

# Trastevere & Gianicolo

EAST OF VIALE DI TRASTEVERE | WEST OF VIALE DI TRASTEVERE | GIANICOLO

## Neighbourhood Top Five

**1 Basilica di Santa Maria in Trastevere** (p154) Admiring the exquisite interior and exterior mosaics of this beautiful church.

**2 Trattoria dining** (p158) Feasting on the perfect Roman carbonara or *pasta cacio e pepe* at traditional trattorias hidden away on

tiny cobbled piazzas – try Da Enzo.

**3 Villa Farnesina** (p155) Savouring the breathtaking interior decor by Raphael inside Trastevere's elegant Renaissance villa.

**4 Cocktails** (p161) Sampling a Carbonara Sour, knocking back shots served in chocolate cups or

hobnobbing with local hipsters in a secret speakeasy in Trastevere, starting at fashionable Freni e Frizioni.

**5 Gianicolo Hill** (p157) Hiking to the top of Rome's second-largest hill for a magnificent panorama of the city.



For more detail of this area see Map p308 ➔

## Explore: Trastevere & Gianicolo

Cradled in a left-bank curve of the River Tiber, medieval Trastevere is made for walking – or rather aimless, contented wandering punctuated by endless photo stops, lazy coffee breaks in local cafes, and some of Rome's finest home cooking in vintage trattorias. Allow at least a full day to explore: key sights include glittering Basilica di Santa Maria in Trastevere (p154); Villa Farnesina (p155), one of the most breathtaking frescoed mansions you're ever likely to see; and Galleria Corsini (p156) with its dazzling art collection. End your sightseeing foray with a green moment in Trastevere's botanical gardens or, should you be up for the stiff hike, atop Gianicolo Hill (p157) – don't neglect to see Bramante's perfect little Tempietto (p157) on your way up.

Come dusk, bars unveil sumptuous banquets of nibbles for that sacrosanct *aperitivo* (pre-dinner drinks). Many are clustered in the small lanes around Piazza Trilussa; Via Benedetta is the street for international-style pubs (much loved by American students from the nearby John Cabot University).

## Local Life

➔ **Cafe culture** No cafe terrace is as no-frills or busy as veteran favourite Bar San Calisto (p161), notorious for serving the cheapest beer in Rome.

➔ **Home-cooking** Join locals queuing at Antica Caciara Trasteverina (p163) for ingredients to make an authentic Roman carbonara.

➔ **Summer nights** Trendy pop-up outdoor bars pepper Trastevere's riverside quays between Ponte Mazzoni and Ponte Cesto in summer, making the river the cool place to be.

➔ **Meeting point** Locals always meet up at 'the steps', the wide short flight of steps leading up to the 17th-century fountain on Piazza Trilussa; in summer the steps are packed with people sitting here, drink in hand.

## Getting There & Away

➔ **Tram** From Largo di Torre Argentina tram 8 runs along the main drag of Viale di Trastevere, ending up at Villa Doria Pamphili. Tram 3 also stops at the southern end of Viale Trastevere, connecting with Testaccio (Via Marmorata), Colosseo, San Giovanni and Villa Borghese.

➔ **Bus** From Termini, bus H runs to Viale di Trastevere, while the 780 runs from Piazza Venezia. For Gianicolo, if you don't fancy the steep steps from Via G Mameli, take bus 870 from Piazza delle Rovere.

## Lonely Planet's Top Tip

With its century-old biscuit shops and bakeries, family-run trattorias, open-air food market and tiny grocery stores packed to the hilt with carefully sourced, zero-kilometre farm produce, Trastevere is naturally a gourmet destination – its gourmandise is a major attraction in itself. To get the most out of it, consider a guided food tour with locals-in-the-know: **Casa Mia** (p159) or **GT Food & Travel** (p159).

## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Da Enzo (p158)
- ➔ Da Augusto (p159)
- ➔ La Prosciutteria (p159)
- ➔ Panattoni (p158)
- ➔ Litro (p160)

For reviews, see p158. ➔

## Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Freni e Frizioni (p161)
- ➔ Bar San Calisto (p161)
- ➔ Rivendita Libri, Cioccolata e Vino (p161)
- ➔ Keyhole (p161)
- ➔ Pimm's Good (p161)

For reviews, see p161. ➔

## Best Works of Art

- ➔ Basilica di Santa Maria in Trastevere (p154)
- ➔ Basilica di Santa Cecilia in Trastevere (p156)
- ➔ Villa Farnesina (p155)
- ➔ Galleria Corsini (p156)

For reviews, see p156. ➔