

ITALY CLASSIC



COUNTRY INFORMATION

Italy, situated in Southern Europe, is famous for its history, art, music, literature, heritage sites, amazing and varied landscape, monuments, handicraft and its tasty food. Located in the middle of the Mediterranean sea, the Italian Republic, which has the shape of a highheeled boot, consists of a quite large peninsula and two main islands, Sicily and Sardinia. For centuries, its peculiar central position has made this country the crossroad of different cultures, which had a noticeable influence on Italian architecture, traditions and customs.

Situated: Southern Europe, in the Mediterranean sea.

Area: 301,388 square kilometres

Inhabitants: 60.59 million

Capital: Rome

Official language: Italian

National holiday: 2nd June

COUNTRY MAP



Age criteria:
15-18 years old

Starting months: September and January

Language requirements: Italian language or good English skills

Visa: Mandatory for none European students

City choice: Florence, Rome and Milan at an extra fee

Preparation course: STS Welcome Camp in London, extra fee apply
School year: From the first week of September to the first week of June

School day:
8:00 - 1:00 or 14:00

Subjects: All are mandatory, and they depend on the curriculum which has a great variety

Optional trips: Options to join two trips in Italy during the year, one in Rome and one in Tuscany

THE SCHOOL

Students are enrolled in a specific class; they don't move from one classroom to another to attend lessons, it is the teachers who move. They cannot choose subjects at the beginning of each year but they do choose the type of school they prefer before enrolling, thus deciding what to study in advance and only once.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Full Zapp application
- Good health
- Good grades (minimum C average)
- Good knowledge of English
- Skype interview before acceptance

THE CULTURE

Italian families (especially host mothers) are usually very protective towards their children. They like to know as much as possible about their lives, and they worry about their problems and immediately try to solve them. This is often perceived as an overprotective attitude, but it simply reflects the habits of an Italian mother. Communication is essential to a good host family/student relationship. Italian people are often outgoing and they like spending time together. Whether discussing a discovery about cultural differences, a problem, or a positive event of the day, the bonds of mutual trust and affection strengthen when the student communicates openly and freely with the family.

HOST FAMILY

Family life and activities are important to the Italian family and the exchange student should always try to take part. If in the host family there are children of the same age, it is nice if they go out together, doing sports, shopping or anything else. The host family will be happy to share activities, visits and weekend excursions with the students, and students are expected to show interest and enthusiasm in return. Meal time is a special moment dedicated to communication. Italian families like to eat together at the table and talk about daily activities, about themselves, and about things to do.

SPORTS

Students usually practice sport in the afternoon. They decide what they like and enroll at the local club. There are cheaper sports such as volleyball and soccer (the National sport), and more expensive sports such as gyms or skiing in winter. Swimming pools and sports centres are also common in every city.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Every year STS organizes a tour of Rome and a Tuscany tour. Students will visit two beautiful Italian regions full of important and interesting historical places, museums and cities. Each High School also organizes day trips and a tour during the year.