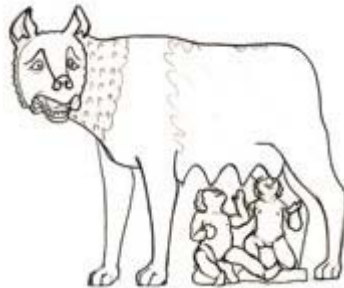


WALKS FOR FAMILIES WITH KIDS IN ROME

ANCIENT ROME DISCOVERY

DURATION: 3 hours

PRICE: from €270 per group



Lasting 1000 years, the period of ancient Rome, with its many emperors, warriors, poets, and myths, can be tricky to understand. This walk was designed to give families an entry point for grappling with antiquity and thus is an excellent starting point for any Roman adventure.

Ancient Rome Discovery brings families into the archaeological heart of Rome where we encounter the stories of Romulus and Remus, the artistic and political achievements of the emperors, and the everyday lives of ancient Roman citizens. Although stories figure predominantly into the walk, the emphasis is on learning and putting Rome in context.

We begin with the Colosseum, emblematic of Roman engineering prowess and social complexity. This site, often that most iconic for children, presents a great jumping point to delve into the lives of ancient Romans. We will take our time here, while our docent helps us explore the construction and history of this spectacular space, painting a vivid picture its history and encouraging lively discussion between children and adults by using inquiry-based learning techniques.

If the stories of gladiators interest the group, we'll make a special side visit to the Ludus Magnus, a training area for gladiators from which they could enter the Colosseum via an underground tunnel. This site, discovered in the 20th century, offers an intriguing look into the everyday lives of the gladiators and is especially eye-opening for children, as they can draw mental pictures of the ancient training area.

Lastly, we'll stroll down the via dei Fori Imperiali and touch on the Imperial Fora, a string of open plazas and temples and other structures, built by the emperor Augustus and his successors as Rome grew and expanded during its incredible rise to dominance. These magnificent structures culminate in the markets of Trajan, where the past and present intertwine to bring history alive in ways that are only possible in Rome.

When you book your Ancient Rome Discovery, we will add the price of Colosseum tickets and reservations (14 euro). This will be calculated when you checkout according to the number of people in your group. You will need to purchase entrance tickets to Trajan's Markets (€6.50) during the course of the walk. **Please note that only children from the European Union are eligible for a discounted ticket. Children from the United States and Canada must pay full price.**

If you will be using a Rome Archeological Pass or Roma Pass for the entrance fees, please note this in

special requests so you will not be charged for entrance. These passes, however, must be purchased before the tour and in order to use the Roma Pass, the Colosseum must be one of your two free entries allowed.

In order to plan the best possible experience for your children, it would be helpful for us know some background. Have they traveled to other countries in the past? If so, where? Have they studied any subjects in school that would relate to the walk? Are they interested in art, music, even food! The more you can tell us, the better.

Please note that this walk does not cover the Roman Forum or Palatine Hill.

Due to the very interactive nature of this program and given the educational environment our docent aim to evoke, we adhere to a very strict maximum of 6 participants. Groups larger than 6 will need to book two separate walks that can run concurrently, but with different docents.

UNDERGROUND ROME

DURATION: 2 hours

PRICE: €220 per group (excluding tickets)



One of the best ways for your family to understand Roman history is to see it literally layer by layer. Lying at times up to 10 meters below the modern city, much of ancient Rome is still being excavated today. On this walk your family will explore the hidden, subterranean levels of Rome, and learn how we are still uncovering bits and pieces of it today.

This walk focuses on two sites. The first is the church of San Clemente, a medieval church built on the remains of a 1st century Mithraic temple and Roman structure (perhaps a house, though there is a theory that this is the Roman mint reputed to be located in this area). After exploring the two medieval churches that sit on top of these ruins, one of which contains one of the oldest instances of Italian writing in the world, we'll move to the church of SS. Giovanni e Paolo, underneath which we find a series of middle-class 3rd century houses. Here we will look at how average people lived and decorated their houses, and then how these ancient sites were transformed during the Middle Ages. Both of these sites are sure to inspire animated discussions with your family about early Roman life and culture, as well as the way that Romans have historically re-used structures to develop its modern urban landscape.

Children are sure to enjoy simply descending into Rome's depths, like a modern archaeologist, sure to uncover some secret. You will be required to purchase tickets on-site: €5 for San Clemente and €6.50 for the houses on the Celian Hill.

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VATICAN FOR FAMILIES

DURATION: 3 hours

PRICE: €290 per group, excluding tickets



The Vatican is a tough place to bring kids: The lines are long and the crowds inside unforgiving. But since this is an important site in Rome and critical to one's cultural education, we've developed a way of approaching the Vatican that will give your children a basic introduction to art and religion without overtaxing anyone's patience.

Note: This is a **three-hour walk of the Museums alone**. It ends in the piazza in front of the Basilica of St. Peter, but does not include the Basilica.

After a general introduction to the history of the Vatican as an institution, we begin our visit to the Museums with the chronologically-arranged picture gallery known as the Pinacoteca, where your docent, who is trained in inquiry-based learning techniques, will conduct an interactive "seminar" on painting from the Medieval period to the high Renaissance, using masterworks by Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, and other painters as a backdrop.

From here, we'll take refuge from the crowds in the cafe. Here your docent will give the group a primer on the Sistine Chapel, using handouts and photos, as our time in the chapel is limited by Vatican restrictions.

We will then resume our walk through the Museums, making our way to the Sistine Chapel, where Michelangelo's masterpieces of the painted ceiling and Last Judgment provide a backdrop for our continued discussion of art, the Church, and Rome.

