<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welcome to Italy</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy Map</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy’s Top 18</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Need to Know</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Time Italy</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What’s New</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If You Like</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Month by Month</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Itineraries</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat &amp; Drink Like a Local</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Experiences</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel with Children</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regions at a Glance</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROME &amp; LAZIO</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rome</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lazio</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ostia Antica</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tivoli</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cerveteri</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarquinia</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viterbo</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castelli Romani</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palestrina</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Coast</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isole Pontine</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TURIN, PIEDMONT &amp; THE ITALIAN RIVIERA</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liguria</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genoa</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Around Genoa</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riviera di Levante</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinque Terre</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Around Cinque Terre</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riviera di Ponente</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piedmont</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turin</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Milky Way</td>
<td>213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern &amp; Eastern Piedmont</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varallo &amp; the Valsesia</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valle d’Aosta</td>
<td>227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aosta</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courmayeur</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parco Nazionale del Gran Paradiso</td>
<td>235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valtournenche</td>
<td>237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILAN &amp; THE LAKES</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milan</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Around Milan</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Lakes</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lago Maggiore</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lago d’Orta</td>
<td>267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lago di Como</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lago d’Iseo</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lago di Garda</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Po Plain</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bergamo</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brescia</td>
<td>295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mantua</td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cremona</td>
<td>301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRENTO &amp; THE DOLOMITES</td>
<td>303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trentino</td>
<td>306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trento</td>
<td>306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rovereto</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brenta Dolomites</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Val di Non &amp; Val di Sole</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Val di Fiemme</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Val di Fassa</td>
<td>316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alto Adige (Südtirol)</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolzano (Bozen)</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merano (Meran)</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Val Venosta (Vinschgau)</td>
<td>326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parco Nazionale dello Stelvio</td>
<td>326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Val Gardena (Gröden/Gherdëina)</td>
<td>327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpe di Siusi &amp; Parco Naturale Sciliar-Catinaccio</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Val Badia &amp; Alpe di Fanes</td>
<td>332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Val Pusteria (Pustertal)</td>
<td>333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VENICE &amp; THE VENETO</td>
<td>335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venice</td>
<td>338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Veneto</td>
<td>382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brenta Riviera</td>
<td>382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Padua</td>
<td>383</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contents

Vicenza .......................... 388
Verona ............................ 393
Verona’s Wine Country ........ 401
Prosecco Country ............... 403
Veneto Dolomites ............... 404

FRIULI VENEZIA
GIULIA ......................... 407
Trieste ............................ 409
Muggia ............................. 417
Il Carso ............................ 417
Gorizia .............................. 418
Palmanova ........................ 419
Aquileia ............................ 419
Grado ................................ 420
Around Grado ..................... 421
Laguna di Marano ............... 421
Pordenone .......................... 422
Udine ............................... 422
Cividale del Friuli ............... 427
San Daniele del Friuli .......... 429
North of Udine .................... 429
Tolmezzo & Carnia ............. 430
Tarvisio & the Giulie Alps ..... 430

EMILIA-ROMAGNA  
& SAN MARINO ................. 434
Emilia-Romagna ................. 435
Bologna ............................. 435
Modena ............................. 448
Reggio Emilia ..................... 456
Parma ............................... 458
Busseto & Verdi Country ...... 463
Piacenza ............................ 464
Ferrara .............................. 464
Ravenna ............................. 469
Rimini ............................... 473
San Marino ......................... 478

FLORENCE  
& TUSCANY ...................... 479
Florence ............................ 482
Central Tuscany ................ 518
Siena ................................ 518
Chianti .............................. 526
Val d’Elsa ........................... 533
Val d’Orcia & Val di Chiana ... 541
Southern Tuscany ............... 545
Massa Marittima ................. 545
Città del Tufo ...................... 547
Central Coast & Elba ........... 549
Livorno ............................. 549
Isola d’Elba ........................ 554
Northwestern Tuscany .......... 557
Pisa ................................... 557
Lucca ................................ 565
Pietrasanta ........................ 569
Eastern Tuscany ................. 570
Arezzo ............................... 570
Sansepolcro ........................ 573
Cortona ............................. 574

