Elio Mondello Anza — Full Bio (500 words)

For feature articles, speaker introductions and media kits.

Elio Mondello Anza is an Italian-Norwegian entrepreneur, author and educator, and the founder and CEO of Mondosol — a bootstrapped learning platform built on a simple conviction: real competence comes from lived experience, not from apps or classrooms.

Elio grew up in social housing in Italy, where few expected him to pursue an academic path. At sixteen, against the advice of nearly everyone around him, he chose an academic high school over vocational training. There he took over the school newspaper and discovered what would become his lifelong craft — journalism, graphic design, marketing and communication. By seventeen he was organizing large-scale events, including a 2,000-person concert for which he personally signed the responsibility waivers. He went on to earn degrees in Communication & Marketing and Project Management from the University of Milan.

What followed was sixteen years of living, working and building across six countries. Elio learned five languages the way he now teaches them — by living in the places where they are spoken. He has made Norway his home for most of that time, where he became a certified business Norwegian instructor recognized by the Norwegian Chamber of Commerce, and has worked as a teacher, where students responded strongly to his unconventional, experience-first approach.

In hospitality, Elio became one of Italy's top three Airbnb Superhosts and was recognized as one of the platform's top hosts globally, generating more than €150,000 in hosting revenue. La Repubblica featured him as a leading hospitality influencer. When the pandemic reshaped the short-term rental market, he stepped away from hosting in 2022 to focus full-time on education.

Elio founded Mondosol in 2010 and has built it — along with two other companies — without venture capital or outside funding. Headquartered in Hønefoss, Norway, Mondosol today offers courses in language learning, hosting, digital skills and cultural learning. Every course is free to start, with an optional Mondosol+ membership for the full premium path, and the platform favours practical, immersion-based learning designed by someone who has actually lived it.

He is also an Amazon bestselling author. His book about six countries and one story, Sei Paesi, Una Storia, has been translated into multiple languages, and he is currently writing a memoir. As a professional speaker, Elio has shared stages at events alongside internationally recognized figures including Tony Robbins and Robert Kiyosaki. He shares language, travel and entrepreneurship content with his audience as @eliomondelloanza.

His work is shaped by a multicultural perspective and a habit of challenging conventional paths. His guiding philosophy, borrowed from a film he first saw at sixteen, is the same one behind Mondosol: seize the moment, and learn skills by living them.

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