

SIGHTSEEING

Basilica of Saint Peter in Vatican

The Basilica of Saint Peter in Vatican represents one of the most precious architectural works of Rome. The importance of the basilica is reflected by the mammoth size of its construction, which saw the alternated contribution of the most important artists and architects of the Italian history of the 16th and 17th century.

Opening hours:

from 1st November to 31st March from 9.00 am to 18 pm.

From 1st April to 31st October from 7.00 am to 19 pm.

Free admission.

- *Ticket for Saint Peters' tomb: full ticket 8 euro. Admission during opening hours of the basilica.*
- *The Dome: from 1st November to 31st March from 8.00 am to 17 pm.*
From 1st April to 31st April from 8.00 am to 18.00 pm
Full ticket: 5 Euro, without use of the lift 4 Euro

Capitol Museums

inside the museum are hosted works of the medieval, renaissance and baroque age, the museums are mainly renowned for the classical works, like the equestrian statue of Mark Aurelius, or the Dying Galatea, just to mention a few.

The Capitoline She-Wolf, symbol of Rome, is also part of the collection.

Opening hours

Tuesday to Sunday 9.00 am-20.00pm ;

24th and 31st December 9.00 am-14.00 pm (the ticket office closes one hour before closure times)

Closed on: Mondays, 25th December, 1st January, 1st May

Colosseum

The Colosseum, originally called Anfiteatro Flavio (Flavian Amphitheatre), was built around the years 70-80 b.c., and was inaugurated under the Emperor Titus Flavius.

The building, which became the symbol of the city, was used during the entire imperial age to host battles and games. Thanks to an accurate and sophisticated work of engineering, the amphitheatre could even be flooded, in order to host naval battles (Naumachie), with war vessels on real scale as protagonists.

Open all days from 9 am to 2 hours before sunset.

full rate ticket: 9 Euro

half rate ticket 4.50 Euro

free admission: young people under 18 and adults over 65.

Closed on 25th December and 1st January.

Ticket includes entry to the Palatine.

The monument is included in the circuit of the Archaeological Card sites.

During exhibitions there is an additional fare of 2 Euro

Imperial forums

The forums were the heart of the late Roman Republic and of the Roman Empire. The Imperial Forums include 5 monumental squares built between 43 b.c. and 113 a.c. by the emperors of that

age. The Imperial forums are: Caesar's forum, August's forum, the temple of peace (so called because it was not considered equal with the other forums), Nerva's forum and Traiano's forum.

Pantheon

The Pantheon has unique characteristics in the whole history of Rome. Wanted by Agrippa, it was built around the year 26 b.c. as a pagan temple dedicated to all Gods (in Greek language =Pan Teos). In year 608 it was turned into a Christian church. This conversion has made it possible to maintain the original structure, with very few modifications (and some pictorial and sculptural additions, for instance the removal of some parts of the dome). But above all, the conversion turned the Pantheon into a building dedicated to the cult, since the very first moment of its foundation until present. The Pantheon also serves as a mausoleum, since it hosts the tombs of important characters, like Raffaello Sanzio and Arcangelo Corelli, and the kings of Italy Vittorio Emanuele 2nd, Umberto 1st and the Queen Margherita.

The most striking feature of the Pantheon is the mass concrete dome, which at its centre is a giant circular opening.

Free admission

Piazza Navona

Piazza Navona is one of the most famous squares of the city. Of imperial origin, it was used as a stadium under the emperor Domiziano, then converted into a monumental square by Pope Innocent 10th.

The square is embellished with remarkable buildings, among which stand out: the palace of the Pope family, Pamphili Palace; the church of Saint Agnese, which, according to the legend, lies in the same place of the brothel where the saint was locked in punishment; the fountains of the Four Rivers, the Moorish fountain and the Neptune fountain. The most famous of this lot is certainly the Fountain of the Four rivers, a work by Bernini, in which the river Ganges, the Danube, the Rio de la Plata and the Nile are represented (this last one appears blindfolded, to symbolize the mystery that, at that age, still enveloped its springs)

It is a popular place for Romans and tourists to visit not only for its sculptures and architecture, but also for its street performers, restaurants and cafes, exhibitions and several small stalls selling paintings and novelty goods.

Trevi Fountain (Fontana di Trevi)

Largest of the Baroque fountains of Rome. Legend holds that if visitors throw a coin into the fountain, they are ensured a return to Rome. Seen in several films including "Three Coins in the Fountain" and "La dolce vita".

Trastevere

Trastevere is named for its position 'over the Tiber'. Separated from the heart of central Rome by the river, the area retained its narrow lanes and working-class population when the rest of Rome began its nineteenth-century expansion.

Trastevere is a picturesque medieval area located on the west bank of the Tiber. The area escaped the grand developments which changed the face of central Rome, and is a charming place to wander, eat or relax.

Vatican Museums

Today under the name of Vatican Museums are included the Gregorian Egyptian Museum, the Etruscan Gregorian Museum, the Museum of Classical Antiquities, the Pio Christian Museum, the Art Gallery, the Gallery of the Tapestries, the Missionary-Ethnological Museum, the Sacred Museum, the Profane Museum, the Historic Vatican Museum.

Always in the circuit of the Vatican Museums are also open to the public the following museums: the Palazzetto del Belvedere, the Ladies' Room, the Room of the Immaculate Conception, Raphael's rooms, the Chiaroscuro room, the Niccolina Chapel, Borgia's Apartment, the Sistine Hall, the Room of the Aldobrandine's Wedding, and, above all, the real masterpiece of the Museums: **the Sistine Chapel**.

- *Opening hours: from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm or from 10.00 am to 13.30 pm, or from 10.00 am to 15.30 pm according to days.*
- *Closed on: Sunday, with the exception of the last Sunday of the month, unless it falls on Ester Day, 29th June, 25th or 26th December (Christmas day or Saint Stephen's day), 1st and 6th January; 11th February, 19th March, 8th and 9th April (Easter and Monday festivity); 1st and 17th May (Ascension); 7th June (Corpus Domini); 15-16th August; 1st November; 8th December (Immaculate Conception).*

The closed sectors are indicated at the entrance gate. Access to the Museums is permitted only to people wearing decorous clothing.

- *Full rate ticket: 13 Euro*
- *Discounted ticket: 8 Euro (reserved to pilgrims; students under 26 showing a student card; young people under 18).*
- *Free admission: Every last Sunday of the month; 27th September (world tourism day); kids under the age of 6; Museum's directors; associations and institutions charged with the tutelage of the archaeological, artistic and historical heritage; invalid people (100% recognized invalidity) and their assistants (one each); journalists authorized by the Museum Board of Directors upon invitation from the Press Room of the Holy See, from the Pontifical Council of Social Communication; from the Foreign Press Association and from the Italian Journalist Association; members of the Icom ("the International Council of Museums") and Icomos ("International Council of Monuments and Sites"); donors of works and benefactors; patrons and friends of the Vatican Museums; university professors of the faculty of Archaeology, Art History, Architecture and Ethnology.*