

### Key Facts

**Continent** Europe

**Population** Approximately 60 million

**Capital City** Rome

**Largest City** Milan

**Official Language** Italian

**Main Religions** Roman Catholic, Christian

**Famous Landmarks** Colosseum (Rome), Leaning Tower (Pisa), Canal Grande (Venice), Pompeii Ruins (near Naples), Dolomites (Northern Italy), Milan Cathedral, St Peter's Cathedral (Rome)

**Climate** Temperatures vary widely in Italy, in the north, centre or south of the country.

**Traditional Food** This varies in each region due to produce availability and seasonality. Italy is most famous for pizza and pasta.

**Sport** Well known football teams include: Juventus, A.C.Milan, Inter Milan, Napoli and Fiorentina. Italy have also won the World Cup four times-most recently in 2006.

### Italian Flag



A version of the tricolour has been used since 1797. Each region of Italy has its own flag and coat of arms.

### Olympic Games

Rome hosted the Summer Olympic Games in 1960, Cortina d'Ampezzo hosted the Winter Olympic Games in 1956 and Torino also hosted these Games in 2006. Cortina d'Ampezzo (Milan) will again host the Winter Olympics Games in 2026.

### Etruscan Civilisation

Etruscan, member of an ancient people of Etruria, Italy, between the Tiber and Arno rivers west and south of the Apennines, whose urban civilization reached its height in the 6th century bce. Many features of **Etruscan** culture were adopted by the Romans, their successors to power.



### Map of Italy



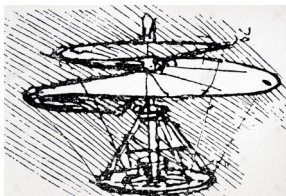
### Italian Landmarks



### Leonardo Da Vinci



Leonardo Da Vinci was born near Florence in Italy in 1452. However he wasn't just a great painter. Da Vinci was also a sculptor, an architect, a poet, a composer, a scientist, a mathematician and an inventor.



### Italian Food

Italian cuisine varies greatly in each region due to produce availability and seasonality. Meat, fish and vegetable availability varies, as does the type and shape of pasta from each region.



### Glossary

**Region**-an area, especially part of a country or the world having definable characteristics but not always fixed boundaries.

**Landmark**-an object or feature of a landscape or town that is easily seen and recognized from a distance, especially one that enables someone to establish their location.

**Tricolour**-a flag with three bands or blocks of different colours.

**Olympics Games**-an ancient festival held every fourth year and made up of contests of sports.

**Etruscan Civilisation**-Etruscan, member of an ancient people of Etruria, Italy.

**Rural**-in, relating to, or characteristic of the countryside rather than the town.

**Urban**-in, relating to, or characteristic of a town or city.

**Mediterranean**-the Mediterranean Sea or the countries bordering it.

**Empire**-an extensive group of states or countries ruled over by a single monarch, an oligarchy, or a sovereign state.

**Invasion**-an instance of invading a country or region with an armed force.

### Olympic Stadiums

