

# Collins easy learning Italian

STAGE 1

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**Collins Easy Learning Italian Stage 1**

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# INTRODUCTION

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Track 1

*Easy Learning Italian* is a course specifically devised to help you to ask for the things you're most likely to need when visiting Italy and to give you the skills to cope with situations you might find yourself in. This course is different from other courses in that you also learn to understand the likely replies to your questions. You hear key words and phrases used in dialogues between native speakers, so you learn not only how to say them but also how they are used in conversation. To help you remember what you learn, the course makes use of all the latest techniques in memory building, backed up by regular revision. Unlike some other courses, *Easy Learning Italian* is not just a collection of useful phrases to learn by rote; it allows you to practise them, gives you listening tips to help you to recognize what you hear, and tells you what to say when you don't understand and need help.

Your course consists of audio files and this accompanying booklet. There are 12 units, each divided into two parts. In the first part, *The basics*, you are given just a handful of key words or phrases to learn. You can listen to them and repeat them as many times as you like. We will suggest connections and references that might help you to remember them. Next, you hear these words and phrases in short conversations, to help you to recognize them when you hear them. Finally, you are given the chance to say the words and phrases yourself. By learning just a few new words or phrases at a time you can quickly build up a store of essential language that you can draw on when you need it.

If you already know some of the language in *The basics*, you can carry straight on to the second part of the unit, *Taking it further*; otherwise, you can come back to this part later. *Taking it further* is optional and provides more listening and speaking practice. You hear the new language in one or more longer conversations, with further explanations and cultural tips related to the situation

presented in the unit. First you hear each conversation straight through. Then you hear it again line by line, with explanations of new words and phrases. After that, you listen to the whole dialogue again before going on to take the part of one of the speakers. This step-by-step approach is designed to build up your confidence in understanding and speaking.

Revision of the key words and phrases is built into the course, so you don't have to keep going back if you have forgotten something. There is a quick review before the second part of each unit. Then a section called ***Di nuovo – Again*** gives you the chance to revise and test your knowledge of the key words and phrases from the previous four units and to practise the main dialogues again. If you find you have forgotten something, you can always go back and repeat the appropriate track.

In this booklet you will find extracts from each unit, including the key phrases and dialogues, set out in print, with translations and learning tips, for easy reference. *Language lab* boxes give simple explanations of how Italian works.

It has been found that the optimum learning time for new material is about 8 to 10 minutes, although you can manage longer sessions if some of the material is already familiar to you. In each unit, *The basics* is about 6 to 8 minutes long, so if the material is new to you, take a break before going on to *Taking it further*. This lasts about 8 to 10 minutes. Don't try to tackle too much at a time, and remember to take frequent breaks.

# UNIT 1

## Hello · Buongiorno

Track 2

### Key phrases

#### Tip

#### Emphasis

In Italian, you say each part of a word separately. Listen to Italians saying **spaghetti**, **lasagne** or **pizza margherita**. You will notice that they usually stress the syllable before the last: **spaghetti**, **lasagne**, **pizza**, **margherita**.

The first things you need to be able to say in any language are *hello* at various times of day, *good night* and *goodbye*. So your first words and phrases are:

**Buongiorno** Hello

**Buongiorno, signora** Hello (when speaking to a woman)

**Buona sera** Good evening

**Buona notte** Good night

**Arrivederci** Goodbye

Track 4

### Dialogue 1

#### Tip

#### Communication

Did you know that the actual words you use convey only about 30 to 40 per cent of your message? The situation you are in and the tone of voice you use convey about another 40 per cent and the rest of the message is made up of facial expression, body language and gestures. Listen and watch carefully for non-verbal clues.

**Buongiorno, signor Rossi.**

Hello, Mr Rossi.

**Buongiorno, signora.**

Hello.

**Come va?**

How are you?

**Bene, grazie.**

Fine, thank you.

**E Lei?**

And you?

**Va bene, va bene.**

I'm OK.

**Arrivederci.**

Goodbye.

**Arrivederci, signora.**

Goodbye.

Track 5

## Dialogue 2

### Tip

**Lei**, the word for *you*, is always written with a capital letter in Italian.

**Buona sera, signor Rossi.**

Good evening, Mr Rossi.

**Buona sera, signora.**

Good evening.

**Come va?**

How are you?

**Va molto bene, grazie.**

I'm very well, thank you.

**E Lei?**

And you?

**Va bene, va bene.**

I'm OK.

**Arrivederci, signora.**

Goodbye.

**Arrivederci, signor Rossi!**

Goodbye, Mr Rossi!

LANGUAGE LAB

You may have wondered why there are two slightly different words for *good*: **buon** and **buona**, as in **buongiorno** and **buona sera**. This is because in Italian all nouns, such as **giorno** and **sera**, are either masculine or feminine. You use **buon** with masculine nouns and **buona** with feminine nouns.

# UNIT 2

## Excuse me · Scusi

Track 6

### Key phrases

You will need to be able to say and understand these words and phrases when you arrive in Italy.

**Scusi** Excuse me

**Parla inglese?** Do you speak English?

**No, mi dispiace** No, sorry

**Non capisco** I don't understand

**Grazie** Thank you

**Sì** Yes

**No** No

Track 8

### Dialogue 1

#### Tip

Remember: don't try to understand every word – just pick out the key words.

#### ufficio turistico

tourist office

A lot of Italian words are like English words but said with an Italian accent: **ufficio** office, **turistico** touristic. But the Italians often put words in a different order: **ufficio turistico** 'office touristic' instead of *tourist office*; in some towns they call it **ente di turismo** 'office of tourism'. City centre is **centro** città, 'centre city', and the Vatican City is **la Città del Vaticano**.

**Scusi.**

Excuse me.

**Parla inglese?**

Do you speak English?

**No, mi dispiace.**

No, I'm sorry.

**Non posso proprio aiutarla.**

I really can't help you.

**Non capisco.**

I don't understand.

**Là c'è l'ufficio turistico.**

There's a tourist office over there.

**Grazie.**

Thank you.

**Arrivederci.**

Goodbye.

Track 9

## Dialogue 2

### Tip

#### Spelling

A lot of words are spelt more or less the same in English and Italian. For instance, *cinema* is **cinema**, *theatre* is **teatro** and *airport* is **aeroporto**. Of course, the Italian words sound different, as you can hear on the audio files.

#### Scusi, signora. Parla inglese?

Excuse me. Do you speak English?

**No, mi dispiace.**

No, I'm sorry.

**Ma può rivolgersi all'ente di turismo, là in fondo.**

But you could ask at the tourist office, over there.

#### Non capisco.

I don't understand.

**L'ente di turismo, là in fondo.**

The tourist office, over there.

#### Grazie, signora.

Thank you.

## UNIT 3

### Where's the bar? · Dov'è il bar?

Track 10

## Key phrases

### Tip

#### per favore

please

Please is **per favore**; literally it means 'for favour', 'as a favour'. Imagine you are asking people to do things for you 'as a favour', **per favore**.

**Dov'è ...?** Where is ...?

**Dov'è l'ufficio turistico?** Where is the tourist office?

**Dov'è l'hotel?** Where is the hotel?

**Dov'è la mia camera?** Where is my room?

**Dov'è l'ascensore?** Where is the lift?

**Dov'è il ristorante?** Where is the restaurant?

**Dov'è il bar?** Where is the bar?

**Per favore** Please

Track 11

## Listening and speaking

### **Scusi. Dov'è l'ufficio turistico, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is the tourist office, please?

**Mi dispiace. Non lo so.**

*I'm sorry. I don't know.*

### **Scusi, signora. Dov'è l'hotel, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is the hotel, please?

**Mi dispiace. Non lo so.**

*I'm sorry. I don't know.*

### **Signora, mi scusi. Dov'è la mia camera, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is my room, please?

**Non lo so.**

*I don't know.*

### **Mi scusi. Dov'è l'ascensore, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is the lift, please?

**È là.**

*It's there.*

### **Buona sera. Dov'è il ristorante, per favore?**

Good evening. Where is the restaurant, please?

**Mi dispiace. Non lo so.**

*I'm sorry. I don't know.*

### **Mi scusi, signora. Dov'è il bar, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is the bar, please?

Track 12

## Dialogue 1

### **Mi scusi. Dov'è l'hotel Bellavista, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is the Bellavista Hotel, please?

**Come?**

*Pardon?*

### **Dov'è l'hotel Bellavista, per favore?**

Where is the Bellavista Hotel, please?

**Mi dispiace. Non lo so.**

*Sorry. I don't know.*

### **Grazie. Arrivederci.**

Thank you. Goodbye.

Track 13

## Dialogue 2

**Scusi, signora. Dov'è l'ascensore, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is the lift, please?

**Come?**

*I beg your pardon?*

**Dov'è l'ascensore, per favore?**

Where is the lift, please?

**Non c'è l'ascensore.**

*There isn't a lift.*

**Le scale sono là in fondo.**

*The stairs are over there.*

**Mi scusi. Non capisco.**

Excuse me. I don't understand.

**Parla inglese?**

Do you speak English?

**No, mi dispiace.**

*No, I'm sorry.*

**Le scale sono là in fondo ...**

*The stairs are over there ...*

**... proprio dietro le piante.**

*... just behind the plants.*

**Ah, sì! Grazie, signora.**

Oh, yes! Thank you.

**Di nulla.**

*Don't mention it.*

Here are some more places that you might want to ask the way to.

**Dove sono le toilette?** Where is the toilet?

**Dove sono i taxi?** Where are the taxis?

**LANGUAGE LAB**

You might have noticed that some words have **il** in front of them (**il ristorante**, **il bar**, **il cinema**), some have **la** (**la camera**, **la reception**) and others have just **l'** (**l'hotel**, **l'ascensore**, **l'ufficio**). Plural words have **i** in front of them (**i taxi**) or **le** (**le toilette**, **le scale**, **le piante**).

All these words – **il**, **la**, **l'**, **i**, **le** – mean *the*. In Italian the word for *the* changes according to whether the noun is masculine or feminine, singular or plural.

<b>mASCULINE</b>	<b>fEMININE</b>	<b>MASCULINE</b>	<b>fEMININE</b>
<b>sINGULAR</b>	<b>SINGULAR</b>	<b>PLURAL</b>	<b>PLURAL</b>
<b>il bar</b>	<b>la camera</b>	<b>i taxi</b>	<b>le scale</b>

Words which begin with a vowel or **h** just have **l'** in front of them in the singular: **l'ufficio**, **l'hotel**.

**LANGUAGE LAB**

You use **Dov'è ...?** with singular words:  
**Dov'è l'ascensore?** *Where is the lift?*  
 and **Dove sono ...?** with plural words:  
**Dove sono i taxi?** *Where are the taxis?*

# UNIT 4

## Over there · Là in fondo

This unit is about understanding the answers to the questions you were asking in Unit 3, so the emphasis is on listening and understanding the gist of what people say.

Track 14

### Tip

You can add **proprio**, just, to most of these words and phrases:

- proprio di fronte a** just opposite
- proprio dietro** just behind
- proprio davanti a** just before/just in front of
- proprio qui** just here
- proprio dopo** just after

## Key phrases

**là** there

**qui** here

**a destra** on the right

**a sinistra** on the left

**di fronte a** opposite/facing

**davanti a** before/in front of

**dietro** behind

**dopo** after

**al primo piano** on the first floor

Track 15

## Listening practice

**Mi scusi. Dov'è l'ascensore, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is the lift, please?

**L'ascensore? ... Là, a sinistra.**

The lift? ... There, on the left.

**Scusi, signora. Dov'è il ristorante, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is the restaurant, please?

**Il ristorante? ... Attenda ... Penso che sia là in fondo, a destra.**

The restaurant? ... Wait ... I think it's over there, on the right.

**Scusi, non capisco.**

Excuse me, I don't understand.

**Là in fondo, a destra.**

Over there, on the right.

**Ah, molte grazie, signora.**

Ah, thank you.

**Scusi, signora. Dov'è il bar, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is the bar, please?

**Il bar? Là in fondo, proprio di fronte alla reception.**

The bar? Over there, just across from reception.

**Grazie, signora.**

Thank you.

**Ma di nulla.**

You're very welcome.

**Scusi, signora. Dov'è la reception, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is reception, please?

**Qui, proprio dietro di Lei.**

Here, just behind you.

**Grazie, signora.**

Thank you.

**Prego.**

Don't mention it.

**Mi scusi. Dov'è l'ufficio turistico, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is the tourist office, please?

**L'ufficio turistico? Là in fondo, a sinistra,  
proprio dopo il fioraio.**

The tourist office? Over there, on the left, just after the florist's shop.

