

Russian Tourist Arrested for Vandalizing Colosseum

November 23, 2014



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Italian authorities say a Russian tourist has been fined 20,000 euros (\$25,000) for engraving a big letter 'K' on a wall of the Colosseum, the latest act of vandalism by tourists at the ancient structure.

Italian news agency ANSA reported that the 42-year-old tourist was given a summary judgment of a fine and a suspended four-year jail sentence on Saturday.

He was spotted by a guard as he used a pointed stone to carve the 25-centimeter-tall letter.

Union leaders, citing recent acts of vandalism, have complained about the lack of personnel to properly monitor Rome's archaeological treasures — with increasing numbers of visitors seeking to leave their trace on antiquity, causing incalculable damage.

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