UMBRIA &  
LE MARCHE ...................... 576
Umbria .............................. 577
Perugia ............................. 577
Torgiano ......................... 588
Lago Trasimeno ................... 589
Todi ................................. 592
Assisi .............................. 594
Spello .............................. 601
Gubbio ............................. 602
Spoleto ............................. 605
Norcia & the Valnerina ..609
Orvieto ............................. 611
Le Marche ......................... 616
Ancona .............................. 617
Parco del Conero ............... 621
Urbino ............................. 622
Pesaro .............................. 625
Grotte di Frasassi ............... 626
Macerata ........................... 626
Ascoli Piceno ..................... 628
Monti Sibillini .................... 631
Sarnano ............................. 632

ABRUZZO &  
MOLISE ......................... 633
Abruzzo ............................ 636
Parco Nazionale del Gran Sasso e Monti della Laga ....... 636
Sulmona ............................ 636
Around Sulmona ................ 639
Parco Nazionale della Majella .. 640
Scanno ............................. 641
Parco Nazionale d’Abruzzo, Lazio e Molise .............. 643
Pescara ............................. 645
Chieti ............................... 646
Vasto & Around ................... 647
Molise ............................... 647
Campobasso ....................... 647
Saeatinum .......................... 648
Isernia .............................. 648
Termoli ............................. 648
Albanian Towns ................... 649

NAPLES &  
CAMPANIA ...................... 650
Naples .............................. 651
Bay of Naples .................... 674
Capri ............................... 674
Ischia ............................... 680
Procida ............................. 683
South of Naples ................... 684
Ercolano & Herculaneum ..... 684
Mt Vesuvius ............. 686
Pompeii .................. 686
Sorrento .................. 692
West of Sorrento .... 696
Amalfi Coast ........ 697
Positano ................. 697
Praiano & Furore .... 701
Amalfi .................... 701
Ravello ................... 703
South of Amalfi ...... 705
Costiera Cilentana ... 710
Agropoli .................. 710
Parco Nazionale del Cilento e Vallo di Diano.. 710

PUGLIA, BASILICATA & CALABRIA ...... 714

Puglia ..................... 715
Bari ....................... 715
Around Bari ............. 721
Promontorio del Gargano .............. 724
Isole Tremiti ............. 729
Valle d'Itria ............... 730
Lecce ....................... 736
Brindisi ................... 741
Southern & Western Salento .......... 744

Basilicata ................ 749
Matera ..................... 749
Metaponto .................. 756
Potenza ..................... 757
Appennino Lucano .... 757
Basilicata’s Western Coast ........ 758

Calabria .................. 759
Northern Tyrrhenian Coast ....... 760
Cosenza ................... 762
Parco Nazionale della Sila . 763
Ionian Coast ............. 764
Parco Nazionale dell’Aspromonte .. 765
Reggio di Calabria ..... 766
Southern Tyrrhenian Coast ...... 768

SICILY ................. 774
Palermo .................. 778
Tyrrenian Coast ........ 790
Cefalù ...................... 790
Aeolian Islands ........ 792
Lipari ....................... 793
Vulcano ................... 797
Salina ....................... 798
Stromboli ................. 802
Ionian Coast .......... 804
Taormina .................. 804
Catania ..................... 808
Mt Etna .................... 814

Syracuse & the Southeast .... 815
Syracuse .................. 815
Noto ....................... 822
Modica ...................... 825
Ragusa ...................... 826

Central Sicily & the Mediterranean Coast ...... 830
Agrigento .................. 830
Western Sicily ............. 833
Marsala ..................... 834
Selinunte .................. 835
Trapani ..................... 835
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Erice</td>
<td>838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Segesta</td>
<td>839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SARDINIA</strong></td>
<td>840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cagliari</td>
<td>844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Around Cagliari</td>
<td>851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Villasimius</td>
<td>851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Rei</td>
<td>852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa del Sud &amp; Chia</td>
<td>852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iglesias &amp; the Southwest</td>
<td>853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iglesias</td>
<td>853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Verde</td>
<td>854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oristano &amp; the West</td>
<td>855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oristano</td>
<td>855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tharros &amp; the Sinis Peninsula</td>
<td>857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Oristano Coast</td>
<td>859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alghero &amp; the Northwest</td>
<td>862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alghero</td>
<td>862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Around Alghero</td>
<td>866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stintino &amp; Parco Nazionale dell’Asinara</td>
<td>867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sassari</td>
<td>868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olbia, the Costa Smeralda &amp; the Gallura</td>
<td>869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olbia</td>
<td>869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Smeralda &amp; Around</td>
<td>870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Teresa di Gallura</td>
<td>873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palau &amp; Arcipelago di La Maddalena</td>
<td>874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuoro &amp; the East</td>
<td>875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuoro</td>
<td>876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supramonte</td>
<td>877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golfo di Orosei</td>
<td>879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ogliastro</td>
<td>881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian Art &amp; Architecture</td>
<td>901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Italian Way of Life</td>
<td>920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy on Page &amp; Screen</td>
<td>927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Italian Table</td>
<td>931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directory A–Z</td>
<td>938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index</td>
<td>965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map Legend</td>
<td>974</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### UNDERSTAND

