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Tutto Italiano Benvenuto a *Tutto Italiano*

Italy has been in the headlines lately, with the [Costa Concordia grounded](#) off the coast of [Isola del Giglio](#) and the country's financial situation alternating in taking turns for the spotlight.

The Costa Concordia had just embarked on a seven-day cruise, circling the islands of [Sardegna](#) and Corsica with stops at Savona (region of Liguria), Marseille, Barcelona, Palma (on the island of Majorca), Cagliari (region of Sardegna), and Palermo (region of Sicily) before returning to [Civitavecchia](#), in the [Port of Rome](#).

Recent news reports state that the [cruise ship may be part of the view](#) from the island for many months. [Giglio and six other islands](#) form the Tuscan Archipelago, the core of [Arcipelago Toscano National Park](#), the largest marine park in Europe. According to legend, as Venus emerged from the water, the necklace she wore broke, and the pearls slipped into the sea, creating the islands.

[Seven Jewels of the Tuscan Archipelago](#)

[A Seven Star Park](#)

[Isola del Giglio](#) (A Virtual Visit)

[Isola del Giglio](#): View the coastline without a grounded cruise ship. (YouTube)

[Salvaging the Con Concordia](#) (Great Graphics)

Italy joins many other countries as it reduces expenses, and some cuts are affecting the funding for cultural and marketing programs in America. An [article in the New York Times](#) made note of salary cuts to staff at the Italian Embassy in New York and staff reductions at [RAI Corporation](#) in New York City. RAI Corporation is the American branch of [RAI Internazionale](#), the Italian-government owned media company that broadcasts through television, radio, and the Internet.

Other budget cuts were made at the [Italian Trade Commission](#) and the [Italian Cultural Institute](#), both in New York City. The Italian Trade Commission has reduced its advertising expenses by eliminating some consumer-targeted advertising in the Made in Italy campaign. One of its biggest promotions is organizing The Italian Pavilion for the Fancy Food Show (for the food trade industry), currently held in the winter and summer each year. Exhibitors in the Italian Pavilion feature regional cheeses, olive oils, pastas, cured meats, preserved vegetables, baked goods, wines, and many other products.

[2012 Winter Fancy Food Show Exhibitors](#) (PDF)

The Italian Cultural Institute promotes Italian language and culture through various events, exhibits, and programs held throughout the year. The budget cuts have led the Institute to turn to corporate sponsors. A current exhibit, extended to February 9th, is

