

# TUSCANY TUSCANY TUSCAN

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## Upcoming in July

### Volume Ten, Number Three 1999

#### Umbria

Santa Fe, Los Angeles, Orange  
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Plus a special Rome Jubilee Update\*

\*Note the change from April to July

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**In each issue - the art destinations in the news.**

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Suzanne Paulson & Constance Glenn.

If you are dreaming of being *Under the Tuscan Sun* this spring or summer, now is the time to plan your trip with the bonus of a visit to Venice during the **Venice Biennale**, due to open June 13 and scheduled to close November 7. Along with tasting the delicious foods, sampling the marvelous olive oils, and savoring the great wines of this famous gourmet region, art lovers may also enjoy visits to the wonderful art gardens, the many interesting new and old museums, and the artists' foundations that have recently been opened to the public.

Start your Tuscan adventure in the south along the coastal route from Rome, and make your destination **Il Giardino dei Tarocchi**, the magical garden wonder of sculptor **Niki de Saint Phalle** located in the town of **Garavicchio**. (En route, you may want to stop in Tarquinia to visit the Etruscan necropoli — a visit well worth the detour). Traveling north on the S1, you will turn off at Pescia Fiorentina, and there, on the hill, you will see the remarkable figures that have been many years in the making. Of the twenty-two monumental pieces, the larger ones are each inspired by a tarot card, while others are glittering structures which you can walk to and on. Don't miss Niki's former home — a three-story building made almost entirely out of broken mirrors. Allow at least one (or more) hour here and be sure to visit the gift shop selling Niki de Saint Phalle books, t-shirts, scarves, pins, and other goodies. In the past, the garden has only been open in the afternoons from May until November, so call ahead for the schedule. Our top choice for a spectacular lunch overlooking the sea or for a romantic stay is the **Il Pelicano**, in nearby Porto Ercole.

Your next destination might well be **Il Giardino di Daniel Spoerri**, another wonderful art garden located east of Grosseto, in the town of **Seggiano** (near Castel del Piano). A short drive from the coastal resorts, this region has quiet roads and fewer tourists. Take time to enjoy the hot sulfurous springs at Saturnia or see the Etruscan tombs in Sovana before visiting Swiss artist Daniel Spoerri's garden. There are 45 works by the artist installed in the landscape and you will need at least two hours (and shoes) walking to visit all the pieces. The Spoerri staff recommends many nice restaurants nearby (see Focus Tuscany), but *ARTexpress* suggests you try the one-star **Osteria del Vecchio Castello** in Roccalbegna.

In central Italy, you may settle in any of several towns within easy reach of Siena, which is located in the heart of the region. To the south, **Pienza**, where the scenery is the most beautiful in the entire province, is our favorite. Nearby, **La Saracina**, a 100-year-old cozy, charming, restored farmhouse,

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with panoramic views of the hilltop villages, provides a perfect base from which to explore the sites. Pienza, with its main piazza commissioned by native son Pope Pius II in 1459, is the earliest example of Renaissance town planning and we found it to be one of the most delightful little cities for walking and shopping, especially for the gourmet traveler. The speciality here is Pecorino cheese, found in several shops on and around the Corso Rossellino. Our favorite is **Club delle Fattorie** (Piazza dei Martiri della Libertá 2, Tel./Fax 39-0578-748150) which is filled with rare honeys, dried herbs, pastas, sauces, patés, oils and cheeses — great for gifts. Pienza has many charming small restaurants as well, and nestled in a small piazza near the main square, is a tiny five-table treasure, **Il Rossellino**, which serves the most delicious porcini appetizer in all of Tuscany.

Another town close-by that offers pleasurable exploring is **Montalcino**, where the **Museo Civico e Diocesano d'Arte Sacra** is newly opened. Housed in the ancient rooms of St. Agostino's Monastery, the exciting space was designed by architects **Carlo Nepi** and **Mario Terrosi** to exhibit wonderful sacred objects from the golden age of Sieneese art. The impressive fort (14th-century) at the top of the town beckons en route to the 12th-century monastery of **Sant'Antimo** nearby, where only seven monks live and fill the church with Gregorian chants several times daily (call for schedule 39-0577-835659). For lunch try the **Taverna dei Barbi**, a very popular, rustic restaurant noted for regional farm-style cooking. Reserve well in advance because it is often booked. **Fattoria dei Barbi**, (Tel. 39-0577-849357, Fax 39-0577-849356), adjacent to the restaurant, produces wonderful wines from this region and is an excellent shopping spot. **La Chiusa**, just 45 minutes away in **Montepulciano**, is a family-run gourmet haven that tempts you to stay, or to simply stop for a marvelous meal and enjoy the beauties of Montepulciano, the highest of Tuscany's hilltop towns, best known for its good local wines. It is crammed with Renaissance palaces and churches, the most beautiful of which is the pilgrimage church of **Madonna di San Biagio**, on the outskirts of town.

Closer to the heart of Tuscany, consider staying at the **Locanda dell'Amorosa**, a most charming country inn set in the rolling hills of the Chiana Valley located in the town of **Sinalunga**. The grand entrance to the property down the cypress-lined drive, takes you to a 14th-century square where a church, stables converted into the dining room, and the manor house await you. From here you can easily visit Siena, with its stunning sights — the **Duomo**, **Piazza del Campo**, and the

## Focus Tuscany

### HOTELS

**Hotel Il Pellicano**, Sbarcatello, Porto Ercole (near Grosseto), Tel. 39-0564-833801, Fax 39-0564-833418. This jewel of a luxury hotel overlooks the gulf of Argentaro and has the atmosphere of a private home. It is convenient to Niki de Saint Phalle's garden.

