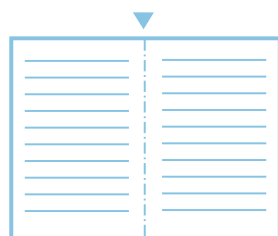
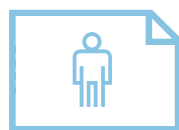


**First of all, configure the printer: choose the A4 format and change the orientation from portrait to landscape**

**You can start printing the guide in our comfortable PDF format**



**Fold the sheet exactly in the centre, along an imaginary line, keeping the printed side to the outside, repeat this operation for all pages**

**Now you will have a pile of loose sheets in front of you, do not worry we are almost there, the only thing left to do, is to re-bind the whole guide by the edges of the longest sides of the sheets, with a normal stapler (1)**

**or for a better looking result, referring the work to a bookbinder asking for spiral binding (2)**

# MILANO

## Fashion and underground

0%<sup>®</sup>

MAP

1



0%<sup>®</sup>

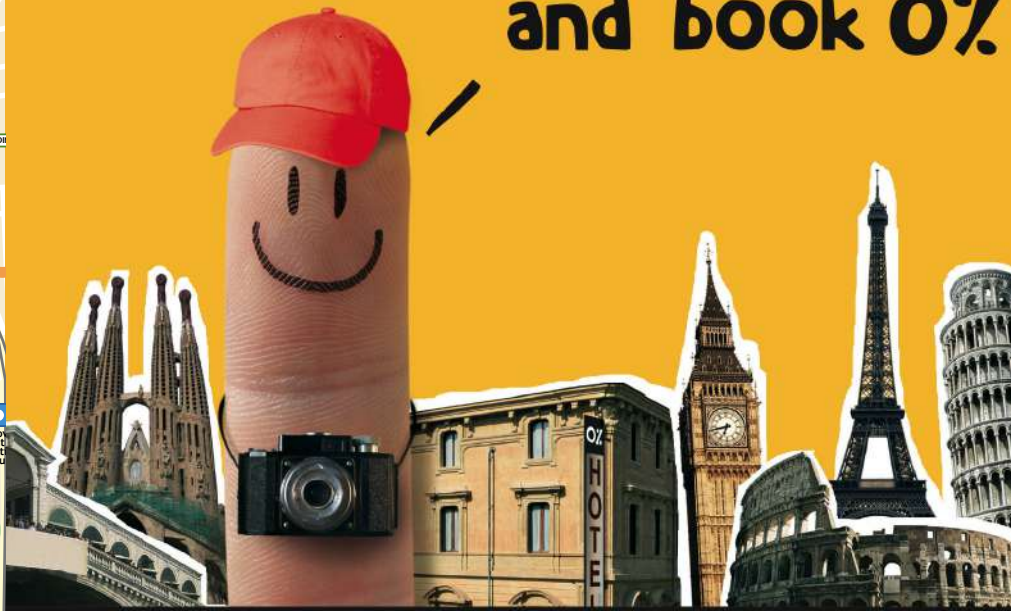
**NOZIO**<sup>®</sup>  
travel with no extra costs

© Nozio | Neaplan srl - travel with no extra costs

Francesco G. ©



# Wise up and book 0%



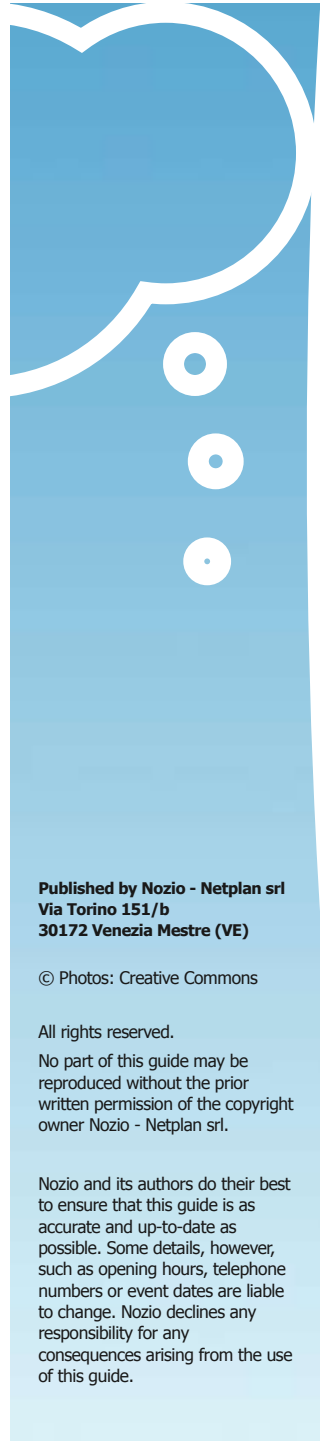
By now everyone gets it: to travel independently you have to make reservations directly from the hotel's official site

[www.nozio.com](http://www.nozio.com)

Free ideas and guides for your trip. The official sites of your favorite hotels.

Guaranteed reservations at the best prices without intermediation costs.

**NOZIO**<sup>®</sup>  
travel with no extra costs



### > TO KNOW



- 6 - Milano...fashion and underground!
- 8 - Getting there
- 10 - History and culture
- 12 - Hotel and lodgings
- 13 - Interesting facts

### > TO SEE



- 15 - Churches
- 17 - Museums and galleries
- 20 - Buildings and monuments
- 22 - Places and charm

### > TO TRY



- 25 - Eating and drinking
- 27 - Shopping
- 30 - Routes

### > TO EXPERIENCE



- 35 - Events
- 38 - La dolce vita

Published by Nozio - Netplan srl  
Via Torino 151/b  
30172 Venezia Mestre (VE)

© Photos: Creative Commons

All rights reserved.

No part of this guide may be reproduced without the prior written permission of the copyright owner Nozio - Netplan srl.

Nozio and its authors do their best to ensure that this guide is as accurate and up-to-date as possible. Some details, however, such as opening hours, telephone numbers or event dates are liable to change. Nozio declines any responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of this guide.



