

# ITALY



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# FACTS ABOUT ITALY

- **Capital:** Roma (Rome), which is often called 'Eternal City',
- **Name:** Repubblica Italiana (Italian Republic) or simply: Italia, Nickname: 'Bel Paese' which means beautiful country
- **Language:** Italian as well as German
- **Government:** Democracy, Republic
- **Currency:** 1 Euro = 100 cents, before 2001: Italian Lira
- **Flag:**



- **National Symbols:** Italian grey wolf (national animal), red rose or white lily (national flowers) and the white five-pointed star with a red border

# *INTERESTING FACTS*

- Italy's **largest island** is Sicily.
- The **biggest city of the country** is Rome with 2.9 million people.
- The **highest mountain peak in Italy** is **Monte Bianco**, better known as **Mont Blanc**, which is 4 807 m or 15 776 ft. high
- **Lake Garda** is the largest lake in Italy.
- The **Etna** is the **most active volcano in Europe**.





QUIZ!  
DO YOU KNOW  
THESE PLACES?

# FOOD

- Pizza is surely one of the most famous exports and in Italy it is usually baked in a wood-fired oven and very thin, but loaded with fresh vegetables or thinly sliced ham, salami, artichokes or olives. The Italian pasta is renowned worldwide and there are more than 200 different shapes.
- Here is some typical Italian food:
- **Pizza:** probably the most famous Italian dish, it was invented in Napoli/Naples around 1860
- **Calzone:** folded up pizza bread filled with tomatoes, ham, cheese and all kinds of filling
- **Pesto:** thick green sauce with olives, herbs and olive oil, pine kernels and parmiggiano cheese. Healthy and mmmmh!
- **Gelato:** ice-cream is an Italian invention
- **Lasagna:** layered pasta dish with tomato, mozzarella cheese and mince meat filling.



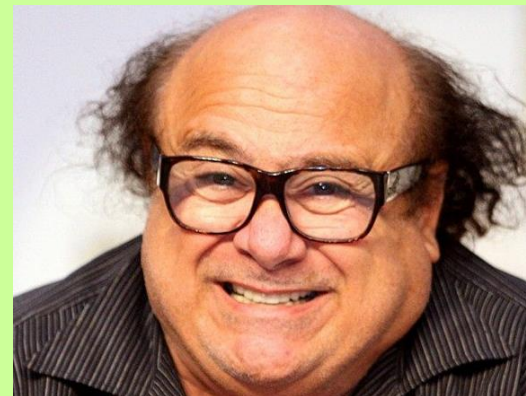
# QUIZ: DO YOU KNOW TYPICAL ITALIAN FOOD?



# *FAMOUS PEOPLE*

- Italians are famous for their inventions and discoveries. The Italian explorers Christopher Columbus and Amerigo Vespucci discovered the Americas while Marco Polo explored the East.
- Leonardo da Vinci was a scientist and artist who was the first to prove the world is round and not flat.
- Alessandro Volta, was the pioneer who did studies in electricity, hence the name 'Volt' describing a unit of electricity.

# *Do you know these people?*





# FAMOUS ITALIAN CARS

- Lamborghini



- Maserati



- Ferrari



# ITALIAN CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS

- In Venice Italians celebrate ***Carnivale di Venezia***, a two-week party in early spring. It is marked by parties, parades, live performances of music and, most famously, masquerade balls.
- ***Erragosto*** is an Italian summer holiday. Traditionally, it was simply a period of relaxation; in fact, Italians used to take the entire month of August off as a vacation.

# LANGUAGE

- *10 useful Italian words and terms*
- ciao - hello
- grazie - thank you
- prego - please, you are welcome
- bene - good
- come stai? - how are you? (informal, with family and friends)
- si - yes
- no - no
- scusami - excuse me
- ho fame - I am hungry
- ho sete - I am thirsty



*THANK YOU*  
*GRAZIE*