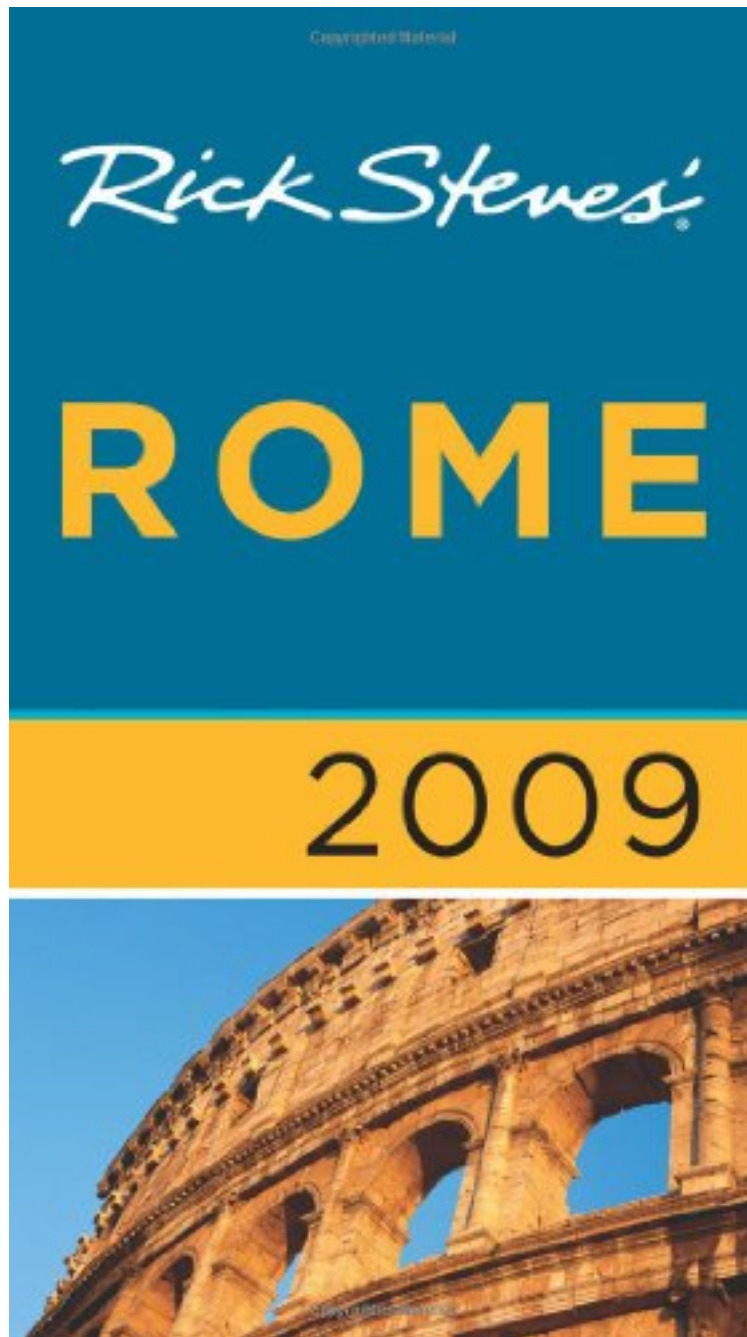


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Rick Steves' Rome 2009

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Rick Steves, Gene Openshaw : Rick Steves' Rome 2009 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it