# To Remember

> .....

> .....

> .....

> .....

> .....



© Nozio | Netplan srl - travel with no extra costs  
© Nozio | Netplan srl - travel with no extra costs





## > GETTING THERE

Milan is the Italian city with the **best national and international connections**, thanks to its airport, railway and road network, the most efficient in Italy.

### BY CAR:

Milan has the biggest Italian highway system. Milan's ring road is the end point of highway A4 coming from Turin, of the A4 from Venice and Verona; of A1 connecting Milan and Bologna, Florence and Rome; the A7 coming from Genoa and Liguria; and the A8/A9 that go to Switzerland and to Lakes Como and Maggiore. The ring road is divided in Tangenziale Est, Tangenziale Ovest and Tangenziale Nord (A52). Highway Milano - Meda connects Milano to Brianza. Highway Nuova Valassina connects Milano to Monza and to Lecco.

### BY TRAIN:

Milan has the major railway system in Northern Italy, at the center of important national and international lines. The main station is **Milano Centrale**, which is found very near to the center of the city. From here trains leave for all parts of Italy and so do international connections to France, Switzerland, and Germany. The

station of Milano Cadorna serves the Malpensa Express for the airport and the FNM regional direct trains to the north of Milan. For times please consult the Trenitalia website.

### BY PLANE:

Milan has two airports: **Malpensa (MXP)** is the main airport and also has intercontinental flights, while the **Linate (LIN)** airport serves domestic flights and some European links. The Malpensa airport is connected to Milan by the **Malpensa Express** train and by the coach bus Malpensa Shuttle. From Linate there is a bus service that goes to Central Station. Linate and Malpensa are moreover connected to each other by a shuttle service provided by Air Pullman.

At 45 km from Milan you will find **Orio al Serio (BGY)** airport. It is Italy's first low-cost airport with many flights for Italian and European destinations. From the airport there are 30 daily coach service runs to Milan Central Station provided by "Autostradale" and "Locatelli Air Pullman".

*Your notes:*



## > HISTORY AND CULTURE

The city's origins date back to 400 B.C when the Gauls settled in this area of the Po Plains, having defeated the Etruscans who were by now in decline. When the city was conquered by the **Romans in 222 B.C.** and annexed to the Empire, it was given the name Mediolanum. After some attempts at rebellion, it became a permanent Latin colony (89 B.C.) and then regional capital (15 B.C.). Over the years, Mediolanum acquired the name "Roma secunda" due to its strategic position. After 313 A.D., the year in which the Emperor Constantine issued the Edict of Tolerance towards Christianity, many churches were built and the first bishop was appointed: **Bishop Ambrose** was such an influential person that the Church became the Ambrosian Church.

After the fall of the Roman Empire, Milan was left to the mercy of the Barbarians, until it was conquered by the **Longobards** (also known as Lombards) in 569 A.D. Towards the end of the eighth century, the bishops managed to use the influence to full extent, forcing an alliance with the emperors: Ottone of Saxony, who was crowned King of Italy in the Church of Sant'Ambrogio, made this power even more legitimate.

In the first half of the year 1000, The Archbishop of Milan became the most powerful political figure in the whole of Northern Italy. After a series of political problems, **Milan became a Commune** (1117), and gradually freed itself from the Archbishop. It also began to expand by declaring war on other municipalities in the nearby area. Later the attempt by Frederick I of Swabia to take over the city gave

rise to the birth of the Lombard League, which fought for the city's independence, and which ended in 1176 after the defeat of Barbarossa.

From 1200 onwards, Milan became an increasingly important city, and finally changed from being a Commune to a **Seignior**. The city walls were extended, new buildings were built and roads were paved. The **Visconti family**, seigniors of Bergamo, Cremona, Piacenza, Brescia and Parma came to power in 1300 and brought about a lengthy period of splendor and wealth for the city. Monuments were built, including the famous Duomo in 1386, that soon became the city's symbol. The **Sforza family** took over from the Viscontis, and with them they brought peace after many years of warring against Venice and Florence. Milan developed sciences, art and literature under the Sforza Duchy: Leonardo da Vinci and "il Bramante" were called to the Court of Ludovico il Moro.

When Charles V came to the throne in 1535, the city began a period of almost two centuries of Spanish rule, which is narrated by Alessandro Manzoni in his masterpiece novel "I Promessi Sposi" (The Betrothed). At the beginning of the eighteenth century, **the Austrians** arrived in Milan: Milan underwent a deep cultural change under Austrian rule. The **La Scala Theater** – where Giuseppe Verdi made his debut – was built, together with many Neoclassical buildings and the Arco della Pace. In 1859, the Austrians were driven out of Milan and the city was annexed to the Kingdom of Piedmont, which then became the **Kingdom of Italy in 1861**. Milan was immediately chosen as the economic and cultural capital of Italy, and has maintained this title up to modern days.

*Your notes:*



## > HOTELS AND LODGINGS

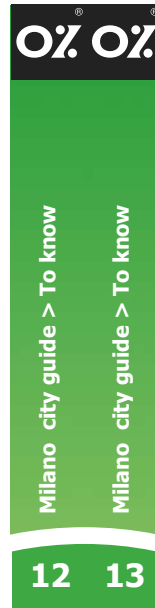
There are all kinds of accommodation available in Milan, for all budgets and needs. If you want a place that is close to all the most important artistic and cultural attractions in the city, you can choose from among the several Milan **hotels**. There is no end of choice in the range of categories: in the center you can find from 1-star to 5-star hotels.

If you must abide by a tighter budget but you don't want to miss out on the comfort of staying in the city center, there another three possibilities: **bed & breakfast** in Milan, room-rental or hostel.

If you are planning a mid-long stay in the city, why don't you rent an **apartment** in Milan instead, that are available for stays of more than one week. If you are on a business trip, you are in the right place: many hotels in Milan have meeting and conference facilities of all sizes, both in the city center and outside the city too.

