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## SHOPPING

### top picks

- Ai Monasteri (p164)
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What is special about shopping in Rome is the sense of tradition and individuality. Fiercely unique, Rome's shops, studios and boutiques make retail therapy supremely diverting. Wander the backstreets and you'll find yourself glancing into dusty workshops where framers, ironmongers, furniture restorers and basket weavers ply their trade as their parents did before them.

Rome's shopping districts are packed with jewel-like boutiques, elegant designer stores, *enoteche* (wine shops) lined with thousands of glinting bottles, and places specialising in a particular item, such as ties, tights, gloves or hats. While in some places the décor has not had a rethink since they opened in the 19th century, others could have stepped directly from the pages of a style magazine. There's a seeming absence of chain stores, at least in comparison to other European capitals. This isn't strictly the real picture: some shops can be found on every major shopping street, such as clothes shop Benetton and lingerie sellers Yanamay and Intimissimi. But, being Italian chains, they don't spoil the illusion too much. There's also an attractive lack of malls – because of the difficulties in constructing new buildings in the city centre, malls tend to be on the edge of town. It all seems bewitchingly bygone to those used to chain stores and malls dominating city centres.

The *bella figura* (loosely translated as 'looking good') is paramount to most Romans, and they'll spend a lot of their free time shopping to maintain this. Men's and women's fashions tend to be either elegant and conservative or flashy and trashy – there's something of the Madonna-whore complex about the Italian fashion industry. Whatever the style, Italy's reputation for quality is deserved and Rome is a splendid place to shop for designer clothes, shoes and leather goods.

Rome has long been viewed as secondary to Milan as a fashion city, but it's significant that Valentino chose to show his 45th-anniversary *haute couture* collection here, and Fendi opened its seven-storey, neoclassical flagship store here in the glorious Palazzo Fendi in 2005. The grid of streets around Via dei Condotti and Piazza di Spagna is definitely high-fashion central: all fashion's biggest names are here, and even if you can't afford to buy, it's fun to wander. Designer homewares are also an Italian speciality and many shops focus on covetable stainless-steel kitchenware, glass baubles and cutting-edge interior design.

While prices here are not as exorbitant as they are in, say, London or Paris, they're still not cheap. To grab a bargain you should try to time your visit to coincide with the *saldi* (sales). Winter sales run from early January to mid-February and summer sales from July to early September.

Most shops accept credit cards and many accept travellers cheques. Note that you're required by Italian law to have a *ricevuta* (receipt) for your purchases (see p297).

Finally, a warning: be prepared for that strange breed of Roman shop assistant for whom customers are little more than an unwanted intrusion. Remember that they have an important call to a friend to complete before they can spare the time to be grumpy with you.

## SHOPPING AREAS

All the big-gun designers strut their stuff in the area between Piazza di Spagna and Via del Corso (Map p168). The great Italian and international names are represented, as well as many more off-centre designers, selling clothes, shoes and accessories, glitter and va va voom. We're willing to lay bets that there are more immaculate shop assistants per square metre here than in any other place. The centre of it all is Via dei Condotti, but there's also lots of high fashion in Via Borgognona, Via Frattina and Via della Vite. Heading up to Piazza del Popolo, Via del Babuino is also full of glamorous boutiques.

Moving down a euro or two, Via Nazionale (Map pp90–1), Via del Corso (Map p168), Via dei Giubbbonari (Map pp74–5) and Via Cola di Rienzo (Map pp130–1) are good for midrange clothing stores.

For small fashion boutiques and vintage clothes, head for Via del Governo Vecchio (Map pp74–5), a central yet bohemian street that runs from a small square just off Piazza Navona towards the river. Other great places to discover one-off, froufrou boutiques are Via del Pellegrino and around Campo de' Fiori (Map pp74–5), and in the Monti area: Via del Boschetto and Via dei Soldati (Map pp90–1). Trastevere (Map pp122–3) also harbours some interesting, offbeat shops in its narrow lanes.

For antiques shopping, Via dei Coronari (Map pp74–5), Via Margutta (Map p168), Via Giulia (Map pp74–5) and Via dei Banchi Vecchi (Map pp74–5) are the best places to look. The quality is good but prices are high.

## OPENING HOURS

Many larger shops now open 9am to 7.30pm (or 9.30am to 8pm) Monday to Saturday; some also open on Sundays, typically 11am to 1pm and 4pm to 7pm. However, traditional opening hours – 9am to 1pm and 3.30pm to 7.30pm (or 4pm to 8pm) Monday to Saturday – are still adhered to by many family-run places. Small boutiques might not open until 10am and afternoon hours might also be shortened. Many shops are closed on Monday mornings and for at least two weeks in August. Hours often change in summer, with more places closing at lunchtime and opening later in the evening.

If opening hours are given with a review it's because they differ from these norms.

## CENTRO STORICO PANTHEON & AROUND

**ALBERTA GLOVES** Map pp74–5 Accessories

☎ 06 678 57 53; Corso Vittorio Emanuele II 18;

☪ Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

As snug as, well, a glove, this tiny, crammed shop meets every occasion: elbow-length silk gloves for that special evening; crochet for your first communion; tan-coloured driving gloves for touring the Alps in your roadster; black kid-leather gloves for icy morning commutes; black fingerless numbers for kinky nights out. Gentlemen will also find a good range of braces.

**FELTRINELLI** Map pp74–5 Books

☎ 06 688 03 248; Largo di Torre Argentina 5;

☪ or j Largo di Torre Argentina

Italy's most famous book-seller (and publisher) has numerous outlets across the capital. This one has a wide range of books (in Italian) on art, photography, cinema and history, as well as an extensive selection of Italian literature and travel guides in various languages, including English. There's also a small English books section and a café (where you can take books for a read before you purchase). Other Feltrinelli bookshops are at Galleria Alberto Sordi (Map pp90–1; ☎ 06 677 55 001; Piazza Colonna 31), Viale Giulio Cesare 88

# top picks

## SHOPPING STRIPS

- Via del Governo Vecchio (Map pp74–5) – for vintage and independent fashion
- Via del Pellegrino (Map pp74–5) – lots of small boutiques, jewellers and antique shops
- Via dei Condotti (Map p168) – all the big-name designers; window displays are works of art, and shoppers are entertaining too
- Via del Boschetto (Map pp90–1) – small independent boutiques specialising in fashion, jewellery and ephemera
- Via del Corso (Map p168 & Map pp90–1) – Rome's answer to London's Oxford St; head here for big-name Italian and other chains

(Map pp130–1; ☎ 06 37 72 411) and Via VE Orlando 81 (Map pp90–1; ☎ 06 487 01 71), where you'll also find the international branch (see p175).

## HERDER BUCHHANDLUNG

Map pp74–5 Books

☎ 06 679 46 28; Piazza di Montecitorio 117;

☪ Via del Corso

Herder Buchhandlung is a historic German bookshop that specialises in theological and philosophical works. But even students of Kant like a break, and you'll now find Harry Potter, a small selection of Penguin books in English and some children's books.

**DAVIDE CENCI** Map pp74–5 Clothing

☎ 06 699 06 81; Via di Campo Marzio 1-7; ☪ Via del Corso

If your look is immaculate conservative elegance (blazers, slacks and brogues in summer; tweed and flannels in winter) and you never get creased, you'll love Davide Cenci. This store carries a selection of top Italian and international labels – such as Tod's and Ralph Lauren – for men, women and children.

**CONFETTERIA MORIONDO & GARIGLIO** Map pp74–5 Food

☎ 06 699 08 56; Via del Piè di Marmo 21-22; h Oct-Apr; ☪ or j Largo di Torre Argentina Breathe in deeply as you enter the rich-red interior of this historic confectioner's, which resembles something from a story-book. Rows of handmade chocolates and bonbons (more than 80 varieties) lie in

## HOLY SOCKS!

The streets south of the Pantheon are busy with window-shopping nuns. A string of ecclesiastical shops has clerics from all over the world trying out ceremonial capes for their swish factor, eyeing up lecterns and stocking up on suitably stern undies. If you want an icon or a pair of (glorious!) cardinal's socks (available in poppy red or ecclesiastical purple), Via dei Cestari is where to head, though bear in mind that idle browsing is not the done thing. **Ghezzi** (Map pp74–5; % 06 686 97 44; Via dei Cestari 32–33) is the least daunting of the shops, but if nothing but the pope's tailors will do, try **Anniabile Gamarelli** (Map pp74–5; % 06 680 13 14; Via di Santa Chiara 34). For a life-sized statue of the Virgin Mary or a host of smaller icons, try **Statuaria – Arte Sacra** (Map pp74–5; % 06 679 37 53; Via dei Cestari 2).

ceremonial splendour in old-fashioned glass cabinets. Moriondo and Gariglio were Torinese cousins who moved to Rome after the unification of Italy, and many of the recipes used today have been handed down from the 19th century.

### STILO FETTI Map pp74–5 Gifts

% 06 678 96 62; Via degli Orfani 82; **G** or **j** Largo di Torre Argentina  
An old-fashioned shop where assistants wear ties and know the exact location of every item, Stilo Fetti is a throwback to the days when people wrote with pen and ink. Here you'll find racks of fountain pens and sleek leather briefcases.

### LA CHIAVE Map pp74–5 Gifts, Homewares

% 06 683 08 848; Largo delle Stimmate 28; **G** or **j** Largo di Torre Argentina  
La Chiave is one of Rome's best shops for ethnic bits and pieces (ceramics, furniture, hammocks, paper lanterns and so on). Just off Largo di Torre Argentina, it's reasonably priced and ideal if you're on a gift hunt.

