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Villas of Tuscany SheBooks

AUTHORS REVIEW and COMMENTS on Ah!
Tuscany : the Enlightenment of an
Expatriate Five years ago my wife - Silvia -
and I purchased a condominium in San
Gimignano. This book is my story of what
followed. Unlike most books, there is no
obvious story line throughout - and this
presented me with the challenge of

leaving the reader with what at the end
coalesces into a complete story. There are
however, two shorter story lines. The first
is: locating, purchasing, improving, and
furnishing an apartment near San
Gimignano and the second - woven
throughout the book - concerns obtaining
our permission to live in Italy, official
residency, car ownership and registration,
Carta di Soggiorno, citizenship, and
documents for a stolen car. Otherwise the
book is a mosaic of personal experiences
and observations that encompass our
living experience and in the end it

becomes clear that the real story is about
getting to know the customs and people
sufficiently that we felt truly at home in
San Gimignano. For example, I describe
shops, restaurants, a visit to the mayors
office, the grape harvest and wine making,
olive harvest and mushroom hunt and
interactions with workmen (our artisans). I
take the reader traveling to Volterra,
Florence, Siena, Certaldo and Poggibonsi
and Tuscan villages. We go cycling, take
country walks and become acquainted
with ancient books, the art scene, sunsets
and winter in San Gimignano. I describe

money laundering, medical services, doctor visits, pharmacies and the payment or avoidance of taxes. We learn several difficult lessons concerning government-controlled services: utilities, banks, telephone, post, computer connection, water and traffic violations. We learn the importance of notaries and town registrar (anagrafe), I make observations on politics, TV, strikes and the press, on All Saints Day, barbers, how a condominium functions, and festivals. During the entire process, we develop valued friendships and transition from outsiders to residents who truly belong to San Gimignano. There is a separate chapter on the special issue of Tuscan Way of Life, [the strange dichotomy of aggressive governance vs beautiful life style and wonderfully warm, friendly people] and another on the history of San Gimignano. My Target Audience comprises two groups: those who enjoy reading about life in Italy particularly Tuscany - and those adventurers who are either considering living in Italy or actually doing so. Both groups, and indeed all readers who enjoy travel will be entertained by many humorous and sometimes hilarious events surrounding

the mysterious bureaucratic machinations of government, while those thinking of living there may better prepare themselves for the adventure. But all readers are sure to enjoy the pleasures of Tuscan friendliness, culture and customs. The living of this story has been an experience of a lifetime. From friends and unknown readers alike, I receive reports of pleasure, enjoyment and amazement. I therefore recommend the book to you and wish that many more will decide to share in my story. Don McPherson click to get published: <http://outskirtspress.com/cgi/agent.cgi?key=22944>

Bringing Tuscany Home National Geographic Books

If you feel stuck with no idea what you should do next, lifestyle celebrity and TV pioneer Debbie Travis's new book is for you. Drawing on the tough (sometimes hilarious) lessons Debbie learned in her own leap into a new way of living, and a multitude of stories, tips and ideas to jumpstart your dreams, she's created an inspiring roadmap for change. A few years ago, Debbie Travis realized that she was no longer challenged by her wildly

successful TV career and she was so busy she was missing out on the people and things that made her happy. She dared to dream about a whole new direction in life-- a plan to turn a 13th-century farmhouse in Tuscany into a unique hotel and retreat for people who need a change as much as she did. And now, after a crazy amount of work, she is not only living that dream but sharing it with others. Her new book draws directly on her own experiences (when she started, Debbie could barely make a bed, let alone run a hotel in a foreign county) and the uplifting stories of personal u-turns shared by women who have come to her retreats. Debbie's "commandments" will inspire women (and men) who have lost track of who they are or what they want to be; who are going through the motions of a career that doesn't satisfy them anymore; who are wondering what to do with themselves now that their kids are gone or their marriage is over. On every page, Debbie shares the tools that helped her transform her life, and her example, her wit and her common sense advice will help motivate anyone who finds themselves standing at a crossroads wondering "What's next for me?"

A Year in Provence Random House Digital, Inc.

