

Trentino Genealogy - Researching Your Family Tree with Lynn Serafinn

What I can do for you (depending on your budget and the scale of your project):

- Research one or multiple lines of your Trentini ancestry
- Locate original records (births, marriages, death)
- Create and/or expand a family tree on Ancestry.com
- Create a 'GEDCOM' version of your family tree, which you can import directly into your own family tree software or website
- Provide you with digital images of any records I find of your ancestors
- Edit, clean up and upload digital images to your tree
- Translations/transcriptions of records
- Create printable pedigree reports, showing your lineage
- Give you information about your surname
- Give you information about where your ancestors may have lived over time
- Enhance/clean up your old family photos (this works best if you provide me with the original photos)
- **CUSTOM WORK:** If you require a more detailed 'book' with photos, etc. this could also be done, but the cost would vary from project to project. Please be aware that such a project could take a year or more. (*I am not able to take on any book projects until after mid-2017.*)



Fees

- My fee is \$45 (£30) an hour plus expenses. To compare, most genealogists charge somewhere between \$25 - \$60 an hour, plus expenses.
- There are no additional expenses if I can do the work from home (see below).
- For projects requiring over 50 hours of work, we can work out a custom package fee.

Work from home includes:

- Anything I can research online
- Anything for which I already happen to own the files
- 'Photoshopping' images
- Constructing your tree in Family Tree Maker (which can also include syncing it to Ancestry.com)
- Translating/transcribing records (Italian and Latin)
- Researching your surname, ancestral village, etc.
- Writing reports/summaries
- Writing to Trento to obtain records, should you require them

Cost of expenses when conducting research at a Family History Centre (FHC) within the UK:

- **Travel/subsistence:** \$50 (£35) a day.
- **Cost of microfilm rental:** Long-term rental is usually about \$30 (£18.75) per film. If I *already* happen to have the film for your parish on long-term loan, I will not charge you for this.
- **Cost of any digital images you might require.** My local FHC currently doesn't have the facility to make digital copies, so normally they allow me to take photos of the screen, which I later edit at home. This means there is no additional cost for the images, but they will not be as clear as they would have been had they been saved from a digital file source. If I do my research at a different FHC, there may be costs for digital images, but the fee is usually nominal.

Doing research in Trento:

- I wouldn't normally make a special trip to Trento for a client's research (as it would be very costly for them) but if I am *already* planning a research trip, I can designate additional days on my agenda for a client's project. In such a case, the **same** normal hourly work rates of \$45 (£30) apply, with the same daily rate of \$50 (£35) a day for accommodation/subsistence.
- Additionally, if you wanted high-quality digital copies of the records, the archdiocese in Trento currently charges about \$0.35/£0.25 per image.

SAMPLE: Estimated costs for two days of work

Both the FHC in the UK and the Archives in Trento are open for 6 hours most days, and I would normally work all day on your project. That means one day of **work and expenses** at either of these venues would cost a total of **\$320 (£215)**.

I would then take the work I did at the centre and 'process' the information at home (edit images, translate, refine the tree, etc.) at a rate of \$45 (£30) an hour. I might work as much as 8 hours on this, which would total **\$360 (£240)**.

Thus, the cost of hiring me for two days of work would be about **\$680 (£455)**. This figure could be slightly more if you want digital images or require microfilm rental.

EXPECTATIONS: How much time will it take? What will I find out?

It's impossible for *any* researcher to say how long it will take to find the information you want (assuming the records for it are available). It is equally impossible for any genealogist to 'guarantee' they'll find every person on your tree. However, what I can say is that I have worked extensively with Trento parish records and can find my way around them pretty well. I am very good at trouble-shooting, and have broken through many 'brick walls' over the years. But even though I can often find dozens of records in a single day of research, some days are always going to be less fruitful. This is just the nature of research.

Important things to think about before hiring *any* genealogist:

- What is your budget?
- Within a limited budget and timeframe, which of these would be more important to you?
 - Going back as far as possible with *one* branch of the family (example: your paternal surname). In the beginning, many people choose this route because it's exciting to see your ancestry that far back.
 - Finding the names and ancestry of *multiple* lines of the family (i.e. ancestry for mothers and fathers in each generation). Depending on your budget, this may not take you as far back, but it could connect you with more living cousins and give you a deeper understanding of your ancestry.
- How important is it to you to have digital images of the original records?
- What 'output' do you want for your information (GEDCOM, Ancestry tree, charts, written reports, etc.)?
- Do you only want to know births and marriages, or do you also want to know death dates?

To discuss your project:

Send me a message via the contact form on the Trentino Genealogy website at <http://trentinogenealogy.com/contact>. Explain a bit about what you are looking for. If I think I may be able to help, we can set up an informal chat on Skype/phone to work out the details.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Lynn Serafinn

<http://trentinogenealogy.com>