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The variety of options to dine out and go out afforded you in Florence is more than you can imagine. This packet contains over 100 places of interest that you may seek out or stumble upon in your exploration of the city. However, these are just suggestions, and you can find your own gems by just going out and exploring. Hopefully, it will help guide you and offer you many tasty and fun adventures in the city!

Usciamo!

While we offer the contacts in this handbook as a service to our students, neither Stanford University nor the The Breyer Center for Overseas Studies in Florence can be held responsible for the competence and integrity of the people or institutions mentioned hereafter.
I. Hints on Dining Out

Florence is a town where you can eat great food for next to nothing or eat mediocre food for an unreasonable price. In order to help you choose your dining options well while abroad, we’ve included some guidelines to help you find the best places to eat as well as some tips to avoid the worst places. We’ve also provided several lists of places recommended by previous students.

Guidelines:

Service Charge and Tips
When ordering from a menu at a sit down restaurant, remember to calculate and add the service and cover charges (“servizio e coperto”) into the price. Sometimes these can be avoided by asking for take out meals (“da portare via”). In a cafe, sitting down means that the service charge will be added to the cost of your food while standing at the counter means it will not. (In other words, order your “caffè e brioche” at the counter!) Some exceptions for sit-down places that do not charge il coperto are small panino shops and pizzerias - one can just order at the counter and eat in the small dining area or outside.

Remember that the tip is included in the check (under “servizio”), so you do not have to leave any additional tip.

Price Range
A good lunch will cost between €5 and €7; dinner will cost €10 to €15. Each restaurant, pizzeria, or café closes once a week on a given day, so be sure to plan ahead and check out their website or hours on the door.

Keep your eyes open for tourist menus. These can be a good way to eat a lot, but you have to sort through them to get good deals. Often these tourist menus are overpriced and do not contain very authentic Florentine food.

Lunch Sandwiches
For a lunch sandwich you should avoid bars and cafés and opt for a cheaper and fresher sandwich made at any alimentari. This way you can also have your sandwich made-to-order right in front of you!

Gelato
…the most important part of your Florence experience! There are different prices for a cone (“un cono”) versus a cup (“una coppa”) and their different sizes. Before you pick your flavors, always make sure you clearly tell them what type and size you want. Another important note - the price does not reflect the number of flavors (“gusti”) you can get - they can squeeze in 2 or 3 scoops even into the smallest of gelato vessels!
Gelato from *Gelateria Santo Spirito*

**Gelato:**

*Il Procopio*
Winner of the Gelato Festival in 2012, Il Procopio is one of the best gelaterias in gelato heaven.

*Gelateria dei Neri*
Located right on Via dei Neri, hard not to find yourself with locals choosing from the countless flavors made fresh HOURLY. Favorite flavor: yogurt con miele e noci. Their gelato con brioche (gelato in a warm bun) is THE BEST! On a hot day, help yourself to one of their granita: like Hawaiian Ice but so much better!

*Grom*
Even though Grom is a chain, it’s hard to beat their tiramisu and limone gelato. They also have a lot of seasonal flavors like pompelmo as well as a “flavor of the month.”

*Carapina*
Amazing kiwi and other fruit-flavored gelato. You also have to try their cheese gelato that changes regularly. Pecorino gelato….mmm ☺
La Cantina
Winter students take note: sadly, La Cantina closes for winter vacation for most of the quarter and reopens in March, so go before they close for vacation and go back when they reopen in March! Favorite flavors: cioccolato, nutella e mascarpone, peanut butter.

Vivaldi
Vivaldi is near the Stanford Center and a great place to grab gelato or Italian hot chocolate between classes. There is a room in the back where you can sit to study or journal with free wifi!

Vivoli
This gelateria is in the Santa Croce Neighborhood and one of my host mom’s highest recommended gelato shop in the area!

‘Secret’ Bakeries:
Open between 1:00am at 5:00am. As fresh as any pastry can get for a euro…Stanford late night can’t compare! (There is one close to Piazza Santa Croce - you can find the location on TripAdvisor.)
Lunch (our favorite Panini shops!):

*Il Panino del Chianti*
Only 3.50 euro for a panino sandwich! They toast the bread (ask for multigrain or white). Tip: you can customize your sandwiches beyond the ones that are on the board! You can ask to add a pesto spread or try their yummy salami piccanti 😊

*all’Antico Vinaio*
It’s 5 euros for a HUGE panino with fresh ingredients inside a freshly baked piece of Florence’s famous *schiacciata* bread. This place is #1 on TripAdvisor so come right when it opens at 11 am or after 2 pm to avoid the huge lunch lines. Try a different combination every time you come – Angela’s favorite is prosciutto crudo (parma ham) + rucola (rocket greens) + pecorino stagionato (pecorino cheese) + crema di tartufo (cream of truffle sauce)!

