

# inspire

curious minds

DISCOVER CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

## Germany in Spotlight

Learn about the Brandenburg gate history in Berlin, marvel at the magnificent Moritzburg Castle in Dresden and explore Marienplatz in Munich.

**Magazine 6**

December 7, 2020  
[www.teletourguide.com](http://www.teletourguide.com)





# table of contents

## Berlin 4

The European Metropolis

## Dresden 7

The Elb Florence

## Munich 12

City of Innovation

## Christmas 14

Berlin, Prague, Athens

## Monsters 22

Greek Mythology

## Magellan 23

Ushuaia, Gateway to Antarctica

## Pirates 24

Human rights, African Slaves and Corsairs

## Glamour 25

Royalty and Revolution

## Eiffel 26

Project Management Lesson



INTERVIEW WITH  
ALESSANDRA IN ROME

17

*technology, culture,  
war, destruction,  
construction,  
reunification...*

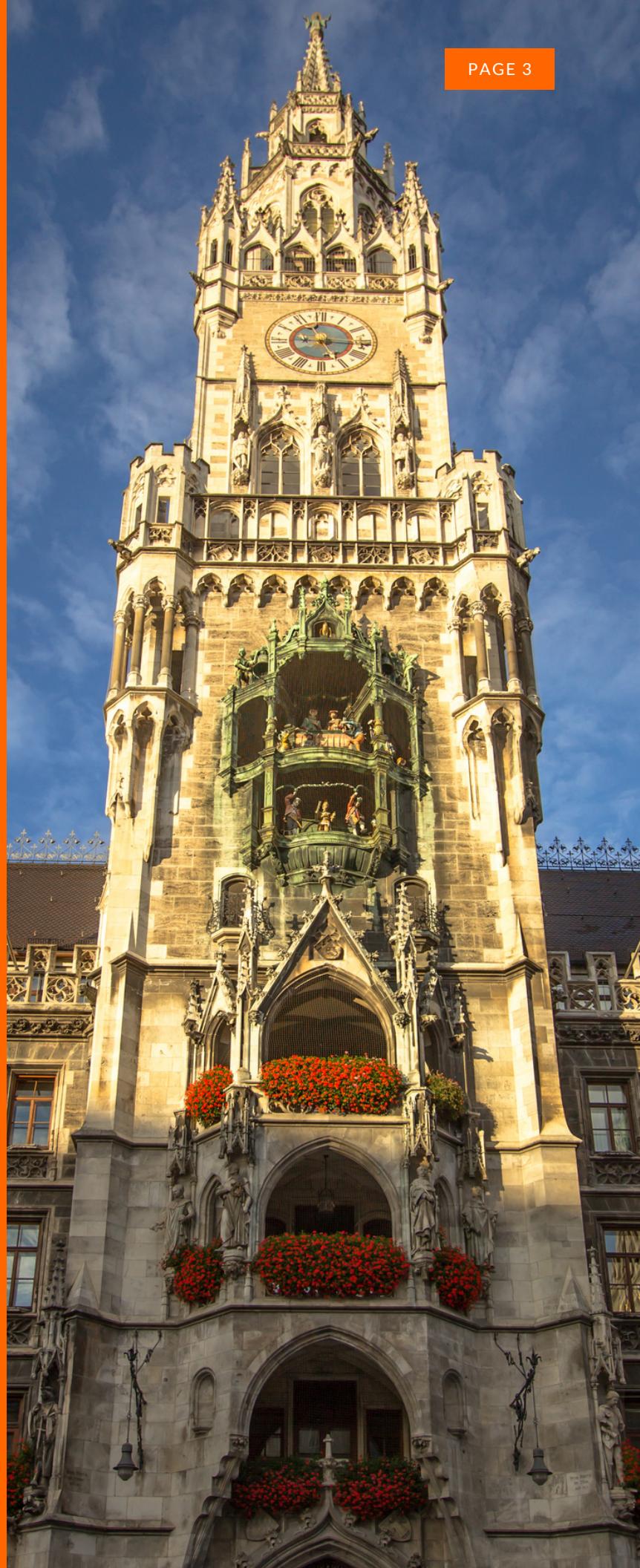
# Servus Germany!