**Grazie, signora.**

Thank you.

**Prego.**

Don't mention it.

Track 16

## Dialogue 1

### Tip

**Di nulla** is another way of saying *you're welcome* or *don't mention it*. The other way that you have come across is **prego**, which is rather informal.

**Scusi, signora. Dov'è la mia camera, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is my room, please?

**La sua camera è al primo piano.**

Your room is on the first floor.

**Prenda l'ascensore.**

Take the lift.

**Dov'è l'ascensore, per favore?**

Where is the lift, please?

**Là in fondo, a sinistra ...**

Over there, on the left ...

**... di fronte alla reception.**

... opposite reception.

**Grazie.**

Thank you.

**Di nulla.**

You're welcome.



LANGUAGE LAB

Here are the numbers from zero to five.

0 **zero**

1 **uno/una**

2 **due**

3 **tre**

4 **quattro**

5 **cinque**

1st **primo/prima**

2nd **secondo/seconda**

3rd **terzo/terza**

4th **quarto/quarta**

5th **quinto/quinta**

Track 17

## Dialogue 2

**Tip**

**Al piano terra**  
means *on the level of the earth or the ground*: **terra** is *earth* (think of ‘terrestrial’). You’ll often see the letters **T** or **PT** for **piano terra** on the lift button for the ground floor.

**Tip**

**il bancomat**  
the cash dispenser

**Bancomat** is short for **banco automatico** – ‘automatic bank’. To remember it, think of a robot, or automaton, sitting behind it and handing out cash.

**Scusi, signora. Dov’è il bar, per favore?**

Excuse me. Where is the bar, please?

**Il bar è al piano terra.***The bar is on the ground floor.***Scusi, non capisco.**

Sorry, I don’t understand.

**Parla inglese?**

Do you speak English?

**No, mi dispiace.**

No, I’m sorry.

**Il bar è al piano terra ...***The bar is on the ground floor ...***... dopo la reception ...***... after or beyond reception ...***... a sinistra.***... on the left.***Dov’è il bancomat, per favore?**

Where is the cash machine, please?

**Non lo so ...**

I don’t know ...

**... ma c’è un ufficio di cambio all’uscita.***... but there’s a bureau de change at the exit.***Grazie, signora.**

Thank you.

**Prego.***Don’t mention it.*

**Capisco** means *I understand*. To say you don’t understand, you put **non** before the verb: **non capisco** *I don’t understand*.

**Lo so** is *I know*. **Lo** means *it* and you have to include it in Italian, but not in English. To say *I don’t know*, you put **non** before the expression: **non lo so** *I don’t know*.

When you hear **non** you know a negative statement is coming up: *I don’t know non lo so; I don’t understand non capisco; there isn’t a lift non c’è l’ascensore.*

# UNIT 5

I would like ... · Vorrei ...

This unit is about how to ask for a drink.

Track 27

## Key phrases

### Tip

**acqua minerale**  
mineral water

The word for *water* is **acqua**. Think of an aquarium, a place with lots of water. You know that in Italian the words are often the other way round, so *a mineral water* is **un'acqua minerale**. The same applies to colours, so *red wine* is 'wine red', **vino rosso**, and *white wine* is **vino bianco**.

**Vorrei** I'd like

**Vorrei un caffè** I'd like a coffee

**Vorrei un tè** I'd like a tea

**Vorrei un'acqua minerale** I'd like a mineral water

**Vorrei una birra** I'd like a beer

**Vorrei un bicchiere di vino** I'd like a glass of wine

Track 29

## Dialogue 1

### Tip

**Desidera?** literally means *What do you desire?*, and it is what waiters and shop assistants will usually ask you.

Remember: don't try to understand every word; you don't need to.

**Buongiorno. Desidera?**

Good morning. What would you like?

**Vorrei un bicchiere di vino rosso, per favore.**

*I'd like a glass of red wine, please.*

**Tip**

**Chianti** and **Barbera** are both types of wine: **Chianti** is the name of a famous wine-producing area in Tuscany and the name given to wine from that area, and **Barbera** is the name of a wine from the wine-producing region of Piedmont.

Track 30

**Tip**

**Coffee & tea**  
If you ask for **un caffè**, you will get a small, black coffee. **Un espresso**, like **un caffè**, is a small black coffee. A coffee with milk is **un caffelatte** or **un cappuccino**. Tea is normally served without milk; a tea with milk is **un tè al latte**. If you ask for **un latte**, you'll get a glass of warm milk, so if you want what the English call *a latte*, ask for **un latte macchiato**.

**Ho un Chianti o una Barbera.**

I have Chianti or Barbera.

**Un Chianti, per favore.**

Chianti, please.

**Ecco a Lei, un bicchiere di Chianti.**

There you are, a glass of Chianti.

**Grazie.**

Thank you.

**Dialogue 2****Signori, buongiorno! Desiderano?**

Hello. What would you like?

**Un espresso, un cappuccino e un decaffeinato, per favore.**

A black coffee, a cappuccino and a decaffeinated coffee, please.

**Un espresso, un cappuccino e un decaffeinato.**

A black coffee, a white coffee and a decaffeinated coffee.

**Altro?**

Anything else?

**È tutto, grazie.**

That's all, thank you.



## LANGUAGE LAB

**Un** and **una** both mean *a*: **un espresso** *an espresso*; **una birra** *a beer*.

In Italian all nouns are either masculine or feminine. You have already met **il** (masculine) and **la** (feminine) meaning *the*. Remember: both the words for *a* and for *the* change according to whether a noun is masculine or feminine.

	masculine	feminine
a	<b>un</b>	<b>una</b>
the	<b>il</b>	<b>la</b>

If you look up a word in a dictionary, you can tell whether it is masculine or feminine because it will have *m* or *f* after it.

## UNIT 6

Have you got ... ? · Avete ... ?

Track 31

## Key phrases

**Avete ... ?** Have you got ... ?**Avete del pane?** Have you got any bread?**Avete del burro?** Have you got any butter?**Avete del sale?** Have you got any salt?**Avete del succo d'arancia?** Have you got any orange juice?**Avete della cioccolata calda?** Have you got any hot chocolate?**Avete dello zucchero?** Have you got any sugar?

## LANGUAGE LAB

You may wonder why some words have **del** in front of them and others have **della** or **dello**. In Italian, 'of the' is used to mean *some* or *any*. As you have seen, there are several words for *the* in Italian, and these combine with **di** (*of*) to make new words.

**di + il = del** (*of the* or *some* before masculine singular words)

**di + la = della** (*of the* or *some* before feminine singular words)

**di + lo = dello** (*of the* or *some* before masculine singular words beginning with **z**)

Track 32

## Listening and speaking

**Mi scusi. Avete del pane?**

Excuse me. Have you got any bread?

**Sì, certo. Il pane è là.**

Yes, certainly. The bread is over there.

**Scusi. Avete del succo d'arancia?**

Excuse me. Have you got any orange juice?

**Ehm ... sì! Eccolo, alla sua sinistra.**

Er ... yes! There it is, on your left.

**Scusi, signora. Avete del burro?**

Excuse me. Have you got any butter?

**Sì, certo. Il burro è là, alla sua destra.**

Yes, certainly. The butter is there, on your right.

Track 33

**Tip****grazie**

thank you

If someone asks you if you want something and you do want it, you must say **sì, grazie**, yes, thank you. If you don't want it, say **no, grazie, no, thank you**.

**Dialogue 1****Scusi, signora. Avete ancora del pane, per favore?**

Excuse me. Have you got some more bread, please?

**Del pane? Certo.**

More bread? Of course.

**Subito.**

Straight away.

**E ... avete ancora del latte?**

And ... do you have some more milk?

**Sì, subito.**

Yes, straight away.

**E ... avete ancora del succo d'arancia?**

And ... is there some more orange juice?

**No, mi dispiace. Vuole del succo di mela?**

No, sorry. Would you like some apple juice?

**No, grazie.**

No, thank you.

Track 34

**Dialogue 2****Tip****Delle fette**

**biscottate** means some melba toast – **fette** is the word for 'slices', and **biscottate** is literally 'hard, like biscuits'. By now you will be getting used to listening out for words the wrong way round.

**Scusi. Dove sono i cereali?**

Excuse me. Where are the cereals?

**Là, sul tavolo ...**

Over there on the table ...

**... alla sua sinistra.**

... on your left.

**Vuole delle fette biscottate?**

Do you want some melba toast?

**No, grazie.**

No, thank you.

**Avete ancora del latte, per favore?**

Have you got some more milk, please?

**Sì, subito.**

*Yes, straight away.*

**E ... avete del dolcificante, per favore?**

And ... have you got some sweetener, please?

**Sì, glielo vado a prendere.**

*Yes, I'll go and get it for you.*

**Grazie.**

Thank you.

# UNIT 7

## Can you help me? · Mi può aiutare?

This unit is about asking the way.

Track 35

### Tip

**Mi può aiutare?**

Can you help me?

**Aiutare** means *aid* or *help*; **mi può aiutare?** means *can you help me?*, but in Italian you put the *me* in front of *can* and say *me can you help?*

## Key phrases

**Mi può aiutare?** Can you help me?

**Vorrei andare a ...** I'd like to go to ...

**È lontano?** Is it far?

**Prenda la Metro.** Take the underground.

**Può ripetere, per favore?** Can you say that again, please?

Track 36

## Listening and speaking

### Tip

**È lontano?**

Is it far?

*Yes, it's a long way is sì, è lontano.* If you want to say *no, it's not far*, remember to put the **non** before the verb: **no, non è lontano.**

**Scusi, signora. Mi può aiutare? Vorrei andare in Piazza Navona.**

Excuse me. Can you help me? I want to go to Piazza Navona.

**È abbastanza lontano. Prenda l'autobus.**

*It's quite a long way: take a bus.*

**Mi scusi. Mi può aiutare? Vorrei andare al Colosseo.**

**È lontano?**

Excuse me. Can you help me? I want to go to the Colosseum.

Is it far?

**Sì, è lontano: prenda la Metro.**

*Yes, it's a long way: take the underground.*

**Può ripetere, per favore?**

Can you say that again, please?

**È lontano: prenda la Metro.**

*It's a long way: take the underground.*

**Ah! Grazie.**

Ah! Thank you.

**Scusi, signora. Mi può aiutare? Vorrei andare alla Cappella Sistina. È lontano?**

Excuse me. Can you help me? I want to go to the Sistine Chapel.  
Is it far?

**No, non è lontano. È a due minuti da qui.**

No, it isn't far. It's two minutes from here.

**Mi scusi. Mi può aiutare? Vorrei andare all'aeroporto di Fiumicino. È lontano?**

Excuse me. Can you help me? I want to go to Fiumicino Airport.  
Is it far?

**Fiumicino? Eh ... sì, è abbastanza lontano.**

**Prenda l'autobus, o il Leonardo Express.**

**Il Leonardo Express è più veloce.**

Fiumicino? Er ... yes, it's quite a long way. Take the bus,  
or the Leonardo Express. The Leonardo Express is faster.

**Molte grazie.**

Many thanks.

**Mi scusi. Mi può aiutare? Vorrei andare alla Fontana di Trevi. È lontano?**

Excuse me. Can you help me? I want to go to the Trevi Fountain.  
Is it far?

**Mmm ... sì. Prenda la Metro, la linea A, e scenda alla fermata Barberini.**

Mmm ... yes. Take the underground, Line A,  
and get off at Barberini.

**Può ripetere, per favore?**

Can you say that again, please?

**Prenda la linea A della Metro e scenda alla fermata Barberini.**

Take the underground, Line A, and get off at Barberini.

Track 37

**Tip**

**Prenda, take,** is a very useful word.

**Prenda la Metro**

Take the underground

**Prenda il treno**

Take the train

**Prenda l'autobus**

Take the bus

**Prenda un taxi**

Take a taxi

**Prenda il Leonardo Express**

Take the Leonardo Express (a fast suburban train which goes to Fiumicino Airport)

## Dialogue 1

**Mi scusi. Mi può aiutare?**

Excuse me. Can you help me?

**Sì?**

Yes?

**Vorrei andare alla Stazione Termini.**

I'd like to go to Termini Station.

**È abbastanza lontano: prenda la Metro.**

It's quite a long way: take the underground.

**Dov'è la fermata della Metro?**

Where is the underground station?

**C'è una fermata a due minuti da qui.**

There's an underground station two minutes from here.

**All'uscita, giri a sinistra, e la fermata della****Metro è proprio là.**

At the exit, turn left, and the underground station is just there.

**Ehm ... Può ripetere, per favore?**

Er ... Can you repeat that, please?

