

Rome



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500 ft
500m

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Quick Talk Italian

The official language of Italy is Italian. The following are a few words to help you out.

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Yes | Exit | Two |
| Si | Uscita | Due |
| No | Entrance | Three |
| No | Ingresso/Entrata | Tre |
| Hello | Men | Four |
| Buongiorno/Ciao | Uomini | Quattro |
| Goodbye | Women | Five |
| Arrivederci/Ciao | Donne | Cinque |
| Please | How much? | Six |
| Per Favore | Quanto costa? | Sei |
| Thank you | Do you speak English? | Seven |
| Grazie | Parla inglese? | Sette |
| Open/Closed | One | Eight |
| Aperto/Chiuso | Uno | Otto |
| Toilets | | Nine |
| Gabinetti/Bagni | | Nove |
| | | Ten |
| | | Dieci |

Topdeck

trips for 18 to 30 somethings

City Guide Rome



Shopping

Via Condotti sells smart, high-fashion women's shoes at medium prices – a large range of colours found in Rome's most famous shopping streets. Souvenirs and postcards are widely available. The further 'downtown' you go in Old Rome, the more expensive things become.

Safety

Muggings are fairly rare in Rome but pickpockets and bag snatchers (including children operating singularly or in gangs) are particularly active in the main tourist areas. A few precautions greatly reduce the risk: Don't carry wallets in back pockets, particularly on buses and trains. If you have a bag or camera with a long strap, wear it across the chest, not from one shoulder. Keep bags closed with your hand on them. If you stop at a café or restaurant, don't leave bags or coats on the ground or on the back of a chair. Avoid attracting unwanted attention by pulling out large wads of notes to pay for things. When walking down a street, hold cameras and bags on the side of you towards the wall so you are less likely to become the prey of a motorcycle thief or scippatore. If you see groups of ragged children brandishing pieces of cardboard, avoid them or walk by quickly, keeping a tight hold on your belongings. They wave the cardboard to confuse you while accomplices pick pockets or bags.

Money

The official currency of Italy is the Euro (€). Euro banknotes are available in denominations of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 500 euros while Euro coins come in 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 Euro cent and 1 and 2 euro denomination coins. There are plenty of banks and exchange bureaus in Rome. There is a Traveler's office on Via Conciliazione in front of St. Peter's. There is no storage of ATMs and also an Amex office near the Spanish Steps.

Internet Cafés

There are plenty of internet cafes in town. In Italy now you must take your passport with you to use the internet, they register your details and record all the sites you use on the internet.

Eating & Drinking

Dining in Rome can be very expensive. Also, there are a lot of smokers in Rome who smoke both inside and outside. It is not advisable to ask an Italian to put their cigarette out, just be prepared to put up with the smoke – put it down to cultural differences. There are plenty of bars and restaurants where you can buy a slice of pizza or a rusticella. There are also some great restaurants in Piazza Navona and great gelati bars around the Trevi Fountain. You will find great pizza and gelato around the Pantheon as well.

Things to do in Rome

Spanish Steps

Free

The historic Spanish Steps is the widest staircase in Europe. The monumental stairway of 138 steps lead up to the Trinità dei Monti.

Trevi Fountain

Free

Standing 25.9 meters high and 19.8 meters wide, it is the largest Baroque fountain in the city. The fountain is positioned at the junction of three roads and marks the terminal of the Acqua Vergine, one of the ancient aqueducts that supplied water to ancient Rome.

Pantheon

Free

The original temple was started in 27BC. Take a look inside and see the small opening in the roof.

Open: Mon to Sat 9am – 6.30pm. Sun 9am – 1pm

Piazza Navona

A city square in Rome, built in the 1st century AD.

Piazza Venezia

Another city square in Rome, dominated by the huge Monument to Vittorio Emanuele II.

Roman Forum

Guided tours €4.50

It is the central area around which the ancient Roman civilization developed. The oldest and most important structures of the ancient city are located in the forum.

Open: daily 9am – 1 hour before sunset

Colosseum (Includes Palatine Hill & the Roman Forum)

Approx €15.50, audio guide €4.50
EU citizens between 18 & 25 years €10.50

One of the most amazing sites you will ever see. Often tours sold outside will include entry to the Colosseum and tours of the Palatine Hill and Roman Forum, so ask around for good deals.

Open: Mar 9am – 5pm, Apr to Aug 9am – 7pm, Sep 9am – 6.30pm, Oct 9am – 6pm, Nov to Feb 9am – 4.30pm

Last entrance times can vary, so check beforehand.

Capitoline Museums

A group of art & archeological museums on Capitoline Hill.

Sistine Chapel & Vatican Museums

Approx €15

Don't forget to look at the roof! There can be very long queues, so be sure to arrive early.

Open: Mon to Sat 9pm – 6pm, closed Sunday last entry 1 hour before close

St Peter's Basilica

Free

Dome & Treasury approx €7

Wander around the heart of the Catholic faith. Make sure to cover up. On Wednesdays, if the Pope is town, head to St Peter's Square at 10.30am to get your chance to be blessed by the Pope.

Open: Apr to Wed 7am – 7pm, Oct to Mar 7am – 6pm

Boca de la Verita (Mouth of Truth)

Free

Put your arm in the mouth of the statue of the god, if your an honest person you'll be ok, the dishonest will lose their arm.

Baths of Caracalla

Approx €6

The Baths of Caracalla were Roman public baths, which covered approximately 33 acres. The main complex could hold an estimated 1600 bathers.

Open: Tues to Sun, 9am – til 1 hour before sunset, Monday 9am – 1pm

Castel Sant'Angelo

Approx €5

EU citizens between 18 & 25 years €2.50

One of the oldest buildings in Rome.

Open: Tues to Sun 9am – 7pm, closed Monday

Remember! Entrance fees and opening times in Europe can change at any time.

Getting around Rome

Rome is a big city, so walking around can take a while. With any luck you will be somewhat orientated by the walking tour which your trip leader takes you on. However, as it is a very large place, it is a good idea to use the underground lines if you want to get around the city a little quicker. It may be best to do the Vatican City first and then wander down towards the other major sites. You can buy a metro/bus day pass for €4 euro, or a single trip ticket costs €1.