

italian tours and

*Travel* by Diana

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f Italian Tours by Diana

## Custom Journey to Rome, Italy: 2773 Years of History

April 23, 2021 SP

Buon Compleannoll Or Happy Birthday Bella Romall

On April 21, 2021 Rome celebrated its 2773<sup>rd</sup> Birthday!! The history of the glorious city of Rome spans an astounding 28 centuries. On April 21st, 753 BC, Romulus is said to have founded the city and its earliest populations originated from ancient tribes. The predominant of these tribes were the Latins, Etruscans and Sabines.

In celebration of this milestone, we here at Italian Tours by Diana are offering a special journey for anyone interested in an in-depth experience in the Eternal City!

Day 1 Depart USA

Board your international flight to Rome, Italy. (independently booked)

Day 2 Arrive Rome

Buongiorno e Benvenuti! Welcome to Rome. Upon arrival at the Roma Fiumicino airport, retrieve your luggage and proceed to the arrivals hall. Here, meet your private driver for a ride to your hotel in the city center. Please note that check in time is typically between 2:00-3:00 pm. Roma, "The Eternal City," is the Capital of Italy! After checking in to your hotel, in your free time you may wish to visit the Trevi Fountain to toss in your coin or the iconic Spanish steps. Campo Dei Fiori is also a lively spot with a wide choice of pubs and pizzerias. The Jewish ghetto and the Trastevere neighborhood are not far as well. The stunning Castel Sant'Angelo is very near to St. Peter's Basilica along the Tiber River. This is where parts of the film Roman Holiday were shot. Overnight in Rome.

PT/H

Rome



Day 3 Roma Antica

Breakfast at the hotel. Today, meet your private, bilingual certified guide in the hotel lobby for a guided tour of Ancient Rome. As you walk through the vivacious city of Rome, your senses are simultaneously stimulated by antiquity and modern-day society. Feel the heartbeat of the city as you pass through the Piazza Venezia, where you will admire the huge monument dedicated to the first

Italian King, Vittorio Emmanuele II. The Italians refer to this monument as the “Wedding Cake,” and you will see why. Today, this has been dedicated to the memory of the unknown soldiers with the eternal flame. Pass the Teatro Marcello and The Circus Maximus, the site of many chariot races. You will enter The Coliseum, the magnificent Flavian Amphitheatre, where you will envision the gladiator duels, wild beast fights and naval battles which were arranged for the entertainment of the Roman people. Enjoy an in-depth lesson about the construction, history and events that took place here; to save time, we will prearrange entrance tickets. The Arch of Constantine is visible from here as well.

## Pantheon



At the end of your tour, you will visit the Pantheon and discover its unique history as a Roman pagan temple turned Catholic Church. It is also the final resting place of the famous Renaissance artist Raphael. Spend the remainder of your day at your own pace. Overnight in Rome. **B/G/ET/H**

## Day 4 Roma Religiosa + evening food tour

### Vatican



Breakfast at the hotel. Today, meet your private driver and private, bilingual certified guide for a one-way transfer to Vatican City. The visit and discovery of Roma Religiosa will be focused on the religious aspects of Rome, including the history, art and architecture of Vatican City. Visit the Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica. Entrance tickets to the Vatican Museums will be provided for your convenience. Please note that modest dress is required and shoulders and knees must be covered. From the Swiss Guard to the Vatican Gardens, learn the unique story of the home of Catholicism. The journey through the Vatican Museums will proceed through the Gallery of the Candelabra, the Gallery of Tapestries and the Gallery of Maps. From these Galleries, enter directly into the Raphael Rooms, where you will observe the extraordinary frescoes executed by Raphael and the Sistine Chapel. Receive an explanation of the Last Judgement and Sistine Chapel beforehand, so you can admire the silent Chapel painted by Michelangelo. The actual visit to the Basilica, the largest Christian place in the World, will include a viewing of the magnificent Pieta by Michelangelo, Bernini's

bronze Baldacchino (canopy), and the throne of St. Peter.

