

THE AWARD-WINNING MAGAZINE THAT INSPIRED



THE PBS TRAVEL SERIES WITH KATHY McCABE

DREAM OF ITALY[®]

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THE MAGIC
OF ITALIAN
BEAUTY
PRODUCTS

MANIFESTING
ITALY

CREATIVE TIPS
FOR TAKING
YOUR KIDS

NEW LIFE
AND *Love*
IN UMBRIA

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KATHY MCCABE

Founder, Editor and Publisher

Design: **Karen Sheets de Gracia**
Associate Editor: **Elaine Murphy**

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Dream of Italy

P.O. Box 2025
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www.dreamofitaly.com

Editor's Note



Our recent issue profiling amazing souls who have made each of their own *dream of Italy* come true has been one of our most popular issues! So due to the chord it struck with readers, I'm bringing you another edition of these stories. The wonderful thing is there is so much practical advice in so many areas to glean from the interviews.

Even if you're reading *Dream of Italy* mostly for travel advice, in this issue you will learn about an authentic travel service in *Umbria* and some creative tips for sharing the Italian travel experience with your children or grandchildren.

When I was chatting with Ellen Craig, an American expat now living in *Umbria*, I was most touched by the fact that she started to teach herself Italian at the age of eight using Berlitz books. I love that. She made a big move to Italy where she found love (our cover features her wedding dress) and started a tourism business.

Amy Parsons made quite the Covid pivot from university executive to creator of *Mozzafiato*, an online portal for Italy's family-run, high-quality beauty brands. She turned a hobby of shopping for beauty products while on vacation into a business that reminds us of some of our favorite travel memories.

Sarah Centrella is a master life coach who has manifested an incredible life for herself but what has meant the most to her is the ability to fulfill her dream of visiting Italy—and bringing her kids. She shares awesome ideas for how to involve children in every part of an Italian vacation.

I always welcome your feedback and ideas.

Email me at kathy@dreamofitaly.com

Kathy McCabe

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ELLEN CRAIG

NEW LIFE and Love in UMBRIA

Ellen Craig discovered she was Italian when she was eight years old and working a school project about her roots. She didn't know where her grandparents were from but when she found out they were from Italy, she began to dream of her ancestral homeland.

As a child, Ellen started teaching herself Italian using old Berlitz books and then Department of State training tapes. She began visiting Italy almost yearly when she was 15. Following two very different careers, one as a professional violist and another in the tech sector, Ellen, a dual citizen, decided first to renovate a house in *Ficulle* (Umbria) and then to move to Italy full-time, where she could work remotely. She met and just recently married an Italian, *Arrigo*, and together they have launched a tourism company, *Umbria Above*. Guests of the company can stay in the house she renovated.

Kathy McCabe: What inspired you to renovate a house in Italy?

Ellen Craig: I was living in San Francisco. I dabbled as a travel agent for a few years, and someone said, “You really need to know this lady who lives in Rome and gives private exclusive tours of the Sistine Chapel.” I reached out to her and she introduced me to this American couple, Lee and John Stough, who live mostly in Louisville, Kentucky, but they have now three houses in this little village of *Ficulle*.

At the time, I was thinking about buying a place in San Francisco, and real estate in San Francisco is absurd. Then I saw the prices in Italy and I saw what the Stoughs had done, not speaking Italian, not having any ties to Italy, but just with this capacity to connect to people. The Italians in that little village adore this couple. Their Italian friend helped coordinate things like the plumber, the electrician, the carpenter, the builder and the contractor. It was so inspiring to me that I decided, forget San Francisco, I’m going to buy a place in *Ficulle*.

My Italian friend said, one night on the terrace with wine, “If you’re serious about this, let’s go look at real estate.” We saw 15 houses the next day, and I found three I really liked. I called my mom and said, “We always talked about doing this together. Do you want to do this?” We started a two-and-a-half-year renovation process. Just about when the renovation finished in May of 2018, I decided I’m going to live here. I hadn’t met my husband, *Arrigo* yet.

Kathy: When you met and dated your husband, how was it different from in America?

Ellen: The initial connection part for single people is very different because in America, either there are dating apps or you meet maybe through someone. In Italy, you meet through friends. In these networks and circles of friends and family, there’s a sense of trust and knowledge about who that person is and where they come from. The first



Ellen and her husband, *Arrigo*

time I met my husband, it was a group gathering at a bar because someone’s friend’s band was playing. I didn’t know anything about it, but his niece had set it up. My friend had set it up. It was a very informal context.

