

Cammin Arte

FROM THE PIAZZA DEL QUIRINALE TO THE CHURCH OF THE GESÙ



Our walk will begin at the Piazza del Quirinale on top of Rome's highest hill. At its centre is the monumental Fountain of Castor and Pollux, named after the Roman statues that were used to decorate the fountain basin together with an obelisk that was found in the Campus Martius.

All around the piazza are important buildings, including the Palazzo del Quirinale, official residence of the President of the Italian Republic and the Scuderie del Quirinale, recently restored by Gae Aulenti and transformed into an exhibition complex. Walking towards

Via del Corso, we will make an obligatory stop at the Trevi Fountain which is impressive not just for its lavish decoration but also for the fact that was the backdrop to some unforgettable cinematic moments, from Fellini's *Dolce Vita* to the famous sketch by Totò.

We will then walk towards Piazza Sant'Ignazio, with its unmistakable architecture which seems like a theatre set, to then experience the grandiose and unusual Baroque spatiality of Sant'Ignazio di Loyola and the Church of the Gesù. Here the spectacular and infinite painted



architecture breaks through the walls and ceilings which would otherwise define a limited space. The decorations are enlivened by allegorical compositions of the righteous who stretch towards the Kingdom of Heaven and sometimes by trompe l'oeil illusions which deceive the observer.

