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Magazine 7

January 2020

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PRAGUE



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*History, Colors, Art,
Fashion, Food,
Music and Fun!*

Ciao Italia!

Lazio

Cities and hamlets brimming with history, nature reserves and hidden gems, archaeological sites, lakes and beaches: the Lazio region hosts Rome, the city par excellence, but cherishes much more. The region is wide and full of treasures: within its territory you have mountains and sea, rivers, lakes and volcanos; there are the extraordinary historical evidence of the Eternal City but also the Etruscan finds and tombs of the Tuscia in the Viterbo area, the archaeological site of Ostia Antica, the Temple of Jupiter Anxur in Terracina, Villa Adriana in Tivoli, the necropolis in Cerveteri and much more.

Tuscany

A wealth of historic treasures considered one-of-a-kind worldwide: the region is full of art cities and little picturesque villages with a huge cultural heritage, but is also extraordinary because of its fascinating landscape, with its bucolic countryside and rolling hills. Not to mention its amazing islands and coastal areas, its protected parks and, last but not least, its food, simple with authentic flavors, and its wines, ranked among the best in the world



The Eternal City: Rome



The Eternal City, is the capital and largest city of Italy and of the Lazio region. It is famous for being the home of the ancient Roman Empire, the Seven Hills, La Dolce Vita (the sweet life), the Vatican City and Three Coins in the Fountain. Rome, as a millennia-long center of power, culture (having been the cradle of one of the globe's greatest civilisations ever) and religion, has exerted a huge influence over the world in its roughly 2800 years of existence.

Trevi Fountain is a great place to stop and enjoy the beauty of such a monument. If you are superstitious, you might want to throw a coin into the fountain. The legend has evolved and now ensures a return to Rome. Stand with your back to the fountain and throw the coin over your left shoulder to make sure it comes true.





Rome with Federica

The impressive Navona square houses the Fontana dei Quattro Fiumi, the Fontana del Moro and the Fountain of Neptune, as well as the Obelisk of Domitian. You know: “Behind a great man there is always a great woman”. Behind a very famous Pope, there was a very smart woman who influenced the shape and the future of the city.





Rome with Giulia

The best-preserved roman monument ever! Would you like to live the experience of entering into a roman temple as if you were an ancient Roman? Do you want to try... well, the Pantheon is there for you! And it has been there for 2000 years.



The Birth of Rome

Rome is traditionally said to have been founded by the mythical twins Romulus and Remus (the sons of Mars and Rhea Silvia) on 21 April 753 BC. The twins were abandoned as infants in the Tiber river and raised by a she-wolf (Lupa) before being found by a shepherd (Faustulus), who raised them as his own sons.

Actually, Rome was founded as a small village on top of the Palatine Hill (including the area where the Roman Forum is found) sometime in the 8th century BC; due to the village's position at a ford on the Tiber river, Rome became a crossroads of traffic and trade. The settlement developed into the capital of the Roman Kingdom, led by a series of Etruscan kings, before becoming the seat of the Roman Republic in 509BC and then the centre of the Roman Empire from 27BC to 285AD. For almost a thousand years, Rome was the largest, wealthiest, most powerful city in the Western world, with dominance over most of Europe and the Mediterranean Sea..





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 blongs: 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 is it 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?