In San Francisco, everyone goes out for drinks, they go out for dinner. In Italy, our first date was in a coffee shop because he was pretending he wanted to learn English from me. Then the next time he said, “I’m going to teach you how to cook.” And I was like, “I don’t know him well enough. I don’t know if I should have him over to my house.” We did go out for his birthday, but all of our first few dates getting to know each other before it became officially romantic, were cooking dinners in.

Kathy: How did you start *Umbria Above*?

Ellen: About two years ago, my husband and I decided to do a tourism business where we would bring Americans over to *Umbria*, where we live. They always say *Umbria* is the next Tuscany, but I don’t know if that is the case. But it does feel not crazy crowded. The people aren’t ruined by tourists. It’s wonderful because you have the olive oil, the grapes, the countryside and nature. My husband has all of the Italian connections, and I have the American connections and I can bridge both cultures.

Umbria Above is about this bigger idea of our experiences in Italy and bringing people to experience *Umbria*. We give clients the opportunity to vacation in historic, elegant homes while going deeper into Italian culture. We pair luxury accommodations with specialized and private cultural, culinary and active experiences in our ancient homes and on our ancient lands.

We’re currently restoring the *palazzo* we live in. The large apartment where we live is largely finished. We’re now working on the roof and another apartment upstairs.

The apartment upstairs, which is a large one bedroom, will be an *Umbria Above* offering in *Orvieto*.

Kathy: What are some differences between life in Italy and in the U.S.?

Ellen: Life in Italy is much more beautiful than my life in America was, but it's much more difficult. The beautiful part is what the travelers see: the long dinners into the night, the *passeggiata* on the street before dinner, the stunning scenery, the quality of the food, the quality of the air, the emphasis on time with family and friends.

I can never say *ciao* to her. It's too informal. I always say, "*Buongiorno*," and then when I leave, she says, "*Ciao, Ellen*" and I say, "*Arrivederci*." Of course, Americans don't have to worry about it. They always use the *tu*, they always use *ciao* and they're forgiven because they don't know. But once you're really embedded in Italian society and the culture here, it's considered polite to follow these rules.

Kathy: What sets *Umbria* apart from other regions of Italy?

Ellen: It's the only region in Italy that doesn't border the sea or another country, and that makes for a certain



Umbria, off the beaten path

Arrigo has two teenage boys, 15 and 17, who I'm very close to. While they're in school, we always have a hot cooked meal at lunch and at dinner. In America I think that would be kind of crazy.

The difficult parts of Italy are things like getting your driver's license renewed. I got my Italian driver's license last year, and I couldn't believe how hard the test was for how crazy the drivers were. Everyone talks about the bureaucracy but [it's difficult] when you actually see the details. There are tax incentives this year for restoring houses, and everyone is restoring. For example, with our roof, the first engineer said, "No, it's impossible. You can't qualify for these incentives." The next engineer we talked to said, "Oh sure, you can." This happens all the time because Italian law is so complex.

There are many more rules in Italy. There are also rules for how you greet someone. When you speak to an older person, like when I speak to my mother-in-law, I don't use the *tu*. I don't say, "*Come stai tu?*" It would be very rude. She says that to me and that's fine because she's older. She says, "*Come stai, Ellen? Come stai tu?*" I respond, "*Come sta lei?*" because that's how I'm expected to respond to her.

mentality. It's wonderful and traditional, but it is also medieval in many ways, and that is a challenge for women. My sister-in-law is half Sardinian. In *Sardinia*, the woman figure in the family is very important. The woman figure stayed at home with the kids, selling the sheep cheese and the wool while the husbands went out for months tending to the sheep. The woman was doing the finances and making the money.

My sister-in-law went to a technical high school in *Sardinia*. When *Arrigo* was born, the family came back to the family homestead in *Umbria* to oversee the farm, and she started going to technical high school here. She was the only girl, whereas in *Sardinia*, there were many girls in the technical high school. She endured all kinds of sexual discrimination.

