

**Il Giardino dell'Anima**  
**(The Garden of the Soul)**

**Marc Cherniwchan (©Greensleeves Art)**

**Finding Hidden Italy**  
**IACC**  
**10/03/2011**

Note: to call Italy overseas start with: 011 39/ then phone #: as below.  
(011 connects you to the overseas operator, and 39 is the country code for Italy, then comes the area code (2 or 3 digits), and then the 7 digit number.

Contact information and numbers provided are the best I could come up with.  
Sometimes they will have changed by the time of travel, and even vary among sources you reference.

**Areas Covered in this Talk**

- |     |  |     |  |
|-----|--|-----|--|
| 1)  | <u>Venice</u> /Murano<br>Area: Venetian Lagoon<br>Province: Veneto | 2)  | <u>Florence</u><br>Province: Tuscany   |
| 3)  | <u>Rome</u><br>Province: Lazio                                     | 4)  | Basilica di San Pietro<br>State: Vaticano  |
| 5)  | <u>Toscolano/Maderno</u><br>Area: Lake Garda<br>Province: Lombardy | 6)  | <u>San Giorgio Canavese</u><br>Area: Torino (Turin)<br>Province: Piedmont                          |
| 7)  | <u>Lido di Camaiore</u><br>Area: Versilia<br>Province: Tuscany     | 8)  | <u>Orbetello</u><br>Area: Peninsula of Monte<br>(Argentario)<br>Province: Tuscany                  |
| 9)  | <u>Sperlonga</u><br>Province: Lazio                                | 10) | <u>Sessa Aurunca</u><br><u>Minturno</u><br>Area: Amalfi<br>Province: Campania                      |
| 11) | <u>Positano</u><br>Area: Salerno<br>Province: Campania             | 12) | <u>Pienza</u><br><u>Montefollonico</u><br><u>Montepulciano</u><br>Area: Siena<br>Province: Tuscany |

## **Artisans and Shops**

### Venice

Tragicomica                      G.Dall'Osto San Polo  
2800 S. Toma – 30125 Venezia  
Tel. – Fax 041 – 721102  
P. Iva 02165750270  
[www.tragicomica.it](http://www.tragicomica.it)

(the oldest mask-making/costumery shop in Venice)

Arcobaleno Pigmenti de Nube Massimo  
(Arcobaleno di Massimo Nube)

3457 Calle delle Botteghe  
San Marco  
30124 Venezia  
Tel: 041 523 6818  
P.IVA 02433250277

(One of two artist's supply outlets in Italy providing pure pigments  
as would have been used prior to modern painting)

### Florence

Casa Dei Tessvti (dal 1929)

Via de'Pecori 20 – 24r  
50123 Firenze  
Tel: 055/215.961  
Fax: 055217.385

(Generations of same family have run this fantastic tailor/dress-maker  
store. Can buy fabric by the yard, or have custom-made outfits  
designed/tailored for you. Many celebrities have been here.)

Zecchi (Colori – Belle Arti)

Via dello Studio, 19R  
50122 Firenze  
Tel: 055-211470  
[www.zecchi.it](http://www.zecchi.it)  
[zecchifi@tin.it](mailto:zecchifi@tin.it)

(The other of two artist's supply outlets in Italy providing pure pigments as would have been used prior to modern painting. This one is responsible for most of the major restoration work on masterworks throughout Italy)

Paperback Exchange  
(Anglo-American Bookshop)

Via delle Oche 4red.  
Firenze  
Tel: 055-293460  
Fax: 055-2658395  
[www.papex.it](http://www.papex.it)

(A wonderful bookstore full of literature in English, and ideal for 'trading' reading material mid-way through your trip. I was able to get books spelling out the recipes and techniques used by Michaelangelo and his peers here)

### **Accomodations**

#### Boutique Hotels, and B and B's

##### Venice

Palazzo Odoni

(Santa Croce District, border with Dorsoduro)  
151 Fondamenta Minotto  
30135 Venezia  
( Tel: 011 39/041 275 9454)  
[info@palazzoodoni.com](mailto:info@palazzoodoni.com)  
[www.palazzoodoni.com](http://www.palazzoodoni.com)  
Contacts: Alberto Cravin  
Alessandro Fabris  
Alessandra Giangreco

(very close to Piazza Roma so you don't need a boat or transport from the taxi drop-off point to get there, and ideal for staying in Venice, as it is quiet, located next to a church with children playing in the afternoon)

#### Lido di Camaiore

Hotel I Pini

(Residenza dd'Epoca hotel I Pini)  
Lido di Camaiore Tuscany  
(Tuscan Riviera)

(Tuscan Seaside)  
P.IVA:01286930464  
(Tel: 011 39/05 846 6103)  
[info@hoteltoscanamare.com](mailto:info@hoteltoscanamare.com)  
[www.hoteltoscanamare.com](http://www.hoteltoscanamare.com)  
Note: they have Skype  
Contact person: Claudio

(A bit hard to find, but very nice and quiet, and close to the beach and the boardwalk where everyone takes their stroll in the evening. Excellent dinners are served here outside in the yard in the summer evenings).