### DE SANCTIS Map pp74–5 Homewares

% 06 688 06 810; Piazza di Pietra 24; **H** closed Tue morning; **G** Via del Corso  
De Sanctis – in business since 1890 – has moved from its Piazza Navona spot to this smaller shop near the Pantheon. It has some impressive southern Italian ceramics, with sunbursts of colour decorating candle-holders, vases, tiles, urns and plates.

### SPAZIO SETTE Map pp74–5 Homewares

% 06 688 04 261; Via dei Barbieri 7; **G** or **j** Largo di Torre Argentina  
Even if you don't buy any of the designer homewares at Spazio Sette, it's worth popping in to see the funky modern furniture set against 17th-century frescoes. Formerly home to a cardinal, the *palazzo* (mansion)

now houses a three-floor shop full of quality furniture, kitchenware, tableware and gifts.

### RINASCITA Map pp74–5 Music

% 06 699 22 436; Via delle Botteghe Oscure 5; **G** Piazza Venezia  
Adjoining the bookshop of the same name, long-running Rinascita is best known for its contemporary and world music. However, you'll also find jazz, blues, classical and electronic CDs, as well as videos, DVDs and an in-store ticket agency.

### SCIÙ SCIÀ Map pp74–5 Shoes

% 06 688 06 777; Via di Torre Argentina 8; **G** or **j** Largo di Torre Argentina  
Not much bigger than the shoe boxes that clutter the interior, Sciù Scià sells its own range of handmade ladies' shoes and multi-coloured suede bags. The vibe is sensible yet chic, ranging from classic pumps to comfortable sandals.

### AS ROMA STORE Map pp74–5 Sportswear

% 06 692 00 642; Piazza Colonna 360; **G** Via del Corso  
The fortunes of AS Roma, one of Rome's two football teams, have made sorry reading in recent years. Boost the team's coffers by buying a replica shirt or a Roma key ring at this, one of their official club shops, which also sells game tickets.

### BARTOLUCCI Map pp74–5 Toys

% 06 691 90 894; Via dei Pastini 98; **G** Via del Corso del Rinascimento  
You can't miss this wonderful toy shop, where everything's crafted in pine by the Bartolucci family. It's guarded by a cycling Pinocchio and a full-sized wooden motor-bike, and within are thousands of ticking clocks, beautiful cars, planes and more Pinoccchios than you're ever likely to see in one place. You can have wooden signs

(hang your hat on Pinocchio's nose) personalised with your name.

### TARTARUGHE Map pp74–5 Women's Clothing

% 06 679 22 40; Via del Piè di Marmo 17; **G** or **j** Largo di Torre Argentina  
Ask a stylish Roman woman where she got her classic-yet-individual outfit and she may well point you in Tartarughe's direction. This small boutique sells grown-up clothes that are just frivolous enough to make them interesting. Designer Susanna Liso's outfits are ideal for a special occasion, with tops that are whispers of chiffon, multicoloured dresses and strikingly cut jackets.

## PIAZZA NAVONA & AROUND

### TRONCARELLI Map pp74–5 Accessories

% 06 687 93 20; Via della Cuccagna 15; **G** Corso del Rinascimento  
Romans really cut a dash in a hat, but don't fret: you too can learn. There might not be the demand that there was when Signore Troncarelli opened his shop here in 1857, but it's still a thriving trade. Become an Englishman abroad in a panama or channel French-Resistance chic in a beret.

### CASALI Map pp74–5 Antiques

% 06 678 35 15; Via dei Coronari 115; **G** Corso Vittorio Emanuele II  
Via dei Coronari's shops mostly specialise in antique furniture or marble, but Casali deals in antique prints, many delicately hand-coloured. The shop is small but the choice is not, ranging from 16th-century botanical manuscripts to €3 postcard prints of Rome.

### COMICS BAZAR Map pp74–5 Antiques

% 06 688 02 923; Via dei Banchi Vecchi 127–128; **G** Corso Vittorio Emanuele II  
Not a comic in sight – rather, this attic-like treasure-trove is crammed to its rafters with expensive antiques. Wade through the lamps that hang everywhere like jungle creepers and you'll find furniture dating from the 19th century to the 1940s, including a large selection of Viennese furniture by Thonet. It's difficult to spot the shop assistant among it all.

### NARDECCHIA Map pp74–5 Antiques

% 06 686 93 18; Piazza Navona 25; **G** Corso del Rinascimento  
The enchanting antique prints sold at Nardecchia, a venerable institution on Piazza

Navona, range from expensive 18th-century etchings of Rome by Giovanni Battista Piranesi to more affordable 19th-century panoramas.

### LA PROCURE Map pp74–5 Books

% 06 683 07 598; Piazza di San Luigi dei Francesi 23; **G** Corso del Rinascimento  
This French bookshop nestles next to France's church in Rome, the **Chiesa di San Luigi dei Francesi** (p80). Browse the literature, fiction, nonfiction, general interest and children's books before popping into the church to see the paintings by Caravaggio.

### LIBRERIA BABELE Map pp74–5 Books

% 06 687 66 28; Via dei Banchi Vecchi 116; **G** Corso Vittorio Emanuele II  
Rome's only gay-and-lesbian bookshop, Libreria Babele has helpful staff and a well-stocked selection of books, magazines and videos, some of which are in English, as well as other essentials such as butch

## CLOTHING SIZES

### Women's clothing

Aus/UK	8	10	12	14	16	18
Europe	36	38	40	42	44	46
Japan	5	7	9	11	13	15
USA	6	8	10	12	14	16

### Women's shoes

Aus/USA	5	6	7	8	9	10
Europe	35	36	37	38	39	40
France only	35	36	38	39	40	42
Japan	22	23	24	25	26	27
UK	3½	4½	5½	6½	7½	8½

### Men's clothing

Aus	92	96	100	104	108	112
Europe	46	48	50	52	54	56
Japan	S	M	M	L	L	L
UK/USA	35	36	37	38	39	40

### Men's shirts (collar sizes)

Aus/Japan	38	39	40	41	42	43
Europe	38	39	40	41	42	43
UK/USA	15	15½	16	16½	17	17½

### Men's shoes

Aus/UK	7	8	9	10	11	12
Europe	41	42	43	44½	46	47
Japan	26	27	27½	28	29	30
USA	7½	8½	9½	10½	11½	12½

Measurements approximate only, try before you buy

## TAXES & REFUNDS

Non-EU residents who spend more than €155 at shops with a 'Tax Free for Tourists' sticker are entitled to a tax rebate. You'll need to fill in a form in the shop and get it stamped by customs as you leave Italy. For more details, see p297.

Barbie dolls. To discover Rome's pinker side, head here.

**LIBRERIA SORGENTE** Map pp74–5 **Books**  
% 06 688 06 950; Piazza Navona 90; ☒ Corso del Rinascimento

If you're in need of literature and nonfiction books in Spanish or Portuguese, check out Libreria Sorgente, next door to the Spanish Istituto Cervantes.

**AI MONASTERI** Map pp74–5 **Cosmetics**  
% 06 688 02 783; Corso del Rinascimento 72; ☒ Corso del Rinascimento

So this is how monks pay the rent. This apothecary-like, wonderfully scented shop sells herbal essences, spirits, soaps, balms, deodorants, antiwrinkle creams, bubble bath and liqueurs, all created by monks and beautifully packaged with the sense of another era. Even the propolis is made from holy bees. To boost your love life try the Elixir d'Amore (Elixir of Love), though quite why monks are expert at this is anyone's guess.

**CASAMARIA** Map pp74–5 **Cosmetics**  
% 06 683 30 74; Via della Scrofa 71; ☒ Corso del Rinascimento

It looks like any old *profumerie* (perfume shop), but it's been plying its trade for almost a century and stocks all the leading cosmetic brands and hundreds of lesser-known names. Straining shelves line the shop like an old-fashioned pharmacy, while the knowledgeable staff show admirable athleticism in scaling the towering ladders.

**OFFICINA PROFUMO FARMACEUTICA DI SANTA MARIA NOVELLA**

Map pp74–5 **Cosmetics**  
% 06 687 96 08; Corso del Rinascimento 47; ☒ Corso del Rinascimento

Step in for the scent of the place, if nothing else. This bewitching shop – the catchily named Roman branch of one of Italy's oldest pharmacies – sells exquisite lotions

and potions under a Murano-glass chandelier. Founded in Florence in 1612 by the Dominican monks of Santa Maria Novella, many of its cosmetics are based on original 17th-century herbal recipes.

**ALDO FEFÈ** Map pp74–5 **Gifts**  
% 06 688 035 85; Via della Stelletta 20b; ☒ Corso del Rinascimento

Started by the owner's father in 1932, this tiny arched workshop produces beautifully hand-painted paper. Products include wrapping paper, little chests of drawers, writing paper, picture frames and photo albums, among other things.

**RETRO** Map pp74–5 **Homewares**  
% 06 681 92 746; www.retrodesign.it; Piazza del Fico 20; ☒ Corso del Rinascimento

Rainbow rows of 1950s and '60s glass vases line the back of this shop, while elsewhere Bakelite jewellery and classic design pieces glint invitingly alongside one-offs such as 1940s hats decorated with roses. A shop to make design lovers swoon.

**SISTERS** Map pp74–5 **Homewares**  
% 06 687 84 97; Via dei Banchi Vecchi 143; ☒ Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

Interior-design emporium Sisters is as much a gallery as a shop, with marble busts juxtaposed against black-and-white chess-patterned sofas. Think Andy Warhol meets Gian Lorenzo Bernini and you'll get the picture. And the price.

**TEMPI MODERNI** Map pp74–5 **Jewellery**  
% 06 687 70 07; Via del Governo Vecchio 108; ☒ Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

Tempi Moderni opened in 1976, and the kaftans and look-at-me ties appear to date from then. But the reason to shop here is the superb vintage costume jewellery: wonderful '20s and '30s Bakelite pieces, Art Nouveau and Art Deco trinkets, Pop Art gems, 19th-century resin brooches, and pieces by couturiers such as Chanel, Dior and Balenciaga.

