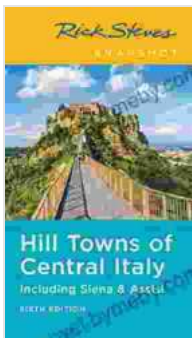


Unveiling the Timeless Treasures of Siena and Assisi: A Journey with Rick Steves' Travel Guide

Stepping into the Heart of Siena: A City of Art, History, and Tradition

As you approach the medieval city of Siena, perched atop three hills in the heart of Tuscany, you'll be greeted by a captivating tapestry of terracotta rooftops, winding cobbled streets, and soaring towers. Siena, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is a true gem of Italy, steeped in a rich history and renowned for its exceptional art and architecture.

With Rick Steves' Travel Guide as your trusty companion, you'll embark on an immersive journey through this enchanting city. The guide provides a wealth of practical tips and insights, helping you navigate the labyrinthine streets and discover the hidden gems that make Siena so captivating.



Rick Steves Snapshot Hill Towns of Central Italy: Including Siena & Assisi (Rick Steves Travel Guide)

by Rick Steves

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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Print length : 381 pages

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One of the highlights of your visit to Siena is the Piazza del Campo, the city's main square. This vast and imposing space, shaped like a seashell, is the heart of Siennese life. It's here that you'll witness the famous Palio, a thrilling horse race that has been held in Siena for centuries.

Rick Steves' Travel Guide offers an insider's perspective on this iconic event, providing tips on securing tickets and finding the best vantage points to experience the race's electrifying atmosphere.

Another must-see attraction in Siena is the Duomo, the city's magnificent cathedral. This architectural masterpiece is a testament to the skill and artistry of medieval builders. Its elaborate facade, adorned with intricate carvings and colorful mosaics, tells the故事 of the Bible in stunning detail.



The majestic facade of the Siena Duomo, a masterpiece of medieval architecture

Inside the Duomo, you'll be awestruck by the vast interior, soaring arches, and stunning frescoes by renowned artists such as Duccio di Buoninsegna. Rick Steves' Travel Guide provides a detailed overview of the cathedral's most important features, helping you appreciate its artistic and historical significance.

Beyond the main attractions, Siena offers a treasure trove of hidden gems waiting to be discovered. The enchanting narrow streets are lined with charming boutiques, cafes, and restaurants, where you can savor the flavors of traditional Tuscan cuisine and soak up the local atmosphere.

Rick Steves' Travel Guide unveils the secrets of Siena, leading you to off-the-beaten-path churches, tranquil gardens, and hidden viewpoints that offer breathtaking panoramas of the city and the surrounding countryside.

A Pilgrimage to Assisi: Walking in the Footsteps of Saint Francis

Nestled amidst the rolling hills of Umbria, about an hour's drive from Siena, lies the enchanting town of Assisi. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is renowned as the birthplace of Saint Francis, one of the most beloved and influential figures in Christian history.

With Rick Steves' Travel Guide in hand, you'll embark on a pilgrimage through the streets of Assisi, following in the footsteps of Saint Francis and discovering the sites that shaped his life and mission.



The heart of Assisi is the Basilica of San Francesco, a magnificent complex that houses the saint's tomb. This awe-inspiring structure is renowned for its stunning frescoes, which depict scenes from the life of Saint Francis and his followers.

Rick Steves' Travel Guide provides an expert analysis of these captivating artworks, helping you decipher their symbolism and gain a deeper understanding of Saint Francis's teachings and legacy.

Adjacent to the basilica is the serene Basilica of Santa Chiara, where you can pay homage to Saint Clare, one of Saint Francis's closest companions. This elegant church features beautiful stained glass windows and a peaceful cloister, offering a tranquil respite from the busy streets.



The picturesque town of Assisi, nestled amidst the rolling hills of Umbria

Beyond the main religious sites, Assisi offers a delightful blend of medieval architecture, charming shops, and inviting trattorias. As you wander through the cobbled streets, you'll encounter ancient churches, quaint fountains, and hidden courtyards that whisper tales of the town's rich past.

Rick Steves' Travel Guide unveils the hidden gems of Assisi, leading you to secluded viewpoints that offer panoramic vistas of the surrounding countryside. From the Rocca Maggiore fortress to the Eremo delle Carceri hermitage, you'll discover the places that inspired Saint Francis and continue to draw pilgrims and visitors from around the world.

Practical Planning: Your Essential Guide to Exploring Siena and Assisi

To make your journey through Siena and Assisi as seamless as possible, Rick Steves' Travel Guide provides invaluable practical advice and planning tips.

Whether you're navigating the public transportation system or seeking out the best local restaurants, the guide offers insider tips to help you optimize your time and budget.

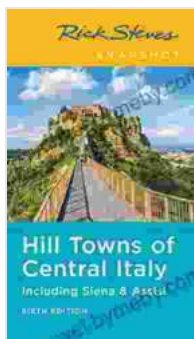


Rick Steves' Travel Guide also includes detailed maps and helpful phrases to ensure you can communicate effectively with the locals. With its comprehensive coverage and user-friendly format, the guide is an indispensable companion for any traveler seeking an authentic and enriching experience in Siena and Assisi.

Embark on Your Unforgettable Journey Today

Discover the timeless treasures of Siena and Assisi with Rick Steves' Travel Guide as your trusted companion. From the vibrant streets of Siena to the serene pilgrimage sites of Assisi, this comprehensive guide will lead you on an unforgettable journey through the heart of Italy.

Immerse yourself in the rich history, breathtaking art, and captivating culture of these enchanting cities. Let Rick Steves' expert insights and practical advice guide you to the hidden gems and authentic experiences that will make your trip truly memorable.



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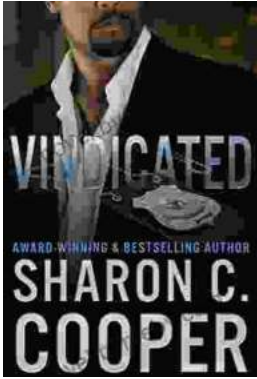
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