**La Saracina**, Strada Statale 146, Pienza, Tel. 39-0578-748022, Fax 39-0578-748018. A 100-year-old restored farmhouse (with rooms decorated with Ralph Lauren fabrics) run by the elegant Simonetta, eager to please your every whim. Highly recommended.

**La Chiusa**, Via della Madonna 88, Montefollonico, Tel. 39-0577-669668, Fax 39-0577-669593. A family-run, gourmet farm-complex-turned-inn close to the hill town of Montepulciano.

**Locanda dell'Amorosa**, Sinalunga, Tel. 39-0577-679497, Fax 39-0577-632001. This charming, medieval-walled hamlet, located 45 minutes east of Siena, is an ideal spot for a sojourn in the heart of Tuscany and for visiting art and culture in the area.

**Hotel Certosa di Maggiano**, Strada di Certosa 82, Siena, Tel. 39-0577-288180, Fax 39-0577-288189. Located south of the city, this 700-year-old Carthusian monastery is the number one choice of *ARTexpress* when visiting Siena. Vaulted ceilings, Gothic arches, and the serenity of its cloisters, plus its lovely swimming pool, make it a haven during the summer months.

**Hotel Monteriggioni**, Monteriggioni, Siena, Tel. 39-0577-305509, Fax 39-0577-305011. A lovely small hotel in the beautiful walled city of Monteriggioni between Florence and Siena. The best rooms are on the garden.

**Relais Fattoria Vignale**, Via Pianigiani 9, Radda-in-Chianti, Tel. 39-0577-738300, Fax 39-0577-738592. Located in the heart of Radda, this meticulously restored manor house, accented by old timbers and antique trappings, is a wonderful choice in the heart of the Chianti region.

**Borgo San Felice**, San Felice, Castelnuovo Berardenga, Tel. 39-0577-359260, Fax 39-0577-359089. Located within 30 minutes of Siena in the Chianti region, nestled amid olive groves and vineyards, this perfectly restored hamlet with its old stone dwellings, has been turned into a charming inn. It also makes a wonderful stop for lunch or dinner.

**Paggeria Medicea**, Viale Papa Giovanni XXIII 3, Artimino, Tel. 39-055-871-8081, Fax 39-055-871-8080. A luxury hotel with well appointed rooms located west of Florence near both Vinci and Prato. Next door is the former hunting lodge of the Duke Ferdinand de Medici.

**Il Convento**, Via San Quirico, 33, Pistoia (Pontenuovo), Tel. 39-0573-452651, Fax 39-0573-453578. This former convent is a charming place to stay while visiting the Fattoria di Celle.

**Grand Hotel e La Pace**, Via della Toretta 1, (Montecatini Terme) Pistoia, Tel. 39-0572-75801, Fax 39-0572-78451. Located 15 km west of Pistoia, this splendid 1870 palace is an elegant place to stay while visiting the Fattoria di Celle.

**Locanda l'Elisa**, Via Nuova per Pisa 1952, Lucca, Tel. 39-0583-379737, Fax 39-0583-379019. This 19th-century villa has been stylishly converted and

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nestles in the foothills just south of Lucca. It could be combined with your visit to the Fattoria di Celle.

**Villa La Principessa**, Via Nuova per Pisa, Massa Pisana, Lucca, Tel. 39-0583-370037, Fax 39-0583-379136. An impressive house, (the parent to Locanda l'Elisa), with loggias looking out to parkland. Better suited for a group.

## RESTAURANTS

**Il Pellicano**, Sbarcatello, Porto Ercole (near Grosseto), Tel. 39-0564-833801, Fax 39-0564-833418. (see hotels). In the summer the restaurant serves divine cuisine on the terrace, from which you have a view of the sea.

**Suggested restaurants near Il Giardino di Daniel Spoerri:**

**Il Silene**, Seggiano (Pescina), Tel. 39-0564-950805, Fax 39-0564-950553.

**Il Cacciatore**, Seggiano, Tel. 39-0564-950913.

**Tenuta Villa Gaia**, Seggiano, Tel. 39-0564-950642.

**Toscana**, Arcidosso, Tel. 39-0564-967486, Fax 39-0564-967000.

**La Scottiglia**, Seggiano (Pescina), Tel. 39-0564-950993.

**Osteria del Vecchio Castello**, Via della Chiesa 2, Roccalbegna, Tel/Fax 39-0564-989192. This restaurant, with one Michelin star, is enroute to the Giardino.

**Il Rossellino**, Piazza di Spagna 4, Pienza, Tel. 39-0578-749064, Fax 39-0578-758286. This tiny charming restaurant has five tables and is run by a husband and wife team. In lieu of a menu, a sample plate of the selections is brought to the table.

**Taverna dei Barbi**, Montalcino, Tel. 39-0577-849357, Fax 39-0577-849356. Good food and wine served at one of the most important Brunello wine producers in this area. The atmosphere and food are very rustic. Book well ahead as it is very popular.

**La Chiusa**, Via della Madonnina 88, Montefollonico, Tel. 39-0577-669668, Fax 39-0577-669593. The restaurant is small but spacious and serves perhaps the best fresh local food in Tuscany (see Hotels).

**Osteria Le Logge**, Via del Porrione 33, Siena, Tel. 39-0577-48013. Located on a little street off the Campo, Le Logge is the best place to eat in Siena. The trattoria is rustic and the owner, Gianni Brunelli, is a champion of Tuscan food and wine.