### Florence

#### Bed and Breakfast Repubblica

Piazza della Repubblica 2 – Firenze  
(Tel: 011 39/ 55 906 1760)  
(Cell: 011 39/331 863 0291)  
email: [info@bbrepubblica.com](mailto:info@bbrepubblica.com)  
<http://www.bbrepubblica.com/>  
(Contact: **Mario** Buracchia, owner)

(Could not be better situated, as it is right on the Piazza and everything of interest is close or accessible).

### Agriturismo

Casa Bianca  
(Jutta Wilhelm,  
Roberto Borgni)

Cortona Loc. Piazzano  
Tel/Fax: +39 - 075 - 8254040  
Cell: +39 - 333 – 8957557  
+39 – 333 – 7146963  
email: Casabianca Info [info@casabiancacortona.com](mailto:info@casabiancacortona.com)  
[www.casabiancacortona.com](http://www.casabiancacortona.com)

(Wonderful reconstructed 15<sup>th</sup> century dwellings, decorated and furnished by Jutta, who is professional avant-garde furniture maker. Her partner, Roberto, is a widely acclaimed artist who has a working studio there you can observe him creating in, and it is ideal for children, with a wonderful dog).

Hotelito Lupaia  
(The House of 'Wolves')

Localita Lupaia 74  
53049 Torrita di Siena (SI)  
(Tel: 011 39/ 057 766 8028)  
email: [info@lupaia.com](mailto:info@lupaia.com)  
<http://www.lupaia.com>  
(Contact: **Matteo** Murzilli, manager)

(Stunningly beautiful reconstruction of ruins that could 25 years to accomplish. Wonderful breakfasts on the patio in the summer. Located in near perfect Tuscan environment, surrounded by many small medieval towns).

Pietra Chiara di Giuseppe Matarazzo di Licosa

Via Palombi, 26  
Localita Palombi  
80160 Fasani – Sessa Aurunca CE  
(81037 Sessa Aurunca CE)  
P. Iva: 07812270630  
(Tel: 011 39/ 082 370 6396)  
GPS Coordinates:  
Lat: 41.2354382  
Long: 13.8953877  
(Contact: Giuseppe Matarazzo di Licosa)

(Very beautiful grounds and main buildings. Many weddings held here so watch for this when booking. Very friendly owner whose wife makes dinner some evenings, which are excellent). Perfect point for exploring many medieval villages in the Amalfi hills and coastal areas).

Castles

Foresteria del Castello di San Giorgio

The Guest House  
The Castle of San Giorgio  
Via Pave 4  
10090 San Giorgio Canavese(TO)  
(Tel: 011 39/012 445 0738)  
[info@foresteriadecastello.it](mailto:info@foresteriadecastello.it)  
[www.castellosangiorgio.it/eng](http://www.castellosangiorgio.it/eng)  
Contact: Eleonora, Paola

## Castello di Gargonza

Localita Gargonza, 52048  
Monte San Savino – Arezzo  
Tel: +39 0575 – 847021  
Email: [info@gargonza.it](mailto:info@gargonza.it)  
[www.gargonza.it](http://www.gargonza.it)

## Castello di Montalto

53019 Castelnuovo Berardenga  
Siena  
Tel: +39 057 7355 675  
Cell: +39 393 1151 653  
+39 393 5858 884  
email: [info@montalto.it](mailto:info@montalto.it)  
[diana@montalto.it](mailto:diana@montalto.it)  
[www.montalto.it](http://www.montalto.it)  
(Contact: Guiseppe or Diana Coda-Nunziante)

## Castello Vicchiomaggio

via Vicchiomaggio, 4  
50022 Greve in Chianti  
Toscana  
Tel: +39 055 854079  
[www.vicchiomaggio.it](http://www.vicchiomaggio.it)

