

Chicago Sun-Times
Travel

Friends reconnect in splendid setting

BY TED ALLEN

NOVEMBER 29, 1998

Friday: Goodbyes. Roger caught a ride back to Rome with us, and joined us for the finest meal of the entire trip at a lovely restaurant we happened upon: Ristorante Asinocotto in the non-touristy half of the Trastevere neighborhood. After a splendid dinner—ravioli with arugula, gnocchi with sweet peppers and mint, salmon tournedos with spinach and herbs—and an introduction to chef Giuliano Brenna—co-owner Jon Cooper took us on a tour of the basement, the foundation of which dates from Roman times. He recommended a few good watering holes, and we stretched our last night as long as we could. And then, about 2 a.m., it was ciao.