



Watching the people, seeing the art and architecture, and eating, are enough to keep most people entertained for some time in Italy. However, there are a few other organized entertainments that you may enjoy.

Cinema- Films in English can be seen at:

- The Pasquino- tel. 5803622- Vicolo del Piede, just off Piazza Santa Maria in trastevere. This scruffy little theater shows a different film, sometimes old, sometimes new, in English, every day, although the Saturday and Sunday program is usually the same. If there's a good film, go 20 minutes early because the theater will be full.
- The Archimede- Via Archimede 71 in Parioli has gone back and forth between showing films in English or not, over the years. Check the local papers and entertainment guides.
- Summer Film Festivals- These have been held in a number of venues, from the Basilica di Massenzio to the Circus Maximus. Spending an evening amid the Roman ruins, watching the moon come up over the Colosseum is a delight, regardless of the quality of the film.

Opera-

- The Opera House is at Piazza Beniamino Gigli 1, just a block off Via Nazionale.
- Caracalla- In the past, summer performances have been held in the ruins of the Baths of Caracalla. For years, there's been pressure to end these to avoid damage to the ruins, but we just don't know if they're been definitively halted.
- The Auditorium- The new concert center of Rome also hosts some opera performances.

Concerts- There are many places in Rome which have regular concerts of chamber music, chorale and orchestral music throughout the winter season. Among them are:

- The Auditorium- The splendid new complex of performance spaces, designed by Renzo Piano, is on the north side of town between Villa Glori and Ponte Milvio.
- The Sala Accadmica of the Santa Cecilia conservatory- Via dei Greci 18
- The Foro Italico Auditorium, Piazza Lauro De Bosis 1, often has concerts by the Orchestra of Italian Radiotelevisione.
- The Pio Auditorium- Via del Conciliazione 4
- The Castel Sant'Angelo- Lungotevere Castello 1
- The Theater Olimpico- Piazza Gentile da Fabriano 17- all kinds of concerts take place here: rock, jazz and classical music.

Sports- Participant sports are difficult to find, even for the resident. For the visitor, it's even worse, but there are exceptions.

- Swimming- There are beaches close to Rome at Ostia and Fregene. Ostia can be reached easily by train. More scenic beaches can be found to the north at Porto Santo Stefano and to the south below Anzio at Circeo, Terracina, or our favorite, Sperlonga., while is about 160 km (100 miles) from Rome. There are a few swimming pools in Rome open to the public. One of the largest is the Olympic complex on the north side of town at the Foro Italico. Some hotels, such as the Hilton, open their pools to the public for an entrance fee.
- Windsurfing and sailing- In addition to the local beaches mentioned above, Lake Bracciano, 30km north of Rome, has facilities for these sports.
- Skiing- There is good skiing throughout Italy, and surprisingly close to Rome at Terminillo and Campo Felice, among others, within 100 miles of the city.
- Tennis- There are dozens of clubs in Rome but they're open to members only. A few hotels on the edges of town have tennis courts.
- Golf- Forget about it till you get home. If you are seriously addicted, we have a friend who's written an unpublished book on golfing in Italy and France, and we can put you in touch with him.
- Bowling- There are at least two bowling alleys in Rome:
 1. Brunswick- Lungotevere Acqua Acetosa
 2. Bowling Roma- Viale Regina Margherita 181
- Driving- If 55 MPH speed limits, automatic transmissions and radar equipped troopers have taken all the fun out of driving and you long to recapture the thrill of driving fast, you can take your newly acquired car (or motorcycle) out to the circuit at Vallelunga, north of Rome on Via Cassia.. You can drive around as fast as you want, for half an hour, for a fee. There's also a school for race driving.

Spectator Sports-

- Motor racing- At Vallelunga. A good portion of the circuit is visible from the grandstand, but you can also purchase a pit pass. There's about one racing weekend per month during the warmer months.
- Horse Racing- Cappannelle, Via Appia Nuova 1245. Remember to try the trattoria across the street.
- Greyhound racing- Cinodromo, Ponte Marconi, Viale Marconi
- Basketball- Palazzetto dello Sport, Viale Tiziano. The Italian teams each feature two foreigners, usually Americans, and the level of play is not bad at all. Usually Saturday and/or Sunday afternoons.
- Soccer- Stadio Olimpico nearly every Sunday from September until June, plus some mid-week night games. Rome has two teams, Roma and Lazio. This is strictly for the hard-core enthusiast or devoted masochist. The stadium, renovated for the World Cup a few years ago, is a loser. All seats seem to be at least 50 m from the near sideline. Roman fans are not as bad as their English or Dutch counterparts, but they're working at it. However, in recent years we've heard less stories of trains and buses trashed on their way to and from the games, and killings are infrequent.
