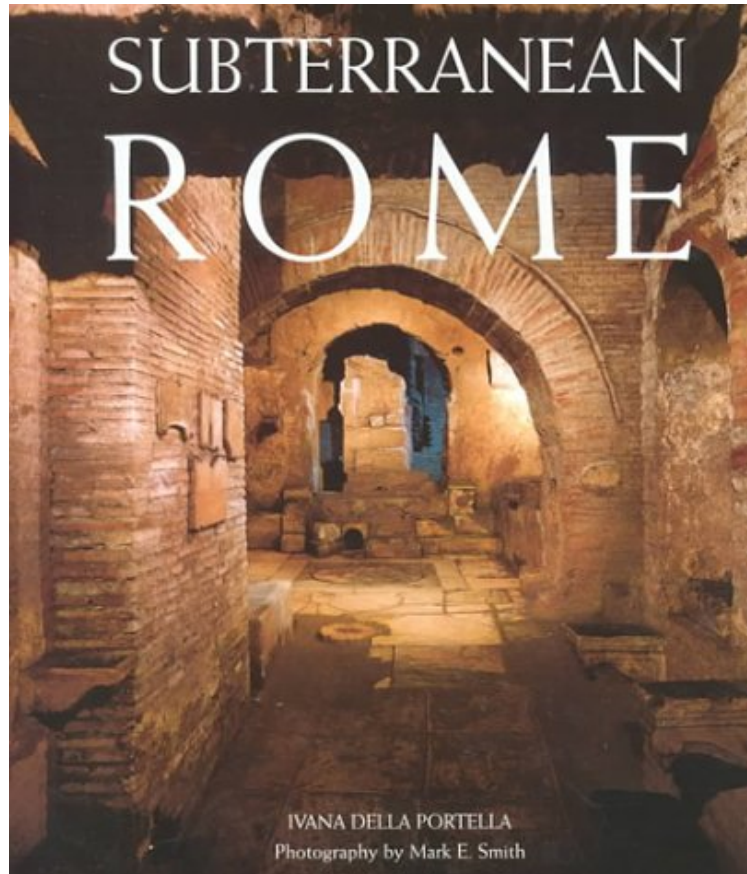


(Free) Subterranean Rome

Subterranean Rome

Ivana Della Portella

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Ivana Della Portella : Subterranean Rome before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Subterranean Rome:

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Intriguing and amazing information and photos.By green mambaThis book is very interesting as far as the information about certain subterranean areas within Rome. The only problem I saw right off was that there is unfortunately a great deal of repetition in the photos--as if there wasn't enough to photograph of ancient Rome. The author includes, in my opinion, too many pictures of paintings and art on the walls and not enough pictures of the area itself.All in all, I sincerely recommend this book if you are very interested in Catacombs and other parts of ancient Rome.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy trimcoingreat1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Entertaining, but much is yet left buried.By CuriousIt is strange what you can dig up in the way of history. This book is more or less the only good reference in English to the areas underground in Rome. It has certainly a very good amount of material, likely not all that might be had as there is likely a good deal more to see.I wish that it had paid attention to the underground areas of the Coliseum, a clear area of much underground that is not often seen and that is at least in the wheelhouse of the business at hand here.That said, the pictures are top notch. The text perhaps is limited in some respects, not choosing to give much in

the way of details to some things such as the Vatican Parking Lot or the huge Vatican archives where much of the Pagan statuary not seen on the streets and the Jewish grave markers that have been held by the RC Church are to be found. While these areas are closed to the public, I happened to view them with a Dosen who was doing Archeological work there and had authority to let me view these. I suspect that there is some Subterranean Rome yet to be added to this text which is known, more that may yet be found. Compared to the competition (which does not exist) the work stands out as supreme in its area.

Dust jacket notes: "Beneath the pavements of monumental Rome, the Rome of the imperial Fora and the great basilicas, lies another Rome, secret and less flamboyant, where everyday buildings open up to reveal unsuspected treasures of art and history. This is subterranean Rome. Though perhaps somewhat less magnificent or picturesque than the city above ground, it is equally - or even more - evocative and fascinating. Like a kind of Atlantis, buried beneath its centuries-old covering, its gardens, temples, baths and nympheums tell us a story of ancient times, made up of light and life, but also of shadows, persecution and death. Here we find the mysterious temples dedicated to the cult of the god Mithras that seem to bring alive the magical atmosphere of initiation and sacrifice. Here too are nympheums, places of pleasure and physical and spiritual refreshment; columbaria with their astonishing funerary architecture; hypogeums and underground passages that still preserve precious works of art beneath churches, palaces, and even in the basements of unpromising-looking houses. However, subterranean Rome does not consist only of mysterious and sacred places, for we also find urban and secular structures like the quarters of the Seventh Cohort of Guards, or the famous Golden House, the Domus Aurea. With evocative photographs - several published here for the first time - this book reveals the hidden world of subterranean Rome, guides us through the most fascinating sites, in many cases previously unvisited, and frequently difficult of access. It represents a journey in time that explores the most ancient roots of western culture."