Lunch (sit-down):

*Trattoria da Mario*
Menu changes daily. Great place for lunch, but get there *right* when they open because they get really busy. Everything is good here, especially the soups (in my opinion they have the best *ribollita*, a hearty Tuscan soup with bread, vegetables, and beans.) It’s communal seating, so make some new friends with the people at your table!

*La Beppa Fioaria*
This is one of those places that only locals know about (only Italian menus). They are known for the Mega Beppa appetizer platter - different types of cold cuts, cheeses, pate, two seasonal specialties, and all with a huge basket of coccoli (delicious balls of hot fried bread). Come hungry and ready to devour the platter! Note: During the spring, you can sit outside in their beautiful outdoor garden.

Dinner:

*Trattoria Za-Za*
Delicious seafood, truffle, and pasta dishes!! The prices are also really reasonable and most of the items on the menu are great. It is also conveniently located, right beside Mercato Centrale.

*Al Tranvai*
For delicious, authentic, Florentine-style food, you must come to Al Tranvai. It’s a small cute restaurant where they place a standing board with the day’s menu on your table. A little farther from the tourist center (on Oltrarno, about 15 minutes from the center). You must try the Ribollita here!

*Osteria Santo Spirito*
This osteria is affordable and in a great location in Piazza Santo Spirito (a great area for nightlife). The food is *incredible* and you can often get a meal for as little as 12 euro.

*La Giostra*
This restaurant has a variety of delicious dishes. Some highlights include: pear-ricotta ravioli, delicious rosemary steak, creamy Burrata and the absolute best tiramisu!

Vegetarian:

*Libreria Brac*
Bookstore-converted-restaurant, this cute little spot serves huge platters of delicious all-vegetarian food. The prices are also very reasonable. The store is located on a small side street (Via dei Vagellai) close to Ponte Alle Grazie.
III. Le Pizzerie

There are dozens of pizzerias (pizzerie) around the city. Below are some of them, grouped together by geographic location.

**Campo di Marte:**
- **David:** Via della Rondinella, 95
- **Fiorella:** Via F. D'Annunzio ,11

**Centro:**
- **La Bussola:** Via Porta Rossa, 58/r 055/293376
  (Great ambience. Some Stanford students have interned here in the past. The pastas are all very unique and delicious! Also has heavenly tiramisu.)
- **Yellow:** Via del Proconsolo
  (Great pizzas, reasonable prices, a lively atmosphere and central location. Reservations are usually necessary unless you go for an early dinner around 7pm. It can handle large parties, so it’s a good choice if you want to go out with a big group.)

**Porta al Prato:** **Funiculi Pizzeria Napoletana:** Via il Prato 81/r tel 0552646553

**Porta Romana:** **L'Assassino:** Via Senese, 17, tel. 055 225877

**San Frediano:** **Vico Del Carmine:** Via Pisana 40/r 055-233-6862
  (Real Neapolitan Pizza in the heart of San Frediano. Be sure to make reservations for dinner.)

**Sant’Ambrogio:**
- **Le Campane** (pronounced “Le Hampane”): - Borgo La Croce, 85/r
  (Great tasting, just-out-of-the-oven fresh pizzas at reasonable prices.)
- **Il Pizzaiuolo “Da Carmine”**: Via dei Macci, 113/r. tel. 055 241 171.
  (Neapolitan-style pizza. Closed on Sunday. This place can lay a serious claim to the title “Best Pizza in Florence” but is always full. Be sure to reserve a table, even mid-week. Dinner is much more crowded than lunch.)
- **Osteria Semolina:** Piazza Ghiberti, 87/r 055-2347584S.
  (In the heart of Sant’Ambrogio Good trattoria/pizzeria with outdoor seating.)

**Santa Croce:**
- **Baldovino:** Via San Giuseppe, 22/r 055-241773
  (This restaurant is located right next to Santa Croce and has indoor and outdoor seating along Piazza Santa Croce. Smallish portions—except for the enormous calzones.)
- **Il Bargello:** Borgo dei Greci, 37
  (Standard Tuscan trattoria, but they charge 12% service charge and coperto.)
- **Mastro Ciliegia**: Via Palmieri 30/r, tel. 055-293372  
  (Moderately priced, typical Tuscan.)
- **La Cantinetta Pizzeria del Bocca negra**: Via Ghibellina, 124/r 055-2001098  
  (Pizzas range from €3 to €8, but the selection is limited. Nice atmosphere.)
- **Osteria del Caffè Italiano**: Via Isola delle Stinche, 11-13r, Tel. 055 289368

