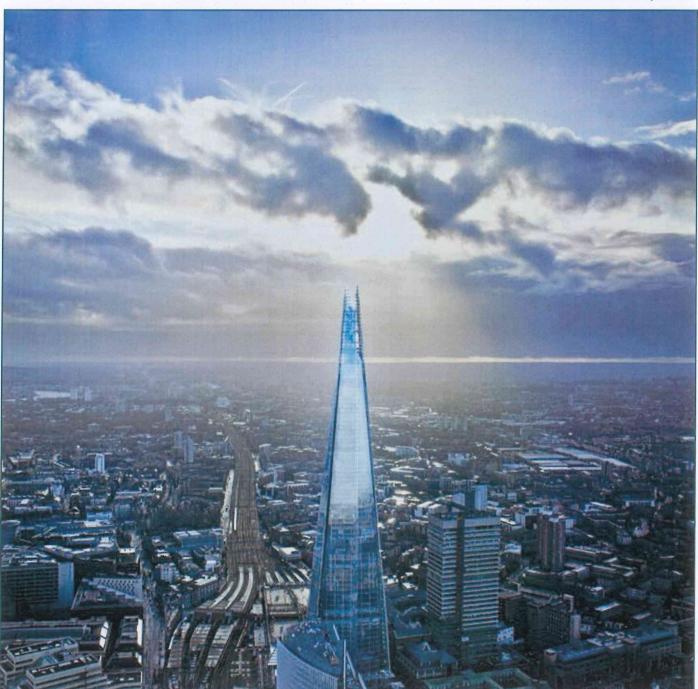




Vista aerea The Shard, Londra



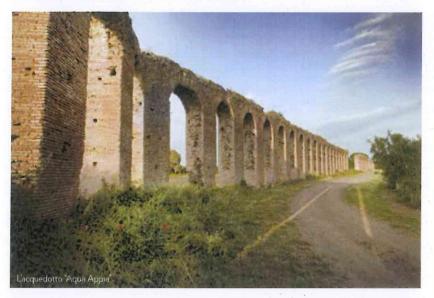








CENTRAL LAZIO: WINE AND VILLAS



On beautiful sunny days, from Rome's Janiculum Hill, you can see the first foothills that form the backdrop to the Eternal City. These are the Alban Hills, or Roman Castles, historically countryside refuges to enjoy good food and wine. This is the land of Frascati DOC, beloved by popes and lauded by such poets as Gioacchino Belli, who wrote many verses about Frascati and life in the "fraschette". These small eateries took their name from the custom of posting placards with a twig or a bough (frasca). There were over 1,000 of them in 1450. Today, many have become wine cellars, wineries and restaurants that dot the Castelli Romani Wine Road. Follow it to discover Frascati and such historic homes as Villa Tuscolana, by Vanvitelli, and Villa Torlonia, with grounds and a water theatre created by Carlo Maderno, one of the greatest architects of the High Renaissance. The Roman Castles are part of the Regional Nature Park. From March on, enjoy splendid walks or horseback rides to admire the daffodils, orchids and lilies. Flowers are also the main attraction at the famous Infiorata, one of Italy's oldest fe-

stivities, held on 7 June in Genzano, with a huge floral carpet extending over approximately 2,000 square metres. An hour's journey takes you to Tivoli, famous for Hadrian's Villa, a monumental complex of architecture, fountains and greenery that was once home to Emperor Publius Aelius Hadrianus, and Villa d'Este, a UNESCO protected site (villadestetivoli.info). This is one of the masterpieces of Italian gardens, designed by Pirro Ligorio, a series of artistic fountains, lush trees, terraces and grottoes. The Grotto of Diana has stuccoes, mosaics and high- and low-reliefs depicting Neptune, Minerva and the Muses. One of the most famous works housed in this treasure trove is the Fontana del Bicchierone (Goblet or Lily Fountain), made by Gian Lorenzo Bernini on commission from Cardinal Rinaldo d'Este between 1660 and 1661, in a perfect conch shell shape. One final curiosity, as this is an inflight magazine, is Guidonia Montecello, not far from Tivoli. The city of aeronautics was dedicated to General Guidoni, who died in a parachute drill in 1928, and was built in only two years, from 1935 to 1937.



ANTONELLO COLONNA VALLEFREDDA RESORT

Un rifugio di design, nel cuore del parco di Labico, arredato con opere di Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe, Cassina, ma soprattutto un'oasi per i sensi. Nel ristorante il menu è un omaggio alla romanità e ai sapori di un tempo, pensati però in chiave creativa. A disposizione delle camere per chi desidera fermarsi per rilassarsi nel verde.

ANTONELLO COLONNA

ANTONELLO COLONNA VALLEFREDDA RESORT

A haven of design in the middle of the Labico Park, decorated with works by Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe and Cassina, this is above all an oasis for the senses. The restaurant menu pays tribute to Roman-ness and flavours of the past, but with a creative flair. Rooms available, for a relaxing pause in the greenery, antonellocolomaresort.it



PARK HOTEL VILLA GRAZIOLI

È uno degli indirizzi più esclusivi dei Castelli romani, ricavato da una dimora cardinalizia affrescata del XVI secolo. Gli ospiti possono organizzare escursioni guidate con esperti di storia dell'arte e wine tasting in aziende vinicole DOC di Frascati. Per gli sportivi, campo da golf e maneggio per escursioni a cavallo. villagrazioli.com

PARK HOTEL VILLA GRAZIOLI

One of the most exclusive addresses in the Roman Castles, made from a 16thcentury frescoed cardinal's residence. Guests can organise tours led by expert art historians and wine tastings in Frascati's DOC wineries. For sports lovers, a golf course and manège for riding excursions. villagrazioli.com



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