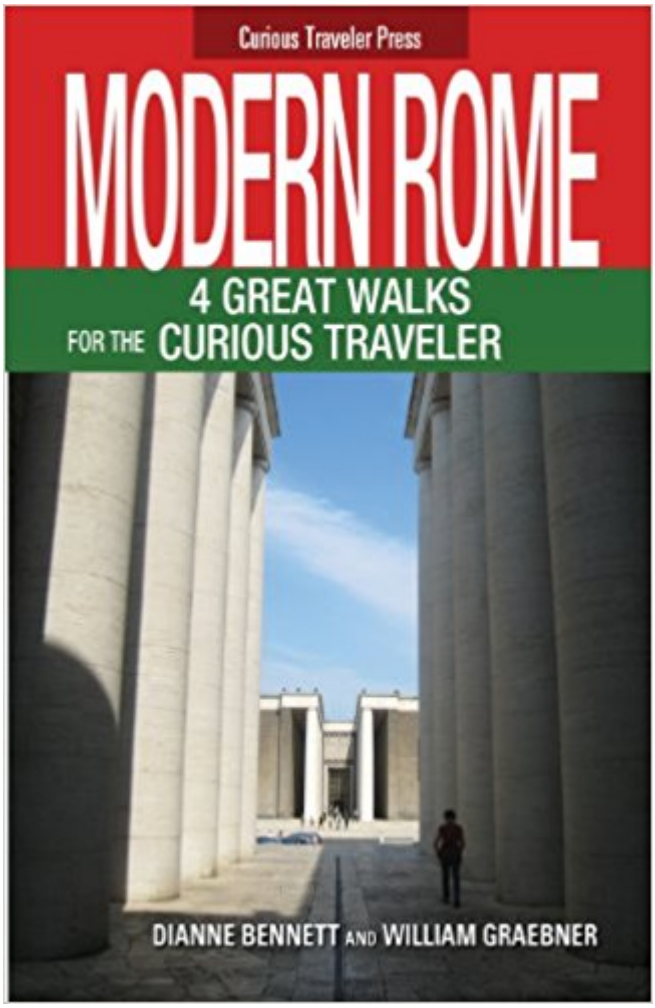
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# Modern Rome: 4 Great Walks For The Curious Traveler




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## Synopsis

MODERN ROME: 4 GREAT WALKS FOR THE CURIOUS TRAVELER, an alternative guidebook, is the latest in the Curious Traveler Series by acclaimed travel writers Dianne Bennett and William Graebner. Designed for the tens of thousands of visitors who have seen Rome's major attractions or seek an off-the-beaten path experience, it features over 60 color photos, 4 detailed maps, and entertaining and informative commentary. Following the success of ROME THE SECOND TIME: 15 ITINERARIES THAT DON'T GO TO THE COLISEUM, Bennett and Graebner offer 4 new Rome walks, all outside the city's tourist core, all easily accessible by Metro or tram, and all in neighborhoods where Romans live and work. GARBATELLA: GARDEN CITY SUBURB is a guided tour through one of the city's most engaging and mysterious planned communities, a 1920s creation featuring curving streets, enchanting stairways, interior courtyards, and some of the most unusual public housing ever built. EUR: MID-CENTURY SPECTACLE features a dramatic locale, now a center of Rome's business community, but planned and constructed in monumental style to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the 1922 Fascist March on Rome. On the opposite side of the city, a walk through Flaminio introduces Rome's sensational 21st-century, starchitect-designed cultural centers, and, across the Tiber, the suggestive site of the 1960 Olympic Games, the Foro Italico, a virtual Mussolini theme park built by the Duce in the 1930s. A fourth, stairways walk begins in Trastevere's back yard, winding up, down, and around Rome's 8th hill, the Gianicolo, traversing a 17th-century villa, a compelling 1941 monument to the Italian unification movement, and one of the smallest and most charming temples in all of Italy. Bennett and Graebner provide more tantalizing tours, information, and Book Updates on their blog at www.romethesecondtime.com. Pack your bags. Bring your curiosity.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