Do you want to get to know the area outside Milan, as well as the city? Then why not choose a **rural country farmhouse** around Milan as the base for your trip? There are several pleasant ones between Milan and Pavia, that offer both accommodation and food to their guests.

**Choose your hotel accommodation and book direct from the official web sites: [www.nozio.com](http://www.nozio.com)**



## > INTERESTING FACTS

### LEONARDO, MILAN, THE DA VINCI CODE

One of the main characters of The Da Vinci Code, a best seller with 70 million copies (translated in 44 languages) and a film that brought in over 750 million dollars, can be found in Milan. It is the Last Supper, painted by Leonardo Da Vinci between 1494 and 1498 in the refectory of Santa Maria delle Grazie and about which Robert Langdon, the main character in the book by Dan Brown and the film by Ron Howard, gives an absolutely original lecture...

### THE SKYLINE OF THE FUTURE

The greatest architects have come together in Milan. The city is in turmoil. Numerous construction sites are outlining the skyline of its future. In the northwest is the Nuova Bovisa, a studio dedicated to research and innovation, designed by architect and city planner Rem Koolhaas. In the heart of Milan at Porta Nuova – Garibaldi, the new citadel designed by Cesar Pelli, with towers and a skyscraper built with eco-sustainable materials. In the same area, the Città della Moda (City of Style), also designed by Pelli, will become the general quarter of fashion made in Italy. Hadid, Libeskind and Isozaki are the architects of the three skyscrapers at Milano City Life, in the Fieramilano City area. Norman Foster designed Santa Giulia



> **Nozio  
advice:**

**Expo 2015**

**Milan** will host the **World Exposition** in 2015, with the theme **"Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life"**

Milan, a citadel north of the city. Renzo Piano is in charge of the redesigning of the Former Falck area in Sesto San Giovanni, while in the Bicocca area there is already work being done on the new headquarters for the University of Milan, the Hangars' exhibition spaces and the new Arcimboldi Theater. Peter Wilson is designing the BEIC project - the European Library of Culture and Information, the house of knowledge of the future which will be built in the Porta Vittoria area.

**EXPO 2015**

Milan will host the World Exposition in 2015, with the theme "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life". The main exposition space will be the new Rho – Pero Fair, at the gates of Milan.

**OZ OZ**

Milano city guide > To know

Milano city guide > To see

14 15



Francesco Sgrati

> **CHURCHES**

From the ancient Basilica of Sant’Ambrogio to the huge, majestic Duomo: the greatest symbols of religion in Milan:

**THE DUOMO**

The most outstanding example of Gothic-Lombard architecture, the Duomo dates back to 1300. It was built on the wishes of Gian Galeazzo Visconti. This imposing religious building, second only to St Peter’s Cathedral in Rome, houses almost 3500 statues that are spread over an area of almost 12,000 square meters. The tallest spire, which has the famous “Madonnina” on top of it, is 108 meters high. The statue of the Virgin Mary, the “Madonnina”, is covered in 3900 pieces of gold leaf.

**BASILICA OF SANT’AMBROGIO**

This is the symbol of Milan’s religiousness. It was built in 379 A.D. in the Romanesque-Lombard style, and was consecrated by the famous Bishop Ambrogio, who lent his name to the Ambrosian Church. Inside there are valuable artifacts and works of art that tell the story of about 1600 years of Milan’s history.

*Your notes:*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



Matalyn

© Nozio | Neipian srl - travel with no extra costs

© Nozio | Neipian srl - travel with no extra costs

> **Nozio  
advice:**

**Santa Maria delle Grazie...**Leonardo da Vinci painted "The Last Supper" in the refectory, which is one of the most famous works of art ever painted...

*Your notes:*

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**BASILICA OF SANT' EUSTORGIO**

A wonderful medieval religious building that was built at the beginning of the fourth century on the wishes of the Bishop Eustorgio who brought the remains of the wise kings here from Constantinople, that can still be seen in the Chapel bearing their name today. Basilica of San Lorenzo MaggioreThis wonderful basilica, located opposite the Roman columns that are the only remains of a third-century temple, includes many different architectural styles, due to the various renovations that the building has undergone. The main elements are Paleo-Christian (for example the mosaics) but other more recent styles also stand out, including ones from 1600 (the dome) to 1800 (the façade).

**SANTA MARIA DELLE GRAZIE**

This church was built in the second half of the fifteenth century. It was only completed years later by "il Bramante" on the wishes of Ludovico il Moro. The famous architect designed the wonderful apse, the cloisters and the old sacristy. Leonardo da Vinci painted "The Last Supper" in the refectory, which is one of the most famous works of art ever painted.

OZ OZ  
Milano city guide > To see  
Milano city guide > To see  
16 17

© Nozio | Neoplan srl - travel with no extra costs  
© Nozio | Neoplan srl - travel with no extra costs



bridget.com

> **MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES**

A selection of the most interesting museums in Milan that must be visited:

**CENACOLO VINCIANO**

Between 1495 and 1498, Leonardo da Vinci painted the whole wall of the refectory in the Dominican convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie with a fresco of The Last Supper, one of the most famous masterpieces in history. This work of art has undergone a restoration that lasted twenty years and which was only recently finished, bringing it back to its full glory and halting the deterioration that was turning it into a faded, shapeless stain.

**LA SCALA THEATER MUSEUM**

Founded in 1913, this interesting museum houses exhibits of various costumes and theatre sets that are of great historical and artistic value. Some rooms are dedicated to the La Scala Theater's architecture and the life of the famous composer Giuseppe Verdi, while others house ancient musical instruments, curtains and costumes that belonged to famous artists such as Maria Callas and Rudolf Nureyev.  
Pinacoteca di Brera  
The Pinacoteca di Brera is a picture gallery set up in 1809 by Napoleone Bonaparte. It houses a great number of works of art that were "confiscated" from churches and convents throughout Europe. Works to be seen range from the fourteenth to the





## > BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS

Buildings and monuments that bear witness to the history of this city, the economic and cultural center of Italy.

