## A Glimpse of Rome with Airport Transfer



## Approximately 4 Hours \$\$\$ Enjoyed it? 5 out of 5 Value 5 out of 1(100%)reviewers would recommend this product to a friend. Read 1 review Write a review

Depart Civitavecchia pier and head to **Rome** by motor coach.

In the Eternal City, a **panoramic drive** takes you through the lovely Borghese Gardens and along Via Veneto -- Rome's famous, elegant and outrageously expensive shopping street. A slice of Roman life takes place among the fashionable sidewalk cafés, luxury shops and up-market hotels here.

Drive through Piazza Barberini, catching a view of the Triton Fountain, and past the remnants of the mighty Roman Empire -- the Forum, the Colosseum and Circus Maximus, immortalized in *Ben Hur*. This is where chariot races took place in Roman times.

You'll also see Palatine Hill with the residence of Roman Emperors. Passing through St Paul's Gate -- watch for the Pyramid of Caius Cestius nearby.

Continue along the old Ostiense Way to **St Paul's Basilica**, where you will have 30 minutes of **free time** for an inside visit.

End your tour with a **transfer to the airport**.

## Notes:

This tour is only available to guests whose cruise ends in Civitavecchia and with flights at 3pm or later. If you have already purchased an airport transfer with your cruise booking, it will be refunded on board the ship, as this excursion automatically includes a transfer.

## A Glimpse of Rome with City Center Drop-Off





Depart Civitavecchia pier and head to **Rome** by motor coach. In the Eternal City, a**panoramic drive** takes you through the lovely Borghese Gardens and along Via Veneto -- Rome's famous, elegant and outrageously expensive shopping street. A slice of Roman life takes place among the fashionable sidewalk cafés, luxury shops and up-market hotels here.

Drive through Piazza Barberini, catching a view of the Triton Fountain, and past the remnants of the mighty Roman Empire -- the Forum, the Colosseum and Circus Maximus, immortalized in *Ben Hur*. This is where chariot races took place in Roman times. You'll also see Palatine Hill with the residence of Roman Emperors.

Passing through St Paul's Gate, watch for the Pyramid of Caius Cestius nearby. Continue along the old Ostiense Way to **St Paul's Basilica**, where you will have 30 minutes

of **free time** for an inside visit.

Finally, you'll stop at a central location where you will leave the coach with your luggage and continue independently to your next destination.

## A Glimpse of Rome with Ship Transfer



## **Approximately 4 Hours**



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## Be the first to write a review

Depart the airport and head to the Eternal City by motor coach. In **Rome** a **panoramic drive** takes you through the lovely Borghese Gardens, then along Via Veneto -- Rome's famous, elegant and outrageously expensive shopping street -- with the most fashionable sidewalk cafés, luxury shops and up-market hotels.

Drive through Piazza Barberini with the Triton Fountain, and past the Roman Forum, the Colosseum (the most Roman of Imperial Monuments), the Circus Maximus (immortalized in *Ben Hur*, where chariot races took place during the Roman Empire), and Palatine Hill with the residence of Roman Emperors.

Pass through St Paul's Gate and watch for the Pyramid of Caius Cestius.

Continue on the old Ostiense Way to **St Paul's Basilica** where you will have 30 minutes of **free time** for an inside visit.

End your tour with a transfer to the ship.

## Notes:

This tour is only available to guests whose cruise begins in Civitavecchia. You must have arrived at the airport and have collected your luggage before 9am. Meet your coach at Terminal 3 Arrivals, outside the customs exit at 9am. If you have already purchased an airport transfer with your cruise booking, it will be refunded on board the ship, as this excursion automatically includes a transfer.

## A Papal Audience at the Vatican



## Approximately 11½ Hours





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## Be the first to write a review

Here is a once in a lifetime experience -- to be in the **audience for a blessing from the Pope**, and still have time to see some of Rome's famous highlights.

Relax on a 90-minute motor coach journey to the **Vatican**. From the parking area, you will walk to your seat. At approximately 10:15am, Pope Francesco will appear and bless the audience, speaking for approximately 1½ hours. After this amazing experience you will re-board your motor coach and drive to a local restaurant for a typical Italian **lunch**.

Venture into the **People's Square area** for approximately two hours of **free time** for **shopping** or exploring Rome on your own.

Afterwards, meet your coach escort for a **panoramic drive** through the Eternal City, among the Borghese Gardens and along Via Veneto to Barberini Square with its Triton Fountain. At Piazza Venezia you will see the monument to King Victor Emanuel II.

Drive by the Forum, the Colosseum, Circus Maximus, and Palatine Hill, where the Roman Emperors resided. Passing through St Paul's Gate, watch for the Pyramid of Caius Cestius nearby as you head back to the ship.

