

*A Trip to Italy*  
*...Che Bello!*



*Spoleto*

***Two Years of Planning***

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*Two Weeks of Fun, Food and Mayhem*  
*In Rome, Umbria and Tuscany*

*A Trip to Italy*

*Che Bello!*

*Two Years of Planning  
Two Weeks of Fun, Food and Mayhem  
In Rome, Umbria and Tuscany*

*.....by John Perides*



*...for the dreams of my parents, Assunta and Steve...*



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[\*Anne's Italy\*](#)



[\*Love Umbria Tours\*](#)



[\*Beauty in Italy\*](#)

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*A Trip to Italy... Che Bello!*



*Tagliatelle al Tartufo Recipe*

## ***Appendix***

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## **Appendix Forward**

*I hope you have enjoyed reading my account of our long-hoped-for and long-planned vacation to the heart of Italy. I also hope you were amused by some of my story-telling.*

*My intent has been to paint pictures of the joy you might experience when you bite into a wondrous dish of Italian food made with local fresh ingredients and the dismay that can occur even for the most seasoned traveler when your GPS unit wants you to drive through an impenetrable fence or stone wall to get onto a major highway. Both experiences should be occasions of true joy, because you are likely to not forget either, and isn't that what vacationing is about - the collection of memorable moments?*

*Throughout this eBook I have offered references to books and direct connections to web links to sites that could double, triple maybe even quintuple the amount of information you have at your fingertips beyond just my writing. I hope you have visited, at least some of them. I am providing this short appendix of key points of information as an easy to use compendium of websites and other tips to enhance your enjoyment and make any planning you undertake a bit easier. Some of these websites go up and down. If you cannot connect on the first try, wait and try another time. Good luck if you continue the cyber journey or if you decide to plan a physical trip to Italy. Either way, Enjoy!*

## **A....Professional Tour Guides**

[Italy with Us](#) – Helen Donegan  
(Rome and All of Italy)  
Office Phone: +39 0 63 972  
3051



[Love Umbria](#) – Cristiana  
Bradley-Fittuccia (Umbria)  
Cell Phone: +44 0 84 552 779 74 (UK)

[Anne's Italy](#) - Anne Robichaud (Umbria)  
Cell Phone: +39 333 923 8448

[Beauty in Italy](#) – Violetta Buti (Tuscany)  
Cell Phone: +39 335 6280 524

Isabella Belluci (Umbria)  
[Isabella.bellucci@virgilio.it](mailto:Isabella.bellucci@virgilio.it)  
Cell Phone: +39 392 341 4081

[Slow Travel Website](#) (All of Italy)

[Italian National Tourism Agency Website](#) (All of Italy)

[Rick Steves Europe](#) (All of Italy)

## ***B....Inns and Hotels***

***Hotels and Inns where we stayed and had an excellent experience:***



[\*Hotel dei Consoli\*](#) (Rome)

Phone: +39 0 66 889 2972

[\*L'Antico Forziere\*](#) (Casalina, Umbria)

Phone: +39 0 75 972 4314

***Other air conditioned hotels or inns in Umbria we would have considered:***

[\*Villa Raffaello Park Hotel\*](#) (Assisi)

Phone: +39 0 75 804 1913

[\*La Terrazza Hotel\*](#) (Assisi)

Phone: +39 0 75 812 368

[\*La Locanda dei Golosi\*](#) (10 min. east of Perugia)

Phone: +39 0 75 591 8606

## **C....Restaurants**

### **Rome:**

[L'Antica Griglia Toscano,](#)  
Vaticano



[L'Abruzzese Di Carloni Luigi E Elena Snc,](#) Vaticano

### [Other Rome Restaurants](#)

*Gelato Tip: It's everywhere throughout Rome!*

### **Umbria:**

[L'Antico Forziere,](#) Casalina

[Il Mio Vinaio,](#) Spoleto

[Anne Robichaud,](#) Pian della Pieve (5 min NE of Assisi)

[Scappini,](#) Deruta

### [Other Umbrian Restaurants](#)

### **Tuscany:**

[Becattini,](#) Poggio alla Croce

[Spizzico,](#) Siena

*(walk thru to the hidden restaurant in the rear for great food)*

[Dario Cecchini's Officina della Bistecca,](#) Panzano

[La Bottega Di Giovannino,](#) Radda-in-Chianti

### [Other Tuscan Restaurants](#)



## ***D....Interesting Places to Visit***

*Each of these places is worthy of at least a half-day tour (½), some a full day (fd) and some longer (l), three to five days. You can get to some of these places on public transportation, as part of a tour group or driving on your own.*



