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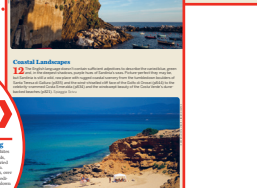
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PLAN YOUR TRIP

YOUR PLANNING TOOL KIT

Photos, itineraries, lists and suggestions to help you put together your perfect trip

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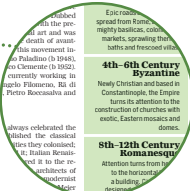
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GET MORE FROM YOUR TRIP

Learn about the big picture, so you can make sense of what you see

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Look out for these icons:



Our author's
recommendation



A green or
sustainable option



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**Olivia Pozzan**

Abruzzo & Molise; Puglia, Basilicata & Calabria Although born and raised in Australia, Olivia's Italian heritage continually draws her back to the 'home country'. Having contributed to Lonely Planet's *Puglia & Basilicata* guide, she was keen to revisit the region to face a delicious onslaught of pasta, pizza and red wine. As an adventurous outdoors enthusiast, she has hiked mountain ranges, led caving expeditions and worked for an Arabian prince. When not

exploring the world's most exotic places she lives the Aussie beach lifestyle, and is a practising veterinarian.

**Brendan Sainsbury**

Turin, Piedmont & the Italian Riviera; Emilia-Romagna & San Marino An expat Brit now living in Vancouver, Brendan first visited Italy in the 1980s; he ran out of *soldi* in Venice and had to navigate his way back to London on a budget of £5. In 1992, he returned slightly richer, with a bike, and sprinted to Sestriere just in time to see his Italian cycling hero, Claudio Chiappucci, nab a legendary Tour de France stage victory. As well contributing to two editions of this guidebook, Brendan is the sole author of Lonely Planet's *Hiking in Italy*.

**Donna Wheeler**

Trento & the Dolomites, Friuli Venezia Giulia The northeastern border regions were Donna Wheeler's dream assignment: all that complex history, mountains, the sea, plus Austro-Hungarian cake and spectacular white wine. Donna has travelled to Italy for two decades and has been based in the country's north for the last year. She was author of the first *Milan Encounter* guide, as well as several other Lonely Planet titles. An erstwhile editor and producer, she now writes on food, art and

architecture for several travel publications and at donnaelizabethwheeler.com.

Read more about Donna at:
lonelyplanet.com/members/donna-wheeler

**Nicola Williams**

Florence & Tuscany Nicola is a British writer. She lives on the shores of Lake Geneva, an easy getaway to Italy where she's spent years eating her way around the country and revelling in its extraordinary art and landscape. This time around she travelled with camera in hand to catch it on film, too. Nicola has worked on numerous Lonely Planet titles, including *Florence & Tuscany*, *Milan*, *Turin & Genoa* and *Piedmont*. She blogs at tripalong.wordpress.com and tweets @Tripalong.



Kerry Christiani

Sardinia Kerry's relationship with Sardinia began one hazy summer when she embarked on a grand tour of Italy in a 1960s bubble caravan. She's still taken with the island's gorgeous beaches, high-altitude hiking, prehistoric sites and culinary oddities today. Born in the UK and based in Germany, Kerry's itchy feet have taken her to six continents, inspiring articles for *Lonely Planet* and *BBC Olive* magazines, and some 20 guidebooks, including *Lonely Planet Germany, Austria, Switzerland* and *France*. You can see her latest work at www.kerrychristiani.com.



Gregor Clark

Sicily, Survival Guide Gregor caught the Italy bug at age 14 during a year in Florence in which his professor dad trundled the family off to see every fresco, mosaic and museum within a 1000km radius. He's lived in Venice and Le Marche, led northern Italian bike tours, and huffed and puffed across the Dolomites while researching *Lonely Planet's Cycling Italy*. Highlights of his latest Sicily trip include celebrating his birthday at Segesta and racing up Etna at sunset to see an unexpected eruption.



Joe Fullman

Umbria & Le Marche A Londoner by birth, Joe's first experience of Italy was being dragged along on a family holiday to Tuscany. These days, Joe tends to be the one doing the dragging, trying to convince almost everyone he meets to visit northern Umbria, site of the new family home. A travel writer for the best part of a decade and a half now, Joe has written and contributed to numerous guidebooks, including *Lonely Planet's Turkey*.