More than 2,000 years ago, barbaric tribes started migrating from the far north into the Roman empire. It's how germanic peoples started their journey....

Germany is located in the heart of Europe. More than 83 million people live here – the most populous country in the European Union.

On the North and Baltic Seas, there are island chains with long sand dunes, swaths of heath and moorland. Dense forests and medieval castles are situated in the rolling mountains of central Germany. And in the south, the Alps with their sparkling lakes rise above the lowlands.

Alongside castles and palaces that are more than 1,000 years old, you will find modern Bauhaus buildings and skyscrapers. Of the 1,092 UNESCO World Heritage Sites worldwide, 44 are located in Germany alone.



# The European Metropolis: Berlin



The Museum Island is a building ensemble consisting of five museums in the northern part of the river Spree island in the historical center of Berlin.

It is one of the most important sights of the German capital and one of the most important museum complexes in Europe.

The Museum Island consists of the Old Museum, the New Museum, the Old National Gallery, the Bode Museum and the Pergamon Museum.

---

In Europe, although Christmas is celebrated at the same time, it varies greatly by location.

In Berlin, the Christmas tradition has often adapted to the times and rulers and has therefore always changed.

The Reformation, the Enlightenment, the civil movement, wars and the Berlin Wall have had a major impact on 800 years of Berlin Christmas history.





# Brandenburg with Markus

The Brandenburg Gate in Berlin is a triumphal gate. It's the most famous Berlin landmark and a German national symbol, associated with many important historical events of the 19th and 20th centuries. Join the conversation with Markus!





# Berlin TV tower with Gaby

With 1200 feet, the Berlin television tower is the tallest structure in Germany and the fourth tallest television tower in Europe. With over a million visitors annually, it's among the ten sights in Germany.



*baroque architecture,  
castles, universities and  
the river Elb*

## Dresden, the Elb Florence

Dresden is the capital of the state of Saxony, located in eastern Germany. When crossing the Elbe River from the new part of town into the historic city centre, it opens an impressive unique panorama.

The Baroque-period buildings in the historic district look especially beautiful at sunset. This is the reason why Dresden was chosen as a royal seat in the 18th century. The view of the Elbe and the city around is absolutely fantastic.

The city of Dresden was almost completely destroyed in World War II. The Baroque buildings, which had once made the city world-famous, were only rebuilt 40 years later after the German reunification in 1990..





# Rising from the Ashes

One of Dresden's most beautiful landmarks, the reconstructed Frauenkirche, is located in the center. After World War II, only a few walls were all that was left of the church. Today, the blackened stones tell a story of the old church before its destruction. Its reconstruction is a symbol of reconciliation and peace after the last world war.



# Pilnitz Castle with Claudia

Pillnitz Castle played an important role during the French Revolution, as the place of the Pillnitz Declaration was signed, which ultimately led to the French Revolution Wars. Pillnitz castle dates back to the 18th century and was meant to be a summer and hunting palace for the king and his court.

# Love, Power and the Fall of the Mistress



The tragic story of the Countess Cosel the mistress of his majesty August the Strong, ruler of Saxony/Germany and King of Poland. Fashion, parties, and an exuberant lifestyle defined of her time at court. Let's walk in the steps of the mistress in the gardens at Pillnitz Castle and whisper secret stories from the Saxon king court...

Hear the story of meteoric rise and downfall... Join the tour, meet the mistress on location in a real baroque outfit and prepare to be surprised.





# Moritzburg Castle

Discover Moritzburg Castle, the hunting lodge of the Saxon kings. Horses and passion, hunts, festivals and battles take place in this magnificent palace complex at the gates of Dresden.



