



EAT YOUR WAY THROUGH ITALY

Searching for the best food in Italy is like choosing the most magnificent peak in the Rockies. That's why this mouthwatering journey across "The Boot" isn't taking you to the country's "best;" instead, we're aiming for authenticity, like the small, family-run cheese shops of Emilia Romagna and the famed home of Tuscany's Prince of Salumi. So pack your appetite and shed your expectations.

1 ROME

Even though you can find just about any kind of fare you crave along Rome's cobblestoned alleyways, they're most famous for their rectangular pizzas and ancient pastas. Dubbed the Sistine Chapel of Yeast by Travel + Leisure, the cramped Pizzarium features a pizza dough recipe that's 200 years old. After one bite, you'll see why it hasn't changed, especially while sampling the city's signature pizza topped with spicy sausage and blood oranges.

4 TUSCANY

Undoubtedly the world's most famous food and wine region, Tuscany's fabled, lush green hills beckon hungry tourists in search of culinary enlightenment. This is where you'll find Paolo Parisi, the Prince of Salumi. Salumi is the family of cold cuts that includes salami. Paolo's award-winning prosciutto can be enjoyed at his Renaissance-style farm, which is set against the winding cypress trees and sloping Tuscan hills.

2 EMILIA ROMAGNA

This area north of Milan has been the primary producer of cheese, authentic balsamic vinegar and rosy prosciutto for decades. Tasting is believing on a culinary tour, where you'll eat your way through prosciutto farms and cheese factories in Parma and aged balsamic producers in Modena.

3 PIEDMONT

This northern region at the foot of the Alps is dubbed Italy's decadence capital for a reason. Wander through the grape vines, and you'll find the elusive Timorasso white grape, which has a similar body and taste to a white Burgundy. Pair your wine, with a giant stack of Montebore cheese, often called "the wedding cake" due to its unique tiered shape.



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