Existe-t-il encore quelque chose à découvrir en Toscane ? Oui, et Barbara et René Stoeltie nous le prouvent dans leur dernier ouvrage. Ils ont photographié les plus belles maisons de campagne dénichées à Chiusi, Montalcino, Sarteano, sur les collines près de Florence et dans le Chianti et la sauvage Maremma. Ces demeures romantiques ont été photographiées exclusivement par René Stoeltie pour le présent livre. Barbara, de son côté, a eu la bonne idée de demander aux propriétaires leurs recettes de cuisine préférées, des plats typiquement toscans et faciles à préparer. Une invitation tentante et originale pour redécouvrir la Toscane...

Restoring a Home in Italy University of Toronto Press

In this intimate and uproarious story, two daring New Yorkers convert an ancient, abandoned farm into a world-renowned winery.

Country Houses of Tuscany Ryland Peters & Small

The remarkable story of the project undertaken by Paul Bangay and Monash

University to transform a neglected car park at the university's Prato campus in Tuscany into a traditional Renaissance walled garden, befitting its location. The Italian Garden is part restoration story, part vicarious travel tale and a completely fascinating story of how the discovery fifty years ago of a series of neglected and hidden fifteenth century frescos led to the creation of the stunning Palazzo Vaj garden, inspired by the water features, grottos and planting symmetry of classic Italian Renaissance gardens.

The Reluctant Tuscan Albatross

Featuring an array of beautiful homes, *Hidden Homes of Tuscany and Umbria* is a spectacular celebration of one the best-loved and most alluring regions of Italy. Steeped in history, Tuscany has always exerted an irresistible hold on the romantic imagination. Its rich cultural legacy is reflected in the local interior style, which confidently borrows from other eras and places, resulting in a look that is chic, original and always easy to live with. This inspiring book is divided into four parts. *Natural Charm* features rustic houses, characterized by an earthy decorative palette, whose interior design

is rooted in the ancient rural traditions of Tuscany. *Stylish Simplicity* looks at modern interpretations of Tuscan style – from a high-ceilinged barn, now a light and airy loft, to a converted village school. *Classic Elegance* focuses on country houses restored according to a grand decorative design, yet still warm and welcoming, while *Idyllic Artistry* is devoted to a more eclectic, colourful approach to Tuscan living. Combining inspiration with a wealth of practical suggestions, *Hidden Homes of Tuscany and Umbria* offers myriad ideas for interior design that can easily be transferred to any home.

Tuscan Elements Designs Direct Publishing
A lavishly illustrated ode to the joys of Tuscany's people, food, landscapes, and art, from the bestselling author of *Under the Tuscan Sun* and *See You in the Piazza* "A love letter to Italy written in precise and passionate language of near-poetic density."—*Newsday* *In Tuscany* celebrates the abundant pleasures of life in Italy as it is lived at home, at festivals, feasts, restaurants and markets, in the kitchen and on the piazza, in the vineyards, fields, and olive groves. Combining essays by Frances Mayes and a chapter by her

husband, poet Edward Mayes, with more than 200 full-color photos by photographer Bob Krist, each of this book's five sections highlights a signature aspect of Tuscan life: La Piazza: the locus of Italian village life. With photographs of the shop signs, the outdoor markets, medieval streets, people, their pets and their cars, and snippets of conversations overheard, Mayes reveals the life of the Piazza in her town of Cortona as well as out-of-the-way places such as Volterra, Asciano, Monte San Savino, and Castelmuizio. La Festa: the celebration. Essays and photos of feasts and celebrations, such as the Christmas dinner for twenty-seven at a neighbor's house and a donkey race around the church at Montepulciano Stazione, illustrate how the Tuscans celebrate the seasons--their open ways of friendship, their connection to nature, and most of all, their sense of abundance. Il Campo: the field. Here Edward Mayes evokes the deep sense of the shift of seasons as he picks olives before he and Frances head off to the olive oil mill and enjoy the first bruscette with new oil. La Cucina: the kitchen. An intimate view of the all-important role of the kitchen in Tuscan

culture, including photographs of her own kitchen and gardens, menus from great local cooks, the elements of the Tuscan table, dishes with cultural and culinary notes on each, and, of course, delectable recipes. La Bellezza: the beauty. From the quality of the light falling on sublime landscapes in different seasons and Tuscan faces in moments of laughter to a silhouette of cypress trees in the early evening and a wild bird perched on a neighbor's head, In Tuscany features views of beauty that reveal the singular splendor of one of the world's best-loved and most artistic regions.