## Notes:

This excursion is available only on Wednesdays and does not operate on Catholic holidays. The Audience will be held either in St Peter's Square or in the Aula Paolo VI, depending upon weather conditions. You will arrive early to avoid lines and crowds, so there will be some waiting. Modest attire is required; knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered. Shorts are not allowed. Wear comfortable shoes, a hat and sunscreen; bring water.

## Barok Rome en panoramische rondrit



## Ongeveer 8½ Uur



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## Be the first to write a review

Bezoek het centrum van de Eeuwige Stad, waarbij u langs de beroemdste hoogtepunten rijdt: de piramide van Caius Cestius, Circus Maximus, de Palatijnse heuvel, het Colosseum, het Forum Romanum, het Piazza Venezia, het Piazza Barberini, Via Veneto en Villa Borghese. U stopt bij de Trevifontein, een van de meest spectaculaire kunstwerken van Rome. Vervolgens brengt u een bezoek aan het Pantheon, de grootste, door keizer Adrianus gebouwde tempel en het best bewaard gebleven gebouw uit het oude Rome. Daarna gaat u op weg naar het Piazza Navona, het mooiste plein in barokstijl van Rome. Hier vindt u de beroemde Fontana dei Quattro Fiumi. U krijgt de tijd om over het plein te wandelen, waar allerlei cafés zijn gevestigd en kunstenaars hun werken laten zien. Vervolgens gaat de excursie per bus verder naar het Sint-Pietersplein. Na een uitleg van de gids kunt u naar eigen inzicht de omgeving verkennen, waaronder de zuilenrijen van Bernini. U kunt ook zelfstandig de Sint-Pietersbasiliek bezoeken. Na afloop wordt u weer naar de kade gebracht.

## Notes:

De tour gaat alleen door bij een minimum aantal deelnemers en is niet op alle afvaarten beschikbaar.de reistijd naar Rome bedraagt ongeveer 90 minuten voor een enkele reis. Bescheiden kleding is verplicht; knieën, schouders en middel moeten bedekt zijn. Een korte broek is niet toegestaan. Met een audioheadset (inbegrepen) zult u de rondleiding nog meer op prijs stellen.

This excursion is led in Dutch

## **Baroque Rome**





Explore some of the less-frequented sites in Rome on foot, including some of its marvelous piazzas.

Set out with your guide from the elegant Piazza di Spagna, better known as the **Spanish Steps**. This beautiful and busy area is dominated by the 16th-century Trinità dei Monti Church and the curious Barcaccia Fountain created by Bernini. According to the legend, during one of the Tiber's floods, a boat was transported here by the waters. The water coming out of this fountain is supposed to be the sweetest water in Rome.

**Walk** to the famous and beautiful **Trevi Fountain**, where King Neptune's Tritons guard the sparkling waters of Rome's most beloved monument. Be sure to toss a coin into the fountain to ensure your return to the Eternal City.

Cross the Via del Corso, one of the main streets of Rome, which was used by the Romans for horse races.

Walk to the **Pantheon** to see the tomb of Raphael and then to the square said to be the most beautiful in Rome --**Piazza Navona**. Admire the **Fountain of the Four Rivers** -- a fountain sculpted by Bernini representing the four great rivers of the world. Return to the ship at Civitavecchia.

Notes:

Wear comfortable walking shoes; bring water, a hat and sunscreen. For security reasons, large purses or backpacks are not recommended. You will encounter cobblestones and uneven pathways.

## Civitavecchia Private Touring - Full Day (Car)



Approximately 8 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person. See additional NOTES below.





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**5** out of **5** 

1 out of 1(100%) reviewers would recommend this product to a friend.

Read 1 review

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## Write a review

Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. This exclusive tour is designed to allow you the chance to customize your time ashore and discover the most interesting sights in the comfort and privacy of your own vehicle. With your private vehicle, and the personalized attention of your driver and English-speaking guide, you will have the flexibility and independence to design your itinerary ashore according to your own interests, and take in the sights at your own pace. See the famous sights, or go beyond to create your own intimate connections and unique cultural encounters. The Signature Collection

is recommended for the single/solo traveler, couples, family, friends, and special interest groups traveling together. It can also be an excellent choice for guests with mobility limitations. Capacity: 2 guests. Your private party may be of any size up to the maximum capacity. Notes:

Private cars are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver, and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.

## **Civitavecchia Private Touring - Full Day (Minibus)**





Approximately 8 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person. See additional NOTES below.





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Private minibuses are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver, and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible. Minibuses are subject to same rules as large tour buses, therefore drop-off/pick-up points are decided by the municipality of Rome and some walking is required to reach the attractions.

