A Journey Through Rome’s Layers

Walking tour from the Metropolitano Urban Center to Palazzo Valentini

Metropolitano Urban Center

Viale Manzoni, 34

Turn right onto Viale Manzoni and set out on a journey through Rome's extraordinary past. Over the course of a short walk, centuries unfold before you, from the contemporary spaces of metropolitan governance to the monuments and archaeological landscapes that have shaped the city through time. Each landmark reveals a different chapter in the story of Rome, a city where past and present coexist in a remarkable urban palimpsest.

Basilica di San Clemente

Piazza di San Clemente

One of Rome's most fascinating historical sites, the Basilica of San Clemente reveals the city's long and continuous transformation. Beneath the medieval church lie the remains of an earlier Christian basilica and ancient Roman structures, offering a rare glimpse into how successive generations built upon the legacy of those that came before.

The Colosseum

Piazza del Colosseo, 1

Few monuments embody Rome's enduring legacy more powerfully than the Colosseum. Built in the first century AD, the amphitheatre remains a symbol of the scale, ambition and technical achievement of the Roman Empire. Standing before its immense arches, visitors encounter the gateway to the Forum, the Palatine Hill and the wider archaeological landscape that formed the political, social and cultural heart of ancient Rome.

Via dei Fori Imperiali

Opened in the 1930s to connect Piazza Venezia with the Colosseum, this monumental avenue was created through the demolition of a historic residential district to reveal the remains of the Imperial Fora. Today, it offers a unique perspective on Rome's urban evolution, where ancient ruins, twentieth-century planning and contemporary city life coexist side by side.

Trajan's Markets

Via Quattro Novembre, 94, 00187 Roma RM

Built into the slopes of the Quirinal Hill, Trajan's Markets reveal the remarkable complexity of ancient Rome. Combining commercial, administrative and public functions, the complex illustrates how the capital of the

Empire was organised and governed. Today, its imposing remains offer a glimpse into the daily life and functioning of one of history's greatest cities.

Trajan's Column

Via dei Fori Imperiali

Rising above the remains of Trajan's Forum, Trajan's Column is one of the masterpieces of Roman art and engineering. Its spiral relief recounts Emperor Trajan's military campaigns in extraordinary detail, preserving a narrative carved in stone that has endured for nearly two millennia.

The Vittoriano

Piazza Venezia

Rising above Piazza Venezia, the Vittoriano was built to honour Victor Emmanuel II, the first King of a unified Italy. Its monumental white-marble architecture symbolizes the birth of the modern Italian nation and Rome's role as its capital, linking the city's ancient heritage with a more recent chapter of its history.

Piazza Venezia

Piazza Venezia

For centuries, Piazza Venezia has stood at the crossroads of Rome's history, where ancient routes, monumental landmarks and civic institutions converge. Today, the construction of Metro Line C adds a new chapter to this evolving landscape, revealing archaeological remains as the city builds for the future. Few places illustrate more clearly Rome's enduring dialogue between memory and transformation.

Palazzo Valentini

Via Quattro Novembre, 119a

The walk concludes at Palazzo Valentini, the seat of the Metropolitan City of Rome. Originally built during the Renaissance and transformed over the centuries, the palace has witnessed key stages in the city's political and urban evolution. As the final destination of the journey, it embodies the continuity between Rome's rich heritage and the institutions entrusted with shaping the future of its metropolitan region.