

Going Out/Nightlife

Monday – If you're very ambitious after a long weekend of traveling you can go to Qube Monday. Qube is a really cool 3-story club and mostly filled with Italians. 5 euro cover. It's also very far (at least a 15 minute taxi ride from Trastevere). (Advice: Go with a big group of people)(Most Monday's we were dead from a long weekend traveling, but we managed to go a couple of times, definitely worth trying)

Tuesday – Tuesday's are slower in Rome. You really won't end up going to many clubs. You can go to Campo di Fiore (Sloppy Sam's, Drunken Ship, and Gigante (a little less American). Also a lot of people go to Scholar's (they have karaoke on Tuesday's) (People like Scholar's, but for us it got old after a couple of times). Go with a couple people, grab a table outside and chill.

Wednesday – Wednesday is hands down the best day of the week because it's Shari Vari Wednesday. Shari Vari was by our favorite club in Rome and we went every Wednesday the entire semester. It's walking distance from Trastevere, located by the Pantheon, and there's no cover.

Thursday – Nurbar is where a lot of people go. It's pretty good and definitely worth going a couple of times. 10-euro cover but comes with a drink.

Friday – People usually go to Gilda. It really just depends on where you and your friends want to go. Art Café is also an option, but it is usually really Italian on Friday and an older group, most of the people are 23+. I would recommend going there on Saturday. It is the coolest place in Rome.

Saturday – The best place to go is Art Café. Definitely pick some weekend's to stay in Rome and go to Art Café. If you want somewhere new you can go to Testaccio. It's an area with a bunch of bars around a mountain. A lot of people love it, but we never really liked it, give it a try at least once.

Sunday - We took off on Sundays, but Gilda always has something.

Bar Overview

Sloppy Sam's: Easily the best bar in the area. One of the only bars where you can play beer pong. Don't get a Sloppy Sam's tank top though they are really weird.

Drunken Ship: We rarely went to Drunken Ship because we were Team Sloppy Sam's. Very Americanized. The bartenders always ask for tips even though people don't tip in Italy.

Gigante: It is really small but some promoters go there to hang out on Tuesday's. It's pretty casual

Scholars: The only night to go here is on Tuesdays. It's American and karaoke night. Usually gets pretty packed.

G-Bar: Everyone will tell you to go here to pregame. The only good thing about it is that you can get really cheap drinks/shots to pregame. They have special promotions every day of the week. Other than that, it sucks. It is really small and you can barely move. Order a Threesome.

Harry Potter Bar: Order a Harry Potter shot. It tastes terrible but you have to do it. It's a right of passage.

Chocolate Shot Bar: Order a chocolate shot. It's like sex.

Club Overview:

Shari Vari: Kills it. Always a great time because we hyped it up so much. Study abroad people are there every Wednesday because people are always traveling on weekends. In order to get in just say Pietro or Kikko Lombardo at the door.

Art Cafe: Easily the nicest club in Rome. It's humongous. There are dancers and dragons all over the place. If you do not get VIP, turn your bracelet inside out to the white side to get in. We did this numerous times to outsmart the system. Say Pietro or Kikko at the door.

Nur Bar: It's a club/bar. The upstairs is mellow where you can get drinks. The basement is where you rage face. There are two huge rooms to dance and grind on Italian babes. There's also a bar in the back to get drinks. The only problem with this club is that there is a black DJ that constantly feels like he needs to yell into the mike saying "Where my JCUs (John Cabot University) at??"

Qube: Get a crew and go on a Monday night. We barely went because it was so far away, but we definitely wish we went more.

Gilda: It's one really big room. Cover is usually 10-15 Euros. It's fun if you can get a big crew.

Promoters/DJs:

-Pietro Maria Grassi: Great promoter to know. He can help you get into clubs and can set you up with VIP or a table if you want (he works for Kikko). He's the fuckin man. Got into a fist fight with a bouncer for us so we could keep our table.