# MÜNCHNER STADTMUSEUM

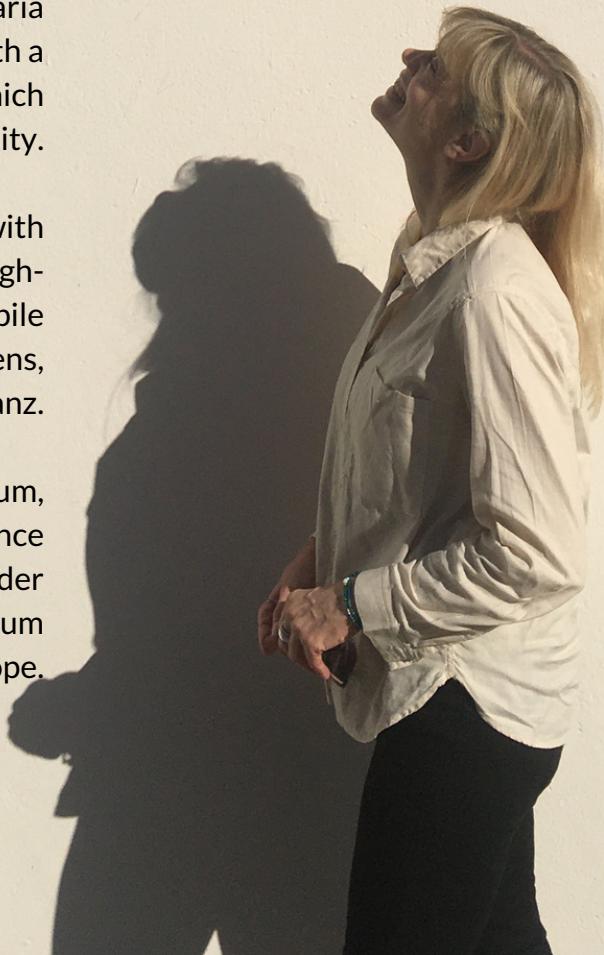
## München with Astrid

This is where Bavarian culture meets cosmopolitan flair: Munich is the capital of the German federal state of Bavaria and lies to the north of the Alps. With a population of around 1.3 million, Munich is Germany's third largest city.

Munich is a strong economic centre with well-known enterprises from the high-tech, electronics and automobile industries such as BMW, Siemens, Infineon, Allianz.

Munich boasts the Deutsche Museum, the world's largest museum of science and technology, the "Pinakothek der Moderne", the most important museum of modern art in Europe.

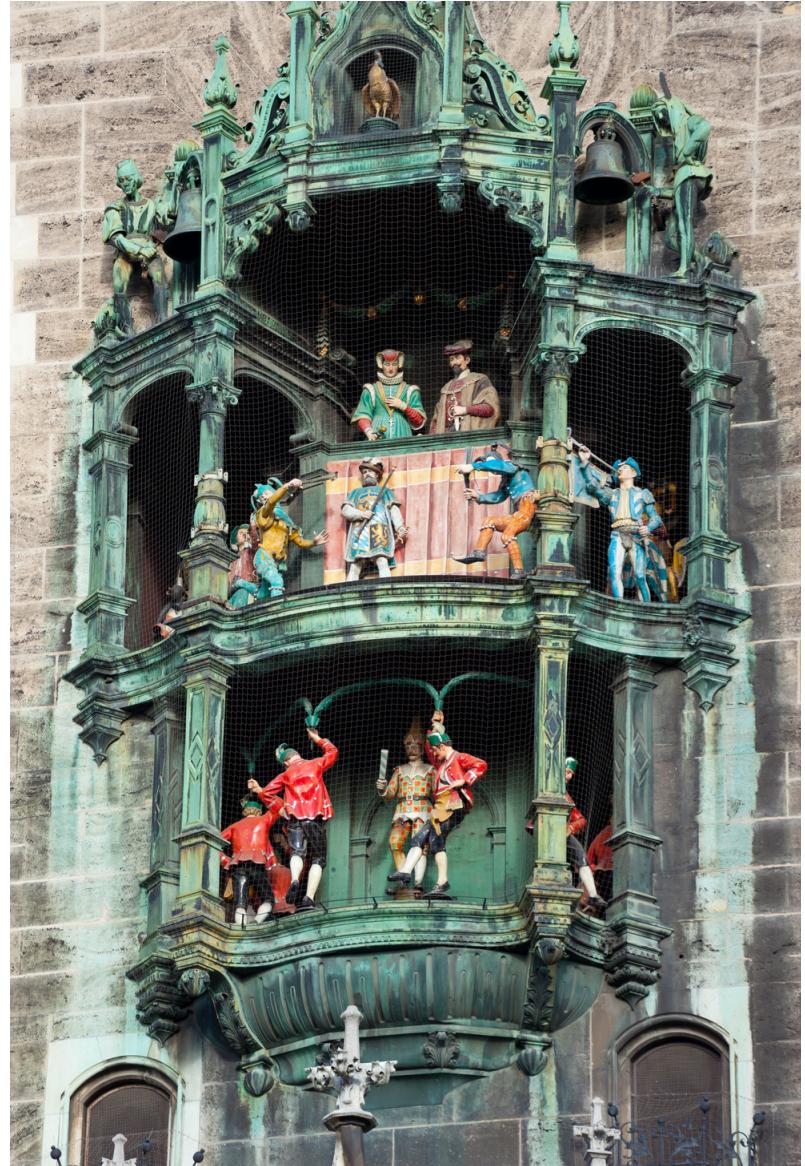
*If you want to get to know locals, just greet them with the word "servus". This means "hello!"*



