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OUTNUMBERED 11 TO 1, THE DOLLAR ENDS UP ON TOP

Since 11 European currencies were rolled into one, hotels, dining and shopping have become less and less costly for Americans. Here's a look at six bargain cities, plus non-euro London.

ROME

*Scrimmage for Prada and Gucci,
or splurge on a grand hotel*

By ALESSANDRA STANLEY

As a rule, restaurants in Rome have always been more modestly priced than in New York, Paris or London, and the cheap lira makes dining out particularly painless. Asinocotto, a small, cozy restaurant at via dei Vascellari 48 in Trastevere, offers one of the city's best values. Chef Giuliano Brenna adds creative spin to such classics as handmade eggplant ravioli with an arugula and nettle sauce, and veal sirloin au gratin with goat cheese and sweet Tuscan wine. A three-course meal for two, with a wine for \$11.50, costs about \$74. Reservations required; telephone and fax (39-06) 589 8985.