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# A Dream Of Italy

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### Oscar Wilde's Italian Dream

**1875-1900** National Geographic Society Readers will fall for a side of Italy rarely seen with the just-turned-forty Peter Moore rattling around the country on the back of an ageing Vespa scooter — like himself, a little rough around the edges, and a bit slow in the mornings perhaps, but basically still OK.

### A Dream of Italy Canelo

Dreaming Sophia is a magical look into Italy, language, art, and culture. It is a story about turning dreams into reality and learning to walk the fine line between fact and fantasy. When tragedy strikes, Sophia finds herself alone in the world, without direction and fearful of loving again. With only her vivid imagination to guide her, she begins a journey that will take her from the vineyards in Sonoma, California to a grad school in Philadelphia and, eventually, to Italy: Florence, Lucca, Rome, Verona, Venice, and Val d'Orcia. Through dreamlike encounters, Sophia meets Italian personalities--princes, poets, duchesses, artists, and film stars--

who give her advice to help put her life back together. Following a path that takes her from grief to joy, she discovers the source of her creativity and learns to love again, turning her dreams into reality.

### Under the Tuscan Sun Farrar, Straus and Giroux

A remarkable new history evoking the centrality of Italy to World War II, outlining the brief rise and triumph of the Fascists, followed by the disastrous fall of the Italian military campaign. While staying closely aligned with Hitler, Mussolini remained carefully neutral until the summer of 1940. At that moment, with the wholly unexpected and sudden collapse of the French and British armies, Mussolini declared war on the Allies in the hope of making territorial gains in southern France and Africa. This decision proved a horrifying miscalculation, dooming Italy to its own prolonged and unwinnable war, immense casualties, and an Allied invasion in 1943 that ushered in a terrible new era for the country. John Gooch's new history is the definitive account of Italy's war experience. Beginning with the invasion of Abyssinia and ending with Mussolini's arrest, Gooch brilliantly portrays the

nightmare of a country with too small an industrial sector, too incompetent a leadership and too many fronts on which to fight. Everywhere—whether in the USSR, the Western Desert, or the Balkans—Italian troops found themselves against either better-equipped or more motivated enemies. The result was a war entirely at odds with the dreams of pre-war Italian planners—a series of desperate improvisations against an allied force who could draw on global resources, and against whom Italy proved helpless.

*Not in a Tuscan Villa* Abrams

This text examines 22 restored homes in Italy. Owners and designers share anecdotes about their experiences with local artisans, vendors, and bureaucracy, while offering real-world advice on the tactics of restoring a house in a foreign country.

*See You in the Piazza* Cambridge University Press

Jo's brand-new, delicious summer romance, *Summer at the Ice Cream Cafe* is available to pre-order now From the bestselling author of *Escape to the French Farmhouse* comes a deliciously feel-good story about making your dreams come true, set in sun-kissed southern Italy. 'A tale full of wonderful characters, sunshine, food and romance. A winning recipe!' Katie Fforde ----- A summer escape she'll never forget . . . Lucia has worked hard as a lawyer in Wales, aiming for a big promotion she hopes will shortly come her way. Finally taking a well-earned break at her grandparents' house in southern Italy, the sunshine, lemon trees and her nonna's mouth-watering cooking make her instantly feel at home. But she's shocked to learn that her grandfather is retiring from the beloved family pizzeria and will need to sell. Lucia can't bear the

thought of the place changing hands - especially when she discovers her not-quite-ex-husband Giacomo wants to take it over! Then bad news from home forces Lucia to re-evaluate what she wants from life. Is this her chance to carry on the family tradition and finally follow her dreams? Perfect escapism from the author of *Escape to the French Farmhouse* and *The Honey Farm on the Hill*. Readers have fallen sure with *Chasing the Italian Dream* 'The perfect escape' 'This book is like summer on a page' 'I loved getting whisked away to Italy'

