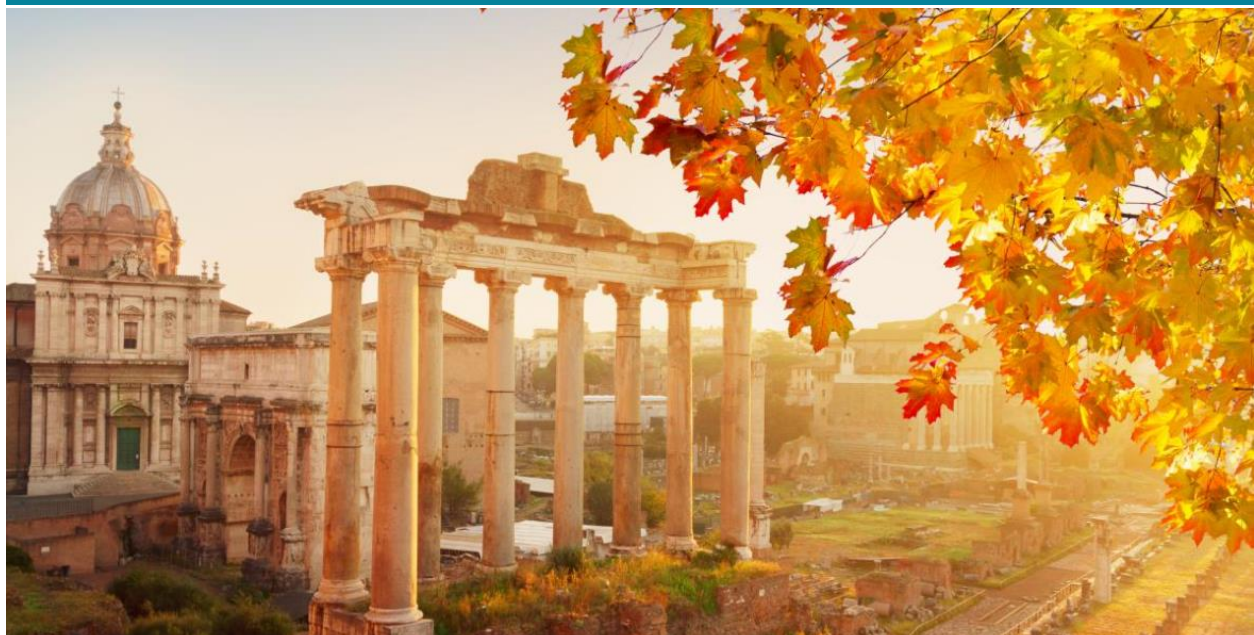


50 best autumn holidays in Europe and the UK

Wine tasting in Puglia, food festivals in Normandy or a forest stay in Finland — we pick the most beautiful trips



Rome is mild in autumn
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EUROPE

1. Forest colours in Finland

About three quarters of Finland is forested, explaining why part of the country's autumn season has its own name. *Ruska* is a two or three-week period, usually in mid to late September, when much of the foliage turns bright red, orange and yellow, accompanied by an outbreak of wild, edible mushrooms. A good place to enjoy it all is Finland's Lakeland region, where you can stay at the eco-motivated Jarvisydan Hotel & Spa Resort. In trees beside Lake Saimaa, it includes a new, stone-and-wood wellness centre with saunas and six pools. There's a pizzeria on site and cruises operate to Kaarnetsaari island and its cute wooden chapel through autumn.

Details B&B doubles, with big windows fit for stargazing, cost from €202 a night ([00 358 20 729 1760](tel:00358207291760), jarvisydan.com). Fly via Helsinki to Savonlinna

12. Jazz in Rome

Rome in mid to late autumn has plenty going for it: temperatures remain mild, yet the city streets are appreciably less tourist-clogged. November also suits music lovers, what with the Roma Jazz Festival running all month and commandeering venues around town. Playing this year, the South African pianist Abdullah Ibrahim and the Portuguese singer Carmen Souza typify its international line-up (romajazzfestival.it). Stay at the new Grand House, a luxury hotel and home-rental hybrid that rents out the glamorous, central pieds-à-terre of wealthy Romans and can arrange private guides or tours.

Details A night in the two-bedroom Grand Art Gallery, owned by a private, contemporary collector near Piazza Navona, costs from €369 (thegrandhouse.com)



Sighisoara, Transylvania
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