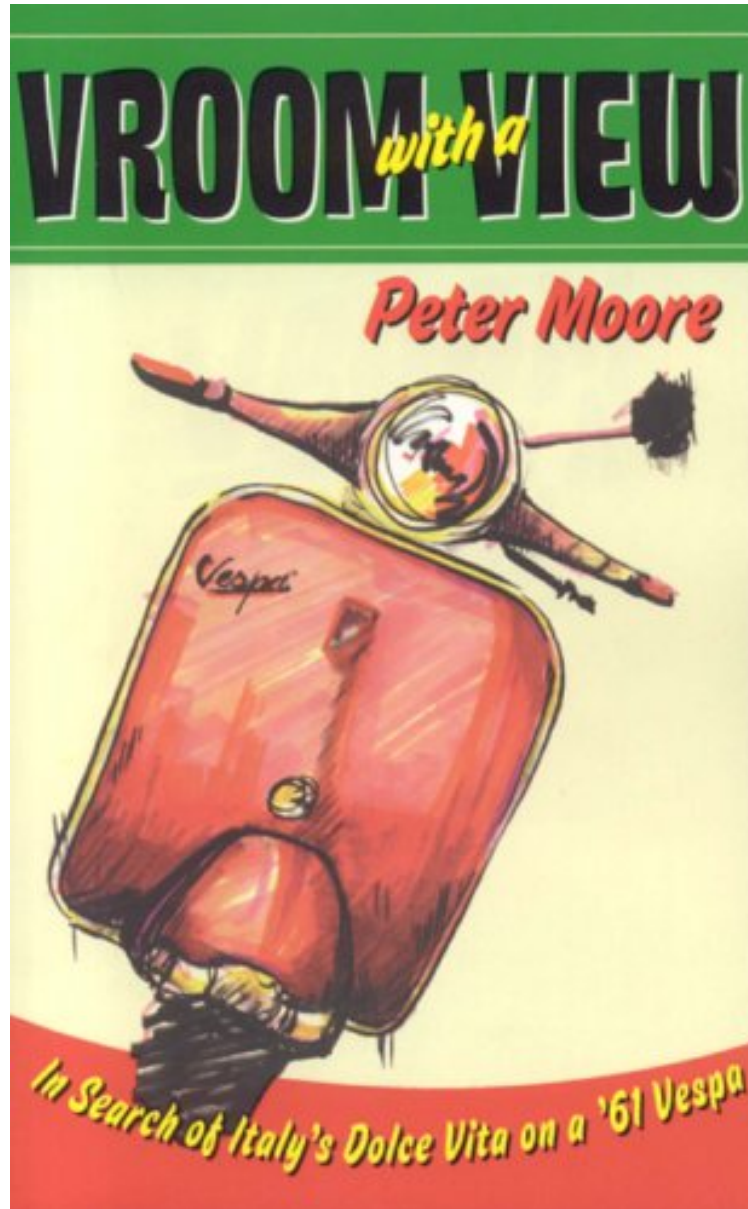


(Mobile ebook) Vroom with a View: In Search of Italy's Dolce Vita on a '61 Vespa

## Vroom with a View: In Search of Italy's Dolce Vita on a '61 Vespa

*Peter Moore*

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**Peter Moore : Vroom with a View: In Search of Italy's Dolce Vita on a '61 Vespa** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Vroom with a View: In Search of Italy's Dolce Vita on a '61 Vespa:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Vespa Steals Our Hearts and Many Italians Along the WayBy

