

A SHORT GUIDE TO MILAN

ART AND CULTURE... IN LEONARDO'S FOOTSTEPS

- **Leonardo Da Vinci**. Although born in Tuscany, Leonardo spent his most prolific years in Milan. The city boasts many artworks by the Renaissance master. If you plan to visit **The Last Supper**, Leonardo's fresco that inspired "The Da Vinci Code" by Dan Brown, remember to book at least 6 months in advance as only small groups are admitted. You can buy your ticket [here](#). An immersive experience of Leonardo's works and inventions can be made at **Leonardo 3 Museum**, where you can find working models of his machines and digitalized restorations of his paintings. Find more [here](#).

- **The Duomo and its surroundings**: One of the most important Gothic buildings in the world, the Duomo, is the symbol of Milan. You can visit it every day and get on top of the roof to have a wonderful view of the city. Book [here](#).

After visiting the **Duomo**, you can have a walk through the beautiful **Galleria Emanuele II** and drink an espresso in one of the many elegant cafes. The gallery leads to Piazza della **Scala**, where you can visit the majestic theatre and attend an opera. Find more information [here](#).

- Milan boasts a lively artistic scene and offers its visitors many museums collecting art gems from the Middle age to the Renaissance to contemporary art. If you are an art lover you can't miss the **Brera Pinacoteca**: a collection of must-see paintings and sculptures. Go to Brera website [here](#).

Another museum not to be missed is inside **Castello Sforzesco**, a castle build in the 15th Century by the Duke of Milan. There you can admire the Pietà Rondanini, Michelangelo's last sculpture. Find out more [here](#).

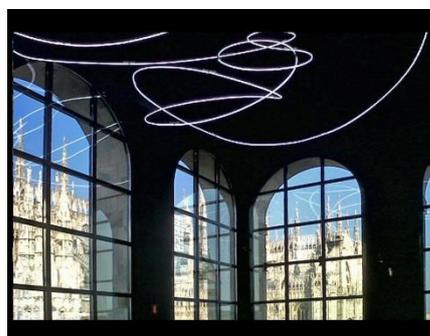
Tired of old paintings? Don't worry: Milano is the perfect spot for **contemporary art** lovers! You should start with [Museo del Novecento](#) – the 20th Century Art Museum (which also has a breathtaking view on the Duomo) and go on with one of the many fancy art spaces and galleries such as [Fondazione Prada](#), [Hangar Bicocca](#), the [Triennale](#) and many more...



Leonardo Da Vinci, *The Last Supper*, 1495–1498



Duomo, 1386 -1932



Museum of 20th Century Art

FOOD, WINE & THE APERITIVO:

If you are staying in Milan you must try the **aperitivo** at least once! From 6.00 pm to 9.00 pm have a seat in a local bar (best if in the Navigli area) and order a drink, they will also bring you some finger food. Traditional drinks are **Negroni** (one part gin, one part vermouth rosso, and one part Campari, garnished with orange peel) or Negroni Sbagliato (made with Prosecco instead of gin), but you can also find a delicious **Spritz** (Prosecco, Aperol / Campari, sparkling mineral water). The fanciest aperitivo of all times? The one on the [Aperol Terrace](#), just in front of the Duomo!

After the aperitivo, what's better than some local and delicious food? The **Cotoletta** (fried veal cutlet cooked "bone-in") is the queen of Milanese cuisine. To taste a great Cotoletta check one of these places: [Osteria Brunello](#), Trattoria all'Antica, [Trattoria Arlati](#), Osteria alla Grande.

And what about a last glass of **wine** before bedtime? Milan offers a wide range of wine cafes: [Signorvino](#) and [La Cantina di Franco](#) are among the best.



Negroni is the traditional aperitivo in Milan



The Navigli area with its cafes and restaurants

SHOPPING, SHOPPING, SHOPPING!

Milan is a world-famous city for fashion and offers diversified shopping experiences. **Via Montenapoleone** might be the most known venue for luxury shopping but there are a lot more possibilities to empty your wallets!

- **La Rinascente** is one of the first department stores to open in Italy and for sure the most elegant. With its 150 years' story it is a must stop for shopping lovers. The store is in Milan city center and offers a selection of Italian and International brands. Find more info [here](#).

- **Fidenza Village**. It is one of the 11 Villages in Europe and China by Value Retail: a place where hospitality makes the shopping experience memorable. It hosts 120 boutiques of the world's leading fashion and lifestyle brands at reduced prices (up to 70% off). The Village is in Fidenza (around 100 Km from Milan), daily shuttle service is available from Milan, find out more [here](#).

- **Scalo Milano**. Situated in the metropolitan area of Milan, the outlet store (31,000 sq.m.) hosts 130 fashion brands as well as 20 showrooms of leading interior décor and home furnishing brands. Learn more [here](#).

- **Il Salvagente** is a small fashion outlet not far from Milan city center, just a few minutes from Linate Airport. Find out more [here](#).



La Rinascente, the first department store in Milan



Fidenza Outlet Village: a shopping heaven 1 hour from Milan

OUT OF TOWN:

Tired of Milan and its frenetic life? There are many relaxing options to be discovered less than 50 kilometers from the city:

- The town of **Monza and Villa Reale**. Impressive fountains, well-finished gardens and a stunning facade not disfiguring between the most beautiful chateaux in Europe are just some of the beauties the villa has to offer. Go to the villa's [website](#).

- **Pavia and its Certosa**: less than 30 minutes from Milan by train, Pavia is a small medieval gem, home of one of the most ancient Universities in the World. With its beautiful castle and picturesque streets it is the perfect destination for a half day trip. On your way back to Milan, you can stop and visit the "Certosa" a monastery complex built in the XIV Century. Find out more [here](#).

- **Como and the Lake**: little more than 30 minutes from Milan, heart-stopping Lake Como offers some truly evocative scenery. Jump aboard one of the traditional ferries in order to reach the nearby town of Bellagio, visit the historic Villa Melzi, a Neo-classical-style residence surrounded by a botanical garden overlooking the lake. The town of Como is also a must-see with its picturesque alleyways and gastronomic specialties. Find out more [here](#).



Monza, Villa Reale



Pavia



Como Lake, Bellagio

TOURS AND GUIDES:

Afraid to get lost in Milan? Maybe you should consider booking a **guided tour** or an **organized excursion**.
Below some useful addresses:

[Tours of Milan](#)

[Tour Guide Milan](#)

[Zaini Viaggi](#)

We wish you a wonderful time in Milan!!!

