

Discover Rome

Experience the best of Rome



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This edition written and researched by Abigail Blasi,
Duncan Garwood

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Ancient Rome (p47)

No other city has such an evocative ancient heart.

Don't Miss Colosseum, Palatino, Roman Forum



Centro Storico (p69)

The city's tangled historic centre is packed with incredible sights.

Don't Miss Pantheon



Tridente, Trevi & the Quirinale (p99)

Glamorous, debonair and touristy – this is Rome's designer-clad soul.



Vatican City, Borgo & Prati (p121)

Home to a stunning wealth of artistic treasures

Don't Miss Vatican Museums, St Peter's Basilica



Monti, Esquilino & San Lorenzo (p141)

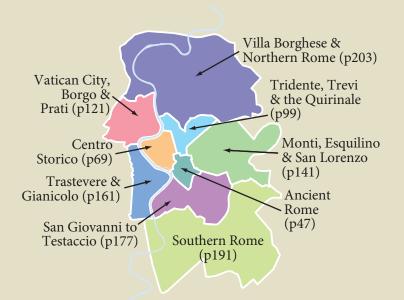
Busy areas, speckled with glittering churches and some cool restaurants.

Don't Miss Museo Nazionale Romano: Palazzo Massimo alle Terme



Trastevere & Gianicolo (p161)

Enchantingly pretty, with tangled lanes, ochre palazzi (palaces) and a boho vibe.





San Giovanni to Testaccio (p177)

Monumental basilicas, towering ruins, traditional trattorias and thumping nightlife.

Don't Miss Basilica di San Giovanni in Laterano



Southern Rome (p191)

Encompassing the beautiful, historic Via Appia Antica and ancient catacombs.



Villa Borghese & Northern Rome (p203)

Encompasses the glorious park of Villa Borghese and the city's cultural hub.

Don't Miss Museo e Galleria Borghese

Contents

Plan Your Trip Discover Rome

This Is Rome6				
Highlights Map8	Ancient Rome	.47	Vatican City,	
Rome's Top	Highlights		Borgo & Prati	.12
25 Highlights10	Walking Tour	50	Highlights	
Top Days in Rome 32	Colosseum	52	Walking Tour	124
Month by Month40	Palatino	54	Vatican Museums	126
•	Roman Forum	56	St Peter's Basilica	. 130
What's New42	Sights	60	Sights	134
Get Inspired43	Eating	.67	Eating	135
Need to Know44	Drinking	.67	Entertainment	139
	Centro Storico	.69	Monti, Esquilino	
	Highlights		& San Lorenzo	
	Walking Tour		Highlights	142
	Pantheon		Museo Nazionale	
	Sights	.76	Romano: Palazzo Massimo alle Terme	1/1/
	Eating	88	Walking Tour	
	Drinking & Nightlife	94	Sights	
	Entertainment	.95	Eating	
	Shopping	96	Drinking & Nightlife	
			Entertainment	
	Tridente, Trevi		Shopping	
	•	00	0110pp111g	100
	& the Quirinale			
	Highlights		Trastevere	
	Walking Tour		& Gianicolo	. 16
	Sights1		Highlights	
	Eating		Walking Tour	
	Drinking		Sights	
	Entertainment	11/	0.6	

Shopping......117

Eating.....167

Drinking & Nightlife.... 174 Entertainment 175 Shopping......175

In Focus

Survival Guide

San Giovanni
to Testaccio177
Highlights178
Walking Tour180
Basilica di San
Giovanni in Laterano 182
Sights184
Eating187
Drinking & Nightlife189
Southern Rome 191
Highlights192
Walking Tour194
Sights196
Eating200
Drinking & Nightlife201
Entertainment201
Villa Borghese &
Northern Rome203
Highlights204
Walking Tour206
Museo e
Galleria Borghese 208
Sights210
Eating215
Drinking & Nightlife216
Entertainment 217
Shopping217
000

Day Trips219

Rome Today	226
History	228
Family Travel	.237
Food & Drink	239
Shopping	244
The Arts	.247
Architecture	252
The Roman Way of Life	.257

Sleeping	.260
Transport	. 267
Directory	272
anguage	. 278
Behind the Scenes.	. 279
Behind the Scenes.	
ndex	.280



This Is Rome

Rome is a seductive, thrilling city, created through the alchemy of history, genius and the hot Mediterranean sun.

With an artistic heritage dating back to Etruscan times, the city is packed with masterpieces, particularly from the ancient, Renaissance and baroque eras. Throughout history, Rome has played a starring role in the major upheavals of Western art and the results are there for

major upheavals of Western art and the results are there fo all to see – amazing classical carvings, stunning Renaissance frescoes and breathtaking baroque statuary. Walk around the centre and, without the slightest effort, you'll encounter works by the greats of the artistic pantheon – sculptures by Michelangelo, paintings by Caravaggio, frescoes by Raphael and fountains by Bernini. In Rome, art is not locked away from view, it's all around you.

Once *caput mundi* (capital of the world), the glittering hub of the vast Roman Empire, Rome was the seat of papal power for centuries. The legacies of its past are embodied in awe-inspiring buildings such as the Roman Forum, the Pantheon and the Vatican, which contemporary Romans navigate with an air of nonchalant cool. Rome was a city that counted, and this is writ large on its historic streets – the Colosseum evokes glorious imperial days, the Circo Massimo conjures up images of wild chariot races, Castel Sant'Angelo testifies to violent dramas and St Peter's Basilica stands as a monument to artistic genius and papal ambition.

But Rome is as much about lapping up the lifestyle as it is about gorging on art and historic sights. And there's no better way of getting into the spirit of things than by eating and drinking well. Food and wine are as important to Roman social life as those other pillars: family and football, and the hundreds of pizzerias, trattorias, restaurants and gelaterie in the city buzz and bubble over with life. Whether it gets to you through its art, its architecture, its pasta or its vibrant sense of life, Rome is a city that encourages devotion.

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