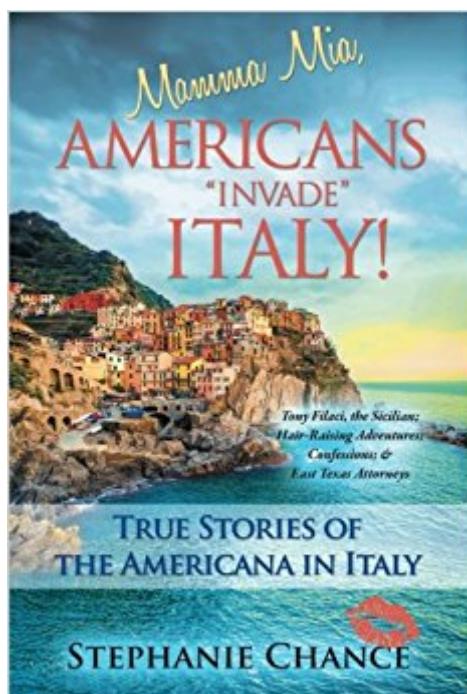


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# Mamma Mia, Americans "Invade" Italy!: True Stories Of The Americana In Italy



## Synopsis

This book contains hilarious, hair-raising, and true stories of what Americans do in Italy. Hop aboard with Stephani Chance and her Sicilian papa Tony Filaci for the most magical and fairytale adventures of your life as they take you to Italy and beyond. After fourteen-plus years of taking groups of Americans to Italy twice a year, Stephani finally shares some of the “true stories” of what the Americans experience on her Italy tours. These true and unbelievable adventures will take you on a ride like no other. You will be speechless as she takes you to hidden jewels inside the remote parts of Sicily and, while holding on tightly, you zigzag to amazing places all over Italy. You will eat with family and friends for the Last Harvest of the Grapes and dine with a genuine count in the rolling hills of Tuscany. You will laugh until you cannot anymore, and then you will stand in awe when she takes you inside places that existed before Christ; such as Little Jerusalem, located in a remote area of Italy. Come on board with Stephani, ride with the Americans off the tourist paths, and stay in fairytale places that will remind you of stories such as Jack in the Bean Stalk. Hang on to your seat as you explode with every imaginable emotion that will surely ricochet from hilarious laughter to spellbound tears. While you are still begging for more, Stephani will take you behind the “pine curtain” of East Texas, and reveal an intimate look at how the flip of a magazine page moved her out of the legal world into this life of travel and adventure.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Stephani Chance is a comical, outgoing Italy lover with European genes stretching across the deep,

blue pond. As a paralegal, she worked sixteen years beside a renowned attorney in East Texas. Then, in a blink of the eye, she launched a Â¢â ¬Å“one-of-a-kindÂ¢â ¬Å• shop unlike any other in the world, Decorate Ornate. This store is packed ceiling to floor with gorgeous home dÃƒÂ©cor from remote places in Europe. In between her two Italy tours each year, Stephani returns to Italy and France in search of gorgeous castle doors, religious antiques and gorgeous home dÃƒÂ©cor for her renowned store. Stephani has been the keynote speaker for many events in Dallas, New York, Los Angeles, and East Texas, as well as World Trade events. She has been featured in the Italian international magazines as well as many American magazines: East Texas People Magazine, In-Magazine, House & Home, LifeStyles, Home DÃƒÂ©cor, and more. When not in Italy, you will find Stephani amongst the fabulous treasures in her shop Decorate Ornate, located in the antique capital of East Texas, Gladewater.

What a delightful narrator Stephanie Chance is! She has captured the very essence of the best of Italy in her vivid descriptions and recollections, and oh the escapadesÃƒÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  They are priceless! This book is jam-packed full of whimsical, yet true stories and still manages to convey a beautiful set of values. I feel as though I have been to Italy and explored its farthest reaches, and I predict a lengthy waiting list for Stephanie's future tours. A trip to Italy with Stephanie Chance, Tony Filaci and Nino is definitely on my bucket list!