**Il Bel Centro** Simon and Schuster

Live your dream of Italy... Here is your chance to buy your own home in southern Italy for less than the price of a cup of coffee. The picturesque mountain town of Montenello is selling off some of its historic buildings for just ONE EURO each. The only conditions are that purchasers must renovate their new home within the next three years and that they plan to contribute in a meaningful way to this small community. To be considered as a future resident of Montenello contact the town's mayor, Augusto Rossi. Live your dream of Italy for just one euro. When the Mayor of a picturesque Italian town launches a new scheme to rejuvenate the community, his advertisement is read with interest and excitement by many. Zara is in her thirties and desperate to get on the property ladder. Tim and Lynda are retiring and need a project. Some are looking for a peaceful bolthole. Others hope to make a profit, start a business, escape a dull life or an unhappy relationship. And there is someone who just might be hiding their true motivation... Their lives are about to change forever - but can they make their dream of Italy into a reality? A

deliciously escapist summer read.

The Golden Dream of Carlo Chuchio

Crown

Enjoy *Wish You Were Italian* and the other standalone titles in Bloomsbury's contemporary If Only romance line centered around an impossible problem: you always want what you can't have! The summer before senior year of high school. It's supposed to be one of the biggest summers of her life, but Pippa is headed to an art program she has no interest in. The one saving grace is it's in Italy. And when the opportunity strikes, she decides to ditch the program and travel Italy accomplishing her own list of goals. Things like swimming in the Mediterranean Sea, eating a whole pizza in one sitting...and falling in love with an Italian boy! As she explores the famous cities of Rome and Pompeii, Pippa finds herself falling for two boys: a local guy she knows is nothing but trouble and a cute American archaeology student who keeps disappearing and reappearing at the strangest moments. Will Pippa find her true love before her parents find out the truth about her summer program?

**A Small Place in Italy** Berghahn Books

'An uplifting and delicious taste of Italy' ERICA JAMES 'The perfect recipe for the ultimate escapist read!' VERONICA HENRY Love happens when you least expect it... Assunta has given up on love. She might run her little trattoria in the most romantic mountain town in Italy, but love just seems to have passed her by. Sarah-Jane is finished with love. She's hiring an old convertible and driving around Italy this summer - it's the perfect way to forget all about her hot celebrity ex-boyfriend! But when Sarah-Jane's car breaks down in Montenello, she has to stay longer than she intended! And the trouble is, love is everywhere... Praise for Nicky Pellegrino

'A novel about the joy of learning to live again. It also made me very hungry!' Jojo Moyes 'Warm, engaging and truly delicious' Rosanna Ley 'A delicious and sensual adventure . . . as evocative and captivating as Venice itself' Fiona Gibson 'A wonderfully evocative setting and mouth-watering descriptions of Venetian food' Pamela Hartshorne 'Full-bodied as a rich Italian red, it's a page-turner combining the missed chances of Captain Corelli's Mandolin with the foodie pleasures of *Chocolat*' Eve 'Three generations of Italian women talk romance and cooking . . . an evocative foodfest of a novel' Prima 'A slice of pure sunshine' Good Housekeeping 'A lovely read . . . with a genuine heart and true observation' Elizabeth Buchan 'A touching story about one woman's search for love' Sunday Express 'Set against a backdrop of love, friendship and food . . . The descriptions of Italian food will make your mouth water' Cosmopolitan 'Sink back on the sofa with this delightful read' Now Magazine

Under Italian Skies Schocken

From the author of *Memory and the Mediterranean*, a comprehensive history of the Italian city states from 1450 to 1650. In the fifteenth century, even before the city states of the Apennine Peninsula began to coalesce into what would become, several centuries later, a nation, "Italy" exerted enormous influence over all of Europe and throughout the Mediterranean. Its cultural, economic, and political dominance is utterly astonishing and unique in world history. Viewing the Italy?the many Italies?of that time through the lens of today allows us to gather a fragmented, multi-faceted, and seemingly contradictory history into a single unifying narrative that speaks to our current reality as much as it does to

a specific historical period. This is what the acclaimed French historian, Fernand Braudel, achieves here. He brings to life the two extraordinary centuries that span the Renaissance, Mannerism, and the Baroque and analyzes the complex interaction between art, science, politics, and commerce during Italy's extraordinary cultural flowering.

