

Spend a night at the renovated Villa Medici, 'one of Rome's greatest sleepover experiences'

Villa Medici is not a hotel; but if you can snag a room at what's in fact the French Academy in Rome, you're in for a design treat

One of the best pieces of real estate in Rome actually belongs to France. The Villa Medici, a Renaissance villa, sits in the heart of the Italian capital, high up on Mount Pincio, with seven hectares of gardens and commanding views of the city. In 1803, after acquiring the villa, Napoleon Bonaparte made it the new home of the French Academy in Rome. Since then, it has welcomed a long series of French artists-in-residence, including Ingres, Fragonard and Debussy. In 2009, the Villa Medici began allowing the general public to spend a night or more in its guest rooms. Six of these rooms have now been completely renovated, boosting the appeal of one of the greatest sleepover experiences in the Eternal City.



'Stratus Surprisus' by Constance Guisset Studio with Signature Murale (Pierre Gouazé) & Arcam Glass (Simon Muller) The smallest room, 'Stratus Surprisus', was realised by Constance Guisset to be cosy, embracing and full of surprises. The walls, by a decorative plaster designer, are an homage to Balthus, coated with a mix of marble powder and plaster, in colours of pale blue, chestnut and mocha, and a play of matte and brilliance. In one corner, five blown glass 'stones' provide soft lighting while referencing the Medici coat of arms.