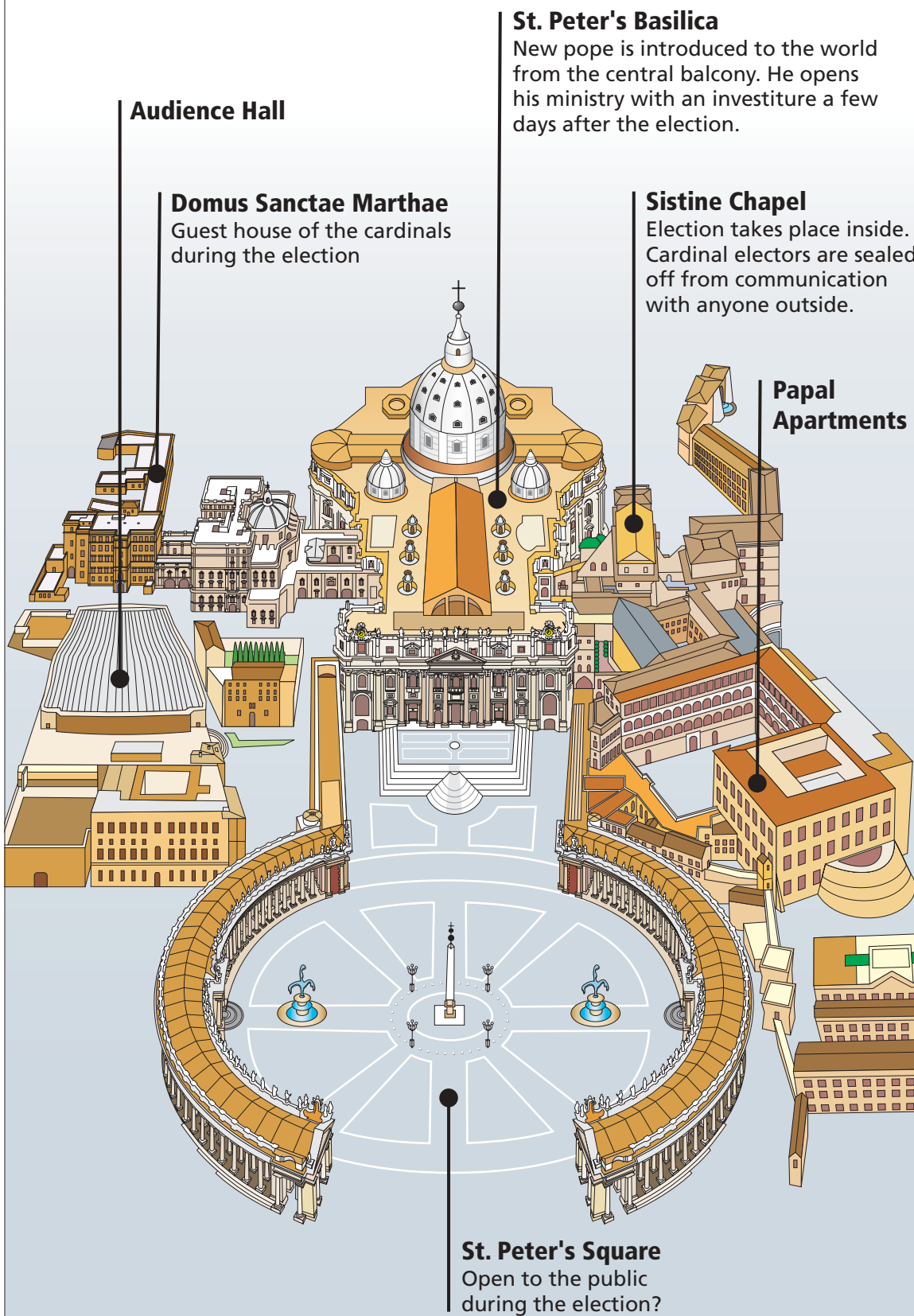


# CONCLAVE OVERVIEW

A look at the Papal election process from beginning to end



## Steps to the Conclave

1. All cardinals who are able travel arrive at the Vatican and take up residence in Domus Sanctae Marthae.
2. They meet to determine the date of the beginning of the conclave.
3. Mass is celebrated by the cardinal electors in St. Peter's Basilica on the morning of the conclave's first day
4. Cardinal electors process from \_\_\_\_\_ to the Sistine Chapel chanting "Veni Creator" (need translation)
5. Inside the Sistine, the electors take an oath to follow the rules of the conclave and maintain the secrecy of the proceedings.
6. Two meditations are given by ecclesiastics (a priest or deacon?), who then along with the master of papal liturgies leave the chapel.
7. The election process begins.

## Balloting

1. Voting is secret, in writing and on paper ballots
2. Rounds of balloting — two in the morning and two in the afternoon — proceed until a new pope is elected by a two-thirds majority.
3. If balloting does not yield a two-thirds majority, the ballots along with any other notes made by the electors are burned.
4. If balloting results in the election of a pope, a special chemical is added to the ballots cause them to yield a white smoke when they are burned. The white smoke coming from a chimney signals to the world that the cardinals have elected a new pope.
5. If a new pope is not chosen after three days of balloting, voting is suspended for a day of prayer and reflection.