- Italy Today
- History
- Italian Art & Architecture
- The Italian Way of Life
- Italy on Page & Screen
- The Italian Table

### SURVIVAL GUIDE

- Directory A–Z
- Transport
- Language
- Index
- Map Legend

### SPECIAL FEATURES

- Eat & Drink Like a Local
- 3D Roman Forum Illustration
- Fashion
- Design
- Venetian Artistry

- 3D Uffizzi Gallery Illustration
- Chianti Wine Tour
- 3D Pompeii Illustration
- Sicilian Desserts
- Renaissance Art
**Italian Highlights**

A perfect introduction to Italy, this easy tour ticks off some of the country’s most seductive sights, including Roman ruins, Renaissance masterpieces and the world’s most beautiful lagoon city.

Start with three days in mighty Rome, punctuating blockbuster sights like the Colosseum, Palatine and Sistine Chapel with market grazing in the Campo de’ Fiori and late-night revelry in Trastevere.

On day four, head to Renaissance Florence. Drop in on Michelangelo’s David at the Galleria dell’Accademia and pick your favourite Botticelli at the Uffizi Gallery. For a change of pace, escape to the Tuscan countryside on day six for a day trip to Gothic Siena.

The following day, continue north for three unforgettable days in Venice. Check off musts like the mosaic-encrusted Basilica di San Marco, art-slung Gallerie dell’Accademia and secret passageways of the Palazzo Ducale, then live like a true Venetian, noshing on the city’s famous cicheti (Venetian tapas), and toasting with a Veneto prosecco (sparkling wine).
Northern Jewels

Like a jewel-studded necklace, this route takes in some of northern Italy’s most extraordinary assets, from cultural powerhouse cities to one of Italy’s most arresting stretches of coastline.

Begin with three days in Venice, its trading port pedigree echoed in the Near East accents of its architecture and the synagogues of its 500-year-old Ghetto. On day four, continue to Ravenna, former capital of the Western Roman Empire and home to eight Unesco World Heritage-listed Sites. Among these are the basilicas of San Vitale and Sant’Apollinare Nuovo, adorned with extraordinary Byzantine mosaics.

Spend days six and seven in erudite Bologna, home to the world’s fifth-largest church and its oldest university. The university district is the location of the Pinacoteca Nazionale, its powerhouse art collection including works by regional master Parmigianino. One of Bologna’s fortes is gastronomy, a fact not lost on its deli-packed Quadrilatero district.

Dedicate the next three days to Florence. It’s here that you’ll find many of Western art’s most revered works. The city’s Renaissance credentials extend to its architecture, which includes Filippo Brunelleschi’s show-stopping Duomo dome. Even the city’s gardens are manicured masterpieces, exemplified by the supremely elegant Giardino di Boboli.

On day 11, pit-stop in Pisa to eye-up the architectural ensemble that makes up the Piazza dei Miracoli, then continue to nearby Renaissance show pony Lucca. Spend the following day exploring Lucca’s elegant streets, picnicking on its centuries-old ramparts and meditating on Tintoretto’s soul-stirring Last Supper in the Cattedrale di San Martino. Human ingenuity merges with natural beauty on days 13 and 14, where your sojourn ends among colourful fishing villages and weathered vines of Liguria’s fabled Cinque Terre.
From salubrious northern cities and lakes to bewitching southern seas and dwellings, this grand tour encapsulates Italy’s incredible natural and cultural diversity.