*Dreaming Sophia* Artisan Books

The intersection between film stardom and politics is an understudied phenomenon of Fascist Italy, despite the fact that the Mussolini regime deemed stardom important enough to warrant sustained attention and interference. Focused on the period from the start of sound cinema to the final end of Fascism in 1945, this book examines the development of an Italian star system and evaluates its place in film production and distribution. The performances and careers of several major stars, including Isa Miranda, Vittorio De Sica, Amedeo Nazzari, and Alida Valli, are closely analyzed in terms of their relationships to the political sphere and broader commercial culture, with consideration of their fates in the aftermath of Fascism. A final chapter explores the place of the stars in popular memory and representations of the Fascist film world in postwar cinema.

*The Dark Heart of Italy* Random House  
Three narratives, set in the fifth, fourteenth, and twentieth centuries, all revolving around an ancient text and each with a love story at its centre, are the elements of this brilliantly ingenious novel, a follow-up to the international bestseller *An Instance of the Fingerpost*. The centuries are the 5th (the final days of the Roman Empire); the 14th (the years of the Plague — the Black Death); and the 20th (World War II). The setting for each is the same — Provence — and

each has at its heart a love story. The narratives intertwine seamlessly, and what joins them thematically is an ancient text — “The Dream of Scipio” — a work of neo-Platonism that poses timeless philosophical questions. What is the obligation of the individual in a society under siege? What is the role of learning when civilization itself is threatened, whether by acts of man or nature? Does virtue lie more in engagement or in neutrality? “Power without wisdom is tyranny; wisdom without power is pointless,” warns one of Pears’s characters. *The Dream of Scipio* is a bona fide novel of ideas, a dazzling feat of storytelling, fiction for our times.

*A Concise History of Italy* Rizzoli

International Publications

Newly retired and looking for more than a vacation, John and Nancy Petralia intrepidly pack a few suitcases and head to the “perfect” Italian city for a year. Within days their dream becomes a nightmare. After residing in two Italian cities, negotiating the roads and health care, discovering art, friends, food and customs, the Petralias learn more than they anticipate -- about Italy, themselves, what it means to be American, and what's important in life.

**Vroom with a View** U of Nebraska Press

This book is a lush and beautiful memoir of a very special house and a superb recreation of a bygone era.

*A Month of Italy* Vintage Canada

The bestselling author of *Under the Tuscan Sun* discovers the hidden pleasures of Italy in a sumptuous travel narrative that crisscrosses the country, with inventive new recipes celebrating Italian cuisine. Don't miss Frances Mayes in PBS's *Dream of Italy: Tuscan Sun Special*! “Reading this book is a vacation in itself.”—The New York Times Book

Review (Best Travel Books of the Summer) The Roman Forum, the Leaning Tower, the Piazza San Marco: these are the sights synonymous with Italy. But such landmarks only scratch the surface of this magical country's offerings. In *See You in the Piazza*, Frances Mayes introduces us to the Italy only the locals know, as she and her husband, Ed, eat and drink their way through thirteen regions—from Friuli to Sicily. Along the way, she seeks out the cultural and historic gems not found in traditional guidebooks. Frances conjures the enchantment of the backstreets, the hubbub of the markets, the dreamlike wonder of that space between lunch and dinner when a city cracks open to those who would wander or when a mind is drawn into the pages of a delicious book—and discloses to us the secrets that only someone who is on intimate terms with a place could find.

*Sergio Leone* Europa Editions

This inspirational book is an illustrated survey of more than 60 major gardens in Italy, from the lakes north of Milan down to Ravello in the south. They include the Villa Balbianello, Isola Bella, Giardini Giusti, Villa Medici, Villa Gamberaia, La Mortella, Villa Lante, Villa d'Este, Giardini di Ninfa, plus some important modern gardens. All the gardens featured are open to the public.

