



ITALY

WHERE EVERY STEP TELLS A STORY




CAPITAL
Rome


AREA
116,347 SQ MI


CURRENCY
Euro


LANGUAGE
Italian

Italy is a country where history, art, and natural beauty blend seamlessly, offering travelers an experience that is as rich culturally as it is visually stunning. From the ancient ruins of Rome to the romantic canals of Venice, every corner of Italy tells a story. In Rome, landmarks like the Colosseum, Roman Forum, and Pantheon transport visitors back to the grandeur of the Roman Empire. Just a short walk away, Vatican City dazzles with St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel, home to Michelangelo's iconic frescoes.

In Florence, the birthplace of the Renaissance, masterpieces by Botticelli and Leonardo da Vinci are displayed in museums like the Uffizi Gallery, while the Duomo dominates the skyline with its striking dome. Venice enchants with its winding canals, elegant bridges, and landmarks like St. Mark's Basilica and the Doge's Palace. Further north, Milan combines fashion-forward energy with historic treasures like the Gothic Cathedral and da Vinci's Last Supper.

Down south, the Amalfi Coast dazzles with dramatic cliffs, turquoise waters, and villages like Positano. Naples opens the door to Pompeii's haunting ruins and the birthplace of Neapolitan pizza. In Sicily, ancient temples and coastal charm await, while Puglia offers whitewashed towns and sun-soaked olive groves. Italy's south is timeless beauty at every turn.

ICONIC ITALY LANDMARKS



THE COLOSSEUM

The Colosseum in Rome is one of the most iconic symbols of ancient Italy. Built in the first century AD, this massive amphitheater once held up to 50,000 spectators who gathered for gladiator battles and public events. Today, it stands as a powerful reminder of Roman engineering and Empire. Walking through its arches and tunnels, visitors are transported back in time to the grandeur and spectacle of ancient Roman life.

VATICAN CITY

Vatican City, the world's smallest independent state, holds some of the most treasured religious and artistic wonders. St. Peter's Basilica towers over the city, offering breathtaking views from its dome. Inside the Vatican Museums, the Sistine Chapel stuns with Michelangelo's ceiling masterpiece. As the spiritual heart of Catholicism and home to the Pope, Vatican City is a must-visit for history, faith, and art lovers alike.



GRAND CANAL IN VENICE

The Grand Canal is the lifeline of Venice, winding through the city like a graceful ribbon. Lined with centuries-old palaces and churches, it captures the romance and charm of Venetian life. A gondola ride or vaporetto journey offers stunning views of historic architecture and bustling waterfront scenes. Whether by day or lit up at night, the Grand Canal is the soul of Venice and a mesmerizing experience for all visitors.

AMALFI COAST

The Amalfi Coast is a stunning stretch of coastline along southern Italy, known for its dramatic cliffs, vibrant villages, and turquoise waters. Towns like Positano, Amalfi, and Ravello offer colorful houses, lemon groves, and coastal charm. Winding roads hug the cliffs, revealing breathtaking sea views at every turn. Whether relaxing on the beach, exploring historic sites, or tasting local cuisine, the Amalfi Coast is pure Mediterranean magic.



LAKE COMO

Lake Como, nestled in the foothills of the Alps in northern Italy, is famed for its crystal-clear waters, elegant villas, and mountain scenery. Charming towns like Bellagio and Varenna dot the shoreline, offering cobblestone streets, flower-filled gardens, and lakeside cafés. Popular with artists, celebrities, and romantics, Lake Como blends natural beauty with sophistication, making it one of Italy's most enchanting escapes.

MORE TO KNOW ABOUT ITALY

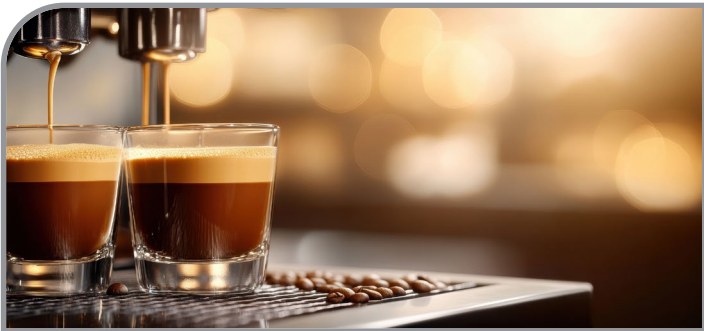


REGIONAL FESTIVALS & CELEBRATIONS

Italy bursts with lively festivals year-round, celebrating everything from religious traditions to historic rivalries. Venice's grand Carnevale dazzles with masks, parades, and pageantry, while Siena's Palio captivates with medieval horse races and fierce neighborhood pride. From north to south, these events immerse travelers in vibrant local customs, music, food, and joyful community spirit.