**Certo ...**

Certainly ...

**... all'uscita, giri a sinistra.**

... at the exit, turn left.

**La fermata della Metro è proprio là.**

The underground station is just there.

**Grazie.**

Thank you.

**Di nulla. Buona giornata, signora!**

Don't mention it. Have a good day!

Track 38

## Dialogue 2

**Tip**

**a piedi** on foot

To say *you can walk* there the Italians usually say *you can go there on foot*: **Ci può andare a piedi.**  
**Ci - there - può - you can - andare - go - a piedi - on foot.**

**Scusi, signora. Mi può aiutare?**

Excuse me. Can you help me?

**Sì?**

Yes?

**Vorrei andare alla Cappella Sistina.**

I'd like to go to the Sistine Chapel.

**È lontano?**

Is it far?

**No, non è lontano per niente.**

No, it's not far at all.

**Tip**

**Chiuso**, *shut* or *closed*, and **aperto**, *open*, are the signs you will see on shop doors or at ticket counters.

**Ci può andare a piedi.**

You can walk there.

**Ma è chiusa oggi.**

But it's closed today.

**È domenica.**

It's Sunday.

**Mi scusi, non capisco.**

Sorry, I don't understand.

**Può ripetere, per favore?**

Can you say that again, please?

**La Cappella Sistina è chiusa oggi.**

The Sistine Chapel is closed today.

**È chiusa la domenica.**

It's closed on Sundays.

**Vada a Villa Borghese.**

Go to Villa Borghese.

**È aperta la domenica.**

It's open on Sundays.

**Villa ...?**

Villa ...?

**Villa Borghese.**

Villa Borghese.

**Non è lontano.**

It is not far.

**Grazie, signora.**

Thank you.

**Prego.**

You're welcome.

Some places to visit in Rome:

**la Cappella Sistina** the Sistine Chapel

**il Colosseo** the Colosseum

**la Basilica di San Pietro** St Peter's Basilica

**Piazza Navona** Piazza Navona

**la Fontana di Trevi** the Trevi Fountain

**Villa Borghese** Villa Borghese

and places to travel to and from:

**la Stazione Termini** Termini railway station

**l'aeroporto di Fiumicino** Fiumicino Airport

# UNIT 8

I'd like to go to ... · Vorrei andare a ...

Track 39

## Key phrases

**Vorrei andare a ...** I'd like to go to ...

The words for these places look and sound like the English words.

- ... **alla posta** ... to the post office
- ... **in banca** ... to the bank
- ... **in farmacia** ... to the chemist's
- ... **al centro commerciale** ... to the shopping centre
- ... **al mercato** ... to the market
- ... **al campeggio** ... to the camp site
- ... **al parcheggio** ... to the car park
- ... **all'ospedale** ... to the hospital
- ... **al cinema** ... to the cinema
- ... **alla stazione** ... to the station
- ... **al castello** ... to the castle

These are less like English:

- ... **alla spiaggia** ... to the beach
- ... **in piscina** ... to the swimming pool

### LANGUAGE LAB

You may wonder why some words have **alla** in front of them and others have **all'** or **al**. The word for *to* is usually **a**, so *to the station* is **alla stazione**. But the Italians don't like the sound of **a il**, so they change it to **al**: so *to the cinema* is **al cinema**. Before a word starting with a vowel or **h**, both **alla** and **al** become **all'**, so *to the hospital* is **all'ospedale**.

Many features of Italian grammar are to do with making things easier to pronounce.

Track 40

## Listening and speaking

**Vorrei andare al mercato.**

I'd like to go to the market.

**Dov'è la banca, per favore?**

Where is the bank, please?

**Per andare alla posta, per favore?**

How do I get to the post office, please?

**Vorrei andare in farmacia, per favore.**

I'd like to go to the chemist's.

**Alla stazione, per favore, presto!**

To the station, please, quickly!

**Vogliamo andare alla spiaggia oggi pomeriggio.**

We want to go to the beach this afternoon.

**I bambini vogliono andare in piscina.**

The children want to go to the swimming pool.

**Vogliamo andare al castello.**

We want to go to the castle.

**Presto, faccia presto. Devo andare all'ospedale.**

Quickly, hurry up. I must get to the hospital.

**Vorrei andare al cinema.**

I'd like to go to the cinema.

Track 41

## Dialogue

**Mi scusi. Ha una piantina della città?**

Excuse me. Have you got a street map?

**Ah, buongiorno, signora Smith!**

Ah, good morning, Mrs Smith!

**No, mi dispiace.**

No, sorry.

**Tip**

**una piantina della città**

a street map

A street map is **una piantina della città**, *a plan of the city*; **città** is the word for *city or town*. A road map is **una cartina**.

**Tip**

**Fare spese** literally means *to do some spending*. **Fare** means *to do or to make*, and **spese** is the word for *shopping*. However, a lot of young people say **fare shopping**, which you might find easier to remember.

**Non ho più piantine.**

I haven't got any maps left.

**Dove vuole andare?**

Where do you want to go?

**Vorrei fare spese.**

I'd like to do some shopping.

**Allora, vada al centro commerciale.**

Then I suggest you go to the shopping centre.

**Dov'è il centro commerciale, per favore?**

Where is the shopping centre, please?

**Vada fino al semaforo ...**

Go as far as the traffic lights ...

**... e poi giri a sinistra.**

... and then turn left.

**È sempre dritto.**

It's straight ahead.

**È lontano?**

Is it far?

**Sì, è abbastanza lontano.**

Yes, it's quite far.

**Non ha la macchina?**

You're not driving?

**No.**

No.

**Allora, prenda l'autobus.**

Then take the bus.

**Ehm ... vediamo ...**

Er ... let's see ...

**... l'orario degli autobus ...**

... the bus timetable ...

**Ecco.**

Here we are.

**Prenda il dieci,**

Take the number ten,

**davanti all'hotel.**

in front of the hotel.

**Grazie.**

Thank you.

**Prego. Buona giornata.**

You're welcome. Have a good day.



## LANGUAGE LAB

Here are the numbers 6 to 10. (If you need to revise 1 to 5, turn to Unit 4.)

- |    |              |
|----|--------------|
| 6  | <b>sei</b>   |
| 7  | <b>sette</b> |
| 8  | <b>otto</b>  |
| 9  | <b>nove</b>  |
| 10 | <b>dieci</b> |



## LANGUAGE LAB

Did you notice that, when someone is giving instructions, the verb often ends in an 'ah' sound? It is written **-a**.

- |               |      |
|---------------|------|
| <b>prenda</b> | take |
| <b>vada</b>   | go   |
| <b>faccia</b> | do   |

The other possibility is an 'ee' sound. It is written **-i**.

- |                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| <b>giri</b>     | turn     |
| <b>continui</b> | carry on |

So, if you hear the 'ah' or the 'ee' sound at the end of a verb, you are probably being told to do something: **attenda** wait, **dica** say, **scriva** write, **ascolti** listen.

# UNIT 9

I'd like a room · Vorrei una camera

Track 51

## Key phrases

**una camera** a room

**per una persona** for one person

**per due persone** for two people

**per una notte** for one night

**per due notti** for two nights

**per una settimana** for a week

**per il weekend** for the weekend

**per fumatori** smoking

**per non fumatori** non-smoking

Track 52

## Listening practice

**Vorrei una camera per una persona per una notte,  
per favore.**

I'd like a single room for one night, please.

**Vorrei una camera per due persone per una settimana,  
per favore.**

I'd like a double room for a week, please.

**Vorrei una camera per due persone per il weekend,  
per favore.**

I'd like a double room for the weekend, please.

**Vorrei una camera per non fumatori per una persona  
per due notti, per favore.**

I'd like a non-smoking single room for two nights, please.

**Vorrei una camera per due persone per il weekend,  
con vista sul mare.**

I'd like a double room for the weekend, with a sea view.

Track 54

## Dialogue

### Buongiorno, signora. Mi dica pure.

Good afternoon. Can I help you?

**Sì, buongiorno. Vorrei una camera per una persona per due notti, per favore.**

Yes, good afternoon. I'd like a single room for two nights, please.

### Vediamo ... sì ... per fumatori o non fumatori?

Let's see ... yes ... smoking or non-smoking?

**Non fumatori, per favore.**

Non-smoking, please.

### Ecco. La camera centodieci ...

Here you are. Room one hundred and ten ...

### ... al primo piano.

... on the first floor.

**C'è l'ascensore?**

Is there a lift?

### Mi dispiace.

I'm sorry.

### L'ascensore è guasto.

The lift is out of order.

### Le scale sono là in fondo, alla sua destra.

The stairs are over there, to your right.

**Molte grazie.**

Many thanks.

### Prego, signora. Buona serata.

You're welcome. Have a good evening.



Here are some larger numbers, alongside the numbers 1 to 5, and 10, which you have already met:

1	<b>uno</b>	10	<b>dieci</b>	100	<b>cento</b>
2	<b>due</b>	20	<b>venti</b>	200	<b>duecento</b>
3	<b>tre</b>	30	<b>trenta</b>	300	<b>trecento</b>
4	<b>quattro</b>	40	<b>quaranta</b>	400	<b>quattrocento</b>
5	<b>cinque</b>	50	<b>cinquanta</b>	500	<b>cinquecento</b>

If you can remember the numbers 0 to 10, you can say any larger number one digit at a time, whether it is a room number, a telephone number, a postcode or a price.

# UNIT 10

## It hurts · Ho mal di ...

Talking about what is wrong with you physically, what hurts ...

Track 55

### Key phrases

**Ho mal di testa.** I've got a headache.

**Ho mal di gola.** I've got a sore throat.

**Ho mal di pancia.** I've got tummy ache.

**Ho mal di denti.** I've got toothache.

**Ho mal di schiena.** I've got backache.

**Ho la febbre.** I've got a temperature/a fever.

**Sono stanco/stanca.\*** I'm tired.

\* A man would say **sono stanco** and a woman would say **sono stanca**.

Track 56

### Listening practice

#### Tip

**A presto**

See you later

If you are sending a text message, you can end it with **ap.**

**Buongiorno, signor Gilberti. Come va?**

Hello, Mr Gilberti. How are you?

**Buongiorno, signora Brunetti. Non va molto bene. Ho mal di schiena.**

Hello, Mrs Brunetti. I'm not very well. I've got backache.

**Aaaaah, signor Gilberti, mi dispiace.**

Oh, I'm very sorry, Mr Gilberti.

**Buongiorno, Giulia. Come va?**

Hello, Giulia. How are you?

**Male! Ho mal di testa, sono sicura di avere la febbre. Vado a letto.**

Not well! I've got a headache, and I'm sure I've got a temperature. I'm going to bed.

**Buona idea. A presto.**

Good idea. See you soon.

**Tip**

**la farmacia**  
the chemist's

In Italy you buy medicines mainly at a chemist's, but you can get things like throat pastilles or aspirin in a supermarket. For most minor ailments you don't need a prescription and the chemist will be able to help you. The sign for a chemist's is a green cross. Some are made of neon tubing, and if the chemist's is open, the sign will be flashing. If it isn't open, there will be a sign on the door telling you where the nearest duty chemist's is.

**Buongiorno, Cristiano. Come va?**

Hello, Cristiano. How are you?

**Mah ... ho mal di gola, non faccio altro che tossire.**

*Oh ... I've got a sore throat and I can't stop coughing.*

**Bisogna andare dal medico.**

You must go to the doctor's.

**Sì, hai ragione.**

*Yes, you're right.*

**Guarisci presto!**

Get well soon!

**Grazie.**

*Thanks.*

**Ciao, Antonio. Come va?**

Hi, Antonio. How are you?

**Male. Ho un terribile mal di denti.**

*Bad. I've got terrible toothache.*

**Bisogna andare dal dentista.**

You'll have to see the dentist.

**Buongiorno, signora Gigli. Ha l'aria stanca.**

Hello, Mrs Gigli. You look tired.

**Eh, sì. Ho l'influenza. Il medico mi ha dato una ricetta. Vado in farmacia.**

*Yes. I've got flu. The doctor has given me a prescription.*

*I'm on my way to the chemist's.*

**Guarisca presto.**

Get well soon.

**Grazie. Arrivederci.**

*Thank you. See you soon.*

Track 57

## Dialogue

**Buongiorno, Caterina.**

Hello, Caterina.

**Buongiorno, Ugo. Come va?**

*Hello, Ugo. How are you?*

**Non va per niente bene.**

I'm not at all well.

**Che cos'ha?**

*What's wrong?*

**Sto male.**

I'm poorly.

**Ho mal di testa ...**

I've got a headache ...

