

**GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
ROBINSON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
STUDY ABROAD IN ITALY**

**ROME**

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[www.gayot.com](http://www.gayot.com)

Tazza d'Oro – a famous coffee mecca near the Pantheon. Be sinful and order your granita di caffè (sweetened, shaved, coffee-flavored ice) with panna (thick hand-whipped cream). Coffee beans and other café souvenirs are available for purchase in the boutique.

Grancappuccino at the Caffè Sant'Eustachio – equally renowned, located in the Piazza Sant'Eustachio directly between the Piazza Navona and the Piazza della Rotonda. Take home a bag of their chocolate-dipped coffee beans.

Pantheon – a domed and colonnaded structure so massive it appears to sink right into the surrounding Piazza della Rotonda. Heavy bronze doors extend into a huge, cylindrical interior illuminated by the open oculus in the center of the vast dome. Built under the Emperor Hadrian as a Roman temple during the second century, the Pantheon was later transformed into a Catholic church.

Piazza Venezia – here you'll see the huge and shockingly white monument to Vittorio Emanuele II, the first king of Italy, who completed the unification of Italy during his reign from 1861 to 1878. Sarcastically referred to by Romans as "the wedding cake" or "the typewriter," this nationalistic altar also served as a pulpit for Mussolini during the fascist regime in the 1920s and 1930s.

Behind the monument stretches the immense Roman Forum, the civic, economic and social core of ancient Rome. The Roman Forum is a spectacular, sunken archeological treasure that extends from Piazza Venezia to the Colosseum. It is flanked on one side by the verdant Palatine Hill, a vast expanse of ruined arches, columns and palaces carpeted in thick green vegetation and bordered by the mythical Roman racetrack, the Circus Maximus.

On the other side of the Roman Forum you'll find the elevated Imperial Forums, which include Trajan's Market, a remarkably well-preserved section of commercial structures that allow for a glimpse of everyday life in ancient Rome. If the Colosseum was the first sports stadium, many consider Trajan's Market the first shopping mall.

Colosseum – this great elliptical amphitheater is an architectural and engineering wonder due to its clever design and efficient use of space. The Colosseum was erected during the reign of Emperor Vespasian in A.D. 72 and inaugurated in A.D. 80 by his son Titus. With enough seating for 50,000 spectators, the arena was the epicenter for entertainment in ancient Rome—gruesome gladiator games are the most famous, while mock naval battles created by flooding the arena floor still astonish historians. If you're up for a short—uphill—walk, head to nearby Via delle Terme di Tito, where Oppio Caffè does coffee, great cocktails, live music and a view of the Colosseum they ought to charge for.

On the opposite side of the Roman Forum near the Tiber River, Gigetto al Portico d'Ottavia is an authentic Jewish-Roman restaurant in a neighborhood that was once the Jewish ghetto. Lunch on intensely flavorful, rich cooking based on simple, inexpensive ingredients, the star of which is the Roman artichoke, or carciofo alla giudia. For an afternoon sugar fix, pick up a slice of ricotta and black cherry cake at the corner bakery Boccioni or an authentic sachertorte at La Dolce Roma.

Cross Tiberina and head to the characterful neighborhood of Trastevere ("Across the Tiber"), where the ancient artisanal vestiges of this genuinely Roman enclave mingle with its modern, Bohemian inhabitants. Before traipsing through its cool, dusty streets and among its ochre-hued homes, stop for a pizza at the popular Dar Poeta—arrive early or be prepared to wait. The success of this inexpensive pizzeria has less to do with the pie than with the infinite roster of toppings. If you see only one major attraction in Trastevere, let it be the medieval mosaics of the beautiful Basilica Santa Maria in Trastevere, the oldest church in Rome dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

