

Facts About Italy

Where in the world is Italy?

Italy is a country in the south-east of Europe. It has borders with four other countries: France, Switzerland, Austria and Slovenia.

Italy is easy to spot on a map because it is shaped like a high-heeled boot. The boot looks like it is kicking a ball which is actually one of Italy's 350 islands, Sicily. Italy has a very long coastline (4722 miles long) and sits within the Mediterranean Sea. The Italian Alps are in the north of the country and, believe



it or not, there are three volcanoes in the south: Vesuvius, Etna and Stromboli. Vesuvius famously erupted in AD 79 causing devastating death and destruction to nearby cities.



Did You Know...?

The colours of the Italian flag represent three different virtues:

green = hope

white = faith

red = charity

What Is the Weather Like in Italy?

Most people consider Italy to be a hot summer holiday destination, although there are also popular ski resorts in the mountainous regions in the north. Central Italy has a milder climate with similar temperatures all year round. Southern Italy has very hot summers and mild winters and as a result, more than 52 million tourists visit Italy each year.



What Is the Capital City of Italy?

The capital city of Italy is Rome. Rome is known as the 'Eternal City' and has a population of 2.9 million people. It was founded in 753 BC by Romulus and is famous for the Roman Colosseum and other ancient buildings.



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- Italy's nickname is 'bel paese' which means 'beautiful country' in Italian.
- Mont Blanc is the highest peak in Italy, measuring 4807m high.
- The majority of Italians are Christians and 90% of the population are Roman Catholic.
- Italy's longest river is the River Po and is 405 miles long.