

# Lisa Vogele, CTA

## Speaker, Genealogist, Travel Advisor & Author

Lisa Vogele, a professional genealogist, Certified Travel Associate, and Chief Tree Climber at Travel Your Tree: Where Ancestry Meets Adventure. Lisa helps clients discover their roots throughout Europe by blending her genealogy research with designing unforgettable heritage trips. She's the author of "Food & Folklore: A Year of Italian Festivals" and holds a Certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University.

When she's not happily caught up in researching Italian or Irish records, you'll find her speaking around the country on heritage travel, genealogy, Italian, and Italian festivals or leading research tours to Ireland and Italy. Combining genealogy and travel is Lisa's passion!

### SPEAKING TOPICS

#### TRAVEL SERIES - Finding Your Ancestral Village then Going There!

##### Point of Origin: How to Find Your Ancestral Village

Don't know where overseas your family originated from? This presentation covers a variety of sources to explore to locate your ancestor's point of origin before arriving in the United States. Examples and strategies will be provided including: resources for locating town of origin, strategies for name changes, tips for boundary changes, and overcoming handwriting & language challenges.

##### Travel Your Tree: Walking in Your Ancestors' Footsteps

Explore the world of family history travel beyond the confines of television shows like Finding Your Roots. Discover how you can personally trace your ancestors' paths, whether it's visiting battlefields where your forebears fought, exploring ancestral villages, or connecting with distant relatives. Join us to uncover expert tips for planning your journey and forging meaningful connections along the way.

### ENTERTAINING CASE STUDIES & METHODOLOGY

#### DNA, Deaths, and Double Lives: A Finnish Immigrant's Hidden Past

Journey through a fascinating genealogical mystery where DNA matches reveal an unexpected tale of dual identities. Follow the evidence as we unravel whether Andrew Anderson of Illinois and Anders Andersson of Finland are the same man who left behind two separate lives in two different countries. This real-life case study showcases how DNA matches, vital records, and naturalization documents can piece together a compelling story of immigration, assumed identities, and family secrets from early 1900s Finland and America.

#### Moonshine & Coal Mines: Unraveling Stories & Secrets to Reconstruct a Family Through Oral History, Documents, and DNA

This case study pieces together the elusive origins of a 19th-century Polish immigrant family. Through DNA analysis, historical records, and myth-busting research, we'll uncover a tale of poor Pennsylvania coal miners, lost homes, hidden siblings, and even an arrest for an illicit still in the woods. Learn how to navigate surname variations, reconstruct migration timelines, and use modern genealogy methods to bring the past to life.

#### From Townlands to Tenements: Two Case Studies of Finding Hidden Family & Origins in NYC, Italy, and Ireland

Unlock the secrets of researching Irish & Italian immigrants in New York City through two case studies that demonstrate how the FAN Principle (Friends, Associates, and Neighbors) and other creative strategies can turn research problems into solvable puzzles. We'll navigate common names, surname distribution, maximize directories, census records, newspapers, ship manifests, government documents, online tools, and data triangulation to reveal ancestors' stories.



#### CONTACT

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#### MEMBER

Genealogical Speakers Guild

Association of Professional Genealogists (APG)

Colorado Association of Professional Genealogists (CAPG)

National Genealogical Society (NGS)

American Society of Travel Advisors (ASTA)

Italian Genealogy Group (IGG)

Irish Genealogical Society International (IGSI)

WISE-Family History Society (Welsh-Scottish-Irish-English)

History Colorado

Larimer County Genealogical Society (Colorado)

Utah Genealogical Association

Historical Society of Pennsylvania



**TRAVEL YOUR TREE**

Where Ancestry Meets Adventure

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## SPEAKING TOPICS (CONTINUED)

### SKILL BUILDING

#### **Navigating Ancestral Arrivals: A Genealogist's Treasure Map to Immigration Records**

Your ancestors' arrival in the U.S. is a key chapter in your family's story—but are you searching in the right places? This session will guide you through the intricate world of immigration records, helping you decode passenger manifests, interpret cryptic notations, and uncover the stories (or myths) of stowaways and those "Held for Inquiry." With expert research tools, proven strategies, and real-life case studies, you'll gain the skills to track down even the most elusive ancestors and bring their immigration journey to life.

#### **Genealogy 102: Going Deeper with Skills, Sources & Strategies**

Ready to move beyond the basics? You've mastered the fundamentals, experimented with AI-generated hints, and built a solid foundation for your family history research—but what's next? This engaging lecture is designed to supercharge your genealogy journey and breathe new life into your family history projects. Discover creative ways to maximize the tools you already use, dive into overlooked & unknown resources, and refine your approach to uncover new insights. Whether you're trying to break down brick walls or simply want to add depth to your family story, this presentation will give you the skills, sources, and strategies you need to take your genealogy journey to the next level. Plus, Lisa will unveil her personal "cheat sheet toolkit" which she uses to keep research projects focused, efficient, and in context.

### GENEALOGY, CULTURE & HERITAGE TOPICS

#### **From Italy to the Wild West: Italian Pioneer Communities in Colorado**

Italian communities in Colorado have a rich and diverse history shaped by waves of immigration starting in the late 19th century, when Colorado was still the "Wild West." Many drawn initially by economic opportunities in mining, Italians from different settled in various regions such as Denver, Pueblo, and the mountain towns of the Rockies. Standing on the shoulders of their determined ancestors, many of their descendants are still thriving here today.

#### **Going Local Heritage Festivals, Markets & Museums in Europe**

How often have you visited an area to discover that you have just missed a delicious food festival or a fascinating celebration of folklore? Learn expert tips for finding and incorporate heritage-rich items such as festivals, markets, museums and unique experiences into your itinerary. Author of "Food and Folklore: A Year of Italian festivals" and Colorado resident Lisa visits us in store to share insights, tips, and photos on how to help you "get more local" through unique food and cultural experiences.

#### **Planning a Family Reunion: At Home and Abroad**

Family reunions come in all shapes and sizes. Join us for an informative presentation highlighting steps for planning reunions online and in person, both locally and abroad. You'll receive tips, checklists, and timelines for setting a program, budgeting, organizing, and executing a successful reunion.

#### **Your DNA Kit and Match List: Basic Tips, Myths & Strategies**

Interested in taking a DNA test but can't decide which one to choose? Wondering what your DNA test kit results mean? Or perhaps you are wondering what to do with all of your matches? These questions and more will be answered in a basic DNA testing and match list presentation.



### REFERENCES

Sylvia Tracey-Doolos  
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President, Colorado Association  
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Times Travel Show and Travel &  
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### RECENT EVENTS

[www.TravelYourTree.com/Events/](http://www.TravelYourTree.com/Events/)

### 2026 TOPICS IN DEVELOPMENT

Prior to Departure: Uncovering  
Overseas Emigration Information  
through Lists, Passports & More

Italian Passport Records in Regional  
Italian Archives

Jumping the Pond: Researching in  
Italian Archives

Preparing to Research in Irish  
Archives



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