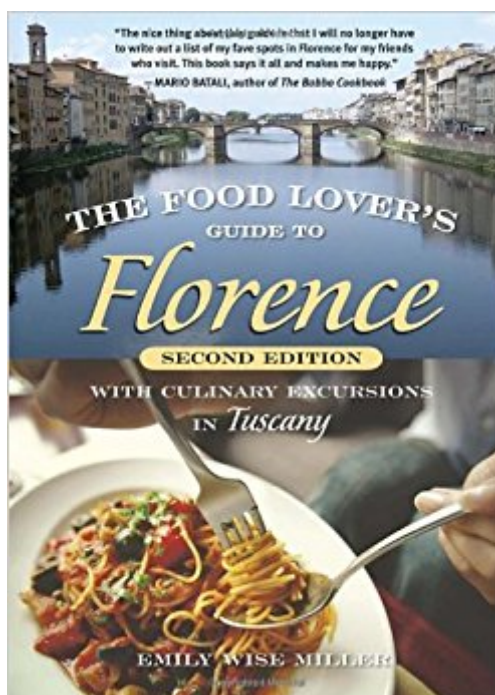


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# The Food Lover's Guide To Florence: With Culinary Excursions In Tuscany



## Synopsis

More than a million English-speaking visitors descend on Florence annually, but few venture beyond the usual circuit of tourist restaurants to experience authentic Tuscan cuisine. This updated guide to the best gourmet restaurants and off-the-beaten-path locales offers in-depth profiles of the spots Florentines themselves treasure. Arranged by neighborhood for easy navigation, *THE FOOD LOVER'S GUIDE TO FLORENCE* is the single essential companion for travelers, students, and expats. The only travel guide devoted solely to the food of Florence and Tuscany, including 100 restaurant reviews and tips for everything from reading the menu to wine selection. Updated with the newest ristoranti, trattorias, enotecas, gelato shops, and open-air markets. Florence is the second most-visited city in the world.

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## Customer Reviews

In her culinary guide, Miller, a freelance writer living in Florence, begins with the basics, noting the differences between a ristorante, osteria and trattoria; explaining the layout of the Italian menu ("With few variations, Florentine menus follow a standard order"); and sharing her thoughts on waiters and tipping ("Remember, no one is working toward a tip"). From there, Miller offers an introduction to Tuscan wines, and then organizes her listings in chapters such as "Restaurants and Trattorias," "International Food," and "Coffee, Pastries, and Chocolate." For such Florentine specialties as bistecca fiorentina (a T-bone steak rubbed with olive oil, salt, lemon, and rosemary and served rare) she recommends a handful of restaurants throughout the city. She also notes where vegetarians can eat well and where to find kosher restaurants. This is a smart and useful tool

for foodies passing time in Tuscany. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

\* The only travel guide devoted solely to the food of Florence and Tuscany, including 100 restaurant reviews and tips for everything from reading the menu to wine selection. \* Updated with the newest ristoranti, trattorias, enotecas, gelato shops, and open-air markets. \* Florence is the second most-visited city in the world.

We recently spent two weeks in Florence and around Tuscany, and this guide never steered us wrong. I was a bit concerned that the book was published in 2007, as guidebooks tend to go out of date fairly quickly and we were planning an early-2014 trip. However, my worries were unfounded as all the restaurants and shops we sought out in the guide were still around, and for good reason. Every place we visited was a fantastic meal, and I found that even the general price rankings were still basically current. I was glad that we followed some of the more out of the way recommendations for Florence, as many were on side streets that we probably wouldn't have walked down without the guide. Tip #1: A caution for users of ANY guides to Florence. Unless you have an extremely detailed street map (none of our 4 guide or tourist maps qualified), some of the tiny streets will be marked, but not named on the map! Going to the general area and asking someone about the restaurant name or street is the way to go. Thankfully, the author provided a few pages of useful phrases that allowed us to do this, as our Italian skills were not very good! We also rented a car for a few days and visited the Chianti region for some wine tasting, for which we also found this guide useful. I really liked that the author included tips on looking out for tiny signs of the recommended wineries, as they really can be very easy to miss! We found everything we needed with relative ease with a combination of the author's tips and a road map. We also chose to go to Sansepolcro based mostly on the author's waxing poetic about a certain restaurant, only to find it closed. Tip #2: If you go to the region in winter, call ahead if you have your heart set on something, as many places close for portions of the low-season in January, February, and March! However, we still enjoyed visiting the town and found another restaurant that was absolutely delicious, and compared to Florence, extremely inexpensive. Finally, there's a famous butcher shop called Antica Macelleria Falorni in Greve in Chianti, and it is totally worth going there. If you can't get to Greve, they also have an outlet in Florence that seems to have opened after this guide was published, and we ended up eating there multiple times. They have a menu that lets you try out most of their cured meats, which are absolutely amazing if you enjoy salumi and prosciutto in the least. They also have

a good variety of cheeses and a system that lets you try many local wines. Perfect for a low-key lunch. Florence address: via Palmieri 35. You're welcome. ;)

This is a nice book if you're in to food, and you want to find some less-traveled and unusual eateries. Some of the places mentioned were just impossible to get in contact with, and a couple spoke no English and could not even take a reservation unless you spoke Italian. Since many have long lead times to get a reservation, calling from the US to make advance reservations was practically impossible in some cases. That being said, well worth the price, and definitely recommended.

I found this wonderful guide while preparing for my return to Florence this past Fall for more research on the sequel to my novel, *The Giuliana Legacy*. The author's helpful and concise reviews were amazingly accurate in every case. Moreover, she helped us to find wonderful restaurants, cafe bars and wine bars that will be much-loved favorites for years to come. There are fabulous tips on restaurants in every price range, but we especially enjoyed the small inexpensive local spots we might never have found on our own, like the charming and delicious Casalinga in the Santo Spirito. We returned there again and again, and once home, wished we'd gone there every single day of our all too short stay in Florence. Ms. Wise Miller, the words "Thank You" cannot begin to convey our gratitude for your splendid little book. I have already bought several as gifts and will continue to buy them for all Florence-bound friends and family. Brava!

I look forward to using this in Florence. It is well laid out and a pleasure to read in the meantime.

I liked this book very much it has many affordable restaurants listed with their addresses and hours of operation. I loved the little facts and tips provided throughout. It also has maps in the back, so you can find the places listed. Most helpful are commonly used Italian words and their definitions. I am looking forward to going back to Florence and visiting the recommendations by the author!

Very detailed ,easy read

A great book for foodies in Florence. We referred to this book quite a bit during our week-long stay in Florence this past June.

This book will enrich any trip to Florence.

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