**La Pievina**, Via Laurentana 9, Asciano, Tel. 39-0577-718368. Located 12 miles south of Siena, this roadside restaurant is really a find. The menu is preset and there are many courses — all delicious.

**Ristorante Arnolfo**, Via XX Settembre 52, Colle di Val d'Elsa, Tel./Fax 39-0577-920549. The town is famous for its artisanal crystal as well as for this wonderful one-star restaurant with chefs Gaetano and Giovanni Trovato serving the most creative dishes around. Well worth the stop for lunch.

**Badia a Coltibuono**, Gaiole in Chianti, Tel. 39-0577-749-424, Fax 39-0577-749031. In the heart of the Chianti region, the Badia a Coltibuono complex is

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**Palazzo Pubblico**. Siena is a city of steep medieval alleys surrounding the Piazza del Campo, which is usually very crowded, forcing one to park below the ancient walls and walk into the city. The piazza, Siena's focal point, with its surrounding buildings dating between 1260 and 1348, is the scene of the Palio, a bareback horse race (Tuscany's most celebrated festival) that takes place on July 2 and August 16 each year — try to avoid these dates! Siena's **Duomo** (1136-1382), a grand Gothic structure, is one of the most spectacular in Italy and the statues of the prophets carved by Pisano in the 1290s shouldn't be missed. Directly across from the cathedral is the former hospital, **Santa Maria della Scala**, renowned for its beautiful stained-glass window by Duccio. Today the premises house a museum and conservation center where visitors occasionally find interesting contemporary installations. The **Palazzo Pubblico** is the graceful Gothic town hall completed in 1342 with the second highest bell tower in Italy. New in November was the **Palazzo delle Papesse**, the **Contemporary Art Center**, which mounts provocative avant-garde exhibitions. Open every day 11-7:00 until May 30, it will host two exhibitions; *ITINERE 2*, which includes Antonio Catelani, Ettore Spalletti, Philip Taaffe, Niele Toroni and Richard Tuttle; and *UTZ*, curated by Michele Dantini showing new young artists, Luca Bertolo, Marcello Maloberti, and Italo Zuffi. For lunch in the city we found the only restaurant we could recommend is **Osteria Le Logge**, a rustic trattoria with good food, located on Via del Porrione off the Campo.

To the south of Siena, and worth a detour, in the village of **Murlo**, is a real jewel — the **Museo Etrusco**, located in the Bishop's Palace. On the first Saturday in September, the village hosts an Etruscan dinner where candle-lit tables are set in the main piazza, and slides of Etruscan pottery depicting food-related subjects are shown. Tel. 39-0577-814099, Fax 39-0577-814246. Northeast of Siena, *ARTexpress* recommends you visit **Arezzo**, where the newly restored fresco masterpiece of **Piero della Francesca**, *The Legend of the True Cross* (1452-66), is located in the basilica of San Francesco (The frescoes seen in *The English Patient* were filmed in Arezzo). Try to be there on the first Sunday of the month when Italy's best antiques fair is held in Arezzo's Piazza Grande.

Located in **Radda**, **Relais Fattoria Vignale**, a picturesque 18th-century Tuscan country inn overlooking the Chianti Classico vineyards, is our favorite base for exploring the vineyards of Tuscany. The inn has a marvelous wine and olive oil shop; and for ceramics, **Ceramica Rampini**, Casa Beretone di Vistarenni, Tel. 39-0577-738-43, will ship your purchases for you. Near Radda in **Gaiole in Chianti**, superb olive oil can be

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purchased at **Badia a Coltibuono**, Tel 39-0577-749498, Fax 39-0577-749235. The famous Lorenza di'Medici cooking school is located here as well. Radda also is the jumping off spot for a visit to **San Gimignano**, a medieval town rich in works of art, good shops, and restaurants. Called the "City of Beautiful Towers," it is peppered with numerous medieval structures built by grand families of the era. In contrast, you can take a lovely walk along the city walls and see the works of five contemporary artists, **Fabro, Paolini, Nunzio, Mattiacci,** and **Kounellis**, installed in various places. Stop by the Tourist Center located on the Piazza Duomo for a map of the **Affinita Tour**. **Galleria Arte Continua**, a contemporary gallery, is also located in San Gimignano, and if you ask for **Maurizio Rigillo**, he will tell you the other not-to-be-missed contemporary art sites in the city. **Arte all'Arte**, a yearly project organized by Arte Continua, is featuring *Rinascimento-Nascimento* in 1999, exploring the relationship between art, technique, technology, and science. The exhibition is in conjunction with the Beaux-Arts Museum in Ghent, Belgium, and the Leonardo Museum in Vinci, with the first phase opening on May 22 in the Ghent Cathedral featuring the work of Italian artist, **Serse**. The second phase, opening October 23, will exhibit the Flemish artist, **Panamerenko**, whose works will inhabit Leonardo's birthplace, library, museum, and town square in **Vinci**. It would make an exciting stop if your trip is planned for the fall. For a memorable cuisine moment, *ARTexpress* recommends combining the visit with a super lunch at **Da Delfina**, located in the walled city of **Artimino** close-by.

