

Client: Hotel Continentale
Source: You & Your Wedding
Date: July – August 2019

you & your wedding

JULY/AUGUST 2019 £5.50

*Your DAY
Your WAY*

Boost your confidence
and overcome those big-day nerves

31 WEDDING SUPPLIERS YOU NEED TO KNOW

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One groom makes his case

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- * UK boltholes

Love STORY

286 BEAUTIFUL DRESSES YOU'LL FALL HEADS-OVER-HEELS FOR

Gorgeous BRIDAL LIPSTICKS

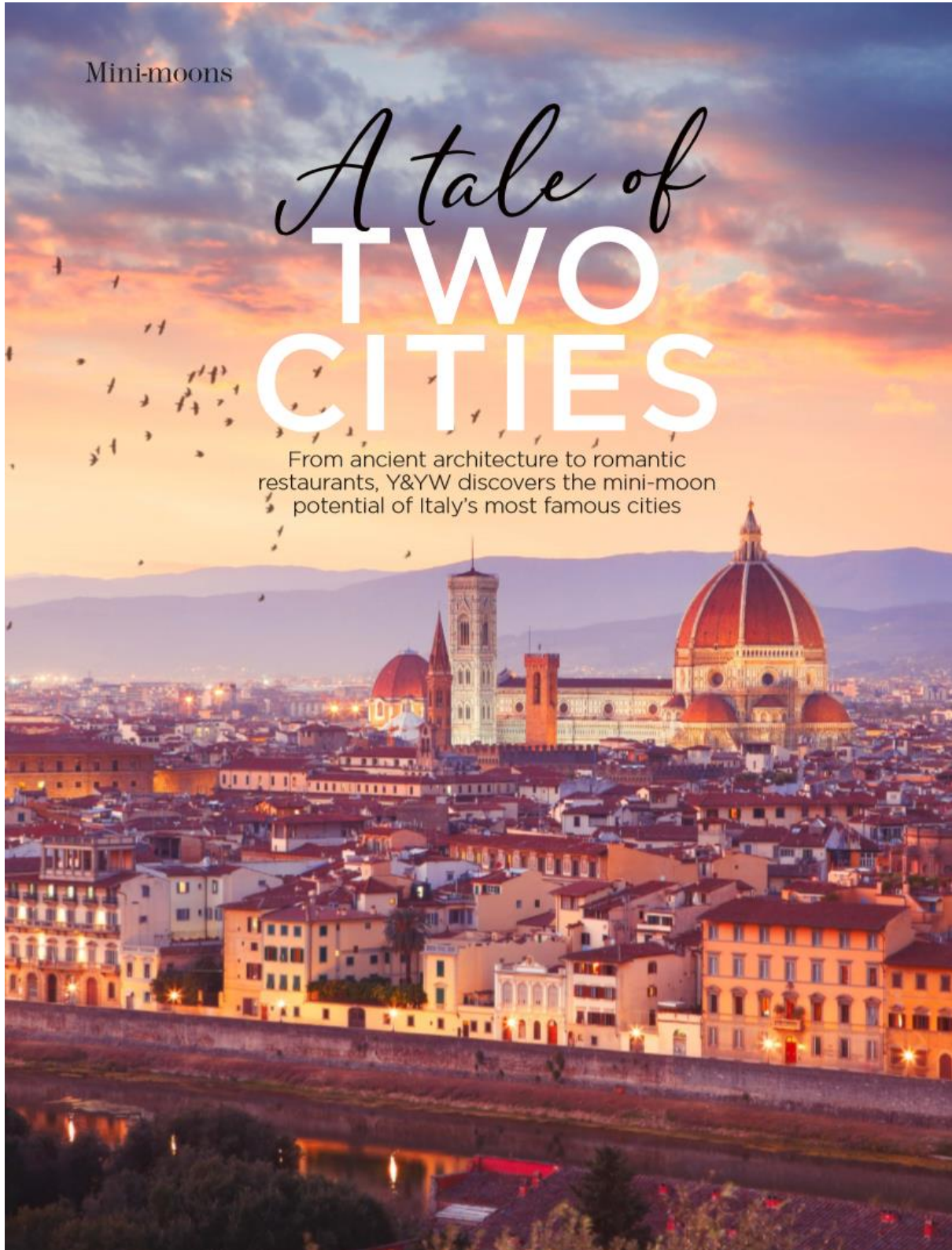
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IMMEDIATE MEDIA

