



Italian

PHRASEBOOK & DICTIONARY

Acknowledgments

Editors Adrienne Costanzo, Laura Crawford, Samantha Forge, Jodie Martire, Stephanie di Trocchio, Branislava Vladisavljevic, Tracy Whitmey

Production Support Chris Love

Language Writers Pietro Iagnocco, Karina Coates, Susie Walker, Mirna Cicioni, Anna Beltrami

Cover Researcher Naomi Parker

CD Production Labsonics

Thanks

James Hardy, Angela Tinson, Juan Winata

Published by Lonely Planet Publications Pty Ltd

ABN 36 005 607 983

3rd Edition – October 2015

ISBN 978 1 74360 370 3

Text © Lonely Planet 2015

Cover Image Bazzano, Bologna, Andersen Ross/Alamy

Printed in China 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Contact lonelyplanet.com/contact

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, except brief extracts for the purpose of review, without the written permission of the publisher. Lonely Planet and the Lonely Planet logo are trade marks of Lonely Planet and are registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and in other countries. Lonely Planet does not allow its name or logo to be appropriated by commercial establishments, such as retailers, restaurants or hotels. Please let us know of any misuses: www.lonelyplanet.com/ip

Although the authors and Lonely Planet try to make the information as accurate as possible, we accept no responsibility for any loss, injury or inconvenience sustained by anyone using this book.

Paper in this book is certified against the Forest Stewardship Council™ standards. FSC™ promotes environmentally responsible, socially beneficial and economically viable management of the world's forests.



Look out for the following icons throughout the book:



'Shortcut' Phrase

Easy-to-remember alternative to the full phrase



Q&A Pair

'Question-and-answer' pair – we suggest a response to the question asked



Look For

Phrases you may see on signs, menus etc



Listen For

Phrases you may hear from officials, locals etc

LANGUAGE TIP

Language Tip

An insight into the foreign language

CULTURE TIP

Culture Tip

An insight into the local culture

How to read the phrases:

- Coloured words and phrases throughout the book are phonetic guides to help you pronounce the foreign language.
- Lists of phrases with tinted background are options you can choose to complete the phrase above them.

These abbreviations will help you choose the right words and phrases in this book:

f feminine

inf informal

lit literal

m masculine

pl plural

pol polite

sg singular

Contents

PAGE

6



About Italian

Learn about Italian, build your own sentences and pronounce words correctly.

Introduction	6
Top Phrases	8
Pronunciation	10
Grammar	14

PAGE

29

Travel Phrases

Ready-made phrases for every situation – buy a ticket, book a hotel and much more.



Basics

29

Understanding	30
Numbers & Amounts	32
Time & Dates	34



Practical

39

Transport	40
Border Crossing	53
Directions	55
Accommodation	58
Shopping	70
Communications	80
Money & Banking	87
Business	91

Sightseeing	93
Senior & Disabled Travellers.....	99
Travel with Children.....	101



Social **103**

Meeting People.....	104
Interests	114
Feelings & Opinions.....	118
Going Out	122
Romance	128
Beliefs & Culture.....	133
Sports.....	135
Outdoors	140



Safe Travel **145**

Emergencies	146
Police	148
Health	150



Food **159**

Eating Out	160
Self-Catering.....	176
Vegetarian & Special Meals.....	181

PAGE
184



Menu Decoder

Dishes and ingredients explained – order with confidence and try new foods.

PAGE
204



Two-Way Dictionary

Quick reference vocabulary guide – 3500 words to help you communicate.

English–Italian Dictionary	204
Italian–English Dictionary	236

Index	267
-------------	-----

INTRO

Italian

italiano ee-ta-ly-a-no

Who speaks Italian?

OFFICIAL
LANGUAGE

ITALY
SAN MARINO
VATICAN CITY
SWITZERLAND
ISTRIA (CROATIA &
SLOVENIA)

Widely Understood Eritrea – Malta – Monaco

Why Bother

When even a simple sentence sounds like an aria, it's difficult to resist striking up a conversation. Besides, all you need for *la dolce vita* is to be able to tell your Moschino from your *macchiato* and

your Fellini from your *fettuccine*!

Distinctive Sounds

The rolled *r*, stronger than in English; most other consonants can have a more emphatic pronunciation too (in which case they're written as double letters).

65 MILLION

speak Italian as their first language

20 MILLION

speak Italian as their second language

Italian in the World

Thanks to widespread migration and the enormous popularity of Italian culture and cuisine – from ‘spaghetti Western’ to opera – Italian is often a language of choice in schools all over the world, despite the fact that Italy never established itself as a colonial power.

Italian in Italy

Italians are very proud of their language’s rich history and influence – rightly so, since it claims the closest relationship with the language spoken by the Romans. For example, Italy is one of the few countries in Europe where dubbing of foreign-language movies is preferred to subtitling.

False Friends

Warning: many Italian words look like English words but have a different meaning altogether, eg *camera ka-me-ra* is a room, not a camera (which is *macchina fotografica ma-kee-na fo-to-gra-fee-ka* in Italian).