**Santa Maria Novella**: **Jacopino**: Piazza S. Jacopino 30/r  
  (Closed Mon. The cheapest around!)

**Santo Spirito**:
- **Munaciello**: Via Maffia 33/r 055-287198.  
  (New restaurant/pizzeria near Santo Spirito with excellent Neapolitan style pizza.)
- **La Mangiatoia**: Piazza San Felice 8-10/r  
  (Delicious pizzas and pastas. Dine in or take-out.)
- **Gusta Piza**: Via Maggio, 46  
  (A popular place among Americans, but authentic Italian pizza. Delicious and cheap!)

**Statuto**: **Spera**: Via Cernaia 9/r.  
  (Typical “thick” Napoli-pizza (and affordable)!)  

### IV. La cucina di Firenze

**Home to some of the best Tuscan-style Italian food, traditional Florentine restaurants generally serve delicious food that should not be missed! (E.L. Florentine restaurants can be quite expensive, and it is advisable to make a reservation before going.)**

**Center**: **Coquinarius**, Via Delle Oche, 15/R (055 2302153).  
  (Nice wine bar/restaurant near the Duomo.)

**Oltrarno**: **Filipepé**, Via S. Niccolò, 37-39/R (055 2001397).  
  (A little on the expensive side but excellent fish specialties and lovely small outdoor garden.)
- **Trattoria Casalinga**: Sdrucciolo de’Pitti, 9-r  
  (Service isn’t great but worth it for the food. The pastas are excellent and fairly priced.)
- **Il gatto e il volpe**  
  (Located near Santa Croce and a great place for an affordable high quality meal. Their homemade bread is to die for!)

**Porta al Prato**: **Lorenzo de’ Medici**: Via B. Rucellai, 1

**San Frediano**:
- **Il Brindellone**: Piazza Piattellina 10/11r
- **Trattoria Buccioni**: Borgo S. Frediano, 39/r
- **Trattoria dell’Orto**: Via dell'Orto 35/a Phone 055 224 148
- **Cavolo Nero**, Via D’Ardiglione, 22 (055 294744)
  (A Stanford in Florence favorite. A bit on the expensive side.)

**Sant’Ambrogio:**
- **Il Cibrèo**: Via dei Macci 118/r.
  (Expensive! Talking menus elaborate on exquisite and complex dishes. Fantastic place when you’re tired of pasta. The same food at cheaper prices can be found right next door at Trattoria Cibrèo (Piazza Ghiberti, 35. Closed Sundays and Mondays.)
- **Kitsch**: Viale Gramsci, 1-3-5 |Tel. 055/2343890.
  (Aperitivi central! Order one €7 drink and get a full on buffet for free. The outdoor seating makes it a perfect place for relatively large groups.)
- **La Giostra**: Via Borgo Pinti 12/r, Tel. 055 241341
  (They automatically bring out champagne and a huge platter of hors d’oeuvres even if you’re already ordered some, all for free. Delicious food, but order less than you’d like because of all the freebies.)
- **Teatro del Sale**: Via dei Macci 111r
  (Buffet style typical Florentine cuisine. Absolutely delicious, you need to have a membership card-€5-to get in, and dinner is pricey-€35- but it includes a multi-course dinner, unlimited wine, dessert, and a show. It is the same chef as Cibreo but a more fun atmosphere.)

**Santa Croce:**
- **Acqua al Due**: Via della Vigna Vecchia 40/r
  (This restaurant will let you try small portions of various dishes, which is nice. Get the assortment of pastas for your primo. Watch out for the tons of other American students. Open nightly from 7:30 pm to 1:00 am.)
- **Del Fagioli**: Corso Tintori 47 (FI) Tel. 055/244285
  (Rustic décor.)
- **La Via dell’Acqua**: Via dell’Acqua, 2 Tel. 055-290748
  (Features American Brunch, Wed-Sun 10am to 4pm. Dinner is served Monday through Sunday, 6:30pm to midnight. Typical Tuscan food with no cover charge or service charge.)
- **Osteria de’ Benci**: via de’ Benci, 13r, Tel. 055/2344923
  (A great place for lunch—they offer fantastic gourmet salads and carpaccio dishes. Always popular at night with the locals as well.)
- **Osteria del Boccanegra**: Via Ghibellina 124/r, Phone 055/2001098
  (Quite pricey, but looks fancy.)
- **Osteria de Macci**: Via dei Macci, 77, Phone 055 241226.
  (Moderately priced, but worth it. The menu has two sides: the left lists their creative cuisine (Tuscan favorites with a twist) and the right lists their traditional Tuscan cuisine. A nice change from the standard Tuscan menu.)
- **Osteria de’ Pazzi**: Via dei Lavatoi 3R Tel. 055 2344880
(Great value for great Tuscan food. €15 for a three course meal, including cover and wine. Not nearly as touristy as its location would imply.)

