

# One-Day Tour of Perugia

## Tourist Guide to Perugia

If you're planning a day in Perugia and want to enjoy the city at its best, this itinerary is made for you.

I'll guide you step by step through scenic viewpoints, charming streets and must-see stops, with practical tips on all the useful details: where to park, how to reach the center, and which streets I recommend walking to truly experience the city's authentic atmosphere.

The route I propose includes over 25 stops, mixing iconic landmarks and hidden corners. They are arranged in a logical and smooth order, allowing you to move around on foot while optimizing your time.

This tour is doable in about ten hours, including a lunch break and a snack break.

Of course, you're free to skip one or more stops depending on your available time or personal interests, but I still recommend keeping the suggested order so you don't make it harder to get around.

For each place, you'll find whether it's a free or paid attraction, and at the end of the guide there's a table with the stops categorized by type (historical, scenic, cultural, etc.), so you can get a clear idea of what to expect and better organize your visit.

Whether it's your first time in the city or you want to rediscover it with new eyes, this tour will take you through history, art, and wonder... step by step.

## Let's go!

### Where's the best place to leave the car?

I recommend parking at **Pian di Massiano Parking** Lot.

It's large and free, and directly connected to the historic center of Perugia by **Minimetrò**.

The ticket costs €1.50 each way, so a total of €3 per person round trip.

From the Pian di Massiano station, you'll need to go to the last stop, **Pincetto**, to reach the heart of Perugia's historic center.

Once you get off the "Mini", you can use the escalators (on the left) or the panoramic elevator (on the right) to reach the center.

As soon as you get to the top, you'll already enjoy a breathtaking view.

At the top of the escalators (or panoramic elevator), you'll be near a small arch: walk through it and immediately turn right.

In just a few steps, you'll arrive in **Piazza Giacomo Matteotti**, where our tour begins.

From here, the itinerary starts with a beautiful viewpoint: the **Terrace of the Covered Market**, which is free to access.

You'll find the entrance just past the Flying Tiger store.

Still in Piazza Giacomo Matteotti is the second stop, the **Church of the Gesù**, also free to access.

On their website, it's possible to book a guided tour.

---

**Optional stop:**

At this point, if you're a fan of urban art, you can't miss **Via della Viola**, also known as the "street of artists" thanks to the many works of street art that decorate it.

To reach this third stop, you'll need to go down the slope to the right of the entrance to the Church of the Gesù.

At the fork, cross the street and continue on Via Cartolari—in just a few minutes, you'll find yourself in Via della Viola.

Once you've visited it, you can retrace your steps to return to Piazza G. Matteotti.

---

The next part of our tour brings us to **Piazza IV Novembre**, where you'll find the fourth, fifth, and sixth attractions of the day.

The first thing you'll see in front of you is the magnificent **Fontana Maggiore**, decorated with many sculptures full of meaning (you'll find more about them on our IG or FB page).

To the right, you'll see the **Cathedral of San Lorenzo**, one of Perugia's patron saints.

Inside it holds the Holy Ring, the Virgin Mary's wedding relic, and the Chapel of San Bernardino, with the "Deposition from the Cross" by Federico Barocci (free entrance).

Opposite the Cathedral and the Fountain, you'll find **Palazzo dei Priori** and a beautiful staircase that leads to the **Notaries' Hall** (also free).



*Fontana Maggiore*

---

Leaving the main square, head behind the Cathedral, and by walking along Via Bontempi and Via Raffaello, you'll reach the seventh attraction: the **Chapel of San Severo**.

For €4.00, you can admire a masterpiece by Raphael and Perugino.

Retrace the same streets to return, and on your right, you'll spot a preview of the eighth attraction: the **Etruscan Well**.

The entrance is on the left and tickets cost €4.00 (or €9.00 with the combo ticket that includes Palazzo Sorbello).

Our ninth attraction is another viewpoint: **Porta Sole**.

In addition to a great view, you'll also find some cool air.

To get there, just walk along Via del Sole, which is directly in front of the Well's entrance.

To the left of the viewpoint, you'll find a small staircase.

Go down and you'll arrive at the **Etruscan Arch**, the tenth stop.



*Etruscan Arch, or August Arch*

---

After enjoying the view of the magnificent arch, you'll have to make a choice.

The eleventh attraction is the **Aqueduct**.