When she moved here, it was typical in *Umbria* that the men in the countryside would sit down at lunch and be served by the women, who would stand up eating. This was 30 years ago. It's so recent. That's why I say it's very medieval. 🌿

For more information, visit www.umbriaabove.com

AMY PARSONS

Bathtime by
Mozzafiato
with Perlier and
Farmacia 1561

Curating ITALIAN BEAUTY ONLINE

Those who love Italy long for a touch of its beauty no matter where in the world they are. Italy's legendary skincare products are one way to connect with the land and its culture and travelers often seek out the scents and sensations they experienced while visiting Italy.



Mozzafiato's Italian Gentleman Bundle

Now there's a new way for Americans to access these small, handcrafted beauty brands. *Mozzafiato* sources and curates high-quality bath and beauty, fragrance, men's grooming, skincare and home items from all over Italy in an online store. Creator and CEO Amy Parsons left her job as a university executive during Covid to make her hobby of buying beauty products while traveling into an inspiring business.

Kathy McCabe: When did you fall in love with Italy?

Amy: I went to Italy for the first time when I was 15 years old on a school trip. I grew up in Colorado and Wyoming, so going to Italy at 15 was just the most life-changing experience for me at that age. I could not believe that a place like that existed in the world, because I had never seen it before.

From that point forward on through growing up and in my professional life, I would travel back for fun and go back with friends and experience different aspects of Italy. But it was always just a hobby and a love and learning about the country and traveling through it.

Kathy: What does *Mozzafiato* mean?

Amy: The word *Mozzafiato* loosely translates from Italian to English as "breathtaking." We thought that that was an appropriate word and sentiment for how we feel about the beauty of the brands. We think they are breathtaking. We also wanted to find a word to describe us that you can sound out and say relatively easily and is a fun word to say.

Kathy: How did you move from working in a university to leading *Mozzafiato*?

Amy: I was the executive vice chancellor at [the Colorado State University system], and I was able to travel to a lot of countries around the world representing the university. I always had, as a hobby, finding local beauty brands and

locally made products wherever I would go in the world. I just had a passion for finding those types of products.

Where I would go for fun, outside of work, was always Italy. I would start researching and finding the locally made craft products and fragrances from Italy and getting to know them over time, never really thinking that I could turn my career into this. But then when Covid happened and I was home for the first time in 20 years, I started exploring the idea of whether there was a business here, combining my business experience, my love for beauty and fragrance, and my love for Italy.

Through my work at CSU, I had the good fortune to work with someone who is Italian by heritage and invests in Italian businesses and is always looking for other business opportunities that relate to Italy.

We teamed up together and started reaching out directly to these brands. It was actually rather easy to connect with them by Zoom, because they were home [due to Covid lockdowns], we were home, and they were open to discussing new, innovative ideas at this time when a lot of stores were closed and people were very concerned about the future. By the end of the summer in 2020, every brand that we pitched had agreed to be a part of it. We officially launched on November 1, 2020 and we're importing their products into the U.S.

Kathy: Why are these brands so compelling?

Amy: The continuous thread among all these brands is that they are inspired by Italy, from the landscapes, the cities, the natural ingredients and the designs. A lot of Americans know that the entire world goes to Italy for cosmetics and beauty products, because they have that generational know-how, they have the ingredients, they have the style, they know how to produce the highest-quality products. Brands that Americans know, like Tom Ford and Charlotte Tilbury, are made in Italy. But what a lot of Americans don't know is that Italy is full of these gorgeous, heritage, niche, homegrown, native,



Perlier Golden Almond Super Nourishing Hand Cream

Italian brands producing the world's best products in beauty and men's grooming that are somewhat unknown outside of Italy.

Kathy: Why are Italians so good at creating beauty products?

Amy: Italy is so diverse as a country, in terms of its beauty of coastlines and countryside and cities. They have such a rich history of artistry and artists coming from all of these different regions in the country, that it really feeds craftsmanship in a lot of different areas: fashion, auto, art, food and wine. In beauty, it's no different. It's very much part of the Italian culture to carry through ingredients and methodologies of making things generation after generation. That's really special to Italy.

These brands are not in it for a short-term profit. That's what makes them so different from an American beauty experience, which is very much driven by new brands, by the latest celebrity or influencer. Italy could not be more opposite of that approach. When you have something on your shelf at home that you know is the product of 400 years of dedication and craftsmanship of one family, it's an extremely different feeling that you have when you use it, when you hold it, when you see it.

Kathy: What are some products you use in your daily life?