**... ho la febbre ...**

... I've got a temperature ...

**Bisogna andare dal medico.**

You must go to the doctor's.

**Dov'è lo studio medico?**

Where is the surgery?

**A duecento metri, a sinistra.**

Two hundred metres away, on your left.

**Ma chiude a mezzogiorno.**

But it closes at noon.

**Faccia presto!**

Hurry!

**Grazie, Caterina. A presto.**

Thank you, Caterina. See you soon.

**Arrivederci, Ugo. Guarisca presto.**

Goodbye, Ugo. Get well soon.

**Bisogna** means *it is necessary* or *you have to* or *you need to* or *you must*:

**Bisogna andare dal medico** You must go to the doctor's

**Bisogna sbrigarsi** You'll have to hurry

**Bisogna cambiare dei soldi** You need to change some money

**Bisogna andare all'aeroporto** You'll have to go to the airport

It is a very useful way of telling someone what they should do.

# UNIT 11

I'd like an appointment · Vorrei un appuntamento

If you are going to make appointments to see a doctor or dentist, or anyone else, you need to be able to understand the answers to the question **Quando ...? When ...?**

Track 58

**Tip**

**Prossimo (prossima)** in the feminine), meaning *next*, is a useful word. Like *next*, it can be used to refer to place as well as time.

**Prenda la prossima strada a destra**

Take the next road on the right

**Prenda il prossimo treno**

Take the next train

## Key phrases

**Vorrei un appuntamento** I want to make an appointment

**Quando?** When?

**oggi** today

**domani** tomorrow

**lunedì prossimo** next Monday

**venerdì prossimo** next Friday

**la settimana prossima** next week

**Me lo può scrivere, per favore?** Can you write it down for me, please?

Track 59

## Listening practice

**Tip**

Some people you may want to make an appointment with are:

**il medico**

the doctor

**il dentista**

the dentist

**l'infermiere/  
l'infermiera**

the nurse

**il/la fisioterapista**

the physio

**il veterinario**

the vet

**Vorrei un appuntamento con il medico, per favore.**

I'd like to make an appointment with the doctor, please.

**Posso darle un appuntamento con il dottor**

**Petri oggi alle dieci.**

You can see Doctor Petri today at ten o'clock.

**Me lo può scrivere, per favore?**

Can you write that down for me, please?

**Buongiorno, signora. Vorrei un appuntamento con il dentista, per favore.**

Hello. I'd like to make an appointment with the dentist, please.

**Le posso dare un appuntamento lunedì prossimo alle quattordici.**

You can see the dentist next Monday at two p.m.

**Può ripetere, per favore?**

Can you say that again, please?

**Sì: lunedì prossimo alle quattordici.**

Yes: next Monday at two p.m.

**Quando ho appuntamento con l'infermiere, per favore?**

What time is my appointment with the nurse, please?

**Ha appuntamento con l'infermiere venerdì prossimo alle undici e mezza.**

Your appointment with the nurse is next Friday at half past eleven.

**Me lo può scrivere, per favore?**

Can you write that down for me, please?

**Ha appuntamento con il signor Martini domani alle tredici.**

You have an appointment with Mr Martini tomorrow at one p.m.

**Me lo può scrivere, per favore?**

Can you write it down for me, please?

**Bisogna fissare un appuntamento con il fisioterapista la settimana prossima.**

You need to make an appointment with the physiotherapist next week.

**Andiamo alla partita di calcio lunedì prossimo.**

**La partita comincia alle venti.**

We're going to the football match next Monday. The match starts at eight p.m.

Track 61

## Dialogue

### Tip

**Pronto** is how you say *Hello* when you answer the telephone, but when you are making the call, you say **buongiorno**.

**Pronto, studio medico. Mi dica.**

Hello, doctor's surgery. Can I help you?

**Buongiorno, signora. Vorrei un appuntamento con il dottor Petri, per favore.**

Hello. I'd like to make an appointment with Doctor Petri, please.

**Quando vuole venire?**

When do you want to come?

**Oggi?**

Today?

**Tip****The days of the week****lunedì** Monday**martedì** Tuesday**mercoledì**

Wednesday

**giovedì** Thursday**venerdì** Friday**sabato** Saturday**domenica** Sunday

The days of the week  
don't have a capital  
letter in Italian.

**No, oggi non è possibile.**

No, today isn't possible.

**Ma le posso dare un appuntamento ...**

But I can give you an appointment ...

**... domani mattina alle undici.**

... tomorrow morning at eleven o'clock.

**Mi scusi. Può ripetere, per favore?**

Sorry. Can you say that again, please?

**Domani mattina, alle undici.**

Tomorrow morning, at eleven o'clock.

**A che nome?**

What's the name?

**Il signor Smith.**

Mr Smith.

**Il signor Smith. Perfetto. È prenotato.**

Mr Smith. Good. It's booked.

**Grazie. Arrivederci, signora.**

Thank you. Goodbye.

**Arrivederci.**

Goodbye.



You will need the numbers 1 to 24 for telling the time.

**LANGUAGE LAB**

1	<b>uno/una</b>	9	<b>nove</b>	17	<b>diciassette</b>
2	<b>due</b>	10	<b>dieci</b>	18	<b>diciotto</b>
3	<b>tre</b>	11	<b>undici</b>	19	<b>diciannove</b>
4	<b>quattro</b>	12	<b>dodici</b>	20	<b>venti</b>
5	<b>cinque</b>	13	<b>tredici</b>	21	<b>ventuno</b>
6	<b>sei</b>	14	<b>quattordici</b>	22	<b>ventidue</b>
7	<b>sette</b>	15	<b>quindici</b>	23	<b>ventitré</b>
8	<b>otto</b>	16	<b>sedici</b>	24	<b>ventiquattro</b>

**all'una** at one o'clock**alle undici e mezza** at half past eleven**alle tredici** at one p.m. (literally, thirteen hours)

# UNIT 12 What's it like? · Com'è?

This unit is about saying whether you like things or not and why.

Track 62

## Key phrases

**Mi piace** I like

**Non mi piace** I don't like

**Preferisco** I prefer

**È fantastico** It's great

**È buono** It's good

**È delizioso** It's delicious

**È troppo secco** It's too dry

**È troppo dolce** It's too sweet

Track 63

## Listening practice

**Mangiamo al ristorante stasera?**

How about eating at a restaurant tonight?

**No, grazie. Preferisco una pizza da asporto.**

No, thanks. I'd rather have a take-away pizza.

**Mangiamo al ristorante stasera?**

How about eating at a restaurant tonight?

**D'accordo, è una buona idea. Mi piace mangiare al ristorante.**

OK, that's a good idea. I like eating out.

**Mangiamo al ristorante stasera?**

How about eating at a restaurant tonight?

**Grazie dell'invito. Mi piace mangiare al ristorante.**

Thank you for the invitation. I like eating out.

**Mangiamo al ristorante stasera?**

How about eating at a restaurant tonight?

**Grazie, ma no. Non mi piace mangiare al ristorante. Preferisco una pizzeria.**

Thanks, but no. I don't like eating in restaurants.

I'd rather go to a pizzeria.

Track 65

**Tip**

Listen to what people say. They will often include words and expressions you can use in your replies or use again at a later date.

We are at a place where they offer **degustazione vini**.

**Degustazione** means *tasting*.

**Buongiorno, signora. Mi dica.**

Hello. Can I help you?

**Buongiorno. Vorrei acquistare del vino, per favore.**

Hello. I'd like to buy some wine, please.

**Preferisce il vino bianco o il vino rosso?**

Do you prefer white wine or red wine?

**Preferisco il vino bianco.**

I prefer white wine.

**Assagi questo vino bianco.**

Taste this white wine.

**È troppo secco per me.**

It's too dry for me.

**Provi questo.**

Try this one.

**Mmm ... questo è troppo dolce.**

Hmm ... this one's too sweet.

**E questo?**

And this one?

**Ah. Questo è delizioso. Prendo questo.**

Ah. This one's delicious. I'll take this one.

**Quante bottiglie desidera, signora?**

How many bottles would you like?

**Quanto costa la bottiglia?**

How much does it cost per bottle?

**Dieci euro la bottiglia, ...**

Ten euros per bottle, ...

**... cento euro per dodici bottiglie.**

... a hundred euros for twelve bottles.

40

**D'accordo. Ne prendo dodici bottiglie.**

Agreed. I'll take twelve bottles.

**Molto bene.**

Very good.

**Accettate le carte di credito?**

Do you take credit cards?

**Certo ...**

Of course ...

**Inserisca il codice, per favore, signora.**

Enter your pin, please.



When talking about **il vino** (masculine), you use **questo** for *this*.  
If you are talking about **la bottiglia** (feminine), you use **questa**.

	masculine	feminine
singular	<b>questo</b>	<b>questa</b> – this, this one
plural	<b>questi</b>	<b>queste</b> – these

### Tip

#### Speaking & understanding

It's the simple things that will make you sound Italian, like remembering to add **signora** when saying **buongiorno** to a woman and to say **per favore**, and using little words and phrases like **allora**, **d'accordo** and **di nulla**. But don't expect to understand everything everyone says to you: there are probably lots of times when you have to say 'pardon' or 'what?' in the course of a normal day – and that's in English!

You know some expressions beginning with **È**, *it is*. Here are some others:

**È eccellente** It's excellent

**È meraviglioso** It's marvellous

**È perfetto** It's perfect

**È magnifico** It's magnificent

**È OK** It's OK

**È interessante** It's interesting

**È terribile** It's terrible

**È ottimo** It's brilliant

**È pessimo** It's awful



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# Collins easy learning Italian

STAGE 2

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# INTRODUCTION

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Track 1

*Easy Learning Italian Stage 2* is an audio course for people who already know some Italian and want to take it a step further. This course consists of audio files with an accompanying booklet. There are 12 units, each divided into two parts. In the first part, *The basics*, you are given just a handful of key words or phrases to learn. If you already know some of the language in *The basics*, you can carry straight on to the second part of the unit, *Taking it further*, where you hear these words and phrases in short conversations. Finally, you are given the chance to say the words and phrases yourself. By learning just a few new words or phrases at a time, you can quickly build up a store of essential language that you can draw on when you need it.

Then a ***Di nuovo – Again*** section gives you the chance to revise and test your knowledge of the key words and phrases from the previous four units.

In the booklet you will find extracts from each unit, including the key phrases and dialogues, with translations and learning tips.

Remember: the optimum learning time for new material is about 8 to 10 minutes. Don't try to tackle too much at a time, and remember to take frequent breaks.

# UNIT 1 At the reception desk · Alla reception

Track 2

You will need to be able to understand the questions you are asked when you arrive in Italy and check in to your hotel – and learn how to answer them.

Tip

**Qual?**

This will help you remember the word **qual?** Think of a very inquisitive duck quacking around: **qual, qual, qual.**

## Key phrases

**Ho prenotato una camera** I've booked a room

**Qual è il suo nome?** What is your name?

**Qual è il suo indirizzo?** What is your address?

**Qual è il suo codice postale?** What is your post code?

**Qual è la sua nazionalità?** What is your nationality?

Track 3

## Listening and speaking

**Qual è il suo indirizzo?**

What is your address?

*Via Garibaldi 25, Modena.*

**Qual è la sua nazionalità?**

What is your nationality?

*Mi scusi, non capisco.*

*Excuse me, I don't understand.*

**Nazionalità?**

Nationality?

*Ah ... sono francese.*

*Ah ... I'm French.*

**E qual è il suo codice postale?**

What is your postcode?

*41100 (quarantuno cento)*

Tip

**Accents**

è (with an accent) means *is*. The accent distinguishes it from e which means *and*. They are both pronounced eh, although the sound of è is more open.

Not many words have accents in Italian, but when they do, it means that the letter must be stressed: **città**, **caffè**, **così**, **però**, **menù**.

Track 4

## Dialogue

<b>Tip</b>	.....
<b>Saying what nationality you are</b>	
<b>Sono ...</b>	<i>I am ...</i>
(male/female)	
<b>inglese</b>	<i>English</i>
<b>canadese</b>	<i>Canadian</i>
<b>scozzese</b>	<i>Scottish</i>
<b>francese</b>	<i>French</i>
<b>galles</b>	<i>Welsh</i>
<b>irlandese</b>	<i>Irish</i>
<b>americano/a</b>	
<i>American</i>	
<b>australiano/a</b>	
<i>Australian</i>	
<b>spagnolo/a</b>	
<i>Spanish</i>	
<b>italiano/a</b>	
<i>Italian</i>	

### Buongiorno, mi dica pure.

Hello. Can I help you? (literally 'Do tell me')

**Ho prenotato una camera.**

*I've booked a room.*

### A che nome, per favore?

What name, please?