youandyourwedding.co.uk

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A Prestige Arno View room



Rooftop bar La Terrazza

CONTINENTALE, FLORENCE

Location

Right in the heart of Florence, chic boutique hotel Continentale is perfectly situated for exploring the incredible sights the city has to offer. It sits on the north side of the beautiful Arno River, and has picturesque views from many of the rooms. The hotel is just moments from the Ponte Vecchio, the oldest (and most photographed) bridge in the city. And it's easy to see why Florence is known as one of the most romantic cities in the world – it's full of pretty cobbled streets, beautiful art and architecture. It's simple to get to, too, with a flight to Pisa taking just over two hours plus, transfers.

Perfect for

This is a superb choice for any couple looking to mix romance and luxury in the city. The hotel's interiors are minimal and modern with lots of stylish touches, and our room is spacious, with soft romantic lighting. Continentale is one of the Lungamo Collection's four Florence hotels. All of the retreats are owned by the Ferragamo family, and each is beautifully designed, with a unique personality.

What to do

There are so many magnificent sights to visit here, such as the world-famous gallery the Uffizi, but one of our favourites is the Palazzo Vecchio, which overlooks the main square – the Piazza della Signoria. We do a tour of the secret passages, follow a guide through winding staircases and view lavish rooms, before arriving in the

Hall of the Five Hundred. This vast room is breathtaking, with walls and ceiling adorned with dramatic art. Another must-see is the Duomo. Admire the huge Renaissance dome and visit the Museum of Opera del Duomo to learn the fascinating history.

What to eat

As expected, the food in Florence is sublime. Breakfast at the Continentale is buffet-style, and we particularly love the biscuit pot with orange-infused yoghurt.

The hotel doesn't serve dinner, but its sister hotels have lots of options, including sushi and cocktails at Fusion Bar & Restaurant at the Gallery Hotel Art. For something special, pop across the river to Michelin-starred Borgo San Jacopo at Hotel Lungamo. Sitting in the private dining room overlooking the river, we enjoy the most divine eight-course tasting menu with some dishes cooked at the table by executive chef Peter Brunel. For a delicious Italian brunch, visit Caffè dell'Oro at Portrait Firenze Hotel.

What to see

If time is tight, a great way to explore is with Tuk Tuk Florence. We whizz through the city, stopping at lots of the key view points, and it's a great way to see beyond the original city walls. For one of the best views, be sure not to miss sunset cocktails at the Continentale's roof bar, La Terrazza.

Why we love it

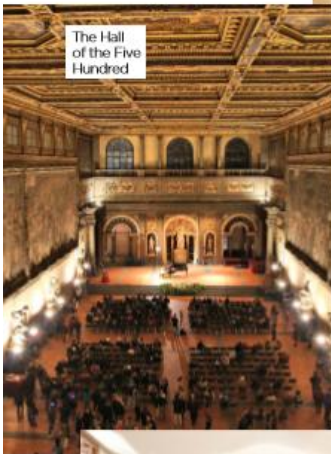
This hotel and magical city tick all the boxes for the perfect mini-moon: sumptuous, stylish accommodation, delicious food, history, romance and shopping. You'll leave with a love of Italian culture and be rushing to return.



Fusion Bar & Restaurant



Chic interiors at Continentale



The Hall of the Five Hundred



Enjoy the views from the Panoramic Consorti Suite

WORDS BY ELLIOTT WILMOT AND MOLLY FOLSHAN. PHOTOGRAPHS BY GETTY IMAGES

Go there From €230 (approx. £196) pp, excl. 10% tax and breakfast, lungamocollection.com. Tuk tuk tours from €50 (approx. £42) per hour, tuktukflorence.net/tuk-tours



The Ponte Vecchio



Dine at Borgo San Jacopo

