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LEISURE TRAVEL ROME TRAVEL GUIDE

Forever Rome: A Travel Guide to the Modern Classics of the Eternal City

Experts weigh in on the best places to dine, stay, shop, and see those beautiful Roman sights.

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HOTELS

The crowd that once peacocked its way up and down the Via Veneto has now in large part moved to the lounges and terrazze of the city's top hotels. Stay, or just stop by, and enjoy the show.

Hotel de Russie: With its own courtyard, this grande dame is a favorite for those who enjoy a see-and-be-seen perch in the center of it all. The historic 122-room Piazza del Popolo hotel, says Jacaranda Caracciolo, "hosts a fun cocktail hour and great Sunday brunch" from star chef Fulvio Pierangelini. Some of the superior deluxe rooms have private balconies overlooking the Santa Maria in Montesanto church; some of the superior junior suites have windows over the garden. As wine consultant Gelasio Gaetani D'Aragona Lovatelli, who likes to use the hotel spa and gym, says, "Roma without de Russie, it would be different." ROCCOFORTEHOTELS.CO

Hotel d'Inghilterra: If the de Russie is all about alfresco, the 88-room Inghilterra looks inward, to clubby paneled salons and pastel-hued rooms. "It's in the middle of it all," says Christie's Bianca Arrivabene Valenti Gonzaga, "but very cozy and warm, like being in a private home." Fabio Borghese concurs, praising also its British-looking Bond Bar. NIQUESAHOTELS.COM

D.O.M.: Like Paris's Hôtel Costes, the boudoir-noir style of this new arrival—in a converted 17th-century palazzo a block from the Tiber—pulls in a "trendy young crowd that wants to enjoy a fun weekend," says hotelier Carla Sersale. DOMHOTELROMA.COM

J.K. Place Roma: This J.K.—with 30 rooms, the boutique brand's largest—opened in a palazzo just off Via dei Condotti two years ago and feels more like a residence than a hotel. (The decor is inspired by ancient Rome and Tom Ford's *A Single Man*.) Scarf designer Dianora Salviati loves it for drinks at the bar or in the skylit, living room–like lobby. JKROMA.COM

Aldrovandi Villa Borghese: The recently renovated 19th-century convent near the Borghese Gardens is family-run. "The Old World charm is still intact, however," says T&C editor in chief Jay Fielden, "and the generous pool beneath a garden of towering pines is all you and your kids will need on a hot day—besides an Aperol Spritz." ALDROVANDI.COM