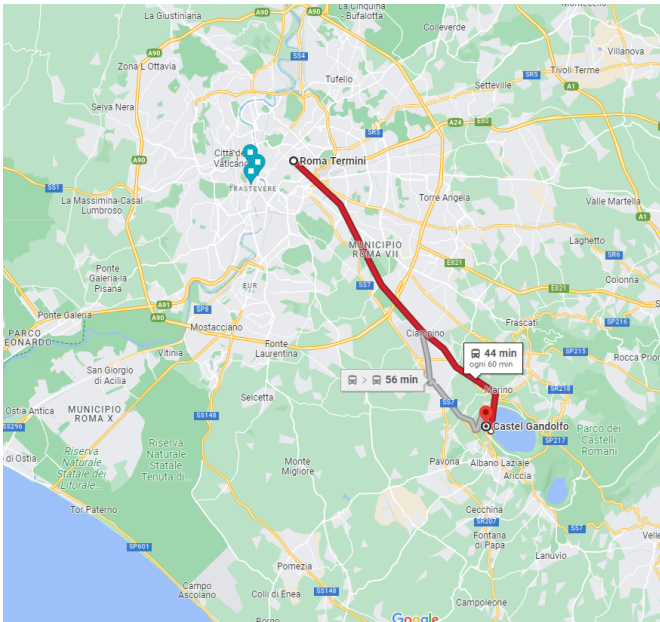


## A Day-Trip to Castelli Romani / Castel Gandolfo



### Getting There

Roma Termini - Castel Gandolfo (every hour), 44 minutes, 2,10 €

### What do do

Pontifical Palace, Palazzo Barberini, Lake Albano, Villa Romana di Domiziano, Kayak Experience, Church of San Tommaso di Villanova

### Brief History

The site of the modern town is a candidate for the site of legendary ancient Alba Longa, capital of the Latin League. It was later developed by emperor Domitian into his vast palace. Its name is derived from a fortification of the ducal Gandolfi family (of Genoese origin, named after St. Gondolfus) in the 12th century, which passed to the Savelli family from whom the Apostolic Camera purchased it in 1596 for 150,000 scudi. Pope Clement VIII was the first pope to come to Castel Gandolfo, but the rebuilding of the old castle was the project of Urban VIII who first came in 1626. Archaeological findings from the

16th century BC have been found in the area of what is now Castel Gandolfo. During the Napoleonic Wars, some 900 anti-French citizens of neighboring Velletri held out in Castel Gandolfo, resisting the siege by Joachim Murat. During World War II, Pope Pius XII opened up the grounds of Castel Gandolfo to refugees escaping the fighting taking place around Rome. On January 22, 1944, the first of what became 12,000 people began arriving on the property, often bringing with them their cows, horses, mules and sheep. Included were many Roman Jews, and other non-Catholics. During the time they lived there, 36 children were born, almost all of whom were named for the Pope who gave them safe harbor. The pope's private apartment was turned into a nursery.

### **Where to Eat**

There are several bars around the town.

- Ristorante Pagnanelli - <http://www.pagnanelli.it/>
- Ristorante Da Agnese - <https://www.daagnese.it/>
- Amici del Gusto - <https://squisitalia.com/locali/bistrot/amici-del-gusto/122123361/>
- Pasta Nostra - <https://pastanostra.it/>
- Arte e Vino - <http://www.arteevino.it/>

### **Reading and Viewing**

Here are a few links that may help you prepare for your day-trip.

- <https://www.whatalifetours.com/day-trip-to-castel-gandolfo/>
- <https://anamericaninrome.com/2016/04/day-trip-from-rome-castel-gandolfo/>
- Films set in Castel Gandolfo:

<https://www.imdb.com/search/title/?locations=Castel+Gandolfo%2C+Rome%2C+Lazio%2C+Italy>

Enjoy your trip! And help us improve this for future students by sharing your finds.