



Rome Travel Guide

"From Bucket lists to boarding passes!"

Must-See Highlights

Colosseum & Roman Forum: Explore the epicenter of the ancient Roman Empire; book tickets months in advance.

Vatican Museums & St. Peter's Basilica: Witness the Sistine Chapel and unparalleled Renaissance masterpieces.

Pantheon: The best-preserved ancient Roman monument, famous for its massive dome.

Trevi Fountain & Spanish Steps: Iconic spots perfect for photos—visit early or late to avoid massive crowds.

Trastevere: Wander this charming neighborhood for the city's best authentic atmosphere and evening dining.

Scams to Avoid

Friendship Bracelets / Flowers: Politely decline any offer of a "free" gift, bracelet, or flower—they will demand payment immediately afterward.

Fake "Gladiators": Do not take photos with costumed performers near the Colosseum; they will aggressively demand high fees for pictures.

Unsolicited Help: Be wary of anyone offering "help" with ticket machines or carrying your bags at train stations.

"Signed Petitions": Ignore people asking for signatures for "charity"—it's a common distraction technique for pickpockets.

Cruising & City Hacks

Advance Booking: For the Vatican and Colosseum, timed-entry tickets are mandatory and sell out rapidly.

Water Fountains: Use the city's *nasoni* (drinking fountains) for free, crisp, high-quality cold water—bring a reusable bottle!

Transport: Rome is best experienced on foot, but utilize the metro to move between distant major sites quickly.

Dining Strategy: Avoid restaurants with picture menus or staff ushering you inside; look for busy places tucked away in side streets.

What NOT To Do (Don'ts)

Don't skip dress codes: When entering churches, ensure shoulders and knees are covered, or you will be denied entry.

Don't eat near major landmarks: Prices near the Colosseum or Vatican are inflated; walk a few blocks away for better quality and value.

Make Sure to Pack

Footwear: Broken-in, comfortable walking shoes are non-negotiable for Rome's extensive cobblestones.

Modest Layers: A lightweight scarf or pashmina is perfect for covering shoulders in religious sites.

Travel Security: A secure, zipper-closed bag for belongings is essential in busy tourist zones.

Practical note: Site availability, dress codes, and city rules can change—verify details before your trip.