Under the Tuscan Sun Random House Australia

A hands-on account of buying and restoring a house in Italy. Written by Anne M. Bauer, a Norwegian diplomat who has worked with the UN in New York, with UNESCO and its Cultural Heritage list in Paris and the FAO in Rome. Mrs Bauer now lives part of the year in her restored farmhouse in Tuscany. She has assisted others in interior decorating and restoring houses in Italy and she has acquired extensive insight in what it takes to buy and restore in Italy, the craftsmen needed,

the legal framework and the aesthetic issues involved. Her unique coffee table book, finished in real linen, illuminates the history and traditions of Italian farmhouses and the captivating countryside in which they are situated. This new publication emphasises the importance of cultural heritage by highlighting architectural details, local customs, ... Mrs Bauer shows how old, deserted farmhouses can be turned into modern, comfortable homes without losing their original character. She also introduces garden ideas with low maintenance plants, outdoor spaces and swimming pools integrated into the landscape.

Italian Garden: Restoring a Renaissance Garden in Tuscany Harper Collins

Dazzling beautiful, this new hardcover book is a tour de force of the latest European-inspired homes designed by Bassenian/Lagoni Architects of Newport Beach, California's premier residential architecture firm. Here the reader will discover ruggedly handsome exteriors reminiscent of the hill towns of Tuscany and richly appointed interiors that echo the great rooms of Andalusia--all with very modern floor plans and amenities. This

milestone book will serve as a valuable resource for anyone seeking ideas for a home design, landscaping, interiors and furnishings in the Old World Style.

A Valley in Italy Artisan Books

Of all the romantic obsessions in novelist Lisa St Aubin de Teran's life, the search for a castle occupied her the longest--until she saw the magnificent Villa Orsola deep in the Umbrian hills. Only after eagerly signing the ownership papers did she and her husband, painter Robbie Duff-Scott, discover they were the owners of a vast ruin lacking windowpanes, parts of the roof, and other essentials. *A Valley in Italy* recounts its restoration in the grand style of impossible house and the charms of bohemian family life. It also offers a rare portrait of the life of a Italian village, where "all things are made to be as enjoyable as possible." " Lisa St Aubin de Teran's intuitive sense of place, her affection for the people around her, and her appreciation for native Italian grace make this a memorable book that can stand beside the best accounts of Italian life.

A Place in the World Artisan Publishers
NATIONAL BESTSELLER • In this witty and

warm-hearted account, Peter Mayle tells what it is like to realize a long-cherished dream and actually move into a 200-year-old stone farmhouse in the remote country of the Lubéron with his wife and two large dogs. He endures January's frosty mistral as it comes howling down the Rhône Valley, discovers the secrets of goat racing through the middle of town, and delights in the glorious regional cuisine. *A Year in Provence* transports us into all the earthy pleasures of Provençal life and lets us live vicariously at a tempo governed by seasons, not by days.

A Culinary Traveller in Tuscany Kogan Page Publishers

"Titanic in potential appeal . . . the Mátés do something rare; they go native."—Washington Post This hilarious, international bestseller is a true-life adventure of a New York City couple moving to Tuscany. Ferenc Máté's enthusiastic prose is infectious. He brings to life the real Tuscany: the contadini neighbors, country life—the harvest, grape, and olive picking, wine making, mushroom hunting, woodcutting—the holidays, and of course the never-ending, mouthwatering meals.

A Vineyard in Tuscany Random House
Twenty years ago Frances Mayes, having ended a long marriage and begun a new relationship, was travelling in Italy and happened upon an abandoned, grand but dilapidated three-storey house called Bramasole just outside the Tuscan hillside of Corton...

