



Time Out

Written by local experts

Milan

**INSIDE
PULL-OUT
MAP**

each consisting of three rooms: bedroom, bathroom and living room (plus lots of closet space). Each apartment occupies an entire floor, overlooking the internal courtyard and tea garden, and is individually decorated, with furnishings handpicked from the iconic designers of the last century – Arne Jacobsen, Eero Saarinen, Charles and Ray Eames, Marcel Breuer and Sebastian Matta, among others. Be warned: there's no lift, and the apartments are on the second, third and fourth floors of the building. Needless to say, you should book far ahead.

Hotel Principe di Savoia

Piazza della Repubblica 17 (02 62 301, www.hotelprincipedisavoia.com). Metro Repubblica, or bus 37, or tram 1, 9, 33. Rooms 301. Disabled access. Map p281 F4.

Now part of the Dorchester Collection, the Principe's over-the-top marble foyer and reams of polished oak provide a fine antidote to Milan's proliferation of modern design hotels. Most of the rooms are stately and traditional, complete with lavish marble bathrooms and Acqua di Parma toiletries. Frank Sinatra, Robert De Niro and Madonna have all stayed in the presidential suite, which has its own pool. Staff are efficient and down-to-earth, and the gym is one of the best in Milan, with panoramic views of the city. As for dining options, you can enjoy a Murano chandelier-lit dinner at Acanto or an afternoon tea at the opulent Il Salotto, which was designed by architect Thierry Despont.

Westin Palace, Milan

Piazza della Repubblica 20 (02 63 361, www.westinpalacemilan.com). Metro Repubblica, or bus 37, or tram 1, 9, 33. Rooms 227. Disabled access. Map p281 F4.

Owned by Italian hoteliers Starwood, the Westin Palace manages to combine contemporary touches with unbridled luxury. Around 90 rooms were renewed in 2012, while a second batch will be revamped in summer 2014: do try to snare the ones with the new look by designer Irene Pansadoro, featuring snowy white linens against no-nonsense silver-grey bedheads and walls. The vibe is clean-lined classic with a hint of 1950s-influenced masculinity. Fitness freaks should book one of the rooms kitted out with treadmills or spinning bikes, while ten suites have private steam rooms. The hotel's location, on piazza della Repubblica, isn't its greatest asset, though its relative proximity to Stazione Centrale makes it convenient for those who need to move around. Look out for deals in the off-season, when prices may be lower than you expect.

Moderate

Antica Locanda Solferino

Via Castelfidardo 2 (02 657 0129, www.anticolocandasolferino.it). Metro Moscona, or bus 43, 94. Rooms 11. Map p281 E4.

This lovely hotel is set in a Napoleonic-era palazzo in the heart of the arty Brera district and was a favourite of Italian film legends Marcello Mastroianni and Federico Fellini. Each of the rooms features floor-to-ceiling windows, antique furniture and Daumier lithographs on the walls, creating the illusion that you've stepped into a corner of 19th-century Milan. Reserve well in advance and ask for a room at the rear of the building if you're a light sleeper, or one of the five balcony rooms on the front.

Maison Moschino

Viale Monte Cappa 12 (02 2900 9858, www.maisonmoschino.com). Metro Porta Garibaldi, or bus 37, 43, or tram 33. Rooms 65. Disabled access. Map p281 E4.

Milan-based fashion house Moschino, which is famed for its quirky, often ironic sense of style, transformed this disused 19th-century neoclassical train station into a boutique hotel while keeping the impressive original facade. But it's the highly photogenic interiors that have made it popular with the fashion crowd. The 65 rooms follow one of 16 whimsical themes, and have names such as Alice's Room, the Forest, and Sleeping in a Ballgown. Furniture includes pastry-shaped pillows, trees as bedposts and tables shaped like giant teacups. Be warned, however, that some of the lower-priced rooms are a little cramped. The hotel restaurant is being revamped and should reopen in late 2014, or you can head just down the road to corso Como for an endless choice of trendy bars and restaurants.