## **Civitavecchia Private Touring - Full Day (Minivan)**





Approximately 8 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person. See additional NOTES below.





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1 out of 1(100%) reviewers would recommend this product to a friend.

## Read 1 review

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## Write a review

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is recommended for the single/solo traveler, couples, family, friends, and special interest groups traveling together. It can also be an excellent choice for guests with mobility limitations. Capacity: 6 guests. Your private party may be of any size up to the maximum capacity. Notes:

Private minivans are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver, and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.

## **Civitavecchia Private Touring - Half Day (Car)**



Approximately 4 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person. See additional NOTES below.





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## Be the first to write a review

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Private cars are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver, and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.

## **Civitavecchia Private Touring - Half Day (Minibus)**



Approximately 4 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person. See additional NOTES below.





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## **Notes:**

Private minibuses are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver, and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible. Minibuses are subject to same rules as large

tour buses, therefore drop-off/pick-up points are decided by the municipality of Rome and some walking is required to reach the sites. Minibuses are subject to same rules as large tour buses, therefore drop-off/pick-up points are decided by the municipality of Rome and some walking is required to reach the attractions. Minibuses are subject to same rules as large tour buses, therefore drop-off/pick-up points are decided by the municipality of Rome and some walking is required to reach the attractions. Minibuses are subject to same rules as large tour buses, therefore drop-off/pick-up points are decided by the municipality of Rome and some walking is required to reach the attractions.

## Civitavecchia Private Touring - Half Day (Minivan)



Approximately 4 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person. See additional NOTES below.





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speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.

## **Easy Rome**





Leave the port of Civitavecchia for a 90-minute motor coach ride to discover the Eternal City. You'll take a panoramic drive past the Pyramid of Caius Cestius, Circus Maximus (the famous chariot-racing arena), and the Roman Forum -- the sprawling symbol of the power of Imperial Rome. Continue past the Arch of Constantine, the Colosseum and Venice Square with its huge monument to King Victor Emanuel II.

Watch for Barberini Square and see Bernini's famous Triton Fountain, the fascinating and stylish Via Veneto, the Borghese Gardens, and the Aurelian Walls -- the most ancient of the Romans' anti-Barbarian defenses.

Crossing into the Vatican, you'll drive by St Peter's Square and St'Angelo Fortress -- the ancient Adrian Mausoleum.

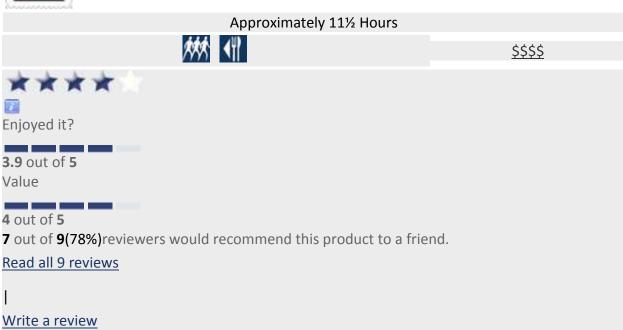
Finally, stop by People's Square with its imposing obelisk and the "twin" churches, and enjoy about 1½ hours of **free time** for independent sightseeing, purchasing a snack or **shopping** at your leisure before returning to the ship.

## Notes:

Wear comfortable shoes; bring a hat, sunscreen and water. Modest attire is required; knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered. Shorts are not allowed. Lunch is not included.

## **Eternal Rome & Vatican Museums**





Drive to the **heart of Rome**, passing St Paul's Basilica, the Pyramid of Caius Cestius, Circus Maximus and stopping at the Trevi Fountain.

Walk to **Piazza Venezia** (Venice Square), along Imperial Forum Avenue and then stop for a view of the Roman Forum. On the far side, you'll see the Colosseum and the Arch of Constantine. After **lunch**, you will cross the River Tiber to the **Vatican State** and step through the embrace of **Bernini's spectacular colonnade** to the vast expanse of **St Peter's Square**.

Enter Christendom's largest church -- **St Peter's Basilica**. To appreciate its enormity, look at the metal markers on the floor inside showing the comparative lengths of other churches and cathedrals. Suspended over the altar, where Pope celebrates mass, is the gilded papal canopy, called the Baldacchino, created by Bernini in the 17th century.

Explore the richest storehouse of art in the world -- the magnificent **Vatican Museums**, including the Pine Cone Courtyard, the Belvedere Courtyard with its famous statues, the Candelabra Gallery, the Tapestry and Geographical Map Galleries, and finally, the glorious **Sistine Chapel** which holds a priceless collection of masterpieces including *Genesis* and *The Last Judgment* by Michelangelo.