Munich is home to two of the most prestigious universities in Germany, the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU) and Technische Universität München (TUM). It is also a city of ideas and inventions. Both the German and the European Patent Office have their headquarters on the banks of the river Isar.

## Munich, city of ideas and innovation

Viktualienmarkt is also a good place for meeting people from Munich. You can buy fresh food at this popular market ("Viktualien" is an old term for food) and wander past the stands. A generally accepted motto in Munich is: speaking makes life easier!



The famous Oktoberfest beer festival takes place in the fall. Young and old gather in the huge marquees and celebrate in a relaxed and lively atmosphere with folk music and current hits. It won't take you long to get to know locals and taste some of the best beer in the world. You can even see the mayor there!

## Oktoberfest

The vast festival takes place on the Theresienwiese, and it's all about beer! You'll see women in beautiful traditional Bavarian costume ("Dirndl") and men wearing leather trousers called lederhosen. "Prost!"



# Christmas Traditions Berlin

In Europe, the Christmas festival is not only celebrated at the same time but also very differently. In Berlin, the Christmas tradition has often adapted to the times and rulers and has therefore always changed. The Reformation, the Enlightenment, the civil movement, wars and the Berlin Wall all had a major impact on the 800 years of history of Berlin Christmas.



# Christmas Traditions Athens

Are you a gourmet or a gourmand? Either way, join Dorina in her magical kitchen to discover delicious desserts made only for Christmas. Learn a new recipe or just explore the rich culinary culture of Greece. Certainly the best type of Greek cookies, Melomakarona are established as the dessert beacon of Christmas. Melomakarona are made from flour, olive oil, and honey. After they are cooked, they are dipped in hot syrup made with honey and sugar, and in the end, they are decorated with ground pieces of walnut.



# Christmas Traditions Prague

Enjoy festive Christmas atmosphere in the heart of Prague. During a stroll around the Old Town Square with a main Christmas tree of the city you will hear about local Czech Christmas traditions. You will get to know how a carp made its way to Christmas tables, who brings presents to Czech kids and which Christmas cookies can not miss. Did you know that the famous Christmas carol Good King Wenceslas comes from Czech?



© The

# Rome with Alessandra

Alessandra is a journalist and an official tour guide in Rome. Whenever she is guiding or she is writing an article, her main purpose is to answer to the five W: when, what, where, who and most importantly "why". She loves meeting people, bringing back to life the ancient city, sharing stories and showing ancient art, as well talking about the modern city. Her curiosity drives her to travel all over the world, but there no doubt about where she belongs: Rome. Because Rome is not just a city, it's an attitude!