Santa Maria Novella:
- **Capitale della Cina**, Via Nazionale, 12.
  (Nicely decorated with good food for very reasonable prices.)
- **Ristorante Buca Lapi**: Via del Trebbio, 1
  (Pricey, but looks authentic.)
- **Trattoria Il Latini**: Via Palchetti, 6/r
  (Totally overrated. They kick you out of the restaurant as soon as you are done. Plates are cooked before you’ve even ordered them.)
- **Osteria dei Centopoveri**: Via Palazzuolo
  (Comes highly recommended from a friend, a little far, but a good choice if you are around the train station and want a good meal)
- **Trattoria al Trebbio**: Via delle Belle Donne, 47/49/R.
  (Fresh and tasty traditional Tuscan dishes at a very reasonable prices. It’s crowded most nights and has a great atmosphere. Reservations recommended if you don’t want to wait. The red house wine is also recommended.)

Santo Spirito:
- **Trattoria Bordino**, Via Stracciatella 9/r.
  (Just around the corner from the center. Cheap prix-fixe lunch menu. Make sure you review your food vocab before going!)
- **Borgo Antico**: Piazza Santo Spirito 6/R
- **Osteria Santo Spirito**: Piazza Santo Spirito, 19 r
  (Amazing gnocchi with white truffle oil. The smell will have your mouth watering in an instant.)
- **Quattro Leoni**: Via Vellutini 1/r, tel. 055 218562.
  (A Florentine favorite. Try the “fiocchetti con taleggio ed asparagi” and the pear ravioli. Other things on the menu may look good, but everyone always regrets not getting these plates, and they always steal from the person who does.)
- **Trattoria Cammillo**: Borgo S. Iacopo, 57-59r
  (Specialties: tartufi and mushrooms.)
- **Trattoria Mamma Gina**: Borgo S. Iacopo 37/r.
  (Closed Sundays. This restaurant near Ponte Vecchio has a 15th century feel. The service is terrible, but their Ribolito is award-winning.)

Statuto: **Osteria Pepò**: Via Rosina, 6/r 055-283259
- **Trattoria i Due G**: Via B. Cennini, 6r.
- **Trattoria Za-Za**: Piazza Mercato Centrale 26/R
  (One of the best restaurants in town. Wonderful Florentine cuisine and a huge menu. Located near Mercato Centrale, 5 minutes from the train station.)
- **Trattoria da Garibardi**: Piazza del Mercato Centrale, 38r
  (Very friendly staff, try the pear ravioli with balsamic vinegar. Incredible food overall.)
(Nice, casual restaurant en route to Fiesole.)
- *Trattoria da i’ Coco*: Viale Giovanni Amendola, 24
(Far but worth the walk.)

IV. La cucina etnica

**San Frediano:** *Ashoka – Indiano*, Via Pisana, 86/R (055 224446).
(Don’t be put off by the modest décor and furnishings, the food here is excellent.)

**San Marco:** *Dioniso Greco*, Via S. Gallo, 16/R (055 217882)
(Same owners as Ghirosteria Dioniso, nice place near San Marco with a few outdoor tables.)

**Santa Croce:**
- *Danny Rock*: Via Pandolfini 13r, Tel. 055 2340307A taste of America!
(Burgers, potatoes and big salads, along with Italian food.)
- *Eito - Il Giapponese, Via De' Neri*, 72 (055 210940).
(Florence’s first Japanese restaurant. Excellent sushi and nice environment, but terrible service and super-expensive!)
- *Finisterrae*, Via de’ Pepi, 3/5 R 055-2638675.
(Ristorante Mediterraneo Middle Eastern, Spanish and Southern Italian. Also a pizzeria with outdoor seating.)
- *La Vie En Rose*, Borgo Allegri, 68/R (055 2346943).
(Vegetarian)
(Expect it to be like home, but it will suffice if you have a craving.)
- *Sésame*, Via delle Conce, 20/r 055-2001381.
(Fusion Restaurant and oyster lounge. French & Moroccan Specialties. Expensive, beautiful.)

**Statuto:** *Il Vegetariano*, Via delle Ruote 30r.
(Can take the Bus 11 or 17. Has standard veggie food and a GREAT salad bar which is hard to find in Florence.)

