

**GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
ROBINSON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
STUDY ABROAD IN ITALY**

MILAN

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Galleria Vittorio Emmanuele

"The living room of Milan" is one way of describing this cast-iron, glass and mosaic monument to Milanese "dolce vita." Constructed between 1865 and 1877, this Belle Epoque mall is the work of architect Giuseppe Mengoni. Designed in the form of a cross, the arms of the galleria meet at its octagonal core, above which rises an immense cupola. This astounding arcade links the Piazza della Scala the north with the Piazza Duomo to the south and houses the elegant Savini restaurant, recently-opened with the addition of a café, a number of bars suited to people-watching, and some of the top names in designer fashion. The original (1913) Prada boutique, has recently been joined by Gucci, Louis Vuitton and Tod's. Located on the corner of Piazza del Duomo with its fine mosaics and elegant wrought-iron detailing, Zucca in Galleria, also known as the Camparino bar, is a perfect location for sipping a cappuccino (or cappuccio, as it is called in Milan), or a glass of sparkling prosecco wine. For a meal in the Galleria, if Savini is too formal, try Biffi. Risotto, veal Milanese and tiramisu for dessert are sure bets in this simply sophisticated spot, perfect for dining alone while watching the well-heeled world walk by.

Duomo

Sacrosanct symbol of the city, the Duomo was built entirely in marble. Begun in the late 14th century. A mazingly, it was only completed in 1966! This enormous, intricately- sculpted Italian Gothic cathedral features thousands of statues, including a Madonna located at an altitude of 350 feet, and resplendent stained glass windows. The soaring interior seems empty compared to its fantastical façade, but it does contain the unique reliquary of the Sacro Chiodo della Croce, or the sacred nail of the cross. If you are fortunate enough to be in Milan on a clear day, a visit to the roof the Duomo is a must. In addition to a splendid panoramic view of the city, this vantage point also affords the vistas of the Alps, reminding us that the mountains are not that far away, and that a ski weekend is more than feasible.

Pinacoteca di Brera

A free afternoon and an interest in Italian painting, as well as a lot of stamina, are enough to warrant a visit to this vast picture gallery (pinacoteca, in Italian), considered one of the best in all of Italy. Permanent collections present an overview of Italian painting from the Renaissance through the 20th century, with special emphasis on the Venetian masters and Lombard painting, between the 16th and the 18th centuries. Also on view here is a rich collection of more modern works including the Italian futurists as well as a fine grouping of Italian sculptures.

Museo Cenacolo Vinciano

Piazza Santa Maria delle Grazie, 2

It may vie with the Duomo as the most important artwork in town, but—unlike the Duomo, which is always to be seen—getting to glimpse Leonardo da Vinci's "Last Supper" fresco is no easy matter. Located in the refectory of the late Gothic Lombard church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, built in the 15th century. An extraordinary example of linear perspective, the Last Supper, one of da Vinci's most complex works, is only available to view by prior appointment. At the last count, at least one month's notice was required. And when you get your reservation, note that you only get 15 minutes.

Teatro alla Scala/Largo Ghiringhelli/Piazza della Scala

The theatre of La Scala, designed by the great neoclassical architect Giuseppe Piermarini, was inaugurated in 1778. La Scala's artistic history begins with the period of traditional Neapolitan comic operas, or "opera buffa." In the late 18th century a growing appreciation of the French neoclassical movement paved the way for a more radical style of musical theatre. Rossini's romantic opera eventually replaced the "opera buffa" and La Scala became the authority of the popular Italian melodrama, a tradition which persists even today. It was also in the first quarter of the 19th century when La Scala performed its first ballet and several foreign operas such as Mozart's "Magic Flute." But it wasn't until the beginning of the 20th century that La Scala truly opened its doors to the world's growing repertoire of "new" music, featuring the works of composers such as Strauss, Stravinsky and Debussy. The 20th century proved a prolific time for La Scala and, despite damage suffered from wartime bombings in 1943, the theater enjoyed its highest point of creative productivity with the performances of artists including Maria Callas, Margot Fonteyn and Rudolf Nureyev. Try to take in a performance if you are here between the beginning of December and the end of June, and if you can manage to get tickets.