

ROMAN LAW AND SOCIETY

PRICE: €1550 per person

Duration: 3 days

Group Size: 8 people max

2009 Trips

Group Trips: 8 people max, €1500 per person, on the following dates:

April 16-18, 2009
May 7-9, 2009
May 28-30, 2009
June 18-20, 2009
September 3-5, 2009
October 1-3, 2009

Private Trips: By arrangement. €3200 base cost + €885 per person

Overview: This trip was designed in conjunction with a group of high school teachers in New York as part of their continuing education curriculum. But for any traveler who wants to spend three days in intensive learning about ancient Roman civilization it's perfect.

Sustainability: Context is a carbon neutral company and, through the work of the Context Foundation for Sustainable Travel, strives to protect and preserve the cultural heritage of destinations. This trip is designed to favor walking over transport, and trains over cars. We take our time during each program to gain an in-depth understanding of the place and, generally, adhere to slow travel precepts.

Day 1: We meet the first day at the hotel for a brief "Orientation Chat" with our chaperone, who will introduce the itinerary, provide overview of the trip, and answer any questions. Then we will head out for the Roma Antica tour, visiting the Palatine Hill, Forum and Colosseum. After a brief stop for lunch, we will visit the Capitoline Museums to study one of the world's most important collections of ancient statuary. Dinner is free.

Day 2: We will travel to Ostia Antica, Rome's ancient port town and administrative center at the mouth of the Tiber River. After a 30-minute train ride (our low carbon and quicker way to get there), we will tour the site with a classical historian and learn about its development and role in the Empire. Back in Rome, we will turn our attention to a series of building programs that changed the face of the Republican city, transforming it into the monumental capital of an Empire. During this Classical Rome walk, we will ramble through the ruins of the ancient Cattle Market, past ancient theaters and temple sanctuaries, and visit the Pantheon. We will end the day with an Annotated Dinner at Casa Bleve with a sommelier and food expert with whom we will discuss the history of Roman cuisine through the ages, all while dining above the ancient Baths of Marcus

Agrippa.

Day 3: In the morning we will head out of town to the Appian Way and the Jewish Catacombs of the Vigna Rondanini, a vast network of underground burials typically closed to the public. The catacombs have no electrical system, so we will enter with flashlights, meander through their dark corridors and discuss ancient funeral ritual, Jewish history and sepulchral iconography. We will conclude with a lunch nearby in a typical restaurant built into the ruins of the Via Appia's monuments and tombs.

Accommodations in Rome:

Hotel Adriano

A three-star hotel housed in an elegant 17th century building near the Pantheon, this family run establishment is both elegant and cozy. The rooms are a perfect blend of design, tradition and attention to detail providing both refined elegance and a home away from home.