

“Let’s BET for heritage” meeting in Avezzano, Italy

2019-11-11 DAY THREE

On Tuesday, November 12, the participants of BET visited Rome, the capital city of Italy.



In the early morning the participants travelled to Rome by train. At first, we visited Roman Forum. The Roman Forum, known as *Forum Romanum* in Latin, was a site located at the center of the ancient city of Rome and the location of important religious, political and social activities. The rectangular-shaped area, sited on low-lying land between Palatine Hill and Capitoline Hill, was home to many of the ancient city’s most impressive temples and monuments. For centuries, the Forum was the center of day-to-day life in Rome.



The Roman Forum was reconstructed many times during its existence. This allowed for various forms of architecture from different eras to merge together. Influence from each period can be seen in the design and construction of the buildings. (Reference: <https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-rome/roman-forum>).



After that, we visited one of the most important architectural achievements of Rome - The Colosseum. Located just east of the Roman Forum, the massive stone amphitheatre known as **the Colosseum** was commissioned around A.D. 70-72 by Emperor Vespasian of the Flavian dynasty as a gift to the Roman people. In A.D. 80, Vespasian's son Titus opened the Colosseum—officially known as the Flavian Amphitheater—with 100 days of games, including gladiatorial combats and wild animal fights. Though two-thirds of the original Colosseum has been destroyed over time, the amphitheater remains an iconic symbol of Rome and its long, tumultuous history. (Reference: <https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/colosseum>).

Our guide was great! She told us interesting facts from the history of ancient Rome and we appreciated her enthusiasm of telling stories and historical facts very much.



Then we walked along Rome's Old Town. The last object was the **Trevi Fountain**. The Trevi Fountain (Italian: Fontana di Trevi) is a fountain in the Trevi district in Rome, designed by an Italian architect Nicola Salvi and completed by Giuseppe Pannini and several others. Standing 26.3 metres (86 ft) high and 49.15 metres (161.3 ft) wide, it is the largest Baroque fountain in the city and one of the most famous fountains in the world. (Reference: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trevi_Fountain).



Afterwards, we had some free time to get to know Rome and its architecture even much better. Project participants - students admired the beauty of the center of Rome; teachers had an opportunity to reach The **Vatican City** and The **Pantheon**.

The Vatican City (officially Vatican City State) is an independent city-state enclaved within Rome, Italy. With an area of 44 hectares, and a population of about 1,000, it is the smallest sovereign state in the world by both area and population. The Vatican City is an ecclesiastical or sacerdotal-monarchical state ruled by the pope who is the bishop of Rome and head of the Catholic Church.

The Pantheon is a former Roman temple, now a church, in Rome, on the site of an earlier temple commissioned by Marcus Agrippa during the reign of Augustus. It is one of the best preserved of all Ancient Roman buildings. The Pantheon has been in use as a church dedicated to "St. Mary and the Martyrs" but informally known as "Santa Maria Rotonda".

(Reference: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vatican_City
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pantheon,_Rome).

Our dream – to visit Rome – came true. We are thankful for the Italian partners and Erasmus+!

Lithuanian Team: Anesa, Evija, Evita, Giedrė, Augustė, Matas, Elijus.