Amy: For a fragrance, I like *Acqua Di Bolgheri's Bacche di Vinum Eau de Parfum* from Bibbona, Tuscany. This brand and all of its products capture the spirit and scents of Tuscany. The *Bacche di Vinum* scent has notes of grapes, wine, musk and flowers to reflect the vineyards of *Bolgheri*.

My bath and body pick is the *Tuttotondo Castagna Body Butter* from Florence. *Tuttotondo* is a newer, vibrant and fun brand with an exciting design capturing the



Tuttotondo Castagna Body Butter (top); *Parco1923 Home Fragrance Diffuser* (bottom left); *Acqua Di Bolgheri's Bacche di Vinum Eau de Parfum* (bottom right)



Amy Parsons

vitality of the culture. Chestnut (*castagna*) has nourishing and moisturizing properties.

My favorite skincare product is the *BeC Natura Elesilk Body Scrub Mask* from *Forli*. *BeC Natura* is a hidden gem, producing some of the most scientifically advanced skin care lines in the world. This exfoliating gel mask contains organic extra-virgin olive oil and aloe vera to moisturize and smooth skin.

My go-to gift is the *Parco1923 Home Fragrance Diffuser* from *Abruzzo*. *Parco1923* perfectly captures the essence of Italy's national parks and the packaging is completely unique and gorgeous. The scent is reminiscent of mountain air, forest trees and flowers.

Kathy: What does Italy represent for men and for their sort of care?

Amy: Italy has this really rich barbershop culture all through the country and their love for what they call gentlemen's grooming. Barbershops are a place where there's community, where you have a relationship with your barber, and they use, again, craft heritage products that are the best in the world. Barbershops are beautiful, welcoming spaces made for men where they're comfortable and where they can indulge in their own self-care routine in a very cool way. The men there take seriously self-care and how they present, and the products they use.

It's been kind of a wonderful surprise of this business that men really seek out the Italian products. I have robust conversations with male customers about the colognes that they love and the shaving products and the beard products that they look for. The products are very affordable, so it's a way for men to connect into that cool Italian barbershop culture and use products that are higher quality and more unique than what they're going to find in any chain stores in the U.S. 🍷

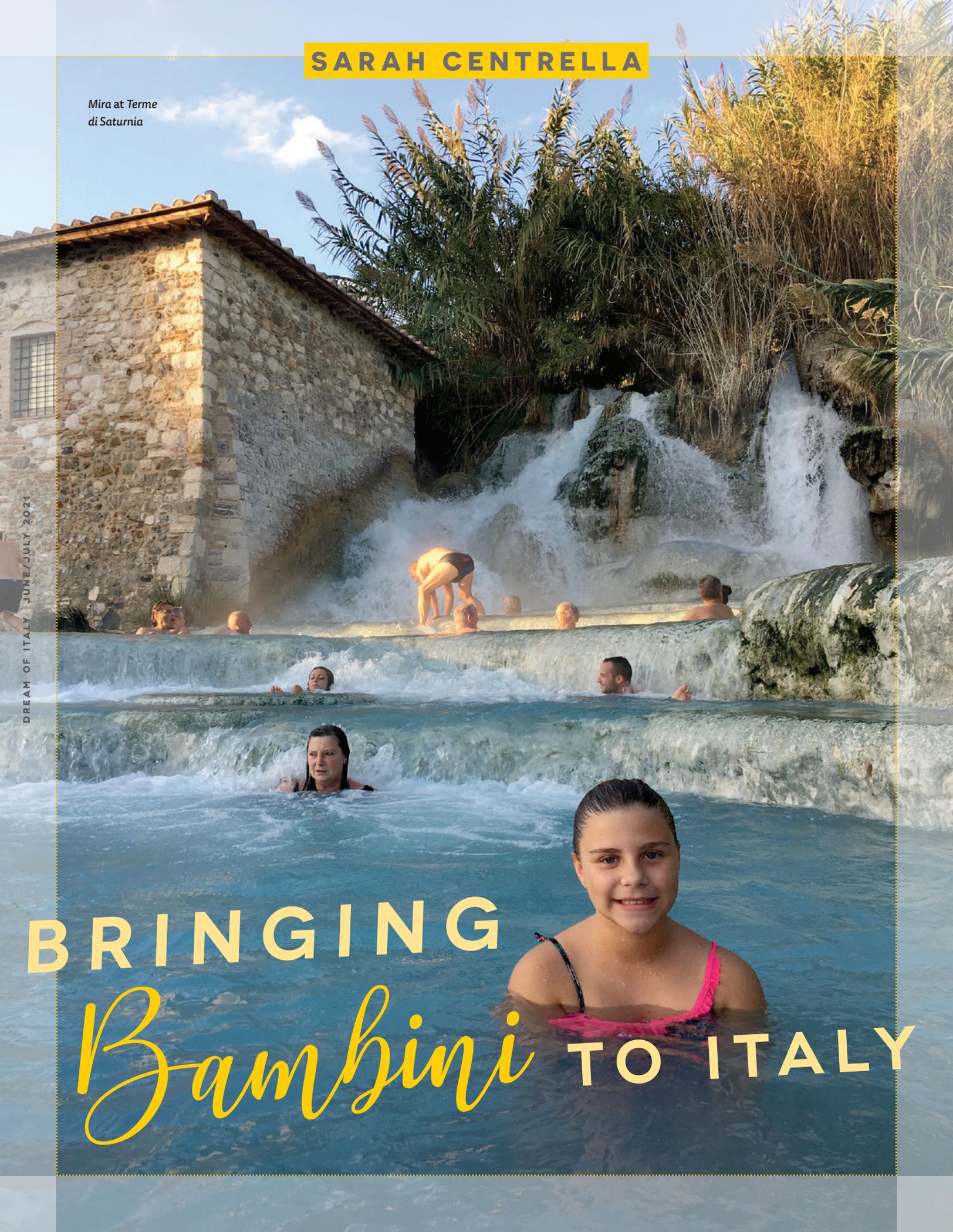
For more information, visit www.mozzafiato.com

