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where

ROME CITY GUIDE

COVER IMAGE BY
RINA SCENTE

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Rome
where
24
YEARS

SIGHTSEEING | MUSEUMS | ENTERTAINMENT | SHOPPING | DINING | MAPS

Ask the Concierge



Marco Monti is the Head Concierge of Villa Spalletti Trivelli, a luxury hotel atop the Quirinal Hill that is affiliated with Condé Nast Johansens. The verdant garden and stately atmosphere mean guests immediately realize this isn't just any old five-star hotel, but their very own secret corner of Rome in which they can feel completely at home. Monti chats with *WHERE* and reveals his expert tips to get the most out of the Eternal City.

1 What makes Rome different from other capital cities?

The fact that the historic center is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and contains hundreds of archeological marvels, as well as a variety of monuments, architectural styles, parks, and stunning panoramic views. It's a place of incomparable beauty.

2 What's your favorite hidden corner?

I'm in love with Monti. The area, with its shops and boutiques, still has a village-like atmosphere. From there I like to walk past the Colosseum to Villa Celimontana, a beautiful park that hosts a jazz festival in summer. Outside the historic center, I recommend visiting the Coppede neighborhood with its mix of Art Nouveau, Art Deco, baroque, and gothic styles.

3 And a romantic spot?

Thanks to its seven hills, Rome offers a number of beautiful panoramic spots but my favorite is from the Janiculum Hill. Watching the sunset there followed by dinner down the hill in Trastevere is an especially romantic evening.

4 When your friends come to visit, where do you take them?

When in Rome, do as the Romans do! I take them to a rustic trattoria to sample typical Roman food, followed by a stroll through Piazza Navona, Campo de' Fiori, and the Jewish

Ghetto. After our tour of the center, we head to the alternative neighborhood of Pigneto for a coffee in the favorite bar of director Pier Paolo Pasolini, Bar Necci.

5 What is one of the most unusual things that has happened to you as a concierge?

During breakfast a couple once asked me to arrange a helicopter to take them to Sardinia by the afternoon. I thought they were joking as such a last minute request seemed impossible, but by 3pm they were landing on the Emerald Coast.



6 Is there an event on this month that'd you recommend to visitors?

If you love classical music, don't miss a concert of the Santa Cecilia Orchestra.

7 Are there any "insider tips" you'd like to share with our readers?

Don't be afraid to knock on doors, explore, and enter courtyards, you'll be constantly surprised at what you discover. Also, wear a comfortable pair of shoes.

8 Is there a restaurant you could suggest with an excellent price/quality ratio?

Taverna dei Fori Imperiali in Monti [Via della Madonna dei Monti, 9] never lets me down.

9 Lastly, Rome is most beautiful...

At sunset, when the light makes the pine trees and grand palazzos even more magical.

TRANSPORTATION

Bici & Baci

Explore the Eternal City on two wheels by renting a bicycle or motor scooter. Fully appreciate the beauty of Rome, visit the archaeological sites and hotspots, and discover unknown gems that are off the usual tourist trails with complete autonomy and freedom of movement. Bicycle and Vespa tours are also offered. Info: 064828443. Via Cavour, 302. **Map E4.** Via del Viminale, 5. **Map G3.** Vicolo del Bottino, 8. **Map E2.** bicibaci.com

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Principal bus terminals: Termini Station, Pza Venezia, Largo Argentina. Metro lines A and B operate daily, 5:30am–11:30pm, Sat until 1:30am. Single ticket: €1.50; valid 100 minutes on one or more buses and/or one metro ride. Validate ticket on bus or upon entering metro. 1-day pass: €6; 3-day pass: €16.50; 7-day pass: €24. Tickets available at ticket machines, bars, tobacconists, and newsstands. Tel 800431784.

TAXIS

Can be picked up at taxi stands or hailed. Don't trust people who approach you at stations, airports, or tourist sites offering taxis. Authorized taxis can be called at: 064994, 063570, 066645, 065551, 0688177. €48 flat fare between Fiumicino and center; €30 between Ciampino and center.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS

To Fiumicino and Ciampino Airport (by train and coach)

Non-stop Leonardo Express departs Termini Station and arrives inside Fiumicino Airport. 31 mins. €14 one-way. Trains also run to and from Trastevere, Ostiense, Tuscolana, and Tiburtina stations, €8 one-way. trenitalia.it

CAR RENTALS

Avis (Fiumicino)—Tel 0665011531/06419941

Europcar—Tel 800014410/064882854

Hertz—Tel 199112211/064740389

Maggiore (Fiumicino)—0665010678/064880049

CHAUFFEUR SERVICES

Diamond Chauffeur

Whether you need a comfortable ride to the airport, a convenient way to visit the city, a chauffeur for your wedding day, or transportation for a large party, this top-notch service has you covered. Quality and professionalism are guaranteed. S- and E-class Mercedes, minivans, and minibuses available. English spoken. Via Giorgio Scalia, 10b. Tel 3440513753. **Map A2** diamondchauffeurservice.it

Driver in Rome

This luxury car rental company offers transfer to and from Rome's airports and Civitavecchia port, using high-quality limousines, town cars, and minibuses with experienced and professional drivers. Tailored services with large coaches available. Also organizes day trips and guided tours to Naples, the Amalfi Coast, Venice, Florence, and Assisi. Tel 0661522395/Cell 3384180978. info@driverinrome.com

Limu Event

Hire an all-white 8.6 meter limousine and enjoy Happy Hour on board your private eight-person vehicle, with