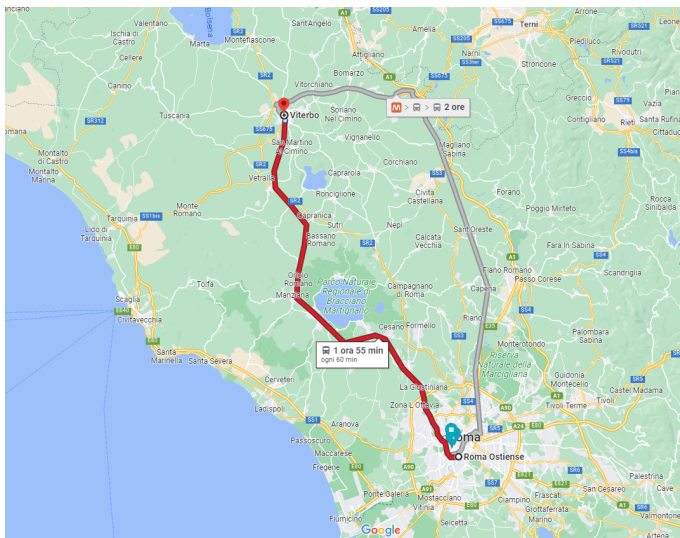


A Day-Trip to the Medieval City of Viterbo



Getting There

There is the train from Roma Ostiense to Viterbo (direct - 1 hour and 50 minutes) leaving about once an hour.

What do do

Villa Lante, Palazzo dei papi, Sacro Bosco, Cathedral of San Lorenzo, Termini dei papi, Casa di Santa Rosa

Brief History

The first report of the new city dates to the eighth century AD, when it is identified as Castrum Viterbii. It was fortified in 773 by the Lombard King Desiderius in his vain attempt to conquer Rome. When the popes switched to the Frankish support, Viterbo became part of the Papal States, but this status was to be highly contested by the emperors in the following centuries, until in 1095 when it was known as a free comune. Etruscan warrior, found near Viterbo, dated circa 500 BC. In a period in which the popes had difficulties asserting their authority over Rome, Viterbo became their favorite residence, beginning with Pope Eugene III (1145–1146) who was besieged in vain in the city walls. In 1172, Viterbo started its expansion, destroying the old city of Ferento and conquering other lands. In this age it was a rich and prosperous comune, one of the most important of Central Italy, with a population of almost 60,000. In 1207, Pope Innocent III held a council in the cathedral, but the city was later excommunicated as the

favorite seat of the heretical Patarines and even defeated by the Romans. In 1210, however, Viterbo managed to defeat Emperor Otto IV and was again at war against Rome. In 1266–1268, Clement IV chose Viterbo as the base of his ruthless fight against the Hohenstaufen. Here, from the loggia of the papal palace, he excommunicated the army of Conradin of Swabia which was passing on the Via Cassia, with the prophetic motto of the "lamb who is going to the sacrifice". Without the popes, the city fell into the hands of the Di Vicos. In the fourteenth century, Giovanni di Vico had created a seigniorship extending to Civitavecchia, Tarquinia, Bolsena, Orvieto, Todi, Narni and Amelia. His dominion was crushed by Cardinal Gil de Albornoz in 1354, sent by the Avignonese popes to recover the Papal States, who built the castle. In the 16th century it was the birthplace of Latino Latini. It became part of Italy in 1871.

Where to Eat

There are several bars around the town.

- Osteria Unicornio - <https://www.ilpoderedimarfisa.it/osteria-unicorno-farnese>
- Osteria Moderna - <https://osteria-moderna-restaurant.business.site/>
- Trattoria l'Archetto - <https://ilcontoperfavore.com/trattoria-archetto/>
- TrediciGradi - https://www.instagram.com/tredicigradi_13gradi_viterbo/?hl=en

Reading and Viewing

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

- <https://www.viaggideimesupi.com/en/2017/01/05/viterbo-what-to-see/>
- <https://myadventuresacrosstheworld.com/things-to-do-in-viterbo-italy/>
- Films set in Viterbo:

https://www.mytuscia.com/blog/cinema-nella-tuscia-i-set-dei-film-piu-famosi/?__store=en&__from_store=it

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