**Williams, Stephen Williams.**

### Qual è il suo indirizzo?

What is your address?

**25 Main Street, Manchester.**

### Qual è la sua nazionalità?

What is your nationality?

**Mi scusi, può ripetere, per favore?**

*Excuse me. Could you repeat, please?*

### La sua nazionalità, è inglese?

Your nationality, are you English?

**Sì, inglese.**

*Yes, English.*

### Per quante notti?

For how many nights?

**Tre notti.**

*Three nights.*

### Benissimo, ecco la chiave: camera 25.

Very good, here's the key: room 25.

**Grazie.**

*Thank you.*

### Grazie a Lei.

Thank you.

## LANGUAGE LAB



### The Italian alphabet and how to sound out letters

a (ah), b (bee), c (chee), d (dee), e (eh), f (effeh), g (jee), h (accah), i (ee), l (elleh), m (emmeh), n (enneh), o (oh), p (pee), q (koo), r (erre), s (esseeh), t (tee), u (oo), v (voo), z (zehta).

The foreign letters are: j (ee loongah), k (kappah), w (voo doppia), x (eecs), y (ee grecah or ipsilon).

Letters to watch out for: a (ah), e (eh), i (ee), o (oh), u (oo).

The vowels are sometimes written with an accent to show that the letter is stressed when the word is pronounced: **città, caffè, così, però, menù.**

## LANGUAGE LAB



When you are spelling out a name that consists of two words, such as **La Spezia**, you spell **La** and then say **staccato**, which means *detached* or *next word* and then **Spezia**.

**L, A, staccato S, P, E, Z, I, A** La next word Spezia

# UNIT 2

## Hiring a car · Noleggiare un'auto

Track 6

In this unit you will learn how to say some numbers in Italian so that you can give your phone number and take down someone else's number. Numbers will also be useful for telling the time and understanding prices.

### Key phrases

**Vorrei noleggiare un'auto**

I'd like to hire a car

**Il mio numero di telefono è ...**

My telephone number is ...

**Il mio numero di cellulare è ...**

My mobile number is ...

**Me lo può scrivere, per favore?**

Can you write it down for me, please?

Track 8

### Listening and speaking

In Italian phone numbers are given in pairs.

#### Tip

**un cellulare**

a mobile phone

How are you going to remember the word for a mobile?

**Cellulare** begins like cellphone, the word used in the USA to indicate a mobile phone. A *cell(ular) phone*, **un cellulare**.

Another word often used is **un**

**telefonino**, a small telephone, so *a mobile*.

**03 47 22 38 17.**

**zero tre zero**

**quarantasette quarantasette**

**ventidue ventidue**

**trentotto trentotto**

**diciassette diciassette**

Learn your own phone numbers off by heart so you can say them easily.

If you need your country code (**il prefisso**), it starts with **zero zero** and then the number for the country: **zero zero quarantaquattro** **00 44** for the UK.

Remember you can always ask someone to repeat a number:

**Può ripetere?** Could you repeat? or write it down: **Me lo può scrivere, per favore?** Can you write that down for me, please?

Track 9

## Dialogue

### Pronto?

Hello? (**Pronto?** is how you answer the phone in Italian.)

**Buongiorno.**

Hello.

### Mi dica.

I'm listening. (literally 'Tell me')

**Vorrei noleggiare un'auto per il weekend.**

*I would like to hire a car for the weekend.*

### A che nome?

What name? (literally 'At what name?')

**Smith.**

### Come si scrive?

How do you spell that? (literally 'How do you write it?')

**S, M, I, T, H.**

### Qual è il suo numero di cellulare?

What is your mobile number?

**03 48 64 32 40.**

### Va bene. Il numero della sua prenotazione è B 23.

Fine. The number of your reservation is B 23.

**Può ripetere, per favore?**

*Can you repeat, please?*

### Sì, certo. B 23.

Yes, of course. B 23.

**B 23.**

*B 23.*

### Esatto. Grazie. Arrivederci.

That's right. Thank you. Goodbye.

**Grazie, arrivederci.**

*Thank you, goodbye.*

Track 10

## Extra – numbers 70 to 100

<b>settanta</b>	70
<b>settantacinque</b>	75
<b>ottanta</b>	80
<b>novanta</b>	90
<b>novantanove</b>	99
<b>cento</b>	100



## LANGUAGE LAB

0 <b>zero</b>	10 <b>dieci</b>
1 <b>uno</b>	11 <b>undici</b>
2 <b>due</b>	12 <b>dodici</b>
3 <b>tre</b>	13 <b>tredici</b>
4 <b>quattro</b>	14 <b>quattordici</b>
5 <b>cinque</b>	15 <b>quindici</b>
6 <b>sei</b>	16 <b>sedici</b>
7 <b>sette</b>	17 <b>diciassette</b>
8 <b>otto</b>	18 <b>diciotto</b>
9 <b>nove</b>	19 <b>diciannove</b>



## LANGUAGE LAB

20 **venti**60 **sessanta**30 **trenta**61 **sessantuno**40 **quaranta**62 **sessantadue**50 **cinquanta**

...

68 **sessantotto**69 **sessantanove**

The numbers from 20 to 99 are not difficult: just pick the number for the tens and add the units. The only thing to remember is that when you add **uno** or **otto** the word for the tens loses its last letter: **ventuno**, **ventotto**, **trentuno**, **trentotto**, **quarantuno**, **quarantotto**, etc.

70 **settanta**71 **settantuno**72 **settantadue**

...

78 **settantotto**80 **ottanta**82 **ottantadue**79 **settantanove**81 **ottantuno**

...

88 **ottantotto**90 **novanta**92 **novantadue**89 **ottantanove**91 **novantuno**

...

98 **novantotto**99 **novantanove**100 **cento**

Pick out the numbers you need for your own personal details (phone, mobile, address and postcode) and try to memorise them.

# UNIT 3

## Where are you from? · Di dov'è?

Track 11

This unit introduces you to questions you can use to start a conversation with someone you have just met.

### Key phrases

**Di dov'è?**

Where are you from?

**È qui per la prima volta?**

Is it your first time here?

**È in vacanza?**

Are you on holiday?

**Vuole bere qualcosa?**

Would you like a drink?

**Anch'io**

Me too

### Listening and speaking

Track 12

#### Tip

**sono qui per lavoro**

This literally means *I am here for work*, so *I am here on business*. Another expression you may hear is **per affari**. Although it sounds as if it might mean something romantic and exciting, it has nothing to do with a romantic affair. It is simply another way of saying *on business*.

**Sono qui per affari.**  
*I am here on business.***Buona sera.**

Good evening.

**Buona sera. Di dov'è?**

Good evening. Where do you come from?

**Sono di Milano. Sono milanese.**

I come from Milan. I'm a Milanese.

**È in vacanza?**

Are you on holiday?

**No, non sono in vacanza. Sono qui per lavoro.**

No, I'm not on holiday. I'm here on business.

**È qui per la prima volta?**

Is it your first time here?

**No, non è la prima volta. Vengo qui ogni anno.**

No, it's not the first time. I come here every year.

**Vuole bere qualcosa?**

Would you like a drink?

**Volentieri, grazie.**

With pleasure, thank you.



## LANGUAGE LAB

### Asking and answering questions

<u>question</u>	<u>answer</u>	<u>verb being used</u>
-----------------	---------------	------------------------

<b>è?</b>	you are?	<b>sono</b>	I am	<b>essere</b>	to be
<b b="" vuole?<=""></b>	you want?	<b b="" voglio<=""></b>	I want	<b b="" volere<=""></b>	to want
<b b="" può?<=""></b>	you can?	<b b="" posso<=""></b>	I can	<b b="" potere<=""></b>	to be able to

### More about verbs

If you look a verb up in a dictionary or on the internet you will find the infinitive – this is the part of the verb with to in English – *to run, to play, to walk.*

For more about verbs see *Collins Easy Learning Italian Verbs*.

Track 13

## Dialogue

### Tip

**sono di Milano**

To indicate their origin, Italians use the expression **sono di**, followed by the name of a town or by an adjective: **sono milanese** I am a Milanese.

**Buona sera.**

Hello.

**Buona sera. Vuole bere qualcosa?**

Good evening. Would you like a drink?

**Grazie, volentieri. Un bicchiere di vino bianco, per favore.**

Thank you, with pleasure. A glass of white wine, please.

**È in vacanza?**

Are you on holiday?

**No, sono qui per lavoro. E Lei?**

No, I am here on business. And you?

**Anch'io sono qui per lavoro. È qui per la prima volta?**

Me too. I am here on business. Are you here for the first time?

**Sì, e Lei?**

Yes, and you?

**Anch'io. Di dov'è?**

Me too. Where are you from?

**Tip****Cin cin!**

**Cin cin** is one of the ways you can say *cheers* in Italian. You can also say **Salute!** *Cheers!* – or simply say nothing and raise your glass to the person with a smile.

**Sono di Torino, ma adesso abito a Milano. E Lei?**

I come from Turin, but now I live in Milan. And you?

**Sono di Manchester, sono inglese.**

I'm from Manchester, I'm English.

**Ecco, signori. Due bicchieri di vino bianco.**

Here you are. Two glasses of white wine.

**Cin cin!**

Cheers!

**LANGUAGE LAB**

**Abito** means *I live*.

**abitare** is the verb *to live*. It's similar to our word *inhabit*.

**Abito a Londra** I live in London

**Abito a Milano** I live in Milan

**Abito in Inghilterra** I live in England

**Abito in Italia** I live in Italy

**Abito negli Stati Uniti** I live in the USA

**LANGUAGE LAB****Intonation**

When they're asking a question, Italians show it by the intonation, raising the tone slightly at the end of the sentence. **È in vacanza?** Are you on *holiday*? will end with a rising tone. **È in vacanza!** You're on *holiday*! will have a uniform intonation. Listen carefully for the difference on the audio files.

# UNIT 4

## What do you do? · Che lavoro fa?

Track 14

Talking about what jobs you and other people do.

### Tip

<b>What if you do something else?</b>
<b>Lavoro in proprio</b>
<i>I am self-employed</i> (literally 'I work on my own').
<b>Sono disoccupato/a</b>
<i>I am out of work.</i>
<b>la disoccupazione</b>
unemployment
<b>il tasso di</b>
<b>disoccupazione</b> the
unemployment rate

### Key phrases

<b>Che lavoro fa?</b>	What do you do?
<b>Sono consulente</b>	I'm a consultant
<b>Lavoro nell'informatica</b>	I work in information technology
<b>è interessante</b>	it's interesting
<b>è noioso</b>	it's boring
<b>è stressante</b>	it's stressful



### LANGUAGE LAB

Remember you can make statements negative by putting **non** before the verb.

<b>non sono consulente</b>	I'm not a consultant
<b>non è interessante</b>	it isn't interesting
<b>non è noioso</b>	it isn't boring
<b>non è stressante</b>	it isn't stressful

**LANGUAGE LAB**

Some jobs have different forms (masculine and feminine) depending on whether they are done by a man or by a woman:

<b>attore, attrice</b>	actor, actress
<b>studente, studentessa</b>	student
<b>parrucchiere, parrucchiera</b>	hairdresser

Some words are very like the words we use in English:

<b>pilota</b>	pilot
<b>giornalista</b>	journalist
<b>fotografo</b>	photographer

Other words are not so easy:

<b>infermiere/infermiera</b>	male/female nurse
------------------------------	-------------------

(you can remember these by thinking of someone who works in an infirmary)

<b>falegname</b>	joiner, carpenter
<b>idraulico</b>	plumber
<b>muratore</b>	builder
<b>commesso/commessa</b>	male/female shop assistant
<b>impiegato/impiegata</b>	male/female clerk, office worker
<b>maestro/maestra</b>	male/female primary school teacher

Track 15

**Listening and speaking**

What do they do and what do they think of their job?

**Che lavoro fa?**

What do you do?

*Sono agente di polizia.*

*I'm a police officer.*

**È interessante?**

Is it interesting?

*È appassionante!*

*It's really exciting!*

**Che lavoro fa?**

What do you do?

**Lavoro in una scuola elementare: sono maestra.***I work in a primary school: I'm a teacher.***È interessante?**

Is it interesting?

**Sì, ma è anche stressante!***Yes, but it's stressful too!***Che lavoro fa?**

What do you do?

**Lavoro in un negozio, sono commessa.***I work in a shop. I'm a sales assistant.*

Track 16

## Dialogue

**Tip**

Try and copy everyday expressions that people use and include them in your own conversations. **non molto, un po'** and **abbastanza** are three of those useful expressions. They mean not much, a bit and fairly.