**Very Far:**
- *Nin Hao*, Borgo Ognissanti 159r.
(Highly-rated Chinese food at cheap prices.)
(New Japanese restaurant in the “Cure” neighborhood. Reputed to be excellent and will cost less than Eito.)
V. Alimentari

For a quick and inexpensive meal we suggest alimentari (like small grocery shops/delis), a bakery, or a rosticceria. If you are looking for a nice sandwich or a slice of pizza, you will find that it is cheaper and better at alimentari and forni than bars. A rosticceria is a take-out freshly-baked food store, so if you have a sudden craving for a warm plate of lasagna or pasta (or some other warm dish!) this is the place to go.

Center:
- **Gastronomia Bigazzi Fratelli**: Via della Spada, 47/r
  (Standard small alimentary.)
- **I Due Fratellini**, Via dei Cimatori 38r.
  (A hole-in-the-wall sandwich and wine bar near the Duomo. Only €2.50, but you’ll probably need to get two to fill you up. Absolutely delicious.)
- **Cantinetta da Verazzano**, Via Dei Tavolini, 18/20/R
  (Bread, pastries and pizza in the Centro. Very little seating.)

Otrarno:
- **Fuori Porta**, Via Monte alle Croci, 10r Tel. 055 2342483.
  (Just past Porta San Niccolò, coming from Via S. Niccolò.)
- **I Tarocchi**, Via dei Renai 12/14.
  (Close to school, delicious and cheap pizza and pasta.)

Sant’Ambrogio: **Antico Noe**, Volta di San Piero 6r.
  (Big, hearty sandwiches with your choice of delicious ingredients. Try the #9.)

Santa Croce:
- **Salumeria Verdi** (Pino’s): Via Verdi Giuseppe, 36/R. Tel. 055 244517
  (Good sandwiches – really popular with American students. €4 gets you delicious **panini** made-to-order by Pino, the really friendly owner. He’s got great taste and is quite fond of Stanford students—if you ask him to, he’ll just make you a sandwich he thinks you’ll like… he’s never wrong. You may also want to try the fresh pasta dishes.)
- **The Oil Shoppe**: Via S. Egidio 22/r
  (Very American. Good if you’re craving a cold American sandwich or a meatball sub, but skip it if you can wait until you get home.)

Santa Maria Novella: **Gastronomia Tassini**: Bg. SS. Apostoli, 24/r

Santo Spirito:
- **La Dispensa**, Via Dei Barbadori, 26/R.
  (Amazing sandwiches and very close to the Stanford Center so you can conveniently grab something to eat before or after class.)
- **Gustapanino**, Via de’ Michelozzi 13/r
(Delicious wraps and pressed sandwiches. Friendly staff and good prices.)
- **Panetteria Galli**: Via Guicciardini, 3/r
- **Rosticceria La Mangiatoia**: Piazza S. Felice 8-10/r
  (Closed on Mondays. On your left just past Palazzo Pitti. Great takeaway prices for pasta, pizza and veggies.)

**VI. Frutta e verdura**

**Center**: *Fancelli*: B.go SS. Apostoli, 41/r

**Santo Spirito**:
- Mercato di San Lorenzo (or Sant’Ambrogio)
  (GO HERE! The Mercato Centrale by the San Lorenzo street market has all sorts of tasty dried fruit on the second floor, which can be a good snack on those long days of school. Open 7am-2pm Monday-Saturday)

**Sant’Ambrogio**:
- Mercato di San Lorenzo (or Sant’Ambrogio)

**VII. Le Pasticcerie**

**Center**:
- **Gilli**: Piazza della Repubblica, 39r.
  (Incredible chocolate, but expensive—come here when the parents visit.)
- **Rivoire**: Piazza Signoria, 5r.
  (A typical tea room (out in the square in summer) in the old-fashioned style, famous for its hot chocolate. The chocolate pralines and Gianduia chocolate cream are locally produced and very good. If you like Italian hot chocolate, make sure to treat yourself to theirs on a cold day.)
- **Scudieri**: Piazza del Duomo 19/r.
  (It might look touristy because of the location but this bar/pasticceria is definitely frequented by the locals, too.)

**San Marco**: *Robiglio*: Via dei Servi, 112r.
  (Great tarts and pastries, sweet as well as savory specialties and “frutto d’oro” a pastry served with chocolate and liqueur.)

**Sant’Ambrogio**:
- **Dolci e Dolcezze**: Piazza Beccaria 84.
(You simply do not want to miss the incredibly yummy (albeit expensive) treats they have to offer. Worth at least one trip while you’re in Florence.)

- **Vestri** Borgo degli Albizi  
  (This is a chocolate shop near Antico Noe’s. Delicious specialty chocolate, hot chocolate, and gelato.)