Budget

★ LaFavia Four Rooms

Via Carlo Farini 4 (mobile 347 784 2212, www.lafavia4rooms.com). Bus 37, 94, or tram 2, 4, 12, 14, 33. Rooms 4. Map p280 D3.

Owners Fabio and Marco collected ideas and inspiration from their travels around the world and poured them wholeheartedly into this quaint little B&B. The four rooms, in a 19th-century palazzo, are



Magna Pars Suites. See p252.



decorated with impeccable taste, blending modern and multicultural elements to create distinctive, beautiful spaces alongside a veranda and spacious roof garden. Barceloneta and Lalndia mix 1970s lamps, retro sofas and hand-woven Indian rugs in mellow tones; Oaxaca and LaPalmera feature bold Manuel Canovas 1960s wallpapers in zesty orange and green. In an effort to offset emissions, the owners plant trees in Costa Rica and follow eco-friendly practices such as serving purified rather than bottled water and keeping two bicycles for guest use. Breakfast includes organic produce and, when in season, oranges from the owners' own citrus grove in Cimitale (in the province of Naples).

Vietnamonamour 2

Via Taranelli 67 (02 7063 4614, www.vietnamonamour.com). Metro Zara, or bus 60, or tram 7, 31, 33. Rooms 4. Disabled access. Map p281 E1.

French-Vietnamese fashion stylist Christiane Blanchet and her Italian husband, Dario Arlunno, opened their second B&B in October 2013, with four rooms above a Vietnamese restaurant. In an eye-popping pink villa on the fringe of the artsy Isola zone, the property feels decidedly more Asian than its sister structure, Vietnamonamour 1 (see p252), in the Piola/Loreto neighbourhood. Bright colours and quirky details – such as patchworks of Vietnamese printed papers and ribbons, or a

collection of miniature oriental keys – bring a slice of the East to this fashionable, yet relatively tranquil, part of Milan.

SAN BABILA & EAST

Expensive

Sheraton Diana Majestic

Viale Piave 42 (02 20 581, www.sheraton.com/dianamajestic). Metro Porta Venezia, or tram 9, 23. Rooms 107. Disabled access. Map p281 G5. This four-star art nouveau hotel is named after Milan's first public swimming pool, which opened on this site in 1842. The pool has since been replaced with a garden and the first of the city's many summertime outdoor cocktail bars, HClub (see p104). The homely 1920s feel, apparent as you push through the revolving door, is period luxury – not faded grandeur. The resolutely old-fashioned rooms feature deco-style curtains and original furniture. The best are on the third and fourth floors, with garden views.

Moderate

Foresteria Monforte

Piazza Tricolore 2 (mobile 340 237 0272, www.foresteriamonforte.it). Bus 54, 61, or tram 9, 23. Rooms 3. Map p281 G6.

Foresteria Monforte is a contemporary take on bed-and-breakfasting with three colour-coded guest rooms that combine high-end design pieces with the odd antique: the cream one is an upmarket suite; the antique-filled brown is more classic; the purple is stylishly modern. All overlook the tree-lined piazza below. Visitors can use the espresso pots and cheeseboards in the petite shared kitchen at any time, although the lack of space means that breakfast in bed is compulsory. The concierge/proprietor is the English-speaking pharmacist downstairs.

Budget

★ RossoSegnale

Via Sacchini 18 (02 2952 7453, www.rossosegnale.it). Metro Loreto, or bus 39, 55, 56, 62, 81, 90, 91. Rooms 3.

Named after the bright red elevator and stairwell that ascends through the centre of the building, RossoSegnale seamlessly blends art with hospitality. Every couple of months, the B&B's three rooms and public spaces – including a garden, a terrace and an art gallery – are hung with the works of a new artist from territories as diverse as Europe and the Far East. The three rooms cater to different tastes, so make sure you pick the one best suited to you: Biancoveve is a study in minimalist monochrome; Giallonovecento channels travel of yore; while Rosaconiglio features pink rabbits and hints of Japan. The changing atmosphere is as dynamic as the owners, Alberto and Raoul, whose



Vietnamonamour 2.