**ONLY HEARTS** Map pp74–5 **Lingerie**  
% 06 686 46 47; Piazza della Chiesa Nuova 21; ☒ Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

Only Hearts sells sexy whispers of underwear in delicate shades, with some retro styling, and some clothes and shoes to complement the fluttery smalls. There are branches at

Via Vittoria 76 (Map p168; % 06 679 34 46) and Via del Boschetto 78a (Map pp90–1; % 06 454 30 993).

**AL SOGNO** Map pp74–5 **Toys**  
% 06 686 41 98; Piazza Navona 53; h 10am–10pm; ☒ Corso del Rinascimento

Even from outside you know that Al Sogno is more than your average toy shop, with elaborate window displays featuring elegant Edwardian dolls. Inside is an expensive wonderland, the mezzanine floor straining under the weight of dolls and stuffed animals. The museum-like don't-touch atmosphere is best suited to well-behaved kids.

**BERTÈ** Map pp74–5 **Toys**  
% 06 687 50 11; Piazza Navona 107–111; ☒ Corso del Rinascimento

On Piazza Navona, this famous toy shop specialises in beautifully sculpted wooden dolls and puppets, but has a great mish-mash of other stuff, from tractors to push-chairs and doll houses to tea sets. Good for a pre-/post-sightseeing bribe/reward.

**CITTÀ DEL SOLE** Map pp74–5 **Toys**  
% 06 688 03 805; Via della Scrofa 65; ☒ Corso del Rinascimento

Every parent's dream – Città del Sole is a treasure-trove of imaginative, well-made toys that are educational and creative. With few electronic gadgets in sight, this is the

place to remember the toys you played with as a kid and stock up for Christmas. There's another branch at Via Buonarroti 6 (Map pp90–1; % 06 489 30 292), near Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II.

**DISTANES** Map pp74–5 **Vintage Clothing**  
% 06 683 33 63; Via della Chiesa Nuova 17; ☒ Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

A laid-back shop that specialises in women's vintage clothes and accessories from the 1960s and '70s, Distanes exudes a retro charm reminiscent of the great tie-dye years.

**OMERO & CECILIA** Map pp74–5 **Vintage Clothing**  
% 06 683 35 06; Via del Governo Vecchio 110; ☒ Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

Another splendid example in this street of vintage shops. A tunnel of a place, stashed full of a great array of leather bags, shoes, cool scarves, coats and dresses, this is a browser's heaven.

**VESTITI USATI CINZIA**  
Map pp74–5 **Vintage Clothing**  
% 06 686 17 91; Via del Governo Vecchio 45;

h 10am–8pm Mon–Sat, 2–8pm Sun; ☒ Corso Vittorio Emanuele II  
Cinzia remains one of the best vintage shops on this street. Jackets (in leather, denim, corduroy and linen), slouchy boots, screen-printed T-shirts, vintage skirts and suede coats crowd the walls.

## GLAMOUR ON GOVERNO VECCHIO

*Luciana Iannace started out designing costumes for the theatre before opening her boutique, Maga Morgana (p166), on Via del Governo Vecchio 35 years ago, and her designs are still popular with actors. She opened another branch in 2000.*

### What do you specialise in?

Here it is mainly party and wedding dresses, and some day dresses. I sell shoes and accessories to go with the dresses. I both make and buy the clothes and other things that I sell – I create a cocktail of fashion! Many people come here to buy wedding dresses. They want something different and unconventional. Visitors from London come here to buy hats for Ascot. The clothes are not expensive, but not cheap either. On Monday afternoons, at 5pm, I give tea to people who come to the shop. If it's raining, I don't open, because no-one goes shopping in the rain in Rome.

### Why is Via del Governo Vecchio in particular so full of boutiques?

Originally this street was a place to keep horses, but then the stallholders of the great Porta Portese flea market used it as a *deposito* – they kept the things for the market here. So then the vintage shops developed. At first there were only vintage shops, but slowly there are more and more individual designers.

### You must have seen a lot of changes here. How do you think Rome is changing?

I think it's more touristic now. I feel afraid because I think Rome is losing some of her personality. It's becoming like other capitals. You can get good-quality things, but less and less. There are still lots of workshops, but not as many as there used to be. The Porta Portese market – once it was a real old-fashioned junk market, now most things to buy there are new. Times have changed.



## JOSEPHINE DE HUERTAS & CO

Map pp74-5 Women's Clothing

☎ 06 687 65 86; Via del Governo Vecchio 68;

📍 Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

For strappy heels and floaty dresses, try this elegant boutique. It stocks Italian designers, including Missoni and Alberta Ferretti, and international designers from Paul & Joe to Anya Hindmarch. There's another store around the corner at Via di Parione 19.

## MAGA MORGANA

Map pp74-5 Women's Clothing

☎ 06 687 99 95; Via del Governo Vecchio 27;

📍 Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

Maga Morgana, an independent boutique, stocks a mix of brightly coloured knitwear, woollen wraps, Minnie Mouse shoes and flimsy frocks. Some are Luciana Iannace's own designs (see p165 for an interview with the designer); other items are sourced from Paris, Florence and elsewhere. Head down the road to [Via del Governo Vecchio 98](#) (Map pp74-5; ☎ 06 687 80 95) for silk and wedding dresses.

## CAMPO DE' FIORI & AROUND IBIZ - ARTIGIANATO IN CUOIO

Map pp74-5 Accessories

☎ 06 683 07 297; Via dei Chiavari 39; 📍 Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

Elisa Nepi and her father make exquisite, good-quality leather goods, including bags, belts and sandals, in simple but classy designs and myriad colours. You can sometimes see Elisa working in the shop. If you take a sketch along, they can create something to your own design.

## MONDELLO OTTICA

Map pp74-5 Accessories

☎ 06 686 19 55; Via del Pellegrino 97-98; 📍 Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

If you're in Rome, you need shades. To fit in with the in-crowd, head here for the hippest brands. A sparkling white temple of sunglasses, Mondello Ottica has frames by leading designers, including Anne et Valentin, I.a.Eyeworks, Cutler and Gross, and the Belgian designer Theo. Prescription glasses can be ready the same day.

## RAINBOW BELTS

Map pp74-5 Accessories

☎ 06 686 40 62; Via dei Giubbonari 61; j Via Arenula

Whether your style is rhinestone-studded, python-skinned, large and black or chain-

linked, this small shop – a forest of leather straps, all made in Florence – will have a *cintura* (belt) to suit you.

## LIBRERIA DEL VIAGGIATORE

Map pp74-5 Books

☎ 06 688 01 048; Via del Pellegrino 78; 📍 Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

If Rome is only a stop on your Grand Tour, this beguiling bookshop is a must. Small but world-encompassing, it's crammed with guides and travel literature in various languages and has a huge range of maps, including hiking maps.

## MARCOAURELIO

Map pp74-5 Jewellery

☎ 06 686 55 70; Via del Pellegrino 48; 📍 Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

The extraordinary handmade pieces at this small jeweller's often take organic, nature-inspired forms: lizards, seashells, even dogs inspire the shapes and styles. Beaten gold, silver and copper bracelets look like ancient treasures that you might find in a nearby museum.

## BORINI

Map pp74-5 Shoes

☎ 06 687 56 70; Via dei Pettinari 86-87; j Via Arenula

City girls in the know pile into this reassuringly unglitzy shop to try on the cool, candy-coloured shoes. Whatever is fashionable this season, be it wedge heels or winklepickers, Borini will have it, at reasonable prices and in a cover-every-eventuality rainbow palette.

## LOCO

Map pp74-5 Shoes

☎ 06 688 08 216; Via dei Baullari 22; 📍 Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

Shoe fetishists should hotfoot it to Loco. More a trendsetter than fashion follower, it's small, but big in attitude, with an interesting mix of original shoes by international and Italian designers.

## POSTO ITALIANO

Map pp74-5 Shoes

☎ 06 686 93 73; Via dei Giubbonari 37a; j Via Arenula

Posto Italiano provides a showcase for a number of emerging Italian designers while also stocking more established brands. Sexy, feline sandals share shelf space with coloured clogs and Clarks desert boots.

## BAULLÀ

Map pp74-5 Women's Clothing

☎ 06 686 76 70; Via dei Baullari 37; 📍 Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

Baullà sells classic women's clothes and some accessories – all understated, informal chic of exceptional quality. Expect beautiful knitwear, linen jackets, jewel-bright chenille scarves and a selection of original bags and shoes.

## ETHIC

Map pp74-5 Women's Clothing

☎ 06 683 01 063; Piazza B Cairoli 11-12; h 10am-8pm Tue-Sat, noon-8pm Sun & Mon; j Via Arenula

With clothes that fall just the right side of boho, this is one of Italy's most individual women's clothing chains, with retro-influenced, original, bold designs. Despite the tinge of hippy-dippy chic, clothes are eminently wearable, in interesting colours, fabrics and designs.

## LEI

Map pp74-5 Women's Clothing

☎ 06 687 54 32; Via dei Giubbonari 103; j Via Arenula

Lei is the place for girls who like a bit of high-class frivolity at not-too-outrageous prices. The racks are filled with pretty party frocks, unusual tops and T-shirts, and there are delicious-looking shoes from brands as diverse as Camper and Katherine Hamnett. There's another branch at [Via Nazionale 88](#) (Map pp90-1; ☎ 06 482 17 00).

## NUYORICA

Map pp74-5 Women's Clothing

☎ 06 688 91 243; Piazza Pallarola 36; 📍 Corso Vittorio Emanuele II

Worship at this shrine to contemporary chic, with its Balenciaga, Marc Jacobs and Chloé clothes, shoes and handbags. It namechecks all the hippest mainstream designers and is worth a browse to sigh over, if not to buy. [Nuyorica Roots](#) (☎ 06 997 00 829; Via del Pellegrino 15) is around the corner, with a fine array of 'it' bags and too-hip-to-smile sales assistants.

