

Villa Farnesina

Frescoes by Raphael, Baldassare Peruzzi, Sebastiano del Piombo and G. Antonio Bazzi (Sodoma)

Villa Farnesina in Rome is one of the most majestic and harmonious creations of the Italian Renaissance. The villa was commissioned by a Sienese banker Agostino Chigi and devised by architect **Baldassarre Peruzzi** in the early sixteenth century. The interior is richly decorated with frescoes by great masters such as **Raphael**, **Sebastiano del Piombo**, **Giovanni A. Bazzi**, known as **Sodoma**, and **Peruzzi** himself. At the end of the sixteenth century the villa was purchased by Cardinal Alessandro Farnese and was named Villa Farnesina, to distinguish it from the Farnese Palace located on the other side of the river. The Villa is now owned by the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei.



GROUND FLOOR

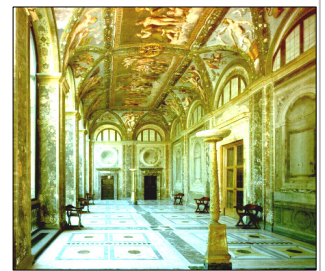
I THE LOGGIA OF GALATEA

The Loggia of Galatea was frescoed by different artists. **Raphael** frescoed the Triumph of Galatea, **Baldassarre Peruzzi** in 1511 frescoed the vault with a mythological and astrological programme, alluding to the horoscope of Agostino Chigi, and in 1511-1512 **Sebastiano del Piombo** frescoed the mythological scenes in the lunettes and the Polyphemus. The other panels have landscapes painted in the seventeenth century.



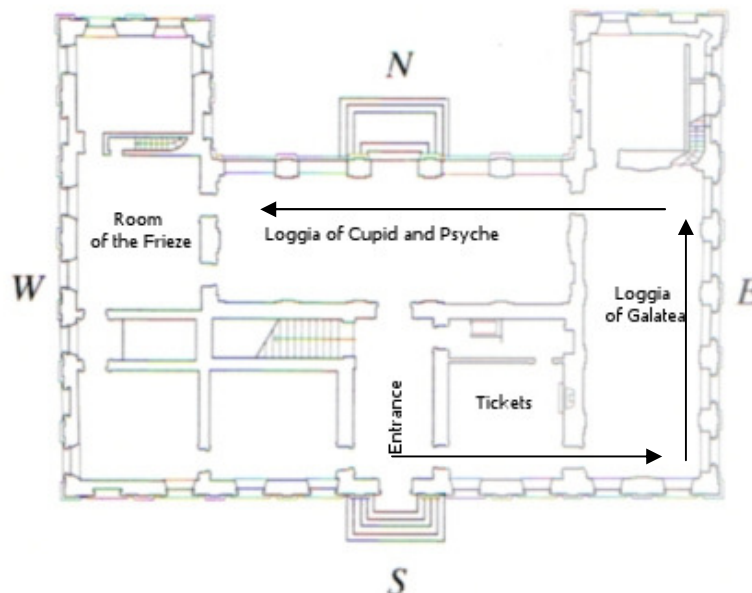
I THE LOGGIA OF CUPID AND PSYCHE

The Loggia takes its name from the decoration frescoed on the vault in 1518 by **Raphael** and his workshop, representing episodes from the fable of Psyche as narrated in Apuleius's "Golden Ass". The story, separated by festoons of flowers and fruits by **Giovanni da Udine**, fills the spandrels and concludes in the centre with the Marriage of Cupid and Psyche and the Council of the Gods.



I THE ROOM OF THE FRIEZE

The room is so called from the frieze that runs around the top of the walls. It was painted around 1508 by **Baldassarre Peruzzi** and shows the Deeds of Hercules on the north wall and on part of the east wall, and other mythological scenes that flow into each other without divisions.



FIRST FLOOR

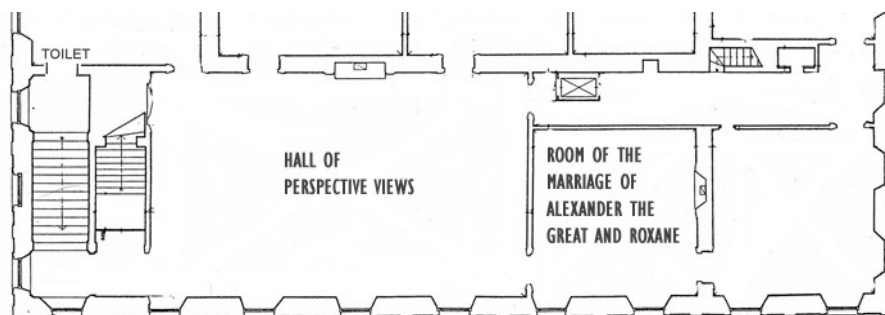
I THE HALL OF THE PERSPECTIVE VIEWS

This large room on the first floor takes its name from the decoration by **Baldassarre Peruzzi** who in 1519 frescoed the walls with urban and rural perspective views, between fictive columns. Beneath the coffered ceiling runs a frieze with mythological scenes, also by **Peruzzi** and his workshop, and on the north wall there is a large fireplace decorated with the forge of Vulcano.



I THE ROOM OF THE MARRIAGE OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT AND ROXANA

This room takes the name from the fresco on the north wall. It was originally Agostino Chigi's bedchamber, and he commissioned its decoration to the painter **Giovanni Antonio Bazzi**, known as **Sodoma**. The sixteenth century coffered ceiling is decorated with grotesques and mythological subjects.



Prints, publications, posters, audiovisual material, and postcards may be purchased at the ticket office

VILLA FARNESINA

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Openings: Monday to Saturday from 9:00 until 14:00 (last entrance 20 minutes before closing)

Second Sunday of each month: special opening from 9:00 until 17:00

Special opening upon request

Guided tours: Saturday 10 am (english), 12.30 (italian)

Second Sunday of each month: guided tours at 12:30 (with live music of the Renaissance, reservation required), 15:00 and 16:00 (no reservation required)