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978-1-107-02050-4 - Cities and the Grand Tour: The British in Italy, c. 1690–1820

Rosemary Sweet

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## Cities and the Grand Tour

How did eighteenth-century travellers experience, describe and represent the urban environments they encountered as they made the Grand Tour? This fascinating book focuses on the changing responses of the British to the cities of Florence, Rome, Naples and Venice, during a period of unprecedented urbanisation at home. Drawing on a wide range of unpublished material, including travel accounts written by women, Rosemary Sweet explores how travel literature helped to create and perpetuate the image of a city; what the different meanings and imaginative associations attached to these cities were; and how the contrasting descriptions of each of these cities reflected the travellers' own attitudes to urbanism. More broadly, the book explores the construction and performance of personal, gender and national identities, and the shift in cultural values away from neo-classicism towards medievalism and the gothic, which is central to our understanding of eighteenth-century culture and the transition to modernity.

ROSEMARY SWEET is Professor of Urban History at the Centre for Urban History, University of Leicester. Her previous publications include *The English Town, Government, Society and Culture* (1999) and *Antiquaries: The Discovery of the Past in Eighteenth-Century Britain* (2004).

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Frontmatter

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Frontmatter

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In memory of John Philip McMurdo Sweet  
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Rosemary Sweet

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	<i>page</i> viii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	x
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xii
Introduction	1
1 Experiencing the Grand Tour	23
2 Florence: a home from home	65
3 Rome ancient and modern	99
4 Naples: leisure, pleasure and a frisson of danger	164
5 Venice: a place of singularity and spectacle	199
6 Medievalism on the Grand Tour	236
Conclusion	267
<i>Bibliography</i>	291
<i>Index</i>	322

# Figures

---

1	‘Vue Générale de l’Etat actuel des fouilles ordonnées par le Roi de Naples dans le lieu que l’on pense avoir été le camp ou Quartier des soldats à Pompeii’ (View of the excavations ordered by the King of Naples in the place thought to be the soldiers’ barracks at Pompeii) from Jean Claude Richard de Saint-Non, <i>Voyage pittoresque ou description des royaumes de Naples et de Sicilie</i> , 5 vols. (Paris, 1782–5). Reproduced by kind permission of the Syndics of Cambridge University Library.	page 48
2	‘The Palazzo Pubblico, in Bologna’, from John Smith, <i>Select Views in Italy with Topographical Descriptions in England and France</i> , 2 vols. (1792–6). Reproduced by kind permission of the Syndics of Cambridge University Library.	60
3	‘Florence from Fiesole’, from James Hakewill, <i>A Picturesque Tour of Italy from Drawings Made in 1816, 1817</i> (1820). Reproduced by kind permission of the Syndics of Cambridge University Library.	69
4	‘Florence from the Ponte alla Carraia’, from James Hakewill, <i>A Picturesque Tour of Italy from Drawings Made in 1816, 1817</i> (1820). Reproduced by kind permission of the Syndics of Cambridge University Library.	74
5	‘Veduta della Piazza del Popolo’, from Giovanni Battista Piranesi, <i>Vedute di Roma</i> , 2 vols. (Rome, n.d.). Reproduced by kind permission of the Society of Antiquaries.	100
6	‘Temple of Jupiter Stator, Rome, showing the excavation’, from Edward L. Cressy and G. L. Taylor, <i>The Architectural Antiquities of Rome</i> , 2 vols. (1821). Reproduced by kind permission of Special Collections, David Wilson Library, University of Leicester.	118
7	‘Interior view of the Coliseum’, from Edward L. Cressy and G. L. Taylor, <i>The Architectural Antiquities of Rome</i> , 2 vols. (1821). Reproduced by kind permission of Special Collections, David Wilson Library, University of Leicester.	119



List of figures	ix
8 ‘Veduta della Piazza della Rotonda’, from Giovanni Battista Piranesi, <i>Vedute di Roma</i> , 2 vols. (Rome, n.d.). Reproduced by kind permission of the Society of Antiquaries.	144
9 ‘Veduta dell’insigne Basilica Vaticana coll’ampio Portio e Piazza adjacente’, from Giovanni Battista Piranesi, <i>Vedute di Roma</i> , 2 vols. (Rome, n.d.). Reproduced by kind permission of the Society of Antiquaries.	152
10 ‘Vue de la Ville de Naples prise du Faubourg de Chiaja’ (View of Naples from the Chiaja), from Jean Claude Richard de Saint-Non, <i>Voyage pittoresque ou description des royaumes de Naples et de Sicilie</i> , 5 vols. (Paris, 1782–5). Reproduced by kind permission of the Syndics of Cambridge University Library.	166
11 ‘Vue de l’intérieur de l’Eglise Cathédrale de St Janvier à Naples’ (View of the interior of the cathedral of San Gennaro), Jean Claude Richard de Saint-Non, <i>Voyage pittoresque ou description des royaumes de Naples et de Sicilie</i> , 5 vols. (Paris, 1782–5). Reproduced by kind permission of the Syndics of Cambridge University Library.	182
12 ‘Mazanielle haranguant le Peuple de Naples dans la Place du Marché des Carme pendant la fameuse sedition de 1647’ (Masaniello haranguing the people of Naples in the Piazza del Mercato during the famous rebellion of 1647), Jean Claude Richard de Saint-Non, <i>Voyage pittoresque ou description des royaumes de Naples et de Sicilie</i> , 5 vols. (Paris, 1782–5). Reproduced by kind permission of the Syndics of Cambridge University Library.	184
13 Michele Marieschi, ‘Prospectus Plateae Divi Marci Venetiarum, et eiusdem Basilicae cum redibus D Marci Procuratorum’ (The Piazza San Marco and Basilica) (private collection).	206
14 Antonio Canaletto, ‘Pons Rivoalti, utrinque Ripae, et Aedes ad Orientem’ (The Rialto Bridge from the east), engraved by Giovanni Battista Brustoloni (private collection).	216
15 ‘Specimen of the Architecture of the Baptistery at Pisa’, from Robert Smirke, ‘An account of some remains of gothic architecture in Italy and Sicily’, <i>Archaeologia</i> , 15 (1806). Reproduced by kind permission of Special Collections, David Wilson Library, University of Leicester.	249
16 View of Assisi, from John Smith, <i>Select Views in Italy with Topographical Descriptions in England and France</i> , 2 vols. (1792–6). Reproduced by kind permission of the Syndics of Cambridge University Library.	258

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02050-4 - Cities and the Grand Tour: The British in Italy, c. 1690–1820

Rosemary Sweet

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-02050-4 - Cities and the Grand Tour: The British in Italy, c. 1690–1820

Rosemary Sweet

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## Acknowledgements

xi

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# Abbreviations

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## Archives

BL	British Library
Bodl	Bodleian Library
CUL	Cambridge University Library
DUASC	Durham University Archives and Special Collections
GA	Gloucestershire Archives
MCO	Magdalen College Oxford
NAS	National Archives of Scotland
NLS	National Library of Scotland
NLW	National Library of Wales
NRO	Norfolk Record Office
ROLLR	Record Office for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland
SAL	Society of Antiquaries of London
TCC	Trinity College Cambridge
TNA	The National Archives
WCO	Wadham College Oxford

## Periodicals

<i>AHR</i>	<i>American Historical Review</i>
<i>HJ</i>	<i>Historical Journal</i>
<i>JWCI</i>	<i>Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes</i>
<i>ODNB</i>	<i>Oxford Dictionary of National Biography</i>
<i>P&amp;P</i>	<i>Past and Present</i>
<i>TRHS</i>	<i>Transactions of the Royal Historical Society</i>