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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction -- I. Learned Travel before the Grand Tour: The Royal Society 1665-1700 -- 2. The Fellows' Letters from Distant Countries: New Science, the "Other" and Imperialism -- 3. News from the Mainland: Mapping Physical and Intellectual Spaces before the Grand Tour -- 4. On the Ancients and the Power of Nature: The Special Case of Italy -- II. The Grand Tour of South Italy: The Discovery of the Two Sicilies 1700-1800 -- 5. Southern Paths for Learned Travelers: The Discovery of Herculaneum and of the Neoclassical Mediterranean -- 6. Images of "Sublime" Sicily -- 7. From Letters to Memoirs and Travel Accounts: The Fellows as "Cultural Mediators".
Sommario/riassunto	This book illuminates a lesser-known aspect of the British history of travel in the Enlightenment: that of the Royal Society's special contribution to the "discovery" of the south of Italy in the age of the Grand Tour. By exploring primary source journal entries of philosophy

and travel, the book provides evidence of how the Society helped raise the Fellows' curiosity about the Mediterranean and encouraged travel to the region by promoting cultural events there and establishing fruitful relations with major Italian academic institutions. They were especially devoted to revealing the natural and artistic riches of the Bourbon Kingdom from 1738 to 1780, during which the Roman city of Herculaneum was discovered and Vesuvius and Etna were actively eruptive. Through these examples, the book draws attention to the role that the Royal Society played in establishing cultural networks in Italy and beyond. Tracing a complex path starting in Restoration times, this new insight into discourse on learned travel contributes to a more challenging vision of Anglo-Italian relations in the Enlightenment.