Note: The Vatican Museums are extremely crowded. We organize this walk to take place at the most opportune times. However, we may spend 20-40 minutes at the beginning of the walk waiting in line, during which time our docent will provide an overview and contextualization for the walk. No time will be wasted. As well, conditions within the Museum can be **EXTREMELY** crowded and unpleasant at times. So much so that our philosophy of creating intimate, seminar-like experiences can often be put to the test. If you are deeply interested in either ancient or Renaissance art, we urge you to complement this walk with one of our others that visit less-crowded but equally magnificent sites.

Note: The cost of this tour does not include a ticket to the Vatican Museums, which currently runs €14 per person. Please do not purchase these tickets ahead of time, as the whole group must enter together. Also note that the Vatican has strict dress code requirements; no shorts, short skirts, or bare shoulders. If you come wearing shorts or revealing dress, you will be turned away.

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CAPITOLINE MUSEUMS

DURATION: 3 hours

PRICE: €270 per group, excluding tickets



One of the largest repositories of ancient art in the world, the Capitoline Museum provides an amazing backdrop to a family-oriented seminar on the ancient world, its gods, emperors, and preoccupations. Overlooking the Forum, with its entrance in a piazza by Michelangelo, the museums holds one of the richest and eclectic public art collections in the city.

From the large fragments of the colossal statue of the Emperor Constantine to remains of the Temple of Jupiter and the bronze equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius, the museum is packed full of artworks that can enhance your family's understanding of ancient Rome. During the walk your family will also learn about Roman concepts of beauty, highlighted by marble busts of noblemen and patricians, and depictions of animals from around the ancient world.

The walk will focus on the role of art in the ancient world and how it was used to promote the idea of power. The Capitoline Museums have recently been significantly remodeled, and the temple of Jupiter now plays a major role there. Some time will be spent walking around this structure, itself one of the most important sites in all of ancient Rome, to discuss the role of religion in ancient society.

Note: The cost of this walk excludes your entrance tickets to the museums.

MYTHOLOGY WORKSHOP

DURATION: 2 hours

PRICE: €220 per group, excluding tickets



Spend some time in a museum with a kid and you quickly realize that an understanding of myths and mythology is crucial to understanding art. This workshop takes place in and around the Villa Farnesina, which was the private villa of Agostino Chigi, on the banks of the Tiber River, where the Renaissance

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painter Raphael (and others) painted some of the most important mythological works in the world. A quiet refuge from the bustling city—and uniquely situated off the tourist track—this is the perfect setting for a fascinating discussion of myths, art, and the world of the Renaissance.

Our time begins near the Campo de' Fiori, which will give us the opportunity to explore several nearby *palazzi* and introduce the subject of mythology and its importance in Renaissance art and architecture. We will then amble toward the Trastevere neighborhood, crossing over the Ponte Sisto, a great feat of engineering for the Renaissance popes. If the mood strikes, we may have a chance to do some sketching at this point, as the bridge provides a lovely view of the cupola of St. Peter's.

Your docent will then lead your family into an interactive discussion of the frescoes by Raphael within the Villa Farnesina and their mythological context. Your family will learn about gods and goddesses, hear tales of their exploits, and learn to identify them by their attributes. Your family will also gain insight into ancient Roman religious practices and how they perceived their world. One myth especially prominent in our discussion is that of Cupid and Psyche, an exciting tale of forbidden love between a mortal and a god. Raphael has laid out this story visually in spectacular frescoed loggia at the back of the villa.

In conjunction with learning about each god and goddess, your family will be given drawings, specially created for us by illustrator Jessica Golden, of the gods. These cards, which contain information about each god, can then be used during and after your travels, as once your family is attuned to identifying the attributes of each god, you'll notice them appearing everywhere! For smaller children, these cards can be used to play a scavenger hunt within the villa itself.

The price for this itinerary is exclusive of the cost of tickets to the Villa Farnesina, €5 per person.

GALLERIA BORGHESE FOR FAMILIES

DURATION: 2.5 hours

PRICE: €235 per group, excluding tickets



Small and manageable, yet filled with masterpieces of Renaissance and Baroque art, the private collection of Cardinal Scipione Borghese, housed in the Galleria Borghese, offers one of the best opportunities for children (and their lucky parents) to learn about art and history in Rome.

As nephew to Pope Paul V, Cardinal Borghese was a power broker in 17th century Rome, designing a large, sumptuous garden villa on the edge of Rome to house an amazing collection of art. His impeccable taste and trained eye was virtually unprecedented and set an incredibly high standard for any subsequent private collection that followed. Although looted by Napoleon a century later, the collection remains one of the best in Rome and a perfect setting for an educational visit.

Using inquiry-based learning techniques to stimulate discussion between children and adults, our

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expert docents will create a narrative based on the individual stories of the artists, how they lived, and how they created their masterpieces. Works by Raphael, Bernini, Caravaggio, and Titian feature prominently in the museum, allowing your family to see a broad and iconic range of artists important to Italian art history.

Themes such as mythology and history are predominant, allowing families to draw upon their own knowledge and participate in the story telling, while our docent takes care to point out hidden details and symbols in the works. These details can aid in your understanding and identification of the meaning behind the art. In this way our aim is to not only have your family understand the works in the Galleria Borghese, but to equip you with the basics for understanding other art historical sites and museums during your travels.

Due to the very interactive nature of this program and given the educational environment our docent aim to evoke, we adhere to a very strict maximum of 6 participants. Groups larger than 6 will need to book two separate walks that can run concurrently, but with different docents.