SARAH CENTRELLA

Mira at Terme
di Saturnia

DREAM OF ITALY / JUNE / JULY 2021

BRINGING
Bambini TO ITALY





Sarah and daughters in Verona

Master life coach and bestselling author Sarah Centrella believes that we have the power to manifest our dreams.

While she has manifested a number of dreams including two bestselling books (#Futureboards and Hustle Believe Receive), making her dream of visiting Italy come true, and including her children in the journey, might be one of the most meaningful. Sarah combines the skills she has learned from her coaching business with parenting tips to make the dream of family travel a reality for anyone, including other single moms like her.

Kathy McCabe: Why did you want to go to Italy so badly? How did you make it happen?

Sarah Centrella: My love affair with Italy started in my junior year of high school. I saw the movie *Only You* with Marisa Tomei and Robert Downey, Jr. I grew up very

sheltered; we didn't have TV or anything like that. So, as hard as it is to believe, that was the first time I ever saw Italy in anything. I remember the scene where they're going down the Grand Canal and *Pavarotti* is playing in the background. I was like, "Holy crap, what is that? And how do I get there?"

I actually sat down and planned a trip three different times in my lifetime, and every time I wound up canceling last minute. I either was scared, didn't have the money or it was more of a fantasy than a reality.

Then in 2016, I had learned some tools for manifesting. I had already changed my life dramatically. I thought, "What if I put this same methodology into making this ultimate 20-year dream happen?" The biggest thing was I made a decision that I was going. I was like,



Izzy and Kanen in Venice



At the Colosseum

“I’m going to Italy this year, and somehow on top of that, I’m going to take my kids.” That was the craziest part, because going there as a single person is expensive and scary. I’d never been to Europe, but I’m a single mom and I couldn’t imagine having all these amazing experiences and having my kids miss it.

The kids and I spent three weeks in Italy. We landed in Venice, and the very first thing we did is ride down the Grand Canal. My son at the time was 13, my daughters were nine, and they had never been out of the country and they were just as awestruck as I was.

Kathy: How has traveling helped your kids grow?

Sarah: The confidence that kids get when you travel is incredible because they’re experiencing things that they would never see in a normal life. They’re trying foods they would never try; they’re having to be adaptable to schedules. We’ve now been to a total of seven countries and 32 states.

We have roles in the family. At an airport, my son was the one to figure out where we need to go and what to do. I would play these little games where I would test each one of them, like how you get to a rental car. They understand that whatever it is, they can do it. They can figure it out. They’re not scared. From the artistic side, travel has led both of my daughters to love art and cooking and that European way of life, which I am also super passionate about.

Kathy: Are there things you do differently at home since you’ve been to Italy?

