

Language stays in Italy – Courses description

- Standard Italian Language Course : *4 lessons a day, 20 a week*
The Standard Course is held throughout the year on 6 levels of ability. Duration: minimum 2 weeks. The 4 lessons are held daily from Monday to Friday, usually beginning at 9am. If there are many participants the Standard Course may also be held in the afternoon at 2pm. There is a maximum of 12 students in each class.

- Intensive Italian Language Course : *6 lessons a day, 30 a week*
The Intensive Course consists of 4 lessons Standard Course per day in the morning and 2 extra lessons of group language course in the afternoon. In the afternoon session students have the opportunity to increase their knowledge with practice in speaking and conversing.

- Intensive Italian Language Course « Plus » : *4 standard lessons + 1 or 2 lessons of private tuition a day*
The Intensive Plus Course consists of the Standard Course Plus additional private lessons (one-to-one). The individual lessons are specifically designed for your specific needs. We offer two kinds of Intensive Plus Courses:
 - Intensive Plus-5 Course: 20 lessons of Standard Course and additional 5 private lessons per week;
 - Intensive Plus-10 Course: 20 lessons of Standard Course and additional 10 private lessons per week.

- “One week only” Italian Language Course :
 - “One week only” Italian Language standard course : 4 lessons a day, 20 a week
 - “One week only” Italian language intensive course . 6 lessons a day, 30 a week
 - “One week only” Italian language intensive plus 5 or 10 courses : 4 lessons of group language course plus 1 or 2 lessons of private tuition a day, 25 or 30 a week

- Small Group Intensive Italian Language Course : *6 lessons a day, 30 a week, in small groups of 2 to 5 participants*
For students who want to learn quickly and intensively in a small group, or wish to increase their knowledge, the Small Group Intensive Course is tailor-made for their needs. Together with no more than 5 participants they will have 6 hours of daily intensive language course. The Small Group Intensive Course is held only in Florence and Rome.

- Italian Language and Culture Course « Italy Today » : *(2 or 4 weeks) 25 lessons per week*
For students who want to learn Italian and at the same time become acquainted with the culture and history and the current social and political situation of their host country, we suggest to choose the "Italy Today" Course. In addition to the 4 lessons Standard Course in the morning, in the afternoon they will be introduced to art and culture, history and folklore, press and films as well as the current political and economic situation of Italy.
The cultural part of this course consists of 10 supplementary lessons in two weeks.

- Middle Length Standard Course : *(minimum 6 weeks) 4 lessons per day, 20 per week*
This is our new Standard Course with a 6-week minimum duration to deepen students basic knowledge of the Italian language... at a very special price!

- Long-Term Standard Course : *(minimum 12 weeks) 4 lessons per day, 20 per week*
Students wishing to study Italian for longer periods are especially welcome at our schools and receive special care and attention from our staff, as well as benefiting from our long-term discounted prices. With this course, students profit from all the advantages of learning a language in the country where it is spoken. Through our experience in teaching the Italian language, we know that the ideal minimum stay for a course is 12 weeks. Not only you will have more confidence in your language skills, but instead of feeling like you are on holiday, you will be completely immersed in the Italian culture and

way of life. Many of our long-term students are preparing to enter university or rounding off their Italian Long-Term Standard Course with the recognised AIL "Firenze" examination.

■ Long-Term Semester Course : *(minimum 12 weeks) 4 lessons per day, 20 per week*

Would you like to enjoy 6 months in Italy and travel to different cities, too? We have the right program for you! The Long-Term Semester Course is an extended version of the Long-Term Standard Course. The general structure is similar, but the objectives are targeted on a long-term basis. If you would like to live in Italy for several months, our schools offer you the possibility of an attractive package. You may start learning Italian in Florence, and after a few months you can move to Rome or Milan. The curricula in the semester course are the same; thus you can change the course location any time you want and you will make the most of your stay in Italy.

An excellent opportunity to attain a more in-depth and continuous study of the Italian language. You can combine learning the language and enjoying your free time. This course is also an excellent preparation for Master Courses in Art, Italian Design, Italian Fashion or Restoration. Last but not least, the Long-Term Semester Course has a particularly attractive price!

