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IF YOU LOVE ITALY OR HAVE PLANS TO TOUR THERE SOMEDAY, EVEN IF YOU KNOW THE COUNTRY LIKE THE BACK OF YOUR HAND – THIS BOOK IS FOR YOU.

Welcome to 'Italian Introductions' where Rod and Sheryl Henderson, two Australians from Victoria, share tales of touring the highly acclaimed cities and landmarks of Italy and where they immersed themselves in the rich cultural heritage of the country.

Experience Rome; Pisa; Florence; Stresa; Venice; Assisi; Milan; Parma; Genoa and Turin. Sit back and enjoy the natural beauty of the Italian Lakes; the Isle of Capri; the Cinque Terre and the Ligurian Riviera. Take seats at the tables of the ristorante and bars they pop into to experience renowned Italian regional cuisine and wines. Meet Galileo Galilei; St Francis; Santa Fina; Michelangelo; the Alpini; Ilaria del Carretto and the frog fishermen of Vercelli. Even a young Wolfgang and his father Leopold, make a brief appearance in Venice for Carnevale.

Relax back into your favourite armchair with a glass of Lambrusco (or acqua gassata), some lozenges of mature Parmesan cheese sprinkled with an aged balsamic and enjoy – these Italian Introductions.



#### **AUTHOR BIO**

S A Henderson was born in South Australia where she attended Largs Bay Primary School and Port Adelaide Girls Technical High School. Entering the workforce in 1969 she was employed for more than 30 years as a Medical Scientist in research and diagnostic laboratories in South Australia and Victoria. She completed an Associate Diploma in Medical Technol. from the University of Sth. Aust. in 1979 and a Master of Medical Science (Cytology) Degree, from CSU in 2002.

Married with two children and three grandchildren, she lives, with a small flock of Merinos and her husband, on a ten-acre hobby farm in Muckleford, Victoria.

Italian Introductions is her first book which she began to write in late 2020 during the COVID 19 restrictions in Victoria.

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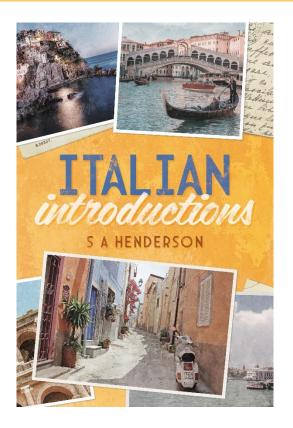
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### A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

# WHY DID YOU WRITE 'ITALIAN INTRODUCTIONS'? WHAT WERE YOUR INSPIRATIONS?

Italy has interested me since high school days spent in the company of my best friend, who was Italian. I love and am inspired by the culture, cuisine, country, language and people of Italy. I'll always chose an Italian restaurant for an important meal out with friends and family. I began writing the book during the COVID lockdown in Victoria in 2020. The inspiration was the two trips to Italy that Rod and I had taken in 2018 and 2019 also I was angry that such a deadly virus could have been released onto an unsuspecting world. Back to the bookit is a traveller's tale. I thought that due to the COVID lockdown, travel will be restricted for long into the foreseeable future so someone might like to read about the experiences we had while in Italy.

# DID YOU HAVE ANY INTERESTING EXPERIENCES WHILE WRITING OR RESEARCHING 'ITALIAN INTRODUCTIONS'?

I have been able to relive many interesting experiences from the two trips by writing the book, going through the photographs and remembering little things that would have been forgotten if I didn't put the story into print.

#### HOW DID YOU DECIDE ON THE BEST CHARACTERS FOR THE BOOK?

The book is a non-fictional narrative about two real people – my husband Rod, and myself and the actual people we came across on our travels.

### WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS YOUR INTERESTING WRITING QUIRK?

With my background in medical science, I love giving scientific explanations for anything that pops up in the narrative needing that type of information.

## WHAT IS THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF YOUR ARTISTIC PROCESS?

It is an all-consuming occupation, time wise and mentally. Often, when I'm away from the manuscript words and thoughts crop up into my head and if I don't have a pencil and paper with me, they get forgotten about and never make it into the script.

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