I have always wanted to travel to Italy and we finally have a trip booked for later this year. I bought this book to help me get excited about the trip and ended up reading the entire thing in one sitting! What an amazing read and adventure. Author Stephanie Chance takes Americans on organized, guided, tours through Italy twice per year and collected a ton of both hilarious and touching stories to tell her readers. As her tour groups pile into the big Mercedes Coach bus that is driven by Nino, they embark on a whirlwind tour of the beautiful country and create cherished memories along the way. Not only does Stephanie take her groups, and the reader, to some of Italy's famous sites, but also to many off-the-beaten-path places that you would never find if relying on your own resources. Aside from the perfect descriptions of the Riviera and the fountains of Rome, I couldn't get enough of the hilarious stories and antics of her various tour groups over the 14 years that she has been taking tours to this country. Some of the stories were very sweet and touching while many were simply laugh out loud hysterical. This book is very well written and flows beautifully. I would recommend it to anyone who is looking for an entertaining read or has an interest in Italy. As an added bonus, I also clicked over to the author's website and there is a lot of additional information

about her tours and adventures on there as well. Definitely recommend this book.

This book not only made me laugh out loud MANY times, it made me take the plunge and join Stephani, Tony, and Nino on their southern Italy excursion! The book is a very accurate depiction of the "Americana" experience: Stephani's thick southern drawl, Tony's animated stories and "Italian-ness" we all loved, and the friendships we made along the way. I was going to give this book to a friend, but I realized that it has many important historic details about the places we visited which I need to create my scrapbook. Of course, Stephani did tell us all about these details on the microphone but we were all laughing so much on the bus that we missed some of it! If you're thinking about taking a trip to Italy, read this book and be prepared to laugh out loud- especially the chapter about Dr. Brown!

Mamma Mia! This is hilarious, almost tragically so. It is always great to learn about other cultures and travel to new destinations. That's how we gain new insights and gain perspective. Stephanie has a unique perspective and relationship to Italy, but maintains her business in the U.S. We read her giving tours to hopeless Americans who for all their good intentions, really are a mess. Stephanie details her adventures with the tourists and how she manages them. It's extremely funny. I loved reading about the different places they visit, which the author offers detailed descriptions of both their historical and cultural importance. I recently went to Europe for the first time, traveling to Barcelona then Madrid. I loved it. But, as an American on my first European excursion, I did feel out of place at times. That's why I could sympathize with some of Stephanie's tourists. I especially loved Gladys. She reminded me of my mother-in-law! This is a light and fun book and it is told with heart and optimism. I highly recommend it!

A few weeks ago, I walked into a little store in Gladewater, Tx..."Decorate Ornate". Oh My Goodness! My mind couldn't register all the beauty that I was seeing! The owner, herself, was there and made sure we enjoyed our time in her store... There were books by the front door and as we were leaving, I asked about the books. Stephanie explained that she takes people to Italy twice a year (this is how she furnishes this fantastic store), and that the books were written by her, with stories of her travels...I just had to have them.. I just finished reading "Americans "Invade" Italy"!!!! I have NEVER been outside of the United States, but after reading this book, I feel as though I was with her on a tour of Italy! Very entertaining stories, with beautifully described scenery! I could

seriously smell the fresh baked bread, freshly baked pizza and taste the red wine! A great book that is seriously entertaining! I've ordered her next book "Beautiful Seductions" and CANNOT wait to read it!!!!!!

I have never been to Italy, though it is one of my dream destinations. Now, after reading Stephanie Chance's "Mamma Mia, Americans Invade Italy" I have a dream tour guide! Fourteen years' worth of taking American groups to Italy bi yearly has awarded Stephanie with a treasure trove of hysterical material, while some are touching ALL are entertaining and worthy of a second read! Stephanie, or Stefania, as her Sicilian Papa Tony Filaci calls her, invites us along with her as she recounts memorable moments from the last fourteen years. Climb aboard the Mercedes-Benz Coach, driven by Nino, their little Bambino, as it ventures through the fairy-tale like storybook these three introduce to. From off the beaten path trails and adventures to colorful sites, the stories in this epic are sure to entice you to journey to Italy yourself. The very first story is the perfect introduction to the rest of the book, a laugh out loud remembrance that will have you chortling! I mean, who wears a full body VELCRO girdle? Intrigued? Read the story, it gets better, and each story after just builds on that perfect, hysterical and oh so Mamma Mia! Moment!

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