

Get swept off your feet in

ROME

Learn to tango in the city of romance



Do some luxury shopping at The Galleria Alberto Sordo mall



oving this year's *Strictly Come Dancing*? Grab your heels and hot foot it to the capital of Italy for history, romance and a bit of Argentinean tango! Opera and tango master Gianluca Paganelli showed us the sights and delights of one of the world's most beautiful destinations.

WHY GO?

Currently celebrating 100 years of tango, Gianluca, who's had rave reviews for his versions of the classic *Por Una Cabeza* and *No Other Love* by Perry Como, showed us around a city steeped in history and culture.

THINGS TO DO

Walk anywhere in Rome and you are guaranteed to stumble across stunning architecture and historical sites within five minutes. Visit the world-famous Vatican, centre of the Catholic church, or climb the monumental but crumbling structure of the Colosseum. Wander around the Pantheon; temple to the ancient gods, or visit the most beautiful fountain in Rome, the Trevi Fountain. Then relax, sit back and enjoy a cup of the famous Italian coffee at one of the many piazzas. Everything is within walking distance, so grab your guide book and take everything in at your own pace.

St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican City



Don't miss the romantic Trevi Fountain



The delicious food is a highlight



WHERE TO GO

Head to the old town of Monti, and soak up the Italian way of life, enjoying a long lunch while watching the world

go by. If it's shopping you're after, the main streets of Via Nazionale and Via Del Corso will cater for all budgets, while the back streets are packed with boutiques and specialist shops. If you want to know more about the religious past of Rome you might find what you're looking for in one of the 900 or so churches dotted throughout the city.

WHERE TO STAY

We stayed just a few steps from the Colosseum in the comfortable and perfectly positioned Antica Locanda where rooms are available from €70 (£61) a night including breakfast (visit www.antica-locanda.com). There's plenty of accommodation to choose from around the city centre and you can get great deals if you really hunt around.

THE BOTTOM LINE

EasyJet flies from Gatwick to Rome every day from £25.99 one way. A cab from the airport to the city centre costs about €40 (£35), or the train runs direct from the airport to Termini in the centre for €14 (£12). From sightseeing and shopping to opera and dance, tailor-make your trip to Rome to suit your budget. Prices subject to change. For more information about the IALS dance school visit www.ials.org. For more information about Gianluca, visit www.gianluicapaganelli.com

MUST TRY

Escape the usual tourist spots and hidden among the old bricks of the city you'll discover the new IALS dance studio for professionals and amateurs alike, where Paganelli showed us his moves and we got our first taster of the Italian love of the dance. Trained in opera since the age of eight, Paganelli's debut album out in January encapsulates the Italian love of tango. He admits the dance is hard to learn but great fun and you can book a set of classes or just pop along for a lesson with the fantastic choreographers, including our very patient instructor Luciano Tornabene.



It takes two to tango

Our writer Sarah packed her dancing shoes for her trip



I met Gianluca at the dance school



He got me on the dance floor...



Then took me to see the sights!