# Interview with Alessandra

**Alessandra, to visit Rome is a dream for many people. How it is living in Rome?**

Well I am a “Romana de’ Roma” (Roman from Rome) which means that I was born and raised in the city. Even if I am passionate about archeology and art, I must admit that sometimes I pass close to the Colosseum or to St Peter square, and I don't really look at them, I'm just going somewhere. But it happen that while I'm going, I lift my eyes and I see a glimpse of blue sky through the arches of the Colosseum, or a ray of light caressing St. Peter dome, and that beauty caught me by surprise, and I feel an incredible emotion. Sometimes I even cry. I think it is impossible to become accustomed to the magnificence of Rome.

**You are a tour guide in Rome and a journalist.**

**How do you combine the two jobs?**

My passion for both allows me to do what I like the most: meeting people and share information. Journalism was my first love, but my idea of it was romantic. I liked the idea to always run in the city, going somewhere to meet someone. To guide tours started by chance, as a part time job in a private museum 20 years ago. That was the moment I discovered how much I enjoy the connection with people from different countries and cultures. To become a tour guide in Rome it not easy but was worth the effort. A city like Rome, with its extensive history and impossible beauty, constant contrast between ancient and modern gives you the opportunity to confront, to share and to learn from each person you meet every day. And, of course, to be always going somewhere to meet someone.





### **What do you like the most about your tour guide job, and what is the biggest difficulty?**

There is one thing that really make my day as a tour guide. It is when I see on the faces of my clients that the Ancient Rome starts to come back to life for them. There is like a switch in their eyes when a bunch of magnificent ruins starts to become a real city, where people like us where working, and loving, and hoping, just 2000 years ago.



The biggest difficulty is to explain 3000 years in few hours. Rome was never abandoned or destroyed, so everything is connected. The Sistine Chapel is connected to the Colosseum, as well Piazza Navona and its baroque fountains is linked with, ancient Rome, renaissance, and Trevi Fountain. The Pantheon is the most impressive ancient temple you can see in Rome, but it is also a church where every Sunday people go to pray. And then, there are the new districts, and the street art. Many people would be surprised to know that Rome is one of the most important Europe's street art Capital.

# With Alessandra in Rome



**When is the best moment to visit Rome, and what do you think is a must see, besides the highlights?**

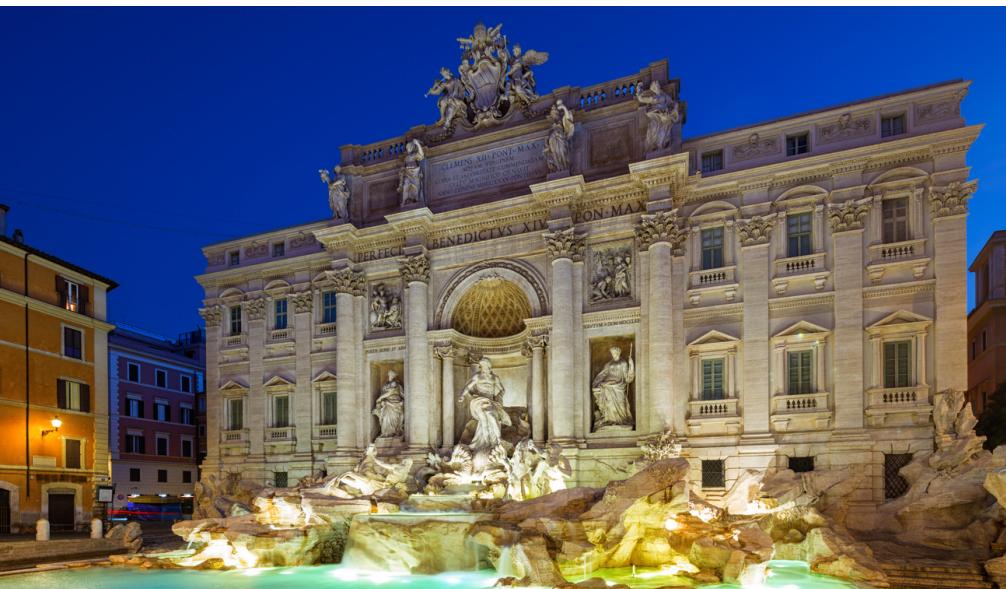
The first part of this question is quite easy. Despite Rome being amazing in each season, is without any doubt in October that this city wears its best dress. The days are long and warm but not so hot, the light became warmer and the white travertine stone gets a pink shade. You can enjoy a glass of cold white wine, as well a red one, a gelato and a "Supplì" (roman street food, delicious when it is warm) and it is the season for the "Jewish artichoke" a dishes of Roman-Jewish cuisine. The second part of this question is almost impossible to answer. My suggestion, after having visited the highlight and must see, is to throw away you map and start to wander in the city, enter in each church, in each courtyard, each market. That is when you really fall in love with this city.





