



Italian Historical Society of America

Newsletter

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Tutto Italiano **Benvenuto a *Tutto Italiano***

The west coast of the region of Campania stretches along the Tyrrhenian Sea for almost 220 miles. Its eastern border zigzags through the Apennines, edging Molise, Puglia, and Basilicata. To the north, its boundary is Lazio. Campania is home to numerous UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the Amalfi Coast, Historic Center of Naples, the Royal Palace of Caserta, Herculaneum, and Pompeii, among others.

In 1998, the ruins of an ancient Greek (and later Roman) city and three Greek temples, the [Archeological Site of Paestum](#), became part of the long list of World Heritage Sites located in Italy. About thirty miles south of Salerno, [Paestum](#) originated as a Greek colony in the seventh century BC. It was named Poseidonia, after Poseidon.

Through trade with Greece and northern territories, the town flourished, and the [temples were built from around 550 to 450 BC](#). In 273 BC, the Romans took control of Poseidonia and named it Paestum. In the early second century BC, a new road built further inland altered the major trade route and bypassed Paestum. With trade diminished, Paestum depended on its surrounding land to produce agricultural products; but over several centuries, the land became inhabitable.

Some note that when Mount Vesuvius erupted in 79 AD, volcanic ash destroyed parts of the city and blocked the river, causing the standing water to create a marsh; but Paestum, about 45 miles south of Pompeii, may have been too far from the [ash plume](#). An [account of the various reasons why the city fell to ruin](#) includes raids from other tribes and attributes the formation of marshes to excessive calcium deposits that clogged drain channels in the surrounding streams.

As the Roman Empire declined and the marshes brought mosquitoes, the people of Paestum left the city, moving further inland to the hillside city of [Capaccio](#). By the Middle Ages, Paestum was abandoned. Although the temples were a dominant part of the landscape, interest in Paestum as an archeology site didn't materialize until after Pompeii and Herculaneum were rediscovered in the early eighteenth century.

Today, the temples are considered some of the best preserved in the world and parts of the surrounding area have been excavated to reveal the ruins. A [museum](#) exhibits artifacts found during excavations.

[Paestum Temples](#)

[Archeological Site of Paestum](#)

[Ancient World: Paestum Temples](#)

[Paestum History and Guide](#)

[The Best Ancient Greek Ruins in Italy's Mainland: Paestum](#)

Italian American Press

The Italian American Press offers a great selection of books – culture, history, memoirs, art, family, food, the supernatural, the natural beauty of Italy, and more – for every interest. Help preserve Italian American heritage and history. Support authors of Italian heritage who write about Italian American and Italian culture and let them know you found their books on the Italian American Press.

For those who prefer reading digital books, Kazabo Publishing offers the unique opportunity to read best-selling books written by Italian and other European authors, translated into English. Two of its more recent publications are *Mind Games* by Luigi Capuana and *Death in a Bookstore* by Augusto De Angelis. De Angelis (1888-1944) created the popular Inspector De Vincenzi to give Italy an equal to Sherlock Holmes and Hercule Poirot. Capuana (1839-1915) is credited for bringing Italian realism – verismo – to writing. Their career experiences were similar, and both were involved in politics: Capuana joined with Garibaldi; De Angelis interviewed Mussolini. Read more about them in [“Italian Realism,” posted on La Gazzetta Italiana](#).

Featured on the Italian American Press

[Mind Games by Luigi Capuana](#)

An intriguing collection of short stories that draws the reader into the minds of the characters who are depicted in various unconventional situations.

(Bilingual academic edition for use by university professors is available.)

[Death in a Bookstore by Augusto De Angelis](#)

The streets of Milan form the foundation for a twisting plot of murder and deceit beginning with the death of a well-known politician.

Books are available for download directly from the [Kazabo website](#).

Italian American Heritage Project

Keep your Italian heritage alive. An excellent source for learning about Italian American culture and heritage is a museum specifically established to focus on the Italian American experience. Many have virtual exhibits and tours available on their websites. [List of Italian American Museums](#).

Talk with your children (no matter what age), grandchildren, other family members, friends, and educators. Tell them about the significant contributions people of Italian heritage have made to America ... and the world. [List of more than 70 contributors on Thirty-One Days of Italians](#).

Learn about Columbus. It's difficult to correct over 30 years of misinformation, and the rapid spread through digital sources is disheartening. In 2018, the Italian American Heritage Project was established to provide educational resources about Italian American history, heritage, and culture. The website also addresses the Columbus Controversy by providing facts about Columbus, how the controversy started, and why it continues. Read [What is the Truth About Columbus?](#) To understand how Columbus became an important part of American history, read [Christopher Columbus: When Did the Hero Become a Villain?](#) (Some links are no longer active.)

[Lesson plans developed from the letters Columbus wrote after his first voyage.](#)

The groups opposing Columbus Day have an organized agenda to eliminate it from America. The statements of truth and facts posted on Italian American websites are not working. Columbus Day has lost much of its relevance in American history. Indigenous People already have a designated day, and Native Americans have a day and a month to celebrate their culture.

Indigenous Peoples Day – August 9

Visit the [IAHP website](#) to read my articles, learn about the lesson plans, see the resources I've used, and support my work. Donate for a cause – preserving Italian heritage and Italian American history and culture through education. [All donations are tax-deductible.](#)

Italian American News

2022 NIAF Photo Contest (Theme: Tanti Auguri!)

"No purchase is necessary. NIAF membership appreciated but not required."

Ludovico Einaudi: Tiny Desk Concert (npr.org; July 15, 2022)

Mob-Stars: The Unholy Three (italic.org; July 10, 2022)

[Tourism Bureau Sets Place for an Italian Food Trail](#) (tribtoday.com; July 8, 2022)

[The Italian Trade Agency Announces Series of Educational Dinners Across the US to Spread Awareness on Italian Denominations of Origin](https://www.prweb.com/story?id=19710111&source=prweb.com&source_medium=prweb.com&source_rank=1) (prweb.com; July 5, 2022)

Amon Carter Museum of American Art Showcases American Artists' Love Affair with Venetian Glass

(nbcdfw.com; July 2, 2022)

News about Italy

[This Company Claims its Boats can Save Venice](#) (cnn.com; July 28, 2022)

[Ancient Artifacts Seized from US Billionaire Among 142 Looted Items Returned to Italy](#)
(cnn.com; July 21, 2022)

[On Italy's Steep Amalfi Coast, 'Flying' Lemon Farmers Jump Among the Treetops](https://www.cnn.com/2022/07/21/italy/lemon-farmers/index.html)
(cnn.com; July 21, 2022)

[Slovenia is Threatening Italy's Balsamic Vinegar, Consortium Says](#) (italianfood.net; July 7, 2022)

[Documentary Reveals the Saga of a Da Vinci Masterpiece](#) (Fra Noi; July 4, 2022)

A Day Trip to Venice Will Require a Reservation – and a Fee (npr.org; July 3, 2022)

The Future of Italian Food Industry (italianfood.net; June 24, 2022)

Buon anno, buon tutto, buona vita,
Janice

Janice Therese Mancuso

Publisher, *Tutto Italiano*

Director, [Italian American Press](#)

Founder, [Italian American Heritage Project](#)

Founder, [Thirty-One Days of Italians](#)

Author of *Con Amore*

Writer, Author, Researcher

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Notice About Links: On the date of publication, the links in this newsletter were current. In older newsletters, some links may be inactive if the URL has changed or is no longer available.

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