

## Tax Free Refund Guide

- VAT (in Italian: IVA) is a **value added tax** on goods and services, and is part of the European Union's value added tax system.
- In some cases, travellers may be granted a **VAT refund**. This refund does not cover the services supplied by hotels, restaurants, taxis or agencies.
- You may be eligible for a VAT refund provided that:
  - you are a **non-EU resident**;
  - the goods purchased are intended **for personal or family use only** and are carried in your luggage;
  - the overall value of the goods purchased exceeds **154,94 Euro** (VAT included);
  - the purchase is certified by an **invoice**. This invoice should include a description of the goods purchased, your personal information as well as the details of your passport or any other equivalent document;
  - the goods leave EU territory by the end of the **third month** after the month that you bought them;
  - several specific customs formalities are complied with;
  - the invoice is **returned to the Italian retailer** within four months after the purchase was made.
- The goods purchased and the relevant invoice must be **shown at the customs** exit point when leaving EU territory (if you intend to pack the purchased items into your check-in luggage, you must go to Customs **BEFORE checking in**).
- After leaving EU territory, the traveller must **return the original invoice**, regularly endorsed by the customs office, to the Italian retailer. Said invoice must be returned within four months from the date when the document was issued.
- The refund can be made **directly by the Italian retailer** (however, make sure that the shop you've chosen displays a "Tax Free Shopping" or "Euro Tax Free" sign in its window).
- Several **Tax-Free companies are able to offer immediate VAT cash refunds** when the goods leave either Italian or EU territory (thus exonerating the passenger from having to return the invoice to the retailer). However, this procedure only applies at major international airports or main border crossings. **Most major department stores have Tax Free Refund offices.**
- The services provided by Tax-Free companies imply the **payment of a small administrative sum** which is **directly deducted** from the amount of VAT refunded to the traveller.
- In the event of a traveller not receiving a VAT refund within a reasonable period of time, he or she should re-contact the Italian retailer or one of the aforementioned companies.
- However, please note, VAT cannot be refunded directly by customs offices.

Source: [www.adm.gov.it/portale/ee/citizen/vta-refund](http://www.adm.gov.it/portale/ee/citizen/vta-refund)



10am-1pm/2pm-7pm. Borgo Santa Croce, 6. T: 055 2343471. **Map H5**

### Dr. Vranjes

Home fragrances and elegant furnishing accessories made by hand in Florence for more than 30 years. Florence is home to the laboratories and the headquarters of the Florentine home fragrance company founded and managed by the "nose", the perfumer, namely chemist and cosmetologist Dr. Paolo Vranjes and his wife Anna Maria. In addition to the traditional production of ambient diffusers and "lamparum" items, the brand has diversified its production with linen, cosmetics, perfumes and gift boxes, also giving a strong Florentine identity to the packaging, inspired by Brunelleschi's Dome. **drvrnjes.it**. Open Mon 3pm-7pm; Tues-Sat 10.30am-2pm/3pm-7pm. Via San Gallo, 63/r. T: 055 494537 **Off Map** • Open Mon-Sat 10am-7.30pm; Sun 11am-7.30pm. Via della Spada, 9/r. T: 055 288796. **Map E3** • Open Mon 3.30pm-7.30pm; Tues-Fri 10am-1.30pm/3.30pm-7.30pm; Sat 10am-7.30pm. Borgo La Croce, 44/r. T: 055 241748. **Map I3**

### Marioluca Giusti

A Florentine Maison producing practical, elegant design objects for the table and more besides, in a style between fusion and pop. Its synthetic crystal glass and melamine collections are enhanced every year with new models with colour shades ranging from white to black to transparent, to brighter colours such as fluo. Its products are particularly appreciated by important international personalities such as the Princes of Monaco, King Mohammed VI of Morocco, Steven Spielberg, Valentino and the Missoni family. Its boutiques are characterized by total white walls with niches where the accessories are exhibited, as in a museum. It has several sites in Florence: Por. Santa Maria, 16/r (open daily 11am-7pm); Via della Spada, 16-20 (Open Mon-Sat 10am-1.30pm/2pm-7.30pm; Sun 11am-7.30pm). Flagship Store: Via della Vigna Nuova 88/r. Open daily 10am-7.30pm. T: 055 2399527. **Map D3**