■ Academic School Year: *(32 weeks, 650 lessons of language, culture and exam)*

The "academic year" is a 32 week language and culture course for students who wish to experience living and studying in Italy. The course combines not only language courses with Italian culture classes but the syllabus also incorporates the fundamental elements of level C2 of the European Language Portfolio. All in all, the course offers students the opportunity to see at first hand the various aspects of Italy's rich history and culture. The course is composed of a linguistic element and an academic element:

- 1) Linguistic element: - 480 lessons of the standard language course
- 80 lessons of preparation for the two Diploma «Firenze» AIL exams DILI (intermediate level) and DALI (advanced level)
- 2) Academic element (80 lessons): - Italian Civilization and History
- Art History
- Business Italian
- History of Design and Architecture
- Introduction to Italian Gastronomy
- 3) Private tutoring (10 lessons): to prepare your essay

■ Private tuition : *3 to 8 lessons per day, 15 to 40 per week*

If you want a course that suits your particular professional and personal needs, as well as your own time schedule, we suggest you choose our tailor-made private tutorial programme. Continual language practice, maximum concentration through intensive work with your personal teacher and, especially, active practising of your communication skills guarantee you swift progress and success in the shortest possible time. Thanks to our proven individual system "LinguaKit", we are able to plan your private tutorial according to your needs regarding dates and areas of interest.

Starting dates :

You can start the course on any weekday of the year, however, we suggest you begin on Mondays. Private lessons during the week of Christmas and New Year only on request.

Duration :

Minimum enrolment term is 5 days which can be extended according to your wishes. Minimum 3 to maximum 8 lessons per day; the course intensity may be changed from week to week. Private tutorial can also be chosen by two or three friends or family members, if they have the same knowledge of Italian (two-to-one, three-to-one).

Lunch with teacher :

If you wish, the private tutorial can also be organised to include lunch with your teacher. Thus you are able to continue practising the new language during the lunch-break.

Professional courses :

Should you already have sufficient knowledge of Italian, you can also learn vocabulary oriented to certain professions, such as general business Italian, banking, trading, import/export, law, insurance, marketing, medicine and so on.

Individual preparatory course for Italian examination :

If you would like individual preparation for the "Firenze" Diploma examinations and to take the exam on a special date, please get in contact with our school centres for further information.

■ History of Italian Art : 6 lessons a week, 2-week course

The course is designed to show, by means of slides and guided visits, the development of art in Italy in relation to the rest of Europe and offers you an introduction to the most important artistic styles (Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque). You will become acquainted with the most important works of artists such as Botticelli, Leonardo, Raphael and Michelangelo while learning about the most significant historical and social events that accompanied them.

The program foresees the following subjects:

- Introduction: * General and historical lists
 * The Romanesque period.
- The XIII century: * Architecture - passage of the French Gothic in Italy; the "Italian" Gothic
 * sculpture: from Nicola Pisano to Arnolfo di Cambio.
- The architectural and urban transformation between the XIII and the XIV century
- Florence and Siena in the XIV century: * Cimabue and Duccio
 * Giotto
 * Simone Martini and the Lorenzetti brothers
 * Florence in the second half of the century
 * Traces of international Gothic
- Brunelleschi and the revolution of perspective: The three fathers of the Italian Renaissance (Brunelleschi, Donatello, Masaccio)
- The first Renaissance: Florence in the first half of the XV century
- Florence in the second half of the XV century: The cultural environment of Lorenzo il Magnifico and Botticelli
- Leonardo da Vinci
- Raphael and Michelangelo

■ Italian Cuisine : 1 meeting of approximately 3 hours per week

Would you like to be able to cook Italian food at home? Our cooking course will enable you to prepare typical Italian meals and to learn recipes from the various regions of Italy. The course is based one meeting of approx. 3 hours a week and shaped for all potential participants, also for the novice who is interested in learning about cooking.

During each lesson the students prepare and cook a different complete menu which consists of typical dishes of Italian cuisine in the tradition of genuine simplicity. At the beginning of each lesson the teacher explains the menu of the day and distributes the work. During the preparation and the cooking of the food, the teacher demonstrates, explains and gives valuable hints and tips. The students prepare the table and dine together. Each student or pair of students presents and serves to the others the dish they have prepared.

This course is organized in such a way that the students can experience with their own hands the way of cooking in the Italian style. Participants receive a recipe book including a vocabulary in several languages.

