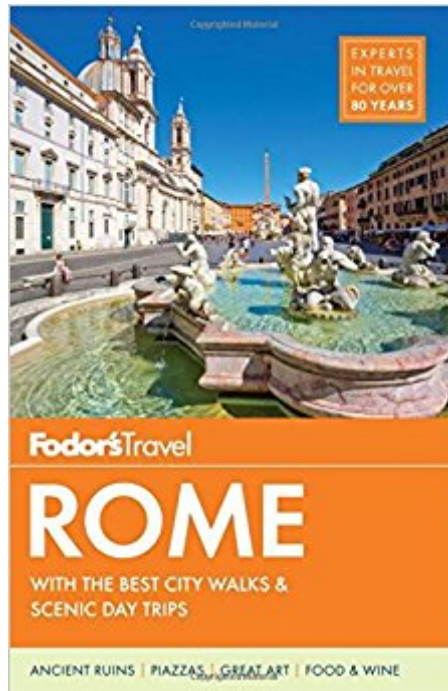




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# Fodor's Rome (Full-color Travel Guide)



## Synopsis

Written by locals, Fodor's travel guides have been offering expert advice for all tastes and budgets for more than 80 years. Packed with landmark sights, world-renowned museums, awe-inspiring churches, fabulous trattorias, and, of course, the Vatican, Rome is a city that's worth returning to over and over again. And with so much to see and do in the Eternal City, Fodor's Rome is the guide to help travelers make the most of every trip. This travel guide includes:

- Dozens of full-color maps plus a handy pullout map with essential information
- Hundreds of hotel and restaurant recommendations, with Fodor's Choice designating our top picks
- Multiple itineraries to explore the top attractions and what's off the beaten path
- In-depth breakout features on The Sistine Chapel Ceiling, the Campo de' Fiori, the Vatican, and Ancient Rome
- Major sights such as Vatican City, the Roman Forum, the Colosseum, St. Peter's Basilica, the Pantheon, Trastevere, Trevi Fountain, and the Spanish Steps
- Side Trips from Rome with Ostia Antica, Tivoli, and The Castelli Romani
- Coverage of Ancient Rome, The Vatican, Piazza Navona, Campo de' Fiori and the Jewish Ghetto, Piazza di Spagna, Repubblica and Quirinale, Trastevere, Villa Borghese, Piazza del Popolo and Flaminio, Aventino and Testaccio, and Monti, Esquilino, Celio and the Via Appia Antica

Planning to visit more of Italy? Check out Fodor's country-wide travel guide to Essential Italy.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Fodor's is pitched a few notches higher than aimed at a fairly discerning

traveler with an appetite for background and the occasional surprise. *—* **•** *—* *œ* New York Times *—* *“*The Fodor*—*’s guides are notable for their ratings of sights, restaurants, shops, accommodations and attractions.*—* **•** *—* *œ* Chicago Tribune *—* *“*In terms of comprehensiveness of coverage, the very accessible format, and the enthusiastic tone, this series remains one of the best on the market.*—* **•** *—* *œ* Booklist *—* *“*Fodor*—*’s super-informative guidebooks are known for accuracy and attention to detail.*—* **•** *—* *œ* Sacramento Bee *—* *“*Fodor*—*’s can help you plan the perfect adventure.*—* **•** *—* *œ* Arizona Republic

For over 80 years, Fodor’s Travel has been a trusted resource offering expert travel advice for every stage of a traveler’s trip. We hire local writers who know their destinations better than anyone else, allowing us to provide the best travel recommendations for all tastes and budget in over 7,500 worldwide destinations. Our books make it possible for every trip to be a trip of a lifetime.

