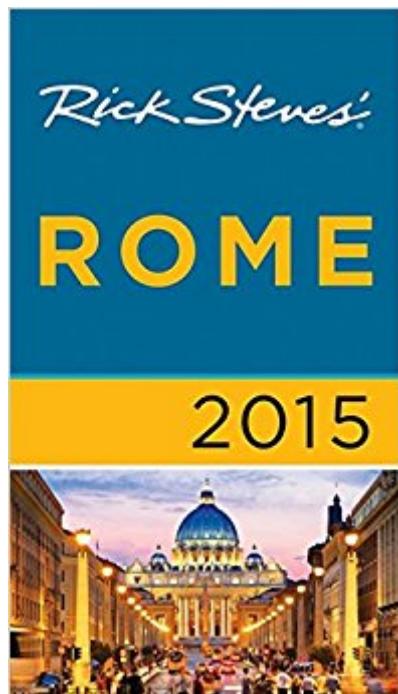


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# Rick Steves Rome 2015



## Synopsis

You can count on Rick Steves to tell you what you really need to know when traveling in the Eternal City of Rome. With the self-guided tours in this book, you'll walk the same streets as the Caesars and discover the secrets of the Colosseum and the Roman Forum. Learn how to avoid the lines at the Vatican Museum and St. Peter's Basilica. Take a night walk across the city and enjoy floodlit fountains and piazzas. Then grab a sidewalk table at the locals' favorite trattoria and watch the world go by. Rick's candid, humorous advice will guide you to good-value hotels and restaurants. You'll learn how to navigate the Rome Metro and which sights are worth your time and money. More than just reviews and directions, a Rick Steves guidebook is a tour guide in your pocket.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Rick Steves has spent 100 days every year since 1973 exploring Europe. Rick produces a public television series (Rick Steves' Europe), a public radio show (Travel with Rick Steves), and an app and podcast (Rick Steves Audio Europe); writes a bestselling series of guidebooks and a nationally syndicated newspaper column; organizes guided tours that take thousands of travelers to Europe annually; and offers an information-packed website (RickSteves.com). With the help of his hardworking staff of 80 at Rick Steves' Europe, Inc. in Edmonds, Washington, just north of Seattle, Rick's mission is to make European travel fun, affordable, and culturally broadening for Americans. Gene Openshaw is a writer, composer, tour guide, and lecturer on art and history. Specializing in writing walking tours of Europe's cultural sights, Gene has coauthored 10 of Rick's

books and contributes to Rick's public television series. As a composer, Gene has written a full-length opera (Matter), a violin sonata, and dozens of songs. He lives near Seattle with his daughter, and roots for the Mariners in good times and bad.

I admit to be a Rick Steves fan, or a "Ricknik". His TV shows are great and between those and his guide books you can really avoid a lot of problems and have a lot more fun on your Eurotrips. We just got back from a week in Rome and the info in this guide allowed us to skip many lines (Vatican Museum, Colosseum, etc) and also helped us find a lot of lesser known but still fantastic sites. We are not billionaires so being able to get a lot of bang for the buck was no problem with the info from this thorough guidebook.

You gotta love Rick Steves. This volume is typical. He provides comprehensive information about the major tourist attractions, including street maps, floor plans of the churches and museums, even cross sections of some of the buildings so that you become familiar with how the structure was built. There is plenty of information about local customs so that you won't embarrass yourself when the hotel clerk asks for your passport, or you're ordering from a carryout. There are insets throughout that give snapshots of history to put the buildings and rulers into context. Too bad there aren't any color photographs or illustrations, but if there were, the book would be so big and bulky you'd never be able to carry it with you, missing the point... We haven't made our trip yet, but it's a very practical guide for planning your stay.

We took four guidebooks to Rome during a recent visit -- this is the one we utilized the most. Good information on attractions and sites in terms of where, how to get there, how much it will cost, when open, etc. We found the sites grouped together as "walks" particularly helpful.

Thank you, Rick Steves! Just got back from our Roma trip. The joke became "do you have Rick?" "What would Rick say?" "Let me check Rick." People, follow Rick's advice! Buy your tickets early -- you will avoid those incredibly long lines. There was a 3-hour wait at the Colosseum and we breezed through with our tour guide from Angel Tours. No guide for the Vatican, but bought tickets in advance and had absolutely NO line. Used the Sistine Chapel short cut to get to St. Peter's and it worked perfectly. It helped that my daughter looked like a tour guide. Have somebody in your group take the lead. And, be sure to check out the deep fried rice balls. And, also consider using Airbnb for lodging. We stayed in Trastevere and it was amazing! I'm hanging on to this book to help me label

all the pictures I took. Ciao!

I went to Eome in 2008, staying in one of his recommended 2 star Roman hotels. (I originally selected 3 star until I did the math: back then the Euro was 1.6 to every US dollar.) I loved loved loved the location he suggested and decided to trust him again for my next trip, spring 2016, in both Rome & Venice. I see that now the 1-5 star system has altered to 1-3 dollar signs. I'm in the "\$" category. About \$1,500 per plane ticket (3 tickets, coach, for 2 with 1 empty seat between us), about \$2,300 for 2 weeks in "\$" hotel, plus lots of meals at grocery stores and museum entrance fees = \$7-7.5 k for 2 for 2 weeks using 1 city as my home base. There are cheaper & more expensive ways to do it: for me, being there with a friend or partner is the goal, not fancy hotels or meals out, and I find 2 weeks about the perfect length. I use his book to assess which sites I want to see most, I mark them with Post It flags on a laminated, folding map, I see which items are grouped together, and choose hotel location from there.

A great and indispensable resource for the following reasons:-Time-saving tips are INVALUABLE. We easily saved hours by following Rick Steve's tips - I estimate that we saved almost a 3/4 of day over the course of our entire stay in Rome. That translated into more sights seen, and conversely more energy on the 'good' stuff, including relaxing.-Wealth of information about major sights. You can use the guidebook in lieu of a purchasing audio guide when visiting major sights. Additionally, Rick Steve's offers free downloadable audio tours for mobile devices. We did this for many of the attractions. Note: from our experience purchased audio guides can still serve a purpose as they can be more detailed and comprehensive but having Rick Steve's guidebook was a great (and free) alternative for many sights.-Walking tours - a great resource that we used quite often as a way to see and really appreciate the city. In these cases, the book is extremely useful to understand and appreciate what you're seeing as you walk around or the history behind an area, especially against the alternative of hiring a private guide or just exploring obviously or not exploring at all (and missing a major experience of travel).

Great in depth info. Rick Steve's really does a fantastic job at researching and gives you some great travel tips. He gives advice on everything from what and how to pack, where to eat, where to sleep, what to see and do, and even where not to waste your money. I will buy his books wherever I travel. :)

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