ARTISANAL CRAFTS & LOCAL PRODUCTS

Italy is world-renowned for its artisanal craftsmanship, offering high-quality, handmade products that reflect centuries of tradition. From the glassblowers of Murano and the leather artisans of Florence to hand-painted ceramics from Deruta and intricate lace from Burano, each region has its specialties. These unique items make meaningful souvenirs, connecting travelers to Italy's cultural heritage and timeless beauty.



COFFEE CULTURE

Coffee in Italy is more than a drink, it's a cherished ritual woven into daily life. Italians typically enjoy quick, standing espressos at the bar or sip cappuccinos only in the morning hours. Understanding local coffee etiquette, such as not ordering milk-based drinks after breakfast or knowing how to order "un caffè," enhances the travel experience. It's a flavorful gateway to Italian culture, connection, and community.

ITALIAN CUISINE

Italian cuisine is more than food, it's a celebration of culture, tradition, and community. From a simple plate of pasta to a wood-fired pizza, every dish tells a story rooted in regional flavors and centuries-old recipes. Meals in Italy are meant to be savored, often shared with family and friends around the table, paired with local wines and lively conversation. Exploring Italian cuisine means experiencing the richness of fresh ingredients, seasonal produce, and the passion Italians put into every bite, making dining an unforgettable part of the journey.



HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE & TOWNS

Italy's magic lies not only in its famous landmarks but also in its ancient towns and villages that seem frozen in time. Places like Matera, with its cave dwellings, San Gimignano's medieval towers, or Civita di Bagnoregio's hilltop charm, offer immersive journeys into the past. Wandering these atmospheric streets reveals the country's layered history, architectural beauty, and the soul of authentic Italian life.

OUR TRAVEL IDEAS

Discover the world with Central Holidays, where travel becomes art

Choose from meticulously curated escorted tours with set departures or indulge in bespoke travel experiences crafted around your individual interests. Whether your passion lies in ancient history, serene beaches, gourmet cuisine, or vibrant cultures, our journeys are designed to inspire and delight. From celebrated landmarks to secret corners of the globe, explore with elegance, depth, and purpose.



7
DAYS

ART TREASURES, FOOD & WINES OF TUSCANY

PISTOIA

On this hosted Central Holidays Italy travel package, you will live the timeless beauty of Tuscany, the country's most storied region, with a six-night stay in Pistoia and exciting opportunities to discover the surrounding region's cities and towns. Your fascinating trip to Italy takes you to delve into the Renaissance city of Florence on a walking tour. You will see the famed Boboli Gardens, the Ponte Vecchio, the city's open-air markets, and the world-famous "David" at the Accademia.

SPLENDORS OF SICILY

PALERMO | AGRIGENTO | RAGUSA | NAXOS/TAORMINA

Sicily, the Mediterranean's largest island, is rich with history, art, and timeless traditions. From Palermo's palaces and Monreale's glittering mosaics to Taormina's Greek-Roman amphitheater overlooking Mt. Etna, the island enchants at every turn. Explore Agrigento's Valley of the Temples, Baroque towns like Modica and Noto, and savor chocolate crafted the old way. Step into cinema history in Savoca and the D'Agro Valley, filming sites of The Godfather. This tour blends Sicily's mystique, ancient wonders, and cultural treasures into an unforgettable journey.

8
DAYS



10
DAYS

FAMILY FUN IN VENICE, FLORENCE & ROME

VENICE | FLORENCE | ROME

Enjoy a Fun with the Family Italy vacation filled with private tours, unique activities, and exciting excursions for all ages. In Venice, join a treasure hunt, mask-making, and Murano glass workshops. In Florence, take part in a Uffizi Gallery scavenger hunt and a pizza-and-gelato cooking class. In Rome, experience a Gladiator Class with museum access and a Roman citizenship certificate, plus a Cinecittà Studios tour with visits to iconic sets.



MAGNIFICENT ITALY & THE AMALFI COAST

VENICE | FLORENCE | ROME | SORRENTO

Discover the magic of Italy's great triad—Venice, Florence, and Rome—plus Sorrento on this Amalfi Coast vacation. Travel in comfort aboard a modern, air-conditioned motorcoach and stay in first-class hotels. Explore Venice's palaces, gondolas, and piazzas, immerse yourself in Florence's Renaissance treasures including Palazzo Pitti and Michelangelo's David, and experience the timeless charm of Italy at every stop.

12
DAYS