## JEWISH GHETTO

Map pp74-5 Accessories

☎ 06 688 05 079; Via dei Falegnami 23; j Via Arenula

Flaminio and you'll miss Moresco, a tiny optician's stocking frames by many major labels – Gucci, Chanel, Persol, Web and Luxottica to name a few. You can have your

eyes tested and the friendly proprietor will organise prescriptions in a couple of hours.

## LEONE LIMENTANI

Map pp74-5 Homewares

☎ 06 688 06 686; basement, Via del Portico d'Ottavia 47; j Via Arenula

Family-run for seven generations, Leone Limentani has a huge, rambling choice of kitchenware and tableware, expensive porcelain and knick-knacks, crockery, cutlery and crystal, all at bargain prices.

## VIA DEL CORSO & AROUND INTERNATIONAL MARE BOOKSHOP

Map p168 Books

☎ 06 361 20 91; Via del Vantaggio 19; m Flaminio

Ahoy there. Specialising in everything *mare* (sea) related, this friendly bookshop has maritime books in Italian, English and French, nautical charts, binoculars, pirate flags, model yachts, posters, Lonely Planet guidebooks, videos and CD-ROMs. The corner bar is an added bonus.

## DIESEL

Map p168 Clothing

☎ 06 678 39 33; Via del Corso 186; 📍 Via del Corso

Diesel, purveyor of low-slung jeans and inventive, clubby clothes, is an Italian brand, and its Roman flagship store has a good selection of what makes the self-consciously hip hordes keep coming back. There are branches at [Via del Babuino 94](#) (Map p168; ☎ 06 693 80 053) and [Via Cola di Rienzo 245](#) (Map pp130-1).

## MATEROZZOLI

Map p168 Cosmetics

☎ 06 688 92 686; Piazza San Lorenzo in Lucina 5;

h 10am-1.30pm Mon, 10am-1.30pm & 3-7.30pm Tue-Sat; 📍 Via del Corso

Materozzoli, with a beautiful Art Deco front, is the sort of shop where Bertie Wooster would send Jeeves to stock up on toiletries before a weekend in the country. With a wide range of perfumes, shaving tackle, make-up and hairbrushes, it has everything one might need for one's toilet.

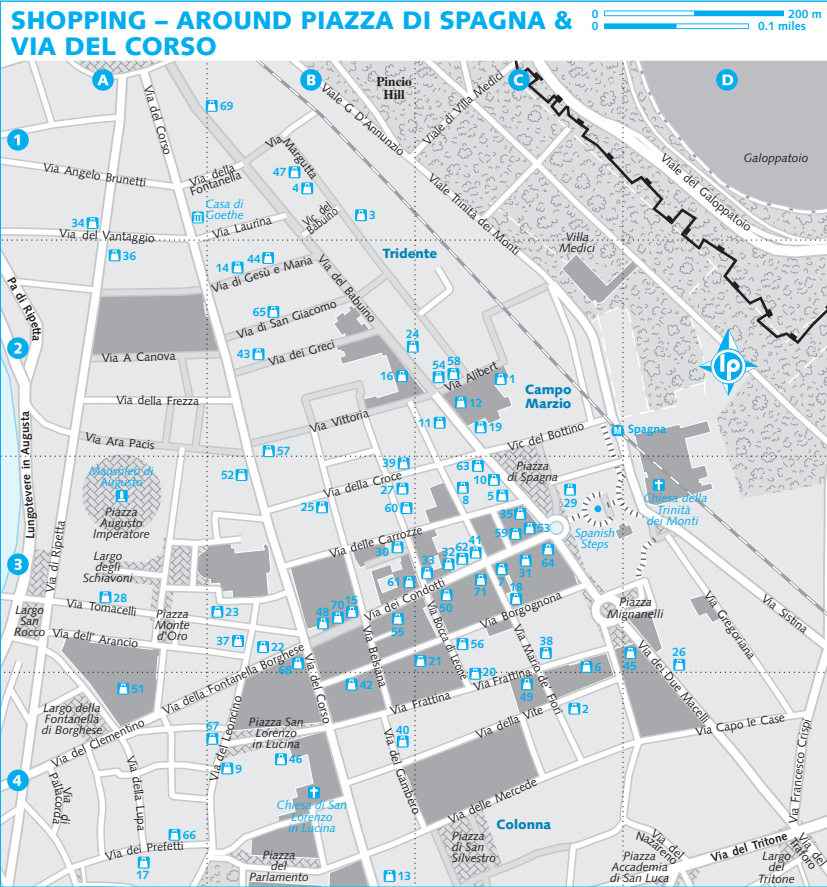
## TAD

Map p168 Department Store

☎ 06 360 01 679; Via di San Giacomo 5;

m Flaminio/Spagna

TAD is a conceptual department store that sells an entire lifestyle. Here you can buy designer clothes by Chloé, Marc



Jacobs and Balenciaga, have a haircut, buy scent and flowers, and then furnish your apartment with designer furniture – from wooden daybeds to silk cushions and Perspex dining chairs. Don't forget to pick up hip soundtracks to your perfect life from the CD rack. The serene courtyard café offers appropriately stylish Italian-Asian morsels of food, and you can round off your immersion in all things TAD with a piece of cake.

**TEBRO** Map p168 **Department Store**  
 % 06 687 34 41; Via dei Prefetti 46-54; **G** Via del Corso  
 Since 1867 this upmarket department store has been keeping wealthy locals in linen, underwear and nightwear. It's from a gentler

era: styles are staid, quality is tiptop, service is courteous.

**TEICHER** Map p168 **Food**  
 % 06 687 14 49; Piazza San Lorenzo in Lucina;  
**G** Via del Corso  
 This is one of Rome's many temples to food, so wander in, breathe deeply and select from cheese, hams, pickles, pestos and so on. There are also a select few ready dishes, such as aubergine (eggplant) *parmigiana*.

**CAMPO MARZIO DESIGN** Map p168 **Gifts**  
 % 06 688 07 877; Via di Campo Marzio 41; **G** Via del Corso  
 This is a shop that's hard to pass by: step in to revitalise your accessories or to pick up a present. You'll find leather-bound

## SHOPPING – AROUND PIAZZA DI SPAGNA & VIA DEL CORSO

SHOPPING		Flos Arteluce.....24 B2		Max & Co.....48 B3	
Alinari.....1 C2	Focacci.....25 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Anglo-American Bookshop.....2 C4	Francesco Biasia.....26 D3	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Animalier e Oltre.....3 B1	Fratelli Fabbi.....27 B3	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Artemide.....4 B1	Furla.....28 A3	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
AVC by Adriana V Campanile.....5 C3	Gianni Versace.....30 B3	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Brighenti.....6 C3	Gucci.....31 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Bulgari.....7 C3	Gucci Jewellery.....32 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
C.U.C.I.N.A.....8 C3	Hermes.....33 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Campo Marzio Design.....9 B4	International Mare Bookshop.....34 A1	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
D&G.....10 C3	Just Cavalli.....35 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
De Bach.....11 C2	L'Offattorio.....36 A2	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Diesel.....12 C2	La Perla.....41 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Diesel.....13 B4	L.A.R.....42 B4	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Discount dell'Alta Moda.....14 B2	Lion Bookshop.....43 B2	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Dolce & Gabbana.....15 B3	Luisella Mariotti.....44 B2	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Emporio Armani.....16 B2	Mandarin Duck.....45 D3	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Ermenegildo Zegna.....17 A4	Materozzi.....46 B4	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Ero.....18 C3	Maurizio Grossi.....47 B1	MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Fausto Santini.....19 C2		MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Fendi.....20 C4		MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Fendi.....21 C3		MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Fendi.....22 B3		MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4
Ferrari Store.....23 B3		MaxMara.....50 C3	MaxMara.....50 C3	Max & Co.....48 B3	MaxMara.....49 C4

notebooks, handbags and folders in Pop Art colours, and gift-worthy pens in myriad colours and designs.

**LA COPPOLA STORTA** Map p168 **Hats**  
 % 06 678 58 24; Via della Croce; **H** 2-8pm Mon, 11am-8pm Tue-Sat, 1.30-7.30pm Sun; **M** Spagna  
 No-one actually wears these flat caps (think Robert de Niro in the flashback bits of *The Godfather*) in Sicily anymore, but damn are they cool, and here you can get them in every imaginable colour and variety (and even for your dog). There's another branch at Via del Piè di Marmo 4 (Map pp74-5; % 06 679 58 01).

**L.A.R.** Map p168 **Homewares**  
 % 06 687 81 75; Via del Leoncino 29; **G** Via del Corso  
 Lamps have been created here by artisans since 1938, in materials such as wood, brass and parchment. Their creations look like vintage finds – from great white cylinders to huge tartan centrepieces. If you want to design a lamp, these are the people to talk to.

**LUISELLA MARIOTTI** Map p168 **Jewellery**  
 % 06 32 01 320; Via di Gesù e Maria 20a; **H** 3.30-7.30pm Mon, 10.30am-7.30pm Tue-Fri, 10.30am-2.30pm Sat; **M** Flaminio  
 With semiprecious stones, crystals, glass and nickel-free metals, Luisella Mariotti creates spidery, out-of-this-world jewellery. Original pieces at reasonable prices abound in her backstreet shop.

**MERCATO DELLE STAMPE** Map p168 **Market**  
 Largo della Fontanella di Borghese; **H** 7am-1pm Mon-Sat; **G** Piazza Augusto Imperatore  
 The Mercato delle Stampe (Print Market) is well worth a look if you're a fan of vintage books and old prints. Browse the permanent stalls and among the tired posters and dusty back editions you might turn up some interesting music scores, architectural engravings or chromolithographs of Rome.