## Trevi's Fountain

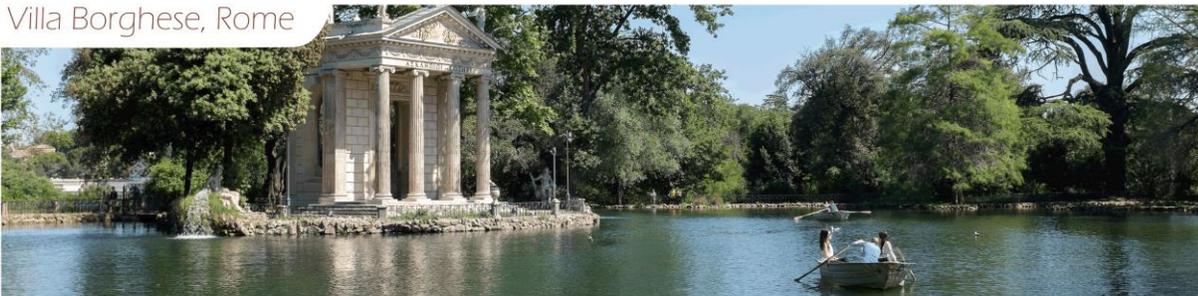


This evening, meet your guide for a night-time experience. Rome by night is as charming as at daylight! In the evening, you will enjoy a visit to the Trevi Fountain, IL Gianicolo featuring Piazza Garibaldi, (from here you will enjoy 360 degree views of the Eternal City), Castel Sant'Angelo, The exterior of the Pantheon (a spectacular site illuminated at night) Piazza Venezia and Piazza Navona. Along the way, you will stop at different restaurants for tastes of local cuisine. Your tour will end with gelato at our favorite Roman Gelateria. Overnight in Rome.

**B/PT/G/ET/G/D/H**

## Day 5      Borghese Gardens & Museum

### Villa Borghese, Rome



Breakfast at the hotel. Today, meet your private driver for a one-way transfer to Villa Borghese. We will arrange tickets (\*based on availability\*) to the Villa Borghese for an independent visit of The Gardens and Museum. We highly recommend adding an audio guide on the spot as well. The Borghese Gardens were designed by Scipione Borghese and built by architect Flaminio Ponzio, following the design of traditional English gardens to house a number of villas, museums and garden walks. The space was originally designed to host the "party/leisure residence" of the Borghese family along with their collection of Bernini and Antonio Canova sculptures and paintings by Titian, Raphael and Caravaggio. These are still housed today in the famed Borghese Museum. The space is the second largest park in Rome and is the ideal destination for a leisurely walk immersed in pure green surroundings, a very rare opportunity in Rome. After your time at the Villa, make your own way back to the hotel. Overnight in Rome.

**B/PT/ET/H**

Day 6      Cooking Lesson

## Cooking Lesson



Breakfast at the hotel. Today, meet your private driver for a transfer to your cooking lesson. During the course of this 5-hour experience, you will work alongside a chef and small group to create a four-course menu: appetizer, fresh pasta, second course and dessert! After enjoying the meal, make your own way back to the hotel. Enjoy the rest of the day at your own pace. Prepare for your overseas flight. Overnight in Rome.    **B/PT/CL/L/H**

Day 7      Depart Rome

Breakfast at the hotel and check out. Meet your private driver for transfer to the airport. Board your international flight to begin your journey back to the USA. Arrivederci, Bella Italia!                      **B/PT**

**CODES:** B=Breakfast    L=Lunch    D=Dinner    H=Hotel    G=Guide    ET=Entrance Ticket  
PD=Private Driver    PT=Private Transfer    TRTK=Train Ticket    BR= Boat Ride    WT=Wine Tasting  
PWT=Private Water Taxi                      CL=Cooking Lesson

Your custom itinerary includes:

- 24/7 concierge service from Diana & staff
- 5 nights in hotels
- 5 breakfasts
- 5 private transfers
- 3 private bilingual certified guides
- 3 entrance tickets per traveler
- 1 cooking lesson with 1 lunch per person

Price per person for the land portion of this journey, based on 2 travelers with double occupancy, is \$2773.00 + international airfare for Autumn 2021

Price per person for the land portion of this journey, based on 2 travelers with double occupancy, is \$2774.00 + international airfare for 2022

The price that you have been quoted is valid as noted below, based on your departure date:

- Less than 3 months – price is valid for 3 business days
  - 3-6 months – price is valid for 1 week from today
  - 6-12 months – price is valid for 2 weeks from today
  - More than 12 months – price is valid for 1 month from today
- \*All pricing is subject to change based on availability.

Once the “flow” of the itinerary is perfect for your journey, we are happy to provide a package price, per person, for the land portion only. Due to confidential and exclusive contracts with our suppliers, we are unable to accommodate requests for price breakdowns. Kindly note that your final quote for the land portion of this journey does not include international airfare, tipping, meals where not indicated and a city tax required by the European governments to be paid upon check out of each hotel. The tax is to be paid in cash and is approximately 1.50-5.00 euro per person per day.