### CASTELLO SFORZESCO

The original center dates back to 1450, which was built on the wishes of the Duke Francesco Sforza. Over the centuries, the castle has undergone various changes, also due to the particular ups and downs that have seriously affected the structure. At the end of the 19th century, a major renovation was made on the whole building. Castello Sforzesco is a majestic building. Inside it has wonderful interior courtyards, built in Gothic-Renaissance style and incredible halls, designed by Leonardo, and frescos painted by master painters such as Bramante, who were commissioned by the court of Ludovico il Moro. The Castle now hosts important art exhibitions.

### THE MONUMENTAL CEMETERY

This great cemetery was built around 1860, in a Lombard style and some obviously Byzantine shapes. Among the statues, chapels and other works of art, we can find the graves of some of the most famous people from Italian and European culture, such as Alessandro Manzoni, Salvatore Quasimodo, Eugenio Montale and Maria Callas.

### ROYAL PALACE

The Royal Palace, in Piazza Duomo, is a very old building that dates back to 1100 and which has been home to the most powerful men in Milan over the centuries, from the Viscontis to the Sforza family, the Spanish governors and Austrian rulers. Several temporary art exhibitions are held inside the building today.

### ARCO DELLA PACE

In the middle of Piazza Sempione there is this huge monument 25 meters high, that dates back to Napoleonic era. Arco della Pace is built in Neoclassical style, and is decorated with marble sculpture and Corinthian columns, and on the top there is a charming bronze "Sestiga", a chariot drawn by six horses.

### LA SCALA THEATER

A Temple to Opera music, built at the end of the 1700s over the remains of the Church of Santa Maria della Scala, from which the theater then took its name. Some of the greatest names in opera have made their debuts in this theater: Rossini, Donizetti, Bellini, Puccini and, in 1839, Giuseppe Verdi, who moved to the Grand Hotel in Milan on that date where he continued to live until he died. The La Scala Theater, famous worldwide, stands on one side of the beautiful square that carries the same name. In the center of the square there is a monument to Leonardo da Vinci and on the other side there is the wonderful Palazzo Marini.

### SAN LORENZO ROMAN COLUMNS

This is the only monument that dates back to the Roman era, which has managed to survive up to the present day. These sixteen columns that stand opposite the Basilica of San Lorenzo are all that remains of an ancient Roman temple, that probably dates back to the 2nd century.

### VILLA BELGIOJOSO BONAPARTE

Also called Villa Reale, designed by architect Leopoldo Pollack, a student of Piermarini, and built between 1790 and 1796, Villa Belgiojoso Bonaparte is one Europe's greatest examples of neoclassical architecture. The interior is characterized by vast halls adorned with magnificent stucco and decorations, set in refined, delicate colors. The fresco in the lunch room, "Parnaso", a masterpiece by Andrea Appiani, is beautiful. The sumptuous exterior is framed by a splendid English garden. The villa is home to the 19th Century Museum (GAM – Gallery of Modern Art), and the PAC – Pavilion of Contemporary Art – is located in the garden.



## > PLACES AND CHARME

Discovering the most romantic, attractive side of this city: from the picturesque views of the Navigli to the green oases in the center of Milan...

### NAVIGLI

The origins of the Navigli date back to about 1100, but this stretch of water was only made navigable from the Ticino to the center of Milan at the end of the 14th century, to help transport the marble that was needed to build the Duomo. The Milan Wharf, that was an important commercial port for river transport for many centuries, was still working up to the end of the Second World War, and then closed permanently in 1979. Today the Naviglio Grande and the Naviglio Pavese (that connects Milan to Pavia) make up one of the most charming places in Milan, with the old, typical banister houses, antique shops and hundreds of clubs standing on each side, that are invade the banks of the rivers from April to September with their open-air tables.

### VIA TORTONA

It is one of the must-see streets in Milan, and the whole area around Via Tortona, which goes from Naviglio Grande to Via Solari and Porta Genova, is not to be missed.



Milano city guide > To see

Milano city guide > To see

22 23

The factory and artisan wasteland has today become the center of creative activity, ranging from photography and design studios to theater workshops and cultural foundations. The stars of Fuori Salone, the open air Salone del Mobile event in Via Tortona and its surroundings are, just to name a few: Superstudio Più and Superstudio 13, where there are photography studios and where the shows take place during Fashion Week, the City of Cultures project by architect David Chipperfield, being designed in the former Ansaldo factory; the Arnaldo Pomodoro foundation, dedicated to the great contemporary sculptor in the former Riva & Calzoni office spaces.

### BRERA

This is one of the most exclusive and fashionable places in Milan, that has an atmosphere vaguely reminiscent of Paris, with its artists, open-air coffee shops and sophisticated boutiques.

It is full of wares for the home and handmade dresses that seem to be creations of sculptors and not dressmakers. This area, that could be described as "luxury Bohemian" includes Via Brera, Via Solferino, Via Pontaccio, Corso Garibaldi and Corso Como. Alongside it there are many eighteenth century palaces including Palazzo Brera at number 28 Corso Como that houses the famous Pinacoteca.

### PARCO SEMPIONE

This park stands behind Castello Sforzesco. It is huge and fascinating with its lakes, meadows and little bridges. It is the ideal place to spend a Sunday afternoon in the fresh air. The Park is home to monuments such as the Arena Napoleonica, the Tower designed by Giò Ponti and the Triennale di Milano.

### GALLERIA VITTORIO EMANUELE

This was built around 1870 and is called the "salotto di Milano" (The Milan Lounge): If you walk along its cross-shaped "arms", topped by the glass and iron structure, you can see old coffee-shops, restaurants, boutiques and historical bookshops.

### GIARDINI DI PORTA VENEZIA

Located between Via Palestro and Porta Venezia, those beautiful gardens are the perfect setting for spring afternoon walks. The gardens were the first opened to public, at the end of 1700; they were restored around 1880. In the gardens many monuments portraying Italian historical people and many botanic species can be admired.

> **Nozio advice:**

Today the **Naviglio Grande** and the **Naviglio Pavese** (that connects Milan to Pavia) make up one of the most charming places in Milan, with the old, typical banister houses, antique shops and hundreds of clubs...

