

FROM THE PORT OF ROME

# Basilicas of Rome

## Tour



DURATION

10 hr



TOUR DIFFICULTY

EASY MEDIUM HARD

Your driver will pick you up at your cruise ship for an experience of a lifetime. Learn the history of the main basilicas of Rome, while examining their influence on present-day Rome.

You will visit the Basilica of St. John Lateran, the oldest and most important among the four “Patriarchal” basilicas in Rome (a church in which the high altar has been set aside for use by the Pope or his representative.) It was the first church built for the Pope by Emperor Constantine and has been often restored and transformed until the great restyling by Borromini in 1650. Contrary to what many believe, the Basilica of St. John Lateran is “the mother of all churches”, not St. Peter’s Basilica.

The tour will then take you to the 5th Century Basilica of St. Mary Major, the largest of the 26 churches in Rome dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The monumental façade leads to nearly perfect space inside. The beautifully proportioned nave, equal in length and height, is divided from the side aisles by 40 ancient columns. The ceiling is coffered and gilded with the first gold brought to Europe from America in the 16th C. The nave mosaics are original from the 5th C while the apse medieval mosaic is one of the most beautiful in Rome. Two great baroque gems are the Sistine and Pauline Chapels which are sumptuously ornate, excessive even for baroque standards!

The next stop is Saint Paul outside the Walls. Built in the 4th century over the tomb of the Apostle Paul and embellished during the succeeding centuries, this church expresses the spirit of the early Christian community, even if it had been mainly rebuilt after a tragic fire that destroyed it in 1823.

Finally, you will be taken to St. Peter’s Basilica where you will admire the famed square designed by Bernini as well as the treasures inside the Basilica.





## Highlights Of Your Excursion

- English-speaking driver and private vehicle
- Licensed Expert English-speaking guide
- Visit to Four Major Basilicas: St. Paul Outside the Walls, St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran and St. Peter's
- Lunch at a selected trattoria (not included)



### IMPORTANT NOTE:



- \* Booking must be made 72 hours prior to the excursion.
- \* Group size availability: 1-7 people.
- \* For larger groups, please contact us.

### OTHER INFORMATION



- This Rome Civitavecchia shore excursion to Rome departs from and returns to your cruise ship.
- This is a Private Tour.
- This tour lasts 10 hours from pick up to drop off time. Please note that the journey time between the port of Civitavecchia & Rome is approximately 1.5 hours each way.
- This is a private tour.
- This tour is not fully accessible for wheelchair users or people with walking disabilities. However, please contact us directly and we will be able to take you on alternative routes suitable for you.
- There is a dress code for churches and basilicas. Shoulders and knees must be covered; shorts, miniskirts and sleeveless shirts are not permitted. It is recommended that you not take large bags or backpacks on tours that include churches as storage accommodations are not always available.
- Please wear comfortable footwear as this tour involves a lot of walking.
- Please refer to our website for our Cancellation Policy.

### CONTACT:

#### YOUR OWN ITALY

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