



The church suffered severe damage during World War II, but the wall with 'The Last Supper' survived, and for many years, stood unprotected. The people of the church used to cover the wall with a cloth as the entire community was shook. My wife and I finally got to see the famed painting in a temperature controlled refectory. The dream finally came true. The entire group was rendered speechless by the magnificence of the fresco — a breath-taking masterpiece.

There is another fresco, the Crucifixion by Giovanni Donato da Montorfano, on the wall opposite the Da Vinci piece. Those fifteen minutes will remain as cherished memories till we perish!

We then walked from the church to Sforza Castle, which is now home to a number of museums. The guided tour inside the castle ended in 30 minutes.



It was lunch time by then, and we ate at a cosy little café, and explored the city after that. The third day was our last in Milan, which we had planned to spend inside the Duomo di Milano, and unsurprisingly, it was full of tourists. We bought the tickets and

started our Duomo tour from the rooftop. The structure was beautifully constructed and the golden Madonnina on top was something worth seeing.

After spending a while on the rooftop, we found our way to the main prayer hall on the ground



floor of the Duomo. It was massive and the interior of the prayer hall was absolutely amazing! Under the prayer hall, there is a basement where the actual foundation of the Duomo still exists, and it was discovered by the Milan city authority while they were making the under-

ground Metro station.

As Milan is called the 'Fashion Capital' of Italy, our trip to the city would not be complete without witnessing the fashion streets, would it? 'Via Montenapoleone' and 'Corso di Porta Ticinese' are the two major brand streets of the

fashion district of Milan. Via Montenapoleone is mainly famous for luxury shopping, and is known as the key shopping district with outlets of major designer brands like Bottega Veneta, Salvatore Ferragamo and such.

We walked the streets and discovered a different definition of the word 'luxury'! People with their Maseratis and Lamborghinis and Ferraris were there to hop and shop, and that sure was a sight to remember. Next up on our list was Rome, and there we encountered a generous lady luck again! But that is a story for another day.

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