After reading Bennett and Graebner's first guidebook, Rome the Second Time Around, I followed either all or part of about 6 itineraries described in the book. My only disappointment was not having more time in Rome to do them all. The walks were fantastic and took me to wonderful sites and sights I could have never found on my own.Now that I have read and vicariously taken the four itineraries in their newest work, Modern Rome, I want to get back there as soon as possible to do the walks described so enticingly -- Garbatella, EUR, Flaminio, and Staircase walks in Trastevere. Coincidentally, I have spent time in the Flaminio District and visited the Olympic sites discussed, as well as Renzo Piano's magnificent Parco Della Musica, but I didn't really know what I was seeing until I read the commentary in this amazing guidebook.The descriptions of the walks and the accompanying maps satisfy my inner anxious twit who worries about getting lost by being very clear, precise, and relatively easy to follow. But more important to me personally is the fascinating information given about each sight and stop along the way. I share many of the authors' interests and appreciate the detailed discussion of architecture, sculpture, mosaics, frescoes and paintings found on the streets and in churches, piazzas and other public spaces. I can honestly say that they have given me a deeper appreciation of modernism in art and architecture in both of their books but especially in this one which intentionally highlights Modernism. I am also enlightened and entertained by the social, cultural, and political history incorporated liberally throughout. And as an unrepetant cinephile myself, I love knowing in what classic Italian films various sites appeared. Who knew that scenes from De Sica's "The Bicycle Thief" were filmed in Flaminio?I highly recommend this book as well as the earlier one, Rome The Second Time Around, and their marvelous blog to anyone who loves Rome, enjoys walking, possesses a spirit of adventure, and is compelled to learn new things always and forever.Mary Lee in New Hampshire

Shakespeare once wrote of Cleopatra, ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Age cannot wither her, nor custom stale her infinite variety.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• Dianne Bennett and Bill GraebnerÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s new guidebook, Modern Rome: 4 Great Walks for the Curious Traveler, convinces this reader of the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“infinite varietyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• of Rome. In this stand-alone sequel to their earlier Rome the Second Time, Bennett and Graebner guide us on four new walks; first, through the social experiment and ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Garden City SuburbÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• of Garbatella; next, through the 20th century modernist architectural wonders of EUR (which stands for

ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Universal Exhibition of Rome,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• now a center of business and government); then, through RomeÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s emerging cultural center, Flamino; and finally, up and down the stairs (and panoramic views) of Trastevere. While other guidebooks insist upon the timeless wonders of ancient and Renaissance Rome, these walks convince us of the dynamism of 20th century Rome. While Modern Rome participated in the unhappy politics of 20th century Italy, Bennett and Graebner remind us that that was only one of the many ways in which modern Romans have sought to live up to their ancient grandeur. Readers who follow these carefully narrated walks (whether in Rome or just in imagination) will enjoy Bennett-Graebner's distinctive blend of architectural analysis, political history, and cultural allusion. Each walk effortlessly mixes commentary on the built environment with the films of Pasolini, discussion of the ambitions of Mussolini with glimpses of ephemeral street fairs. Each walk is also accompanied by many fine, high-resolution photographs as well as by a large, highly legible map. Through each expedition, the variety of modern Rome is brought to life with keen observation and practical advice. For example, they tell us which bar, cafÃƒÂ©, art museum, piazza or view deserves our attention. The energy and care with which this guidebook has been written recharges the reality of the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“eternal city.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•

What a delight! Bennett and Graebner score again with utterly engaging accounts of a Rome rarely seen by tourists. Their deep knowledge, personal experiences, and undying fascination for modern Rome make otherwise unnoticed parks, piazzas, and public art come alive.We all hope, when we travel, go to the theater, or view art, to come away with a new vision of the world around us. The marvel of this short book is that it accomplishes just that. As Dianne and Bill lead us in their amiable and expert way through four very different parts of the city, we begin to understand the political and cultural messages so boldly left in (and on) stone, stucco, and cement by the planners, architects, and ordinary citizens of modern Rome.Gerald Charlottesville, VA

A very brief account of 4 walks in rarely visited parts of Rome. The descriptions were ok but the maps were unreadable. Also some assertions are incorrect. Calling the cube of the Palazzo die Congressi in EUR as consisting of 36 sq meters is a terrible editorial error when it is as least50 to 60 times that size. A quick job on their part and not well done.

Nada del otro mundo

A great follow-up to the original book. Reader walks the streets with two highly informed two companions and sees unique neighborhoods in Rome with fresh eyes. Thanks to Bennett and Graebner for another delightful guidebook.

Very accurate and insightful!

As usual, the authors have a great way of digging deeper into different aspects of Rome. This book is great for visitors who have been to Rome a few times and want to get beyond the obvious, or for first time travelers who don’t want to see what everyone else has on the list. Things are laid out clearly, so it’s easy to follow and they publish updates over on their blog, so things never go out of date. Great read to get yourself lost in a different side of Rome, the modern one!

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