## Working with Italian Tours by Diana

### Part 1: Getting to Know You

**Step 1: Tell Us Your Dreams** – Congratulations! You have decided to start planning that long awaited trip to Europe! A member of the Italian Tours by Diana (ITBD) team will meet with you (either by phone, video conference, or in person) to discuss the overall vision for your upcoming journey and to understand which destinations and activities may or may not appeal to you. This will help establish a framework for your itinerary. We will also need to be notified of any special travel needs or requests at this time.

**Step 2: Travel Budget** – As part of our initial discussion, it is imperative to know what your travel budget is. This budget will help us in balancing the amount of activities and level of accommodations in order to deliver what you desire.

**Step 3: Your Profile** – In addition to capturing your travel wishes, we will also need to receive each traveler’s personal information such as name, address, phone number, and email address.

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### Part 2: Itinerary Design and Pricing

**Step 4: The Design Process** – Once we have received all necessary information, ITBD will begin the itinerary design process. Please keep in mind that each itinerary is custom crafted and may require several business days to design. Once the itinerary is complete, it will be emailed to you for review.

**Step 5: Receive Your Quote** – Once you approve the flow of your itinerary, Diana will price your journey, doing her best to stay within your budget. She will provide a package price per person for services booked by ITBD. Kindly keep in mind that the budget process is involved and may require several business days to complete.

**Step 6: Approval and Deposit** - Once you receive pricing and decide to move forward with travel arrangements, a 50% deposit per person will be required. ITBD accepts the following payment methods: credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express), personal check, wire transfer, and money order. In case of returned checks, ITBD will charge a \$50. fee per occurrence. At this time, we will also need all travelers' passport information. Per the U.S. Department of State, your passport should have at least six months validity after your return date for all international travel.

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### Part 3: Formalizing the Details

**Step 7: Terms and Conditions Contract** – Before any reservations can be made on your behalf, all travelers or legal guardians of travelers are required to sign ITBD's Terms and Conditions contract. This contract must be signed within one week of its receipt. Please note that by signing the contract or by continued engagement of ITBD for your travel arrangements, you are automatically agreeing to ITBD's terms and conditions.

**Step 8: Travel Insurance** – Because you are making an investment in your dream vacation, we highly recommend you protect it by purchasing travel insurance. We are partnered with an outside insurance agency who offers three different plans. We would be more than happy to provide a quote for you upon request. Please note that in order to be covered for any pre-existing conditions, it is required to purchase insurance within 14 days of any payment made towards your trip, including airfare. If you choose to independently purchase insurance through another company, a copy of the insurance policy must be submitted to ITBD.

**Step 9: Reservations** – Once all deposits and Terms and Conditions contracts are received by ITBD, we will begin the reservations process. Please keep in mind many services we book on your behalf are prepaid and non-refundable. Any changes you make to your itinerary after a deposit has been placed can incur additional charges. Hotels in Europe are rated by the local government. In general, European bathrooms and bedrooms are smaller when compared to bathrooms and bedrooms at equivalent star rated hotels in the USA. Beds are also smaller than those found in America. Typically, double beds are two single beds pushed together. Also, as with many historic buildings in Europe, rooms tend to vary from one to the next in size, layout, decor and view, some not offering a view at all. Hotel rooms are typically assigned to guests in random order by the hotel, unless there is a particular request related to a health concern or mobility issue. Once all hotel reservations are made and confirmed, ITBD will send a list of your hotels upon request.

**Step 10: Final Payment** – Final payment is due no later than 90 days prior to your travel departure date. Kindly mark that date on your calendar and contact ITBD on or before that date to arrange final payment.

**Step 11: Final Package Meeting** – Approximately 2-3 weeks before your travel departure date, we will again meet with you (either by phone, video conference, or in person), to discuss the final and confirmed details of your itinerary. These meetings average one hour in duration. In addition, you will receive a final package folder that contains a copy of your expanded itinerary, any flight, train, or entrance tickets needed, and our general travel guidelines. Whenever possible, this meeting should be scheduled at the time a deposit is placed.

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### Part 4: Buon Viaggio

**Step 12: Peace of Mind** – It is important to keep an open mind and spirit of adaptation when traveling abroad, as you will be in a different country with a diverse culture and standard of living. However, our 24-hour concierge service will be available to you should you need any support from our team.

**Step 13: Welcome Back!** – We would love to hear about your special journey! Upon your return home, we kindly ask that you provide a testimonial of your experience abroad as well as your favorite photo for our website.