Whether or not you spend all or part of the day in Vatican City, a visit to the sacred papal residence is obligatory. Before you go, try to hit the 19th-century English tea room, Babington's, located at the foot of the Spanish Steps, for an energizing English breakfast. Take metro line A to the Ottaviano-San Pietro station and follow the masses to the sprawling, colonnaded St. Peter's Square. Catch your breath and enter the massive Renaissance basilica, featuring the famous dome designed by Michelangelo. Directly on your right after the entrance is the moving Pietà, created by Michelangelo when he was just 24 years old. Take in the numerous altars and monuments as you walk past the nave to reach the ancient bronze statue of Saint Peter, whose foot has been worn smooth over the centuries by the touch

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of pilgrims hoping for good luck. Above the papal altar is the fantastic bronze canopy, or "Baldacchino," sculpted by Bernini in a little less than a decade. You can either climb up the soaring, mosaic-encrusted dome or descend into the crypt, or Confessio, that marks Saint Peter's tomb. For the latter, space on the guided tour (available in twelve different languages) is limited and restricted to those 15 or older.

Revitalize with lunch at the neighboring trattoria Dino e Toni on the Via Leone IV or take a shopping and nibbling break at the nearby epicurean emporium Castroni or the gourmet delicatessen, Franchi, on Via Cola di Rienzo. If time permits, a more complete tour of the basilica and its surroundings should be attempted. Start with the momentous Vatican Museums, which house the awe-inspiring Sistine Chapel. Decorated with paintings from Renaissance masters such as Perugino, Botticelli, Ghirlandaio and Signorelli, the holy chapel is home to the Conclave, the special room in which the ritual of electing of a new pope by an assembly of cardinals takes place. Pay special attention to the brightly colored frescoes, and specifically the "Last Judgment," painted by Michelangelo and painstakingly restored from 1979 until 1999.

Try to fit in the Braccio Nuovo, or New Wing gallery, which contains impressive mosaics and shining examples of Greek and Roman statuary. The Vatican museums also boast an important collection of Italian paintings from the Byzantine period through the 18th century, with a special emphasis on Renaissance and Baroque works. Artists represented here include Giotto, Raphael and Caravaggio. But that's not all—the endless galleries of the Vatican museums contain treasures such as tapestries, candelabra, Etruscan artifacts and even a considerable collection of modern religious art by figures such as Rodin, Picasso and Chagall. The museum, including the Sistine Chapel, is closed on all Sundays but the last one of each month and on many holidays. Visit the Vatican Museums website for more information.

Castel Sant'Angelo, Roman Emperor Hadrian's mausoleum, which is connected to Vatican city with an escape tunnel for Popes on the run. The museum inside contains art objects, paintings, furniture and even weapons. The Castel's inviting café is perfect for an afternoon pause. Exit the sacred city via the Ponte Sant'Angelo, considered the most beautiful bridge in Rome with its statues designed by Bernini.

If you haven't already had lunch, or if you feel like having a drink or shopping, a walk north along the Tiber towards the Piazza Augusto Imperatore will take you to the ever popular Gusto, a restaurant, pizzeria, osteria, wine bar, cheese shop and gourmet grocer in one. Just south of here on the Via del Leone, the trattoria Matricianella features the piquant Roman specialty, bucatini all'amatriciana, a sort of hollow spaghetti in a spicy tomato sauce flavored with pancetta and pecorino cheese. Just up the river along Lungotevere in Augusta, the recently renovated Ara Pacis museum warrants a visit, even from the outside. Renowned Architect Richard Meier designed a vast travertine and glass container for the monument, an elaborate altar, built in 9 BC to commemorate the beginning of the Pax Romana. Traveling east across the Via del Corso will take you into the crowded neighborhood of the Spanish Steps, a high-end shopper's paradise. Join the hordes of locals and tourists for an evening passeggiata among the sparkling storefronts of Armani, Fendi, Gucci, Missoni, Valentino, Versace and the rest of the usual suspects. Travelers on a budget can also join in the fun as many small, family-run boutiques offer reasonably priced shirts, ties and leather goods—especially gloves, which make an excellent, easily-transportable gift.