**MESSAGGERIE MUSICALI** Map p168 **Music**  
 % 06 679 81 97; Via del Corso 123; **G** Via del Corso  
 Rome's music megastore has CDs spread over three floors, and like most such places it has everything from easy-listening to opera, jazz and pop. It also boasts a well-stocked magazine section (everything from *Q* to *Hello!*) and a ticket agency.

**L'OLFATTORIO** Map p168 **Perfume**  
 % 06 361 23 25; Via di Ripetta 34; **H** 3.30-7.30pm Tue-Sat; **M** Flaminio  
 Those with a nose will adore this place. It's like a bar, but with perfume instead of drinks. The bartender will guide you through smelling different combinations of scents to work out your ideal fragrance. Exclusive handmade French perfumes are available to buy. Smellings are free but bookings are appreciated.

## DESIGNER CENTRAL

Many of the big-name designers have more than one outlet in the Piazza di Spagna/Via dei Condotti area. The following is not a complete list but a selection; all are on the Shopping – Around Piazza di Spagna & Via del Corso map (p168).

- **Cavalli** (Just Cavalli; ☎ 06 679 22 94; Piazza di Spagna 82-83)
- **D&G** (☎ 06 679 22 94; Piazza di Spagna 94-95)
- **Dolce & Gabbana** (☎ 06 699 24 999; Via dei Condotti 51)
- **Emporio Armani** (☎ 06 360 02 197; Via del Babuino 140)
- **Ermenegildo Zegna** (☎ 06 678 91 43; Via Borgognona 7)
- **Etro** (☎ 06 678 82 57; Via del Babuino 102)
- **Fendi** (☎ 06 334 501; Palazzo Fendi, Largo Goldoni)
- **Fendi** (☎ 06 696 661; Via Borgognona 36)
- **Gianni Versace** (☎ 06 678 05 21; Via Bocca di Leone 23 & 26-27)
- **Gucci** (☎ 06 679 04 05; Via dei Condotti 8)
- **Gucci Jewellery** (☎ 06 697 88 266; Via dei Condotti 68a)
- **Hermes** (☎ 06 679 18 82; Via dei Condotti 67)
- **Laura Biagiotti** (☎ 06 679 12 05; Via Borgognona 43-44)
- **Missoni** (☎ 06 679 25 55; Piazza di Spagna 78)
- **Miu Miu** (☎ 06 360 04 884; Via del Babuino 91)
- **Moschino** (☎ 06 678 04 91; Via Borgognona 32)
- **Prada** (☎ 06 679 08 97; Via dei Condotti 92-95)
- **Pucci** (☎ 06 678 40 58; Via Borgognona 25)
- **Roccobarocco** (☎ 06 679 79 14; Via Bocca di Leone 65)
- **Salvatore Ferragamo** (Men; ☎ 06 678 11 30; Via dei Condotti 65)
- **Salvatore Ferragamo** (Women; ☎ 06 679 15 65; Via dei Condotti 73-74)
- **Sergio Rossi** (☎ 06 678 32 45; Piazza di Spagna 97-100)
- **Trussardi** (☎ 06 679 21 51; Via dei Condotti 49-50)
- **Valentino** (☎ 06 679 58 62; Via dei Condotti 13)

### TOD'S Map p168

Shoes

☎ 06 682 10 066; Via della Fontanella di Borghese 56; ☞ Via del Corso

Tod's trademark is its rubber-studded loafers (the idea was to reduce those pesky driving scuffs), perfect weekend footwear for chilling at your country estate. This flagship store is a temple of top-of-the-range casual shoes and expensive leather accessories.

### FERRARI STORE Map p168

Sportswear

☎ 06 689 29 79; Via Tomacelli 147; ☞ Piazza Augusto Imperatore

If you can't afford a Ferrari, at least you can stretch to a key ring. At this Ferrari Store you'll find everything from flaming-red coats to scale models; there's even a real F1 car.

### ENOTECA AL PARLAMENTO

Map p168

Wine

☎ 06 687 34 46; Via dei Prefetti 15; ☞ Via del Corso  
A delectable mingling of scents – wine, chocolate, fine meats and cheeses – greets you as you enter this stately, old-fashioned shop, an

empire of taste, walled with wine. Try some caviar tartines while sampling the wines, and consult the helpful staff for advice.

## ESQUILINO, QUIRINALE & PIAZZA DI SPAGNA

### ESQUILINO & MONTI

#### MANDARINA DUCK Map p168

Accessories

☎ 06 678 64 14; Via dei Due Macelli 59; m Spagna  
Chic, ergonomic, witty and made from high-tech materials in colours ranging from dove-grey to mustard, Bolognese company Mandarin Duck's bags strike a mean balance between usability and style. Whether you're after some sleek shoulder candy or a futuristic briefcase, this is the place.

#### LION BOOKSHOP Map p168

Books

☎ 06 326 54 007; Via dei Greci 33-36; m Spagna  
This fabulous, long-running, peaceful English bookshop has English-speaking

staff and is well stocked with classics, travel guides and the latest hot reads. There's a particularly good children's section.

#### MAS Map pp90-1

Department Store

☎ 06 446 80 78; Via dello Statuto 11; m Vittorio Emanuele

Trashy MAS (Magazzino allo Statuto) is a bargain-hunter's dream, with lots of cheap and sometimes-cheerful clothes. If you have the patience, you can rifle through cages of knickers and vests; racks of leather jackets, suits and satin dresses; and shelves of kitchen utensils, bags and umbrellas.

#### GUSTO ITALIA Map pp90-1

Food

☎ 06 478 237 00; Via Leonina 76; m Cavour  
Angelo Biagi is the enthusiastic force behind this small, well-stocked deli. He sells homemade pasta and many other delicious items – try the fantastic Sicilian pesto – and offers tastings and some ready-made food.

#### LA BOTTEGA DEL CIOCCOLATO

Map pp90-1

Food

☎ 06 482 14 73; Via Leonina 82; h closed Sep; m Cavour

Walking in here is like entering a chocolate box. It's a magical world of scarlet walls and old-fashioned glass cabinets set into black wood, with irresistible smells wafting in from the kitchen and rows of lovingly homemade chocolates. Chocoholics beware: you could be lost.

#### I VETRI DI PASSAGRILLI

Map pp90-1

Glassware

☎ 06 474 70 22; www.ivetridipassagrilli.it; Via del Boschetto 94; m Cavour

Domenico Passagrilli has had his workshop for more than 25 years, specialising in fusion glassware – creating beautiful artworks through heating glass and moulds in a kiln. Each of the organic-seeming pieces – plates, lamps, tiles and window panes – is unique, and he also restores stained glass.

#### ARCHIVIA Map pp90-1

Homewares

☎ 06 474 15 03; Via del Boschetto 15a; m Cavour  
Muted is not in Archivia's vocabulary, with its bright mix of modern homewares. The Italian and French designs are made to stand out: minimalists should give it a wide berth; others should expect plenty of plastic tableware in primary colours,

modern lamps, garish mirrors and loud picture frames.

#### IO SONO UN AUTARCHICO

Map pp90-1

Homewares

☎ 06 228 66 48; Via del Boschetto 92; m Cavour  
If you could move in this tiny shop you'd probably enjoy browsing through the bric-a-brac. As it is you have to make way practically every time someone new enters. Still, the shelves are heaving with weird and wonderful household items and it's a friendly place. The shop's name is a reference to a film by Roman director Nanni Moretti.

#### AGAU Map pp90-1

Jewellery

☎ 06 488 20 67; Via dei Serpenti 25; m Cavour  
Brightly coloured precious and semi-precious stones from India are used by Italian designers to form the dazzling modern jewellery at this reasonably priced shop. There's another branch at [Via della Vite 57](#) (Map p168; ☎ 06 693 80 699).

#### FABIO PICCIONI Map pp90-1

Jewellery

☎ 06 474 16 97; Via del Boschetto 148; m Cavour  
This ivy-shaded treasure-trove is the domain of artisan Fabio Piccioni. A walking exhibition of his own designs, he recycles old trinkets to create attractive Art Deco-inspired jewellery that, if he doesn't sell, he wears himself.

#### LE GALLINELLE Map pp90-1

Vintage Clothing

☎ 06 488 10 17; Via del Boschetto 76; m Cavour  
With a tiled floor and marble counter, this well-known boutique used to be a butcher's shop. The only reminders are the hooks onto which the new and vintage women's clothes are hung, all cool, retro and stylish.

## QUIRINALE TO THE TREVI FOUNTAIN

#### MEL GIANNINO STOPPANI LIBRERIE PER RAGAZZI Map pp90-1

Books

☎ 06 699 41 045; Piazza dei Santissimi Apostoli 59-65; ☞ Piazza Venezia  
Rome's best children's bookshop is an ideal place for parents to distract their kids. Large, colourful and well stocked, it has about 20,000 titles in Italian and a selection of books in French, Spanish, German and English. If the kids don't want to read, they can always tumble around in the play area while Mum and Dad flick through



the Asterix books. There's also a bathroom equipped for nappy changing.

**JAM STORE** Map pp90–1 Department Store  
% 06 678 42 09; Galleria Alberto Sordi, Via del Corso; ☒ Via del Corso

This is like a Roman version of US clothing and homewares store Urban Outfitters, with a range of funky clothing and other stuff – the kind of thing that might appeal to Paris Hilton, skate kids and Japanese dudes. Labels include Paul Smith and Hello Kitty.

