Taxis in Rome

Taking a taxi in Rome can be convenient, but there are a few things you should know to avoid common pitfalls. Here are eight tips for using taxis in the city:

- Use Official Taxis – Always take an official white taxi with a "TAXI" sign on the roof and a license number on the doors. Avoid unlicensed drivers who approach you at stations or tourist spots.
- Taxi Stands Over Hailing – In Rome, taxis don't usually stop if you hail them on the street. Instead, go to a designated taxi stand ("posteggio taxi"), which you'll find near major squares, train stations, and landmarks.
- Call for a Taxi or Use an App – If you can't find a stand, call a taxi service like +39 060609 (Rome's official taxi line) or use apps like FreeNow or itTaxi. Uber exists but mainly offers luxury services.
- Check the Meter – The meter should start at a fixed base fare (€3 during the day, €4.50 at night, €5.50 on Sundays). Make sure it's running to avoid being overcharged.
- Beware of Flat Fares – There are fixed fares from Fiumicino Airport (€50) and Ciampino Airport (€31) to the city centre. No extra fees should be added for luggage or passengers.
- Expect Extra Charges – Taxis charge extra for night rides (10 PM–6 AM), rides on holidays, and trips to major train stations. Also, booking a taxi by phone adds a small fee.
- Pay with Cash or Card – Most taxis now accept credit cards, but it's safer to ask before you start your ride. Some drivers may claim their machine is "broken" to get cash.
- Get a Receipt – Always ask for a printed receipt ("ricevuta") in case you forget something or need to dispute a charge. It will include the taxi's license number.

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