Finally, to enjoy the most breathtaking contemporary art experience, head for **Pistoia**, in northern Tuscany. **Fattoria di Celle**, a 19th-century English landscape park spans approximately sixty acres. It is here that collector **Giuliano Gori** invites artists from around the world to produce site-specific works. The grounds are a wilderness of woods, lakes, and cascades punctuated by neo-Gothic follies and a farmhouse turned into a gallery space to exhibit art works. Set amongst the olive groves are works by **Magdalena Abakanowicz**, while **Robert Morris's** *Labyrinth* invites you to get lost in stonework reminiscent of Tuscan churches. The visit will take you close to three hours but it will be one you'll not forget. (To schedule, see Focus Tuscany).

Plan also to add **Prato** to your northern Tuscan itinerary (8 miles west of Florence). Your destination, the **Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci**, designed by **Italo Gamberini**, can be seen from the autostrada leading to Pistoia. It has its own permanent collection housed adjacent to the

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celebrated for its wine, oil, and cooking school. This family restaurant has recently been revamped and the superb food is prepared from Lorenza de'Medici's favorite recipes.

**L'Albergaccio**, Via Fiorentina 35, Castellina in Chianti, Tel. 39-0577-741042, Fax 39-0577-741250. Great Tuscan cooking in a very pleasant restored farmhouse.

**Ristorante Vignale**, Via XX Settembre 23, Radda in Chianti, Tel./Fax 39-0577-738094. A picturesque stone restaurant set in the middle of the town of Radda serving wonderful Tuscan food.

**Da Delfina**, Via della Chiesa 1, Artimino, Tel. 39-055-871874, Fax 9-055-871-8175. An old-fashioned restaurant located west of Florence near the town of Vinci, and set amid vineyards and olive trees. Delfina routinely cooks for hunters and her Tuscan cucina is tasty with an emphasis on wild herbs and flowers.

**Da Antonio**, Piazza Marconi, Castelnuovo Berardenga, Tel. 39-0577-355321. For fish in the landlocked Chianti region you cannot beat Da Antonio. Be sure to dine on the terrace if the weather is nice.

**La Tenda Rossa**, Piazza del Monumento 9/14, Cerbaia, Tel. 39-055-826-132, Fax 39-055-825210. A family-run restaurant considered the Florentine countryside's most interesting nontraditional dining experience.

### Suggested restaurants near Fattoria di Celle (recommended by the staff):

**Rafanelli**, Via Sant' Agostino 47, Pistoia, Tel. 39-0573-532046. A charming villa with traditional cuisine.

**Il Cochino**, Pistoia, Tel. 39-0573-959380.

**Caffé-Pasticceria Valiani**, Via Cavour 55, Pistoia, Tel. 39-05733-23034. "You can't miss the Valiani with its distinctive black-and-white marble arch."

**Il Convento**, Via San Quirico 33, Pistoia (Pontenuovo), Tel. 39-0573-452651, Fax 39-0573-453578 (see Hotels). One of the city's best restaurants with lovely views.

**La Limonaia**, Via di Gello 9, Gello (outside Pistoia), Tel 39-0573-400453. Marvelous Tuscan dishes served in a rustic building which once stored lemons.

**Puccini**, Corte San Lorenzo 1/3, Lucca, Tel. 39-0583-316116. Located within Lucca's walls, this sophisticated spot serves excellent seafood and is a good choice for lunch after visiting Puccini's house.

**Il Buca di Sant'Antonio**, Via della Cervia 3, Lucca, Tel. 39-0583-55881, Fax 39-0583-312199. This restaurant was born in 1782 and is considered the city's most famous eating establishment. It has a Michelin star.

**Romano**, Via Mazzini 120, Viareggio, Tel./Fax 39-0584-31382. One of the very best fish restaurants in Tuscany; considered the gastronomic peak of the Tuscan coast.

**Lorenzo**, Via Carducci 61, Forte dei Marmi, Tel./Fax 39-0584-84030. Located on the Tuscan coast within easy reach of Pietrasanto, Lorenzo serves

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elegant, light, well-prepared fish dishes (has a Michelin star). Reservations are hard to come by—book well in advance.

**La Barca**, Viale Italcico 3, Forte dei Marmi, Tel.39-0584-89323. Another fine fish restaurant in the beach town of Forte dei Marmi (has a Michelin star as well).

## FOUNDATIONS, MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

**Fondazione Il Giardino dei Tarocchi**, Garavicchio, Capalbio, Tel. 39-0564-895122, Fax 39-0564-895093. Located near the coast, this fantasy garden filled with mammoth sculptures by Niki de Saint Phalle can be visited from May 15th until October 10th, from 2:30 PM until 7:30 every day except Sunday and bank holidays. Call ahead for exact hours.

**Fondazione Il Giardino di Daniel Spoerri**, 58038 Seggiano, Tel. 39-0564-950457. The garden is open to the public from March 15th until June 13th from Friday through Sunday, 4 until 7 PM, and from June 14th through September 30th it is open every day, 11 AM until 8 PM. To visit the sculpture garden featuring 45 artworks by Spoerri, it will take approximately two hours of walking. For special appointments call Patrizia.

**Palazzo delle Papesse**, (Centro Arte Contemporanea), Via di Città 126, Siena. A new museum focusing on contemporary art opened in November, 1998.

**Galleria Continua**, via Arco dei Becci 1, San Gimignano, Tel. 39-0577-943134, Fax 39-0577-940484. This gallery, under the direction of Maurizio Rigillo, mounts contemporary exhibitions on the premises as well as at other venues in San Gimignano.

**Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Prato (Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci)**, Viale delle Repubblica, 277, Prato, Tel. 39-0574-570620, Fax 39-0574-572604. One of Italy's very few spaces devoted to contemporary art. They have announced an ambitious program for the coming year.

