How to do...
Venice on the cheap

After checking in to the city's slickest new hostel, Becky Barnicoat finds low-cost ways to eat, drink and see the sights while, far right, Paul Miles enjoys a quieter night, with equally amazing views.

The last time I ventured into Venice it was a house, swimming pool, and California caravans of the 1980s. Now the city has become the ultimate luxury destination. The Sacher hotel gets more expensive than ever, and hotel prices have soared. But there is a way to see the city without breaking the bank. 

The appartment at the head of our Generation Hostel was equipped with a mini-bar and a sofa bed. It was a quiet, cozy space with a view of the Giudecca Canal. The cheapest room is a twin with a shared bathroom. The cheapest room is a twin with a shared bathroom. 

The hostel has a bar, where you can grab a drink or relax with friends. The bar is open until late at night and serves a variety of drinks. 

We visited the Vatican Museums, St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel. In the Vatican City, we wandered through the gardens and took in the magnificent views of Rome. 

People sit in groups on the waterfront, chatting as Venice glittered in the distance. 

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Bars and bargains Venice for the thrifty

Snack all the time

Hitting the beach

At beachside get to know the beach itself. We ate at the beach. We ate at the beach. It was a lovely, sunny day and we stayed until sunset. 

Join the crowds

Venezia's most important food market, the Mercato di Rialto, has a stand. Our guide, who is also a chef, pointed out the best food for us to try. We enjoyed eating pasta and then tried some fresh fish from the market. 

Get out of town

If you want to escape the crowds, there are plenty of options nearby. You can take a boat tour or hike on a nearby island. 

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