Today you'll pay homage to the Italian capital's countless fountains. Begin with breakfast at the Caffè Farnese in the serene Piazza Farnese. The Florentine-style, 16th-century palace, embellished by Michelangelo, is now the French Embassy. The adjacent Piazza Campo de 'Fiori is best visited in the morning during the lively market, brimming with brilliant fruits and vegetables. At night, the piazza overflows with an international mix of pleasure seekers who frequent the square's numerous restaurants, bars, pubs and cafés. The Antico Forno Roscioli is a popular choice for an inexpensive lunch, where the typically Roman pizza bianca, or white pizza, should not be missed.

Continue your discoveries at one of the city's most beautiful squares, the oblong Piazza Navona, where Bernini's Fontana dei Quattro Fiumi ("Fountain of the Four Rivers"), commands contemplation. The piazza's two other Renaissance fountains, the Fontana del Nettuno (Neptune) and the Fontana del Moro (Moor), are also worth a moment of musing.

Get in some people watching with your after-lunch espresso at café Rosati, in Piazza del Popolo, a favorite Roman rendezvous, or stop at the polished Caffè Greco on the stylish Via dei Condotti. One of the oldest cafés in Rome dating from 1760, the Caffè Greco served as the meeting point for celebrated patrons that included Liszt, Wagner, Goethe, Stendhal and even Buffalo Bill. For a panoramic view of Rome's historic center, ascend the Spanish Steps toward the rose-hued Church of Trinità dei Monti. Continue along the Piazza della Trinità dei Monti until you reach

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ROBINSON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
STUDY ABROAD IN ITALY**

the confines of the Villa Borghese, Rome 's principal park, in which you'll find the exquisite Borghese Gallery. This small museum houses Renaissance paintings by Rubens, Raphael, Titian and Caravaggio, as well as several sensuous statues by Bernini that include the intricate "Apollo and Daphne." Due to the gallery's popularity and intimate size, visitors are required to purchase tickets in advance in order to obtain a time slot during which to view the collection.

Also within the Villa Borghese gardens is the Villa Giulia, where classical concerts are held in the evening during the summer. Finally, just outside the park, the Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna showcases works from Italian artists from the late 19th century to 1945. While the museum restaurant is not coveted for its cuisine, the sprawling outdoor terrace draws diners in search of a sun-drenched afternoon lunch.

Keep the park theme going with a memorable meal at Casina Valadier. The restaurant is situated in a sumptuous villa atop the Pincio gardens that affords a breathtaking view over Rome. Otherwise, exit Villa Borghese at Porta Pinciana and get in a dose of the Dolce Vita on the street that inspired Fellini's film about superfluous nightlife. Via Veneto is no longer a bastion of youth and glamour, but its stately elegance is worth a nostalgic stroll. For refined dining with a view, book a table at La Terrazza dell'Eden, the rooftop restaurant at the Hotel Eden. Via Veneto is famous for its opulent, old-fashioned sidewalk cafés—most notably, the Gran Caffè Doney. On Sundays a stylish set dines at the sidewalk tables at one of the city's most glamorous aperitivos.

- Sightseeing/Ancient Monuments/Squares
  - Roman Colosseum – originally the Flavian Amphitheatre is an elliptical amphitheatre in the center of the city of Rome, Italy, the largest ever built in the Roman Empire. It is one of the greatest works of Roman architecture and Roman engineering.
  - Roman Pantheon – originally intended to be a small temple, it had been restructured and repaired to reach its current state. This is the best preserved of all Roman buildings and maybe of all buildings that are of the same age
  - Roman Forum – sometimes known by its original Latin name, is located between the Palatine hill and the Capitoline hill of the city of Rome. It is the central area around which the ancient Roman civilization developed. Citizens referred to the location as the "Forum Magnum" or just the "Forum". The oldest and most important structures of the ancient city are located in the forum, including its ancient former royal residency the Regia and the surrounding complex of the Vestal virgins.
  - Campidoglio - The Capitoline Hill between the Forum and the Campus Martius, is one of the seven hills of Rome. By the 16th century, Capitolinus had become Campidoglio in the Roman dialect. The English word capitol derives from Capitoline. The Capitoline contains few ancient ground-level ruins, as they are almost entirely covered up by Medieval and Renaissance palaces (now housing the Capitoline Museums) that surround a piazza, a significant urban plan designed by Michelangelo.
  - Castle St. Angelo - The Mausoleum of Hadrian, usually known as the Castel Sant'Angelo, is a towering cylindrical building in Rome, initially commissioned by the Roman Emperor Hadrian as a mausoleum for himself and his family. The building was later used as a fortress and castle, and is now a museum.
  - Trastevere – a picturesque medieval area located on the west bank of the Tiber. The area escaped the grand developments which changed the face of central Rome, and is a charming place to wander, eat or relax.
  - Galleria Borghese – a n art gallery housed in the former Villa Borghese Pinciana, a building that was from the first integral with its gardens, nowadays considered quite separately by tourists as the Villa Borghese gardens. The Galleria Borghese houses a substantial part of the Borghese collection of paintings, sculpture and antiquities, which was begun by Cardinal Scipione Borghese, the nephew of Pope Paul V (reign 1605–1621). The Villa was built by the architect Flaminio Ponzio, developing sketches by Scipione Borghese himself, who used it as a villa suburbana, a party villa at the edge of Rome.

