

ALL ROADS LEAD TO ROME

And when you get there, do not forget to experience the best the Eternal City has to offer, from iconic sights to yummy tiramisu

words by **Varisha Tariq**

The historic Colosseum has featured in several Hollywood films, including *Gladiator* and *Roman Holiday*

🕒 8:00AM

Begin with a wish

📍 *The Spanish Steps and the Trevi Fountain*

Head to these iconic locations before they fill up with travellers. Make sure you take a picture on the Spanish Steps. Close by, Trevi Fountain is renowned for making wishes at, so carry a few coins. Throw a coin over your left shoulder with your right hand, if not for a whimsical fancy, then for the fact that the money is donated to local church charities.

🕒 09:30AM

Bow to the gods

📍 *Pantheon*

This temple, which was built to honour the 12 Roman gods, also serves as the final resting place for illustrious figures, including Renaissance artist Raphael. Since 609 CE, it has been the Church of Santa Maria Rotonda or Santa Maria ad Martyres. Visit it to witness a masterpiece of Roman architecture.

🕒 10:30AM

Tuck into tiramisu

📍 *Two Sizes*

After taking in the glory of the Pantheon, it is time to delight your taste buds. In a city filled with numerous outlets making delicious tiramisu, this dessert establishment has every traveller's heart (and a queue to match). They offer traditional tiramisu served in small cups, which allows you to indulge in more than just one flavour. Do not miss the pistachio.

🕒 11:00AM

Experience a serene moment

📍 *Chiesa del Santissimo Nome di Gesù*

Rome is dotted with a plethora of Baroque-style, breathtaking churches, and this one, located on Via degli Astalli, houses a striking fresco of Jesus. The peace and calm here offers the spiritual experience you might be looking for.

checklist on the clock

EXPLORE THE VATICAN CITY

An independent country inside Rome, the area consists of St. Peter's Basilica, the Sistine Chapel, the Vatican Museums, the Vatican Gardens, among others. To do justice to these attractions, set aside at least four hours. To include it with this itinerary, opt for a Breakfast Tour of the Vatican, which includes a buffet breakfast in the courtyard followed by a tour, before the crowds get in.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT
The Castel Sant'Angelo overlooking the Ponte Sant'Angelo bridge; Pistachio tiramisu from Two Sizes; St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City; They say tourists who toss coins into the Trevi Fountain, return to Rome.

STYLISH STAYS

1/ Palazzo Talia
Nestled between Piazza di Spagna and the Trevi Fountain, this boutique property features Renaissance-era architecture.

2/ Rome Marriott Grand Hotel Flora
Overlooking the grand skyline, this property will delight all your senses.

3/ Hotel Donna Camilla Savelli
Located in Trastevere in a former monastery, this property just might be exactly what you are looking for—historic yet palatial.

GETTING THERE

Fly to Rome with Air India's Interline partners, Lufthansa, Air France, KLM Royal Dutch, and Scandinavian Airlines.

🕒 11:30AM
Wander by the Tiber
📍 Castel Sant'Angelo and Parco della Mole Adriana

The Ponte Sant'Angelo bridge over the river provides a unique vantage point to view the city. Then head to Castel Sant'Angelo to explore the museum or enjoy the breeze in Parco Adriano. The latter has benches and numerous pine and cypress trees.

🕒 01:00PM
Grab lunch
📍 Trastevere

This area offers many lunch options. Go for a *trapizzino*, a delicious pizza sandwich with oozing cream, or mouth-watering pasta and pizzas. Insider tip? Look for restaurants serving homemade dishes for an authentic culinary experience. Finally, make your way to Fiordiluna for gelato or to Bar San Calisto if you are craving a shot of coffee.

🕒 03:00PM
Go back in time
📍 Roman Forum

Straight out of a story book—and the setting of multiple movies—this archaeological site (now in ruins), is still impressive. Late afternoon is the best time to visit to see it bathed in sunlight. Slowly watch as the rays of the setting sun lend it an ethereal charm.

🕒 07:00PM
Enjoy the nightlife
📍 Piazza Trilussa

It is now time to immerse yourself in the nightlife Rome has to offer. Head to Regoli Pasticceria for their famous *marituzzos* and from there, find your way to Roma Sparita, the restaurant once frequented by world-renowned Chef Anthony Bourdain, where you can enjoy delectable *cacio e pepe*. End the day with lively street music at Piazza Trilussa.