

The "Reconquest of the Tap" in Italy

Acqua: la «rivincita del rubinetto»

The article speaks about using tap water instead of bottled water in Italy. (As you may know, practically all Italians drink bottled water at home. They sell a gazillion different brands at super reasonable prices in every supermarket and mom and pop store anywhere we've ever been in Italy.) Anyway the author makes the argument that tap water i.e. from the "rubinetto" which is the faucet, is more controlled and hygienic than bottled. The only possible reason for drinking bottled water, he says, is the taste or the fact that one might want sparkling water "gassata" - with gas. There follows a series of common questions and answers. They relate to:

What are the differences? They may have different minerals.

What about old pipes in the house that may be dirty? Even if they're old, the possibility of real contamination from the household pipes is highly improbable.

What about calcium? Yes, there may be but it varies from city to city and isn't dangerous to one's health anyway.

What about the smell of chlorine? Consider it testimonial to the fact that the water is well taken care of.

Is the water really safe all over the country? Yes, with a few very minor and highly localized situations, it's all very safe. The exceptions are known of in the affected pockets.

What about adding gas to tap water and filtering it as well to produce your own sparkling water? That can be done but you still might not get a flavor you like.

That's pretty much it. If you need a word for word translation, I can probably do it but I really have given you a point by point summary.

I hope this helps.

Translated by Marge and Mike Bruno