Sarah: One of the biggest things that changed in our day-to-day life was that I tried to bring in that spirit of Italy at least three to five times a week. I would make the traditional slow-cooked meal, get the music on and the glass of wine, go to the farmer’s market to get the food.

We have all these Italian words that we use almost in place of English words. We have a full, nightly routine that’s all Italian. I’ve been taking Italian lessons ever since. I was kind of depressed when I came back. I was very frustrated that I wasn’t living in Italy. But it’s really changed me as a mom to be able to value that and to be able to say, “It doesn’t matter where I live or what my situation is. I can live that life here.”

Kathy: Do you have a specific dream for yourself with Italy?

Sarah: Oh yeah, absolutely. My dream of Italy, when all the kids have flown the nest, would be to have a villa. That is where I want to spend at least half of my time, writing books. My roots are from there. My great-grandparents both came over from Italy. So much of what [my dream of Italy] means to me is how the priorities are ones that are aspirational to Americans. They’re priorities of family, of love, of passion, of joy, of experiencing life, of taking care of our land, taking care of each other.

Kathy: Your book is called #Futureboards. Can you tell me what a Future Board is and how people can use it to plan out their dream life?

Sarah: A Future Board is a visual representation of your dream, your future life. Every single thing starts with us allowing ourselves to have that dream. Most of us shut down that dream by [saying] things like, “Oh, that isn’t realistic” or “Oh, when can I afford that?” or “How could I do that?” or “That’s for other people.”

Getting to a place where you can really own the dream is huge, getting to a place where you are okay talking about it, you are okay fantasizing about it.

Pinterest became that place for me years ago, when I realized that it was the biggest source of beautiful

photography on the web. I didn’t know there was power beyond that. I would go on there and look at pictures of Tuscany and look up, what did people do in Tuscany? What did the markets look like? If I spent an hour doing that, my brain was transported. I was able to let go of all those constraints about reality.

If you have that clear dream and that dream still really excites you, that will get you through any adversity and any obstacle. That is where the Future Board came in for me. I had that clarity in my head of what I wanted. The pictures became just a physical reminder. 🌟

For more information, visit www.sarahcentrella.com

5 TIPS TO HELP YOUR KIDS ENJOY A MAGICAL TRIP TO ITALY

By Sarah Centrella



As I began planning our first family trip to Italy in 2016 (with two nine-year olds and a 13-year-old), it dawned on me that kids might not be as enchanted by Italy as adults. I wanted them to experience the magic and feel the wonder, so I came up with ways to get them super involved.

#1 EXPOSE THEM TO ITALY BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

First, I needed them to understand what Italy was all about so they’d know what to expect. This way, they’d recognize the landmarks, countryside and even food, and it wouldn’t seem so different or scary. I showed them every movie I could find that was filmed in Italy. Some of our favorites are *Only You*, *Roman Holiday*, *Under the Tuscan Sun* and *Letters to Juliet*. Of course, you can also do the same with books, magazines, short YouTube videos and even the TV series *Dream of Italy* (my kids love it and Kathy tells me she gets lots of emails from parents who say their children love it too).

#2 MAKE LEARNING ITALIAN A PRIORITY

In preparation for our trip, I had each of my kids download the *Duolingo* language app and created several contests to help them get excited about learning key Italian words and phrases. Whoever passed the most levels in the app before departure would win \$100 spending money in Italy. Whoever used the words they learned most often in our daily life could also win \$100. Whoever spent at least 30 minutes a day, every day, on the app could win \$100. These contests were incredible motivators. I picked ones I knew each of the kids would excel at, which meant that all three won spending money, learned a language and built their confidence. To this day, we still use Italian words in our daily life.

#3 EMPOWER THEM TO PLAN THE TRIP

Each of my children was in charge of planning for one of our three destinations; my daughter Izzy had Venice, her twin Mira planned Tuscany and my son Kanen took on Rome. Their task was to research the area by Googling the



Sarah and kids in Portofino

top 10 things people like to do there. Then, they went to Pinterest to look up pictures of each of those experiences and places and present it to the family. We voted on three things we all wanted to do, with the planner choosing one thing they specifically wanted. In doing these little tasks, Italy began to come alive for my children. They could imagine it, visualize it and get excited about it. Mira's "one thing" became the highlight of our entire trip. She insisted we drive (three hours) to the hot springs in *Saturnia*, Tuscany, and it was an experience I'll cherish for the rest of my life.

