

Untold Italy Episode 128 - Things Kids Love About Travel in Italy

This is the Untold Italy Travel podcast, and you're listening to episode number 138.

Ciao a tutti and Benvenuti to Untold Italy, the travel podcast, where you go to the towns and villages, mountains and lakes, hills and coastlines of Bella Italia. Each week your host Katy Clarke takes you on a journey in search of magical landscapes of history, culture, wine, gelato, and, of course, a whole lot of pasta. If you're dreaming of Italy and planning future adventures there, you've come to the right place.

Katy

Ciao a tutti. I hope life is treating you well and you're managing to add a little dolce vita into your life as you count down the days to your trip to Italy

Today I'm sharing with you some learnings from our recent trip to beautiful Italia with some very special guests, my children - who asked if they could be on the show. They've been traveling in Italy since they were 18 months old but it's fair to say that until this recent trip their focus had been 100% on gelato

Now they are 8, yes they are twins, they are so curious and open to discovering the world around them - asking lots of questions, comparing life in Italy with the way we do things at home in Australia and how things were done in the past. Don't worry, they are still obsessed with gelato!

We'll hear from them first and then I'll share what I learnt from planning and being on this trip. I have to tell you, I'm happy with most of the planning decisions I made but there are some things I would do differently too.

Katy

Welcome to the Untold Italy podcast, are you excited to be here?

Child B

I'm very happy to be here. I wish I was here yesterday.

Katy

Okay. Thanks for coming along. All right, before we get started, do you want to tell all our listeners a little bit about yourself?

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Child B

Yes. Well, I really like soccer. Yeah, mainly soccer.

Katy

Mainly soccer. And hugs. Yeah, I like hugs, too. What about you, Child A?

Child A

Well, I like cheerleading. I love cooking. I love dancing. My favorite color is aqua and purple.

Katy

Amazing. Amazing. Well, we just got back from a wonderful holiday, haven't we, in Italy?

Child A

Yeah

Katy

So I thought we share with our listeners what was our favorite things to do in Italy on our big, long trip when we went for five weeks. So I know it's been a bit hard to remember everything, but do you want to start with your first thing, Child A, your favorite thing that you like in Italy.

Child A

The Capri boat tour. It was very fun, and I got to swim and snorkel on it. There was Pringles and drinks.

Katy

Drinks? Wow. What about you, Child B? Did you like that?

Child B

Yes.

Katy

Yes, it was so much fun. What did we do first before we even got on the boat that took us around?

Child A

The Blue Grotto.

Katy

Yeah, that was fun, wasn't it? What happened?

Child A

We had to go on a canoe and we had to go back.

Child B

We had to duck, and we'd gone to this cave, and then the light on the rocks below shone up to the surface, and it looked like it was blue.

Katy

Yeah, the sun. Exactly. Yeah, it looks like it was a brilliant blue, wasn't it?

Child A

Yeah, it was so nice. And the guy even sung for us.

Katy

He did, didn't he? But it didn't last very long, did it?

Child B

Yeah, only, like, two minutes ago but it was great.

Katy

Yeah, it was great. And then what did we do? We came out of the cave again, and we had to really duck in the boat, and we had to lie down flat.

Child A

It was really funny.

Child B

I had to hold on to mummy's legs.

Katy

Did you? I thought you were tickling me. And then we got on Michele's boat, didn't we?

Child A

There was this lounging area.

Child B

At the front.

Child A

It was really relaxing.

Child B

Mom told us to be careful.

Katy

Yes, I told you to be careful. And then when we went all around the island, didn't we? In and out of coves and into grottos, and we went for a little swim, didn't we?

Child B

Yeah.

Child A

Yeah

Katy

Do you remember when we went through the middle of the rocks?

Child B

Yeah.

Katy

Yeah, that was cool, too.

Child B

Child A got to go through that. She got to use her piloting skills. We got to drive sometimes.

Katy

Yeah, he let you drive, didn't he? It was a really nice day out on the water, wasn't it?

Child A

Yeah.

Katy

Okay, so we all liked the boat tour in Capri. That was super fun. And we've done that before, but you can't remember that on another trip to Italy. But I wanted to do it again because I thought it was super fun. All right, now we're going to go into the next favorite thing that we did. Child B, what was the favorite thing that you did?

Child B

I really liked the Balsamic Vinegar farm.

