



Waking up in the Pope's Room, looking out over Piazza Navona is simply a dream!

Holy Deer

Piazza Navona, Rome

A jewel in the crown of Merrion's cherry picked portfolio, Holy Deer simply took my breath away the moment I walked inside. Spectacular, absorbing and intoxicating, Holy Deer is an impressive combination of Italian stylish excellence, millenia of history, elegance and relaxation... one needs to experience it to believe it.

The impressive façade of Holy Deer with its balcony from the Pope's room overlooking Piazza Navona is in fact that of Palazzo Pamphilj built by Pope Innocente X in the seventeenth century as a symbol of his family's power. With its 'secret' entrance on the other side of the Piazza, one enters the Palazzo and walks up a dimly lit stairwell and through the doorway into a magical world of elegance where ancient meets modern and the outside world seems to be almost a distant memory.

Like the medieval alchemists, the owners of Holy Deer have embraced the city's capacity for rebirth and created a dream of timelessness, beauty and perfection within their apartment inside the stately Palazzo Pamphilj. Guests here will experience true Italian excellence on every level. Everyday life is transformed into what we would define ante litteram as pixels; that which is ordinary recedes from view and allows a truly unique place to take centre stage. One immediately finds oneself in an atmosphere that is somehow both staggering and relaxing. A long corridor

girds the entrance, winding both right and left. The Holy Deer is in fact laid out in the shape of a horseshoe. At the two extremes, cleverly tucked away, are the two bedrooms with adjoining baths. One bedroom overlooks the romantic Via dell'Anima and leads into an elegant walk-in closet; the other, the sumptuous Pope's Room, looks directly onto Piazza Navona. When you open the doors of the windows, which measure an astonishing four and a half meters in height, in order to access the balcony that overlooks the square, the spectacle takes your breath away: it's easy to imagine exactly how popes, princes and noble mistresses felt standing here. This luxurious 350-m2 space is not only graced by stunning baroque frescoes and situated within a palazzo built by the genius architect Francesco Borromini, but also buzzes with an intriguing story of the forbidden love between a pope and his sister-in-law, Olimpia Pamphilj.

During the renovation and planning of the Holy Deer San Lorenzo City Lodge, the owners, Giorgia and Stefano Barbini,

pooled their experience and expertise in order to create a place steeped in the past but where modernity and history go hand-in-hand. The overriding desire to find products from small artisans all over Italy is not only impressive but should be highly respected. Every minutest detail has been thought through carefully thus creating an ambience of great taste, integrity, high quality but also with character and where one can feel 'at home'.

The two secluded rooms are linked to one another through a study, music room, library, lounge for conversing or watching TV, dining room and kitchen. Conceived as a place to gather together and socialize, each of these spaces has been meticulously designed to help guests enjoy the intimacy of a private retreat to the fullest. The muted grey tones of the walls lend a sense of calm to the ambience, steadying the soaring heights, which range up to five meters, and compliment the impressive frescoed ceilings. Together with FM Interior Architects, the owners have selected a masterful palate of colours

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with hues of grey attenuating the gold and purple-red, evoking the pontiff's power and passions. Here the sacred and the secular merge, complimenting each other in perfect symbiosis.

The individual spaces are linked through open doors, unified by white and gilded stuccos, a grey terracotta floor, double-leaf doors and sumptuous frescoes; the volumes fuse, seemingly paving the way towards infinity. That which is monumental and that which is personal meld at Holy Deer, creating a space of rare beauty and intimacy.

The structure's Baroque frescoes are also different from most of their contemporaries, which typically depicted saints and biblical scenes. The Palazzo Pamphili frescoes are an example of mythological iconography. The one illustrating the impossible love between the ill-fated Dido, queen of Carthage, and the Trojan prince Ene is particularly splendid and representative: the successive scenes on the ceiling of the Pope's Room evoke the passion of the two lovers.

To stay at Holy Deer is an experience of a lifetime. One is immersed in this splendid historical palazzo in the heart of the Eternal City and yet at the same time able to enjoy all the comforts of modern life in the most relaxing and welcoming environment one could wish for with exceptional service. Waking up in the Pope's Room, looking out from the balcony over Piazza Navona is simply meraviglioso and a dream!



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Information

Sleep: 4/5

Service :

- Signature Welcome
- Selection of spirits and non-alcoholic beverages
- Free Internet access
- Streaming TV LCD 4K, Netflix, Amazon Prime Video, Apple TV, News
- Smartphone and Ipad at your disposal
- Bluetooth Home Sound System in entire lodge
- Yamaha Professional high quality acoustic grand piano
- Signature Holy Deer Luxury Toiletries
- Hairdryer, bath robes and slippers
- Daily change of bedlinen and towels upon request
- Daily cleaning of lodge
- Continental breakfast
- Afternoon tea
- Private transfer to and from Rome Airport / Train Station
- Holy Deer staff at your disposal

On request:

- Professional Chef
- On-site Massages
- Laundry and dry-cleaning services
- Organization of excursions, sports and cultural activities with exclusive partners
- Additional staff at your disposal 24/7
- Babysitting services

Accommodation:

- Long and impressive entrance corridor
- Pope's Suite with whirlpool and terrace overlooking Piazza Navona
- Anima Suite with walk-in closet and sitting room with sofa bed
- Studio
- Music room
- Library
- Bar/TV/Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen



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