**Museo Leonardiano**, Piazza del Castello, Vinci, Tel. 39-0571-56055. A 13th-century castle in the center of Vinci which celebrates the genius of Leonardo. Among the displays are models of his inventions adapted from drawings from his notebooks. This will be the site of ARTE ALL'ARTE in October, 1999.

**Fattoria di Celle**, Via Montalese, 51030 Santomato di Pistoia. Tel. 39-0573-479907, Fax 39-0573-479486. The hilltop home and 19th-century English-style gardens of contemporary art collector Giuliano Gori are filled with works by sculptors from all over the world. The Gori collection is open to visitors from May through September (excluding August) and requests must be made in writing, specifying the date and the number in your party.

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museum, and following recent restructuring, the new directors have announced an ambitious program for the coming year. An exhibition devoted to the work of the architect and designer **Ettore Scottsass** will be on view until May 30, followed in June by an exhibition to celebrate the fifth centenary of Leonardo's *Last Supper*, when contemporary artists **Robert Filliou**, **Nam June Paik**, **Allan Kaprow**, and **Yoko Ono**, plus artists of the Fluxus group, and Pop and conceptual artists, will pay homage to the Renaissance genius throughout the summer. In the fall, the Centre will present **Jasper Johns** and **Yves Klein**. While you are in Prato don't miss loading up on the quintessential *biscotti di Prati*. **Antonio Mattei**, (Via Ricasoli 20/22, Tel. 39-0574-25756) is the best shop in Tuscany for biscotti (as well as *brutti buoni*, a delicious chewy almond cookie). Wrapped in the famous blue bag, they make a very welcome gift indeed.

End your Tuscan sojourn in the town of **Lucca**, a jewel of a city (the birthplace of Giacomo Puccini) amid medieval monuments and Romanesque churches, surrounded by intact Renaissance ramparts. Book a room at the stylish and exclusive, 19th-century **Locanda l'Elisa**, nestled in the peaceful foothills outside the city. Here you can contemplate the beauty you have experienced in Tuscany. Whether it's the sort that speaks of a Merchant-Ivory film or scenes that recall the lovely Arezzo frescoes portrayed in *The English Patient*, you will know in your heart, you must return to this enchanting place.

## THE ARTWORLD SELECTS

Gemini G.E.L.'s **Stanley and Elyse Grinstein** spent a month last summer in Tuscany and will return this summer before attending the Venice Biennale and Basel Art Fair. They suggest that *ARTexpress* readers rent a restored farmhouse in their favorite region of Chianti. In Panzano, they fell for **Tenuta Fontodi**, a rambling ancient farmhouse set among vineyards with sublime views of Panzano and Castello di Rampolia. (Tel/Fax 39-055-852817). Their two favorite art venues are **Fattoria di Celle**, in **Pistoia**, and **Il Giardino dei Tarocchi** in **Garavicchio**. They love "Market Days" on Saturday morning in **Greve**, Sunday in **Panzano**, Monday in **San Casciano**, Wednesday in **Tavernuzze**, and Thursday in **Figline** — all approximately 20-30 minutes from Panzano. Their choice restaurants are **La Tenda Rossa** in **Cerbaia**, **Da Delfina** in **Artimino**, **Albergaccio** in **Castellina** in **Chianti**, and **La Piazza** in **Piazza**. For fish they recommend **Da Antonio** in **Castelnuovo Berardenga**, **Romano** in **Viareggio**, and in **Forte dei Marmi**, they like **Bruno**, **Lorenzo**, and **La Barca**. For a respite on the beach, they head for **Viareggio**, **Pietrasanta**. and **Forte dei Marmi**, all about an hour's drive from Panzano.

# ART AROUND THE WORLD

## News

When May rolls around, **Chicago** is once again on the art horizon. **Art 1999 Chicago** is scheduled for the **Festival Hall, Navy Pier**, May 7-11 with a special Vernissage May 6 at 6:30 PM to benefit the **Museum of Contemporary Art**. Carol Nasaw Hurvitz is handling the details at the MCA and can arrange group visits to private collections or special MCA tours (Tel. 312-397-3898). **The Chicago Architecture Foundation** offers a variety of tours as well and reservations can be made at 312-922-3432; or contact Irene Kreer at **Kreer Associates** for individual or group architecture tours. As always, Joan Arenberg, of **Art on the Move**, will be creating custom, behind-the-scenes adventures (Tel. 847-432-6265). More than 200 exhibitors will attend the fair — 40 for the first time — and some 40,000 art travelers are expected at Navy Pier as Chicago becomes an ever more artful destination.

Following Chicago, the artworld will move on to **Venice** and Basel, where reservations are always scarce. In Venice, the **Hotel Cipriani** on the Giudecca continues to expand. Having added the elegant Palazzo Vendramin a few years ago, the hotel has now restored the 16th-century Palazzetto Nani Barbero next door to the Vendramin. The addition has resulted in fine new suites and an informal restaurant called Cip's Club. The views of San Marco are divine! For reservations, telephone 39-41-520-7744, Fax 39-41-520-3930.

While many Venice Biennale (June 13-November 7, with previews beginning on June 9th) events have yet to be announced, there's a buzz about the women: Ann Hamilton will represent the United States and Rosemarie Trockel is the German choice. And beyond the Giardini, this spring the Peggy Guggenheim Collection will present the work of Bauhaus textile artist Anni Albers (arrive early — it closes May 24) while the **Correr Museum** will play host to Cossjje van Bruggen and Claes Oldenburg, whose May 22-October 3 retrospective will include some 200 sculptures.