Katy

Oh, that was so much fun, wasn't it?

Child B

We got to try all of the best balsamic vinegars.

Child A

There was this big storm though and we had to walk all the way back in it.

Child B

You should have seen the hail.

Child A

And we should have listened to dad. He was suggesting to bring the car.

Katy

But we didn't listen to dad, did we , we walked out, but that was okay. But it was really interesting to see how the balsamic vinegar was made, wasn't it?

Child A

Yeah.

Katy

And do you remember how long they been making balsamic vinegar in their family?

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Child B

Was it like since their great grandmother?

Katy

That's right, for a very long time. And who was the man that showed us around the Balsamic farm

Child B

Francesco.

Child A

Francesco

Katy

Yeah. He was really nice, wasn't he?

Child A

The same name as our dad.

Katy

The same name as dad, yeah. What else did we learn at the balsamic farm?

Child B

It takes a few years for balsamic vinegar to be made.

Katy

About twelve, wasn't it? As a minimum.

Child B

That's the DOP

Child A

They have to pick the grapes, they have to make the juice, they have to go to different stations. They have to put it in barrels too.

Katy

Yeah. And then the barrels are made of different types of wood too.

Child B

Which makes it taste different.

Child A

Cherry wood, oak wood and some other ones too.

Katy

Yeah, exactly. Right, Child A, well done. Yeah, it was a really interesting process, wasn't it? And we really enjoyed doing that.

Child A

And we even bought some balsamic vinegar.

Katy

You bought a lot, didn't you?

Child B

We had a whole bottle.

Katy

You have a bottle each, don't you? All right. That was a really fun and interesting time staying at that place, wasn't it? And was a really nice hotel, wasn't it?

Child B

Yeah.

Katy

What else did they have that was good?

Child B & Child A

Pool

Katy

A pool. Yeah. And they had a really nice restaurant too.

Child B

And a great breakfast.

Child A

Breakfast buffet yummy.

Katy

You love the breakfast buffets in Italy, don't you?

Child B

Yeah.

Katy

Why do you like them so much?

Child B

I like them - sweet things.

Katy

What sort of sweet things do they have?

Child B

They had like, pikelets, croissants

Child A

and croissants.

Katy

Cake

Child B

Everything you can imagine.

Child A

I got really sick of it after a while and I started just having normal breakfast, like cereal and fruit because I was getting really sick. I was like, "oh I don't want any more".

Child B

While I stuffed down the sweet stuff. Because we never get to have that at home.

Katy

All right.

Child B

He doesn't like breakfast or even lunch.

Katy

No, he doesn't really like it that much, does he? Okay, so we did like and that was some of the favorite things that we had in Italy where we love the breakfast buffets and we also liked when we had a pool because it was pretty hot. But we'll talk about that a bit later. Now, Child A, what was another favorite thing that you liked?

Child A

The food tour.

Katy

Where did we do that? Do you remember?

Child A

In Rome

Child B

Rome

Katy

Yeah. Did you like that one too, Child B?

Child B

Yeah, it was good.

Katy

Do you remember who our tour guide was? Denise.

Child B

She had a pink tour hat.

Katy

She did, didn't she? It was very cool. What did we do on the food tour that was super fun?

Child B

It was street food.

Katy

That's right.

Child B

We had fried fish. We had these, like, balls that were made of cheese

Child A

and rice too

Child B

crumbed and then those tomato sauce inside.

Child A

and rice

Katy

And what happens when you bit into them? You could make all the cheese go really stretchy. They're called Suppli. Remember that?

Child A

Yeah. And we had these roasted artichokes.

Katy

Yeah, they were good, too. They were delicious, weren't they? We learned how to make something on that tour, too, didn't we?

Child A

We made Margherita pizza.

Katy

It was a really fun tour, wasn't it? We really enjoyed it. And then we went to the last stop, which was...

Child B

Gelato

Katy

but was a bit surprising, wasn't it?

Child A

It looked really bad and not good. But then when we tasted it, it was sooo good.

Child B

I made the wrong choice with gelato. I got mint and pistachio. And you could only taste the mint. Don't try that.

Katy

Don't try that combination.

Child B

Nope, but try this sour cherry, amarena with pistachio. That one was good.

Child A

Let me as a suggestion. I would have done caramel or fragola, white chocolate and hazelnut.

Child B

You like hazelnut a lot though.