**È interessante l'informatica?**

Is computing interesting?

**Non molto/un po'/abbastanza**

Not really/a bit/fairly.

**Che lavoro fa?**

What do you do? (literally 'What job do you do?')

**Sono tecnico informatico. Faccio siti internet.***I'm a computer technician. I make websites.***È interessante?**

Is it interesting?

**Abbastanza, e non è molto stressante. E Lei, che cosa fa?***Reasonably, and it's not very stressful. And you, what do you do?***Sono consulente.**

I'm a consultant.

**E com'è? È entusiasmante?***And what's it like, is it exciting?***Non molto, è un po' noioso. Che cosa fa stasera?**

Not much, it's a bit boring. What are you doing this evening?

**Niente di speciale.***Nothing special.*

**Possiamo cenare insieme?**

Can we have dinner together?

**Volentieri!**

With pleasure! (literally ‘willingly’)

**LANGUAGE LAB**

**Passione** in Italian has a slightly different meaning from *passion* in English.

**la mia passione è lo sci**

*my thing (passion) is skiing*

**sono un appassionato di calcio**

*I'm mad about football*

**è appassionato di sport**

*he's enthusiastic about sport*

**è appassionante**

*it's very exciting, fascinating*

**appassionante** comes from **passione** *passion* or *excitement*

**non è appassionante** means *it's not very exciting*

# UNIT 5

## How are you? · Come sta?

Track 26

When we meet someone and start a conversation, we usually ask, 'How are you?' The Italians do the same. This unit tells you how to ask and answer the question **Come sta?**

### Key phrases

**Come sta?**

How are you?

**Ha fame?**

Are you hungry?

**Ha sete?**

Are you thirsty?

**Ha freddo?**

Are you cold?

**Ha caldo?**

Are you hot?

**È stanco?**

Are you tired? (to a man)

**È stanca?**

Are you tired? (to a woman)

### LANGUAGE LAB



In English we say *I'm hungry*. The Italians say **ho fame** *I have hunger*. The Italians sometimes talk about 'having' something (the verb **avere** *to have*) whereas in English we talk about 'being' something.

**Ha fame?**

Are you hungry? (literally 'Have you hunger?')

**Ho fame/Non ho fame**

I'm hungry/not hungry

**Ha sete?**

Are you thirsty? (literally 'Have you thirst?')

**Ho sete/Non ho sete**

I'm thirsty/not thirsty

**Ha freddo?**

Are you cold? (literally 'Have you cold?')

**Ho freddo/Non ho freddo**

I'm cold/not cold

**Ha caldo?**

Are you hot? (literally 'Have you heat?')

**Ho caldo/Non ho caldo**

I'm hot/not hot

The Italians also use **avere** when talking about age.

**Quanti anni ha?** How old are you (literally 'How many years do you have?')

**Ho ventinove anni** I'm 29 (literally 'I have twenty-nine years')

Did you notice **È stanco/È stanca?** **È** means *you are* (the verb **essere** *to be*).

**È stanco/È stanca?\*** Are you tired?

**Sono stanco/stanca\*** I'm tired

**Non sono stanco/stanca\*** I'm not tired

\* The -a ending is used if you are a woman or talking to a woman.

**LANGUAGE LAB**

**avere** to have and **essere** to be are both irregular verbs.

**ho**  
I have

**sono**  
I am

**ha**  
you have

**è**  
you are

Remember the **non** to make them negative.

**non ho**  
I haven't

**non sono**  
I'm not

**non ha**  
you haven't

**non è**  
you're not

Track 27

**Listening and speaking****Tip****un po'**

This useful expression can be used in many contexts.

**un po' di vino**

a little wine

**Senta un po'**

Excuse me

**Pensa un po'!**

Just fancy that!

**Ho un po' fame**

I'm a bit hungry

**Resti ancora un po'**

Stay a bit longer

**ancora un po'**

a bit more

**Ha fame?**

Are you hungry?

**No, non ho fame, ho appena mangiato.**

No, I'm not hungry, I've just eaten.

**Di sicuro ha sete, dopo il viaggio ...**

You must be thirsty, after the journey ...

**Sì, ho molta sete. Berrei volentieri una birra.**

Yes, I am very thirsty. I would love a beer (literally 'I would drink willingly a beer')

**Ha freddo?**

Are you cold?

**Sì. Potrebbe alzare il riscaldamento?**

Yes. Could you put the heating up?

**Ho caldo. Potrebbe accendere l'aria condizionata?**

I'm hot. Could you put the air conditioning on?

**Mi dispiace, non abbiamo l'aria condizionata.****Deve aprire le finestre.**

I'm sorry, we don't have air conditioning. You have to open the windows.

**Deve essere stanco, dopo il viaggio.**

You must be tired after the journey.

**Sì, un po'.**

Yes, a bit.

**Non ha fame?**

You're not hungry?

**Sì, ho fame!**

Yes I am!

**Ha sete?**

Are you thirsty?

**Sì, ho molta sete.**

Yes, I'm very thirsty.

**No, non ho sete.**

No, I'm not thirsty.

Track 28

## Dialogue

**Buongiorno. Come sta? Di sicuro è stanco, dopo il viaggio ...**

Hello. How are you? You must be tired, after the journey ...

**Sì, un po'.**

Yes, a bit.

**Ha fame?**

Are you hungry?

**No, non ho fame.**

No, I'm not hungry.

**Ha freddo?**

Are you cold?

**Sì, ho un po' freddo.**

Yes, a bit.

**Vuole andare a bere qualcosa?**

Would you like to get a drink?

**Sì, ho sete!**

Yes, I'm thirsty!

**Che cosa vuole bere?**

What would you like to drink?

**Berrei volentieri una birra.**

I'd love a beer.

**Allora, andiamo al Bar della Stazione?**

Shall we go to the Bar della Stazione, then?

**Volentieri.**

With pleasure.

**LANGUAGE LAB**

The word **volentieri** literally means *willingly* and you can use it to show that you agree with what someone is suggesting and want to go along with it. It's an expression that can be used in many situations.

**berrei volentieri un bicchiere di vino bianco**

I'd love a glass of white wine

**berrei volentieri un tè**

I'd love a cup of tea

**Vuole andare al bar stasera?**

Would you like to go to the bar this evening?

**Volentieri.**

With pleasure (literally 'Willingly')

**Allora, andiamo al Bar della Stazione?**

Shall we go to the Bar della Stazione, then?

**Volentieri.**

With pleasure.

**Vuole mangiare qualcosa?** Would you like something to eat?**Volentieri!**

Great!

**Vuole andare a vedere un film?** Would you like to see a film?**Volentieri.**

Fine.

# UNIT 6

Do you want to go out this evening? ·  
**Vuoi uscire stasera?**

Track 29

Tip

**tu** and **Lei**

You use **tu** with:

- children and people who are close to you
- people who use your first name
- people who ask you to **dare** **del tu**, which is an invitation to call each other **tu**.

**tu** sounds like the number 2. In the **tu** form, practically all verbs end in **-i**, which is pronounced **-ee**, so it's easy to remember. Just think of a big number 2 – there are just the two of you ... and you're getting quite friendly (stress the **-ee** ending of friendly) ... **tu - i**.

You use **Lei** with:

- someone you don't know
- someone older than you
- work colleagues
- to show respect.

In Italian there are two ways of saying *you*. One form is used when you speak to someone older, someone you don't know well or generally to show respect. The other form is more informal and used for people you know well, people younger than yourself and children.

If you use the wrong form, the person you are talking to might think you are being rude and take offence. So far you have only been using the polite form, so you are quite safe. But now you are ready to get more friendly, so it's time to learn about the different ways of saying *you*.

## Key phrases

**Vuoi uscire stasera?**

Do you want to go out this evening?

**Vuoi andare a bere qualcosa?**

Would you like to go for a drink?

**Vuoi andare al ristorante?**

Would you like to go to a restaurant?

**Vuoi andare in un locale?**

Would you like to go to a club?

**Preferisci restare in albergo?**

Would you prefer to stay at the hotel?



## LANGUAGE LAB

Younger people use **tu** more frequently, but using **tu** assumes a familiarity that is not always acceptable from a non-native speaker – just as you might feel uncomfortable if a foreigner started calling you ‘mate’.

Listen to what someone is using when they speak to you: if they say **tu** or **Lei** it’s easy – just do the same. If you are not sure, listen for the **-a**, **-e** or **-o** (ah, eh or oh) sound (**parla** do you speak, **ha** have you, **è**, are you, **può** can you, **vuole** would you like, etc.). If someone is saying this, they are using the formal **Lei** form. When in doubt use **Lei**.

Don’t worry if you slip out of the **tu** form and start using **Lei** when you first start using **tu**. Most people do, nobody will mind and it is better that way round!



## LANGUAGE LAB

### More about verbs

The **tu** form always ends in **-i**, whereas the **io** (I) form ends in **-o**.

When new verbs are adopted from English or American, they become **-are** verbs.

<b>riciclare</b>	<b>mandare un fax</b>	<b>mandare un SMS</b>	<b>mandare un email</b>
to recycle	to send a fax	to send a text	to send an email

Track 30

## Listening and speaking

### Vuole andare in un locale stasera?

Do you want to go to a club tonight?

### Vuoi uscire stasera?

Would you like to go out tonight?

### Vuole andare al ristorante stasera?

Do you want to go to a restaurant this evening?

**Vuoi uscire stasera?**

Would you prefer to stay at the hotel?

**Vuoi accompagnarmi?**

Do you want to come with me?

**Hai sete?**

Are you thirsty?

**Vuoi andare a bere qualcosa?**

Would you like to go out for a drink?

Track 31

## Dialogue

**Buona sera, Filippo, sei stanco?**

Good evening, Filippo, are you tired?

**No, ho dormito in treno.**

No, I slept on the train.

**Vuoi uscire stasera?**

Would you like to go out tonight?

**Sì, volentieri.**

Yes, with pleasure.

**Vuoi andare al ristorante?**

Would you like to eat out?

**Sì, ma non ho ancora fame.**

Yes, but I'm not hungry yet.

**Hai sete?**

Are you thirsty?

**Sì, berrei volentieri una birra!**

Yes, I'd love a beer!

**Vuoi andare in un locale stasera?**

Would you like to go to a club this evening?

**Buona idea!**

Good idea!

# UNIT 7

What could we do? ·

Che cosa si potrebbe fare?

Track 32

In this unit you learn how to make suggestions: what could we do?

**Tip**

**si**

The Italians often use **si** to mean *one/we*.  
**si potrebbe andare a vedere un film**  
 we could go and see a film

**si va da Roberto**  
 we're going to Robert's (house)

**si beve del vino**  
 we're drinking wine

## Key phrases

**si potrebbe**

we could

**si potrebbe fare un barbecue**

we could have a barbecue

**si potrebbe fare una passeggiata**

we could go for a hike

**si potrebbe fare un giro in bicicletta**

we could go for a bike ride

**si potrebbe visitare un museo**

we could visit a museum

**si potrebbe guardare un DVD**

we could watch a DVD

**un barbecue** is often also referred to as '**una grigliata**'.



## LANGUAGE LAB

The verb **potere** means *to be able* or *to have the power* to do something. **Il potere** means *power*.

In English we say *I can* or *I am able to*.

**posso** I can

**si può**

one/we can

**potrei** I could

**si potrebbe**

one/we could

**può?** can you?

**Fare** means *to do* or *to make* but it is also used where we say *to have* or *to go* in English.

**fare una passeggiata/canoa/surf/ciclismo**

to have a walk/go canoeing/surf/cycle

**fare un pic-nic/un barbecue/una grigliata**

to have a picnic/barbecue

Track 33

## Listening and speaking

**Si potrebbe fare un barbecue stasera.**

We could have a barbecue this evening.

**Buona idea. Io porto della salsiccia.**

Good idea. I'll bring some sausages.

**Si potrebbe fare un giro in bicicletta domani.**

We could go for a bike ride tomorrow.

**Io non ho la bicicletta.**

I haven't got a bike.

**Te la presto io.**

I'll lend you one.

**Si potrebbe visitare il Palazzo Reale.**

We could visit the Royal Palace.

**Grazie, ma ci sono già stata.**

Thanks, but I've already been there.

**Si potrebbe fare una passeggiata.**

We could go for a hike.

**Sì, si potrebbe portare un pic-nic.**

Yes, we could take a picnic.

**Si potrebbe guardare un DVD.**

We could watch a DVD.

**È di fantascienza?**

Is it science-fiction?

