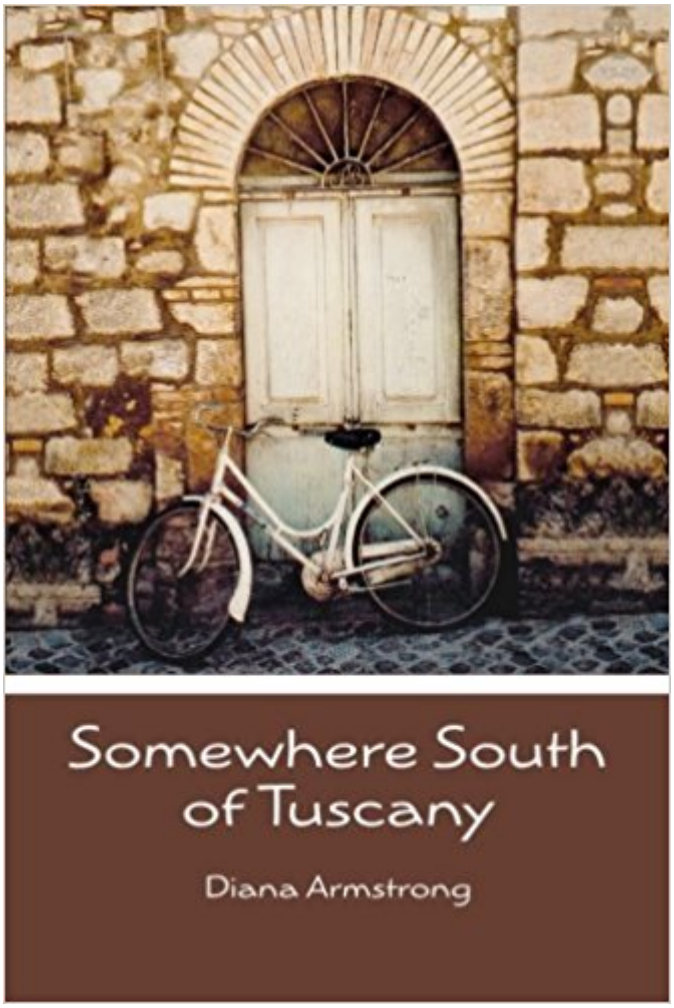
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Somewhere South Of Tuscany: 5 Years In A Four-Cat Town



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Synopsis

Somewhere South of Tuscany is a feet on the ground, boots-in-the-mud account of living and cooking in a beautiful hilltop village set in the spectacular Italian countryside between Tuscany and Umbria. After only one brief visit, Diana and her husband buy an ancient stone house right in the historic center of town. It has been carved out of a 400-year-old abandoned monastery. Disasters and discoveries abound. Somewhere South of Tuscany is a simpatico and humorous look at real life in an Italian Medieval village where most families live in the homes of their ancestors. Many neighbors are survivors of World War II and attitudes here have gone unchanged for generations. Diana’s book includes her delicious recipes adapted in her ancient kitchen from the traditional dishes of Tuscany and Umbria. Once again, just as they have done for centuries, aromas of rosemary, sage, porcini, and truffles rise and fill the old stone kitchen. Diana G Armstrong is an award-winning food and travel writer and cookbook author. Born and raised in South Africa, she now lives in Denver, Colorado. She maintains a second home in Italy, which enables her to indulge her particular love of the life, food, and people of rural Italy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Diana G Armstrong (B.A., M.A.) is a food and travel writer and cookbook author. She writes articles for magazines such as Gourmet Magazine. Her previous book Cooking for My Friends is available on .com. Born and raised in South Africa, she now lives in Denver, Colorado. She maintains a second home in Italy, which enables her to indulge her particular love of the life, food and people of rural Italy.

This book is much like many others in the vein of: "We bought a house in Italy/France/Spain ... " Not much new here,but I thoroughly enjoyed Diana’s memoir. She could have been a little clearer on her to-and-fro journeys between Italy and America -- why? We know her husband still works in America for most of the book, but it is unclear why Diana flits around. Anyway, I loved the descriptions of the people and places, and was, as always, bedazzled by the way Mediterranean people live so comfortably and casually with their thousands-year-old history! Living in a country where antiquity is of recent date, this attitude fascinates me: oh, the church is a thousand years old ... so what? So this was highly enjoyable. I was not all that interested in the recipes at the end, foodie that I am -- I more enjoy descriptions of dinners and meals in books like these. Highly recommended for those who long to be able to live in another country, if only for holidays! Loved the humor.

If you love Italy, this is not to be missed. I loved what some other reviewer disliked about this book; it is chapter after chapter of the good life in Italy. There are things to learn, characters to meet, and food and wine to wish for. Thank goodness, she includes many, many recipes. I take cooking classes every chance I get when in Italy, and this is a class in itself! I just wish I were one of her many visiting friends! I am so sorry that I have finished this book.

This was a somewhat enjoyable book. Certainly not a page turner, but definitely gave a taste of what living in a village in Italy would be like.

Easy reading, good book.

Slow reading; not enough of a story line for my liking.

Another well written book on Italy and her people. I love the sound of small village life and wonder if it will be right for us when I retire.

Don’t miss this wonderful read that will make you laugh and cry as you follow the author’s inexhaustible and often hilarious efforts to create a life in a small Italian village. As the author describes her navigation through the intricacies and vagaries of local law, customs, language and cooking, you get a strong sense of both her indomitable spirit and her open heart as she embraces all things Italian. The format of short stories makes it a quick, fun read and the clever way of

introducing local foods first by describing the social occasion for which they are prepared and then including the full recipe at the end will have you longing to invite friends to share a meal. Maybe this book should come with a warning. After reading, you may feel an irresistible need to visit international airline websites and/or your closest Italian grocer.

Really enjoyed this book. Ended a little abruptly, but thought it was good.

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