

Cammin Arte

BERNINI VS BORROMINI



This walk offers you the opportunity to engage in the eternal comparison between Bernini and Borromini, the artists who illustrated the power of the noble families and religious orders of Rome in the 1600s.

From Piazza della Repubblica our walk will take us among some of the most important examples of Baroque Rome, allowing you to see Bernini and Borromini's works up close. They were masters of opposing artistic concepts, yet in the same years they both illustrated the power of the nobility and the Church in seventeenth-century Rome. Our route will first lead us to the Church of Santa Maria della Vittoria, home to one of Bernini's most famous and controversial works: the Ecstasy of Saint Teresa.

Then we will go on towards Piazza Barberini with the Triton Fountain at its centre decorated with the heraldic symbols of pope Urban VIII, again a work by Bernini. Going up Via delle Quattro Fontane, you will be able to see the elegant Palazzo Barberini on which both Bernini and Borromini worked during the latter's early years.

Arriving at the unmistakable crossroads decorated with the four fountains from which the road takes its name, on the right you will see the façade of the church which is the highest expression

of Borromini's talent: San Carlo alle Quattro Fontane. It is called "little San Carlo" by the Romans due to its small size but it also shows incredible technical skill.

Our walk will end at Bernini's Church of San Andrea al Quirinale, which has the same elliptical form that the artist used for the colonnade of Saint Peter's Basilica in the same years.