**Santa Croce:**

- **Patrizio Cosi:** Borgo degli Albizi 15/r.  
  (This is very much a neighborhood place, but their pastries are extraordinary.)

- **Vestri:** Borgo Albizi, 11r Tel: 055-234-0374  
  (Chocolates, sinful hot chocolate, ice cream and other treats. They have 16 flavors of gelato and their specialty is gelato affogato—ice cream drenched in chocolate syrup.)

**Statuto:** **Il Re Della Foresta - Laboratorio Di Pasticceria:** Via Alto Vannucci, 12.  
(This is a secret bakery open only between 9:30pm and 3:00am. Munchies of any kind can be satisfied.)

**Very Far:** **Pasticceria Crociani:** Piazza Dalmazia, 37r.  
(Specialty: Sicilian pastries (e.g. cannoli, dolci con mandorle, cassata))

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**VIII. Le Caffè**

**Center:**

- **Caffè Italiano:** Via della Condotta, 56r.  
  (Open 8 am to midnight. Closed Sunday. Great atmosphere, and their afternoon tea is lovely. They also have nice salads and a great upstairs.)

- **Chiaroscuro:** Via del Corso, 36. Tel. 39 55 21 4247  
  (Offers an ample and delicious aperitivi buffet with changing menus throughout the week. Arguably the best coffee in Florence as well, with a huge variety of flavors.)

- **Giubbe Rosse:** Piazza della Repubblica, 13/14r.  
  (This is one of Italy’s most famous bars. It started as a café and beer-saloon in 1888. A restaurant has been added to the bar. It is very pleasant to sit in the open by the tables, lined up on the square, particularly in the summer time.)

- **Paskowski:** Piazza della Repubblica 6r.  
  (In the outside garden, an orchestra accompanied by singers plays classical or light music. Most Florentines listen standing outside the enclosure because it’s quite expensive.)

- **I Visacci:** Borgo degli Albizi 80/82 r.  
  (Nice place for a quick lunch or for coffee with very reasonable prices.)
- **Golden View Open Bar**: Via de’ Bardi, 58
  (Right below the center and across the street. Nice staff who will talk to you as they start to recognize you.)

**San Frediano**: *Hemingway*: Piazza Piattellina 9r
(A pretty unique place: a chocolate bar. Think of just about any incarnation of chocolate, and they probably have it. You can order hot chocolate by the percentage of dark chocolate in the cup. They also have a huge menu of teas and coffee, and don’t skimp on amounts either. A cool and lively Florentine spot, but can be pricy. Still, we highly recommend at least one trip for the hot chocolate.)

**Sant’Ambrogio**: *Caffélatte*: Via degli Alfani, 39/r
(A great place to sit down with a good book. They specialize in natural, organic and macrobiotic foods.)

**Santa Maria Novella**: *La Cantinetta*, Via della Scala 7/9r
(This café is a great place for an afternoon snack. They have a cute outdoor seating area and small panini go for €1.50.)

**Statuto**: *Gusto*: Via Nazionale 114/115r (tel. 055 291900).
(Recently opened cute and trendy café/restaurant where you can find amazing food and coffee for good prices. The torta di mele al cioccolato is amazing. Great take-away and sit down options and a very friendly staff. Open 7 am – 11 pm Mon-Sat, closed on Sunday.)

**Very Far**: *Caffé Gioberti*: Via Gioberti 76-78r.
(A bit out of the way (near Piazza Beccaria), but if you find yourself in Florence on a Saturday afternoon and are interested in a hearty sandwich, a good cappuccino and/or a place to hang out or catch up on some reading, check it out.)
IX. Gelato

When it comes to gelaterie, avoid the places that cater to tourists. There are some amazing locations all around the city—search them out and find your favorites! A small cone should never cost more than €3. A general rule is the higher the gelato is stacked and the more elaborate the display cases are, the less authentic the gelato.

**Campo di Marte:** *Badiani*: Viale dei Mille, 20r.

(Often considered to be the best gelato in Florence, and a favorite of locals. It's a bit farther than some places, but very worth it. The “Buontaleni” is world-famous.)

**Center:**
- *Cantina:* (Located right across from the Stanford Center in Florence. Pretty good while waiting for the bus stop right next to it)
- *Festival del Gelato*: Via del Corso
  (Best selection, but not quite the best quality. Always packed with Italian youth. Prices are normal for this typically tourist area.)
- *Grom*: Via del Campanile angolo via delle Oche
  (Smaller portions, but they have unique and creative flavors. They seem to specialize in creamy flavors but have a new seasonal fruit flavor once a month.)
- *Perché No!:* Via Tavolini 19
  (Probably not one of the best, but they do offer a wide selection of flavors. Their soy gelato may appeal to vegans or lactose-intolerant people.)