Filled with valuable information.

great reviews and suggestions for a visit to Rome

I like this Fodor’s guide to Rome. It covers all the basics and gives a good overview of how visitors can best maximize their time in the Eternal City. The guide is lightweight and compact, measuring 8"x5.5" and is 1/2" thick. It is easy to fit into a backpack or carry on suitcase. Like many Fodor’s guides, this one includes a pullout map of the city. The guide concentrates on the central area of Rome and the top tourist destinations. I found the information very helpful and a good start for comparison with information I was finding online regarding hotels and restaurants. The opening pages of "Experience Rome" gives a good overview of the city and includes a Rome travel planner. Others sections include Rome’s Best Walks, Ancient Rome and the Vatican. The guide then covers various sections of the city. Other chapters are dedicated to shopping, dining and nightlife. The back of the guide includes some basic vocabulary, a Travel Smart section with currency, transportation and communications information, and several blank pages to make notes. Unfortunately, the prevalence of pickpockets in Rome continues to grow, particularly in the central area of the city that this guide concentrates on. It is not an occasional problem, as the guide seems to indicate. I felt a stronger warning was necessary rather than the one paragraph related to safety at the back of the guide. But otherwise a lot of information is packed into this 364-page guide, which should help both

in the planning stages and during any trip to Rome.

This is a really good guide for planning and dreaming at home. If you are a return visitor or first-time, the "Rome Today" section gives a general overview of atmosphere & what's new in Rome. I also like the "Rome Planner" which gives help on when to go, etc. & then there is information on the top attractions, festivals, itineraries, etc. I like how the "What's Where" pages that show all the top sights (& more) with advice for how to avoid the biggest crowds (there are always crowds no matter the season). The sections on the top attractions are especially good & include color photos with descriptions, etc.. The guide goes on to give advice on etiquette, what to pack, how restaurants work and general information on Rome. The usual information on where to sleep, eat and shop is good. There is a section on Italian vocabulary basics which should get you through. My advice is to at least learn basic words (& use them!) like: please, thank you, pardon, hello, goodbye - you will be amazed at how much more friendly people are if you are courteous & learn a few easy phrases/words. The maps are OK - good for planning. There is a pull-out Rome map and a Metro/Bus map. I always use the much more detailed & laminated "Streetwise Rome" map. This is a lovely book & well-organized with good information. It is small enough to take with you.

A guide for someone making a short visit (maybe first time) to Rome, with no plans to travel elsewhere. On this level, the Fodor's Rome guide works pretty well. The book's focus is on the center of the city and the traditional tourist spots. It has quite a lot on the Vatican/Trastevere part of Rome and Piazza Navona, Spanish Steps, Campo dei Fiori and Roman Forum areas. There isn't a lot of historical background provided, but the basics are there. This isn't a guide that is heavy on photos, nor does it spend much time with culture or language. Again, the basics are there, but it looks like Fodor has decided that it can't compete with the Internet or Michelin for in-depth information on the city. In that context, the guide does offer hotel and restaurant suggestions, but there is an implicit acceptance (my opinion) that most travelers will get their hotel options from the net and consult other sources for restaurant possibilities. I didn't find my favorite hotel, the Londra e Cargill in the Sallustiana Plaza area, mentioned nor the excellent osterias and cafes in that area. Finally, this book won't be much help if you are planning to travel outside of Rome, even to the suburbs or nearby cities. To sum up, this isn't a comprehensive, old-school guide and doesn't try to be. It's for the short-term visitor to Rome who wants the basics but doesn't want to culture-dive too much.

This 365-page Rome guide is fully updated and covers all aspects of the city with the usual Fodor's quality. Especially useful are the nuanced insights into local expectations and etiquette, which may assist us in not looking like tourists -- such as not wearing shorts and flip-flops to restaurants (or anywhere else for that matter, except the beach). The richness of Rome is so great that it is difficult to capture in a single volume, but this guide certainly makes the effort, interspersing historical vignettes and background to the various piazzas and markets it recommends. I was surprised to find even a couple of pages on opera in Rome, and how Rome's compares to that of La Scala and La Fenice. There are plenty of maps throughout, and recommendations both for the must-see venues and for those which may reward a trip out of the mainstream. The guide also comes with a tear-out overall map of the city which comes in handy especially to see where various attractions are related to one another. Locations are keyed to "Top Attractions" and "Great Itineraries" as described in the guidebook. Despite its many pages, the guide is compact enough to carry round in a bag.

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