

ITALY

SHOW MAP AND DESCRIBE GEOGRAPHY 1

Italy is a peninsula surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea with the Alps on the north.

It includes two islands Sicily and Sardinia

Italy's highest mountain is Mont Blanc (15,774 ft) Alps Pop: There are 60 million

HISTORY

During the last 2000 years, Italy has been unified twice. First during the Roman Empire (27 BC until 476 CE) that controlled **Italy, much of Western Europe, and the area around the Mediterranean.**

The end of the Roman Empire was followed by a millennium and a half of city-states.

During the Renaissance (1400-1600) art flourished as **Rome, Florence, Venice, Milan** and the rulers of other city-states commissioned artists the adorn their castles.

Italy was united again during the last century and became a modern democratic republic after WWII. They have three branches of government much like the United

States.

ECONOMY

Agriculture, small industries, and tourism

Southern Italy largely produces citrus fruits and wheat,

Northern region produces dairy products, maize corn, fruits, meat, soybeans, rice, and sugar beets.

Wine world's largest producer of wine.

In 2018 the country produced a staggering 54,800 hectolitres of wine, (about **a million and a half gallons**) ahead of France at 49,000 hectolitres (close to 1 1/3 million).

Like other Mediterranean countries, Olive oil is also an important produce.

TOURISM

About **12 percent** of the Italian economy is based on tourism. There are many with many historical sites, wonderful art museums, and destinations

Rome

Colosseum 2 + 2A

This huge Amphitheater is the largest of its kind ever built by the Roman Empire. Built as a venue for public spectacles; it had a wooden floor that was 83 by 48 meters. In this picture. Below the floor two stories of tunnels, rooms, cells, and passages for gladiators, workers, wild animals, and storage. I learned on the tour **CATS STILL LIVE THERE**

Roman Forum 3

Remains of the heart of the Roman Empire. Pillars, partial structures, and foundations of former temples, market halls, courts, and public buildings.

The Trevi Fountain

Near these ancient structures is the Trevi Fountain, one of the largest fountains in the world. Legend has it that if you toss a coin into the fountain with your right hand over your right shoulder you will return to Rome.

3 Coins is a Fountain 1954)

Your coin will become part the €1,000,000 tossed there each year. That's \$ 1 ¼ Million and money is donated to charity.

IMAGE

Leaning Tower Pisa 4

The Leaning Tower of Pisa is actually just one of many attractions in the city of Pisa, but its fame, gained from its flaw, is world renown. **1100s**,

Prior to restoration work in the 1990s, it was predicted to topple over by the year 2000. Today, visitors can climb up the stairs of the tower for a fabulous view over the city.

IMAGE Lake Como

A favorite tourist site to enjoy the natural beauty of Italy

Lake Como is one of Italy's most scenic areas, surrounded by mountains and lined by small picturesque towns. A haunt of the wealthy since Roman times

There's an 11th-century abbey.

FLORENCE

The Uffizi Gallery

Uffizi is a one-stop history lesson of Italian Renaissance art. the first experiments with perspective, early portraits as painters moved beyond religious art, and some of the first use of naturalistic and scenic backgrounds in religious art.

Duomo Santa Maria del Fiore

Regarded as one of the finest cathedrals in the world, BUILT 13th and 15th centuries, with the most famous piece being the extraordinary dome, completed by **Filippo Brunelleschi in 1434.**

until the development of new structural materials in the modern era, the dome was the largest in the world. It remains the largest brick dome ever constructed.

IMAGE DUOMO DOORS 5 5A

TALK ABOUT THE DOORS

DUOMO DOME 5B

VENICE

IMAGE Venice Canals 6A

A gondola ride through the canals of Venice is a tradition that travelers have been enjoying for centuries. Venice is a city of islands. The Grand Canal is the most famous of these waterways and one of the most photographed sites in Venice. The best way to see many of the grand palaces, **whose fronts face the water**, is from a ride along the Grand Canal.

Venice was once one of the most powerful city-states on the European stage. As a sea port on the Mediterranean it became an economic powerhouse which forged a mercantile empire **Adriatic** and the **eastern Mediterranean**.

Venetian glass ([Italian](#): *vetro veneziano*) is thought to have been made for over 1,500 years, and production has been concentrated on the [Venetian](#) island of [Murano](#) since the 13th century.

St. Mark's Basilica

IMAGE CLOCK TOWER ST MARKS 7

One of the most important tourist sites in Venice is St. Mark's Basilica. It's a work of art, showing Venice's long trade connections to the East. : filled with priceless mosaics, covered in gold and jewels.

MILAN

While in Milan, you will want to

Leonardo de Vinci's LAST SUPPER

It covers one wall of the dining room of a monastery

IMAGE LAST SUPPER 8

Tourist will visit another huge cathedral, the Duomo in Milan. TALK ABOUT GOING THERE

Here are some interesting facts about Italy

13 of Shakespeare's 38 plays are set in Italy

Romeo and Juliet--- Verona

Julius Caesar---Rome

Othello and the Merchant of Venice---Venice (no surprise there)

Much Ado About Nothing---Sicilian city of Messina.

Pinocchio was first serialized in Italy's first children's newspaper.

First thermometer was designed by Italian inventor Santorio Santorio (really!)

Invented in 1612, Santorio's device was the first instrument that could show an exact temperature against a scale.

Before him, Galileo had worked on a thermoscope that could show whether something was getting hotter or colder.

Batteries were invented in Italy

Italian scientist Alessandro Volta created the first battery in 1800. The volt – the unit of electrical power – is named after him.

The **first bank** started in Italy

The Bank of San Giorgia in Genoa opened its doors in 1149.

Christopher Columbus was Italian

Although known the world over for his voyages of discovery to the Americas under the Spanish flag, Christopher Columbus was actually Italian. The explorer was born in Genoa in 1451.

Italians invented eyeglasses Franklin Bi-focals

Although the exact date is not certain, it's thought the first pair of glasses with corrective lenses were made in the late 13th century

FOOD

Pizza was **invented** in Naples 10th century AD but **developed** in [Naples](#) in the late 18th century.

Italians ate pasta as far back as the 4th century BC

Wall paintings in a pre-Roman Italian tomb depict what many Italians believe is pasta-making equipment.

14 billion espressos are consumed in Italy each year

in U S 140 billion cups consumed every/year

20,000 Italians work as baristas

Italians eat their salad for dessert

While in many countries a plate of salad acts as an appetiser, in Italy it's commonly eaten after the main course.

Marcella Hazan Classic Italian Cook Book

IMAGE and RECIPE **9 & 10**

Amazing 4-Ingredient Tomato Sauce

IMAGE Marcella **Hazan.'s** Roast Chicken **11**

Next week Egypt

