



Italian Historical Society of America Newsletter

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

Along Italy's northern border, the longest and highest mountain range in Europe separates it from Switzerland and Austria. The [Alps](#), divided into three sections – eastern, central, and western – are identified by the different types of rock formations shaped throughout millions of years. Within the Alps, the Dolomites formed in [northeast Italy](#), stretch through the regions of Trentino Alto Adige, Friuli Venezia Giulia, and Veneto. The mountain range west of the Dolomites is referred to as the [Italian Alps](#).

The Dolomites [began under water](#), emerging when the African and Eurasian tectonic plates collided, and today, with its [exceptional shapes](#), is considered one of the most captivating mountain ranges in the world. An [organic sedimentary rock](#), dolomite is also a [common rock-forming mineral](#), and is used in numerous applications including asphalt and concrete mixes, in limestone for treating soil, and for the production of magnesium.

In June 2009, the Dolomites were inscribed as a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#): “nine areas that present a diversity of spectacular landscapes of international significance for geomorphology marked by steeples, pinnacles and rock walls, the site also contains glacial landforms and karst systems.” The following year, the [UNESCO Dolomites Foundation](#) was “set up by five Italian provinces (Belluno, Bolzano, Pordenone, Trento, Udine) and two regions (Friuli Venezia Giulia and Veneto) working together to ensure the effective, coordinated management of the Dolomite property.”

Over two centuries ago, the Dolomites were [first visited by scientists](#), and shortly after by mountaineers. By the 1870s, a book about the Dolomites and easier accessibility by train, as well as an increase in accommodations, brought more sightseers. As the mountains attracted more visitors, businesses geared toward tourism expanded, developing a flourishing local economy. Both World Wars affected the area, but tourism increased again when the Dolomites were the first televised location for the 1956 Winter Olympics. In 1969, the first World Cup Skiing competition took place, and the Dolomites continue to be part of the annual championship.

With frequent train and bus stops and improved roadways, transportation to the Dolomites has become more convenient; and within the mountain range, numerous trails provide trekkers with a network of routes to follow. One of the more popular is [Alta Via](#), divided into six official paths. Some were mule tracks – built during World War I to shuttle supplies and soldiers – now known as via ferrata, (iron paths) for the steel cables that line sections of the paths. (Cables have replaced the ropes that were used during World War I.)

For hikes of several days, itineraries offer hut-to-hut trekking, with rifugios – [mountain retreats](#) providing meals and evening shelter – nestled into the mountains. Some, such as [Refuge Pederü](#), were once barracks for officers.

[How Were the Alps Formed?](#)

[Dolomite](#)

[The Nine Systems of the Dolomites](#) (Virtual Tour – Spectacular Photographs)

[Mountain Passes of the Italian Dolomites Worth Stopping for a Photograph](#)

[The Dolomites: Land of Legends, Myths, Sport and Nature](#)

[Alta Via 1 & Its Rifugios](#)

[Italy's Remote Alpine Shelter was a Refuge for World War I Soldiers](#)

[The Most Beautiful Towns in the Italian Dolomites](#)

[Watch: An Epic Wingsuit Flight Over the Dolomites](#)

[World Heritage Site for World Heritage Travellers](#)

[Dolomite Mountains Photo Gallery](#)

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.

New on the Italian American Press

[*Philadelphia's King of Little Italy: C.C.A Baldi & His Brothers*](#) by Charles G. Douglas, III
Charles Carmine Antonio Baldi was in his teens when he journeyed to America. Securing a contract to sell lemons, the brothers operated a stall in the farmer's market. By the early 1880s, C.C.A. was an interpreter for the courts and was asked to work with Italian laborers. From there, the brothers started a coal business, and expanded their business ventures into insurance, banking, and a funeral company. The history of Italians in Philadelphia and the life of C.C.A. Baldi are presented through documentation, family records, and photographs.

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

Native American Month – November

Native American Heritage Day – Friday after Thanksgiving

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

[The Ultimate Guide to Chicago's Italian Beef](#) (msn.com; November 3, 2022)

[Major Companies and Corporations Ignore Italian American Heritage and Culture Month](#) (washingtonexaminer.com; October 28, 2022)

[Museum Hosts Special Exhibit to Celebrate Italian Heritage Month](#) (news10.com; October 28, 2022)

[Caruso Confounds the Woke](#) (italic.org; October 16, 2022)

[Don't Throw Christopher Columbus Overboard](#) (italic.org; October 11, 2022)

[Columbus Day Special: Zinn, Engels and Columbus](#) (YouTube; October 10, 2022 – Thank you, John L.)

[The Breaking-the-Sound-Barrier Standard](#) (italic.org; October 2, 2022)

News about Italy

Read my article in *La Gazzetta Italiana*: [A Mission East: Marco Polo and Matteo Ricci](#) (Thank you, John M.)

[Villa Carpena: The Owners of this Italian Mansion Say It's Haunted by Mussolini Family Ghosts](#) (cnn.com/travel; October 31, 2022)

[Not a Horrible Life](#) (italic.org; October 30, 2022)

[Italy Slams Economist 'Welcome to Britaly' Cover for Rehashing Stereotypes](#) (theguardian.com; October 20, 2022)

[Tourists in Italy are Behaving Badly This Year: Here's Why](#) (cnn.com/travel; October 15, 2022)

[Italy's Stromboli Volcano Erupts, Flows Lava Into Sea](#) (msn.com; October 10, 2022)

[How Italian Opera Influenced Mexican Ranchera](#) (npr.org; October 9, 2022)

[Italy Eyes US-Style Compass Call Electronic-Attack Jets](#) (defensenews.com; October 7, 2022)

[American Tourist Smashes Two Sculptures in the Vatican](#) (cnn.com; October 6, 2022)

Buon anno, buon tutto, buona vita,
Janice

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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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