

A walking tour of ancient Rome

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How did Colosseum get its name? Where was Caesar murdered? Why has the text in the Arch of Septimius Severus been modified? Why is there a cartoon in a column, and who is standing at the top of the column? Come and take a walking tour of ancient Rome and find out what the ruins all around Rome tell us about their history.

We will take a roughly ten-kilometre walk through the centre of modern Rome to see what is left of the ancient city of Rome. We will stop at various ruins to find out what they actually are: what they originally looked like, when and for what purpose they were built, what they got their names from and how is it possible that they still remain. By looking at various pictures, maps and inscriptions, we will also see that the visible ruins are just a tiny fraction of the ancient metropolis.

The purpose of the talk is to give a tourist who has already been to Rome or is only planning a visit there an idea of what ancient Rome was like. The main purpose is to turn the columns, inscriptions, and ruins into hints of what there was in the same place two thousand years ago.

Our route will take us from the Tiber Island to Colosseum via vegetable and boar markets and Circus Maximus, and from there through some forums and hills to Pantheon and the Mausoleum of Augustus. We will acquaint ourselves with temples, triumphal arches, market halls, and many other interesting sights.

During this event you can also visit an exhibition presenting ancient Roman history. Various maps and reconstructions of the city and its buildings can be studied there.