Every Day In Tuscany Crown

NATIONAL BESTSELLER Looking for the keys to a vibrant, joyful, vital life? Lifestyle pioneer Debbie Travis has found them in the Tuscan hills. And in her lively, inspiring way, she shares how to bring all that healthful magic home in *Joy*, a glorious book infused with the warmth and colour of life at the Villa Reniella, the thirteenth-century farmhouse retreat to which she welcomes guests from around the world. For more than ten years, Debbie Travis has watched the guests who come to her Tuscan retreats transform over the course of a single week of talking, walking, and eating together, until even the most driven and stressed-out feel so much better about themselves. When it's time to leave, they tell her it's the simple priorities of Tuscan life—the way the village locals, from young to old, take time for each

other every day—that hit them in their hearts, and they pepper her with questions about how to retain what they've experienced when they get home. In Joy, Debbie offers the answers she gives them to all of us, capturing the essentials of the Tuscan lifestyle in a series of ten engaging and practical lessons—on everything from how to get a good night's sleep, to how to find community and rediscover purpose, to how to eat and drink like an Italian—designed to make our lives sweeter and healthier. Delightfully down-to-earth, Debbie draws on her own life experience, the example of her Tuscan neighbours, whose fabled longevity springs from the wisdom she captures in her lessons, and the expertise of her long-time friend and colleague, nutritional therapist Jacky Brown. Whether you wish to hit the reset button, start a new endeavour, regain your confidence, turn a page in your relationship, make changes to your worklife or your community, or simply reboot your vitality, these lessons will help guide you to a life filled with joy. *Restoring a House in Tuscany* Random House Australia

"On a tiny French island, a couple of

American dreamers redefine their lives by restoring a ruin...The French House moves to a soulful, very funny rhythm all its own."-Meryl Streep Don and Mindy Wallace have always been Francophiles, so when they had the opportunity to buy a home on a small French island off the coast of Brittany, they jumped-sight unseen-into a crumbling mess that challenged their finances and their family. But when the Wallaces arrived on the island they found a building in ruin, and it wasn't long before their lives resembled it. Plagued by emergency repairs, a stock market crash, and very exasperated French neighbors, Don and Mindy could have accepted their fate. Instead, they embraced it. Redolent with the beauty and flavors of French country life, *The French House* is a lively, inspiring, and irresistibly charming memoir. Fans of *Under the Tuscan Sun* (Frances Mayes), *Paris in Love* (Eloisa James), and *A Year in Provence* (Peter Mayle) will be enchanted by this account of a family that rises from the rubble, wins the hearts of a historic village, and finally finds the home they've been seeking off the wild coast of France. What readers are saying about *The French*

House "The French House is engaging and well-written and will make even non-Francophiles yearn for a trip to France." "With hauntingly beautiful descriptions of a tiny French island and its inhabitants, this book will take you to a different place, and might even inspire you to reconsider your life and finally follow your dreams where you and your family can become whole." "...charming and witty -- full of hope and despair about this crumbling structure they chose to inhabit and make a home." "I was captivated from the outset and felt like I was on their island living it all with them. A great read!" What reviewers are saying about *The French House* "Don Wallace has crafted a delicious French bonbon of a book...full of humor, hope, and lessons on how to live a life full of meaning."-Dani Shapiro, bestselling author of *Devotion* and *Still Writing* "Village life vignettes, the sensual celebration of island pleasures, eccentric neighbors, cuisine, beach life, natural history-readers will find a smattering of all that in these pages, but it's the story below, like the unshakeable foundations of the house itself, that makes this such a satisfying read."-Rain Taxi Review "The

French House is a darling book that mixes local history, memoir, quirky characters, architectural challenges (what will the village elders do if they add windows to the second floor?) and humor...It was a lovely adventure and perfect for a summer read."-Under a Gray Sky "The French House is a detailed, delightful memoir of their journey to restore a dilapidated abode into a beckoning sanctuary in an idyllic coast French countryside.. I have thoroughly been devouring it, and I think you will too."-The Simply Luxurious Life "Author Don Wallace shares the heartwarming story about his family's 30-year journey to restore a ruined cottage on the tiny French island of Belle Ile off the coast of Brittany... readers are privy to the charming true story of a family's journey to create the perfect home away from home."--E! News

Villas and Gardens of Tuscany Random House Canada

The fascinating story behind the revival of an ancient Italian castle and its enduring way of life. When Charlotte Horton and her family of British bohemians discovered an abandoned Tuscan castle, little did they know that they would transform it into a

vibrant, modern locale. Nestled in the rugged terrain of Mount Amiata, Castello di Potentino was a dilapidated mess: roofs had collapsed and there was no plumbing or electricity. Following the arduous process of purchasing it from 24 different owners, they set to work renovating the 11th-century structure. In this enthralling account of ravamping the castello into a contemporary ode to Italian tradition, photographs by the late British fashion photographer Michael Woolley showcase the property, while Charlotte's text dives into the renovation and life at Potentino. From a dramatic vaulted entrance hall to a starry ceiling mural, the interiors are bound to delight. Readers also learn about technical details, such as recycling materials, painting, and bureaucratic paperwork. A chapter dedicated to the land—complete with a vineyard and olive groves—displays Charlotte's philosophy of self-sufficiency. This book is a must-have for those interested in Italian architecture and the Tuscan lifestyle, or anyone with the dream of restoring a castle in Tuscany. **A Small Place in Italy** New York Review of Books

