



Castelli Romani and its eno-gastronomic route TOUR

Itinerary: Hotel – Frascati – Monte Porzio Catone – Nemi
Ariccia – Castel Gandolfo – Grottaferrata – Hotel

Duration: about 5 hours

Price: see below

Note: Prices do not include entrance fees to museums and lunch

Program: appointment in your hotel at the fixed time (around 10.00 a.m.) where, after having met up with our driver, we start the journey with destination *Frascati*. Here, after that visit to the center of the village, we will head to the *Museum of the Aldobrandini Stables*, where the well-known architect Massimiliano Fuksas has made the multi-purpose center, centre of exhibitions and conferences. We continue then to Villa *Aldobrandini*, the most famous and sumptuous among the patrician villas of the Roman Castles, erected on a very panoramic hill over the entrance to the town.



Along the road from Villa Aldobrandini goes to Monte Porzio Catone we will stop at *Barco Borghese*, the archeological site of Roman origin. After the visit we'll continue to Monte Porzio Catone, where we pay a visit to the *Diffuse Museum of the Wine*. Opened in 2000, the Diffuse Museum of the Wine is housed in the wine cellars of the historic center of the village, dedicated a few years ago right at the processing of the wine. Here they are exposed the materials related to the various stages of production of grapes and wine right from its beginning.

Here we will take the opportunity to stop for a few minutes in company of a good glass of Frascati wine accompanied by some delicious *serpette* (typical cookie of the Castelli Romani), just beginning to delight the palate.



Left Monte Porzio Catone we head the ruins of *Tuscolo*, an ancient Latin city, ruler of Rome and the Papacy around the year 1000 BC. Here you can admire the ruins of the Amphitheatre for the performances of the Gladiators and you can enjoy a suggestive breathtaking panorama that extends to the coast of Lazio.



Going along the immense green of *Pratoni del Vivaro*, Equestrian Federal Centre, we will direct to *Nemi*, a small village that rises on homonymous lake. Famous for the cultivation of *wild strawberries*, Nemi is surrounded by dense forest (nemus) from which it takes its name and which was dedicated to the goddess Diana. Nemi houses since 1930 the Museum of Roman Ships, unfortunately closed for most of the year. However, we can console ourselves with a good cup of wild strawberries with cream, and I can assure you that's saying a lot !



Going to the main road we'll stop to Ariccia, but not before stopping at the famous and peculiar "*climb in downhill*", magic and mysterious road, study of thousand investigations by researcher from around the world. Ariccia, a city of Latin origin. Introduced by the monumental viaduct, known as "Ariccia bridge", which constitutes the entrance, we are in front of the harmonious *Palazzo Chigi*, renovated by Bernini and made famous by the movie *The Gattopardo*. Being located in the country of Fraschette we will stop at one of them to enjoy the lunch with *Porchetta* and local produce, accompanied by a good glass of wine from the Castelli.



Taking the road after about 7 km you will get *Castel Gandolfo*, a village dominated by the dome of St. Thomas and the extraterritorial complex which is the *summer residence of the popes*. After stopping in *Freedom Square*, which overlooks the Papal Palace and enjoyed the beautiful views of Lake Albano that this place gives us, we will stop to it. Also known as the lake of Castel Gandolfo, it's the deepest volcanic lake in Italy. Its shores are important prehistoric and Roman archaeological remains.



We will head to *Marino* touching the large area of vineyards of Frascati. The town is famous for the *Grape Festival* during which from the seventeenth-century Fontana dei Mori gets gush the local wine. We direct now to the last destination of our tour: Grottaferrata, the only city in Lazio to receive the special mention of "City of the Book." Here we will visit the *Abbey of San Nilo*, founded in 1004, to which we can access to the Abbey Museum, curator of prehistoric and pre-Roman material,

and his Library, one of the best supplied libraries of books in ancient Greek and Latin in the world, with thousands of invaluable volumes.



After visiting the Abbey of Grottaferrata we'll return to the hotel,

***hoping you spent a pleasant
and unforgettable day!.***