



Introduction: Italy became a nation-state in 1861 when the regional states of the peninsula, along with Sardinia and Sicily, were united. The northern part is characterized by industrialized activities, whereas the south is more rural with outstanding landscape. Italy is a charter member of NATO and joined the EU in 1958.

Cultural Practices: It is common for Italian friends and families to kiss on the cheek when they meet, irrespective of their gender. Dress neatly and respectfully. Italians value respect, tradition, and formality, especially in business settings. Punctuality is expected in professional interactions, and personal relationships often play a significant role in establishing trust. Hosts like to recommend food choices when eating out.

Tipping Guidelines: A service charge, ranging from 1-3 euros, is sometimes added to a restaurant bill, but you can round up for good service. Tip a bartender 1 euro for a round of drinks. Tipping in hotels is not required, but always appreciated. It is appropriate to tip a porter 5 euros, the concierge 1-2 euros (if they provided a service), and housekeeping between 75 cents to 1.5 euros per day. Round up taxi fares.

Climate: Italy has a Mediterranean climate with hot, dry summers and mild, wet winters in the coastal areas. Inland and northern regions experience colder winters and warmer, sometimes humid summers.

Religion: Christian 80.8% (overwhelmingly Roman Catholic with very small groups of Jehovah's Witnesses and Protestants), Muslim 4.9%, unaffiliated 13.4%, other 0.9%

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US Consulate General: Milan, Florence, Naples

General Facts:

Regional Division	Southern Europe
Capital	Rome
Airport Code / Airport Name	FCO / Leonardo da Vinci-Fiumicino Airport
Country Code 2 digits / 3 digits	IT / ITA
Population	60,964,931
Language (Major Languages)	Italian

Travel Facts:

Telephone Code / Code Dial	39
Local Emergency Phone	112
International Driving Permit	Recommended
Road Driving Side	Right
Time Zone / Time Difference	UTC +01:00
Currency Code / Exchange Rate \$->€	Euro (EUR) / 1\$: 0.95€
Electricity / Voltage / Plug Type(s)	230 V / 50 Hz / C, F, L
Passport / Visa Requirements	Yes / 90 days in 180 days
Working Permits for US Citizens	Necessary

Filming incentives:

Film Commission National	40% tax credit
Film Commission Federal	Yes
VFX Grant	Yes

Working conditions:

Working hours per day	9 + break
Working hours per week	45
Working days per week	5
Overtime	+50%, +100%
Breaks	60 min
Turnaround	11 hours
Fringes / self-employed	+38,46% social benefits
Unions	common but not mandatory

Filming infrastructure:

Crews	internationally experienced, English speaking
Equipment	equipped with cutting-edge equipment
Studios in the following cities	Rome
Themed backlot sets include	-
Specials	-

Landscape & Architecture: Metropolitan, Sun-kissed beaches, Mountains, Period, historical landmarks, rural landscapes. From the rolling hills of Tuscany and the rugged coastline of the Amalfi Coast to historic cities like Rome, Florence, and Venice. Architecture includes Roman ruins, Renaissance palaces, Baroque cathedrals, and modern urban designs.