*Your notes:*

**PIAZZA MERCANTI**

This characteristic square near the Duomo is surrounded by very interesting historical buildings that represent Milanese culture from the middle ages to the seventeenth century. These include Palazzo della Ragione that dates back to 1200, the Loggia degli Osii, the seventeenth century Palazzo delle Scuole Palatine and Palazzo dei Giureconsulti that stands at the top of Via Mercanti.

OZ OZ

Milano city guide > To see

Milano city guide > To try

24 25



> **EATING AND DRINKING**

Traditional Milanese cooking is made up of simple, meager dishes and perhaps for this reason it was banished during the ambitious 1980s. It has only recently returned to popularity. Milan is a city that lives off fashion and trends: there was Chinese cooking, then Indian, then African, followed by Japanese and Middle Eastern cooking. The Milanese people have now returned to their origins, enjoying the tastes with the pleasure that one feels when one returns home after a long trip. Now there are trattorias, inns and restaurants (including the top ones) everywhere that offer traditional Milanese dishes to eat.

We offer you a **typically Milanese menu** in our guide to Milan, from antipasto to dessert. Actually, from the aperitif, because an evening in Milan cannot go without this ritual.

One of the many aperitifs that you can try out during happy hour is the classical **Negroni**, which is a little "aggressive" but is especially loved by the Milanese, made with Bitter Campari, Gin, red Martini and ice, that must be tried with a few snacks.

After your aperitif you can choose one of the several restaurants in Milan that specializes in traditional cooking. We advise you to start with a traditional antipasto, made of nervetti (boiled calf shank and knee cartilage cut into strips) and mixed with thinly sliced onions. As a first course you cannot miss out on the classical

**Risotto alla Milanese**, made with a full-bodied beef broth (the original recipe includes bone marrow) and flavored with saffron. As a second course we suggest a classic Milanese dish: "**cassoeula**", an extremely filling dish made with various poor parts of pork meat (tail, ribs, rind, feet and ears) cooked with green cabbage and other vegetables. If you are not feeling so courageous, go for a more traditional dish, a tasty **Milanese cutlet** that is probably nothing like you've ever tasted in other places: Milan restaurants actually serve a very tasty, crunchy cutlet, made with a veal chop, including the bone. Another alternative is veal tonn , that is a light, tasty veal slice covered in tuna, mayonnaise, anchovy and caper sauce. We recommend an excellent **Barbera from the Oltrep  Pavese** as your wine. If you should decide to spend time in Milan that coincides with the Christmas festivities, you could end your lunch with a huge slice of **Panettone**, the typical local Christmas cake, that is even tastier if you eat it with traditional Mascarpone cream.

#### TYPICAL PRODUCTS FROM MILAN

These include Salame di Milano, made from finely minced pork and beef meat, and many types of cheese too. Grana Padano is a famous cheese overseas, which is made everywhere in the P  valley. **Mascarpone** is also a typical Milanese **cheese**, that is an essential ingredient for desserts and creams, often mixed with other cheeses, salami or fish. However, the most famous Milanese cheese is without a doubt **Gorgonzola**, that rich, strongly flavored cheese that reigns supreme at the Milan dinner table. This creamy cheese, that has blue veins running through it, is used to dress tasty first courses and to flavor Polenta or can be eaten alone. Finally, we should remember **Crescenza**, or Stracchino, a soft, creamy fresh milk cheese with a slightly sweet taste. This is excellent when spread on a slice of bread or eaten with raw vegetables.

If you are interested in **buying foodstuffs** or wine, you must visit **Peck**, a legendary temple of gastronomy. In Via Spadari, where there is also a famous fishmonger's, you will find all you need to satisfy your taste buds and your sense of hedonism: DOP (certified origin) cheeses from all over Italy, all kinds of salami, extra virgin oils, aged balsamic vinegars, rare tea and spice mixtures, pretty preserves of food in oil and a wine cellar that is filled with the most valuable wines from Italy and abroad.



## > SHOPPING

Our itinerary starts off from the heart of the **luxury shopping in Milan**: Via Montenapoleone, Via della Spiga and Via Sant'Andrea, elegant streets that together with Via Manzoni, Via Borgospesso and Via Santo Spirito are the outer limits of the famous **Fashion District**. In this square area luxury is the true protagonist. Dazzling jewels created by the most famous name, clothes and accessories to die for, to be owned and flaunted, shoes that are works of art. Everything reeks of ostentation and the splendor of a chic, fashionable lifestyle. Many tourists come to the showrooms and come out full of parcels, because **Italian fashion** continues to attract and fascinate the whole world, and Milan is the most representative symbol of all this.

Let's start from the most famous of all the streets of fashion:

**Via Montenapoleone**. This is where you can find, amongst others, the atelier-showrooms of: Gucci, Versace, Salvatore Ferragamo, Fratelli Rossetti, Etro, Loro Piana, Luis Vuitton, Prada, Valentino, Cartier and Tanino Crisci.

In **Via Sant'Andrea**, a street that crosses Via Montenapoleone you can find: Chanel, Fendi, Armani, Moschino, Kenzo, Cesare Paciotti, Herm s, Prada and Trussardi.

Via Sant'Andrea crosses the famous **Via della Spiga**, where you can enjoy the shop windows at: D&G, Krizia, Sergio Rossi, Gianfranco Ferr , Bottega Veneta, Tod's, Genny, Prada, Bulgari and Chopard.

> **Nozio**  
advice:

Via Montenapoleone, Via della Spiga and Via Sant'Andrea, elegant streets that together with Via Manzoni, Via Borgospesso and Via Santo Spirito are the outer limits of the famous **Fashion District**

*Your notes:*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

The equally elegant Via Manzoni is home to Spazio Armani at no. 31. This is the Giorgio Armani multi-concept store where you can admire the Emporio Armani showrooms, Armani casa, and Armani fiori. You can also sip an aperitif at the Emporio Armani Cafè, or spend an evening at the restaurant Nobu, with a dinner by the best Japanese chef to emerge in the last 10 years: Nobuyuki Matsuhisa who opened this chain of restaurants together with Robert de Niro.