*Where I suggest you get lost, drive yourself with your lodging set as Home in your GPS. Do not venture out driving on your own without a GPS.*

[Rome](#) (l)

[Vatican City in Rome](#) (fd)

[Spoletto](#) (½)

[Assisi](#) (½)

[Santa Maria degli Angeli \(Lower Assisi\)](#) (½)

[Spello](#) (½)

[Ancona](#) (½)

[Loreto](#) (½)

[Florence](#) (l)

[Siena](#) (fd)

[San Gimignano](#) (½)

[Perugia](#) (½)

[Gubbio](#) (½)

[Todi](#) (½)

[Orvieto](#) (½)

[Narni](#) (½)

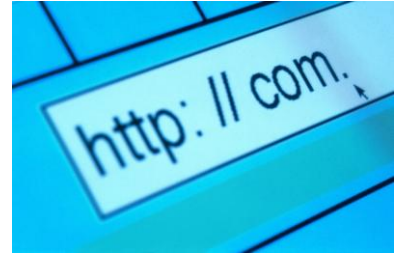
[Nera River Valley/ Marmore Falls](#) (½)

[Deruta](#) (½)

[Lost in the Umbrian Countryside](#) (fd)

[Lost in the Tuscan Countryside](#) (fd)

## ***E....Interesting Websites to Visit***



[\*Roman Food and Wine\*](#)

[\*Umbrian Food and Wine\*](#)

[\*Tuscan Food and Wine\*](#)

[\*Wikipedia\*](#) - *The People's Encyclopedia of Information*

[\*Italian Notebook\*](#) - *Things to Do and See in Italy*

[\*Slow Travel\*](#) - *Things to Do and See in Italy*

[\*Trip Advisor\*](#) - *Travel Advice/Ratings from Other Travelers*

[\*David's Been Here\*](#) - *Travel Website*

[\*Rick Steves' Europe\*](#) - *Travel Website*

[\*Rick Steves' Audio Europe\*](#)

[\*Images of Italy\*](#) - *Great Photos of Italy*

[\*Learn to Cook Italian Meals From the Experts!\*](#)

[\*Off the Beaten Path in Rome\*](#) – *Unusual sights*

[\*Ten Unusual Museums to Visit in Umbria\*](#)

[\*Festivals in Umbria\*](#)

[\*Lungarotti Wine Museum in Torgiano\*](#)

[\*Ten Top Things to Do in Tuscany\*](#)

[\*Gateway: Festivals and Seasonal Events in Tuscany\*](#)

## **F....Rules, Regulations and Tips**



[Driving in Italy](#)

[Italian Government Tourist Board](#)

[US Dept of State for Travel to Italy, Holy See and San Marino](#)

[Tips from TripAdvisor](#)

[Using ATMs](#)

[VISA Global ATM Locator](#)

[MasterCard Global ATM Locator](#)

[Life in Italy Culture Shock, Health, Safety and General Tips](#)

[Using a GPS](#) (I bought a used Garmin Nuvi270 on Amazon for \$115)

[Rick Steves' Website on Packing for Europe](#)

[Electricity, Plugs and Adapters](#)

[Dress Code for Visiting The Vatican or Any Churches](#)

[Other Dressing Tips](#)

**Important Documents:** Make copies of your passport picture and number pages, credit cards (front and back), driver's license, ATM or debit cards, health insurance cards and other important documents. Carry one set, pack a second set and leave a third set at home with a trusted friend you can contact in case of an emergency. Get an International Driving Permit from your local AAA office.

**Notifications:** Contact your credit card companies prior to departure. Let them know when and where you will be traveling.

## ***G....Transportation***

[\*Airport Transfers in Rome;  
Sightseeing Services\*](#)

[\*Leonardo Express between  
Rome and DaVinci Airport\*](#)



[\*RomaPass\*](#)

[\*Rome Metro Map\*](#)

[\*Auto Rentals in Italy\*](#)

[\*Auto, Limousine & Bus Rentals in Umbria & Tuscany\*](#)

[\*Bus Travel in Umbria\*](#) (Website in Italian)

[\*Bus Travel in Tuscany\*](#)

[\*Train Travel Inside of Italy\*](#)

[\*Train Travel from Italy to Other European Countries\*](#)

[\*Europe Rail Pass\*](#)

[\*Bus Travel from Italy to Other European Countries\*](#)

## ***H...Recipes***

[\*...from Rome\*](#)

[\*...from Umbria\*](#)

[\*...from Tuscany\*](#)

[\*...from Le Marche\*](#)

[\*...from the Veneto\*](#)

[\*...from Campania\*](#)

[\*...from Apulia\*](#)

[\*...from Sicily\*](#)

