

The Heart of Florence

Every visitor to Florence spends time navigating the cobbled medieval lanes that run between Via de' Tornabuoni and Via del Proconsolo, but few explore them thoroughly.

Start Piazza della Repubblica Distance 2km Duration Two hours 1 Start with a coffee at one of the historic cafes on the handsome 19th-century Piazza della Repubblica.

4 Head past the market and along Via Porta Rossa to **Palazzo Davanzati** with its magnificent studded doors and fascinating museum. 2 Walk one block south along Via Calimala and turn left onto Via Orsanmichele to **Chiesa e Museo di Orsanmichele**, a unique church with ornate statuary adorning its facade.

6 Wander down the narrow **Via del Parione** to spy out old mansions and artisans' workshops.

5 Hidden behind the unassuming facade of the **Basilica di Santa Trinita** are some of the city's finest 15th-century frescoes.

Via Porta Rossa

Trinita

Via Rossa

Via Rossa

Ponte Vecchio

Arno

Via degli

Strozzi

Take a break... People-watch from the terrace of the **Caffè Rivoire** (www.rivoire.it; \$\infty\$7am-midnight Tue-Sun summer, to 9pm winter).

Via Vacchereccia

Piazza
della
Signona

Classic Photo The River Arno and the Ponte Vecchio.



7 Finish with a sundowner and spectacular Ponte Vecchio views at **Le Volpi e l'Uva**, which is just over the Arno.



Via Speziali

Via Orsanmichele

3 On the southern side of the 16th-century Mercato Nuovo is II Porcellino, a bronze statue of a piglet – rub its snout to ensure your return to Florence!