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# The Cognoscenti's Guide To Florence: Shop And Eat Like A Florentine, Revised Edition



## Synopsis

Shop and eat like a Florentine with this newly updated pocket-sized guide to the best of the magnificent Tuscan city known for its art, culture, and cuisine. Celebrated graphic designer and self-described Italophile Louise Fili, with connoisseur of all things Lise Apatoff, takes you on eight walks through Florence, discussing more than seventy of the city's most alluring shops—some run by the same families for generations, others offering young entrepreneurs' fresh interpretations of traditional techniques. Discerning travelers will discover rare books and charming hats, vintage Pucci and handmade shoes, cioccolato da bere (drinkable chocolate), colorful buttons, and bolts of rich silk fabric in this enchanting introduction to makers and purveyors of cloths, home decor, accessories, specialty foods, and much more. For each shop, there is a full-color photo, description of specialties, and information on location and hours of operation.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A spirited pocket guide navigating readers through the old streets of Florence in search of the most distinctive shops - both legendary and little known. Besides colorful back stories and photos for each, there are eight walking tours as well as clear explanations for the city's famously confusing address system and sporadic store hours."-Fathomaway.com"I found the walking tours inspiring, and wandered about happily for hours following Louise and Lise's recommendations, filling my pockets with candy and chocolates and paperbacks along the way. The book is exquisitely designed by Louise. Highly recommended and essential." -The Style Saloniste --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Louise Fili is director of Louise Fili Ltd, a New York-based design studio specializing in branding for food packaging and restaurants. Fili was art director of Pantheon Books for eleven years, where she designed close to 2000 book jackets. She is a member of the Art Directors Hall of Fame, and received the medal of lifetime achievement from the AIGA and the Type Directors Club. Fili is the author of *Elegantissima*, *Grafica della Strada*, and *Graphique de la Rue*. She also co-authored and designed *Italianissimo* and *The Cognoscenti's Guide to Florence*. With her husband, the design historian Steven Heller, she is co-author of *Italian Art Deco*, *British Modern*, *Dutch Moderne*, *Streamline*, *French Modern*, *Deco España*, *German Modern*, *Deco Type*, *Design Connoisseur*, *Counter Culture*, *Typology*, *Stylepedia*, *Euro Deco*, *Scripts*, *Shadow Type*, *Stencil Type*, and *Slab Serif Type*. She has also designed *Perfetto*, *Tutti Frutti*, and *Brillante* pencils. Lise Apatoff has lived on a farm in Tuscany for more than thirty-five years. She is an official guide for the city of Florence.

This little book (about 4" x 5") - is a beautiful survey of some of the loveliest stores in Florence. The majority of the stores are smaller stores or local brands (significant quality) vs big name brands known to most shoppers. Each store gets 2 pages in the book - one for the description and the other for an interior photo. The stores featured are all something special, and the cover is a perfect wrapper for what's inside. It doesn't read like a catalog, rather a review of some of Florence's best treasures. From Tip Tap (an adorable kids shoe store) to a Farmacia that will custom create perfume ... the only down side is the quick realization it will be nearly impossible to visit all these places. I would have loved to have seen this coordinate with a map so it could help me plan my shopping a bit, but otherwise it's pretty great. Oh yes, I'd like in it volumes too ... these writers know what I want to hear and I would definitely like more of it.

This book is clear, well planned and easy to follow. There should be one of these for EVERY city!!!

This was a gift for a friend whose favorite city is Florence. She loves it!

My granddaughter will be studying in Florence from January through May, 2016, and this guide is perfect to help familiarize her with the customs, the people, restaurants, shops, etc. It's a little book full of useful tips.

What is not to love about anything Florentine...great little book

This is the second guide I have purchased from this author. Being a frequent traveler to Italy (and a travel advisor specializing in travel in Italy) I found this a delightful resource. It's loaded with useful tips on where to buy specialty items and marvelous spots to stop in for a meal or gelato.

This can't be recommended highly enough for the shopping and eating tourist. On our three week visit to Florence, this guided us in the neighborhoods of the art and architecture we wished to take in and enhanced our visit immeasurably.

We had a flawless week in Florence, I've only been home a couple of days and already planning our return. This is a fantastic guide on shopping and eating. In fact, many of the places in this book were covered in the wonderful local food tour we took. Avoid tourist traps, grab this book, and go!

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