



GETTING THERE: The easiest ways to get to Italy is by air or cruise ship port of call. The preferred airport will depend on the region you visit. The top international airports include:

- Rome Airport Fiumicino (FCO)
- Milan Malpensa Airport (MXP)
- Venice Marco Polo Airport (VCE)
- Florence Airport (FLR)
- Naples Airport (NAP)
- Bari Airport (BRI)

LANGUAGE: The official language in Italy is Italian. You will also hear German in some northern regions.

CLIMATE: Italy is in the temperate zone and is similar to a Mediterranean climate overall. The climate does vary across the country due to its size and length with upward of seven main climatic zones, from Alpine Mountain climate to sub-tropic hot summers in the Po Valley. Overall, the average daytime temperatures in winter outside of the Alpine region are about 55°F and about 85°F in summer. High season is June to August with warm summer months and long sunny days.

MONEY/CURRENCY (CREDIT CARDS, DEBIT CARDS, TIPPING, ATMS): The main currency is the Euro (EUR) and credit and debit cards are also widely accepted. Tipping is appreciated in restaurants and with tour guides. Expect to tip up to 10% in restaurants, 1 EUR per bag with a porter, and round up a couple of Euros for a taxi driver.

ELECTRICITY: Italy uses three types of European plugs, C F, and L. The voltage is 230 or 220 volts and 50Hz.

TOURS/EXCURSION IDEAS

1. See the Roman Colosseum
 2. Visit the Sistine Chapel in Vatican City
 3. Take a gondola ride through the canals of Venice
 4. See Michelangelo's David statue in Florence
 5. Visit the Royal Palace of Caserta in Naples
 6. Explore the cliffside towns of Amalfi Coast
- Fly home





5 FAST FACTS

1. Italy is divided into 20 historical regions, but most people think of the country in four main parts of north, south, east and west.
2. The capital city of Rome was founded in 753BC.
3. It is believed that pizza was invented in Naples around the year 1860.
4. Vatican City is the world's smallest country and the only country within a city.
5. The Italian Flag uses three colors to represent the country's three virtues: hope (green), faith (white), and charity (red).

5 THINGS TO PACK

1. Sunglasses and sunblock.
2. Comfortable walking shoes. You will do a lot of walking throughout Italy.
3. Light and comfortable clothes that are great for lots of walking but is acceptable for entrance to famous churches. Remember that churches will require your knees and shoulders to be covered.
4. A dressy outfit for dinner. Italy has many wonderful Michelin star restaurants worth getting dressed up to experience.
5. Day bag/backpack. A light wearable bag is great to hold your water bottle and camera but with room for the souvenirs you know you will buy.

Enjoy your trip!