Whether your destination is Basel, Venice or beyond, chances are you won't be able to resist a stopover in white-hot **London**, where the season will be in

## Great Addresses

### IN CHICAGO

**160 Blue**, 160 North Loomis, Tel. 312-850-0303. Former Le Cirque 2000 chef Patrick Robertson is the toast of the serious food set in this elegant, beautifully designed restaurant.

**La Sardine**, 111 North Carpenter, Tel. 312-421-2800. Contemporary comfort food is superb at Le Bouchon's new sister restaurant.

**Mon Ami Gabi**, 2300 North Lincoln Park West, Tel. 773-348-8886. The old Un Grand Cafe is now even better. The French bistro fare ends in divine crème brûlée.

**Earth**, 2925 North Halsted, Tel. 773-528-7200. An art hangout in the midst of the River North galleries, Earth specializes in healthy cuisine made with organic foods.

**Spruce**, 238 East Ontario, Tel. 312-642-3757. One of Chicago's best contemporary American restaurants; a classic.

### IN VENICE

**Cipriani**, Giudecca 10, Tel. 041-520-7744, Fax 041-520-3930. A splendid oasis across St. Mark's basin.

**Metropole**, Riva degli Schiavoni 4149, Tel. 041-520-5044, Tax 041-522-3679. *ARTexpress'* Venice hotel: it is small, well-run, beautifully located with views to dream about, and the prices are not stratospheric.

**American**, Rio San Vio 628, Dorsoduro, Tel. 041-520-4733, Fax 041-520-4048. A stylish budget hotel with flower-filled terraces overlooking the canal.

**La Caravella**, Calle Larga XXII Marzo 2397, San Marco, Tel. 041-520-8901. Looking every bit like the salon of a Venetian sailing ship, this picturesque restaurant also boasts a lovely courtyard for summer dining; pricey and equally delicious.

**Palazzo Labia**, Campo San Geremia (near the train station), Tel. 041-524-2812. Even Venice regulars miss La Serenissima's most glorious ballroom, graced by Tiepolo's sumptuous 18th-century frescos depicting Antony and Cleopatra. Once the home of the city's wealthiest family, the palazzo is now occupied by RAI, Italian National Broadcasting. You can see the ballroom free only Monday, Thursday, and Friday from 3-4 PM.

### IN LONDON

**Circus Restaurant**, 1 Upper James Street, WI, Tel. 44-171-534-4000.

**Yo! Sushi**, 52 Poland Street, Tel. 44-171-287-0443. Trendy; a high-tech sushi bar where low-fat sushi is delivered on conveyor belts and robot trolleys deliver your drinks. Try the branch on the fifth floor of Harvey Nichols if you shop 'til you drop.

**Wild at Heart**, 49a Ledbury Road, Tel. 44-171-727-3095. Nikki Tibble's spin-off of Turquoise

# ART AROUND THE WORLD

## Great Addresses...more

Island, Wild at Heart is a flower shop for the 21st century. Future Systems (the architects) have created "couture" for flowers — elegant isolated stalks float from free-form white containers. The look is spectacular minimal design.

**Antoni & Alison**, 43 Rosebery Avenue, Tel. 44-171-833-2002. Follow the supermodels to this little-bit-of-everything emporium that specializes in witty sportswear and accessories, household objects, and unexpected hip London souvenirs.

**St. John**, 26 St. John, The City, Tel. 44-171-251-0848. The look is minimal refectory cum art gallery; reservations essential.

**Zafferano**, 15 Lowndes Street, SW1, Tel. 44-171-235-5800. Star watching in Belgravia is accompanied by London's best "cucina nuova." Be sure to book ahead.

**Villandry**, 170 Great Portland Street, W1, Tel. 44-171-221-9225. Foodie heaven—a food hall bigger than Harrods where lunches to die for are exceeded only by the dinners served twice each month. These are perhaps the toughest reservations in London.

**Covent Garden Hotel**, 10 Monmouth Street, WC2, Tel. 44-171-806-1000, Fax 44-171-806-1100. Once a Victorian hospital in the heart of Covent Garden, the hotel is now one of the most stylish in London; 46 rooms, 4 suites.

**Queen's Gallery**, Buckingham Palace Road, Tel. 44-171-799-2331. Formerly a chapel on the side of Buckingham Palace, this small gallery has always been known for exquisite exhibits selected from the incomparable Royal collections. Now that the Queen has announced she is going to build a new \$10 million museum expansion, see this space while you can.

From Sir Richard Rogers' controversial Millennium Dome in Greenwich to Herzog & de Meuron's new Tate Gallery Bankside (which will even have its own footbridge across the Thames designed by Sir Norman Foster), millennium construction is very much a part of the London scene at the moment. Just keep an eye on all the projects and book your return to celebrate their completion.

**The River and Rowing Museum**, Mill Meadows, Henley-on-Thames, Tel. 44-1491-415-610 (about an hour from London). If a side trip is in order, celebrate the history of rowing in a new facility designed by David Chipperfield (now that you've seen his Circus Restaurant). It's part modernist, part rural Oxfordshire and includes everything from 18th-century Arctic whale boats and Venetian gondolas to the boat that won the 1996 Atlanta Olympics; a delicious outing on a sunny afternoon!

## News...more

full swing. Architecture buffs should head straight for **Circus Restaurant** by the noted British architect David Chipperfield. Carved out of a former television studio in London's Soho, this stylish eatery with translucent boxes in muted colors camouflaging the service areas is a minimalist classic.