Neville Samuels There's something romantic about exploring Italy on a scooter. Maybe not one that breaks down every so often, but it's the misadventures and wrong turns that lead you on some forgotten and hidden paths that make a trip more worthwhile and memorable. 'Vroom with a View' is a unique, sometimes whimsical, journey from Milan to Rome that's full of colorful, mostly friendly and helpful Italians and plenty of overnight stays at obscure places that have remarkable views of Tuscany and the Italian countryside. A 1961 Vespa with plenty of chrome and saddle seats steals the hearts of the author, Peter Moore, and many locals, some old enough to remember being courted upon a Vespa in their younger days. The scooter stirs up some fond memories and lights everyone up. It's a feat of Italian engineering and seems to be the 'star' of this travelogue. Without the Vespa, the author lovingly calls 'Sophia', he would just be another tourist with a camera following tour guides. Moore educates us about the history of the Vespa and how it became so popular after the Second World War and tells us more about the places he visits and what makes them unique. We learn about the best time to drink cappuccino and how to overcome fears riding through the traffic chaos, especially in Milan and Rome. In many ways, it's like we were riding along on the back of the Vespa, getting swatted by the bugs, slowly rolling along the Tuscan hills and like the author, kind of dreading that Sophia would suddenly sputter to a stop in the middle of nowhere. It's all part of the adventure and what makes 'Vroom with a View' a joy to read.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Snail speed travel  
By Bill Boggs If you love Vespas and love the little details of owning and riding one this book is for you. If you love Vespa people who ride and work on these mechanical wasps, this book is for you. If you ever wanted to tour Italy on vintage Vespa buy this book. Very scooter oriented without becoming a mechanical tome. You'll learn just what makes Vespa the darling of Italy. And the travel narrative is just as good. You will feel the sun, wind, blue sea, taste the wine and pasta and touch the heart of this wonderful country. Peter Moore did his best work in this book. Not to mention his romance with his future wife. Excellent reading. I wish I were there now. It ended....darn!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.  
Wonderful book, couldn't put it down  
By Charles Hall I'm intrigued by the stylish old Vespas and just read a couple of books about them. Unfortunately, Italian authors can't seem to put into words what the Vespa means to them. Somehow it's lost in translation. But this author puts his finger on it! A Vespa was everybody's first transportation, for their first girlfriend, or to court their wife, or to get a first job. The scooter was and in some cases still appears to be the best way to get around in Italy. By riding an old Vespa he brings out the best in everyone he meets. The book is really fun to read and I had a hard time putting it down to go to bed. Vespa fans will get a snippet of history here and there, but the main story of the book is the role Vespas seem to have played in just about everyone's life. His description of Italy, taken at slow speed makes it seem really interesting, but don't think of this as guide book. It's more about the feel of the places and people he meets.

It was love at first sight—the Vespa had everything he wanted—a few dents and scratches, saddle seats and temperamental electrics. When Moore sat on it for the first time, he felt like a sharp-suited, Ray Ban wearing young Marcello Mastroianni. Riding the back roads, visiting small towns, sleeping in haylofts, Moore shows us an Italy rarely seen—from picnicking in the Italian Alps to rattling through cobbled hilltop towns to gate-crashing France Mayes's villa. When Moore's girlfriend, Sally, joins him for two weeks on the road, his fantasy is complete, summer in Italy on a Vespa with too much chrome and a pretty girl riding on the back. But it is Sophia's delicate constitution we owe the greatest gratitude. Her need for constant pampering and frequent stops hypnotizes all those who gaze upon her. The locals, unaccustomed to foreign visitors, graciously invite Sophia (and Moore) into their homes, inns and restaurants to share their memories of their first Vespa; their first serious romance. Sophia forced Moore to slow down, gave him time to enjoy the simple beauty of Italy and its people—and let him experience Italy's dolce vita.

"Its punning title sets the tone for this off-beat travel book...touched by romance and haunted by the glamour of Sophia Loren, it's a larky, laddish tale of roadside picnics, bad behaviour and attempting to re-enact 'Roman Holiday'" \* YOU magazine \* "Moore has the parched dry wit, the solid brass cojones of a true traveller and rare eye for the madness of the wider world" \* JOHN BIRMINGHAM \* "Moore is the genuine article, a traveller's traveller...inspirational stuff" \* FHM magazine \* "Haunted by the glamour of Sophia Loren, it's a larky, laddish tale" -- MAIL ON SUNDAY "Peter Moore...the Jim Carrey of travel writing, has tapped out another racy travelogue" -- SUNDAY HERALD

About the Author Peter Moore is the voice of independent travel in both Australia and the U.K. A former advertising copywriter and website designer, he has visited more than ninety-two countries on his travels. When he is not lugging his senseless backpack through foreign lands, Peter can be found at home with his new bride, Sally, who he married on Cook Island. Sadly, Sophia was unable to attend.