Notes:

The visit to the Vatican Museums is not a private visit. Modest attire is required; knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered. Shorts are not allowed. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Tour requires approximately two miles of walking over uneven surfaces with extended periods of standing and about 50 steps. Use of an audio headset (included) will enhance your tour experience. Tour does not operate on Sundays or Catholic holidays. Due to restoration work at the Trevi Fountain, it can be seen through a viewing glass only. However, you can still throw coins from a special designated area.

## **Etruscan Treasures: Tarquinia & Tuscania**





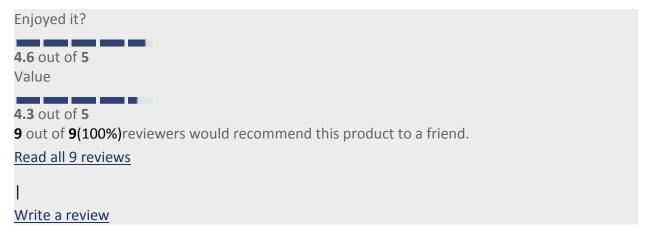
## Approximately 8½ Hours





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Begin your tour with a drive to **Tarquinia**, founded in the 7th century BC, and now known as a magnificent Etruscan burial ground.

You will see the Palazzo Vitelleschi -- an excellent example of early Renaissance architecture, whose **Archeological Museum** houses the remains of the mysterious Etruscan population. Visit the **necropolis**, containing thousands of tombs dating from the 6th to the 1st century BC, many of which have not yet been explored.

Enjoy a traditional **lunch** with Italian wine; then, visit **Lake Bolsenae** situated in the northern Lazio region. It is fed mainly by rainwater and on its fertile shores are forests of oak and chestnut trees as well as farms growing olives, grapes and vegetables.

**Tuscania** village is located on a plateau nearby, above the River Marta, and is one of the oldest towns of Italy -- a cradle of the Etruscan civilization from 900 - 700 BC. Take a **walk** in the medieval city center and admire two great Paleo-Christian basilicas built in the 9th century. These are still well preserved. The ancient walls lend an air of serenity to this charming place.

Use of an audio headset (included) will enhance your tour experience. Tour does not operate on Mondays.

## **Highlights of Rome**





## Approximately 10½ Hours \$\$\$\$\$ 2.1 out of 5 Value 3.8 out of 5 21 out of 24(88%)reviewers would recommend this product to a friend. Read all 24 reviews | Write a review

In the Eternal City, enter the vast expanse of **St Peter's Square** through**Bernini's Colonnade**, and step into Christendom's largest church, **St Peter's Basilica**. In the apse is the splendid gilt and bronze throne, also designed by Bernini. Take time to see the *Pietà*, Michelangelo's masterpiece in white marble.

Leaving the **Vatican**, drive along the Tiber River, passing Aventine Hill for a view of the imposing remains of the Imperial Palaces and the Circus Maximus. Pass by the Forum where vestiges of the Roman Empire remain.

Visit the **Colosseum** and drive by Venice Square, the heart of Rome with its flamboyant memorial to King Victor Emanuel.

Stop at the **Trevi Fountain** where King Neptune's tritons guard the sparkling waters of Rome's most beloved monument. Toss in a coin to ensure your return to the Eternal City.

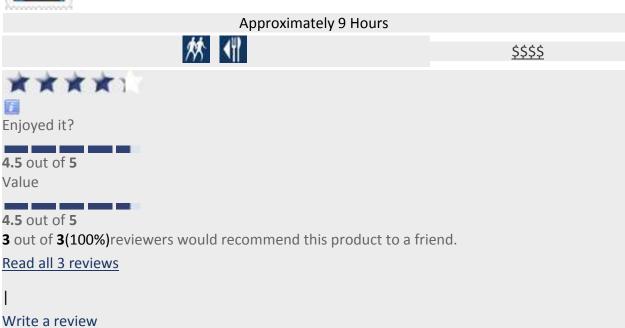
A typical **Italian lunch** will be served before you enjoy some **free time for shopping** or to continue sightseeing on your own.

Notes:

Modest attire is required; knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered. This tour does not visit the Vatican Museum or the Sistine Chapel. Use of an audio headset (included) will enhance your tour experience. Due to restoration work at the Trevi Fountain, it can be seen through a viewing glass only. However, you can still throw coins from a special designated area. Tour does not operate on holidays.

## **Italian Countryside & Catacombs**





In Rome you will visit the **Catacombs**, a curious underground maze of tunnels where the early Christians, persecuted by the Romans, practiced their religion in secret.

A wealth of beautiful countryside lies in the Roman Hills. You will follow the **Appian Way**, which runs along one of the first ancient Roman military roads into the *campagna* (countryside) dotted with farmhouses, villas and palaces.

