

WALK THE CITY SITES

compact city with many options for walking. The public bus systems are also very tourist friendly. Remember to stamp your bus ticket each time or face heavy fines if stopped by an enforcement agent. Florence originated around the Arno River, in the fertile Arno river valley. There

are six bridges that cross the Arno river, with the most famous being the Ponte Vecchio, which is the only one that is original and not destroyed and rebuilt after World War II. The Ponte Vecchio was used by



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the Medici family, who used the covered bridge to walk from the Pitti Palace to the Palazzo Vecchio, the Town Hall of Florence. The Ponte Vecchio is now a center for the gold and sil-

ver market in the city, with many jewelry shops. The Pitti Palace has one of the most representative Italian gardens in the city. The picture to the left is one of the beautiful fountains on the grounds. The above picture was taken from the Piazzale Michaelangelo, which is one of the locations with the most picturesque views of the city, making it very popular with tourists, for souvenier shopping and city views and sunset.

MUSEUMS

he museums in Florence take you on a journey from Medieval times through the early and high Renaissance to the mannerism period. The famous works to the right are by Renaissance artists such as Donatello, Raphael, Michaelangelo, and Botticelli. Museums in Florence include: The Uffizi, Bargello. Galleria de la Academia, which houses the original David by Michaelangelo, Pitti Palace, Museum of the Duomo, and Santa Croce, which houses the funerary monuments of many commemorated Italians, such as Danti, Michaelangelo, Galileo Galilee, and Ghiberti. As sculpture led the renaissance, there are many examples throughout the city's public spaces, that gives the visitor an understanding of the central place that sculpture played in Renaissance society. A good example of the change in sculpture from the prerenaissance would be the three different statues of David, the first two by Donatello and the last by Michaelangelo. Studying these three statues gives an understanding of how sculpture changed during this period.