For **more affordable shopping**, there are four important streets in the city that are almost entirely dedicated to shopping: Corso Vittorio Emanuele, Corso Buenos Aires, Via Torino and Corso di Porta Ticinese.

**Corso Vittorio Emanuele** links Piazza Duomo with Piazza San Babila, and begins with the Rinascente, the monument to Milanese shopping that owes its name to Gabriele d'Annunzio. In Corso Vittorio Emanuele there are sophisticated label shops, such as Max Mara, Moreschi, Bruno Magli and Pollini, but there are also more popular labels such as H&M, Zara and Furla.

**Corso Buenos Aires**, that is one of the longest streets in Europe, connects Porta Venezia to Piazzale Loreto, and is even more commercial: here you can find Timberland, Mandarin Duck, Benetton, Kookai and Nara Camice.

In **Via Torino** that stretches between the Duomo and Corso di Porta Ticinese, the average shopper's age is much lower and the casual style is sportier, with Foot Looker, Camper and Energy shops all here.

The closer you get to the **Navigli area**, which is the temple of street-style, the more the shop scenario changes. Corso di Porta Ticinese, a continuation of Via Torino, is the right place for those "off the wall" purchases: Custo-Barcellona,



Milano city guide > To try

Milano city guide > To try

28 29

Diesel, Miss Sixteen, Gas and Fornarina stand alongside second-hand clothing, eccentric designers' boutiques, bizarre household goods, handmade clothes and accessory stores made from silk and other precious materials.

**THE FLEA MARKETS IN MILAN**

Milan also has some interesting markets. Here are just two of the most interesting and characteristic:

**Fiera di Senigallia in Milan** is now an institution: every Saturday morning, Viale d'Annunzio, along the wharf, becomes a picturesque sight, full of noise, color and other smells so typical of flea markets. You can find everything here: Indian, South American and African craftwork; new and second-hand clothes, old furniture, fake art nouveau lamps, perfumed candles and every kind of essence, books, comics, records, videos and DVDs. There are tidy stalls and messy ones where you can go looking for your bargain. The music of the Senegalese musicians is like a theme tune, as they pound on drums of all sizes, accompanying the people walking around with their frenetic rhythms.

**Mercatone del Naviglio Grande** takes place on the last Sunday of each month along the Naviglio Grande canal. A large exhibition-market is set up that is dedicated to antiques: furniture, objects for the home, old books, jewellery, and lots more too. The market has 400 exhibitors, some of whom also have their own shops on the banks of the Naviglio grande.

**DESIGNERS' OUTLETS**

One of the characteristics of Milan that shopping lovers like is the fact that there are many famous-label outlets in the city center that are usually only found on the city outskirts or in the provinces. Some of the ones in the center are: Diffusione Tessile, which is the Max Mara group's outlet, the Bruno Magli and Etro outlets where you can find items from past collections and also Luciano Soprani, Kookai, Valextra, a sophisticated suitcase company, and Bassetti, where you can buy all the bedding and linen you need for your house.

Near Milan instead, you can find the **McArthur Glen Shopping City** (in Serravalle Scrivia, near Alessandria), the Fratelli Rossetti outlet (in Parabiago), Dolce & Gabbana outlet (in Legnano), Timberland outlet (in Pero), Levi's (in Cernusco sul Naviglio) and Samsonite (in Corsico) outlets, and finally Frette (in Concorezzo) and Zucchi (in Casorezzo) for bed linen.







## > ROUTES

### MILANO SHOPPING

Milan is Heaven on Earth for shopping lovers. You can find the best of everything in this city, especially everything connected with fashion and design.

Milan has a wonderful history as a laboratory of creative ideas: The **Polytechnic** and the **Accademia di Brera** have trained fashion designers and other designers who are famous worldwide. They exhibited their creations for the first time in Milan, often creating scandal and revolutionizing fashion with their own personal style, never going unobserved.

In this section, we will offer you a small selection of fashion designers born in Milan, or who started their careers here, contributing to the great name of Italian fashion in the world.

**Giorgio Armani:** born in Piacenza in 1934, the king of Italian fashion started his career in Milan, working as a buyer for Rinascente. At the beginning of the sixties, he left his job to dedicate himself to creating patterns for well-known designers, even though he had no specific training. In 1975 he risked again, starting up the label Giorgio Armani for men and women and he was successful immediately. He built up a close relationship with the cinema world from the start, and was consecrated with his clothes made for "American Gigolo". A young Richard Gere was

seen in front of a huge clothes closet, in the dressing ceremony scene, that was arranged in a maniacally perfect order. Foremost symbol of elegance in the 1980s, Armani is still king of world fashion today.

**Miuccia Prada:** Miuccia Prada, an anti-conformist who was politically active in the 1970s, took over the family company in 1978 that was specialized in bags and leather accessories, and revolutionized everything. Her bags became sought-after pieces and became part of the Milanese landscape. Here unmistakable, minimal-chic style won over the Milanese upper middle classes in the 1980s and 1990s. Her sports range, characterized by the famous "red line" made the label even better known and won over larger shares of the market. However, Prada did not want to be just a reference point for fashion: In 1995, she founded the Fondazione Prada in Milan, an important artistic laboratory and window for contemporary international artists.

**Dolce & Gabbana:** Domenico Dolce and Stefano Gabbana, born in the province of Palermo and in Milan respectively, are the most famous couple in the Italian fashion world. Their style evolves continuously, and is much appreciated by "chameleon-like" stars such as Madonna. They made their debut in Milan in 1985, in the boom period of career women, ambitious and squared-off, just like the shoulder pads that were used to pad their suit jackets. Dolce & Gabbana went against the trend however, and rediscovered the fuller Mediterranean femininity: rounded shapes, petticoats that showed off one's cleavage, loose, wild hairstyles. Sicily will always be a source of inspiration that will win over grey Milan too with its warmth and sensuality.