**LA RINASCENTE** Map pp90–1 Department Store  
% 06 679 76 91; Largo Chigi 20; ☒ Via del Corso  
La Rinascente isn't going to rock your world, but it's a stately, upmarket department store, selling fashionable if not cutting-edge clothing, accessories and big-name cosmetics, all amid Art Nouveau interiors. There's a second store at **Piazza Fiume** (Map pp150–1; % 06 841 60 81).

**VIGNANO** Map pp90–1 Hats  
% 06 679 51 47; Via Marco Minghetti; ☒ Via del Corso

This frozen-in-time shop, piled high with head candy, opened in 1873 and sells top hats, bowler hats and deerstalkers, as well as other types that haven't fallen quite so out of fashion. It's worth a look even if you haven't got Ascot on the horizon.

**D CUBE** Map pp90–1 Homewares  
% 06 692 00 911; Via dei Crociferi 42; ☒ Via del Tritone

D Cube sells cool designer gadgets and modern furniture that you never realised you needed. For quirky colanders, modernist coffee cups and rechargeable radios in chrome and steel, look no further. There's another branch at **Via della Pace 38** (% 06 686 12 18).

**GALLERIA ALBERTO SORDI**  
Map pp90–1 Shopping Centre

Piazza Colonna; h 10am–10pm; ☒ Via del Corso  
Opposite Piazza Colonna, where the Galleria Alberto Sordi shopping centre. Named after Rome's favourite actor, who died in 2003, the small but elegant arcade houses some interesting shops, such as Jam Store, Zara, AVC, Feltrinelli, Coccinelle, Gusella and The Bridge, as well as a café – ideal for a quick and cool coffee break.

## PIAZZA DI SPAGNA & AROUND

**FRANCESCO BIASIA** Map p168 Accessories  
% 06 679 27 27; Via dei Due Macelli 62; m Spagna  
If you want an 'it' bag without the 'it' price tag, try slipping a Francesco Biasia over your shoulder. His designs are superb quality, in bright colours, blacks and browns, with original detailing that sets them apart.

**FURLA** Map p168 Accessories  
% 06 692 00 363; Piazza di Spagna 22; m Spagna  
Furla makes all sorts of accessories, from sunglasses to shoes, but is best known for its handbags. Practical, chic, classic and affordable, they use a brilliant array of colours and finishes to add sparkle to their simple designs. If you can't afford Fendi, head here. The many other branches include **Via Tomacelli 136** (Map p168; % 06 687 82 30), **Via Nazionale 54–55** (Map pp90–1; % 06 487 01 27), and **Via Cola di Rienzo 226** (Map pp130–1; % 06 687 45 05).

**LA CORONA** Map p168 Accessories  
% 06 679 01 64; Via del Gambero; ☒ Via del Corso  
A tie-filled, cupboard-sized emporium, La Corona can be relied on for classic sober designs, the latest fads, and colourful numbers ranging from garish to great.

**SERMONETA** Map p168 Accessories  
% 06 679 19 60; Piazza di Spagna 61; m Spagna  
Put your hands in a pair of Giorgio Sermoneta's gloves and you might find you don't want to take them out again. At Rome's most famous glove-seller's there's a kaleidoscopic range of top-quality coloured and textured leather and suede gloves with linings in silk and cashmere.

**ALINARI** Map p168 Antiques, Books  
% 06 679 29 23; Via Alibert 16; m Spagna  
This the oldest photographic business in the world. The Florentine Alinari brothers founded their enterprise in 1852, and produced more than one million plate-glass negatives in their lifetime. Here you can buy beautiful prints of their work depicting Rome in the 19th century, as well as some meaty coffee books on photography.

**ANIMALIER E OLTRE** Map p168 Antiques  
% 06 320 82 82; Via Margutta 47; m Spagna  
Like the attic of an eccentric, aristocratic family, this shop is full of bric-a-brac, curios,

## V IS FOR VALENTINO

Valentino Garavani is a northerner from Lombardy, yet Rome has adopted him as one of her favourite sons. The permatanned designer lives a luxurious existence that makes Rome, with its decadent history, seem an appropriate foster city. His staff's duties include protecting his lap with a pale-blue linen cloth before his favourite pug, Maude, makes a jump for it.

As a young designer, fresh from study in Paris, Valentino opened his first atelier in Via dei Condotti in the 1960s and quickly hit gold, surfing the wave of *la dolce vita*.

The Valentino look is epic glamour. He designed Jackie Kennedy's lace minidress for her wedding to Greek shipping tycoon Aristotle Onassis, and has dressed decades of stars, including Elizabeth Taylor, Halle Berry, Julia Roberts, Uma Thurman and Gwyneth Paltrow. His enduring trademarks are red, black or white red-carpet gowns, often adorned with lace or bows, and sublimely cut skirt suits. He believes that women should always look feminine and has ticked stars off for dressing down away from the red carpet.

In 2007 Valentino chose Rome as the venue for his 45th-anniversary *haute couture* fashion show. Mayor Veltroni was keen for Rome to bask in some of the attendant glamour, and so the designer was able to use extraordinary venues, such as the Forum (with acrobats in Valentino costumes dancing above the ruins), the Museo dell'Ara Pacis (with an exhibition of his *haute couture*) and a medieval convent, with an afterparty, attended by a Milky Way of stars, at the Museo e Galleria Borghese.

It was yet another well-tied ribbon in a glittering career. Among many awards, Valentino has won the Neiman Marcus Prize (a fashion 'Oscar') in Dallas in 1967, and received Italy's highest honour, the Cavaliere di Gran Croce, in 1986. Shortly after the Rome extravaganza, he announced his retirement as head of Valentino the company, in order to concentrate on other fashion projects, but doubtless his signature black, red and white takes on glamour will continue to dominate the catwalk and the red carpet.

antiques and furniture. Wrought-iron furniture and leather sofas sit alongside a mammoth selection of animal-shaped antiques – obviously one family member had an obsessive streak – that includes reproductions of 19th-century French *animalier* sculptures.

**ANGLO-AMERICAN BOOKSHOP**  
Map p168 Books

% 06 679 52 22; Via della Vite 102; m Spagna  
Particularly good for university reference books, the Anglo-American is well stocked and well known. It has an excellent range of literature, travel guides, children's books and maps, and if they haven't got a book you want, they'll order it.

**TOURING CLUB ITALIANO** Map p168 Books  
% 06 360 05 281; Via del Babuino 20; m Flaminio  
This is the travel branch of Italy's motoring organisation, the Automobile Club Italiano. It produces Italy's finest maps and travel books, all of which are sold at this, its flagship store. You'll find one of Rome's best collections of guides to Rome in English, an excellent stock of art books and a travel agency.

**LA CICOGNA** Map p168 Children's Clothing  
% 06 678 69 77; Via Frattina 138; m Spagna  
Dress your little darlings in designer togs – DKNY, D&G, Missoni and so on – and hang the expense. Let's just hope that

they don't like puddles and mud. There's a second branch at **Via Cola di Rienzo 268** (Map pp130–1; % 06 689 65 57).

**FOCACCI** Map p168 Food  
% 06 679 12 28; Via della Croce 43; h 8am–8pm  
Mon–Fri, 8am–3pm Sat; m Spagna  
One of several smashing delis along this pretty street, this is where to buy cheese, cold cuts, smoked fish, caviar, pasta and olive oil as well as wines.

**FRATELLI FABBI** Map p168 Food  
% 06 679 06 12; Via della Croce 27; m Spagna  
A small but rich delicatessen, this is a good place to pick up all sorts of Italian delicacies – fine cured meats, buffalo mozzarella from Campania, *parmigiano reggiano*, olive oil, porchetta from Ariccia – as well as Iranian caviar.

**ARTEMIDE** Map p168 Homewares  
% 06 360 01 802; Via Margutta 107; m Flaminio  
For lamps that light up the world of interior design, head to Artemide. Whether moon-like white globes or so minimalist you hardly notice them till you clock the price tag, this is light as art.

**C.U.C.I.N.A.** Map p168 Homewares  
% 06 679 12 75; Via Mario de' Fiori 65; m Spagna  
If you need a gadget for the foodie in your life, C.U.C.I.N.A. is the place. Make your



own *ucina* (kitchen) look the part with the designer-ware from this famous shop, from jelly moulds to garlic crushers.

**FLOS ARTELUCE** Map p168 **Homewares**  
% 06 320 76 31; Via del Babuino 84-85; m Spagna  
Since its founding in 1962, light design house Flos has been responsible for a firmament of design classics: Marc Newson's Helice aluminium floor lamp and many Philippe Starck designs. The look varies from primary-coloured plastic to steely and sleek.

**MAURIZIO GROSSI** Map p168 **Homewares**  
% 06 360 01 935; Via Margutta 109; m Flaminio  
Do you have an obelisk gap? Stop right here. Maurizio Grossi is part gallery, part shop, with an eccentric collection of classy repro marble sculptures and busts, including copies of various famous statues. But you'd need some house to get away with a sculpture of Julius Caesar in the hall. For humbler dwellings the cleverly deceptive bowls of sculpted figs and apricots might be a better fit.

**MODIGLIONI** Map p168 **Homewares**  
% 06 678 56 53; Via dei Condotti 24; m Spagna  
Upper-class Romans flock to Modigliani for its high-class homewares, including unusual pieces such as oversized ceramic chickens. Besides chickens, it stocks the best in Italian design, from classic Murano glassware to sleek Alessi steel, as well as Wedgewood plates and Danish porcelain.

**BULGARI** Map p168 **Jewellery**  
% 06 679 38 76; Via dei Condotti 10; m Spagna  
If you have to ask the price, you can't afford it. Luckily, the sumptuous window displays

mean you can admire the world's finest jewellery without spending a *centesimo*. See the boxed text, [below](#).