-Kikko Lombardo: Meet him. He throws the best club events in Rome and can help you get in to all the clubs.

-**Alfredo Martinez:** Occasionally throw's good events, so get his number to help set you up. His aunt died or something when we were abroad so he was kind of irrelevant for us.

-**DJ Mark Anthony:** DJ's at Shari Vari. Kills the game. Say you know Jordan Zecher and he'll instantly love you.

- Friend these guys on Facebook, tell them you know us and they will help you out tremendously

Tips:

- Don't show up to clubs after 1am, it makes it much harder to get in.
- You can pregame for the clubs in Campo di Fiore or Trastevere (G-bar or Harry Potter bar), but most of the times we bought alcohol at a store in Trastevere (2 minute walk from Tony's) owned by a guy named Shakir (guy loves Americans and throws good discounts) and drank in any of the piazzas or in our apartments.
- Definitely recommend drinking in the piazzas, all the Italians do it and its really nice and relaxing.

Rome Restaurants

The best thing about Rome is that you can stumble into any restaurant and have a fantastic meal. But here's a list of our favorites to help you get started.

Pizzerias:

You can honestly stop anywhere. But these were our favorites.

Dar Poeta

One of our favorite pizza places in Rome. The place is always crowded. It's in Trastevere so it's a good place to go before going out. One of our favorites is the Lingua de Foco (hot salami, hot peppers), but they have about 50 different kinds so try different ones each time. Also try their dessert calzone, which has nutella and ricotta cheese inside a warm doughy calzone. You will probably go a lot, but make sure you try other places as well

Pinsere

Didn't discover this place till the end, but it rivals Dar Poeta for the best pizza. Only thing with Pinsere is that it's far away (10 minute walk from Termini Station). Make the trip though, it's worth it. It's not a sit down place, you just order a small personal pizza and stand and eat it at the counter outside. Our favorite was a pizza with prosciutto, mozzarella, and pumpkin. But all of them are really good so try as many as possible.

Pizzeria Da Buffetto

Definitely go and give it a try, but it is always packed because it's a top one in all the guidebooks and is located right in the middle of center city

Lunch

Imperial Pasta

This is a really cool place. It's a small little shop that has different kinds of freshly made pasta. You pick the kind of pasta you want and then the sauce you want. They cook it on the spot and put it in a Chinese to-go box.

Aristocampo

There's one in Trastevere and one in Campo di Fiore. This place has great panini's that are close to ones you would get in America. You just tell them what you want on it and they make it a grill it. The good thing about having the one in Campo is that it's open really late. You can grab a Panini after hanging out at the bars. My go-to was chicken cutlet, mozzarella cheese, and BBQ sauce.

Ginger Saponi e Salute

Went here once. It has great smoothies and fruit. They have a bunch of different American style salads. If you want a break from pizza and pasta, this is a good place to go. It's located right off of Via del Corso.

Dinner

Vecchia Locanda

One of our favorite restaurants in Rome. We went back over and over and it never disappoints. It has delicious traditional Roman pastas like Carbonara, Cacio y Pepe, and has delicious pasta with truffles. It has great fish and steak for second courses. Every time I went I ordered the sea bass baked with tomatoes and potatoes. The restaurant is tucked away in a side street by the Pantheon and is beautifully decorated. Most of the tables are downstairs in their wine cellar. The restaurant is somewhat expensive and a great place to bring your parents. But you can definitely go to here by yourselves and have a fairly priced meal.

Da Gino's

Gino's is another great place to get a good Italian meal. It is a pretty small place and often crowded so I recommend calling ahead. Gino himself usually comes around and takes your order/brings you your food. It's a very warm friendly atmosphere and worth going to at least once. Get the Gnocchi, its fantastic, even if it's not listed on the menu.