would be worth my time, and all praised Rick Steves' Rome 2009:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent guidebook
By Leanne
My husband and I just got back from 18 days in Italy, and we used this book and Rick Steves' Florence and Tuscany book for when we were in those areas. Both books are excellent! He gives you great information that is accurate and reliable (about pricing, opening hours, etc.), and provides a great overview of the region. We had brought along two other guidebooks about Italy, but ended up using the Steves' ones pretty much exclusively since they were so thorough and complete. He also has a great sense of humor that makes his books fun to read. If you go to Rick Steves' website, he also has free audio tours that you can download and put on your mp3 player. My husband and I did download them before we went, and it was great to be able to have tours of many of the major attractions in Italy (the Colosseum, the Uffizi, Pompeii, etc.) that were conducted at our own pace. We saved quite a bit of money from not having to rent audio tours at every site we visited. The only downside is that so many people in Italy had Steves' books that getting into some of his recommended restaurants was a bit difficult. He mentions this problem himself in his books. Overall, though, I highly recommend this book if you are going to Rome! It was our first time using Steves' books, but it won't be our last!
6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Very Well Put Together!
By Elton Pinto
Given some of the reviews here I was concerned that this book wouldn't be very useful, but I was pleasantly surprised! I'd been to Rome before so this was my second trip, but this book pointed out plenty of new stuff for me to check out. The only thing it missed that was really cool was the Vatican Gardens tour - for \$45 we got a private tour of the Vatican Gardens and admission to the Vatican Museums without having to wait in line. The formatting for Kindle was as good as any other Rick Steves book - navigation, maps, and hyperlinks were all good. The tours of the Vatican Museums, St. Peter's, and some of the other churches really added a nice touch to my trip and, as Catholic, helped me appreciate some of the really incredible pieces of Christian history. I really liked that it suggested churches off the beaten path that were really beautiful and I wouldn't have known about otherwise. Rome is my favorite European city and this book really helped me take my experience there to the next level. And now I have even more things to check out for my next trip to Rome!
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Just Speechless...
By Shelby and Bruno
An open letter to the Community, and Rick Steves - First off, as an avid traveler - I've always counted on Rick Steves' books to provide me the insight, the tricks of the trade, and the valuable knowledge when I travel. From London, Paris, Italy - to Barcelona, Tokyo, Istanbul, and all of the Caribbean - these books have made my voyages entertaining and thought provoking - full of lifelong memories. And this book was no exception. Rick Steve's "Rome 2011" bible is the one stop shop for all things Rome. Wanna know where to find laundry hanging in the Trastevere area? Rick will tell you. Want to hear how Rick wants to "pick" the fig leaves off Roman Statues, in an "organ-ized" effort to show off the statue's manhood? Oh, you will. Care to take a walking journey, full of crudely drawn maps and half-baked "hidden gems"? With this book, you surely can. Every morning of my 14 day trip, I sat on the hotel toilet and flipped through this jam packed book - and asked myself - "Am I holding the holy grail of Roman Travel - or just 487 sheets of expensive glue-bound toilet paper?" Between the not-to-scale maps, the haphazard reference to insignificant sights, the blatant omissions in the index, and the not-so-funny jokes, my face began to hurt as I shot my disapproving glare at this rubbish. But yet - my partner and I marched on - day by day - and used this book as a guide, a tool, a source of the most useless knowledge anyone would want to learn - about Rome. As we passed each major sight in Rome - the grand Colosseum, the ancient Roman Forum and Arc of Constantine - to the Vatican, various Piazzas and neighborhoods - we pretty much came to the same conclusion: Every sight, per Rick, is the MOST important, the MOST ancient, the MOST valuable, and the MOST popular sight ever. Hear that? EVER. As if the overhyping of each sight wasn't enough, Rick always gave us incredibly valuable information for these tourist spots. I appreciate Rick telling me to "look up" when I entered the Sistine Chapel, and my vacation would have surely been ruined had Rick not dumped me off in some random remote place, stating "this is where the 2 hour walking tour ends.. backtrack to get back to the beginning" - How delightful - a 2 hour walking tour is now 4 hours. Thanks, Rick! I will say - this book was a real page turner, and by the 24th chapter, I thought I had "read it all" - but no.. Rick continued to drone on and on with his simple minded commentary and sigh-inducing poor jokes. And, not only did this book improve my trip to Rome, it improved my relationship. All too often, I would read aloud Rick's improv low brow humor, and glance painfully into my partners eyes - and we shared a moment - many moments - speechlessly communicating with each other: "where is the closest recycling bin... a new home... for this 487 page book..." So thanks, Rick. Thanks for telling me to "turn left" when it clearly was impossible to turn right, unless I wanted to face certain death. Thanks for telling me "all stores are closed on Sunday" when in fact, most were very open. Thanks for plugging the touristy "Roma Pass" which forced people to stand in longer lines than the regular ticket queues. And - most importantly, thanks for pointing out the "most" grandeur of all sights - the only original set of bronze doors in the world, still swinging on their original hinges, in the Roman Forum. Because of that, I can finally cross #1 off my bucket list.

Rick Steves' Rome 2009 allows any traveler to enjoy the sights and appreciate the lively culture of Italy's capital and the center of the ancient world, from the architectural wonder of the Colosseum to a great cappuccino at a local café.

Rick offers expert advice on all of the must-see destinations, including the Pantheon, St. Peter's Basilica, and the Sistine Chapel. With detailed tours of Rome's best museums and historic sights as well as unique walks through local neighborhoods, Rick Steves' Rome 2009 is the definitive guide to this world-class city.