Start in style with two days in Milan. Shop its coveted boutiques, dine its hotspot restaurants and demand an encore at its gilded La Scala. Come day three, continue to Lago di Como (Lake Como), basing yourself in Como or Bellagio and spending two romantic days among its sublime waterside villas and villages. If you haven’t been wooed by Hollywood royalty, continue to Venice on day five, where the following trio of days burst with Titians and Tintoretts, artisan studios and convivial bacari (Venetian-style bars). On day eight, shoot southwest to Florence, allowing three days to tackle its blockbuster art and sink your teeth into its legendary bistecca alla fiorentina (T-bone steak). Gluttonous acts are forgiven on day 11 as you travel to the pilgrimage city of Assisi, its Gothic basilica lavished with Giotto frescoes. Head southwest to Rome on day 13 and spend three full days exploring its two-millennia-worth of temples, churches, piazzas and artistic marvels.

On day 17, slip south to Naples and its explosion of baroque architecture and subterranean ruins. Day-trip it to the ruins of Pompeii on day 19, then sail to Capri on day 20 for three seductive days of boating, bucolic hikes and piazza-side posing. If it’s high season, catch a ferry directly to laidback Sorrento on day 23, spending a night in town before hitting the hairpin turns of the glorious Amalfi Coast. Allow two days in chi-chi Positano, where you can hike the heavenly Sentiero degli Dei (Walk of the Gods). Spend day 26 in deeply historic Amalfi before continuing to sky-high Ravello, long-time haunt of composers and Hollywood stars. Stay the night to soak up its understated elegance, and spend the following morning soaking up its uber-romantic gardens. After an evening of bar hopping in upbeat Salerno, shoot inland to Matera on day 28 to experience its World Heritage-listed sassi (former cave dwellings) and dramatic Matera Gravina gorge. Come day 30, continue through to architecturally astounding Lecce, the ‘Florence of the South’ and your final cross-country stop.
Aristocratic villas, renegade frescoes, star-struck lovers and cult-status wines; this easy two-week journey serves up a feast of northern highlights.

In the 16th century the Venetian summer began early in June, when every household loaded onto barges for a summer sojourn along the Brenta Riviera. You too can make like a Venetian on a boat trip along the Riviera after spending a few days in Venice. Marvel at the Tiepolo frescoes of Villa Pisani Nazionale, drop in to the Shoemakers’ Museum at Villa Foscarini Rossi and stop in at Palladio’s Villa Foscari.

Boat trips along the Brenta Riviera end in Padua where you can overnight overlooking the Basilica di Sant’Antonio. With advance booking, you can see Padua’s crowning glory, Giotto’s frescoed Scrovegni Chapel.

On day six hop on the train to Vicenza. Spend the afternoon watching sunlight ripple across the soaring facades of Palladio’s palazzi (mansions) and illuminate the Villa Valmarana ‘ai Nani’, covered floor-to-ceiling with frescoes by Giambattista and Giandomenico Tiepolo, then head on to Verona for three or four days.

Here you can view Mantegnas at Basilica di San Zeno Maggiore, and explore modern art at the Galleria d’Arte Moderna Achille Forte. Then listen to opera in the Roman Arena and wander Verona’s balconied backstreets where Romeo wooed Juliet. From Verona, consider a day trip northwest to Valpolicella to sip highly prized Amarone (red wine) by appointment at Giuseppe Quintarelli, or back east to Soave for a sampling of its namesake DOC white wine at Azienda Agricola Coffele.

On day 11 dip southwest to regal Mantua for an impressive display of dynastic power and patronage at the Gonzagas’ fortified family pad, the Palazzo Ducale. Finish up with a two-day stop in Cremona where you can chat with artisans in one of the 100 violin-making shops around Piazza del Comune before hearing them in action at the Teatro Amilcare Ponchielli and then heading on to end your tour in Milan.
Central Italian Escape

Revered vineyards, medieval hilltop towns and Unesco-lauded artwork: this trip takes in evocative landscapes, from well-trodden Tuscany to lesser-known Umbria and Le Marche.