### Officina Profumo-Farmaceutica di Santa Maria Novella

**UNIQUE** The oldest historical pharmacy in Europe (established in 1221), the Officina Profumo-Farmaceutica is housed in a part of the Dominican convent complex of Santa Maria Novella and has been open to the public for over four centuries (since 1612). Its products (perfumes, beauty products, medicinal herbs, herbal teas, sweets

and chocolates) are sold all over the world in 75 single brand stores and represent a production par excellence on account of their quality raw materials and centuries-old handicraft techniques, with the aid of modern technologies. The frescoed monumental environments - Sales Room, Green Room, Ancient Apothecary and Sacristy - have been returned to their former splendour thanks to restoration work. [www.smnovella.com](http://www.smnovella.com). Open daily 9am-8pm. Via della Scala, 16. T: 055 216276.

**Map D2**

### The Merchant of Venice

**NEW** The new boutique is structured into a vast range of Eaux de Parfum and Eaux de Toilette, completed by products for personal care, for the environment and accessories. The essences are contained in packaging with designs inspired by the glassmaking tradition of Murano. Furthermore, the single-brand store provides a personalized layering service. [www.themerchantofvenice.com](http://www.themerchantofvenice.com). Open Mon-Thurs 10.30am-1.30pm/2.30pm-7.30pm; Wed-Sat 10.30am-7.30pm. Via degli Strozzi, 28/r. T: 055 216559. **Map E3**

### Valli Tessuti Alta Moda

A reference point in Florence that offers its clientele the best made in Italy fabrics inspired by the most beautiful haute couture collections. The store carries a vast assortment of precious, sought-after cuts to make elegant dresses, prêt-à-porter and ceremonial attire both for men and women, but also coats, shirts and bridal gowns. [vallitessuti.com](http://vallitessuti.com). Open Mon 3pm-7pm; Tues-Sat 10am-7pm. Via della Vigna Nuova, 81/r. T: 055 282485. **Map D3**

## SHOES

### Aquazzura

Created in Florence in 2011 and inspired by the luxury hand-crafting tradition, the brand combines a typically European refined aesthetic sensibility with modern Latin American elegance. Aquazzura shoes have been worn by trendsetters, Hollywood stars, European royalty and fashion insiders around the globe. [www.aquazzura.com](http://www.aquazzura.com). Open daily 10am-7pm. Palazzo Corsini-Lungarno Corsini, 42. T: 055 291242. **Map D4**

### Salvatore Ferragamo

Situated in Florence's main street for shopping, inside the medieval Palazzo Spini Feroni (the company's historic workshop since 1938 and the site of the Salvatore Ferragamo Museum), the Ferragamo boutique hosts all its fashion men's, women's, accessories and perfume collections. The brand represents Italian quality, contemporary elegance, innovation and tradition. The boutique occupies the entire ground floor of the building, inside large spaces decorated with 18th-century frescoes. The wing of the store that faces onto Piazza Santa Trinita hosts the "Ferragamo's Creations" corner with the exclusive footwear line that revisits some of the brand's iconic models. [www.ferragamo.com](http://www.ferragamo.com). Open daily 10am-7.30pm. Palazzo Spini Feroni-Via de' Tornabuoni, 4/r. T: 055 292123. **Map E4**

### UGG

First single-brand boutique in Italy of the Californian lifestyle brand specialising in footwear. A brightly lit space with colours and themes taking up the decorative elements of the UGG 2019 campaign, in the heart of historic piazza della Repubblica. Inside, the more traditional models stands alongside new footwear. [www.ugg.com](http://www.ugg.com). Open 3pm-7.30pm; Tues-Sat 10.30am-7.30pm; Sun 11.30am-7.30pm. Piazza della Repubblica, 30/r. T: 055 0945430. **Map F3**