**POLLICINA** Map p168 **Jewellery**  
% 06 322 41 32; Via Margutta 61c; m Spagna  
If you like to announce your arrival from a distance, the jewellery at Pollicina is for you. The big, brash costume jewellery is beautifully handcrafted using coloured crystals, resin and coral. To get into the small shop-cum-showroom, ring the buzzer by the side of the door.

**BRIGHENTI** Map p168 **Lingerie**  
% 06 679 14 84; Via Frattina 7-10; m Spagna  
You can imagine Sophia Loren popping into this elegant old-fashioned boutique for a well-structured something. Brighenti specialises in star-style luxurious lingerie – think frothy ruffled playsuits and lace-adorned slippers – and sensational too-good-to-get-wet swimming costumes.

**LA PERLA** Map p168 **Lingerie**  
% 06 699 41 933; Via dei Condotti 78; m Spagna  
Give your life an injection of va va voom with lingerie from La Perla, Italy's most famous lingerie brand. Luxurious lace-trimmed silk bras, negligees that you'll want to dive into and stiletto-heeled fluffy slippers – it's time to indulge your inner movie star.

**AVC BY ADRIANA V CAMPANILE** **Shoes**  
Map p168  
% 06 699 22 355; Piazza di Spagna 88; m Spagna  
Roman designer Campanile's shoes and boots are wearable, stunningly chic and practical – and not insanelly priced. There

are several other branches, including one in [Galleria Alberto Sordi](#) (Map pp90–1; % 06 678 34 84).

**DE BACH** Map p168 **Shoes**  
% 06 678 33 84; Via del Babuino 123; m Spagna  
Squeezed between the big-name outlets, De Bach sells glittering shoes for girls with attitude. Six-inch stiletto-heeled sandals in gold and silver are not for the faint-hearted but, hell, lady, you're the boss.

**FAUSTO SANTINI** Map p168 **Shoes**  
% 06 678 41 14; Via Frattina 120; m Spagna  
High on kudos, Fausto Santini – a former lawyer who gave up the bar for the boot – is famous for his quixotic, colourful shoe designs, and no hipster's wardrobe is complete without a pair of his sleek boots or colourful mules. For bargains and previous seasons' designs, check out the outlet store at [Via Cavour 106](#) (Map pp90–1; % 06 488 09 34), near the Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore.

**MAX & CO** Map p168 **Women's Clothing**  
% 06 678 79 46; Via dei Condotti 46; g Via del Corso  
Rome's young dandies, for whom clothes shopping is a serious business, come to Max & Co for MaxMara's funkier youth range. That means top-quality threads at not-quite-designer prices.

**MAXMARA** Map p168 **Women's Clothing**  
% 06 679 36 38; Via Frattina 28; m Spagna  
Italians adore MaxMara – one of the country's most ubiquitous labels – for its classic, elegant style, ideal for creating the *bella figura*. There's nothing brash or brassy here: colours are neutral and simple, cuts superb and elegant, and fabrics luxurious. Branches include [Via dei Condotti 17](#) (Map p168; % 06 692 21 04) and [Via Nazionale 28](#) (Map pp90–1; % 06 488 58 70).

**PIAZZA BARBERINI & AROUND**  
**CARRY-ON** Map pp90–1 **Accessories**  
% 06 489 04 194; Via Vittorio Veneto 165; g Via Boncompagni  
This is the place to upgrade your luggage, with a good selection of designer bags. Classics include leather satchels by The Bridge and map-printed Alviero Martini handbags; for more rugged needs there are tough Samsonite suitcases. To fill them, you can also buy leather slippers, boxes and hip flasks.

## top picks

### SHOES

- Borini (p166)
- Fausto Santini (p172)
- Loco (p166)
- AVC by Adriana V Campanile (p172)
- Joseph DeBach (p177)

**BRIONI** Map pp90–1 **Clothing**  
% 06 48 58 55; Via Barberini 79-81; m Barberini  
Venerable Brioni, all polished wood and gold leaf, has been dressing the world's finest bodies since *la dolce vita*. Cary Grant was a customer and Pierce Brosnan had himself fitted here for his role as James Bond. Unsurprisingly, the bespoke clothes are expensive: reckon on more than €2000 for a suit, or around €1300 for a silk skirt.

**UNDERGROUND** Map pp90–1 **Market**  
% 06 360 05 345; Ludovisi underground car park, Via Francesco Crispi 96; h 3-8pm Sat & 10.30am-7.30pm Sun 2nd weekend of the month, Sep-Jun; m Barberini  
This monthly market indeed takes place underground, in a subterranean car park near Villa Borghese. There are more than 150 stalls selling everything from antiques and collectables to clothes and toys.

## PIAZZA DELLA REPUBBLICA & AROUND

**FELTRINELLI INTERNATIONAL** **Books**  
Map pp90–1  
% 06 482 78 78; Via VE Orlando 84; m Repubblica  
The international branch of Italy's ubiquitous book-seller has a splendid collection of books in English. You'll find everything from recent-release bestsellers to dictionaries, travel guides, DVDs and an excellent assortment of maps. There are also books in Spanish, French, German and Portuguese.

**MEL BOOKSTORE** Map pp90–1 **Books**  
% 06 488 54 05; Via Nazionale 254-255; m Repubblica  
Mel's, on three floors, has a good range of Italian literature, reference books and travel guides, as well as CDs, half-price

## A JEWELLER'S TALE

In 2005 Bulgari celebrated 100 years of business at Via dei Condotti 10. Now the flagship store of an international multimillion-euro luxury-goods empire, the shop was founded in 1905 by the scion of the dynasty, Sotirio Bulgari.

Born to a family of silversmiths in the Greek village of Epirus, Sotirio emigrated to Italy in the mid-19th century and opened his first Roman venture in 1884. A small jeweller's on Via Sistina, off Piazza Barberini, it was a success, and 21 years later, with the help of his sons Costantino and Giorgio, he upped his silver sticks and moved to Via dei Condotti.

Since then the company has gone from strength to strength, creating big, bold jewellery that rarely goes unnoticed. There's no understated glamour in a lobe-sized diamond earring or a gem-studded gold watch, and nor would Bulgari's clients want any. You don't spend tens of thousands of euros on a bauble that no-one's going to see. And spend Bulgari's clients clearly do. In the first quarter of 2007 the company made €23.9 million net profit, up around 30% from 2006.

Nowadays, however, there's more to the Bulgari bow than just jewellery. Like most luxury-goods companies, it branched out in the 1990s, launching a range of accessories, homewares and perfumes. So even if you can't afford to look like a Bulgari minx, you can at least smell like one.

books (general-fiction paperbacks) and a comprehensive comics section. There are a few in English and French, and a welcome upstairs bar.

## ORIGINAL FANS LAZIO

Map pp90-1 **Sportswear**  
% 06 648 26 688; Via Farini 34; ☒ Piazza Santa Maria Maggiore

Ever since Lazio won Serie A in 2000, Rome's first (or second, depending on your allegiances) football team has done little except negotiate with banks to stave off financial disaster, at the expense of on-pitch success. Fans can show their support by buying shirts, scarves, hats and tickets here.

## SAN LORENZO & BEYOND

**DISFUNZIONI MUSICALI** Map p103 **Music**  
% 06 446 19 84; Via degli Etruschi 4-14; ☒ Via Tiburtina

Covered in graffiti, Disfunzioni is vinyl anorak heaven. It has a good selection of alternative, indie, rare, bootlegged and underground sounds, as well as vintage records and CDs. It also has a lively message board, so if you need a bass player in a hurry, drop by.

## SOUTHERN ROME SAN GIOVANNI

**SUZUGANARU** Map pp108-9 **Clothing**  
% 06 704 91 719; Via di San Giovanni in Laterano 206; h 10am-1pm Tue-Sat, 4-8pm Mon-Fri, closed Aug; m Colosseo

Suzuganaru's men's and women's boutiques sit side by side, selling quirky, individual clothes that you won't find anywhere else. Some of the women's clothes are made in the shop, and there are little dresses in unusual prints, light-as-air chiffon pieces, and accessories such as bright lacquer bangles. Next door the men's clothes are lower key but equally hip.

**COIN** Map pp108-9 **Department Store**  
% 06 708 00 91; Piazzale Appia 7; m San Giovanni Like a small-scale cousin of the UK's John Lewis, COIN is a dependable choice. It's a large department store stocking good-quality, sensible clothing and accessories, cosmetics and an appealing range of homewares. Another branch exists at **Via Cola di Rienzo 173** (Map pp130-1; % 06 360 04 298).

**VIA SANNIO** Map pp108-9 **Market**

h 8am-1pm Mon-Sat; m San Giovanni This morning market in the shadow of Porta San Giovanni, near the basilica, is worth checking out if you want to update your wardrobe staples. There's a good assortment of new and vintage clothes, shoes at bargain prices, and a particularly good range of jeans and leather jackets.

**SOUL FOOD** Map pp108-9 **Music**

Via di San Giovanni in Laterano; m Colosseo A trainspotter's delight, this cool, retro shop is filled with rare vinyl records - Italian and imports - as well as band T-shirts to suit every taste.

## AVENTINO & TESTACCIO

**VOLPETTI** Map pp108-9 **Food**

% 06 574 23 52; www.volpetti.com; Via Marmorata 47; ☒ or j Via Marmorata Volpetti strides like a colossus among Rome's delis. You'll find everything from smelly cheese to fresh homemade pasta, olive oils, vinegar, salami, veggie pies, wine and grappa. Helpful staff will guide you through your choice and you can also order online.

## CALZATURE BOCCANERA

Map pp108-9 **Shoes**

% 06 575 68 04; Via Luca della Robbia 36; ☒ or j Via Marmorata This old-fashioned Testaccio shoe store stocks big designer names at big designer prices. With a great range of men's and women's footwear, here you'll find Tod's, Gucci, Prada and D&G, among others. It's particularly worth a look at sale time.