In addition to our Culinary Arts for Amateurs, our schools offer special cooking courses for professionals. In Rome, we collaborate with one of the biggest names of Italian and International cuisine, the "Gambero Rosso" culinary arts school. Every month, the school organizes stages and special programme courses which treat specific subjects like: culinary tradition of Val Pusteria, the Traditional Roman cuisine, menus for special holidays, etc.

■ Italian Wines : 1 meeting of approximately 3 hours per week

Did you know that Italy is the largest producer of selected wines? Our wine course gives you an introduction to the art of grape cultivation, processing and storing of the most well-known Italian wines. The practical part consists of wine tasting which will allow you to get to know the wines from the different regions of Italy. When possible we will organise a visit to a renowned wine-cellar.

Program topics:

- How to read the etiquette of an Italian wine bottle.

- Classification of the Italian wines (house wine or denomination of origin, D.O.C. and D.O.C.G.).
- The traditional techniques of cultivation, fermentation and aging used in Italy.
- Wine tasting and terminology.
- The wine production in Italy and its consumption.
- New, non traditional wines.
- The products of Tuscany, the north-western region (Piedmont), the north-eastern region (Friuli, Sud-Tyrol) and the other regions, especially of the central and southern area of the peninsula.

During the course 24 quality wines will be presented and tasted. Maps will be shown and illustrated material handed out (statistics, charts, descriptions etc.). Other subjects will be discussed too, such as the combination of food and wine and the comparison with foreign products.

- Drawing Course : *2 afternoon meetings of approximately 3 hours per week, two or four-week course*
This course is available to beginners and advanced students and is usually organized in the following way: Realistic representation of still life, importance of lines in an object's character, discovery of chiaroscuro and perspective. The course will be held in two afternoon lessons of about 3 hours each per week. Lesson can be held in Italian, English and French.
- Painting Courses : *2 afternoon meetings of approximately 3 hours per week, two or four-week course*
The course is outlined for those students that have already a good drawing ability and would like to learn watercolour techniques.
The initial lessons include the basic techniques of painting and watercolour; students will work in monochrome and progress to working with a palette of warm and cold contrasting colours. Advanced students with a good knowledge of the techniques will be supervised by the teacher with whom students can discuss their work. The course will be held in two afternoon lessons of about 3 hours each per week. Lesson can be held in Italian, English and French.
- Italian design : *6 lessons a week, 2-week course*
Attention : The course is not held in August and September.
Have you ever wondered why Italy is world-famous for its design? This course will enable you to study the history of Italian Design and learn about the influence of Italian design in daily life. The course "History of Italian design from its origins to the present" has the following program:
 - The first decades of the 20th century: *How and why the design had its beginnings in Italy
 - * Furniture among artisans and industry
 - * Futurism as freedom of expression
 - The 30s and the 40s:
 - * Between rationalism and autonomy - from Terragni to Ferragamo
 - * Changes in style of a nation living under a fascist regime
 - The 50s:
 - * Italian design is born - awards and recognition
 - The 60s:
 - * Plastic - the exuberance of forms and colours
 - The 70s:
 - * Great recognition for aesthetics and technology
 - The 80s:
 - * Post-modern - contemporary classical style
 - The 90s:
 - * Abstraction and new colourings
 - * Influence and clash of Italian design in daily life
- Italian Fashion : *6 lessons a week, two-week course*
Attention : The course is not held in August and September.
Armani, Ferré, Ferragamo, Versace and many more famous Italian fashion designers are waiting to be discovered in our Italian Fashion course.
The program of the course «The History of Italian Fashion» is as follows:
 - Palazzo Pitti and the birth of Italian fashion: * Why the Italian fashion was born in Florence
 - * The «Sala Bianca» - the first Italian fashion show
 - * Recognition and success of «made in Italy»
 - Graphic fashion and publicity:
 - * The influence of art on fashion
 - * How publicity enters the world of fashion

- Italian fashion and the cinema:

* From the sandals of Salvatore Ferragamo for Marilyn Monroe to the dresses of Giorgio Armani for the new American stars

- History of Italian style:

* Fashion in theatres and the cinema

* The great masters of «made in Italy»

* The new masters of «made in Italy»

-The masterminds of fashion:

* From Roberto Capucci to Gianfranco Ferré

- Fashion for youngsters:

* From Fiorucci to Benetton