

Road Warrior // Philippe Starck on Venice

Philippe Starck's personality is so vibrant that he makes a room sparkle simply by being there. Throw in his witty repartee and electric-hued clothing and there's no stopping the energy of the Paris-based design guru. Starck has had his fingers in nearly every design pie imaginablefrom an eponymous underwear line to fabled hotels and the first commercial spaceline. Among his latest ventures is the transformation of a 16th-century Venetian residence into Palazzina Grassi, a whimsical hotel on the city's Grand Canal. For more than 30 years, Starck has had a home on the tiny island of Burano in the Venetian Lagoon, and he loves to riff on the watery municipality's substrata. -Saxon Henry



BEST PLACE TO STAY FOR AN AUTHENTIC VENETIAN VIBE Palazzina Grassi

Palazzina Grassi offers a sense of what it means to be truly Venetian, especially if you book a room overlooking the Grand Canal. After drinking in the busy water traffic, have a glass of wine in the luxurious bar, where you can overhear the Venetians boisterously conversina. palazzinaarassi.com

BEST PLACE FOR A POWER LUNCH Red Bar Canale

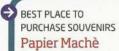
A spritz—white wine, sparking water and orange liqueur-a favorite traditional drink in Venice, is a must. Sit on the outdoor terrace of the Red Bar Canale and enjoy the views up the Grand Canal toward the Chiesa della Salute on the Punta della Dogana. bauervenezia.com



BEST PLACE FOR A BIT OF DOWNTIME BETWEEN MEETINGS

Rialto Market

Beauty, history and intelligence are everywhere, but I love to watch people in the market near the famous Rialto Bridge. It's also a great spot for watching the gondolas—the most sophisticated boat design ever made. When I'm there, I'm inspired with great ideas, like the new solar electric boat I'm developing-so necessary to protect the city's ecology and its architecture.





I am a fan of Venetian masks, which I love to buy at Papier Machè. They carry the traditional commedia dell' arte masks, wall sculptures and decorative objects of art that have been a symbol of Venetian artistry for generations, papiermache.it

PERFECT, 77 -Philippe Starck

66THE TWO BEST RESTAURANTS ARE

ON THE ISLAND

OF BURANO, A

TRATTORIA DA

ROMANO AND TRATTORIA AL

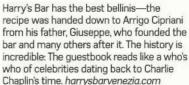
GATO NERO DE

RUGGERO ARE

30-MINUTE BOAT

RIDE FROM VENICE.

BEST PLACE TO HAVE A COCKTAIL Harry's Bar





I am a lover of the Venice Lagoon and the tiny island of Burano, which is my mirror: feet in the mud and head in the sky. The key, I think, is that there are no cars, so there is more room for humanity.