Language Family

Romance (developed from Latin, the language of the Roman Empire). Close relatives include Spanish, Portuguese, French and Romanian.

Must-Know Grammar

Italian has a formal and informal word for ‘you’ (*Lei lay* and *tu too* respectively); the verbs have a different ending for each person, like the English ‘I do’ vs ‘he/she does’.

Donations to English

Numerous – most of us are familiar with *ciao, pasta, bella, maestro, mafia...*

5 Phrases to Learn Before You Go

1 > **What's the local speciality?**
Qual'è la specialità di questa regione?

kwa·le la spe·cha·lee·ta dee kwes·ta re·jo·ne

A bit like the rivalry between medieval Italian city-states, these days the country's regions compete in specialty foods and wines.

2 > **Which combined tickets do you have?**
Quali biglietti cumulativi avete?

kwa·lee bee·lye·tee koo·moo·la·tee·vee a·ve·te

Make the most of your euro by getting combined tickets to various sights; they are available in all major Italian cities.

3 > **Where can I buy discount designer items?**
C'è un outlet in zona? *che oon owt·let in zo·na*

Discount fashion outlets are big business in major cities – get bargain-priced seconds, samples and cast-offs for *la bella figura*.

4 > **I'm here with my husband/boyfriend.**
Sono qui con il mio marito/ragazzo.

so·no kwee kon eel mee·o ma·ree·to/ra·ga·tso

Solo women travellers may receive unwanted attention in some parts of Italy; if ignoring fails have a polite rejection ready.

5 > **Let's meet at 6pm for pre-dinner drinks.**
Ci vediamo alle sei per un aperitivo.

chee ve·dya·mo a·le say per oon a·pe·ree·tee·vo

At dusk, watch the main *piazza* get crowded with people sipping colourful cocktails and snacking the evening away: join your new friends for this authentic Italian ritual!

10 Phrases to Sound Like a Local

What's up? :: **Cosa c'è?** :: *ko·za che*

All OK? :: **Tutto a posto?** :: *too·ta pos·to*

It's OK. :: **Va bene.** :: *va be·ne*

Great! :: **Fantastico!** :: *fan·tas·tee·ko*

That's true. :: **È vero.** :: *e ve·ro*

Sure. :: **Certo.** :: *cher·to*

No way! :: **Per niente!** :: *per nyen·te*

You're kidding! :: **Scherzi!** :: *skert·see*

If only! :: **Magari!** :: *ma·ga·ree*

Really? :: **Davvero?** :: *da·ve·ro*

**A****B****C**

Basics

UNDERSTANDING**30**

NUMBERS & AMOUNTS**32**

TIME & DATES**34**

Understanding

KEY PHRASES

Do you speak English?	Parla/Parli inglese? pol/inf	<i>par·la/par·lee een·gle·ze</i>
I don't understand.	(Non) Capisco.	<i>(non) ka·pee·sko</i>
What does ... mean?	Che cosa vuol dire ...?	<i>ke ko·za vvol dee·re ...</i>

1a **Q** **Do you speak English?** Parla/Parli inglese? **pol/inf**
par·la/par·lee een·gle·ze

Q **Does anyone speak English?** C'è qualcuno che parla inglese?
che kwal·koo·no ke par·la een·gle·ze

A **I speak English.** Parlo inglese.
par·lo een·gle·ze

I need an interpreter who speaks English. Ho bisogno di un interprete che parla l'inglese.
o bee·so·nyo dee oon een·ter·pre·te ke par·la leen·gle·ze

1b **Q** **Do you understand?** Capisce/Capisci? **pol/inf**
ka·pee·she/ka·pee·shee

1c **A** **I understand.** Capisco.
ka·pee·sko

1d **A** **I don't understand.** Non capisco.
non ka·pee·sko

I (don't) speak Italian. (Non) Parlo italiano.
(non) par·lo ee·ta·lya·no

I speak a little. Parlo un po'.
par·lo oon po

Numbers & Amounts

KEY PHRASES

How much?	Quanto/a? m/f	<i>kwan-to/a</i>
some	alcuni/e m/f	<i>al-koo-nee/al-koo-ne</i>
less/more	di meno/più	<i>dee me-no/pyoo</i>

Cardinal Numbers

3a	0	zero	<i>dze-ro</i>
3b	1	uno	<i>oo-no</i>
3c	2	due	<i>doo-e</i>
3d	3	tre	<i>tre</i>
3e	4	quattro	<i>kwa-tro</i>
3f	5	cinque	<i>cheen-kwe</i>
3g	6	sei	<i>say</i>
3h	7	sette	<i>se-te</i>
3i	8	otto	<i>o-to</i>
3j	9	nove	<i>no-ve</i>
3k	10	dieci	<i>dye-chee</i>
4a	11	undici	<i>oon-dee-chee</i>
4b	12	dodici	<i>do-dee-chee</i>
4c	13	tredici	<i>tre-dee-chee</i>
4d	14	quattordici	<i>kwa-tor-dee-chee</i>
4e	15	quindici	<i>kween-dee-chee</i>
4f	16	sedici	<i>se-dee-chee</i>
4g	17	diciassette	<i>dee-cha-se-te</i>