Begin with two cultured days in Florence, then enjoy two decadent days in Chianti, toasting to the area’s vino and indulging in lazy lunches and countryside cycling. On day five, head east, stopping in tiny Sansepolcro to meditate on Pietro della Francesca’s trio of masterpieces and calling it a night in the Umbrian hilltop town of Gubbio. Spend the following day exploring the town’s Gothic streets, then drive into Le Marche on day seven for a guided tour of the incredible Grotte di Frasassi cave system. The same day, head back into Umbria to Assisi, one of Italy’s most beautiful medieval towns. Stay two nights, taking in the frescoes of the Basilica di San Francesco and finding peace on the hiking trails flanking Monte Subasio. Come day nine, make your way to the lively university city of Perugia, where your adventure ends with arresting Gothic architecture and world-famous Baci chocolates.

Northeastern Interlude

Discover a lesser-known corner of the country laced with cross-cultural influences, hot-list wines, cult-status charcuterie and stunning Alpine landscapes.

After three days in Venice, head east to Trieste via the Roman ruins of Aquileia and the medieval heart of Grado. Take two days for Trieste’s gilded cafes, literary heritage and central European air, then catch a ferry to Muggia, the only Italian settlement on the Istrian peninsula. On day seven, head inland for celebrated whites in the Collio wine region, slumbering among the vines at Terra & Vini. Spend two days in Udine, dropping in on the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art and sidestepping to Cividale dei Friuli, home to Europe’s only surviving example of Lombard architecture and artwork. On day 10, pit-stop in San Daniele del Friuli for Italy’s best prosciutto before hitting breathtaking mountain scenery on your way to ski town Cortina d’Ampezzo. Allow two days to ski in winter or hike in summer. Either way, head south on day 14, stopping for afternoon bubbles in the prosecco heartland of Conegliano before wrapping things up in Venice.
A Lakes Tour

Tickling the snow-capped Alps, Italy’s glacial lakes have lured romantics for centuries. Live the dream, if only for a week.

A short drive northwest of Malpensa airport, Milan, and you’re on the edge of serene Lago Maggiore. Start with three nights in belle époque Stresa and visit the lavish Borromean Islands: Isola Madre for its romantic gardens and wisteria-clad Staircase of the Dead; and Isola Bella for its priceless art collection, vast ballrooms and shell-encrusted grotto. Take the funicular up to Monte Mottarone and day trip to Lago d’Orta and bijou Isola San Giulio. On day four head north from Stresa to Verbania, picnicking amid the tulips of Villa Taranto before gliding east across the lake to Laveno and straight on to celebrity haunt Como. Amble the flower-laden lakeside to view art exhibits at Villa Olmo before finding a sun lounge at the Lido di Villa Olmo. You could spend days in Como, hiring out boats or hiking the mountainous Triangolo Lariano. If you’re ambitious you can walk to chic Bellagio. Otherwise, take the lake road and lunch on perch in Lezzeno before one last romantic night lakeside.

Southern Coastal Route

Graeco-Roman ruins, a Bourbon palace and some of Italy’s most dramatic coastline: crank up the romance on this journey through the sun-baked south.

Rev things up with three days in exhilarating Naples, day-tripping it to Caserta to explore Italy’s largest royal palace. On day four, head south to the Amalfi Coast, allowing for two nights in Positano, followed by a day in Amalfi and Ravello on your way to Salerno. Come day seven, continue to the World Heritage–listed temples of Paestum, then through the Parco Nazionale del Cilento e Vallo di Diano to cognoscenti coastal jewel Maratea. Spend two nights in town, followed by lunch in Tropea (one of Calabria’s most beautiful coastal towns) on your way to Villa San Giovanni. Catch the ferry across to Sicily and treat yourself to three nights in fashionable Taormina, Sicily’s former Byzantine capital and home to the world’s most spectacularly located Greek amphitheatre. Sun-kissed and relaxed, continue to Catania on day 13, taking two days to soak up the city’s ancient sites, extraordinary baroque architecture and vibrant market life.
Map Legend

Sights
- Beach
- Bird Sanctuary
- Buddhist
- Castle/Palace
- Christian
- Confucian
- Hindu
- Islamic
- Jain
- Jewish
- Monument
- Museum/Gallery/Historic Building
- Ruin
- Sento Hot Baths/Onsen
- Shinto
- Sikh
- Taoist
- Winery/Vineyard
- Zoo/Wildlife Sanctuary
- Other Sight

