



ITALY

ROME
CITY OF WORSHIP

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Rome. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints - Mormonism

- ▶ Rome is the city in the world with the highest number of churches – more than 900. However, the Italian capital is also home to devotees of the majority of the world's religions
- ▶ This diversity of faiths is a consequence of migration and the capacity to live together in harmony is almost unique in the world
- ▶ For more than 20 years, the Tavolo Interreligioso di Roma (Rome Interreligious Table), a multi-faith association, has been contributing to this harmony by promoting interreligious dialogue
- ▶ Another exceptional feature of this phenomenon is the architectural variety of the many different places of worship: from monumental buildings to simple apartments that have been adapted for the purpose
- ▶ The features of the interiors of the places of worship reveal fundamental aspects of the religious creed practiced within them, and how deeply this is rooted in the social fabric



Rieti. Santacittarama - Theravada Buddhism



Synagogue of Rome - Hebraism



Rome. Union of atheists and Agnostics Rationalists



Rome. Lutheran Evangelical Church - Lutheranism

The religious minorities in the city of Rome

Rome is home to more than 900 churches spread across its territory. In fact, no other city in the world has as many churches as the Italian capital. Most of these places of worship are catholic, however, according to a recent report by the Osservatore Romano on migration, devotees of the majority of the world's faiths are also present in the city.

Contributing to the harmony between so many different faiths is the Tavolo Interreligioso di Roma (Rome Interreligious Table), a union of Buddhists, Jews, Hindus, Muslims, Orthodox Christians and Protestants that, since 1998, the year of its foundation, has been promoting dialogue between the religions.

Rome therefore appears to be the ideal place in which to encounter the most disparate creeds: its varied panorama ranges from lay movements to Abrahamic and polytheist traditions, to newer currents such as the Human Potential Movement. This diversity is a direct consequence of immigration, a phenomenon that has seen the arrival in the Italian capital of ancient traditions, which in some cases have ended up being woven into the social fabric of the city.

In the city that is also home to the Vatican, some religions have managed to construct places of worship of architectural importance or even monumental grandeur, while others are confined to more modest structures, sometimes in simple apartments where the faithful congregate whenever possible. In both cases, however, it is always possible to identify the fulcrum, a sort of nerve centre where the altar, statue, sacred book or any other object of ritual importance can be found.

The interiors of these buildings – sometimes brightly coloured and other times more subdued, the presence or absence of seats, books or icons, the sobriety or complexity of the decoration – offer a revealing clue to the ritual form of the corresponding faith, and at the same time a surprising journey into the city's extraordinary religious ecosystem.



Latina. Tibetan Monastery - Tibetan Buddhism



Rome. Ba'hai Center- Bahism



Rome. Waldensian Evangelical Church - Waldensian



Latina. Gurudwara SinghSaba Pontinia - Sikhism



Rome. St. Paul Within the Walls - Anglicanism



Rome. Hare Krishna Center- Hinduism



Rome. Church of St. Catherine the Great Martyr - Russian Orthodox



Rome. Church of Santo Stefano - Romanian Orthodox



Rome. Seventh-day Adventist Church - Adventism



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