

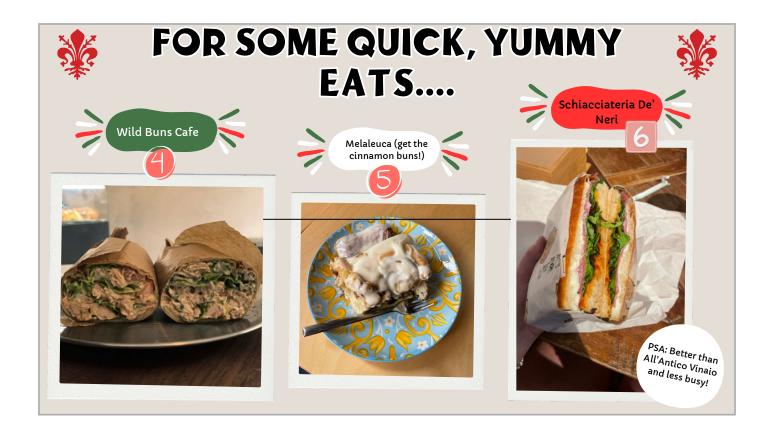
This is the site of the tombs of the Medici Family, which you'll most likely learn about when you get to Florence. The Medici were a very powerful family in Florence, and they enjoyed showing off their high-class status. The materials used inside the chapel are from all over the world, which displays the grandeur of the family at the time, as most people could not afford to travel or access international trade networks.



There are thermal bath pools, relaxing beds where you can do optional face masks, an ice room, a salt room, a dry sauna, and a cold sauna. You get about 2 hours to go to any rooms you want, and you'll receive robes and slippers at the beginning.



This was a great place to read a book and get away from the city life for a bit if needed. It was an inspiring canvas for local artists and full of thriving ecosystems (you can see birds, turtles, etc).



Wild Buns- This was about a 30 minute walk from the Duomo, and they definitely have some limited hours, however, I had the best chicken caesar wrap I've ever had here! This could be a good place to go for a quick bite to eat, and if you're missing some elements of home as well. This place has iced coffee! The pastries are also very good, I'd recommend the blueberry pistachio. Worth the walk for sure.

Melaleuca- It's best to get here early, as the line can become pretty long. This was one of the best cinnamon rolls I've ever had, and they also had iced coffee options.

Schiacciateria De'Neri- This place has such a large variety of fresh ingredients, with a short line and low prices. The sandwich was bigger than my head and was only 7 euros. I remember it being hard to find on Google Maps, but it's on Via de Neri near the original All'Antico.

7.BADIANI, THE BEST GELATO!

This is some of the most delicious gelato in Florence, and I found it through one of my Italian class trips! There is a location near the Duomo and one closer to a local area.







At Zaza, it would be best to make a reservation because it's very popular. It is located in the main area, just a few minutes walk from the Duomo. I went to Zaza many times throughout my time abroad, and it was consistently delicious every time and very cheap. They have great truffle sauces and steak. You can really get a taste of authentic Italian food here.

Antica Casa Torre has a rustic atmosphere and a unique Italian menu. It is located near Lions Fountain, not far from the main area. I loved the gnocchi and the beef stew I had.

I visited the Orsanmichele during my art history class, and since the outside is a bit plain, it would've been easy to walk by it without knowing that the inside is so unique. There are also some historic statues and stunning views of the Duomo from the upstairs part of it! Fun Fact: The Orsanmichele used to be the city grain market during the Middle Ages (This place would be great for history buffs!).

Don't miss it!



Via Calzaiuoli

In the Orsanmichele, you can still see the old shoots where the grain used to come out, and it's so interesting to picture how the city could've transformed it from a grain market to a church. For my art history class we studied the Madonna and how she was portrayed differently over time. Also, the upstairs shows statues from different time periods, and the complexities in design that emerged when society learned more about human anatomy. This is why the newer statues are more bodily detailed compared to the old ones, and this gallery makes that easy to notice. Plus, you can't miss out on the up close Duomo views!