In Rome's wine-growing hinterland, visit the **Monte Due Torri farmhouse**, which is located among the Albani Hills. A member of the household will greet you and will lead you on a **tour of the property**. Upon entering the home you will be invited to **assist in the preparation of the meal**.

Enjoy a **lunch of local products** -- homemade bread, wine, fresh mixed salad, pasta and dessert.

## On Your Own Rome by Train



## Approximately 10 Hours



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## Be the first to write a review

Transfer from the pier to the rail station and hop aboard an **exclusive rail car**. This classic adventure offers a ride in comfort through the Italian countryside and across the Etruscan Region. You'll arrive in **Rome** at **St Peter's Station** just 60 minutes later. The train escort will brief you about the local attractions and when to be back at the meeting place. Set out on your own to discover independently magnificent **St Peter's Square** with its central obelisk, refreshing twin fountains and Bernini's legendary semicircular colonnades crowned with statues of the saints. This striking piazza frames the entrance to St Peter's Basilica, which you will have time to explore if you wish, or just browse in the square's shops at your leisure. You'll feel like a local as you wander through the bustling city streets, sampling local cuisine and checking out the boutiques. Sip a cappuccino at a trattoria or savor a refreshing gelato from a street vendor (at your own expense) before shopping for souvenirs and exquisite leather goods. Photo opportunities abound -- around every corner you'll find historic monuments. The Roman Forum, the Colosseum and the Arch of Constantine are not far away. A city map will be provided and public transportation in Rome is readily available.

Meet your escort at the designated place for the relaxing ride back to port. Views of the imposing St Peter's dome offer a fond farewell as you leave the Eternal City with memories that will last a lifetime.

Notes:

You will need local currency (euros) for attractions, meals and shopping.

## Ostia Antica





Founded by King Anco Marzio around the 4th century BC, **Ostia Antica** was Rome's main commercial port and military base, with a population at its peak of nearly 100,000 inhabitants. Barbarian invasions and malaria led to the decline of city and eventually all the inhabitants abandoned it. Buried for centuries by sand, the city is remarkably well preserved and, although less spectacular than Pompeii or Herculaneum, it gives a more complete picture of the life in the Roman Empire.

Your visit starts at Via delle Tombe, which leads to the Porta Romana -- one of the city's three gates. This is the beginning of Decumanus Maximus, the main road through the town. From the

Neptune and Amphitride Baths, **walk** to the theatre built by Agrippa and to the Forum, which formed the center of the city.

Discover the main public buildings -- the Capitolium and the Temple of Rome and Augustus.

There are no fewer than 18 temples dedicated to the Persian god Mithras as well as a Jewish Synagogue dating from the 1st century BC and a Christian basilica.

See the House of Diana and the Termopolium, an ancient Roman bar with a marble counter and a fresco representing the fruits and foodstuffs that were sold there.

After this fascinating stroll through the past, hop back on the coach and proceed to the seaside resort of **Ostia Lido** to enjoy a **gelato** (included). Browse in the gift shop with **free time** for **shopping** before you transfer back to the ship.

Notes:

Wear comfortable shoes; bring a hat, sunscreen and water. Tour does not operate on Mondays.

## Panoramic Rome & St Peter's Basilica



# Approximately 9 Hours \$\square \text{\$\frac{1}{2}} \text{\$\frac{1

Travel to the center of the Eternal City with a **panoramic drive** past its most famous highlights -- the pyramid of Caius Cestius, Circus Maximus, Palatine Hill, the Colosseum, the Roman Forum, Venice Square, Piazza Barberini, Via Veneto and the Borghese Gardens.

Crossing the Tiber River, you will enter the **Vatican City** for a visit to **St Peter's Basilica**. Pass through the awesome **Bernini's Colonnade** and step into the massive basilica that lies at the heart of Roman Catholicism. It houses Michelangelo's *Pièta* -- one of the most famous sculptures in the world. Outside, you'll see the impressive square which, on special occasions, is filled with people from around the world.

Enjoy **lunch** and **free time** before returning to the ship.

Notes:

Modest attire is required; knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered. Use of an audio headset (included) will enhance your tour experience.

## **Roman Holiday**





Today you will follow in the footsteps of Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck in the famous romantic fairytale movie *Roman Holiday*.

Begin with a **walk** to the **Spanish Steps** then, continue on foot to the **Trevi Fountain**, where you can toss in a coin to ensure your return to Rome. Reach the **Pantheon** and enjoy a delicious Italian *gelato* ice cream just like Princess Ana did in the movie.

Continue to **Navona Square** where you will have some **free time** to explore.

