Italy, formally known as Italian Republic, is a nation comprising of a landmass delimited by the Alps and encompassed by a few islands. Italy is situated in south-central Europe and is considered a part of western Europe. Italy is very well known for its cultural and environmental tourist routes and is the fifth most visited nation on the planet due to the absolutely remarkable and astonishing landmarks, the festivities, culture, and a lot more things. In this response, after watching the video, I will be writing about, Mount Etna, a natural setting, the monument that caught my attention, Milan cathedral, and Oprah which is the most popular concert or the thing Italians admire the most.

As mentioned in the video, the smokes from the Carters of Mount Etna looked like a wonderful and dangerous natural setting to pick for this response. Mount Etna is the largest active volcano in Europe and one of the world's most frequently erupting volcanoes. It is also the volcano with the longest record of continuous eruption. Its outbursts produce enough lava each year to fill Chicago's Willis Tower (the former Sears Tower), a 2012 study found. It erupted on February 27, 2017, but soon quelled. Small eruptions occurred in 2016 and 2015, and in 2014, it burst into a spectacular nighttime display. The last major eruption was in 1992. Located near the east coast of the island of Sicily, Mount Etna is 10,900 feet (3,329 meters) tall with a base circumference of about 93 miles. It is so wonderful and scary at the same time. In spite of the mystery and the danger, locals call Mount Etna “Mongibello,” the beautiful mountain. They grow olives, grapes and fruit in the soil enriched by the fallen ash. Tourism thrives as visitors come to ski or to marvel at the display of fire fountains during an eruption. Because it has been active for a really long time, I decided to look into why that is the case. I found out that Etna sits on the active fault between the African plate and the Ionian microplate, which are both being subducted together beneath the Eurasian plate. This would account for the kinds of lava produced by eruptions of Mount Etna, which resemble the type of lava produced along deep sea trenches where mantle magma is forced through Earth’s crust which is the reason why it has been active for so long.

After watching the video, the first monument that caught my eye is the Milan Cathedra. On the first look, its extraordinary structure caught my attention, and I started doing my research on it. I found out that, contrary to what one might think, despite its large dimensions, the interior of the Milan Duomo is incredibly welcoming. The beautiful, colorful stained-glass windows depicting scenes from the Bible are visible, reflecting an ethereal light on the floor of the church. It is now possible to descend the marble staircase to the Cathedral Treasure to see and appreciate the paleo-Christian and Romanesque objects. It is also possible to climb the cathedral ceiling to admire a spectacular view of the city. After looking more into its history, I learned that the construction of the Duomo of Milan began in 1386 and ended in 1965, it took place in the same location where the St. Ambrose basilica was located since the 5th century to which in the year 836 the Basilica of St. Tecla was added and destroyed by a fire in 1075. The construction of the cathedral took place over a period of five centuries during which different architects, sculptors and artists made their professional contribution. After doing some research about its architecture and structure, I found out that the Cathedral of Milan is a church or great dimensions composed in its interior by big dark marble blocks where it’s possible to admire its stylized and spacious style with long columns of marble and carved statues that reach the ceiling, which I admire the most. Not only that, but there are also so many other architectural facts that I read which made choose this monument.

A beautiful picture of what looke like the Verona Arena Festival of opera music is shown in the video which looked like an amazing celebration. Arena di Verona Festival (Verona Arena Festival) is a summer festival of opera, located in the city of Verona Italy. The Verona Arena is basically an oval theater that can hold as many as 80,000 people at once. They, especially in summer, hold Opera nights where various artists perform and show their musical talent. Opera music is originally created and modifies by the Italians and they really enjoy it the most. Many singers made their names and careers by performing at Verona. Dance and classic concert performances have also been given in the Arena. Classical ballets and traditional dances from all over the world have been seen. As mentioned in the video, before starting the opera, a signal is given to everyone to light up their candles and it has created an incredible and mesmerizing sight. As seen in the video, people have started to light up the area by keeping candles (which has collars around it which keeps the person holding the candle from burning) in their hands, as it is getting dark. I could only imagine the amazing sound of the applause and the eternal fulfilment felt at the end of this event.

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