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La Bella Figura: A Field Guide to the Italian Mind

Beppe Severgnini

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La Bella Figura: A Field Guide to the Italian Mind Beppe Severgnini
You won't need luggage for this hypothetical and hilarious trip into the hearts and minds of Beppe Severgnini's fellow Italians. In fact, Beppe would prefer if you left behind the baggage his crafty and elegant countrymen have smuggled into your subconscious. To get to his *Italia*, you'll need to forget about your idealized notions of Italy. Although *La Bella Figura* will take you to legendary cities and scenic regions, your real destinations are the places where Italians are at their best, worst, and most authentic:

The highway: in America, a red light has only one possible interpretation—Stop! An Italian red light doesn't warn or order you as much as provide an invitation for reflection.

The airport: where Italians prove that one of their virtues (an appreciation for beauty) is really a vice. Who cares if the beautiful girls hawking cell phones in airport kiosks stick you with an outdated model? That's the price of gazing upon perfection.

The small town: which demonstrates the Italian genius for pleasant living: "a congenial barber . . . a well-stocked newsstand . . . professionally made coffee and a proper pizza; bell towers we can recognize in the distance, and people with a kind word and a smile for everyone."

The chaos of the roads, the anarchy of the office, the theatrical spirit of the hypermarkets, and garrulous train journeys; the sensory reassurance of a church and the importance of the beach; the solitude of the soccer stadium and the crowded Italian bedroom; the vertical fixations of the apartment building and the horizontal democracy of the eat-in kitchen. As you venture to these and many other locations rooted in the Italian psyche, you realize that Beppe has become your Dante and shown you a country that "has too much style to be hell" but is "too disorderly to be heaven."

Ten days, thirty places. From north to south. From food to politics. From saintliness to sexuality. This ironic, methodical, and sentimental examination will help you understand why Italy—as Beppe says—"can have you fuming and then purring in the space of a hundred meters or ten minutes."

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This La Bella Figura: A Field Guide to the Italian Mind is great guide for you because the content that is certainly full of information for you who have always deal with world and also have to make decision every minute. This kind of book reveal it information accurately using great coordinate word or we can point out no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole information in it. Doesn't mean it only provides you with straight forward sentences but challenging core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having La Bella Figura: A Field Guide to the Italian Mind in your hand like having the world in your arm, details in it is not ridiculous a single. We can say that no publication that offer you world in ten or fifteen minute right but this guide already do that. So , it is good reading book. Hello Mr. and Mrs. stressful do you still doubt in which?

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