

Italian

PHRASEBOOK & DICTIONARY

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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

An insight into the foreign language



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 informal

m masculine

sg singular

inf informal pl plural lit literal pol polite

ABOUT THIS BOOK

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

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Travel Phrases

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











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Menu Decoder

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

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A	Two-Way Dictionary	
~	Quiel reference vecabulary qui	,

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

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Who speaks Italian?



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 vour 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

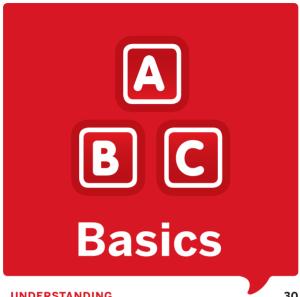
Romance (developed from Latin, the language of the Roman Empire). Close relatives include Spanish, Portuguese, French and Romanian.

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...



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A BC

Understanding

KEY PHRASES

Do you speak English? I don't

Parla/Parli inglese? pol/inf

par·la/par·lee een·gle·ze

understand.

(Non) Capisco.

(non) ka-pee-sko

What does ... Che cosa vuol ke dire ...? ke

ke ko·za vwol dee·re ...

O Do you speak English?	Parla/Parli inglese? pol/inf par·la/par·lee een·gle·ze
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
Do you understand?	Capisce/Capisci? pol/inf ka·pee·she/ka·pee·shee
A I (don't) understand.	(Non) Capisco. (non) ka·pee·sko
l (don't) speak Italian.	(Non) Parlo italiano. (non) <i>par</i> ·lo ee·ta <i>·lya</i> ·no
l speak a little.	Parlo un po'. par·lo oon po

l'd like to practise Italian.	Vorrei fare pratica con l'italiano. vo-ray fa-re pra-tee-ka kon	
I'd like to learn some of your local dialects.	Vorrei imparare qualche dialetto regionale. vo-ray eem-pa-ra-re kwal-ke dee-a-le-to re-jo-na-le	
Would you like me to teach you some English?	Vuole che le insegni un po' d'inglese? vwo-le ke le een-se-nyee oon po deen-gle-ze	
What does mean?	Che cosa vuol dire? ke ko·za vwol dee·re	
How do you pronounce this?	Come si pronuncia questo? ko·me see pro·noon·cha kwe·sto	
How do you write?	Come si scrive? ko·me see skree·ve	
Could you please repeat that?	Può/Puoi ripeterlo, per favore? pol/inf pwo/pwoy ree-pe-ter-lo per fa-vo-re	
Could you please write it down?	Può/Puoi scriverlo, per favore? pol/inf pwo/pwoy skree·ver·lo per fa·vo·re	
Could you please speak more slowly?	Può/Puoi parlare più lentamente, per favore? pol/inf pwo/pwoy par·la·re pyoo len·ta·men·te per fa·vo·re	
	Più pyoo tamente, len-ta <i>·men</i> -te r favore! per fa <i>·</i> vo·re	

Numbers & Amounts

KEY PHRASES

How much?

Quanto/a? m/f

kwan-to/a

some less/more alcuni/e m/f

al-koo-nee/al-koo-ne di meno/più dee me·no/pyoo

Cardinal Numbers

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