#4 GIVE THEM RESPONSIBILITY

Each of my kids printed off all the information for their portion of the trip and made a daily agenda in their travel journal. I gave them responsibilities like holding the tickets (yes, I printed a backup copy) or navigating when I drove. My son was always in charge of getting us through airports, to rental cars and around train stations. My girls checked the agenda to let us know where we were going and what we'd be doing. These tasks built their confidence and taught them how to notice things around them, pay attention to signs and know where they are—all important life skills.

#5: DOCUMENT EVERYTHING IN A TRAVEL JOURNAL

For each of our trips, I've made my kids write in a travel journal. Each day we collect things to glue in the journal, such as ticket stubs or postcards, and every night we have quiet time where we update the journal with our adventures. My hope is that these journals become treasures they cherish for the rest of their lives.

My daughters and I are heading back to Italy in August 2021. Follow our adventure on Instagram [@sarahcentrella](#) or [@singlemomglobetrotter](#)

10 TIPS *to Enjoy Italy's* ART TO THE FULLEST

By Paola Vojnovic

Italy reminds us that we are all on the same journey of life, uninterrupted for centuries, in search of meaning, beauty and delight.

I often think of a medal made for *Michelangelo's* 85th birthday, his last-known portrait. The artist chose to be represented as a blind pilgrim, in ragged clothes, led by a dog named *Fede* (Faith). *Michelangelo's* reminder really was that we are all just pilgrims on this earth. Waldo Emerson wrote that "*Michelangelo* lived for us all." But the story of great works of art is still being told. By us. Here are 10 ways to go deeper into Italy's artistic treasures:

#1. Do your research beforehand on the collections you want to see. A great place to start is www.smarthistory.org and do a search by the artist or the city you plan to visit.

#2. Give yourself time to linger. Appreciating art takes time and stamina. Make sure you are rested, fed and hydrated.

#3. If your time is limited, consider hiring a professional guide. It is an investment well worth the money. You will learn details you would have never known otherwise.

#4. Look into special staff-led museum tours. This service is available with a very reasonable supplement to your ticket and will likely take you into a part of the museum closed to the public. Great examples are the tours offered by *Palazzo Vecchio* in Florence (they have tours for kids of all ages) and *Palazzo Ducale* in Venice.

#5. Plan to visit the major art museums as soon as they open in the morning, or after 3 p.m, as the museums tend to be less crowded at these times.

#6. Do not miss temporary art exhibitions in the local museums—this is often a once in a lifetime opportunity to see major works of art brought together, and in a dialogue with each other that give much more context to an art period or a specific artist than the permanent museum displays provide.

#7. Look for art in-situ. Italian piazzas never disappoint with their visitors with sculptures and fountains, created by the best artists of their time. Enter the open doors of any church (usually free or for a small fee). There you will find incredible masterpieces still in the same place their creators intended them to be. If you can, return at different times of the day, to see how the works of art change with different light conditions. Be reminded that you are standing on the exact same spot where the artist or the patron stood.

#8. Look for the art on the street corners. There are incredible tabernacles with images of the Virgin Mary, and different local saints, placed on the intersections of small streets for centuries. The candles lit for them were often the only source of light in the dark medieval cities. These were the spots where one could stop to pray en-passant, or the only place for prayer in the times of plagues when locals hesitated to enter the church. Often, when business deals were made, the interested parties would shake hands by the tabernacles, an additional promise that those involved would keep the word given.

#9. Visit antique shops to admire extraordinary art by lesser-known masters. Art dealers are usually really interesting characters with great stories to tell!

#10. Many incredible works of art are in need of restoration and giving a small donation can make a big difference. Non-profit organizations such as Friends of Florence, Save Venice, and Venetian Heritage all do incredible work and you can help preserve Italy's incredible artistic heritage for those that will walk this journey after us. 🌿



Paola Vojnovic is a Renaissance art historian and a private tour guide in Florence. For more information, visit www.paolavojnovic.com

DREAM OF ITALY

P.O. Box 2025

Denver, CO 80201

Some Favorite Italian Proverbs

Non è bello ciò che è bello, ma è bello ciò che piace.

There is not absolute beauty, beauty is often relative.

Vivi e lascia vivere.

Live and let live, which of course means to face things with tolerance.

Al cuore non si comanda.

The heart always wins over the head.