Duncan Garwood

Rome & Lazio After more than a decade living in Rome, Duncan is still fascinated by the city's incomparable beauty and hidden depths. He has worked on the last four *Rome* city guides and contributed to a raft of *Lonely Planet's Italy* titles, as well as newspapers and magazines. Each job throws up special memories and this time it was going behind the scenes at the Vatican Museums and visiting a chapel that's usually closed to the public.

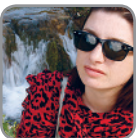
Read more about Duncan at:
lonelyplanet.com/members/duncangarwood



Robert Landon

Venice & the Veneto Since first crossing from congested Piazzale Roma into car-free Venice, Robert has been hooked on the watery city. He's returned many times and in every season, from snowy February to sweltering August; its charms never diminish. However, it was albino asparagus and Valpolicella reds that had him writing home on his most recent trip. Currently based in Rio de Janeiro, he has also written for the London *Daily Telegraph*, the *Los Angeles Times* and *Dwell* magazine.

Read more about Robert at:
lonelyplanet.com/members/robertlandon



Vesna Maric

Sardinia Vesna's love of Mediterranean islands was enhanced by the spring flowers and tranquil virgin beaches of Sardinia. She researched the island's western half with her partner and one-year-old daughter, and can vouch for the incredible child-friendliness of the Sardinians.



Virginia Maxwell

Florence & Tuscany Based in Australia, Virginia spends part of every year in Italy indulging her passions for history, art, architecture, food and wine. She is the coordinating author of *Lonely Planet's Florence & Tuscany* and *Sicily* guidebooks, and covers other parts of the country for the *Western Europe* guide. Though reticent to nominate a favourite Italian destination (arguing that they're all wonderful), she'll usually nominate Tuscany if pressed.

Read more about Virginia at:
lonelyplanet.com/members/virginiamaxwell



OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Melbourne, London and Oakland, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

OUR WRITERS



Paula Hardy

Coordinating Author, Plan Your Trip, Milan & the Lakes Paula has worked on Lonely Planet's *Italy* guide for over 10 years, both as commissioning editor (2006–2010) and as a contributor. In that time she has heroically enjoyed thousands of dishes of pasta, scaled exploding volcanoes and trekked up and down the Apennines and the Alps, from Italy's Puglian heel to Lombardy's lofty lakes. When she's not scooting around the *bel paese*, she writes on north and east Africa (where she grew up), contributes to *Lonely Planet Magazine* and writes for a variety of travel publications and websites. You can find her tweeting @paula6hardy.



Alison Bing

Venice & the Veneto When not scribbling notes in church pews and methodically eating her way across Venice, Alison contributes to Lonely Planet's *Venice & the Veneto*, *USA*, *San Francisco* and *Morocco* guides from home bases in San Francisco and central Italy. Alison holds degrees in art history and international relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, a joint program of Tufts and Harvard Universities – perfectly respectable credentials she regularly undermines with opinionated culture commentary for newspapers, magazines, TV and radio.



Abigail Blasi

Rome & Lazio Abigail moved to Rome in 2003 and lived there for three years; she got married alongside Lago di Bracciano and her first son was born there. Nowadays she divides her time between Rome, Puglia and London. She worked on three editions of Lonely Planet's *Italy* and *Rome* guides, wrote the *Best of Rome*, and cowrote the first edition of *Puglia & Basilicata*. She also regularly writes about Italy for various publications, including *Lonely Planet Magazine*, *Wanderlust* and i-escape.com.



Cristian Bonetto

Naples & Campania, Eat & Drink Like a Local, Understand Italy As an ex-writer of farce and TV soap, it's not surprising that Cristian clicks with Campania. The Italo-Australian writer has been hooked on the region for years, his musings on it appearing in print from Sydney to London. Cristian has contributed to a dozen Lonely Planet titles, including *Naples & the Amalfi Coast*, *Rome Encounter* and *Copenhagen Encounter*. When he's not putting on weight in Italy, chances are you'll find him guzzling coffee in New York, Scandinavia or his hometown, Melbourne.

OVER MORE
PAGE WRITERS

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