TO DINE IN, UNDER, AND AMONG THE STARS

IMÀGO AT THE HASSLER

Image, dream, vision… Imàgo encompasses in one word the philosophy of the Hassler Roma’s gourmet restaurant: a place where vision and taste intertwine to offer a unique culinary experience.

Walking into Imàgo, the Hassler’s 6th floor panoramic restaurant, one is overtaken by the view, which projects the same impact of a beautiful painting. Except that, the painting is life size, and fills every one of the wraparound windows. Soft music, elegant ambience, dimmed lights reflecting on the mirrors all conspire to create an impossibly romantic mood, as well as the sense of being in another time and space, overlooking the Roman skyline. Sitting down one is instantly attended to by the Maitre, who is happy to point out the names of the various monuments and cupolas on the horizon as he pours your glass of sparkling white wine. What can we see, starting left to right: the church of Santa Maria Maggiore, San Giovanni in Laterano, the Quirinale, Villa Colonna and the church of Sant’Andrea delle Fratte, the Campidoglio (Capitol Hill) and monument to Victor Emmanuel II, Palazzo Venezia, the Aventino hill, the Pantheon, the church of Sant’Agnese in Piazza Navona, Castel Sant’Angelo, the obelisk and Trinità dei Monti Church which one can almost reach out and touch, Villa Medici and the Borghese gardens.

Imàgo is a full experience. The background music and the stunning view is complemented by the texture, aroma and, most of all, taste of the Executive Chef’s creative Italian cuisine. Dishes are each carefully prepared and presented, and the menus vary according to the season to offer our clients different yet refined tastes. The variety of what is presented is thought for each type of palate… an explosion of flavors that include the most refined combinations as well as traditional Italian cuisine, characterized by the ingredients and fragrances embedded within Italy’s rich history and culture.

Fifty years since the very first panoramic restaurant not only in Rome but in Italy - the Roof Restaurant, as it was known then - opened its doors in 1956, calling the greatest personalities from the 20th century to
admire its view, including politicians, royalty, musicians, authors, actors and directors. John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Richard Nixon, Grace Kelly, Audrey Hepburn, Federico Fellini, Charlie Chaplin, and Igor Stravinskji are only a few of the great names that were regular guests to delight in the gastronomic delicacies of the restaurant with the incomparable view of Rome.

Roberto Wirth, proprietor and General Manager of the Hassler Roma, inaugurated it for the second time on December 5th, 2006, after a complete restyling. Its new name, Imàgo, derives from the Latin “image”, “vision” and “thought”. Every detail was studied to give the greatest exposure possible to the incomparable view, where each detail is reflected and magnified by the mirrors and wraparound windows. Even a small window looking on to the kitchen’s pastry corner allows the eye to travel beyond to look out on to the Church of Trinità dei Monti and the Villa Borghese gardens at the other end.

In 2017, after 10 years, Roberto E. Wirth has decided to make some changes of the spaces to make them more comfortable, cozy and up to the expectations. The restyling involves the remake of the flooring with the laying of carpet (for a better soundproofing of the space); a new lighting system with a direct light over the table to focus the attention on dishes; the replacement of the table linen and of some components of table layout. Furthermore, an open-style wine cellar has been created.

The restaurant not only hosts the prestigious hotel’s regular clients, but is the new restaurant in Rome for all those who wish for a unique gastronomic experience and excellent service along with the breathtaking view of the Eternal City. Imàgo, the Hassler Roma’s restaurant, satisfies the needs of an increasingly discerning and exclusive clientele by presenting contemporary renditions of traditional and refined dishes against the backdrop of the breathtaking view of the Eternal City, where sight and taste are welded to seal a unique dining experience.

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