Meet your coach nearby and head for the beautiful **Palazzo Brancaccio** — the last Roman patrician palace built in 1880 in the heart of the Eternal City. It stands on Colle Oppio, the ancient Roman hill near Emperor Nero's Domus Aurea, between the Colosseum and the famous Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore. Its grounds are a beautiful old park surrounding the Roman ruins, with centuries-old plants and fountains, pine trees, palms and laurels. Here you can admire the small but charming Hunting Lodge, full of rich decorations. Inside the palace you'll find enchanting banquet rooms where Princess Mary Elisabeth Brancaccio gave sumptuous parties. *Roman Holiday* was filmed inside the halls of the Palazzo Brancaccio.

Heading to a famous restaurant where Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck often dined, hiding from photographers and curious locals, you will enjoy a traditional **Italian lunch**. Don't miss the copy of the Vespa that took Princess Ana and her beloved journalist around the Eternal City. After lunch, you will drive past the Colosseum and catch a glimpse of the Roman Forum before reaching the **Mouth of Truth**. According to legend, the mouth will bite your hand off if you lie. Notes:

The copy of the Vespa will only be seen if it is not on a traveling exposition; the schedule is not always known in advance. In the event a visit to Palazzo Brancaccio is not possible due to unforeseen circumstances, a stop at St Angelo's Castle and a visit to the Crypt of Santa Maria in Cosmedin will be substituted. Use of an audio headset (included) will enhance your tour experience. Due to restoration work at the Trevi Fountain, it can be seen through a viewing glass only. However, you can still throw coins from a special designated area.

## **Romantic Roma!**







## Be the first to write a review

Depart Civitavecchia's pier for a private car transfer to the Eternal (and romantic) City of Rome. In the morning, you will a enjoy a pleasant drive among the incomparable architectural treasures and sites of the city, such as St Peter's Basilica, St Angelo's Castle, the Jewish Synagogue and Circus Maximus.

Visit the stunning complex of the Baths of Caracalla, built during the reign of the Emperor Caracalla. This turned out to be more a leisure center than a series of baths, since it included two gymnasiums and a library.

Your discovery of the Eternal City continues by horse and carriage, which you will meet at the Colosseum.

Heading to a deluxe lunch restaurant, you will pass the Roman Forum, Venice Square, and the **Pantheon**, where you will step inside. At the **Trevi Fountain**, toss in a coin to ensure your return to Rome, and enjoy the throngs of Romans and visitors meeting at the **Spanish Steps**. This afternoon, take advantage of some free time for shopping in the famous Via Condotti and sightseeing in Via Veneto area.

Meet your private car for the return to the pier.

## Notes:

Audio headsets will be used to enhance your tour experience. Tour price is per couple, not per person. Due to restoration work at the Trevi Fountain, it can be seen through a viewing glass only. However, you can still throw coins from a special designated area. Tour does not operate on Mondays.

## Rome on Your Own



## Approximately 7 Hours



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## Value

**1.5** out of **5** 

1 out of 2(50%) reviewers would recommend this product to a friend.

## Read all 2 reviews

1

## Write a review

This **transfer** may suit you if you would like to **explore on your own**. It consists of a motor coach ride from the ship to the city. You will be dropped off at a central location, and the coach escort will advise you of the pick-up time for the return journey.

## Notes:

Guide service, taxi transfers, entrance fees and lunch are not included in the transfer price. It will be your responsibility to be at the drop-off point at the given return time. An English-speaking escort will be aboard the transfer motor coach to answer questions en route.

## Sights of Rome & A Papal Audience



## Approximately 9½ Hours





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## Be the first to write a review

Here is a once in a lifetime experience -- to be in the **audience for a blessing from the Pope**, and still have time to see some of Rome's famous highlights.

Relax on a 90-minute motor coach journey to the **Vatican**. From the parking area, you will walk to your seat. At approximately 10:15am, Pope Francesco will appear and bless the audience, speaking for approximately 1½ hours.

After this amazing experience you will re-board your motor coach and drive to a local restaurant for a typical Italian **lunch**.

Next, enjoy a **panoramic drive** through the Eternal City, among the Borghese Gardens and along Via Veneto to Barberini Square with its Triton Fountain. At Piazza Venezia you will see the

monument to King Victor Emanuel II. Drive by the Forum, the Colosseum, Circus Maximus, and Palatine Hill where the Roman Emperors resided.

