

# Passport Pals

## Italy



### Italian Republic Repubblica italiana

Italy is a peninsula that extends into the Mediterranean Sea and is bordered by Austria, France, Slovenia and Switzerland.

### Population

As of 2016, there were more than 59.8 million people living in Italy.

### Capital

Rome is the capital of Italy with a population of 2.6 million people.

### Currency

The **lira** was the official unit of currency in Italy until 1999, when it was replaced by the **euro**, which is the currency that almost all of Europe uses.

Did you  
know?

1 EURO  
=  
\$1.06 USD



Say hello: "Ciao"

Say good bye: "Addio"

Say thank you: "Grazie"

### Language

Italian is the main language spoken in Italy, but there are many regional languages used as well.

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### Landmarks

Italy has an estimated 100,000 monuments some of those include the Colosseum, the Grand Canal, and the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

### Culture

Italy is known for architects, artists and scholars producing a legacy of monuments, paintings, music and literature.



Spaghetti

### Food

Italian cuisine is strongly influenced by local history and traditions, as well as by the availability of food during certain seasons, but common Italian foods include pasta, risotto, seafood, and pizza.



Salmon

Salmon



Risotto



Pizza

### Climate

Italy has very diverse weather due to its diverse terrain and geographic location. The interior mainland is higher ground and valleys which can get cold, wet, and often snowy in the winter. The coastal regions have mild winters and warm and generally dry summers.



### Religion

83% are Catholic, 12% are irreligious or atheist, 3% are Muslim, 2% other.