Activities, Courses & Tours
- Bodysurfing
- Diving
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Course/Tour
- Skiing
- Snorkelling
- Surfing
- Swimming/Pool
- Walking
- Windsurfing
- Other Activity

Sleeping
- Sleeping
- Camping

Eating
- Eating

Drinking & Nightlife
- Drinking & Nightlife
- Cafe

Entertainment
- Entertainment

Shopping
- Shopping

Information
- Bank
- Embassy/Consulate
- Hospital/Medical
- Internet
- Police
- Post Office
- Telephone
- Toilet
- Tourist Information
- Other Information

Geographic
- Beach
- Hut/Shelter
- Lighthouse
- Lookout
- Mountain/Volcano
- Oasis
- Park
- Picnic Area
- Waterfall

Population
- Capital (National)
- Capital (State/Province)
- City/Large Town
- Town/Village

Transport
- Airport
- Border crossing
- Bus
- Cable car/Funicular
- Cycling
- Ferry
- Metro station
- Monorail
- Parking
- Petrol station
- S-Bahn/Subway station
- Taxi
- T-bane/Tunnelbana station
- Train station/Railway
- Tram
- Tube station
- U-Bahn/Underground station
- Other Transport

Routes
- Tollway
- Freeway
- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary
- Lane
- Unsealed road
- Road under construction
- Plaza/Mall
- Steps
- Tunnel
- Pedestrian overpass
- Walking Tour
- Walking Tour detour
- Path/Walking Trail

Boundaries
- International
- State/Province
- Disputed
- Regional/Suburb
- Marine Park
- Cliff
- Wall

Hydrography
- River, Creek
- Intermittent River
- Canal
- Water
- Dry/Salt/Intermittent Lake
- Reef

Areas
- Airport/Runway
- Beach/Desert
- Cemetery (Christian)
- Cemetery (Other)
- Glacier
- Mudflat
- Park/Forest
- Sight (Building)
- Sportsground
- Swamp/Mangrove

Note: Not all symbols displayed above appear on the maps in this book.
Belinda Dixon
Milan & the Italian Lakes
Having cut her travel teeth on Italy’s ferries and trains, rarely has a year passed when Belinda hasn’t been back. Research highlights include gazing at mountains while ferry-hopping those gorgeous lakes, encountering Mantua’s extraordinary art, tasting olive oil in Malcesine and Bardolino in, well, Bardolino – and always delighting in this, the bel paese.

Duncan Garwood
Rome & Lazio
A Brit travel writer based in the Castelli Romani hills just outside Rome, Duncan has clocked up endless kilometres walking around the Italian capital and exploring the far-flung reaches of the surrounding Lazio region. He’s co-author of the Rome city guide and has worked on the past six editions of this book as well as guides to Piedmont, Sicily, Sardinia, and Naples and the Amalfi Coast. He has also written on Italy for newspapers and magazines.

Paula Hardy
Milan & the Italian Lakes, Venice & the Veneto, Fashion, Design
From Lido beaches to annual Biennales and spritz-fuelled aperitivo bars, Paula has contributed to Lonely Planet Italian guides for over 15 years, including previous editions of Venice & the Veneto, Pocket Milan, The Italian Lakes, Sicily, Sardinia and Puglia & Basilicata. When she’s not scooting around the bel paese, she writes for a variety of travel publications and websites. Currently she divides her time between London, Italy and Morocco, and tweets her finds @paula6hardy.

Brendan Sainsbury
Abruzzo & Molise, Puglia, Basilicata & Calabria
An expat Brit from Hampshire, England, now living near Vancouver, Canada, Brendan has covered Italy five times for Lonely Planet, reporting on 16 of its 20 regions. For this edition he braved world record snowfall in Abruzzo (in March!), suffered horizontal rain in Matera, and spent three minutes in a decontamination chamber in Reggio di Calabria. When not scribbling research notes for Lonely Planet in countries such as Cuba, Peru, Spain and Canada, Brendan likes to run up mountains, strum his flamenco guitar, and experience the pain and occasional pleasure of following Southampton Football Club.