*The Dream of Scipio* Random House

Federico Fellini is one of the most beloved and revered filmmakers of the twentieth century, having entertained audiences worldwide with his ability to breathe life into imagery normally confined to human memory and emotion. His insights into the world of dreams have contributed to his many famous cinematic creations, including *La Dolce Vita*, *8 1/2*, and *La Strada*. A unique combination of memory, fantasy,

and desire, this illustrated volume is a personal diary of Fellini's private visions and nighttime fantasies. Fellini, winner of four Oscars for Best Foreign Language Film, kept notebooks filled with unique sketches and notes from his dreams from the 1960s onward. This collection delves into his cinematic genius as it is captured in widely detailed caricatures and personal writings. This dream diary exhibits Fellini's deeply personal taste for the bizarre and the irrational. His sketches focus on the profound struggle of the soul and are tinged with humor, empathy, and insight. Fellini's *Book of Dreams* is an intriguing source of never-before-published writings and drawings, which reveal the master filmmaker's personal vision and his infinite imagination.

**The Book of Dreams** Henry Holt and Company (BYR)

What constitutes travel? Two weeks in a foreign city or a year of Sunday drives? Returning to the places you love or stopping by the side of the road to jump into a unfamiliar creek? Going with your significant other or with a group of acquaintances who become fast friends during the experience? Author Linda Jenkins has done it all in her 17-year marriage to Tim, several years her junior and on a wavelength all his own. This captivating collection of essays and poetry - supported by wonderful photographs and helpful tips for travelers - not only looks at the ups and downs and adventure of travel, but also tells a tale of surviving a marriage and keeping friendships strong even when the circumstances aren't always ideal. *Up At the Villa* takes readers to far-flung places, but it also takes us home again to explore the true places of the heart. Funny and poignant, *Up At the Villa* is ultimately the story of every woman's

journey with the person she loves, for better and worse.

*Up at the Villa* Vintage

Frances Mayes - widely published poet, gourmet cook and travel writer - opens the door on a wondrous new world when she buys and restores an abandoned villa in the spectacular Tuscan countryside. She finds faded frescoes beneath the whitewash in the dining room, a vineyard under wildly overgrown brambles - and even a wayward scorpion under her pillow. And from her traditional kitchen and simple garden she creates dozens of delicious seasonal recipes, all included in this book. In the vibrant local markets and neighbouring hill towns, the author explores the nuances of the Italian landscape, history and cuisine. Each adventure yields delightful surprises - the perfect panettone, an unforgettable wine, or painted Etruscan tombs. Doing for Tuscany what Peter Mayle did for Provence, Mayes writes about the tastes and pleasures of a foreign country with gusto and passion. A celebration of the extraordinary quality of life in Tuscany, *UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN* is a feast for all the senses.

**Dream of Venice Architecture** Rialto Press

A witty and warm-hearted memoir of abandoning fast-paced American days in favor of discovering the Italian secrets of food, community, and life. Moving across the globe meant Michelle Damiani soon found herself untangling Italian customs, delighting in glorious regional cuisine (recipes included), and creating lasting

friendships. From grandmothers eager to teach the ancient art of pasta making, to bakers tossing bread into fiery ovens with a song, to butchers extolling the benefits of pork fat, *Il Bel Centro* is rich with captivating characters and cultural insights. Throw in clinking glasses of Umbrian red with the local communists and a village all-nighter decorating the cobblestone streets with flower petals; as well as embarrassing language minefields and a serious summons to the mayor's office, and you have all the ingredients for a spellbinding travel tale. Exquisitely observed, *Il Bel Centro* is an intimate celebration of small town Italy, as well as a thoughtful look at raising a family in a new culture and a fascinating story of finding a home. Ultimately though, this is a story about how travel can change you when you're ready to let it. With laugh-out-loud situations and wanderlust-inspiring storytelling, *Il Bel Centro* is a joyous and life-affirming read that will have readers rushing to renew their passports. "This is one of the most beautiful book I've ever read." "I absolutely couldn't get enough of this book." "This book made me want to pack my bags." "I loved, loved this book. Fabulously written, engaging, and entertaining." "A magical read."

*Chasing the Italian Dream* Chartiers Creek Press

The author describes his shattering experience of moving to Italy only to find his visions of paradise crushed under the reality of a nation gripped by terrorism, political ineptitude, and cultural upheaval.