**Gianfranco Ferré:** born in the province of Milan in 1944, Gianfranco Ferré gained a degree in architecture at the Milan Polytechnic. After traveling to India, from where he took his inspiration, he started working in the fashion world, with a rational, structured style that gave him the nickname "architect of fashion". The tailored cut of his clothes and the lines of his shapes conquered the world.

**Versace:** this name owes its fortune to the creativity of Gianni Versace, born in Reggio Calabria and who moved to Milan in the 1970s to work in the fashion world, designing patterns for other designers. Thanks to the managerial skills of his brother Santo, the label Versace was set up a few years later, a daring, aggressive label that is characterized by the unusual matching of colors and geometric patterns printed on silk. After Gianni's death in 1997, the company was taken over by his brother and sister, Santo and Donatella.

## MILANO: A SPECIAL DAY

Nozio.com has prepared a special itinerary, designed for those of you who do not have much time to hand, but who want to visit this city, that is so full of cultural and social stimulus. Our 24-hour itinerary includes an evening for discovering the Milanese night life, therefore we recommend that you book at least one night in one of **Milan's many hotels**.

Milan, is not difficult to explore: it is often possible to walk from one interesting area to another, and in other cases we recommend you take the subway, that will let you reach your destination without getting your stuck in city traffic.

## MILAN WALKING GUIDE

Our tour starts with discovering Milan from **Piazza Duomo**, where you can admire the Duomo, that is one of Milan's most important symbols. Why don't you go in and climb up to the roof: you will find yourself surrounded by spire and late-Gothic statues, admiring the sight of the city that spreads out before you.

### Morning

From Piazza Duomo, go to the splendid **Galleria Vittorio Emanuele**: you can have breakfast here, in one of the elegant coffee-shops inside the Galleria. We recommend Zucca, the coffee shop favored by Verdi and Toscani, with its second-floor windows that look out onto the Duomo and the Galleria and its luxury Liberty-style furnishings in wrought iron, mahogany and mosaics.

After a refreshing breakfast, continue on your tour going through the Galleria and walk to Piazza della Scala, where you can see the famous **Theater La Scala**. If you are fond of theater costumes and sets, we recommend you visit the interesting **Museum**. Otherwise you can continue your journey. From Piazza della Scala, go on to the nearby Via Dante and walk along until you get to the majestic **Castello Sforzesco**. Behind the Castle, you can see Parco Sempione: if you don't feel hungry yet, you can work up an appetite by walking through the park. Once you come out of the park, walking through the **Arco della Pace**, you have two possibilities: look for a restaurant in the area straightaway, or go on foot or by taxi to your next stop, the Cenacolo Vinciano in Corso Magenta, and have lunch there.



We recommend raw vegetables with Crescenza or Gorgonzola cheese to start with, followed by Risotto alla Milanese and then the traditional cutlet or a tasty pot roast.

### Afternoon

The afternoon is dedicated to art: first stop: we suggest the **Cenacolo Vinciano** that Leonardo painted in the refectory in the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie in Corso Magenta. After admiring this masterpiece, go on to the nearby Piazza Cadorna where you will find the subway to take you to the **Pinacoteca di Brera** picture gallery. Get off at Cairoli (1 stop) and continue on foot. After you have visited the wonderful Pinacoteca, spend a bit of time exploring Brera, one of the most charming areas of Milan.

### Evening

For a real taste of the unique atmosphere of the Milan Dolce Vita you will have to go to the **Navigli area**. Take the subway and get off at Porta Genova. Once there, go along Via Vigevano up to the Wharf and start exploring the clubs that line the Navigli.

Between one aperitif and the next, you will have the change to eat a real meal, serving yourself from the rich buffets that are provided at happy hour. Continuing your evening into the night will be no problem: you will soon learn which is the cool new club that has just opened, or which live concerts are planned for the evening. Don't give yourself a time limit: Milanese nights are truly unpredictable!

## MILAN : PAVIA AND VIGEVANO

Our tourist guide to Milan offers two trips outside the city that each last one day: Pavia and Vigevano, that are about 55 km and 35 km away from Milan respectively, and which can be reached by both car and train. To visit these cities, you can therefore still use your hotel in Milan.

Before turning to the details of these interesting cities, we want to spend a little time talking about the typical cuisine of the area known as the Oltrepò Pavese. You can find dishes linked to the local land in all the restaurants in Pavia and Vigevano, where rice and grapes are mainly grown. A typical local dish is fried frogs, served in a light tomato sauce or accompanied by a risotto. The local salamis, especially the one made from goose, are worthy of note. The Oltrepò Pavese is also famous for its wines: in the area you can find the excellent white wines Riesling and Cortese and red Bonarda and Barbera.

> **Nozio advice:**

The castle (**Castello Visconteo-Sforzesco**), one of the largest in Europe. This is a true city within a city, with very ancient origins

*Your notes:*

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**Pavia**

This ancient, interesting city is just right for a one-day trip outside Milan. The old city center can easily be covered on foot: walking along the streets and squares, you can see the architectural sights from centuries and centuries of history. From the Roman Era to the Middle Ages, from the Visconti and Sforza eras to the Renaissance, from Neoclassicism to Liberty style. We recommend you end your trip by seeing the wonderful Certosa di Pavia (**Pavia Charterhouse**), that is 5 km outside the city, which was built around 1396 on the wishes of Gian Galeazzo Visconti, Duke of Milan.

**Don't miss:**

- The Castle Visconteo
- The Broletto
- The Duomo
- The Charterhouse

**Vigevano**

This is a tiny architectural jewel that owes a lot to the genial creativity of **Bramante**. It is worth a day's visit. There are many things to see, including the castle (**Castello Visconteo-Sforzesco**), one of the largest in Europe. This is a true city within a city, with very ancient origins: the original center of the Castle dates back as far as the Lombard Era, and was renovated to become an aristocratic residence by the Visconti family and then by the Sforza family, with the artistic contribution by Bramante and Leonardo da Vinci.