Tuscan Escapes is a spectacular

celebration of one the best-loved and most alluring regions of Italy. Featuring an array of beautiful homes from across the region, the book is divided into four parts, each paying tribute to a different style of home. Natural Charm features rustic houses, characterized by an earthy decorative palette, whose interior design is rooted in the ancient rural traditions of Tuscany. Stylish Simplicity looks at modern interpretations of Tuscan style—from a high-ceilinged barn, now a light and airy loft, to a converted village school. Classic Elegance focuses on larger country homes, restored according to a grand decorative design, yet still remaining warm and welcoming, while Idyllic Artistry is devoted to a more eclectic, colorful approach to Tuscan living. Combining inspiration with a wealth of practical suggestions, Tuscan Escapes offers myriad ideas for interior design and decoration that can easily be recreated in your home. The book is beautifully photographed by Chris Tubbs. - Numerous ideas for interior design and decoration. * Previously available in hardcover (ISBN: 978-1-84597-244-8). *A Thousand Days in Tuscany* Crown Rising From The Mist in the sun-blushed

hills of Tuscany is Il Piccolo Rustico, a 300-year-old stone farmhouse that Nancy Doran dreams of lovingly restoring into an idyllic home. All her husband Phil can see is a crumbling money pit that, as far as dreams go, is more of a nightmare. Reluctantly leaving behind high -octane, air-conditioned Los Angeles where he lives and works as a writer-producer, Phil is uprooted to a strange country intoxicated by O sole mio, virgin olive oil and oak-aged Chianti. The local village reveals itself to be a hive of seething passions, secrets and age-old blood feuds, and the newcomers find that life is not all strolls around town during the passeggiata and relaxing under the awnings of picturesque cafes. Beset by a rift of exasperating challenges - from the cunning tricks of the Pinatore family to an infuriating Byzantine Italian bureaucracy - it is only with an inspired touch of the 'Inner Italian' that Phil and Nancy finally manage to soften the hearts of their neighbours and are embraced by the community.

Every Day in Tuscany Sourcebooks, Inc. A lavishly illustrated book for everyone who dreams of integrating the Tuscan lifestyle into their own lives - from decor and cooking, eating and drinking, to gardening, socialising and celebrating. When Frances Mayes fell in love with Tuscany and Bramasole, millions of readers basked in the experience through her bestselling memoirs. Now Frances and her husband Edward share the essence of Tuscan life as they have lived it, with specific ideas and inspiration for readers to bring the beauty and spirit of Tuscany into their own home. Now you too can: * Choose a Tuscan color palette for the home, from earthy apricot tones to invigorating shades of marina blue* Personalise a room with fanciful door frames, unique painted furniture and fresco murals* Cultivate a Tuscan garden, adding fountains, vine-covered pergolas, and terracotta plaques among the herbs and flowers* Create an atmosphere of

irresistible, anytime hospitality - a casa aperta (open home)* Set an imaginative Tuscan table using majolica and vintage linens* Enjoy the abundant flavors and easy simplicity of the Tuscan kitchen, with details on everything from olive oil and limoncello to panini and pesto, plus special homegrown menus and recipes in each chapter* Make the most of a visit to Tuscany, with must-see places, a list of market days in different towns and tips on finding primo antiques With more than 100 glorious colour photos by acclaimed photographer Steven Rothfeld (including several of the Mayes's Tuscan-flavoured California home), this book will delight and inspire fans of both Frances Mayes and the Tuscan way of life.

Tuscan & Andalusian Reflections Crown "This lush guide, featuring more than 350 glorious photographs from National Geographic, showcases the best Italy has to offer from the perspective of two women who have spent their lives reveling in its unique joys."--Publisher's description.