Katy

Yeah. You do?

Child A

A nutella.

Katy

A Nutella yes, you do.

Child A

I had them a lot.

Katy

You did. So we had a super fun times on the food tour. Do you remember what Denise showed us how to do with the fountain?

Child A

Oh, yeah. There was this fountain, and you have to put your finger on the little thing with the water on that, and you drink out of it. It's so fresh water. We don't get it here in Australia.

Child B

You only find it in Rome. It's amazing.

Katy

It's really great, especially when it's hot. Okay, so what we have so far, we've had the food tour, the capri boat tour and the balsamic vinegar farm. All right, well, should we talk about the Colosseum?

Child B

The Colosseum.

Katy

Because you really wanted to go there, didn't you, Child B?

Child B

Yes, and we got to go there. It was so good.

Katy

And what did you like most about it?

Child B

I liked how we get to see the arena. Just there was no sand.

Katy

Yeah, there was no sand, but we got to walk on the arena, didn't we?

Child B

Yeah we did.

Katy

Yeah, we walked through the big arch and then we walked onto the arena like a gladiator, didn't we?

Child B

Yes.

Child A

Yeah it was fun.

Katy

And then we walked all around the inside and up and down in the seats or the seats and everything.

Child B

There was a museum there. And we got to figure out the different types of fights. There was like one v one gladiator fights. And there was hunting with different animals.

Katy

That's right. And then there was even sea battles, wasn't there? Remember that?

Child B

Oh, yeah, there was. I had to remember that from a book that I got about Ancient Rome. It was said that they are sea battles on the Colosseum.

Katy

Yeah, amazing. And do you remember what is your favorite type of gladiator.

Child B

My favorite type of gladiator. It was a one with a trident and a net. I forgot their name.

Katy

Yeah, that was good. And then we walked outside the Colosseum and we went up and we had a beautiful view of the Colosseum, didn't we?

Child B

Yes.

Katy

It was really good. Wow. So we've had a lot of things so far. We've had food tours, boat tours, Colosseum.

Child B

They were really fun.

Katy

And balsamic vinegar factory. What else did you like, Child A? Did you have another one that you wanted to share?

Child A

There was swimming pools were really nice.

Katy

Because it was super hot, wasn't it?

Child B

Especially the one in Tuscany.

Child A

What we did was my mum organized something to do in the morning, and then in the afternoon, we got to swim in the pool and relax.

Katy

Yeah. And I think that was a pretty good plan.

Child A

Yeah.

Katy

Did you agree with that plan?

Child B

Yes

Katy

No pressure. I think it was good to do that type of thing because it was super hot, and that was probably the bit that we didn't like the most, wasn't it?

Child A

Yeah, the hottness.

Katy

Yeah, because we did a lot of walking and a lot of sightseeing, and It was pretty...

Child B

You made us walk down a mountain.

Katy

Yeah. But that was because that was pretty scary.

Child B

Oh, yeah. The birdcage.

Katy

So, for our listeners, we went to a place called Gubbio in Umbria, and they have a very special kind of chair lift that takes you up to the top of the mountain. Do you remember what you can see at the top of the mountain when you go inside the church?

Child B

Oh, yeah. St. Francesco's dead body, in a glass coffin.

Katy

It was actually Sant'Ubaldo dead body. Yeah, he's embalmed inside a coffin. It was a bit creepy, wasn't it?

Child A

I know. Gross!! I was a bit scared. He was covered in gold and stuff and wax.

Child B

And then when we went to what was it? Where we met Deborah

Katy

Arezzo.

Child B

Yeah. In Arezzo, we went inside this church and there was another dead body.

Katy

What were they thinking?

Child A

It's creepy!

Katy

It's a bit creepy, isn't it? But we think so. But back when they first did that, they thought they were just keeping them safe. And so then it's amazing that they've lasted that long, actually, when you think about it.

Child A

Wouldn't it be creepy if they actually showed the actual body, not the things that they put around it?

Katy

Yeah, I think so. I don't really like that, you know, I don't like anything scary don't you.

Child A

I think it will be interesting to see.

Katy

All right, now, is there anything else you want to tell everyone that you really loved about Italy?

Child B

Well, I would like to go to Venice and Pompeii again.

Katy

Yeah, you've been to both of those places before when you were really little.

Child B

But I go there again. I don't remember much.

