk straight ahead towards the buildings. Facing

the building, with your back to the water, the first street on your right will be Calle de Forni.

Go down it, then take your first left at Calle de Pegola. Walk towards the water. The road turns

right at the water; it becomes Fond. d. Piovane. Walk to the end of this street; it will take you

across the water. Turn left on Calle de Pestrin.

O S T A R I A B O C C A D O R O

This is another one of the best, unknown restaurants in Venice. It is about a 20-25 minute

walk from St Mark's Square or about 5-10 minutes from Rialto Bridge. It's a small, super-casual and friendly restaurant. It serves beautifuly prepared local seafood, pastas and other specialties. Check out the blackboard for a list

of daily specials. Also be sure to order the fritto

misto here. This batter-dipped seafood fry-up is heaven on a plate. It is, in my opinion, the best

fritto misto I have ever eaten. If it is a great day, have a lovely lunch outside. Or visit for a

terrifically satisfying dinner.

Ostaria Boccadora

tel: 041 521 1021

5405/a Campo Wildman, Cannaregio

D: Get to Campo San Bartolomeo, which is north of St Mark's Square and just in front of

the Rialto Bridge. Go up Salizxada San Giovanni Grisostomo. Turn right at Salizxada San

Campo Wildman.

V I N I D A A R T U R O

This tiny, little restaurant is a haunt of the city's already know that Vini Da Arturo serves some

of the best food in Venice... plus the city's very best Tiramisu. Unlike most restaurants in town

that specialize in seafood – and seem to offer the exact same menu – this hidden and treated

secret place specializes in grilled meats and other classic meat dishes. Also worth

ordering is the pasta with artichokes. And don't forget to order the super creamy, out of this

world Tiramisu to end a great meal.

Vini Da Arturo

tel: 041 528 6974

San Marco 3656, Calle degli Assassini

D: Get to Campo San Fantin, northwest of St Marks Square. Go north on Calle della Verona.

F I A S C H E T E R R I A T O S C A N A

Fiaschetteria Toscana is one of the city's most well-known seafood restaurants. It is a tad touristy but several of the dishes are fantastic. Their

fritto misto (mixed fry-up of cuttlefish, softshell crab, squid and monkfish) is one of the best in

Venice. In an ideal world, I'd have a plate of

just the softshell crabs, but that would be pretty darned expensive. This is a good place for a

fun family dinner.

Fiaschetteria Toscana

tel: 041 528 5281

5719 S Giovanni Grisostomo, Cannaregio

D: Get to Campo San Bartolomeo, which is north of St Mark's Square and just in front of

the Rialto Bridge. Go up Salizxada San Giovanni Grisostomo. Fiaschetteria Toscana is on

your left.

E N O T E C A S A N M A R C O

This place is a total revelation: a chic and casual restaurant minutes from St Mark's Square

and has an amazing wine list (plus some amazing by the glass options). We first ran

into here to escape the rain. We had passed it several times but because it was in the heart of

touristville, we never went in. Thank the gods for the rain. The food was gorgeous and the

wines delicious. The enoteca has a lovely warm and friendly atmosphere, perfect for a fun, loud

meal with friends and family.

Enoteca San Marco

tel: 041 528 5242

1610 Frezzeria, San Marco

D: Leave St Mark's Square at its westernmost exit (the basilica will be at your back). You will

end up on either Bocca di Piazza or Salizxada San Moise. Turn left on Frezzeria.

T R A T T O R I A A L L A M A D O N N A

There are dozens of restaurants lining the Grand Canal near the Rialto Bridge. Almost all of them, however, are over-priced tourist traps

that serve mediocre food. This old-world trattoria, a favourite of locals and regular visitors to La Serenissima, is tucked away in an alley

just steps away from the bridge. This is a nice,

super-casual place for a very, very local dinner.

The last time we visited, the trattoria wasn't accepting reservations, so try to go a little early.

The antipasti here are lovely. So too are the fresh seafood. The spanner crabmeat, served

in a crab shell, is especially nice and refreshing.

Traattoria Alla Madonna

tel: 041 522 3824

594 Calle della Madonna, San Polo

D: Cross Rialto Bridge and turn left on Fondamenta del Vin; walk along the water. Turn right

onto Calle della Madonna; it will be your second right. The restaurant is on your left.

H A R R Y ' S B A R

No other restaurant in Venice is as iconic as Harry's Bar. It also may be the city's most

expensive restaurant. That said, it is a must-visit. It's a classic. Hemingway ate and drank

here (many times). So too did Ava Gardner, Marlene Dietrich, and almost every royal in

Europe. Harry's Bar was where Beef Carpaccio was invented. It was also the birth place of

the Bellini cocktail. Book a table in the upstairs dining room. Start your meal with a round of the

best Bellinis on the planet. Then order some of the best-prepared Venetian food in town and

have a wonderful meal. End your dinner with a slice of Lemon Meringue pie or the delicious

chocolate cake.

Harry's Bar

tel: 041 528 5777

1322 Calle Viallaretto, San Marco

D: Either take a vaparetto directly to Viallaretto. Harry's will be right in front of you. Or leave St

Mark's Square at its westernmost exit and walk straight down Salizxada San Moise. Then turn

left down Calle Viallaretto.