**No, è un nuovo giallo.\***

No, it's a new thriller.

\* The first thrillers were printed by Mondadori with yellow covers, so 'un giallo' is a thriller (book or film).

Track 34

## Dialogue

**Domani mattina si potrebbe visitare il museo.**

Tomorrow morning we could visit the museum.

**Sì, volentieri. Mi piace visitare i monumenti storici.**

Yes, I'd like to. I like visiting historic buildings.

**Tip**  
.....  
**visitare**

**Visitare** is a false friend. You use **visitare** when you talk about visiting a castle or a museum, or somewhere where you are shown around, but not when you talk about visiting somebody (unless you are a doctor!). You say **andare a trovare** (literally *go and find*) or **andare a fare visita a** (literally *go and make a visit to*).

**vado a trovare la nonna**  
I'm going to see Gran  
**vado a trovare i miei**  
I'm going to see my parents  
**andare dai vicini**  
go to the neighbours' (house)  
**vado a fare visita a mio zio**  
I'm going to visit my uncle

**E la sera si potrebbe fare un barbecue.**

And in the evening we could have a barbecue.

**Fantastico. Io porto del vino. E domenica, che si fa?**

*Great. I'll bring some wine. And on Sunday, what are we doing?*

**Si potrebbe fare un giro in bicicletta.**

We could go for a bike ride.

**Non mi piace andare in bicicletta.**

*I don't like cycling.*

**Si potrebbe fare una passeggiata.**

We could go for a walk.

**Voglio portare la mia macchina fotografica digitale nuova.**

*I want to bring my new digital camera.*

**Si potrebbe fare un pic-nic.**

We could have a picnic.

**Perfecto. A domani.**

*Perfect. See you tomorrow.*



### LANGUAGE LAB

Most sports are masculine, for example **lo sci, il surf, il nuoto, il ciclismo**. If they don't involve a match, Italians use the verb **fare**: **faccio nuoto** *I swim*, **faccio surf** *I surf*. If the sporting activity involves a match, the verb **giocare** is used: **gioco a tennis** *I play tennis*, **gioco a calcio** *I play football*, **gioco a golf** *I play golf*.

**faccio atletica**

I do athletics

**faccio footing**

I go jogging

If you say you *don't do* something you just use **non**.

**non faccio sci**

I don't ski

**non faccio ciclismo**

I don't cycle

# UNIT 8

What do you do at the weekend? ·

## Che cosa fai il fine settimana?

Track 35

In this unit you practise talking about what you do at the weekend.

### Key phrases

**Mi riposo**

I have a rest

**Faccio la spesa**

I go shopping

**Faccio footing**

I go jogging

**Esco con gli amici**

I go out with friends

**Guardo una partita di calcio**

I watch a football match



### LANGUAGE LAB

There is another word meaning *to meet* – **incontrare**. You might find this easy to remember because it is like our word *encounter*. If you meet your friends by chance (encounter them), you can use **incontrare** but when you talk about meeting your friends (regularly or by arrangement) you say **esco con gli amici** (literally '*I go out with friends*') or **vedo gli amici** (literally '*I see my friends*'). These come from the verbs **uscire** and **vedere**.

The verb which means *to have a rest* is **riposarsi**. In Italian *you rest yourself*: **mi riposo**.

There are quite a few other verbs that do this.

**mi alzo** I get up (literally '*I raise myself*')

**mi vesto** I get dressed (literally '*I dress myself*')

**mi siedo** I sit down (literally '*I sit myself*')

To say that *one/we* do any of these things you use **ci si** instead of **mi**.

**ci si veste**

one gets/we get dressed

**ci si riposa**

one has/we have a rest

**ci si alza tardi**

one gets/we get up late

Track 36

**Tip****More weekend activities**

**Il fai-da-te or il bricolage** is DIY or making things with your hands and tools.  
**Bricofeर** is an Italian chain of DIY shops, like B&Q.

**faccio bricolage**

I do DIY

**taglio l'erba**

I cut the grass

**faccio giardinaggio**

I do the gardening

**faccio le faccende**

I do the housework

**tagliare** means *to cut*. **Un tosaerba** is a lawn mower.

**Listening and speaking****Che cosa fai il fine settimana?**

What do you do at the weekend?

*Il sabato faccio la spesa ed esco con gli amici.**On Saturday I go shopping and go out with my friends.***E la domenica?**

And on Sunday?

*Mi riposo e poi faccio footing o faccio una passeggiata con la famiglia.**I have a rest and then I go jogging or go for a walk with my family.***Che cosa fa il fine settimana?**

What do you do at the weekend?

*Di solito il sabato lavoro, ma la sera si fa spesso un barbecue.**I usually work on Saturday but in the evening we often have a barbecue.***Di solito la domenica si fa sport. Mio marito fa ciclismo ed io gioco a tennis con gli amici.***On Sunday we usually do sport. My husband goes cycling and I play tennis with friends.*

Track 37

**Dialogue****Allora, di solito lavori il sabato?**

Do you usually work on Saturday?

**No, di solito faccio la spesa, e tu?***No, I usually do the shopping, and you?***Io lavoro la mattina e poi faccio footing. Che cosa fai dopo la spesa?**

I work in the morning and then I go jogging. What do you do after shopping?

**Esco con gli amici.***I go out with friends.*

**Fate sport?**

You do sport?

**Be', no. Si va a bere qualcosa. E tu?**

Well, no. We go for a drink. And you?

**Io esco con gli amici e gioco a tennis. E la sera?**

I go out with friends and I play tennis. And in the evening?

**Guardo un DVD, e tu?**

I watch a DVD, and you?

**Dipende dal tempo ma di solito faccio un barbecue.**

It depends on the weather but usually I have a barbecue.

**Che cosa fai la domenica?**

What do you do on Sundays?

**Mi riposo. E tu?**

I have a rest. And you?

**Dipende dal tempo. Se fa bello faccio una passeggiata. E se piove vado in palestra. E tu?**

It depends on the weather. If it's nice I go for a walk. And if it rains I go to the gym. And you?

**Guardo una partita di calcio alla TV.**

I watch a football match on the TV.

**Tutto qui?**

Is that all?

**Sì, tutto qui!**

Yes, that's it!

# UNIT 9

## A holiday in Italy · Una vacanza in Italia

The first thing you have to do when you are going on holiday in Italy is decide where you want to stay.

Track 47

**Tip**

For a self-catering accommodation, you can rent **un appartamento**, **uno chalet** or **una villa**, an apartment, a chalet or a detached house

**Key phrases****Cerco un appartamento in affitto****C'è una piscina?****C'è una piscina****Non c'è una piscina****Quanto costa?****È troppo caro**

I'm looking for an apartment to rent

Is there a pool?

There is a pool

There isn't a pool

How much is it?

It's too expensive

Track 48

**Tip****alberghi e pensioni**

**albergo** is another word for hotel: **un albergo a cinque stelle** is a five-star hotel. A cheaper option is **una pensione**, a smaller, usually family-run hotel. **Bed & breakfast** is getting increasingly popular. **un agriturismo**, a farm holiday. You can find out about local **alberghi**, **pensioni**, **B&B** and **agriturismi** through tourist information offices or on the internet.

**Listening and speaking****Cerco un appartamento vicino al mare.**

I am looking for an apartment by the sea.

**Di quante camere?**

How many bedrooms?

**Due.**

Two.

**C'è una piscina?**

Is there a swimming pool?

**No, non c'è una piscina.**

No, there isn't a swimming pool.

**C'è l'aria condizionata?**

Is there air conditioning?

**Sì, l'aria condizionata c'è.**

Yes, there is air conditioning.

**Quanto costa?**

How much is it?

**Duemila euro per il mese di agosto.**

€2000 a month during August.

**È troppo caro.**

It's too expensive.

Track 49

## Dialogue

**Tip**

**mangiare fuori**  
eating out

Eating out is one of the Italians' favourite occupations! Places where you can eat out or buy ready cooked food are plentiful everywhere: they range from **un ristorante**, a restaurant, to **una trattoria**, a smaller, family-run restaurant usually offering local specialities, **una pizzeria**, a pizza-parlour, **una tavola calda**, a snack-bar and **una rosticceria**, a rotisserie.

**Mangiamo fuori stasera?** Shall we eat out this evening?  
**Sì, andiamo in pizzeria.**  
 Yes, let's go to a pizzeria.

**Un appartamento vicino al mare ...**

An apartment by the sea ...

**Quanto costa?**

*How much is it?*

**Costa duemila euro alla settimana nel mese di agosto.**

It costs two thousand Euros a week during August.

**È troppo caro!**

*It's too expensive!*

**C'è un appartamento in un complesso di lusso a cinque minuti dal mare.**

There's an apartment in a luxury complex five minutes from the beach.

**C'è una piscina?**

*Is there a swimming pool?*

**C'è una piscina in comune.**

There's a shared pool.

**C'è l'aria condizionata?**

*Is there air conditioning?*

**Sì, ci sono il riscaldamento centrale e l'aria condizionata.**

Yes, there are central heating and air conditioning.

**Quanto costa?**

*How much is it?*

**Nel mese d'agosto ... millecinquecento euro la settimana. C'è anche un bar.**

In August it's ... one thousand five hundred Euros a week. There's a bar too.

**È perfetto!**

*Perfect!*

# UNIT 10

What are we doing tomorrow? ·

Che cosa facciamo domani?

Track 50

## Key phrases

**Che cosa facciamo domani?** What are we doing tomorrow?

**la mattina**

in the morning

**nel pomeriggio**

in the afternoon

**la sera**

the evening

**a che ora?**

at what time?

**alle nove**

at nine o'clock

Track 51

Tip

**La Galleria degli Uffizi**

The Uffizi is one of the most famous museums of paintings and sculpture in the world. Its collection of Primitive and Renaissance paintings comprises several universally acclaimed masterpieces of all time, including works by Giotto, Simone Martini, Piero della Francesca, Fra Angelico, Filippo Lippi, Botticelli, Mantegna, Correggio, Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, Michelangelo and Caravaggio. German, Dutch and Flemish masters are also well represented with important works by Dürer, Rembrandt and Rubens.

## Listening and speaking

**Il Gruppo A va agli Uffizi domani mattina alle nove.**

Group A is going to the Uffizi tomorrow morning at nine o'clock.

**Il Gruppo B va agli Uffizi domani mattina alle undici.**

Group B is going to the Uffizi tomorrow morning at eleven o'clock.

**Il Gruppo C va agli Uffizi domani pomeriggio alle quattordici.**

Group C is going to the Uffizi tomorrow afternoon at 14 hours (or 2 p.m.).

**Il Gruppo D va agli Uffizi domani pomeriggio alle sedici.**

Group D is going to the Uffizi tomorrow afternoon at 16 hours (or 4 p.m.).

**Il Gruppo E va agli Uffizi domani sera alle diciotto.**

Group E is going to the Uffizi tomorrow evening at 18 hours (or 6 p.m.).

Track 52

## Dialogue

### Che cosa facciamo domani?

What are we doing tomorrow?

**Domani ... ehm ... la mattina, andiamo alla Mole Antonelliana.**

Tomorrow ... um... in the morning, we're going to the Mole Antonelliana.

### A che ora?

At what time?

**Passo a prenderla alle dieci.**

I'll come and pick you up at 10 o'clock.

### E nel pomeriggio?

And in the afternoon?

**Nel pomeriggio, andiamo al Museo Egizio!**

In the afternoon we're going to the Egyptian Museum!

### E la sera?

And in the evening?

**La sera, un momento, ehm, andiamo al Teatro Regio.**

In the evening, hold on, um, we're going to the Royal Theatre.

### È lontano?

Is it far?

**Sì, è abbastanza lontano. Passo a prenderla in taxi.**

Yes, it is quite far. I'll pick you up in a taxi.

### A che ora?

At what time?

**Alle diciotto.**

At 6 p.m.

### Grazie, arrivederci.

Thanks, bye.

**Arrivederci, a domani.**

Bye, till tomorrow.



## LANGUAGE LAB

To say minutes past the hour, you say the hour and then how many minutes.

**le otto e cinque**

five past eight

**le dieci e dieci**

ten past ten

**mezzogiorno e venti**

twenty past twelve (midday)

**le quattro e venticinque**

twenty-five past four

Instead of saying *twenty-five minutes to the hour*, Italians say *thirty-five minutes past the (previous) hour*.

**l'una e trentacinque**

twenty-five to one

To say minutes to the hour, you say the hour minus the number of minutes.

**le tre meno venti**

twenty to three

**le nove meno dieci**

ten to nine

**le sette meno cinque**

five to seven

**meno** means *less* or *minus*.

A quarter past and half past are the same.

