

**Ability Guidebooks  
presents  
Explore Rome!**



**Jerzy Strzelecki**

# **I Am Going To The Colosseum!**

**A Step-by-Step Guide On How To Visit The Flavian Amphitheatre**  
by  
**Brett Bigham**

# The Colosseum is one of the most famous buildings in the world!



Mike Turay

**These people have come a long way to see the Colosseum. They know the Colosseum is a serious place so they are using quiet voices and are walking.**

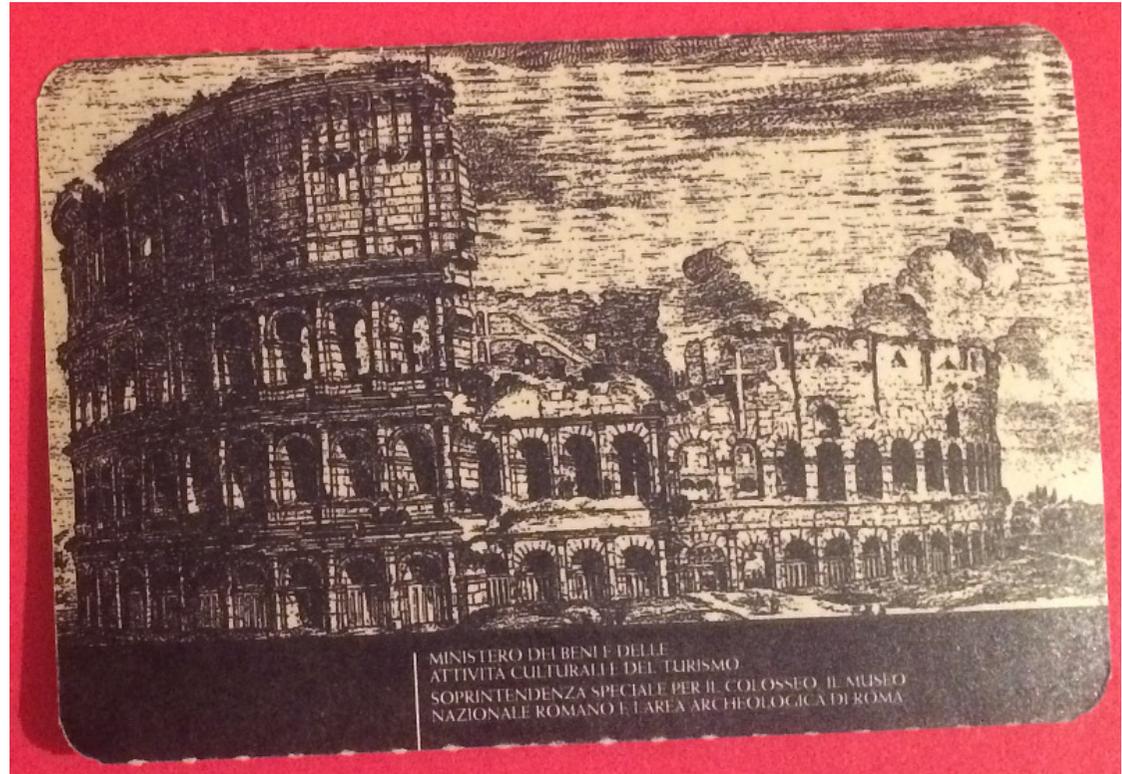
**There can be long lines when you visit the Colosseum. The line wrap around the outside of the building.**