Katy

No, you don't remember much. But we did go to Herculaneum. And did you like that?

Child B

Yeah, I think it was near close to Pompeii.

Katy

I don't know. I think you can actually see more in Herculaneum because I can remember when we went the first time to Pompeii. And the thing is, Herculaneum is really small and much smaller than Pompeii, which is really a big area. And so we decided to go to Herculaneum because it was so hot and there would have been a lot of walking in the sun in Pompeii

Child A

And complaining.

Katy

And complaining - absolutely. All right, so you want to go to Venice and Pompeii. What about you, Child A?

Child A

I want to go to Florence.

Katy

You want to go to Florence? Why do you want to go to Florence?

Child A

Because when we were on the food tour, they told us that gelato was invented in Florence, and we didn't get to go there because we're really busy.

Katy

Yeah. So for everyone that's listening, I've chosen not to go to Florence until the kids are a little bit older because Florence is very - not very - I don't think it's very kid friendly. So there's lots of museums and there's lots of cars and stuff, so we'll probably go there when they're a little bit older. And of course, you'll be able to try the gelato because it's not like we didn't eat any gelato. We had a lot of gelato.

Child A

Yes.

Katy

And what are your favorite gelato flavors, Child A and Child B?

Child B

Mine is pistachio. Pistachio was great there.

Child A

I like fragola and hazelnut and chocolate and pistachio and salted caramel, raspberry and nutella.

Katy

All of them?

Child A

Yes

Katy

Amazing. What's fragola? Can you tell us?

Child A

It is strawberry in Italian.

Katy

And did you learn some things to say in Italian that you liked to say? Can you remember?

Child A

Okay, I'm going to count to ten.

Katy

Off you go.

Child A

Uno, due, tre, quattro, cinque, sei, sette, otto, nove, dieci.

Katy

Brava well done Child A. Yeah, very good. You learned lots of words when you were there. Now, Child B, was there any particular foods that you really enjoyed when you were there?

Child B

Tartare. Tartare was great.

Katy

What is tartare? Can you tell everyone?

Child B

Raw meat, which tastes really good. I had it with truffles and a quail egg and some - it was a special cheese ice cream. I forgot which one

Child A

But how they makes is a special way so it doesn't make you sick.

Katy

That's right, exactly Child A and the thing is, we had that special tartare. Do you remember when we had it? We had that in San Gimignano and in Tuscany, and it was so delicious, wasn't it?

Child B

The Tuscany pool was good as well. It was an infinity pool.

Katy

And it had a great view, didn't it? Could you remember what we could see from the pool.

Child B

You could see the sunset with all the hills and valleys.

Child A

And farmyards

Katy

And the little town where we went to have dinner in San Gimignano? It was really nice, wasn't it? We're very lucky, aren't we?

Child B

Yeah.

Katy

Was there any - Child A, I know you had some favorite food, which basically revolved around 20 different types of pasta.

Child A

Yeah, I love the tortellini

Child B

Lasagna.

Katy

Remember that lasagna with the lemon on top? Do you remember that one?

Child B

Oh, that was a white lasagna.

Katy

Yeah. And the smoked mozzarella.

Child A

It had zucchini and it was so good.

Katy

It was so good, wasn't it? But the tortellini was pretty nice. And you even learned how to make tortellini, didn't you?

Child B

Yeah.

Katy

You did all the folding and you put the mixture in the middle and you rolled out the pasta.

Child B

It tasted great at the end.

Katy

And do you remember who helped us go see that

Child A

Giulia. Mum's friend.

Katy

Giulia yeah. Mum's friend Giulia. And where else do we go? Giulia sent us off to another place. It was really amazing, too. Do you remember?

Child B

Well, it had a Balsamic Vinegar museum, and we got to do blindfold ice cream tasting. What it was called?

Katy

Spilamberto.

Child B

That's where Giulia lives now.

Katy

Yeah, that's right. That's where she lives. And you also went to a special farm where they make Parmigiano Reggiano, didn't they?

Child B

Oh yeah that was good.

Child A

Oh, yes. I like the 30, 40 and 50 aged Parmigiano.

Katy

Okay, so listen, as you can see why I'm going to be broke, because these children have very expensive tasting food. But that's all good. Now, was there one more pasta you wanted to tell everyone about because you love pasta?

Child A

Ravioli.