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- Baths of Caracalla – Roman public baths built in Rome between AD 212 and 216, during the reign of the Emperor Caracalla. The extensive ruins of the baths have become a popular tourist attraction. The bath complex covered approximately 13 hectares (33 ac). The bath building was 228 meters (750 ft) long, 116 meters (380 ft) wide and 38.5 meters (125 ft) estimated height, and could hold an estimated 1,600 bathers.
- Piazza Navona – a city square in Rome, Italy. It follows the plan of an ancient Roman circus, the 1st century Stadium of Domitian, where the Romans came to watch the agones ("games"): It was known as 'Circus Agonalis' (competition arena). It is believed that over time the name changed to 'in agone' to 'navone' and eventually to 'navona'. Defined as a public space in the last years of 15th century, when the city market was transferred to it from the Campidoglio, the Piazza Navona is now the pride of Baroque Roman art history.
- Spanish Steps – are a set of steps in Rome, Italy, climbing a steep slope between the Piazza di Spagna at the base and Piazza Trinità dei Monti, dominated by the church of Trinità dei Monti. The Scalinata is the longest and widest staircase in Europe. The monumental stairway of 138 steps was built with French diplomat Étienne Gueffier's bequeathed funds of 20,000 scudi, in 1723–1725, linking the Bourbon Spanish Embassy to the Holy See, today still located in Palazzo Monaldeschi in the piazza below, with the Trinità dei Monti above.
- Trevi Fountain – a fountain in the Trevi rione in Rome, Italy. Standing 25.9 meters (85 feet) high and 19.8 meters (65 feet) wide, it is the largest Baroque fountain in the city.
- Open Air Markets
  - Campo de' Fiori  
Perhaps the most famous of Rome's many markets, but far from the largest. In addition to the fresh fruits and vegetables, you'll find cheap scarves, aprons and T-shirts, costume jewelry. Shops in the surrounding piazza sell meats, wines and sundries, making it a complete one-stop shop. Of special interest: the fabulous bakery Il Forno di Campo de' Fiori (Piazza Campo de' Fiori, 22), the fresh fish at Attanasio (via del Biscione, 12 closed Monday), and the historic butcher shop, Antica Norcineria Viola, atmospheric and redolent of the sausages that hang over the counter like a curtain (Piazza Campo de' Fiori, 43).
  - Piazza Vittorio Emmanuele  
This enormous market, perhaps Rome's largest, in recent years has been moved into an indoor space. Clever cooks from all over Rome come here for the range of exotic fruits, vegetables, herbs and spices from Asia and Africa: Indian curries, coriander, turmeric, Chinese cabbages. The adjoining clothing market sells classic Indian saris and salwar-kameez suits.
  - Piazza Testaccio  
Rome's vibrant tented market offers a little bit of everything, from fresh fruits and vegetables, to bottled jams and honey, to shoes and underwear, jewelry and housewares. The market spills out to the surrounding streets where merchants set up tables selling a wide and unpredictable variety of goods.
  - Piazza San Cosimato  
The historic Trastevere market at Piazza San Cosimato, one of the oldest in Rome, has been "refurbished" with modern covered stalls, parks and other amenities. But the spirit of the ancient market seems to have vanished. It's very pretty and modern, but there are fewer stalls and fewer customers.
  - Mercato Piazza dell'Unità  
On Prati's busy main shopping street, this covered market dating to 1928, with its Liberty (art nouveau) architecture, is lovely place to buy the daily comestibles. Unlike other food markets in town, it offers underground parking and long hours. In one of Rome's upscale residential neighborhoods.  
Open Monday-Saturday 7 am - 8 pm.  
Via Cola di Rienzo
  - Mercato Comunale Flaminio  
Not many from outside the neighborhood venture into this light-filled covered Roman market,