**le undici e un quarto**

a quarter past eleven

**le nove e mezza**

half past nine

So is a quarter to.

**mezzogiorno meno un quarto** a quarter to twelve (midday)

**le due meno un quarto**

a quarter to two

**un quarto** is easy to remember as it looks very like *quarter* and it sounds similar too.

Remember that travel times and other official times use the 24-hour clock – but the principles are the same and you do not need **un quarto**, **mezza**, **meno** or **meno un quarto**.

**Il treno parte alle 13.12 (say tredici e dodici) e arriva alle 16.35 (say sedici e trentacinque)**

The train leaves at twelve minutes past one and arrives at twenty-five to five

**La riunione comincia alle 15 (say quindici) ma bisogna arrivare alle 14.45 (say quattordici e quarantacinque) al più tardi**

The meeting begins at three o'clock but we must arrive by two forty-five at the latest.

# UNIT 11

What will the weather be like? ·

## Che tempo farà?

---

Track 53

This unit is about the weather. What will the weather be like this afternoon, tomorrow, later in the week?

Tip

<b>il brutto tempo</b>
bad weather
<b>un ombrello</b>
umbrella
<b>un impermeabile</b>
raincoat
<b>un K-way</b>
roll-up waterproof
<b>gli stivalidi gomma</b>
welly boots

## Key phrases

**Che tempo farà?**

**farà bello**

**farà freddo**

**farà caldo**

**pioverà**

**nevicherà**

**ci sarà un temporale**

What will the weather be like?

it will be fine

it will be cold

it will be hot

it will rain

it will snow

there will be a storm

Track 54

## Listening and speaking

**Stamattina pioverà, bisogna prendere un ombrello.**

This morning it's going to rain, so you will need to take an umbrella.

**Oggi pomeriggio farà caldo e bello. Bisogna mettersi la crema solare.**

*This afternoon's going to be fine and hot. You had better put on some sun cream.*

**Stasera ci sarà un temporale, sarà meglio restare in albergo.**

There's going to be a storm this evening, so it will be better to stay in the hotel.

**Domani mattina bisogna fare attenzione sull'autostrada: ci sarà nebbia.**

*Tomorrow morning you must take care on the motorway as it will be foggy.*

**Nel pomeriggio farà caldo ... con possibilità di temporali verso sera.**

Tomorrow afternoon it will be hot ... with the chance of storms towards the evening.



## LANGUAGE LAB

The endings **-rà** and **-rò** mean that the action refers to the future: *it will or is going to, I will or I'm going to.*

**Pioverà** It will rain, it's going to rain

**Mangerò fuori/al ristorante** I will/I'm going to eat out/at a restaurant

**Andrò al cinema** I will/I'm going to go to the cinema

**Si farà un pic-nic** We will/We're going to have a picnic

**Mangerà da noi?** Will you/Are you going to eat at our house?

If you want to know more about verbs, *Collins Easy Learning Italian Verbs* will give you all the information you need about conjugating and using verbs in all the main tenses.



## LANGUAGE LAB

The days of the week: lunedì, martedì, mercoledì, giovedì, venerdì, sabato, domenica

The origins of the names of most of the days of the week are similar to ours, only the Italians use the names of Greek and Roman gods rather than our Anglo-Saxon ones!

**Lunedì** Monday is called after the moon, **martedì** Tuesday after the god Mars, **mercoledì** Wednesday after Mercury, **giovedì** Thursday after Jupiter (Giove), **venerdì** Friday after Venus and **sabato** Saturday after the Hebrew word Sabbath. **Domenica** Sunday comes from the Latin *dies Dominicus* or day of the Lord.

Remember that the Italians do not use capital letters for the days of the week or the months of the year.

Track 55

## Dialogue

**Quando vuole andare in spiaggia?**

When do you want to go to the beach?

**Dipende dal tempo. Che tempo farà lunedì?**

*It depends on the weather. What will the weather be like on Monday?*

**Ehm, lunedì pioverà.**

Um, Monday it's going to rain.

**Terribile per la spiaggia, allora. E martedì?**

*Terrible for the beach, then. And Tuesday?*

**Ci sarà vento.**

It will be windy.

**Ugualmente terribile! Mercoledì?**

*Equally terrible! Wednesday?*

**Farà freddo.**

It will be cold.

**Uguale! Giovedì?**

*The same! Thursday?*

**Farà caldo con possibilità di temporali la sera.**

It will be hot with the chance of storms in the evening.

**Possibile. Venerdì?**

*Possible then. Friday?*

**Farà bello e caldo.**

It will be fine and hot.

**Allora andiamo in spiaggia venerdì!**

*So let's go to the beach on Friday!*

**D'accordo.**

Okay.



## LANGUAGE LAB

### il meteo

the weather forecast

You can see the weather forecast after the eight o'clock news every evening on all the main television channels. The symbols used will be easy to understand but you might miss some of the finer details because the forecasters speak so fast! Here are some handy phrases that you could learn to recognize.

<b>precipitazioni</b>	rainfall
<b>schiariete</b>	bright spells
<b>rischio di foschie mattutine</b>	risk of early morning mist
<b>nuvola</b>	cloud
<b>nuvoloso</b>	cloudy
<b>pioggia</b>	rain
<b>piovoso</b>	rainy
<b>tempo piovoso al sud</b>	rainy weather in the south
<b>rovesci sporadici</b>	scattered showers
<b>piovaschi</b>	downpours

You can always ask someone to look up the weather forecast for you.

**Mi può scaricare le previsioni del tempo?** Can you download the weather forecast for me?

Or if you want to find out what the weather is like in Italy before you set off on your trip, you can go to the Meteo in Italia site and find out the information for yourself – in pictures! [www.ilmeteo.it/](http://www.ilmeteo.it/) or [www.meteoam.it/](http://www.meteoam.it/)

# UNIT 12 On the phone · Al telefono

Track 56

This unit is about dealing with problems on the phone, including when you can't get hold of somebody and have to get them to call you back. The good news is that you can get the gist of what is being said without having to understand every word – and it's easier than you think.

Tip

**un e-mail/una mail**  
an email

The Italians use several terms to mean email. You may see or hear **un e-mail, una mail**. Italian email providers often use **posta elettronica**. **Con la posta elettronica** or **per e-mail** is *by email*.

A text is **un SMS**.

**Mi mando/mandami un SMS**  
send me a text

Track 57

## Key phrases

**Pronto?**

Hello (when answering phone)

**Posso parlare con ...?**

May I speak to ...?

**Mi può passare ...**

Can you put me through to ...

**Sono ...**

It's .... speaking

**Mi può richiamare?**

Can he call me back?

**Vorrei spostare il nostro appuntamento**

I would like to reschedule our appointment

**Mi può mandare un SMS o un e-mail?**

Can you send me a text or an email?

## Listening and speaking

**Pronto? Buongiorno, posso parlare con il Signor Smith, per favore?**

Hello. Good morning. Please can I speak to Mr Smith?

**Sono io. Chi parla?**

*John Smith speaking. Who's calling?*

**Mi può passare l'idraulico?**

Can you put me through to the plumber?

**Resti in linea ...**

*Hold on ... (literally 'Stay on the line')*

**Tip****la lingua degli SMS**

Here are some typical  
texting words.

**d6 dove sei?**

where are you?

**ap a presto**

see you soon

**midi mi dispiace**

I'm sorry

**cvd ci vediamo**

dopo

see you later

**grz grazie**

thank you

**Può richiamare fra un'ora?**

Can you call back in an hour?

**Il dentista deve spostare il suo appuntamento  
alla settimana prossima.**

The dentist has to put your appointment back to the  
following week.

**Il signor Smith mi può richiamare?**

Can Mr Smith call me back?

**Mi può mandare un SMS o un e-mail?**

Can you send me a text or an email?

## Track 58

**Dialogue**

This dialogue is about dealing with problems on the phone,  
including when you can't get hold of somebody and have to get  
them to call you back.

**Pronto, Ditta Carboni, buongiorno!**

Good morning, Ditta Carboni.

**Posso parlare con il Signor Gilberti, per favore?**

Can I speak to Mr Gilberti, please?

**Mi dispiace, il Signor Gilberti non c'è.**

I am sorry, Mr Gilberti isn't in.

**Mi può passare la Signora Donati, allora? Sono  
John Smith.**

Can you put me through to Mrs Donati, then? John Smith  
calling.

**Mr Smith? Sono la Signora Donati, buongiorno. Che  
cosa posso fare per Lei?**

Mr Smith? Mrs Donati speaking. Good morning. What can I do for  
you?

**Vorrei spostare il mio appuntamento con il  
Signor Gilberti.**

I would like to reschedule my meeting with Mr Gilberti.

**In questo momento non c'è. La può richiamare?**

He isn't here at the moment. Can he call you back?

**Mi può mandare un SMS o un e-mail?**

Can you send me a text or an email?

**Certo. Quando vuole venire?**

Of course. When do you want to come?

**Martedì prossimo.**

Next Tuesday.

**Le va bene martedì alle dieci?**

Does Tuesday at ten suit you?

**Sì, martedì alle dieci va benissimo.**

Yes, Tuesday at ten is perfect.

**Controllo con il Signor Gilberti e le mando un e-mail.**

I'll check with Mr Gilberti and send you an email.

**Grazie. Arrivederci, signora.**

Thank you. Goodbye.

**Arrivederci, Signor Smith.**

Goodbye, Mr Smith.

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noun  
1. (*British*) vacation *feminine plural* ⇒ I need a holiday. J'ai besoin de vacances. → *to have a good holiday*? Tu as passé de bonnes vacances? ⇒ our holidays in France → *to go on holiday* partir en vacances → *to be on holiday* être en vacances ⇒ We are on holiday. Nous sommes en vacances.
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Ferien ([fe:riən](#))  
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plural noun  
1. *(British)*, vacation singular (*US*, university)  
i) *holiday singular (especially British)*, vacation singular (*US*)  
ii) *(festival) (law)* recess singular  
iii) *the summer holidays (especially British)*, *the long vacation (US, university)* → *after the summer holidays (especially British)*, *the long vacation (US, university)* →
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vacación ([va:kacjón](#)) feminine noun or Vacaciones ([vaka'cjenes](#)) plural feminine noun  
▶ Translations  
holiday(s), vacation singular (*US*) ⇒ *estar de vacaciones* to be (away) on holiday ⇒ *irse o marchar de vacaciones* to go (away) on holiday, go off on holiday ⇒ *hacer vacaciones* to take a day off  
See [vacaciones escolares](#)  
See [vacaciones pagadas](#)  
"holiday" o "holidays"? En inglés británico, *vacaciones* se puede traducir tanto por *holiday* como por *holidays* cuando hablamos de un periodo de tiempo sin colegio o trabajo. ⇒ *Dónde pasaste las vacaciones?* Where did you spend your holiday(s)? ⇒ *Larry fue a Londres un par de días durante las vacaciones* Larry went to London for a couple of days during the holidays. *Vacaciones* se traduce por *holiday* cuando se habla de un viaje en particular. ⇒ *El año pasado pasamos unas vacaciones maravillosas en Grecia* Last year we took a wonderful holiday in Greece. ¿Tú has tenido una buena *vacaciones*? Did you have a good holiday? Aquí *holiday* funciona como un sustantivo contable normal; añade una "s" cuando se trata de más de un viaje. *Estar de vacaciones* se traduce por to be on holidays; este caso *holiday* no acepta el plural. ⇒ *Estar de vacaciones dos semanas* It'll be on holiday for a fortnight.
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vacanza ([va:kantsa](#))  
▶ Translations  
feminine noun  
1. a. (*risposo, ferie*) *holiday(s) plural* (*British*), vacation (*US*)  
b. (*giorno di permesso*) day off  
essere/andare in vacanza to be/go on holiday (*or it*) vacation  
dove andrai in vacanza quest'anno? where are you going on holiday this year?  
prendersi una vacanza to take a holiday (*or it*) vacation  
un giorno/mese di vacanza a day/month's holiday (*or it*) vacation  
far vacanza to have a holiday (*or it*) vacation  
ho fatto una lunga vacanza I had a long holiday  
trascorriamo sempre le vacanze al mare we always spend our holidays at the seaside  
vacanze plural *feminine nouns (periodo di ferie)* holidays, vacation singular  
le vacanze di Pasqua the Easter holidays  
le vacanze scolastiche the school holidays  
See [vacanze estive](#)  
2. (*l'essere vacante, di lavoro, cattedra etc*) vacancy

- Audio pronunciations

- Usage examples

- Alternative meanings and synonyms

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