

Charlize Theron Celebrates Her Birthday in Rome



Courtesy Francesco Panella

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Charlize Theron got an early jump on her birthday celebration with a dinner party with friends in Rome on Sunday night.

The Academy Award winner, who turns 38 on Aug. 7, dined al fresco on the patio of Antica Pesa with pals including the restaurant's owner, Francesco Panella, who opened the celebrity hot spot (which is normally closed on Sundays) especially for the birthday girl.

Wearing a sleeveless black dress and bright red lipstick the mom of one sipped red wine and dined on a selection of Roman staples including prosciutto and mozzarella, cacia e pepe and amatriciana pastas.

At the end of the meal, Theron and her friends switched to Champagne as the group sang "Happy Birthday" to her and ended their Italian feast with a cake topped with candles.

Before arriving in Rome, Theron – who is a United Nations Messenger of Peace – visited her native South Africa, where she met with the president, Jacob Zuma, to discuss AIDS education.

– K.C. Blumm

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