Through May 2, *Francis Bacon: Paintings and Works on Paper* will be on view at the **Tate Gallery** and visitors from Southern California, or those who made the trip to La Jolla to see Hugh Davis' brilliant exhibit devoted to the *Papal Portraits*, can experience the current Bacon explosion (a third Bacon retrospective ran through March 21st at the Yale Center for British Art and will travel) in London as well. The Tate exhibit unveils previously unknown drawings recently acquired by the museum. The exhibition that aficionados will flock to during the summer is *Rembrandt by Himself* at the **National Gallery** (June 9-September 5). With major loans from the Rijksmuseum and Rembrandthuis, it is expected to be splendid.

As you read this, the British are preparing — on every front — celebrations of the 435th birthday of William Shakespeare. Whether you choose the **Royal National Theater's** "Troilus and Cressida" (from March 14), or "The Merchant of Venice" (opening June 17); the **Globe Bankside's** "Julius Caesar," "The Comedy of Errors," or "Antony and Cleopatra;" the **Young Vic's** "Hamlet;" the **Open Air Theatre in Regents Park's** production of "The Merry Wives of Windsor;" or the **Royal Shakespeare Company's** offerings at Stratford-on-Avon, you need not lack pleasures provided by the bard. (Royal National Theater, Fax 44-171-452-3030; Royal Shakespeare's Globe, Fax 44-171-902-1475; Young Vic, Fax 44-171-928-1585).

If you miss the young art set at the ongoing series of exhibitions at the **Saatchi Gallery** (98 A Boundary Road, Tel. 44-171-328-8299, Fax 44-171-624-3798) you're likely to run into Chris Ofili, Sarah Lucas, Marc Quinn, or some of the other happening talents at St. John restaurant, an innovative and uncompromising experiment in a former Clerkenwell smokehouse. The fare ranges from Elizabethan eccentric to elegant British.

## Calendar

Through Apr.	25	National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C. <i>Ingres Portraits</i>
Through Apr.	25	SFMOMA, San Francisco <i>Roy Lichtenstein</i>
Through Apr.	26	Centre Pompidou, Paris <i>David Hockney: Space and Landscape</i>
Through May	2	Kunsthalle Wein am Karlsplatz, Vienna <i>Andy Warhol: A Factory</i>
Through May	2	Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin <i>Joseph Beuys: Multiples</i>
Through May	2	Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth <i>Matisse and Picasso: A Gentle Rivalry</i>
Through May	6	Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, CA <i>California Biennial</i>
Through May	9	Museum of Fine Arts, Boston <i>Mary Cassatt</i>
Through May	9	Bass Museum, Miami <i>Roy Lichtenstein</i>
Through May	9	Walker Art Center, Minneapolis <i>Robert Gober</i>
Through May	9	San Jose Museum of Art, California <i>John Register Retrospective</i>
Through May	9	Seattle Art Museum <i>Chuck Close &amp; Virginia &amp; Bagley Wright Collection</i>
Through May	15	Bass Museum, Miami <i>Liza Lou's America</i>
Through May	16	Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York <i>J. Dine: Walking Memory 1959-69</i>
Through May	16	Menil Collection, Houston <i>J. Cornell/M. Duchamp...in resonance</i>
Through May	23	Philadelphia Museum of Art <i>Georgia O'Keefe &amp; Alfred Stieglitz</i>
Through May	24	Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice <i>Anni Albers</i>
Through May	24	Moderna Museet, Stockholm <i>Aleksandr Rodchenko</i>
Through May	30	Palazzo delle Papesse, Siena <i>Itinere/2 and Utz</i>
Through May	30	Fondazione Mazzotta, Milan <i>Gustav Klimt</i>
Through May	30	Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin <i>Max Ernst Retrospective</i>
Through May	30	Guggenheim Museum SoHo, <i>Joseph Beuys Retrospective</i>
Through May	31	Mus. Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt <i>Araki, Trockel, Miyamoto, Tullman, Balkenhol, &amp; Chamberlain</i>
Through May	31	National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. <i>John Singer Sargent</i>
Through Jun.	1	San Francisco Museum of Modern Art <i>Inside Out: New Chinese Art</i>
Through Jun.	2	Cleveland Museum of Art <i>Graciela Iturbide</i>
Through Jun.	6	Contemporary Museum, Honolulu <i>Ursula von Rydingsvard</i>
Through Jun.	6	Tate Gallery, London <i>Jackson Pollock &amp; Chris Burden: When Robots Rule</i>
Through Jun.	6	Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebaek, Denmark <i>H. Cartier-Bresson</i>
Through Jun.	20	MOMA, New York <i>The Museum as Muse</i>
Through Jun.	20	Baltimore Museum of Art <i>Frederick Sommer</i>
Through Jun.	20	New Museum of Art, New York <i>Fever: David Wojnarowicz</i>
Through Jun.	20	Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D. C. <i>J. S. Sarmiento</i>
Through Jun.	27	Metropolitan Museum, New York <i>Treasury of St. Francis at Assisi</i>
Through Jul.	4	National Gallery, London <i>Roger van der Weyden</i>
Through Jul.	25	Victoria and Albert Museum, London <i>The Arts of the Sikh Kingdoms</i>
Through Jul.	25	The Geffen Contemporary, MOCA, Los Angeles <i>S. Francis: Paintings 1947-90</i>
Through Jul.	25	Oakland Museum of California <i>William T. Wiley</i>
Through Aug.	29	Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Bologna <i>Anselm Kiefer</i>
Through Sept.	19	Palais des Beaux-Arts, Brussels <i>Andy Warhol: A Factory</i>
Apr. 10 - Jun.	27	Kunstmuseum, Basel <i>Theophile Steinlen &amp; Max Kämps</i>
Apr. 13 - Jul.	3	J.P. Getty Museum, Los Angeles <i>Brassai: The Eye of Paris</i>
Apr. 23 - 26		<b>Art Frankfurt (Contemporary Art Fair)</b>
Apr. 23 - 27		<b>Art Brussels (Contemporary Art Fair)</b>
Apr. 24 - Sept.	25	Museum of Latin American Art, Long Beach <i>Chavez &amp; Latin American Surrealists</i>
Apr. 27 - Oct.	17	Guggenheim, Bilbao <i>Richard Serra</i>
Apr. 30 - Jul.	11	Museu Picasso, Barcelona <i>Raoul Dufy 1877-1953</i>
Apr. 18 - Jun.	7	Detroit Institute of Art <i>Walker Evans Simple Secrets</i>
May 1 - Jul.	4	Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago <i>Charles Ray</i>
May 1 - Jun.	13	Portikus, Frankfurt <i>Maria Eichhorn</i>
May 4 - Jun	27	Jeu de Paume, Paris <i>Gutai Group</i>
May 7 - 11		<b>Art Chicago 1999 (International Contemporary Art Fair)</b>
May 7 - 12		<b>The International Fine Art Fair (Paintings, Drawings, Sculpture) New York</b>
May 7 - Jun	21	Kunsthalle, Basel <i>Renée Levi</i>
May 15 - Aug	15	Koninklijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten, Antwerp <i>A. van Dyck Retrospective</i>
May 21 - 24		<b>Art Jonction, Nice (Contemporary Art Fair)</b>
May 22 - Oct.	3	Correr Museum, Venice <i>Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen</i>
Jun. 9 - Sept	5	National Gallery, Washington D.C., <i>Rembrandt by Himself</i>
Jun. 12 - Aug	22	Kunsthalle, Basel <i>Nach—Bild</i>
Jun. 13 - Aug	2	Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco <i>Francis Bacon: Retrospective</i>
Jun. 13 - Nov	7	<b>XLXIII Venice Biennale</b>
Jun. 16 - 21		<b>ART 30/99, Basel, Switzerland (International Contemporary Art Fair)</b>
Jun. 25 - Sept	21	San Francisco Museum of Modern Art <i>Bill Viola</i>