**Don't miss:**

- Bramante's Tower
- The Castle
- The Square and Cathedral

**OZ OZ**

Milano city guide > To try

Milano city guide > To experience

34 35



> **EVENTS**

Milan is considered to be the **economic** and **cultural** capital of Italy. A metropolis that has been the ideal setting for international events for decades, that attract professionals, artists and intellectuals from all over the world.

Our guide to Milan has chosen a few of the most important event that are regularly organized in the city. If you plan to visit Milan during one of these events, make sure you book your hotel well in advance (at least one month): the city is literally taken over by visitors and you risk not being able to find a room free!

**"OH BEJ, OH BEJ" FAIR**

**- December -**

On December 7th and 8th, during one of the festivities to honor Sant'Ambrogio, the patron saint of the city, the Fiera degli "oh bei, oh bei" is organized around the Basilica di Sant'Ambrogio that is one of the most moments of the year that any decent Milanese person eagerly awaits. During these two days there are market stalls of all kinds, some of them similar to the ones from Senigallia, flower stalls and sweet and cake stalls, all full of color that attract and amaze. The name of the fair comes from term that the stall owners used to catch the attention of the people passing by.



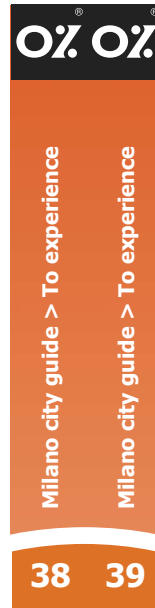


## > LA DOLCE VITA

Not even the most expert viveur from Milan could possibly know **all the clubs in Milan**. There are hundreds and hundreds of bars, lounge bars, wine bars, pubs, cafés, bistros, pubs, wine cellars, live music bars and lots of others besides. The Milanese night scene is so wide-ranging and changes continuously, just like everything in this **eclectic** city. There are clubs that are furnished in hi-tech style, or that are inspired by the Savannah, with leopard-skin chairs, palm trees and pretend elephants' heads. Wine bars in minimal Japanese style and others that make you think you are in Bollywood, if you go by their music and furnishings. There are atmospheres for all taste and for states of mind: the Milanese love variation, and if there are still any habitués around, most Milanese people prefer the excitement of the unforeseen and new experiences.

One interesting thing is that Milanese night life begins very early: you don't have to wait for dusk to be with your friends and enjoy yourself.

One habit that has become popular in the last few years is **brunch**, a ritual that originated in New York, and that has spread in Italy, starting from Milan. A combination of breakfast and lunch, brunch was invented to satisfy the "day-after" appetite of those who were out on the town until dawn. On Saturdays and Sundays, from 10 until 2 pm, many clubs in Milan offer lavish brunches.



Another must of a ritual is **happy hour**, that the Milanese cannot go without for anything on Earth. From 6 pm to 9.30 pm in Milan you can drink cocktails accompanied by substantial buffets with several courses, pasta, meat or fish, in all the clubs in Milan. All this for about 5-10 Euro per cocktail.

The areas that have the most clubs are **Porta Ticinese**, **Navigli** and **Porta Romana**, but even if you are elsewhere and you fancy a cocktail, there is a club offering its happy hour on almost every corner in Milan: whether you are in the center or outside.

here are a few suggestions of places where you can get a taste of Milanese Dolce Vita:

### FOR BRUNCH

**Diana Garden** - The garden of the Hotel Diana Majestic, that is housed in an early-twentieth century Art Nouveau-style building that is one of the best in Milan. Excellent menu, spectacular atmosphere and regular famous customers from the showbusiness and political world. (where: Viale Piave 42)

**Le biciclette** - A former bicycle shop, with a New York atmosphere, minimalist, hi-tech furnishing and exhibitions of photographs and sculptures. Brunch is truly excellent and top quality.

**Tribeca Lounge** - Cool atmosphere, show business world clientele, Italo-American buffet with several inviting alternatives.

### FOR THE HAPPY HOUR

**Magenta** - One of the most famous, popular clubs in Milan. Right in the center and with a tasty buffet. RoialtoFor an aperitif in one of the most exclusive, glamorous clubs in Milan.

**Volo** - You must go here in the spring or summer, when happy hour moves outside in the garden, surrounded by its ancient walls. The buffet is top quality and rather filling.

**Palo Alto** - Varied buffet, perfect cocktails. A very crowded place.

**Officina 12** - Set up inside a former factory, a loft style with open spaces and overhead platform. There is a pretty interior garden and a full buffet. It is also a pizzeria.

**Corso Como 10** - A restaurant, boutique, bookshop, showroom, gallery and wine bar. An extremely cool place, housed in a typical Milanese house with interior garden. Ideal for a special evening.

### DANCING YOUR NIGHT OUT

**Hollywood** - This is the most famous discotheque in Italy. Models, designers, actors, politicians and other famous people all go there. Commercial music and dance floors for showing off your talents. Tough door selection, privé club off limits.

**Loollapalozaa** - Crowded, wild and funky. You can dance on the tables, drink rum and tequila, sweat and have a great time.

**Alcatraz** - In the north of Milan, this is the largest club in the city: hundreds of square meters of space lit up by one of the most sophisticated lighting systems that exist, live concerts and international clientele. Clientele of all ages.

**Atlantique** - House music from the most famous bands, a restaurant, a bar and a private club. A fashionable club opened by the designers Dolce and Gabbana.

### FOR LIVE MUSIC

**Rolling Stone** - The rock temple of Milan. Here, in twenty years, just about everyone has paid a visit: from Iron Maiden to Ben Harper, Black Sabbath and Massive Attack.

**Le Scimmie** - This is a historical club on the Navigli, the first one that organized live music. Recommended for jazz lovers.

**Magazzini Generali** - Trendy live music, sets directly from London's rave parties, multi-media installations.

**Blue Note** - the temple of jazz in Milan and first European venue for the notorious NY jazz club. Milan's Blue Note schedules the best international jazz scene.

**Leoncavallo** - The first and most famous social center in Italy, where concerts are held by Italian and international artists, and where there are also food fairs and conferences.