If you want to walk the entire route, admiring the structure up close and taking super Instagram-worthy photos, simply cross the Etruscan Arch and go up Via Ulisse Rocchi to a small square with a parking area.

From there, turn right onto Via Baldeschi: the start of the Aqueduct is almost at the end, on the right.

If you prefer to view the Aqueduct from above, take Via Cesare Battisti, which opens to the right of the Etruscan Arch.

You'll arrive in Piazza Cavallotti: from there, immediately turn left onto Via Baldeschi and shortly after you'll find the Aqueduct entrance on the left.



*View of the aqueduct accessible from Via Baldeschi*

---

To reach the twelfth stop, return to Piazza Cavallotti and head toward Via della Stella. At the end of the street, on the left, you'll find one of the most beautiful churches in Perugia: the **Church of San Filippo Neri** (free entrance).

Just a three-minute walk from here, heading down Via dei Priori, you'll reach the **Torre degli Sciri**, the thirteenth attraction of the tour.

*Entrance is free* and, if you climb to the top, you'll be rewarded with a spectacular 360° view. You'll "only" need to face about 200 steps... but the view is worth every one!

Climb back up Via dei Priori and pass again in front of the Church of San Filippo Neri. Continue to Piazza Cavallotti.

From there, head to Piazza IV Novembre by walking through **Via Maestà delle Volte**, a covered alley filled with arches and one of the most scenic streets in Perugia.

From here, continue toward the main street, where on the right, you'll find the entrance to the **National Gallery of Umbria**, the 15th stop. *(Alternatively, you can reach it by avoiding Via Maestà delle Volte and continuing along Via dei Priori until the top, then turning left.)*

Entrance to the Gallery is €12.00 and it's one of the top 30 museums in Italy.

A visit will take about 1.5 hours (2 hours for a more in-depth tour).

After your visit, continue to the right along the Corso.

Just a few steps from the Gallery, you'll find the entrance to the sixteenth attraction, the **Noble Collegio del Cambio**, where you can admire Perugino's beautiful frescoes.

Entry is €6.00.



After you leave, continue along Corso Vannucci and complete what we in Perugia affectionately call “la vasca”.

At the end of the street, you’ll arrive at **Piazza Italia**, where you can take a break in the shade.

But if you decide to keep going a little further, you’ll find not only more shade, but also a splendid panoramic view: you’ve reached the **Carducci Gardens**.

At the end of the gardens, you’ll find a staircase—if you go down and turn left, you’ll find a small terrace with a map: another viewpoint, perhaps the best one, along with the Sciri Tower.

Now let’s head to **Rocca Paolina**, the nineteenth stop of our tour.

Between Piazza Italia and the Carducci Gardens, you’ll find escalators: they’ll take you into what was once an open-air neighborhood.

Hard to believe an entire district could be buried?

Yet that’s exactly what Pope Paul III did in 1540, as a form of “punishment”.

You can find a more detailed history on our social pages, but for now I’ll tell you this: today, it’s possible to walk for free through these underground streets, which still hold a unique atmosphere.

Take your time to explore this fascinating place... but try not to get lost!

To continue the tour, you’ll need to exit through **Porta Marzia**, at the end of the main street inside the Rocca.



*Originally appearance of the Rocca Paolina*

---

Once outside, to reach the next stops, go down Via Marzia and then turn left onto Viale Indipendenza.

On the right, you’ll spot a lovely private house: a brick home with flowery balconies, dating back to the late 1800s and once belonging to the Villanis family.

We Perugians are enchanted by its beauty every time.

Just a bit further ahead on the left, you’ll find the **Neptune Fountain**.

At the end of the boulevard is the twenty-first stop.

What looks like a fortified tower is actually the **Church of Sant'Ercolano**, one of the city's patron saints, and the stairway of the same name, which you'll take uphill to return to the Minimetron at the end of the route.

Inside the church, you'll be transported to a space that conceals medieval roots, with gothic elements and strong baroque influence (*free entrance*).

---

**Optional stop:**

Once you leave the church, continue along the road in front of you: Corso Cavour.

Turning onto Via Prospero Podiani, you'll reach stop no. 22: the **Civic Museum of Palazzo della Penna**.

This Renaissance building houses works by Gerardo Dottori and other Umbrian futurists.

Entry: €10.00.

---

To reach the next stop, return to Corso Cavour and continue straight to the next intersection. Looking to the right, you'll see the characteristic **Three Arches**.