## THE SPANISH STEPS ROME

The monumental stairway has 135 steps, climbing a steep slope between the Piazza di Spagna at the base and Piazza Trinità dei Monti, dominated by the Trinità dei Monti church, at the top.



## TREVI FOUNTAIN ROME

Where you can make a wish and drink the same water the Romans used to drink? Trevi Fountain was built in 1732 but is fed by the Virgin Aqueduct that is 2000 years old! The water is still drinkable!



## COLOSSEUM ROME

The Colosseum was built by the Romans, but what happened to it after the Roman Empire collapsed? It has always been there, as a silent observer. Did you know that it became a fortification?



# Discover Greek Monsters

Greek myth and legend is full of monsters and strange creatures: ranging from Dragons, Giants, Demons and Ghosts, to multifomed creatures such as the Sphinx, Minotaur, Centaurs, Manticores and Griffins. And there are also the Nemean Lion, golden-fleeced Ram and winged horse Pegasus, not to mention the creatures of legend such as the Phoenix and Unicorns. Even strange peoples inhabiting the far reaches of the earth such as the hopping Umbrella-Foots, the one-eyed Arimaspians, the Dog-Headed men, and the puny Pygmies.



# Ushuaia in Magellan's Steps

Tierra del Fuego Island was first spotted by Magellan in 1520, but it wasn't until the mid 1800s when missionaries and whalers got interested in this part of the world. Do you know why? Did you know whale oil was very important in the 1800s? Do you know where the British got theirs? The southern part of the island was inhabited by a group of natives who lived in a very strange way...would you like to know more? Join this tour and find out how life was for the natives and how it changed with the arrival of missionaries and sailors.



# Pirates of Cartagena Colombia

Learn about the story of the Jesuit Pedro Claver in Cartagena, a pioneer of the human rights in Colombia.

African slaves build the walls which protected Cartagena from pirates and corsairs. The story will transport you back in time to the 1600s when pirates roamed the sea and corsairs lurked around every corner.



# Glamour, Royalty and Revolution

Welcome to the main square of the glamorous Russian Empire! Situated in the heart of St Petersburg, Palace square is the main square of the city, adored by its residents and guests. It's one of the most beautiful architectural ensembles of the world. Best Russian architects worked on its creation. The name of the square comes from the Winter Palace, built by Francesco Bartolomeo Rastrelli in the middle of the 18th century.



# Eiffel tower in Paris with Caroline

Grab a coffee and a croissant to hear this story... Considered an eyesore by many at the time of its building, the tower must have given nightmares to entrepreneur Gustave Eiffel throughout the construction. Engineer Eiffel turned himself into a business and marketing expert to win the project. Discover the many obstacles Eiffel had to overcome during the construction, from geological conditions to hostility, criticism and doubts.



inspire  
curious minds

TELETOURGUIDE.COM

innovation - wellness - diversity