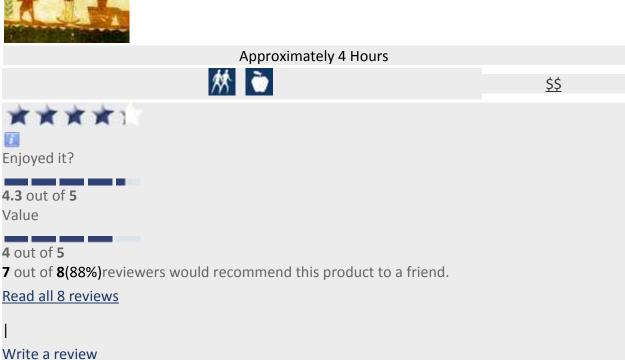
You'll pass through St Paul's Gate and glimpse the Pyramid of Caius Cestius on the way back to the ship.

## Notes:

This excursion is only available on Wednesdays (except Catholic holidays). The Audience will be held either in St Peter's Square or in the Aula Paolo VI, depending upon weather conditions. You will arrive early to avoid lines and crowds, so there will be some waiting. Modest attire is required; knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered. Shorts are not allowed. Wear comfortable shoes; bring water, a hat and sunscreen.

## The Etruscans





Begin your tour with a drive to **Tarquinia**, founded in the 7th century BC, and now known as a magnificent Etruscan burial ground.

You will see the Palazzo Vitelleschi -- an excellent example of early Renaissance architecture, whose **Archeological Museum** houses the remains of the mysterious Etruscan population.

Visit the necropolis, containing thousands of tombs dating from the 6th to the 1st century BC, many of which have not yet been explored.

Next, at Mandoleto Farm, you will sample typical agricultural products. The tasting includes canapés with pâté, bruschetta (toasted farm-made bread with pure extra-virgin olive oil), honey marmalade, and several different local wines.

Notes:

Tour does not operate on Mondays.

## The Keys of Heaven





## Approximately 9¼ Hours





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## Be the first to write a review

Experience the splendor of the **Pope's private Summer Estate**, recently open to the public by special concession of Pope Francis. Here, the splendor of art and the glory of nature co-exist in a perfect equilibrium. Built atop the villa of Emperor Tito Flavius, in the hills south of Rome, the estate overlooks the lake of Castel Gandolfo. The 135-acre complex has been a second home for all Popes since 1626. A drive through the estate introduces you to its fascinating gardens, majestic fountains, and a flower bed where the Pope's Coat of Arms is created with colorful blossoms. Watch for the Roman ruins, including an amphitheatre, and the Pope's farmhouse where milk, yogurt, meat, eggs, fruit, olive oil and wine are produced for the Vatican. You will also see a 1,000-year-old oak tree. After some free time to shop, explore and purchase lunch (at your own expense) in the quaint village of Castel Galdolfo, re-board your motor coach for the drive to the Vatican City. En route, enjoy a comprehensive panoramic drive past the Colosseum, Piazza Venezia, Lungotevere, the Pyramid of Caius Cestius, Circus Maximus and Castel Sant'Angelo. Upon arrival at the Vatican Museum, you'll be whisked through the fast lane to visit one of the most impressive collections in the world, embracing the art from every

period. Your guide will walk you through a portion of this incredible facility. Reaching the **Sistine Chapel**, you will have the chance to look up and marvel at the masterpieces of the great Michelangelo, including his frescoes of *The Creation* on the ceiling and *The Last Judgment* on the altar wall. Finally visit **St Peter's Basilica**—by far the largest church in the world. Of outstanding interest here are Michelangelo's *Pietà*, the bronze statue of St Peter, and Bernini's canopy over the high altar. After an incredibly interesting day, you will drive back to the ship in Civitavecchia.

Please note: Lunch is not included. Modest attire is required for visiting churches or cathedrals; knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered; shorts and capri pants are not allowed. Flash photography not permitted in the Vatican Museum. Photography or video of any kind is not permitted in the Sistine Chapel.

## The Vatican's Sacred Scenes



## Approximately 11 Hours \$\$\$\$ Enjoyed it? 4.5 out of 5 Value 4.2 out of 5 5 out of 6(83%)reviewers would recommend this product to a friend. Read all 6 reviews

## Write a review

Relax during a 1½-hour journey by minibus to the center of Rome. Your guide will give you a map and help you to plan your approximately 3½ hours of **free time** in the wonderful city of **Rome**.

After your free time, re-board your minibus for a transfer to the Vatican, where your **private**Vatican tour begins at the Porta di Bronzo, the Bronze Gate, on Viale Vaticano. Once inside, you will visit the Vatican Museums and St Peter's Basilica, including the most interesting "off the beaten track" hidden corners, as well as special sections closed to the general public.

Visit the Cappella Niccolina, the private worship place of the Pope. Under Nicholas V (1447-55) the Vatican became a court of the muses -- the Pope was an art-lover and in 1448 asked the famous painter Fra Angelico to embellish this private chapel. Three walls are covered with frescoes representing scenes from the lives of St Stephen and St Lawrence, two archdeacons who had been widely venerated in Rome since the early Middle Ages. Fra Angelico was able to accomplish this considerable amount of work only with the assistance of a large workshop, including Benozzo Gozzoli.