Donna Wheeler
Turin, Piedmont & the Italian Riviera, Trento & the Dolomites, Venice & the Veneto, Friuli Venezia Giulia, Italian Art & Architecture
Italy’s border regions are Donna Wheeler’s dream assignment: Alps, the sea, complex histories, plus spectacular wine and food. Donna has lived in Turin’s Quadrilatero Romano and Genova’s centro storico and been an Italian-by-marriage for almost two decades. A former commissioning editor and content strategist, she’s written guidebooks to Italy, France, Tunisia, Algeria, Norway and Belgium and publishes on art, architecture, history and food for LonelyPlanet.com, BBC.com Travel, National Geographic Traveler and My Art Guides; she is also the creative director of travel magazine She Came to Stay.

Nicola Williams
Florence & Tuscany, Travel with Children
British writer Nicola Williams lives on the southern shore of Lake Geneva. Thankfully for her Italianate soul, it is an easy hop through the Mont Blanc Tunnel to Italy where she has spent years eating her way around and reveling in its extraordinary art, architecture, cuisine and landscape. Hunting Tuscan white truffles in October is an annual family ritual. Nicola has worked on numerous titles for Lonely Planet, including Italy, Milan, Turin & Genoa, and Piedmont. She shares her travels on Twitter at @Tripalong.

Contributing Writer
Helena Smith wrote part of the Naples & Campania chapter.
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 Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Beijing and Delhi, 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

Cristian Bonetto

Coordinating Author, Venice & the Veneto, Naples & Campania

Thanks to his Italo-Australian heritage, Cristian gets to experience the bel paese (beautiful country) as both a local and an outsider. His musings on Italian cuisine, culture and style have appeared in media across the globe and his contributions for Lonely Planet include more than 30 travel guide editions, including Naples & the Amalfi Coast, Venice & the Veneto, Denmark, New York City and Singapore. For this guide, Cristian wrote the Plan Your Trip section, The Italian Way of Life, Italy on Page & Screen, The Italian Table and Survival Guide chapters. Follow Cristian on Twitter (@CristianBonetto) and Instagram (@rexcat75).

Abigail Blasi

Italy Today, History

Abigail moved to Rome in 2003 and lived there for three years, got married alongside Lago Bracciano and her first son was born in Rome. Nowadays she divides her time between Rome, Puglia and London. She has worked on four editions of Lonely Planet’s Italy and Rome guides, written the Best of Rome guide, and written the 1st edition of Puglia & Basilicata. She also regularly writes about Italy for various publications, including the Independent, the Guardian, and Lonely Planet Traveller.

Kerry Christiani

Outdoor Experiences, Umbria & Le Marche, Sardinia

Kerry has been drawn back to Italy again and again ever since she toured the country one hazy post-graduation summer in a 1960s bubble caravan. For this edition, she relished the chance to tour the hill towns of Umbria and Le Marche and explore the remoter parts of Sardinia’s coast and mountains. An award-winning travel writer, Kerry authors a number of Lonely Planet guidebooks, including Sardinia, and contributes regularly to magazines, newspapers and blog sites. She tweets @kerrychristiani.

Gregor Clark

Emilia-Romagna & San Marino, Sicily

Gregor caught the Italy bug at age 14 while living in Florence with his professor dad, who took him to see every fresco, mosaic and museum within a 1000km radius. He’s lived in Florence and Le Marche, huffed and puffed across the Dolomites while researching LP’s Cycling Italy and contributed to three previous editions of this guide. A lifelong polyglot with a Romance Languages degree, Gregor has written for Lonely Planet since 2000, with an emphasis on Mediterranean Europe and Latin America.

Published by Lonely Planet Publications Pty Ltd

ABN 36 005 607 983

12th edition – Feb 2016

ISBN 978 1 74321 685 9

© Lonely Planet 2016 Photographs © as indicated 2016

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in China

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be copied, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, recording or otherwise, except brief extracts for the purpose of review, and no part of this publication may be sold or hired, without the written permission of the publisher. Lonely Planet and the Lonely Planet logo are trademarks of Lonely Planet and are registered in the US Patent and Trademark Office and in other countries. Lonely Planet does not allow its name or logo to be appropriated by commercial establishments, such as retailers, restaurants or hotels. Please let us know of any misuses: lonelyplanet.com/ip.

Although the authors and Lonely Planet have taken all reasonable care in preparing this book, we make no warranty about the accuracy or completeness of its content and, to the maximum extent permitted, disclaim all liability arising from its use.