Child B

The spaghetti

Katy

Oh, ravioli. The spaghetti. What about the wiggly worms? The ones we call the Wiggly worms? It's called Trofie.

Child B

Yeah, Trofie.

Child A

There's also a pizza that I want to talk about.

Katy

Okay, go for it.

Child A

Marinara pizza. It's basically like a pizza with just sauce

Child B

And a lot of olive oil.

Child A

Yeah. And it doesn't have any cheese, so if you're not a big cheese lover like me, you can get that one.

Katy

Yeah, that was a really good discovery, wasn't it, Child A? Because you are not a big fan of soft cheeses, especially. She loves Parmigiano Reggiano, but she doesn't really like soft cheese, so she was really happy to find the marinara, weren't you? And Child B?

Child B

And if you like a lot of cheese, ask for Margherita with extra cheese.

Katy

And who took us to the best pizza place?

Child A

Paulo!

Child B

Oh yeah Paulo

Katy

Yeah, Paola took us to the best pizza.

Child B

That place was great.

Katy

And he also took us to some fun places in Naples, didn't he, Napoli?

Child A

Yeah.

Child B

What about that gelato place where they put the gelato in a brioche bun, and then you get to choose if you want whipped cream over it. I had two scoops, a whole brioche bun and whipped cream.

Katy

And amazingly, you weren't sick.

Child B

I didn't throw up there.

Katy

No, you did not throw up at all, which is great. Anyway. Oh, well, thank you, Child A and Child B, for coming on the podcast. Is there anything else you want to tell our listeners?

Child A

I might have some things.

Katy

Okay.

Child A

In Lake Garda, it was really good hot chocolate. It was really good.

Child B

Oh yeah

Katy

Oh yeah. I think everyone should know that if they haven't tried Italian hot chocolate, they need to get onto that as soon as they get there. Even in the middle of summer it tastes good, doesn't it?

Child B

Definitely

Child A

Yeah

Katy

Because it's super thick, isn't it? And very rich. All right, well, thank you so much for coming on the podcast, Child A and Child B. It's been so much fun having you here. And thank you for all your help and I can't wait to take you back to Italy another time.

Child B & Child A

Ciao for now!

Katy

I hope you enjoyed hearing a different kid level perspective on travel in Italy. I was so excited to bring them back after our long covid enforced exile and we had such a great time. Now as promised I'll let you know a few tips on how I planned this trip, what worked well and what I would have done differently.

So this was a 5 week trip in June and July and we covered quite a lot of ground starting in Lake Garda in the north and doing a loop down through Emilia Romagna, Rome, then Capri and Naples, up to Umbria and Tuscany and finishing in Liguria. We're lucky to have so much accrued vacation time and really wanted to make the most of our time as it takes 24 hours to fly to Europe from Australia.

My general game plan for the trip was to include a broad range of activities - that way each family member could tap into their interests and have something to look forward to. We had a beach day on Capri as well as a boat tour that was great and lots of hands on things to do

Now I'm not one to lie by the pool for too long when I'm traveling. It's just not my jam but as a parent I know how important it is to set up travel plans for success. And that's why I planned 1-2 activities per day and reserved most afternoons for pool time. I booked most of our accommodation in January this year, so about 6 months in advance, and as we had a good chunk of our travels in the countryside made, sure the places we were staying in had a pool. I had no idea just how hot it was going to be when we were in Italy but as it turned out to be a major heatwave this turned out to be my best decision.

We stayed in small hotels and agriturismo or farm stays and apart from the pools, everyone loved the friendly atmosphere and of course the famous buffet breakfasts. Staying at these places was a little bit of a risk because the sleeping quarters and space are a lot smaller than Airbnbs which we've used in the past but in the end having a pool to splash about in was definitely the right decision and I'd gladly forgo the space again for future trips.

If you're thinking of doing a family trip in 2023 and want to add some farm stays into your itinerary like we did, make sure to book as soon as you can as they are very popular with European travelers and the best properties do sell out quickly.

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Another decision that I am really happy with is tapping into the children's interests - as you can tell this is mainly food related. So visiting farms and seeing the production process of many foods that they love to eat was so interesting to them and a little bit educational too. When you meet people who are passionate about their produce and taking care of their land and animals it goes a long way in neutralizing the convenience culture we sometimes default to at home. We also did a few cooking experiences and it was great to get hands on with creating dishes. There's nothing more satisfying than eating something that you've created yourself from scratch.