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STUDY ABROAD IN ITALY**

where farmers sell their produce to a price-conscious crowd of loyal customers. There's also an "Angolo dei Sapori," selling pork products and cheeses. Via Guido Reni - Lungotevere Flaminio

- **Historic Pharmacies**

The center of Rome is full of shops that have been there for a hundred years or more. They are part of an association of *Negozi Storici*, historic stores, and in each of them you're likely to find a directory that leads you to all the others. Not all of them are fabulous. Some are just plain old. And many of them have gone through major transformations over the decades. But the pharmacies tend to remain just that, still dispensing medicines after so many years. And they are magnificent, with frescoed ceilings, original carved wooden counters, and vestiges of times past in the light fixtures.

- **Farmacia Fatebenefratelli dal 1548**

Adjacent to the Hospital of the Fatebenefratelli (founded by a religious order whose name, loosely translated means "the do-good" brothers), this pharmacy has been continuously open since 1548. The pomegranate, carved into the wooden ceiling, refers to the Spanish city of Granada, home of the order's early patron, San Giovanni di Dio.

- **Farmacia della Scala dal 1597**

The Carmelitani Scalzi (Carmelites without shoes), who were masters of herbal medicine, set up their convent on this site in 1597. The *farmacia* was designed to store the medicinal herbs the brothers grew in their gardens. Here, they also opened a school offering a six-year course in herbal medicine, as well as a research center.

- **Antica Farmacia Reale dal 1687**

The pharmacy's name refers to its regal history. It has been operating continuously at this location since 1795 and was appointed the official pharmacy to Italy's first royal family in 1870. Today you'll find expert, English-speaking pharmacists who will provide you with a wide range of herbal and holistic remedies as well as just about any medication your doctors back home can prescribe — and if they don't have it in stock, they'll get it for you within hours.

- **Churches**

- **Basilica of St. Peter** – officially known in Italian as the Basilica di San Pietro in Vaticano and commonly known as St. Peter's Basilica, is located within the Vatican City. St. Peter's has the largest interior of any Christian church in the world, holding 60,000 people. It is regarded as one of the holiest Christian sites and has been described as "holding a unique position in the Christian world" and as "the greatest of all churches of Christendom." In Catholic Tradition, it is the burial site of its namesake Saint Peter, who was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus and, according to tradition, first Bishop of Rome and therefore first in the line of the papal succession.

- **Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore** – is an ancient Roman Catholic basilica of Rome. It is one of the four major or four papal basilicas, which, together with St. Lawrence outside the Walls, were formerly referred to as the five "patriarchal basilicas" of Rome, associated with the five ancient patriarchal sees of Christendom (see Pentarchy). The other three papal or major basilicas are St. John Lateran, St. Peter and St. Paul outside the Walls. Santa Maria Maggiore is the only Roman basilica that retained the core of its original structure, left intact despite several additional construction projects and damage from the earthquake of 1348.

- **Basilica of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem** – is a Roman Catholic basilica in Rome. It is one of the Seven Pilgrim Churches of Rome. According to tradition, the basilica was consecrated around 325 to house the Passion Relics brought to Rome from the Holy Land by St. Helena of Constantinople, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine I. At that time, the basilica floor was covered with soil from Jerusalem, thus acquiring the title in Hierusalem.