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# The Pilgrim's Guide to Rome's Principal Churches: Illustrated Guided Tours of Fifty-one of the Most Important Churches of Rome

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**Joseph N. Tylenda : The Pilgrim's Guide to Rome's Principal Churches: Illustrated Guided Tours of Fifty-one of the Most Important Churches of Rome** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Pilgrim's Guide to Rome's Principal Churches: Illustrated Guided Tours of Fifty-one of the Most Important Churches of Rome:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. EncyclopedicBy Ross1989I heartily concur with the other reviewers' praise of this book. I saw all of the open churches in the book over a month's time.Now for some helpful additions for the traveler: 1) This is a HEAVY book. That's nice for the illustrations and the armchair traveler and for later reference. But, if you are actually lugging it around Rome or in already loaded suitcases elsewhere on your journeys, this will be a major consideration. 2) This is an encyclopedic work, and you should plan on using it as such. Almost every painting, sculpture, tomb, etc. is identified. That is nice at first, but your eyes will soon glaze over the text just as it would if you tried to read a reference book straight through. 3) The authors are rarely judgmental and comparatively spend little text on the real gems in most of the churches. They really can't and still annotate everything else. You will need to carry around a second source which will be a little more finicky. 4) The authors don't and couldn't include all of Rome's churches. So, you will need to do some research to see if they missed some of the churches that hit your own interests. In my case, it was Sant' Ivo alla Sapienza, which I can't imagine visiting Rome

and not seeing. 4) This book contains no information about the opening times of the churches. You will need to factor in how you will determine those ahead of time, probably on the internet. These times seem to change wildly, and no book could keep up with them. Only one of the listed churches was completely closed for renovation. 5) This book describes architecture but really does not help you understand it. I found a wonderful companion to this book to be George Sullivan's *Not Built in a Day: Exploring the Architecture of Rome*. (It's lightweight to boot!) It isn't solely about churches but will teach you to see the beauty in the baroque. He's also much more judgmental than *The Pilgrim's Guide*. I want to stress that I did enjoy using *The Pilgrim's Guide* and would heartily recommend it. 10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Don't leave without it. By Lawrence Burness Rome is the city of churches and this is an indispensable guide to discovering 51 of the most important ones. You are directed straight away to the ones that stand out from the rest, and then by three asterisks to those of most importance. The very comprehensive text details are invaluable in pre-planning your Rome visit. With easy to read church diagrams each treasure is easily located. There is sufficient easily readable information to direct you straight to all items of historical or artistic interest at each site. If you are intending to track down your favourite artist there is an excellent index to tell you exactly where to look in Rome. The trusted original guide has been updated with this edition and we should all be grateful to Christopher Check for making this old treasure once more available to us. An awful lot of research has gone into compiling this useful guide and we should be grateful such a treasured resource is at our disposal. This is nothing less than the best guide to Rome churches. Don't go to Rome without it. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. When in Rome By S. Bergstrom This is a wonderful resource to have on hand as you tour churches in Rome. I opened up to the chapter on St Paul's outside the wall as I sat in the Apse. It opened up the majesty of the building as I sat there. The same at Santa Maria Maggiore. And more discoveries at St Clement and St John Lateran. It takes a specific mindset to visit these churches and to relish the details that the book provides. If you are like me, it will be a very rich experience

A guided tour of fifty-one of the most important churches in Rome. Includes a history of each church, descriptions of the interior and exterior, a numbered floor plan, photographs, and details of the church's spiritual, architectural, and artistic treasures. Whether you plan on visiting Rome and using this as a guide or reading it to learn about the "Eternal City," this book offers the modern pilgrim essential information on the fifty-one most significant churches in the city. Special treatment is given to St. Peter's Basilica, St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major, St. Paul Outside-the-Walls, and St. Lawrence Outside-the-Walls. "I have been to Rome 8 times, and this book comes with me every time! The floor plans for 50 of the most popular churches in the city of Rome are laid out for you, as well as what to see while you're in there. The author even thought to make the highlights of each church into a 'walking tour', so you're seeing the items in the order you'd be walking it, rather than criss-crossing inside every church. It gives the history of the building as well as the names and dates of great artwork to be found."