Hiring a tour guide is another great idea when traveling with kids and has several advantages in my opinion. Not only do you get an insight into the city or attractions you are visiting but the tour guide is there to make sure everyone has a good time - including the kids. So that gives you a little break to enjoy your surroundings and not worry about logistics and explaining things. Most of the experiences we did were private as I think it isn't really fair to outnumber other guests with our family's needs but we did a few small group tours too. So what were our favorites?

Of course the kids fell in love with Pierpaolo who you've heard many times on this podcast. He showed us Naples, and Herculaneum and the coastline up to Baia. Giulia in Emilia Romagna made all their dreams come true with an epic gelato tasting and tortellini making class and in Arezzo Debora helped them to find their favorite souvenirs in a local artisan ceramics store. They forgot to mention meeting the baby goats in Tuscany with Arianna and Alessio from KMZero tours but that was definitely a highlight for Child A and Child B.

Our street food tour with Denise from Take Walks was a small group tour and that went really well. As a parent you know when your kids are going to be in good form so I did think long and hard about booking into a small group tour but decided it was ok as they are so interested in food and cooking. We had a big long rest before the tour so they were fresh and not grumpy.

We toured the Colosseum and Roman Forum with Liv Tours and this was so great. Our guide Jade is an archaeologist and had lots of interesting tales to tell that appealed to our kids and the other family on the tour. She was also absolutely fantastic with logistics and finding shade and water as we were there on a very hot day. We continue to talk about what we learned on these days.

So grazie! Thanks to all our guides and friends for helping make our family trip so wonderful - it wouldn't have been the same without you!

One other tip I wanted to mention is to be flexible and have a back up plan. An example of this was that due to the heat we ended up swapping Herculaneum for Pompeii and this was one of our better decisions. I know Child B said he was disappointed he didn't see Pompeii but

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it is a huge site and you need to cover a lot of ground. On a 35 degree celsius day that just equals a lot of complaining in my experience. Also at Herculaneum you get a much better view of mosaics and frescoes because there just aren't so many people there compared with Pompeii.

In terms of getting around We had a car for the start of our trip in Lake Garda and Emilia Romagna and then caught the train south to Rome and then on to Capri and Naples where we also used ferries. We picked up another car in Naples for the final leg of our trip as we were traveling through regions where you really need a car to make the most of your time. This combination worked well as we avoided driving in the major cities and were able to stop in tiny towns in the countryside and enjoy the rural atmosphere.

So was there anything I would change about our trip?

There weren't too many things I would have done differently but perhaps I would have added an extra beach day to Capri and Levanto in Liguria. I also think our two weren't quite ready for our bike ride on the Appian Way in Rome. It's very very bumpy and there's a bit of traffic to negotiate which was a bit hair raising for me as a parent. We stayed 3-4 nights in most places and did day trips within half an hour of where we were staying but even then I felt like we should have had an extra day or two in each place. It's really hard to squeeze in everything you want to do into one travel plan isn't it?

But Overall Family travel in Italy is very easy and a lot of fun. Everyone loves children and you'll notice they are super friendly and helpful when you have your crew in tow. We've been fortunate to travel to many countries with our children in Europe, Asia and the Middle East mainly and I can say that Italy is the easiest by far. I can't wait to take our family back there for even more exploring and practicing their Italian language skills.

Now a lot of people say there's no point taking children abroad until they are at an age where they can remember the specifics of what they did but I disagree for a few reasons. Firstly, children are never too young to have their curiosity sparked and to be exposed to different cultures and ways of doing things. To me that fosters an open mind, tolerance for difference and a passion for learning which are qualities I hope to foster in my children. Secondly, travel often involves a lot of inconvenience and requires patience in spades. These annoyances are something we need to learn to live with and learning patience at an early age. Lastly, as adults who love to travel, we love to share this experience with our children. Sure we've had to make some adjustments but on balance the trips we've taken as a family are my favorite. I can remember their very first licks of gelato one summer in Tuscany and the ensuing mess so vividly and it makes me smile every time.

So, if you're a parent and you're wondering whether a family trip to Italy is a good idea. It absolutely is. Go forth and start planning!

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That's all for today's episode. I've put all the places and companies mentioned in this episode into the show notes at untolditaly.com/138 for episode 138.

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