**San Marco:** *Gelateria Carabè*: Via Ricasoli, 60/R

(Sicilian specialties and great granitas.)

**Sant’Ambrogio:** *Gelateria Veneta*, Piazza Beccaria 7r, 055.2343370

**Santa Croce:**
- *Gelateria Dei Neri*, Via Dei Neri, 20/22/R
  (Great gelato and very close to the center. They feature a great selection of fruity flavors, in particular.)
- *Vivoli*: Via dell’Isola delle Stinche, 62
  (Closed Monday. One of the best ice-cream makers in Italy. Portions are a little small and pricey, but this place is a must for the die-hard gelato fan. The rice, pear and caramel flavors are amazing. Also, you don’t have to pay to sit down.)
- *La Carraia*: Via de’ Benci, 24
  (Incredible flavors! Huge portions and extremely inexpensive. Very nice staff that really appreciates when students speak Italian.)

**Statuto:** *Gelateria De Medici*: Via Dello Statuto, 3/R
X. Bars and nightlife

Center:
- *Angels Restaurant & Bar*: Via del Proconsolo, 29/31r Tel. 055 2398762.  
  (Features very exotic but expensive drinks during the evening, American  
  brunch on Sunday mornings, and a variety of aperitivi buffets during the week.)
- *Astor Caffè*, Piazza Duomo 20r.  
  (Bar on the first floor, dancing downstairs. Always spinning the best in six  
  month-old American hip hop. No cover charge for students. Free WiFi)
- *Colle Bereto*: Piazza Strozzi, 5r. Tel: 055/4299330  
  (Nice, relatively new place, very centrally located, with ample outdoor  
  seating. Pricy but chic.)
- *Frescobaldi*: Via dei Magazzini, 2-4/R, Tel 055 284724  
  (The best wine bar in Florence! The barista, Primo, will help you choose a  
  delicious wine for a very affordable price and give you free, tasty appetizers.)
- *Mayday*, Via Dante Alighieri, 16r.  
  (Looks very classy, but is pricy.)
- *Roses*, Via del Parione 26r.  
  (Good place to sit down with your coffee during the day, as well as a good spot  
  for after hours. Open 10 am to 1:30 am. Popular Florentine student hang-out.  
  Closed Sunday.)
- *Slowly*, Via Porta Rossa, 63/r  
  (Nice décor, but rather pricy.)
- *Teatro Scribe*: Via delle Seggiole, 8R, Tel. 055 2345594  
  (Small, well decorated private club. Drinks are some of the cheapest in the city,  
  making it a great place to go before hitting the clubs. Cool music, cool  
  atmosphere. A locals’ hotspot.)
- *Dolce Zucchero*: Via de’ Pandolfini 36-38/r, Tel. 055 2477894  
  (Supposedly a happening dance club, but it has tacky décor and expensive drinks.  
  No cover charge, but the first drink is expensive.)
- *Full-Up*: Via della Vigna Vecchia 21r.  
  (Closed Tuesday. Hip hop nights throughout the week.)
- *Yab*: Via Sassetti 5r.  
  (Probably the most chic nightclub in Florence. Beware on Saturday nights, when  
  all the high schoolers come out. Otherwise, you’ll find Florence’s young and  
  beautiful sipping drinks and dancing to American hip hop.)

Oltarno:
- *Caffè La Torre*, Lungarno Cellini 65r
- *Montecarlo*, Via de’ Bardi 2  
  (Funky lounge where decor is everything. Expensive drinks but the atmosphere  
  and absence of Americans make it worth it.)
- *Negroni*, Via dei Renai, 17/r
  (Bar and Pub. Open day and night. Look out for the back room; there’s a nice
fireplace and many tables: the perfect atmosphere to relax, study have a drink or even order a delicious crepe!)

- **Zoë**, Via dei Renai 13r.  
  (Open 7 am to 1 am. Happy hour 6-9 pm. Closed Sunday.)

**San Frediano:**
- **Il Bovaro**, Via Pisana 3/r  
  (Florence’s first and only micro-brewery.)
- **Dolce Vita**, Piazza del Carmine 6/r  
  (Very cool. Almost entirely Italians, but a slightly older crowd. Drinks are cheaper standing than sitting. Regular bar in one room, wine bar in another room.)

**San Marco:** **Maracana**: Via Faenza 4/r.  
  (R&B and Hip-hop on Wednesday nights. Open Tuesday – Sunday, midnight – 4 am. Be on the look out for concerts from American artists.)

