

[WHERE IN ROME]

My Perfect Day

Three words to describe Rome?

Beautiful, Frustrating, Fascinating.

On an ideal day, where would you go for breakfast?

This is a tough one, as I rarely have breakfast out. Maybe somewhere on Via del Governo Vecchio, which is a great street for people watching and soaking up the Roman morning.

Which exhibition or museum would you visit?

I'm a fan of the Palazzo delle Esposizioni, on Via Nazionale. They've had some excellent exhibitions on over the last few years. It's well laid-out, has a good balance between grandeur and modernity, and it rarely gets as manically busy as the other main museums and galleries, which means you have more time to stroll and take in what you're seeing.



What is your favorite place in the city to have lunch?

Da Teo in Piazza dei Ponziani, Trastevere. I've been going there for about eight years now. It used to be called Da Enzo before it moved location slightly. Great Roman food.

What is your favorite neighborhood and what do you love about it?

I really like the area where I live, Monteverde. It has great shops, a community feel, a wonderful market, and Villa Pamphilj is just around the corner from me. The only drawback is that there aren't too many cool bars, so it's not the best area for a night out.



Douglas Dean

[actor, writer, and director]

English actor Douglas Dean has lived in Rome for over a decade. In addition to directing and performing the works of Shakespeare, Pinter, Ibsen, and more, he has also worked on screen with Terry Gilliam, Pierfrancesco Favino, and Billy Zane. He can be seen in the forthcoming films *Qualunque Cosa Succeda* and *The Imago*.

Where would you have dinner?

If I've had a big Roman lunch then maybe I'd have pizza in the evening. I love Montecarlo, on Vicolo Savelli. It's loud and brash but the pizzas are great. They've smartened it up, decor-wise, which is a shame as it's lost some of its charm,

but for my money, it does the best Roman-style pizza in the center of town.

Where would you go for some late-night fun after a performance?

The nightclub scene in Rome is one of the few disappointments of the city, I think. They tend to overcrowd the clubs, relatively few Italians dance which means the floors get filled with people standing and admiring themselves (and each other), the drinks are overpriced, and the music is average. Having said that, there's a place hidden in a little alley behind Piazza Navona called Les Affiches. Lots of arty types hang out there and it has a laid-back atmosphere and great live music.



On a night when you're not performing, what would be your ideal evening's entertainment?

I love, absolutely love Ai Tre Scalini on Via Panisperna in Monti. They have good food, great wine, and a wonderful, creative atmosphere. I'm 41 now, so it's also a favorite because it tends to attract a slightly older, more professional crowd. I'm there regularly. Maybe too regularly!

