

## Inspired sisters stock a shop in Lucca, Italy

**BEST** | AUGUST 31, 2012 | BY: CAROL STIGGER |



A great place to shop

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When sisters share a vision, make a plan, work the plan, the outcome can be awesome. [Le Sorelle](http://www.lesorelleinlucca.it/en/about) (<http://www.lesorelleinlucca.it/en/about>) (The Sisters) in [Lucca](http://www.examiner.com/topic/lucca/articles) (<http://www.examiner.com/topic/lucca/articles>), Italy's, Piazza dell'Anfiteatro is a stellar example. The location is a retailer's dream. The elliptical piazza, once an arena for gladiator games, is Lucca's tourist magnet.

The piazza is embraced by medieval houses and studded with outdoor cafes and a variety of shops selling Tuscan specialties.

Location alone does not make a store a success. Table linens, terracotta pottery, body products, and leather bags and diaries are all sisterly inspirations crafted by Tuscan artisans. Their newest product line, [Uashmama](http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.218904268213173.32114.189959867774280&type=3) (<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.218904268213173.32114.189959867774280&type=3>) (wash mama), was developed by their father who discovered a way to turn cellulose into washable paper that looks and feels like leather. Uashmama bread bags, tote bags, lamp shades and even suspenders are both serviceable and stylish. They make a unique fashion statement: I would be carrying my Gucci, but I can't throw it in the washer.

Their shower gels and body lotions are made from natural products and come in three fragrances: by the sea, honey suckle and olive oil. Fragrances used in their soaps include

these plus lavender, lime and verbena. I had to have one of each. Table linens and ceramic dishes marry so well, I could not bring home just one. I added a leather-bound diary for menu inspirations on the flight home.

Despite airline baggage restrictions, it is hard to leave Le Sorelle without a product from each shelf, particularly if you want to surprise your sister with something not to be had in any shopping mall.. She loves her Uashmama tote bag and advises, “I use the gentle cycle on my washing machine. –

**Location:** Piazza dell’Anfiteatro, 31,  
Lucca, Italy

and, no, you can’t have it back.”



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Carol Stigger is a travel writer specializing in Italy and other European destinations as a solo traveler. She lives in Rome every spring and in India every winter volunteering with a community development organization. She lives in a Chicago suburb with two Boston Terriers enjoying frequent...