

Rome: the Green City



The layout of Rome on seven hills and the uneven nature of the soil have never discouraged the construction of large villas, yet have obliged architects to rack their brains so to obtain an even more spectacular effect from the natural unevenness. The mildness of the climate has made possible the cultivation of many species of trees, exotic as well as Mediterranean: besides pines, firs and cypresses one finds African palms and banana trees, which make together the capital's parks very fascinating.

Day 1 – Rome

Arrival at the hotel. Accommodation.

In the afternoon half-day panoramic tour of the historical centre of Rome including the Coliseum, via dei Fori Imperiali, Piazza Venezia and the Capitoline Hill.. Dinner and overnight

Day 2 – Rome

Breakfast at the hotel.

In the morning visit of Villa Torlonia and the Art Nouveau Casina delle Civette (House of the Owls) which leads the visitor into a fairy tale atmosphere (Mussolini lived here from 1925 to 1943) . Proceeding along via Nomentana, arrival at the church of Sant'Agnese, visit to the catacombs and the Mausoleum of Santa Costanza with a circular shape.

In the afternoon, not far from here, visit to the park of Villa Ada (which is one of the favourite places of those people who love nature and sport).

On to Villa Borghese, perhaps the most famous Roman park with its six kilometres of perimeter created for Paul the Vth Borghese (1605-1621). Worth visiting is its Casino dell'Uccelliera and Casino della Meridiana. One of the most famous spots in the villa is Piazza di Siena, used for horse races, tournaments and other demonstration.

The main villa Via Pinciana houses the Borghese collection, rich in masterpieces of painting and sculpture. We can enjoy a marvellous view of Rome from "The Pincio". Descending the Spanish Steps we reach Piazza di Spagna. Here we will taste a cup of tea with a slice of cake in one of the most famous cafés.

Day 3 – Rome

After breakfast guided visit to the Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel.

We will continue with the visit to the park of Villa Pamphili, created by Innocenzo the Xth Pamphili, an immense green and airy park filled with enchanting nooks and crannies where one completely forgets to be in the city. In the afternoon visit of Villa Sciarra, situated on the slopes of the Janiculum Hill. From a botanical point of view Villa Sciarra is one of the most interesting parks in Rome. We will reach then on foot the famous piazza Garibaldi from where we can enjoy a marvellous panorama of Rome. Return to hotel. Dinner and overnight.

Day 4 – Rome

Breakfast in the hotel.

Remaining in the "green" field a visit to a Golf club can be arranged for those who love playing golf in the "Eternal City"; or an excursion to the area named "Castelli Romani" become famous for its Frascati wine. Visit to a cellar and wine tasting.

Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

Day 5 – Rome

Breakfast at the hotel. During the day departure.