Continuing along Corso Cavour, on the left you'll find Piazza Giordano Bruno, home to two important Perugian landmarks: the **Basilica of San Domenico** and the **National Archaeological Museum of Umbria (MANU)**.

*Entrance to the basilica is free*, and inside you'll admire Italy's second-largest Gothic window, various frescoes, and even a papal tombstone.



*View of Basilica di San Domenico*

---

After visiting the church, head right to enter the cloister of the former convent of San Domenico, this access is also free and gives you a preview of the museum, whose entrance is right under the portico.

The **MANU** ticket costs €5.00 and includes access to the reconstructed Etruscan tomb of the Cai Cutu family, located beneath the cloister.

This large museum can take 2 to 3 hours, depending on how much time and attention you dedicate to the collections.

For the final two stops of the tour, continue along Corso Cavour to the end, go through Porta San Pietro, and continue straight along Borgo XX Giugno.

Here you'll find the **Abbey of San Pietro**, the 26th stop.

This basilica is one of the richest in artwork, some of which hide small mysteries... Have you noticed the demonic stare in the painting above the entrance doors?

Inside, you'll also find an underground crypt, very interesting to visit.

Tickets cost €6.00 and include other areas beyond the church.

Once outside the Abbey, head right: you'll find the **Frontone Gardens**, the last stop of this long tour.

A wide green space, perfect for relaxing.

In summer, it hosts an enchanting open-air cinema.

To get back to the Minimetrorò station, you have about a 15–20 minute walk.

If you want to take the **Scalette di Sant'Ercolano**, go back along Borgo XX Giugno and Corso Cavour.

Once you reach the Basilica of Sant'Ercolano, take the stairs on the right.

At the top, turn right onto Via Oberdan and continue until you see the arch marked "Pincetto", the same place where your morning started.

From there, take the escalators or elevator to reach the station.

If you're tired or want to avoid stairs, go again through Borgo XX Giugno and Corso Cavour until you reach the Tre Archi intersection.

Turn right onto Via Campo di Battaglia and continue to the roundabout: on the left you'll find the Minimetrorò station, located above, accessible by elevator.

---

**Estimated cost per person:** around €50.00 (including Minimetrorò).

*Keep in mind that the last Minimetrorò ride is usually at 9:05 PM. If you think you might not make it, or simply prefer not to worry about it, you can leave your car at the Ripa di Meana parking lot (just 170 meters from the Minimetrorò station). The daily rate is €20.00, one of the most affordable in the city.*

## Attractions summary table

N°	Name of attraction	Type	Entrance
1	Terrazza del Mercato Coperto	Viewpoint	Free
2	Chiesa del Gesù	Church	Free
3	Via della Viola	A Distinctive Street	Free
4	Fontana Maggiore	Historic Monument	Free
5	Cattedrale di San Lorenzo	Church	Free
6	Sala dei Notari (Palazzo dei Priori)	Heritage room	Free
7	Cappella di San Severo	Chapel / Museum	€4,00
8	Pozzo Etrusco	Historic Monument	€4,00 / €9,00 (with Palazzo Sorbello)
9	Viewpoint Porta Sole	Viewpoint	Free
10	Arco Etrusco	Historic Monument	Free
11	Acquedotto – viewpoint dall’alto (via Battisti)	Viewpoint	Free
12	Acquedotto – ingresso pedonale (via Baldeschi)	Historic Monument	Free
13	Chiesa di San Filippo Neri	Church	Free
14	Torre degli Sciri	Historic Monument / Viewpoint	Free
15	Via Maestà delle Volte	A Distinctive Street	Free
16	Galleria Nazionale dell’Umbria	Museum	€12,00
17	Nobile Collegio del Cambio	Museum	€6,00
18	Viewpoint Giardini Carducci (terrazza)	Viewpoint	Free
19	Rocca Paolina	Historic Monument	Free
20	Fontana di Nettuno	Historic Monument	Free
21	Chiesa di San Ercolano	Church	Free



22	Museo Civico di Palazzo della Penna	Museum	€10,00
23	Tre Archi	Historic Monument	Free
24	Basilica di San Domenico	Church	Free
25	Museo Archeologico Nazionale (M.A.N.U.)	Archaeology Museum	€5,00
26	Abbazia di San Pietro	Church	€6,00
27	Giardini del Frontone	Green Area	Free