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## PARIS'

### NEWEST DESTINATIONS

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A SHOW?



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# Rome

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Publicity photos and by Alamy



Photo by Regina Rabang, courtesy of München Stadtmuseum, Sammlung Fotografie, Archiv Fotografie

Model photographed at the Capitoline Museums in front of the hand of the monumental statue of Constantine I, wearing a dress from Fontana Sisters, 1952.

The building that houses the new **D.O.M. Hotel** (Via Giulia, 131; domehotelroma.com) has quite a history. At first it was a 17<sup>th</sup>-century castle, then a monastery, then an office building of the Ministry of Justice and now a new 24-room boutique hotel. The main justice ministry building still stands across the street, while inside the hotel Renaissance influences coexist with contemporary design elements. Admittedly, as is often the case in Rome, the guest rooms aren't very big. However, the hotel's location on the 500-year-old Via Giulia – halfway between St. Peter's Basilica and the Piazza Navona – is practically ideal.

**Bellissima. Italy and High Fashion 1945-1968** presents a wonderful journey into the golden age of fashion in the Eternal City, reflecting a time when life was lived as if on a stage and the creative spirit had not yet succumbed to the ravages of corporate marketing. This was the heyday for such designers as Emilio Pucci, Valentino, Simonetta and Roberto Capucci, who helped to turn Italy into a fashion powerhouse. On view at the *Maxxi* museum of 21<sup>st</sup>-century art until May 3 (Via Guido Reni, 4A; fondazionemaxxi.it), the exhibition features 80 items of clothing previously worn by movie divas both onscreen and at gala events, along with jewellery and accessories.

Try to get a dinner table at **Marzapane** (Via Velletri, 39; marzapaneroma.com). The small restaurant can seat only 20 guests and reservations are usually made far in advance. Heading the kitchen is young French star chef Alba Esteve Ruiz, one of the few women to hold prominence in Rome's gastronomic scene and a veritable master in her craft. She has managed to unite the seemingly impossible – innovative cuisine worthy of a *Michelin* star together with a laid-back atmosphere and friendly prices. Visitors can choose one of four different degustation menus at a cost of only 30 to 55 euros per person. It seems almost too good to be true, so take advantage of the situation while it lasts!



Marzapane