## **Restaurants**

### Ristorante “13 Gobbi”

(Si Stefanucci Albo)  
Via Lando Si Duccio, 5  
53040 Montefollonico  
Tel/Fax: 0577 66 97 55  
Cell: 338 99 35 543  
Email: [albo13gobbi@alice.it](mailto:albo13gobbi@alice.it)

## **Eco-Societies**

### Federated Society of Damanhur

Area: Torino (Turin)  
Province: Piedmont  
Contact: Esperide Ananas

(email: [esperide@damanhur.it](mailto:esperide@damanhur.it))  
Tel: +39 - 0124 - 5122 05  
[www.damanhur.org](http://www.damanhur.org)

### **Famous Photographic Sites**

Cappella della Madonna di Vitaleta  
(Chiesa di Vitalita)

(Most photographed chapel in the world)

San Quirico d'Orcia  
Toscana  
43°04'15.07"N  
11°38'04.54"E

(Rae Emogene states it can be seen from the road between San Quirico d'Orcia and Pienza. She gives the following approximate location below as well.

43°4'14.41"N  
11°38'2.78"E

Cypress Grove

(Most photographed cypress tree stance in the world)

Val d'Orcia (Boschetto dei Copressi)  
Lat: 43°3'45.58"N (43.062662°)  
Long: 11°33'32.49"E (11.559025°)

### **Helpful Websites**

Accommodations (Tuscany and Italy overall)

[www.vrbo.com](http://www.vrbo.com)  
[www.tuscany.net](http://www.tuscany.net)  
[www.homeaway.com](http://www.homeaway.com)  
[www.vacation-rentals-tuscany.com](http://www.vacation-rentals-tuscany.com)  
[www.tuscany-charming.it](http://www.tuscany-charming.it)  
[www.agriturismo.net](http://www.agriturismo.net)  
[en.escapio.com](http://en.escapio.com)  
[www.tuscanynow.com](http://www.tuscanynow.com)  
[www.luxuryandcharme.com](http://www.luxuryandcharme.com)  
[www.holiday-rentals.co.uk](http://www.holiday-rentals.co.uk)  
[www.parkervillas.com](http://www.parkervillas.com)

[www.italyprstige.com](http://www.italyprstige.com)  
[www.italianbreaks.com](http://www.italianbreaks.com)  
[www.icastelli.net](http://www.icastelli.net)  
[www.initaly.com](http://www.initaly.com)  
[www.italyperfect.com](http://www.italyperfect.com)

Accommodations (Venice)

[www.viewsonvenice.com](http://www.viewsonvenice.com)  
[www.venere.com](http://www.venere.com)

Photo and Walking Tours of Venice

[www.theveniceexperience.com](http://www.theveniceexperience.com) (Venice tours)  
[www.tours-italy.com](http://www.tours-italy.com)  
[www.vspworkshops.com](http://www.vspworkshops.com)

Accommodations (Florence)

[www.florencegrandtour.com](http://www.florencegrandtour.com)

iPhone Translator applications

[www.jibbigocom.com](http://www.jibbigocom.com) (not yet available for Eng- Italian yet, but watch for it, it will be like the universal language StarTrek translator when it is finished. IS available for other languages though).

[www.coolgorilla.com](http://www.coolgorilla.com) (the next best thing).

## **References**

Mate, Ferenc

**The Hills of Tuscany: A New Life in an Old Land**  
Publ: Albatross (April 30, 2010)  
ISBN 13: 978-0920256626

**A Vineyard in Tuscany: A Wine Lover's Dream**  
Publ: Albatross: ( Reprint Ed: Nov. 17, 2008)  
ISBN -13: 978-0920256589

**The Wisdom of Tuscany: Simplicity, Security, and the Good Life.**  
Publ: Albatross (Dec. 6, 2010)  
ISBN-13: 978 - 0920256688

Fili, Louise

**The Civilized Shopper's Guide to Florence**

Publ: The Little Bookroom (New York, New York)(2007)

ISBN: 978-1-892145-47-5

Ananas, Esperide, Pesco Stambecco

**The Traveller's Guide to Damanhur:** The Amazing Northern Italian Eco-Society.

Publ: North Atlantic Books (Berkeley, California) (2009)

ISBN: 978 - 1 - 55643 - 761 - 8

Merrifield, J.

**Damahir. The Story of the Extraordinary Italian Artistic and Spiritual Community.** 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Hanford Mead Publ. Inc., 2006. ISBN 13: 978 - 1-59275 - 010 - 8

Ananas, Esperide

**Damanhur: Temples of Humankind.** CoSM Press, New York, NY. 2006.

ISBN - 13: 978 - 1 - 55643 - 577 - 5

---