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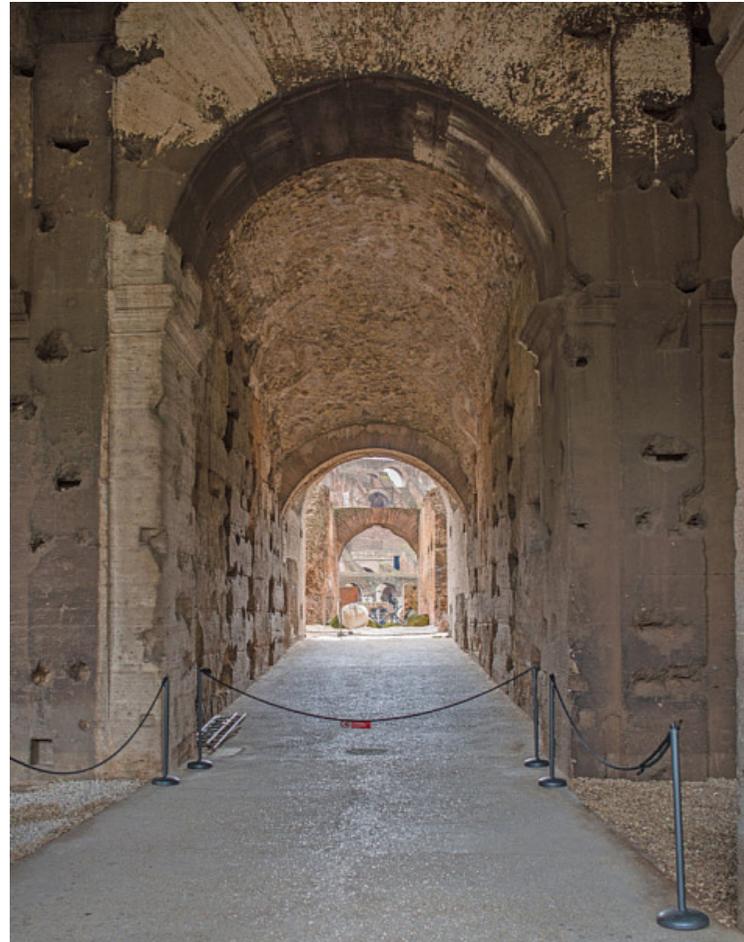
**The line then goes through the gates and inside the Colosseum. These people know the line is long and are OK with it. They want to visit the Colosseum so they are happy to stand in line. Notice how they stay close to their group?**

**When you get to the ticket office you can buy your ticket. The ticket has a picture of the Colosseum on it. You can save it as a souvenir!**



**Standing in line is the hardest part of visiting the Colosseum. Once you have your ticket you can go into the center of the building.**

**There are walkways and hallways all over the Colosseum.  
It is a good idea to stay close to your group!**



Bengt Nyman

**See the rope? That means you should not go into this area.  
The Colloseum is a very old building and you are not  
allowed to walk in some places. Stay behind the rope!**

**The Colloseum is elliptical in shape. This means many of the walkways curve. If your group goes around the curve, you can't see them!**



Bengt Nyman

**People have been walking in this building for thousands of years!**

**This is the center of the Colosseum! It is a very big building.**



Jean-Pol Grandmont

**Remember, there is no yelling or running at the Colosseum.  
We have to walk and use a quiet voice.**

**This man is having a great time. He has been following all the rules and thinks the Coliseum is cool.**



**He knows not to climb on the walls or stones. He is staying very close to his friends.**

**One end of the Colosseum has a wooden floor. There used to be a floor across the entire Colosseum. These people have gone down to the floor.**



BjF

**The level of this floor is where the gladiators used to fight. The audience sat all around. Imagine it full of Romans!**

**If the crowds of the Coliseum get to be too much, there are some quiet places to sit and relax. Maybe your group can find a spot where you can sit for a few minutes.**



Bengt Nyman

**This spot is pretty quiet. You could sit down on the stairs and rest here.**

**If the crowd gets to be too much you can always come back at night and drive by in a taxi!**



Diliff

**The Colisseum is beautiful at night and it is a building everyone should see!**

# **Tips For Visiting The Coliseum**

**Look online for tips on how to buy tickets for the Coliseum. You can purchase tickets online and skip the first ticket window and the longest lines.**

**In the summer, the lines can take more than an hour. Our lines were 20 minutes in December. Go early for the shortest lines.**

**There is a gift shop tucked inside the Coliseum with fun Roman souvenirs.**

**In most historical buildings the rule is you never climb on the stones. At the Coliseum they have placed blocks of stone to sit on but they are hard to discern from the ancient stones. Look to see what other people are doing and that will give you an idea of the places where it is OK to sit.**

**The website for the Coliseum will tell you ticket prices, times and tours available.**

**Ability Guidebooks are step-by-step instructions on how to access community destinations. For many people with autism and neuro-diversity, new situations can cause stress and discomfort. Ability Guidebooks help prepare people for new experiences. This is why I emphasize the places to sit and areas to relax.**

**This book will also help general ed teachers prepare their young students for a visit to the Coliseum.**



## **Can You Translate?**

**If you can translate this book into Italian or any other language I would love to hear from you!**

**Brett Bigham is the 2014 Oregon State Teacher of the Year and is a 2015 National Education Association Educator of Excellence from Oregon. Bigham is the first Special Education teacher to win these awards.**

**Bigham was named a Global Fellow by the NEA Foundation and traveled to Peru as an ambassador of that program. This allowed Bigham to create his first international Ability Guidebook for the Museo de Inka in Cusco, Peru. He has since made books for Athens, Greece and Rome, Italy.**

**Thank you to the city of Rome and the staff at the Coliseum.  
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