## Travel Bookshelf: Tuscany

### Guides

*Fodor's '99 Italy*  
*Eyewitness Travel Guide Florence & Tuscany.*  
*Tuscany & Umbria, The Rough Guide.*  
*Michelin Tuscany.*  
*Fodor's Rivages, Hotels and Country Inns of Character & Charm in Italy.*  
 Chris Gill. *Charming Small Hotels: Italy.*

### Food

*Michelin Italia: Hotels and Restaurants.*  
 Giuliano Bugiatti. *Foods of Tuscany.*  
 Faith Heller Willinger. *Eating in Italy.*  
 Fred Plotkin. *Italy for the Gourmet Traveler.*  
 Carla Capalbo. *The Food Lover's Companion to Tuscany.*  
 James Oadsun. *Walking and Eating in Tuscany and Umbria.*  
 Anne Bianchi. *Dolci Toscani: The Book of Tuscan Desserts.*  
 Pino Luongo. *A Tuscan in the Kitchen: Recipes and Tales from My Home.*  
 Elizabeth Romer. *The Tuscan Year: Life and Food in an Italian Valley.*  
 Lorenza De'Medici Stucchi. *Tuscany, the Beautiful Cookbook: Authentic Recipes from the Provinces of Tuscany.*  
 Leslie Forbes. *A Taste of Tuscany: Classic Recipes from the Heart of Italy.*

### Picture Books

James Bentley, Hugh Palmer. *The Most Beautiful Villages of Tuscany.*  
 Richard Kauffman, Carol Field. *The Hill Towns of Italy.*  
 Sophie Bajard & Raffaello Bencini. *Villas and Gardens of Tuscany.*  
 Sonja Bullaty. *Tuscany.*  
 Ethan Clark, Raffaello Bencini. *Gardens of Tuscany.*  
 Harold Mario Mitchell. *Great Houses of Italy the Tuscan Villas.*

### Popular Favorites

Frances Mayes. *Under the Tuscan Sun.*  
 Maria Luisa Fargion, Iole Fiorillo. *Beside Still Waters.*  
 Ferenc Marc. *The Hills of Tuscany: A New Life in an Old Land.*  
 Ted Gerstl. *Tullio's Orange Tree: A Fable.*  
 Ann Calcagno. *Travelers' Tales Italy.*  
 Matthew Spender. *Within Tuscany/Reflections on a Time and Place.*

### Art and Architecture

Paul Hills. *The Light of Early Italian Painting.*  
 Norma Brode. *The Macchiaioli: Italian Painters of the Nineteenth Century.*  
 Alison Wright. Eckart Marchand, *With and Without the Medici: Studies in Tuscan Art and Patronage.*  
 John White. *Duccio: Tuscan Art and Medieval Workshop.*  
 John Fisher Carroll. *Complete Guide With the Best of the Art Treasures and Hill Towns.*  
 Eve Borsook. *The Mural Painters of Tuscany: From Cimabue to Andrea Del Sarto.*