PierLuigi

This is one of our favorite restaurants in Rome. It always has the freshest seafood and consistently serves great food. It is an expensive meal and is better to go with your parents. One of the best things there is the tuna tartare appetizer. The truffle pasta is awesome and every fish is delicious. Listen to your waiter for his recommendations; they always know the best fish for that day.

Cul de Sac

This is a great restaurant located right near Piazza Navona. This place consistently serves great food. It's really nice to sit outside too. This place also has good lunch if you can make it there during the day. A couple of favorites are the meatballs and the lasagna. Also, try the broccoli and cheese pasta.

Da Massi

This restaurant is a great place in Trastevere. It's a good place if you want to eat in Trastevere before going out. They have great pastas. The owner is really friendly and likes when Americans come by. Try the tagliolo tartufo.

Hostaria Del Moro da Tony (Tony's)

Tony's is incredible. It's basically an American Italian restaurant in Trastevere. The place is filled with study abroad students every night and Tony caters to Americans. He gives out free wine, toasted focaccia bread, and dessert. He really treats his American clients like royalty. Everyone goes there to get the chicken parm or the penne vodka. Tony's food is awesome, but also don't sell yourselves short, go out and try other restaurants too.

Imago (in the Hassler Hotel)

This was probably the best meal we had in Rome. It is very expensive so only go with your parents. Only go if you really appreciate food. It is not really Italian, more of a modern fusion place. Everything we had was superb (the scallops, the black cod, the duck, and much more). This restaurant also has the best view of Rome. It is above the Spanish Steps with an overhead view of all the major landmarks of Rome.

Miscellenea

They have a special where you basically get unlimited wine and a shit ton of food for 15 Euros. Definitely should go once for a late dinner and use it as a pregame.

Gelato:

*****Frigidarium*****

One of our favorite places in Rome (probably our favorite). It's a 5-minute walk from Piazza Navona. The best flavor is their own flavor called Frigidarium. They put a cookie on top and then dip the entire thing in a liquid chocolate that hardens to make a shell.

Giolitti

This is one of the more well know gelato places in Rome. It's a really big place with a ton of different flavors. It's a 5-minute walk from the Pantheon. Definitely go to it and it's a good place to bring people that are visiting you in Rome.

The Old Bridge

This place is a great gelato place near the Vatican. There's one in Trastevere too, but its not as good and not the original one. It has a lot of good flavors and a good selection of fruit flavors. If you're by the Vatican, go to Old Bridge.

La Romana

Great Gelato located by Termini. They also opened up a new one on Via Ostiense, which is near Testaccio. It is a well-known place and is always packed. Definitely make the trip and give it a try

Blue Ice – NEVER settle for Blue Ice

AUR Students:

These places below are specifically for AUR students.

Pianeta Pizza: We ate here so much. Guy who runs it speaks English very well and is the fucking man. His name is Marco. He makes the best calzones we had in Rome.

Simone: This is a great pizzeria located right next to AUR. It's a great place to stop for lunch in between classes.

Brother's Deli: I am not sure what the actual name of this place is, but it is located right across the street from Simone. These brothers made the best sandwiches for lunch and are really nice. Would always see them at the gym too.

Homebaked: One of the better places to get breakfast food near AUR. They serve coffee and bagels.

Golden Power: This is the gym that we went to. The guy that owns it is fuckin jacked out of his mind. We paid 135 Euros for a 3 month membership. Make sure you bring a water bottle because they don't have water fountains. Also, the pool is only for women. Don't ask if you are a guy or they will laugh at you. There is also a steam room.

Activities In Rome Tips

- Go to the top of the Vittoriano (big white cake building)(great view of all of Rome)
- Make sure you do a private tour of the Vatican (Donate 3 hours to the Vatican for one day during the semester)
- Segway's are fun to do in Villa Borghese (you can rent them in the center – 10 euro for 30 min)
- Aventine hill keyhole, you can see St. Peter's and a great view of the city
- Piazza del Popolo is a must; it's at the end of Via Del Corso (major shopping street in the city center)