## TRASTEVERE EAST OF VIALE DI TRASTEVERE

**LA CRAVATTA SU MISURA** **Accessories**

Map pp122-3  
% 06 581 66 76; Via Santa Cecilia 12; ☒ or j Viale di Trastevere

With ties draped over the wooden furniture, this inviting shop resembles the study of an absent-minded professor. But don't be fooled: these guys know their ties. Only the finest Italian silks and English wools are used in the neckwear they make to their customers' specifications. At a push they'll have a tie ready in a few hours.

**IL CANESTRO** Map pp122-3 **Food**

% 06 581 26 21; Via di San Francesco a Ripa 105; h 9am-8pm, closed 1.30-4.30pm Jul-Aug; ☒ or j Viale di Trastevere Il Canestro is a trailblazer for all things organic in Rome, and has a large selection of organic food including bread, fruit and veg, fresh and cured meat, pasta, cheese, cereals, olive oil and wine.

**PORTA PORTESE** Map pp122-3 **Market**

h 7am-1pm Sun; ☒ or j Viale di Trastevere Rome's biggest and busiest weekly flea market is held in the area extending south from Porta Portese, an ancient Roman gate on the River Tiber. There are fewer antiques these days, and much more mass-produced tat, but it's still great fun, with thousands of stalls pushing everything from bags to bikes and clothes to furniture. You have to bargain, or else it's boring. It gets incredibly crowded so watch out for pickpockets.

## WEST OF VIALE DI TRASTEVERE

**LUMIERES** Map pp122-3 **Antiques**

% 06 580 36 14; Vicolo del Cinque 48; ☒ Piazza Trilussa Cut a swathe through the metallic stalks that have all but taken over this delightfully unpretentious shop and you'll discover a large collection of antique lamps. Styles range from Art Nouveau and Art Deco to 1950s.

## ALMOST CORNER BOOKSHOP

Map pp122-3 **Books**

% 06 583 69 42; Via del Moro 45; ☒ Piazza Trilussa This is how a bookshop should look: a crammed haven full of rip-roaring reads, with every inch of wall space containing English-language books and travel guides. There's an excellent selection of contemporary novels and bestsellers as well as more obscure titles. If you can't find what you want, the English-speaking staff will order it in.

**BIBLI BOOKSHOP** Map pp122-3 **Books**

% 06 588 40 97; Via dei Fienaroli 28; h 5.30pm-midnight Mon, 11am-midnight Tue-Sun; ☒ or j Viale di Trastevere On an artsy Trastevere street, Bibli is a buzzing warren that manages to be a bookshop, cultural centre and café, with a little courtyard and delectable cakes. A great place to pass a pleasant hour or two browsing, it regularly hosts poetry readings and book

presentations. There's a limited selection of books in English. There's *aperitivo* (€8, 6.30pm to 8pm) and brunch (12.30pm Saturday and Sunday) for peckish intelligentsia.

**OFFICINA DELLA CARTA** Map pp122-3 **Gifts**

% 06 589 55 57; Via Benedetta 26b; ☒ Piazza Trilussa A tiny workshop that produces attractive hand-painted paper-bound boxes, photo albums, recipe books, notepads, photo frames and diaries - all of which make terrific gifts. It also has a selection of better-than-average postcards.

**PANDORA** Map pp122-3 **Gifts**

% 06 581 71 45; Piazza Santa Maria in Trastevere; ☒ or j Viale di Trastevere Truly a box of a shop, this has a twisted-glass-framed doorway on Trastevere's main piazza and sells a mix of ceramics, Murano glassware, African masks and handcrafted jewellery.

**POLVERE DI TEMPO** Map pp122-3 **Gifts**

% 06 588 07 04; Via del Moro 59; ☒ Piazza Trilussa This intriguing shop is ideal for fun adult toys (no, not those sort) that look good but don't have much purpose. In theory, you could use the lovingly crafted hourglasses, globes and pill boxes, all based on 16th- to 18th-century designs, but as often as not they'll end up as attractive shelf-fodder. The leather-bound books are more practical and equally as appealing.

**ROMA-STORE** Map pp122-3 **Perfume**

% 06 581 87 89; Via della Lungaretta 63; ☒ or j Viale di Trastevere With no sign, Roma-Store is an enchanting perfume shop crammed full of deliciously enticing bottles of scent, including lots of unusual brands as well as English Floris, Italian Aqua di Parma and French Etat Libre d'Orange.

**JOSEPH DEBACH** Map pp122-3 **Shoes**

% 06 556 27 56; Vicolo del Cinque 19; h from 7.30pm; ☒ Piazza Trilussa Here you'll find shoes with teeth and tongues, covered in cartoon collage, or with abacus and wheel heels. Created by Libyan designer Joseph DeBach, they're not necessarily that wearable, but they are works of

## DISCOUNT SHOPPING

Many Romans skip the centre and head for out-of-town outlets that sell designer togs at knockdown prices. A discount mall that's accessible from the centre is **Castel Romano Designer Outlet** (☎ 06 505 00 50; Via Pontina SS148), with more than 100 shops selling branded clothes at discounts from 30% to 70%. You can reach it via a shuttle bus from Piazza della Repubblica at 3pm on Tuesday and Friday, at 9.30am and 3pm on Saturday, and at 10am on Sunday, returning three to four hours later.

In town, try **Discount dell'Alta Moda** (Map p168; ☎ 06 361 37 96; Via Gesù e Maria 14), with end-of-line and last-season pieces by designers such as Dolce & Gabbana, Prada and Armani; or **Outlet Gente** (Map pp130–1; ☎ 06 689 26 72; Via Cola di Rienzo 246; ☒ Piazza del Risorgimento), with big-name labels including D&G, Jil Sander and John Richmond. Some pieces are fashion-crime sale-rail junk, but you're bound to find some gems if you trawl through the racks.

art. They would look great on the mantel-piece: file under weird and wonderful.

## SCALA QUATTORODICI

Map pp122–3 Women's Clothing

☎ 06 588 35 80; Via della Scala 13-14;  
 10.30am-1.30pm & 4-8pm Mon-Sat, 4-8pm Sun;  
 ☒ Piazza Trilussa

You could easily walk past this low-key façade. But pause and peer and you will see some exquisite, hand-stitched off-the-peg and tailor-made outfits. It's ideal for the woman who wants timeless elegance (think Jean Seberg and Audrey Hepburn) that's still a little unusual.

## VATICAN CITY & BORGO

**CASTRONI** Map pp130–1 Food

☎ 06 687 43 83; Via Cola di Rienzo 196;  
 8am-8pm; 11 Ottaviano-San Pietro; a  
 Castroni is a glorious food shop with an array of Italian sweets: *marron glacés*, *torroncini* and the like. It's famous for its selection of otherwise impossible-to-find reminders of home. Aussies will find Vegemite, Brits Marmite etc. There's also a café here (see p226). There are smaller branches at **Via Ottaviano** (Map pp130–1) and **Via Flaminio 28** (Map pp150–1).

## ANGELO DI NEPI

Map pp130–1 Women's Clothing

☎ 06 322 48 00; Via Cola di Rienzo 267; ☒ Piazza del Risorgimento

This Roman designer combines Italian cut and style with rich Indian fabrics and colours: sumptuous reds, burnished gold, intricate embroidery and heavy silk create wonderfully eye-catching clobber. You'll find a second branch at **Via dei Giubbonari 28** (Map pp74–5; ☎ 06 689 30 06).

## VILLA BORGHESE & NORTHERN ROME

### LIBRERIA L'ARGONAUTA

Map pp150–1 Books

☎ 06 854 34 43; Via Reggio Emilia 89, Nomentano;  
 ☒ Via Nizza

Off the main tourist trail, this travel bookshop is a lovely place to browse. The serene atmosphere and shelves of travel literature can easily spark off daydreams of far-off places: palm-lined beaches or neon cityscapes. Staff are friendly and happy to let you drift around the world in peace.

### BORGO PARIOLI MARKET

Map pp150–1 Market

☎ 06 855 27 73; Via Tirso 14-Via Metauro 21, Parioli; 9am-8pm Sat & Sun 1st 3 weekends of the month; j Viale Regina Margherita  
 Parioli is Rome's most expensive residential area, and its weekend market is a hot date on the capital's monthly shopping calendar. Among the often-expensive bric-a-brac you'll find original jewellery and accessories from the 1950s onwards, silverware, paintings, antique lamps and old gramophones.

### PONTE MILVIO

Map pp150–1 Market

Ponte Milvio, Flaminio; 9am-sunset 1st Sun of the month, closed Aug; ☒ Ponte Milvio  
 The scene of a famous battle in AD 312, the 2nd-century-BC Ponte Milvio is now the scene of a colourful monthly market. On the first Sunday of every month stalls spring up along the Lungotevere Capoprati (between the Ponte Milvio and Ponte Duca d'Aosta) laden with antiques and collectable clobber. As at all markets, the fun's as much in the looking as in the buying.

### GOODY MUSIC

Map pp150–1 Music

☎ 06 361 09 59; Via Cesare Beccaria 2; 11 Flaminio  
 This is where DJs go to stock up on vinyl. Staff are knowledgeable, and there's an excellent collection of club music (on record and CD) with a strong section of 1970s and '80s disco. You can also buy turntables, sound-station equipment and T-shirts to make you look the part.

### BUCCONI

Map pp150–1 Wine

☎ 06 36 12 154; Via di Ripetta 19; 11 Flaminio  
 Step inside, under the faded gilt and mirrored sign, and feel like you've gone back in time. Once a coach house, then a tavern, in the 1960s this building became Buccone, furnished with 19th-century antiques and lined with around 1000 Italian wines as well as a good selection of international tipples. You can eat here too.

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