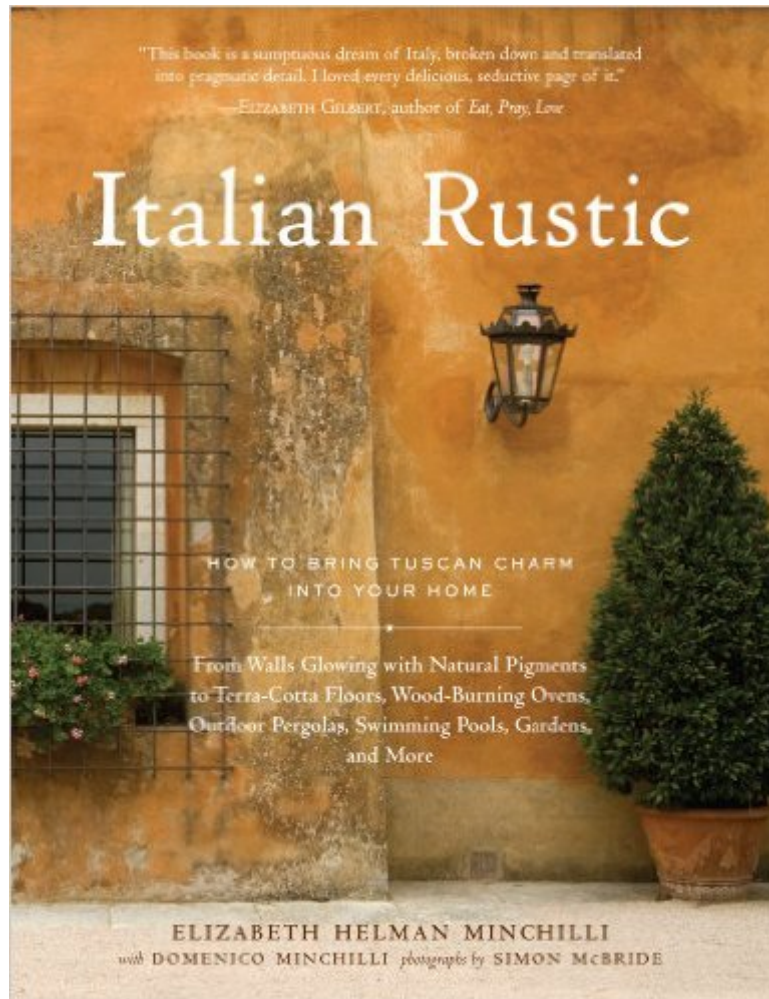


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Italian Rustic: How To Bring Tuscan Charm Into Your Home



Synopsis

A celebration of Tuscan farmhouse style, with practical advice on how to bring the look home. For anyone who has ever dreamed of living under the Tuscan sun, *Italian Rustic* is the next best thing—a step-by-step guide to recreating the romance and appeal of the weathered Italian farmhouse. This nuts-and-bolts guide to building Italian-style walks the reader through all the elements that make the rustic Italian home so unique, from the hand-laid stone walls to the artisanal stucco wall finishes. Author Elizabeth Minchilli, an American design writer based in Rome and Tuscany, received dozens of questions from readers after publishing her last book, *Artisan's Restoring a Home in Italy*. The queries went beyond the usual searches for fabric and couches. "People were hungry to know how terra-cotta tiles were laid, or how fireplaces were built," she says. *Italian Rustic*, researched with the help of her Italian architect husband, is the user-friendly result: a book that explains, in clear text accompanied by photographs and drawings, how to lay a tile floor alla Italiana, or add a Tuscan-style pergola to any garden. With more than 300 stunning photographs shot on location in Tuscany and Umbria, the book contains profiles of local artisans, engaging text on how the farmhouse style evolved, and targeted advice on how Americans can find Italian-style building materials and craftsmen close to home. This essential sourcebook will appeal to anyone building an addition or an entire house from scratch, or for homeowners who want to add just a touch of Italian style to their houses.

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Customer Reviews

A great book and chalk one up for the war against perfect decor. The author has step forward and created a beautiful book with some serious analysis of what we consider are Tuscany/Italian elements in homes/houses. The photographs and paper are very nice too. This book sets a high standard which other authors would be wise to follow, not only does the book inspire but there are actually technical notes on how-to create everything you would find in a Tuscan/Umbria home and garden. The author even provides resources for hard to find items in America (you aren't going to find brick or terra cotta roofing material at Home Depot or Walmart). I would recommend this book over many of the other current books covering Tuscany architecture. Also a welcome addition to those who already have a Tuscan theme library. Many of these elements are also present in other southern European countries and Latin America, you can't get more rustic than the current state of homes and buildings of Cuba, just check out some of the current books on Habana/Havana or Cuba and you will find this rustic style in your own "backyard".

Elizabeth's latest work is simply delightful, as all her previous books are. If one is lucky enough to own a property in Italy, the book can serve as an immense support when restoring or improving house and grounds. For all other Italy lovers it is a perfect chance to inhale the glory of this wonderful country. Complimenti to the author as well as to Simon McBride the equally gifted photographer.

The book is beautiful, full of gorgeous photos and tons of inspiration on every page. I was surprised to find that it isn't yet another book with decorative ideas like flower arranging or table settings - though I'm a sucker for those and have a shelf full - it concentrates instead on architecture, wall colors and finishing and many other detailed tips and instructions that will permanently give your house a Tuscan Charm. This is not about a ten minute decorative "fix" , these are changes only an architect familiar with the Tuscan magic could suggest and describe. The book wasn't what I expected, it is better than that. Wish the builders came with it!

The photographs by Simon McBride are up to his usual high standard and can help guide anyone interested in creating Italian charm in his/her own home to the desired point. And Elizabeth Minchilli has written practical information for step-by-step processes for treating walls, doorways, windows, floors, ceilings, etc., with a special Italian flair. You don't have to be a millionaire to achieve the warm feeling of an Italian family home! Italian Rustic is a good buy for lovers of Italian decor.

Elizabeth Minchilli, with her husband Domenico's help has created a wonderful book on how to bring Italian rustic style into your home in the US or anywhere. Elizabeth has spent over 20 years in Italy, working as a writer on style, architecture, and food, raising a family and owning and remodeling two houses (one from a pile of rubble in the Umbrian countryside). Her Italian husband's architecture work has realized many beautiful visions in "rehabbed" country homes for countless clients. Her vision of what is beautiful comes out quite clearly in this focused "how to" book with the needed details included that help to make this much more than a coffee table luxury book. In fact the size of the book stands out compared to most books of this quality- it is smaller and more practical, but with stunning photos and to the point text. I think that this book will appeal to Italy aficionados as well as those who just dream of Italy and its well known charm- and both can benefit from Minchilli's expertise in this area in order to make beautiful changes to their own homes or to just dream about them.

This book is a great gift for anyone interested in design and craft! Beautiful pictures - great illustrations and helpful hints. You can create your own Tuscan home anywhere - a resource list in back even if you just want a few Tuscan touches! A must to have!

I became a fan of Elizabeth Minchilli through her food writing, but soon learned she is an expert on all-things Italy. If you dream about living in a Tuscan farmhouse - who doesn't? - this book is for you. After you buy "Italian Rustic," skip over to her website and read her articles and blog: [...]

This book is absolutely wonderful. I purchased this book for a friend who had just returned from a trip to Tuscany. She told it me was as true to what she experienced there as anything she had ever seen. I had also read it it and plan to make some changes to my home based on the ideas presented by the talented author.

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