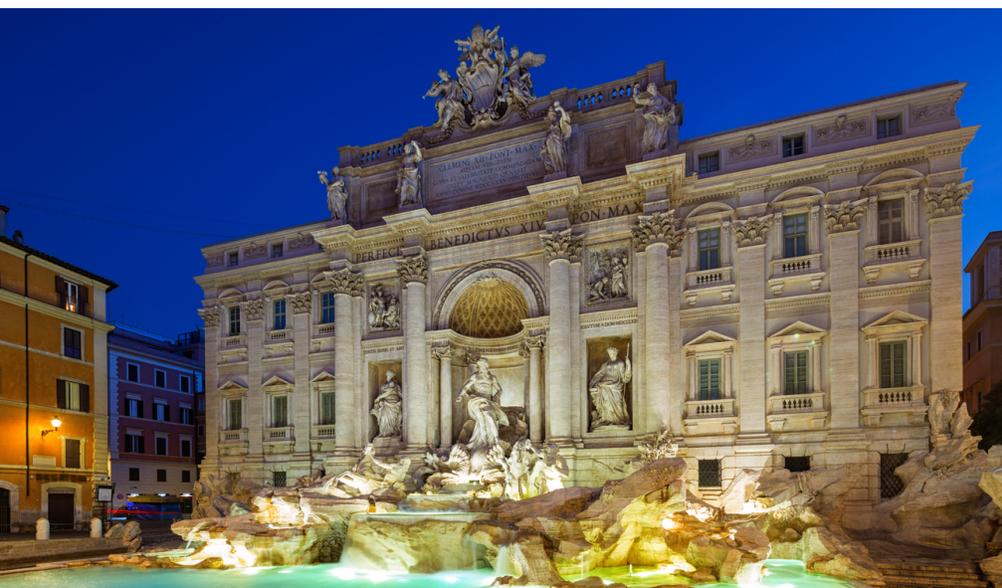
The first part of this question is quite easy. Despite Rome being amazing in each season, is without any doubt in October that this city wears its best dress. The days are long and warm but not so hot, the light became warmer and the white travertine stone gets a pink shade. You can enjoy a glass of cold white wine, as well a red one, a gelato and a “Suppli” (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's 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?



Florence with Alessia

Located in the heart of the stunning Tuscany region, the city is surrounded by natural and manmade beauty at every turn. Home to globally-renowned landmarks such as the Duomo Cathedral and Michelangelo's David, Florence offers a journey of discovery and enlightenment — as well as a feast for the senses.





Signoria Square

One of the most beautiful squares in the world, a true open air museum boasting wonderful masterpieces of sculpture! In the shadow of the awe inspiring Palazzo Vecchio, the ancient residence of the Medici Family, we will discover how these statues were actually political statements of power. From the amazing Perseus to Michelangelo's David and the Abduction of the Sabine women, you will be surprised to know how much a statue can tell!



The Duomo Square

The incredible history of the Dome construction in 30'! Learn how Brunelleschi - the greatest architect of Renaissance - built it without using a single scaffolding to support it and how this dome became a model for St. Peter's Dome, St. Paul's Dome and even Washington Building! The stunning beauty of the Duomo square with its Duomo (Cathedral), Belltower and Baptistery will leave you speechless!



Pillnitz 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.



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

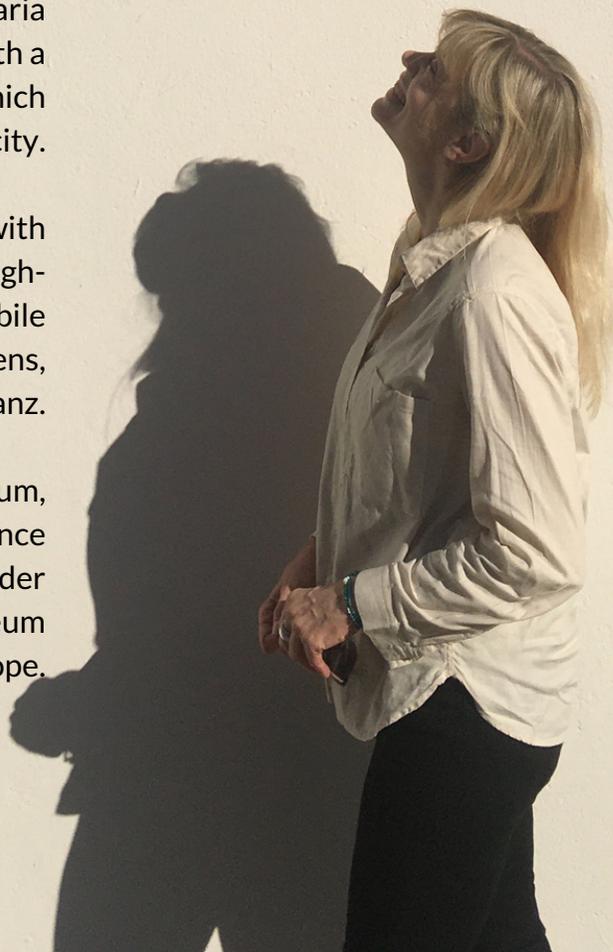
München with Astrid

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

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.





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.



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