Next, you will admire the **Carriage Museum**, founded by Paul VI in 1973. It is located in a large room under the Square Garden and contains saddles, carriages, automobiles and sedan chairs used by the various popes. Curiosities include some 19th-century carriages, a model of Vatican City's first train engine (1929) and a Berlin built for Leo XII, used by popes for gala occasions until the tenure of Pius XI.

Continue your exclusive tour to the **Room of Tears**. During the conclave for the election of the new Pope, when finally one of the cardinals obtains 50% plus one of the votes, he is declared Pope; at this point he must accept the assignment and choose his Papal name. Then, he goes to a special dressing room to don the Papal clothes. In this room, he becomes the Pope and, due to the strong emotions experienced there, this room is called the Room of Tears (Sala del Pianto).

Proceed to the Pinacoteca, commissioned by Pius IX in 1931 to house a collection of paintings. Many of the paintings on exhibit were taken to Paris by Napoleon in 1797, but returned to Italy after the Congress of Vienna (1815). The works, covering from the Middle Ages to 1800, are set in chronological order in eighteen rooms. Among the masterpieces you will see the Raphael's *Crowning of the Virgin, Madonna of Foligno* and *Transfiguration*, Leonardo's *St Jerome*, and the *Deposition from the Cross* by Caravaggio.

Another "off limits" section of the Vatican Museums is the **Sala degli Ori,** where precious Etruscan jewels dating back to the 8th century BC are beautifully displayed.

Finally, continue to **St Peter's treasure room** where you will be amazed by a collection of precious objects given for consecration of the Basilica.

Notes:

Tour does not operate on Sundays or Catholic holidays.

## **Transfer to Rome**





This **transfer** may suit you if you would like to **explore on your own**. It consists of a motor coach ride from the ship to the city. You will be dropped off at a central location, and the coach escort will advise you of the pick-up time for the return journey.

## Notes:

Guide service, taxi transfers, entrance fees and lunch are not included in the transfer price. It will be your responsibility to be at the drop-off point at the given return time. An English-speaking escort will be aboard the transfer motor coach to answer questions en route.

## Vatican Museums & St Peter's Basilica





Don't miss this perfect introduction to the sovereign **State of the Vatican**.

Come explore the richest storehouse of art in the entire world at the **Vatican Museums**. As you walk through one room after another in the Vatican, you will be awed by the size and scope of the incredible collections displayed in the Tapestry and Geographical Maps Galleries, and the Candelabra Gallery.

Reach the **Sistine Chapel**, perhaps the most famous church in the world, which holds a priceless collection of masterpieces by Botticelli, Signorelli, Perugino, and, of course, *Genesis* and *The Last Judgment* by Michelangelo Buonarroti, who spent four grueling years painting 10,000 square feet of the chapel's ceiling.

Enter the vast expanse of **St Peter's Square**, which can hold more than 300,000 people. Pass through the embracing arms of Bernini's colonnades and enter **St Peter's Basilica**, Christendom's largest church. To appreciate its enormity, look at the metal markers on the floor inside showing the comparative lengths of other churches and cathedrals. Suspended over the altar, where the Pope celebrates mass, is the gilded papal canopy called the Baldacchino, created by Bernini in the 17th century. In the apse is the splendid gilt and bronze throne, also designed by Bernini. Then view one of the best-known pieces of sculpture in the world -- the *Pietà*, Michelangelo's masterpiece in white marble.

A delicious Italian lunch will be served at a traditional restaurant.

En route back to the pier, you will enjoy a brief **panoramic drive** through the city, which will take you by the most fascinating sights in town: Barberini Square with the Triton Fountain; Via Veneto -- a very elegant street, with the most fashionable sidewalk cafés, expensive shops, luxurious hotels; the Forum; the Colosseum -- arguably the most Roman of Imperial Monuments; Circus Maximus, where chariot races took place during the Roman Empire and immortalized in the movie *Ben Hur*; and Palatine Hill with the Residence of Roman Emperors. Driving along the old Ostiense Way, cross the ancient borders of the city and pass through the Aurelian Walls. Pass St Paul's Gate and the Pyramid of Caius Cestius and end your tour at the pier in Civitavecchia.

## Notes:

This excursion does not operate on Sundays and Catholic holidays. Expect crowds and long lines. This excursion is available only to guests who are returning to the ship. The visit to the Vatican Museums is not a private visit. Modest attire is required; knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered. Shorts are not allowed. Use of an audio headset (included) will enhance your tour experience.