

BOARDING PASS

# ROAMING THROUGH

# ROME

PASSENGER: **CHIO, MARTIN**  
DEPART: **MAY**  
05 / 2015  
CHECKED IN LUGGAGE:  **1**

603 KM (375 MILES)  
MARSEILLE, FRANCE  
**MRS**  
ROME, ITALY  
**FCO**



TOTAL TIME: **1HR 20M**

Flying in from a wet and foggy Marseille, France, we were greeted by sunshine and a cool breeze at Rome's Fiumicino Airport. I think May is the ideal time to visit Rome, as it is just beginning to get a bit warmer and hordes of tourists haven't flooded the streets yet. The last time I was in Rome, it was during my medical school days. For this trip, I was looking forward to appreciating some of the iconic locations with a new perspective while also going through a new experience of booking accommodation via Airbnb.


was delayed and may be an hour late! Thankfully we managed to get into the apartment building by following some residents in (which made me question the security – but hey... safer than tourists on the pavement with suitcases). Even though we did not have the best of starts to the city, we were pleasantly pleased when our greeter arrived and showed us to the charming and cosy apartment. There was a 24-hour convenience store just around the corner (a rarity I was told) and the area was relatively safe.

We arrived in a quiet street in the Prati quarter, only to be told that our greeter

When in Rome, do as the Romans (tourists) do, so I present here the highlights of my trip. ♦



**PROFILE**



**TEXT AND PHOTOS BY**

**DR MARTIN CHIO**

Martin finds travel and food photography (taken with a Canon S95) a pleasurable distraction.



- Legend*
- 1. Mass on Pentecost Sunday by Pope Francis
  - 2. View from atop St Peter's Basilica
  - 3. Dark Rome tour of the Colosseum - a unique way to visit sans UV rays, heat and crowds
  - 4. Parma ham, melon, cherry tomatoes and salad for lunch
  - 5. Frescos, Vatican museum
  - 6. Bernini's angel on the Ponte Sant'Angelo