

**ILARIA GUIDANTONI**

# RETURN TRIP

**FLORENCE IS TOLD**

Episodes of fantasy, chronicles, literature and anecdotes that describe Florence, especially through the meetings, daily life, neighborhoods and nobility of the most aristocratic city of Europe; celebrities and family memories of a Florentine traveler. The book is a journey through places, monuments, streets, houses, which open like a curtain on a chapter along a century of history, 1913-2013: the birth of Vasco Pratolini who described the people, the political and social commitment, the season of neorealism of over half a century, returning to Florence "capitale". An association of ideas leads to lands and ancient times, from its foundation and its vocation for the flower-salad already in the name, to the wars, to the age of fascism, to the wounds of the flood of 1966 and the bombing of Georgofili. An initiation in Florentines' nature, through a musical, literary and, above all, culinary path among typical dishes, meeting places and inevitably the central market; as well as festivals and celebrations, for an emotional philology. Florence is seen in the mirror of the "others", especially foreigners who have loved and also "invaded" her a little, nobles of yesterday that are today in search of fortune or curiosity. What emerges is a picture

full of contrasts: men who look to the past, with a renaissance soul, ironic, almost sarcastic, and men who prefer to receive and shape the diversity rather than cross the Arno.

#### THE AUTHOR

Journalist, blogger and writer, she deals with issues related to the culture of the Mediterranean's southern banks and especially in the Arab world: dialogue between religions, women's and feminist movements; re-interpretation of history and languages. Whilst she is Florentine by birth, she lives and works between Milan, Rome and Tunis. She graduated in Theoretical Philosophy at the Catholic University of Milan, an improver course in Bioethics at Policlinico Gemelli in Rome, she was interested in issues relating to the body, emotional distress and eating disorders; and food traditions, knowledge and flavours in the Mediterranean (she is an A.I.S. sommelier).

She is the Director of the online cultural newspaper Saltinaria.it.

She gained experience in survey and land development consultancy in the field of strategic and parliamentary consulting, and in political-economic

journalism. Former consultant of companies, institutions, public and private companies, she had a long cooperation with New Technical Editor, Il Sole 24 Ore, and has been the director of some magazines as well.