**Sant’Ambrogio:**
- **Jazz Club**: Via Nuova Caccini, 3.  
  (Private club, but easy to become a member. Call for details. Very popular among the serious jazz listening set.)
- **Caffé Sant’Ambrogio**, Piazza Sant’Ambrogio (Via Pietrapiana)  
  (Good music, cool art on the walls. A great place to have a glass of wine at night, or utilize the free wireless during the day. Overall, a very hip atmosphere.)

**Santa Croce:**
- **Doris**: Via Pandolfini 26r  
  (Always talked about, but quite pricy.)
- **Eby’s Latin Bar**, Arco di San Pierino.  
  (Delicious burritos, but not very authentic Mexican. Watch out for extra-spicy—it’s really, really spicy!)
- **Kikuya**: Via de’ Benci, 43/r., just south of Santa Croce, Tel. 055-234-4879.  
  (This small bar usually opens at 7pm (closed Mondays), and caters to young Italians and American students. Soccer games are played on the big flat screen TV, as well as American music videos (ranging from the very recent to the very old 80s). It can be very crowded and the drinks are somewhat expensive (about €6.00)
- **Lion’s Fountain Irish Pub**: Borgo degli Albizi, 34/r Tel. 055-234-4412.  
  (Karaoke on Thursday nights until midnight, and no cover charge.)
- **Lochness**, Via de’ Benci 19r  
  (A sketchy-looking green door on the outside, but a decent hang-out inside. Two-for-one happy hour every night until midnight. One-time 5 euro membership fee. Infamous for the tons of other American students.)
- **Moyo**, Via de’ Benci 23/r.  
  (Great American style salads and inexpensive lunches. The service is terrible, but they offer free wireless, so it’s always packed with international students.)
- **Red Garter**: Via de’ Benci 33/r, Tel. 055 2344904  
  (For those nights when you’re really homesick. American football, beer pong and plenty of American students to keep you entertained.)

- **Rex**, Via Fiesolana 23r.  
  (Laid back on weeknights and has dancing during the weekend.)

- **Salamanca**: Via Ghibellina 80r.  
  (A place with great tapas and sangria that becomes a nightclub with live music and flamenco dancing. Also a karaoke hotspot!)

- **Twice**: Via Verde 57r, Tel 055 0517374  
  (Chill, chic lounge during the early evening; hopping dance club during the late hours. Hip hop, salsa and disco. No cover charge.)

**Santa Maria Novella:**

- **Art Bar**, Via del Moro 4/r  
  (Each drink comes with a veritable fruit salad around its rim. Happy hour on Monday—but the place is small, so go early if you want a seat.)

- **Capocaccia**, Lungarno Corsini 12r  
  (The chic hotspot of Florence’s young, attractive party-goers.)

- **Dublin Pub**, Via Faenza 27/r  
  (A nice blend of Italians and tourists.)

- **Fiddler’s Elbow**, Piazza Santa Maria Novella  
  (Full of Americans. A deceptively large interior with a big screen television and occasional live music. The bartenders seem lively and friendly.)

- **Stonehenge**, Via dell’Amorino  
  (Small and intimate hangout that features a foosball table and amazing drinks, perhaps the best drinks in Florence. Happy hour 9:30 – 11 pm.)

- **Space Electronic**: Via Palazzuolo, 37, Tel. 055 293082.  
  (Very large dance club with hip hop music. There is a cover charge, but your first drink is free.)

**Santo Spirito**: **Cabiria Café**, Piazza Santo Spirito, 4.

**Statuto:**

- **La Farmacia Dei Sani**: Vial Alto Vannucci, 7.  
  (Mainly a winebar. Cheap drinks.)

- **Strizzi Bar**: Via Oriani 20.  
  (Popular local spot for aperitivi. Aperitivi don’t provide enough food for a full dinner, but drinks are cheap and the place is fun.)

**Very Far**: **Meccanó**: Viale degli Olmi, 1. Tel. 055/331-3371.  
  (Close to Le CASCINE (the park). Plays house music and techno music after 2am. Popular club among Florentine youth.) Don’t wander into Le CASCINE after hours however – it’s a local hotspot for prostitutes and drug dealing!
XI. LGBT Bars / Clubs

Center: Tabasco Disco Bar, Piazza Santa Cecilia, 3r - Firenze (men only)

Sant’Ambrogio: Crisco Bar, Via Sant’Egidio, 43r - Firenze (men only)

Santa Croce: Piccolo Café, Borgo Santa Croce 23r.
   (This tiny art café has become popular. It's an excellent venue for artists of all kinds. Open 5 pm-1 am daily. Laid back bar, no dancing.)