

10

HOT RIGHT NOW

Venice has a real high point

SEVEN REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD VISIT LA SERENISSIMA'S CANNAREGIO SESTIERE



It's only right that, when in Venice, you see St Mark's Square and the other sights of the San Marco sestiere

(district), but you're missing a trick if you don't visit the Cannaregio – plus, if there's an *acqua alta* (high tide), you might just avoid it there. It's also a great base for the annual Carnival (16 Feb–5 Mar).

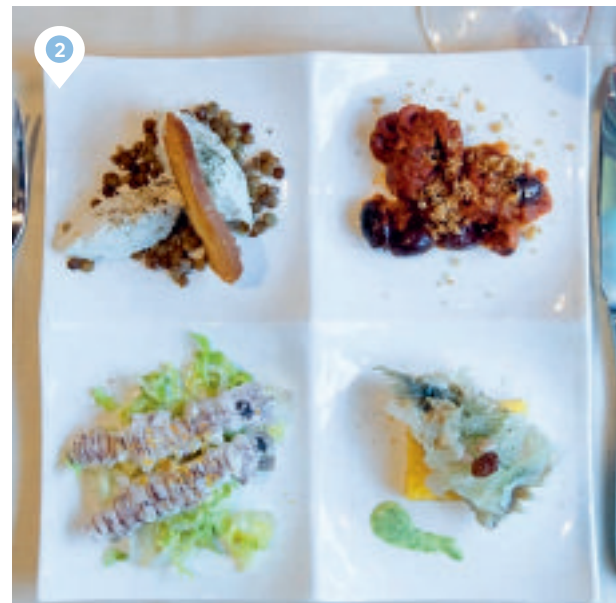


1. IT'S WHERE THE VENETIANS GET TOGETHER

Fondamenta dei Ormesini is a long pavement that runs along a canal and becomes the Fondamenta della Misericordia. It's the meeting point for residents and where you're likely to spend most of your time if you're staying in the Cannaregio area. Why? Because it's got everything you need, from restaurants to bars and art galleries.

2. THE FOOD'S FRESH AS YOU LIKE

While here you'll want to drink a good spritz and try the creamy codfish. For a top spot to chow down on authentic Venetian dishes, the Ostaria da Rioba has you covered. From the speck-wrapped scallops served with horseradish and spinach to the sweet and sour king prawns, everything is locally sourced and seriously tasty.





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3. ONE OF THE GREATS IS FROM HERE

Tintoretto's unmissable red home is next to the studio where he painted his most famous pieces, such as *The Presentation of the Virgin*, which you can see in nearby Santa Madonna dell'Orto church. Have a go at creating your own masterpiece in his workshop, where art courses are run by Bottega del Tintoretto (tintorettovenezia.it). Book ahead.



NEED TO KNOW

You can buy a pass to hop on and off the *vaporetti*, a local ferry service that costs a fraction of the price of hiring a gondola. From midnight to 5am there is only limited service.

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4. THERE'S A CAFÉ ROASTING ITS OWN COFFEE BEANS

When it's time to take the weight off and catch your breath, follow the locals to Torrefazione, where the baristas serve artisanal coffee. Their signature brew, Remèr, is a combo of eight different beans with a chocolate aftertaste. It's low caffeine, with just enough to give you an energy boost without leaving you bouncing off the walls.

5. CICHETTI AND WINE ARE A PERFECT COMBINATION

Start your night out at Vino Vero, a small, but well-stocked wine bar where the Pinot Grigio has a slight orange-gold tinge and tastes like you should be paying way more than €5.50 for a glass. They serve some of the best *cicchetti* (Venetian tapas) in the area. Try the popular mortadella (sausage) – you might even skip dinner.

6. AND THERE'S A FEAST FOR YOUR EYEBALLS

Take a side step out of Cannaregio and into the neighbouring San Marco *sestiere* to ride the red escalators up to the fourth floor of the luxury department store Fondaco dei Tedeschi. You'll get a spectacular view of the city,





"This is a city that knows how to party, especially during Carnival season"

the Rialto Bridge and mountains beyond. Make sure you book your 15-minute slot in advance to gain access to the Rem Koolhaas-designed terrace (dfs.com). It gets pretty chocka and if you're not on the list, you're not likely to get in.

7. FINALLY, YOU WILL GO TO THE BALL

This is a city that knows how to party, especially during Carnival season (16 Feb–5 Mar). For the finest outfits, call on Nicolao Atelier to get suited and booted – it provided costumes for *Elizabeth*, the film starring Cate Blanchett, among many others, and supplies to theatres the world over. Again, it's in demand, so don't take a chance: book before you visit.



NEED TO KNOW
Gondolas4All is a start-up accessible gondola service that's been specially kitted out to take wheelchairs. Boats leave from Piazzale Roma.

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