

Andiamo!

FIRST STEPS TO TAKE BEFORE CONSIDERING A MOVE TO ITALY



A step-by-step guide on the initial
steps to take before considering
your move abroad

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So you want to live La Dolce Vita in Italia?

Italy has been deemed the worlds most beautiful country; and for good reason. From the rolling hills of the Tuscan countryside, to the crystal clear Mediterranean sea and to the breathtaking architecture of the ancient cities-there is something for everyone to fall in love with.



Parli Italiano?

Do you speak Italian? This is a key point to think about when considering your move abroad. English is not widely known across Italy, especially in the smaller villages. Taking the time to study the language will be critical in your journey.

There are many different routes you can explore to be able to take the leap and move across the pond. Adequate preparation is key if you wish to successfully move. As much as I wish it was easy to relocate to Italy, that is far from the truth. Immigrating to Italy tends to be one of the more difficult countries in Europe. It may be more of a hassle, but luckily it isn't impossible. You just need to be diligent and prepare properly. This e-book will walk you through all the steps you need to consider *before* taking the plunge.

The end result will be worth it.



First Questions to Ask Yourself

1. The most important thing to consider is HOW you can legally reside in Italy. Are you eligible for Italian dual citizenship? Do you qualify for a visa?
2. Do you plan to reside in Italy permanently or part-time? Do you wish to become a resident? There are tax implications for obtaining residency that need to be considered.
3. How do you plan to support yourself while residing abroad? Some visas allow you to work, while others do not. Italy will not permit you to stay without proving a substantial income to support yourself (and your family).

“The very first step is determining if you have a reliable route to be able to relocate. Italy aims to preserve their culture; therefore, they tend to be more stringent regarding immigration. This is why it is imperative to create a solid plan before jumping all in & uprooting your life.



Where to go?

Have you thought about what region of Italy you'd enjoy living in? Northern and Southern Italy are vastly different. This is especially true when it comes to cost of living, education, healthcare and lifestyle. I would suggest taking the time to physically go immerse yourself in the culture to discover what region suits you best.

How do I get started?

Do you have Italian ancestry? If so, this could be one of the best ways to gain citizenship in Italy—which means you can legally reside there indefinitely. Start by researching your family tree if you believe this is a viable path for you.

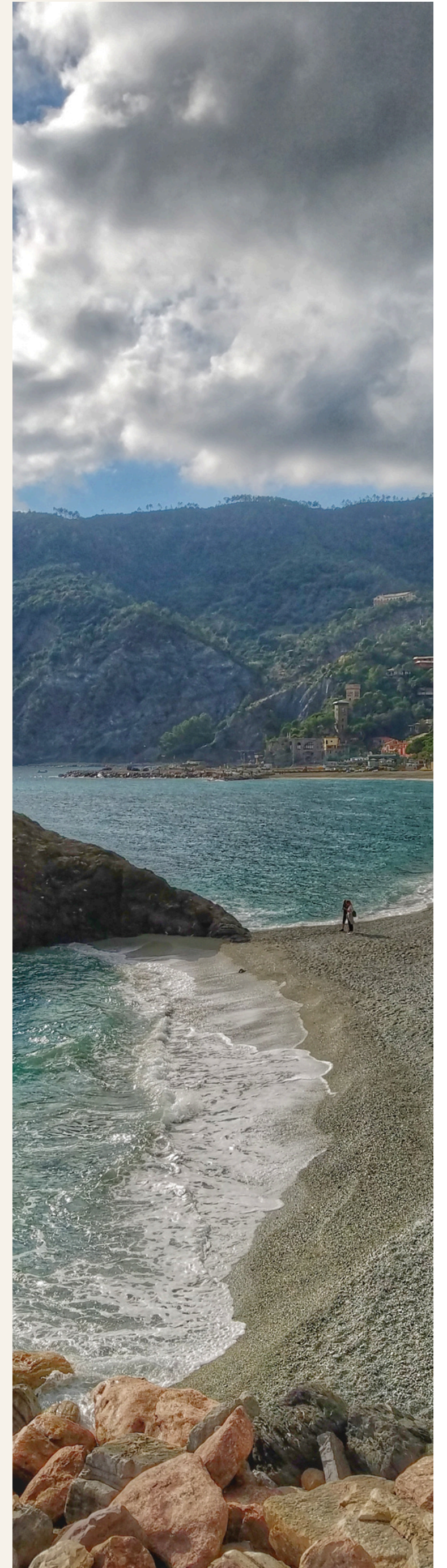
Ancestry.com and Family Search are great resources. There are many online genealogy groups willing to help as well!

Not Italian? No need to worry. This just means you will need a visa. There are many types of visas, so it is crucial to determine which one you have a chance at qualifying for. This will be located on the Italian consulate website. Your consulate in your jurisdiction is the one located closest to you.

Don't qualify for a visa? Don't panic. There are lifestyle changes you can make to potentially qualify. If all else fails, you have to option to do the Schengen shuffle. The Schengen shuffle refers to shuffling in and out of the Schengen zone every 90 days to ensure you don't overstay your tourist visa. This might not be ideal, but it will allow you to live in Italy for 3 months at a time. Half the year in the land of pizza and pasta is better than none, right?

Most Popular Types of Visas

1. Elective Residency Visa (ERV). This is also known as the retirement visa. You are not allowed to work on this visa and must have a passive income. Roughly, 31.000 euros per person.
2. Student/Study Visa. You must be enrolled in a school accredited by the Ministry of Education for at least 12 consecutive months. You can work 20 hours per week on this visa.
3. Digital Nomad/Remote worker Visa. This is a new visa to Italy and extremely difficult to obtain. Your remote position must fall in Italy's category of highly specialized workers. The minimum annual salary needs to be 31.000 euros or higher.
4. Lavora Subordinato/Work Visa. Unless you are fluent in Italian, this visa is very difficult to obtain. It becomes more obtainable after graduating from an Italian University or living in Italy for some time. Remember-the Italian company has to be willing to sponsor your work visa!



“Visas can be overwhelming to navigate at first. It is important to know which visa you could potentially qualify for and then dive into specific research. Each Italian consulate has different requirements for every visa. Identifying your Italian consulate & thoroughly reading their website is a good starting point. Expect each visa to require a signed lease for a minimum of 12 months or house deed, proof of financial means for the duration of your time residing in Italy and proof of international health insurance. It is also important to remember that you do not renew your actual visa. You will renew your “Permesso di Soggiorno” once you are residing in Italy. This will be done at the commune where you live & they may have additional requirements.

Residency vs Citizenship

Residency and citizenship are often used interchangeably; however, they are two entirely different things. Temporary residency will be granted with your “Permesso di Soggiorno” once you arrive in Italy. You must apply for this within 8 days after your arrival. After legally living in Italy for 5 years, you can apply for your permanent residency permit. You must prove your financial stability and willingness to integrate into the Italian culture. Once you have lived in Italy for 10 years, you may apply to become an Italian citizen.

Citizenship differs in many ways and ultimately offers many advantages. As an Italian citizen, you are issued an Italian passport. You have the opportunity to travel freely throughout Europe and reside permanently where ever you choose. Gaining Italian citizenship gives you the same legal rights as an Italian, such as voting. It can also be passed down to your children. Citizenship may be obtained through descent or by having extended residency in Italy for 10 years.



Your Italian Adventure Awaits.

Living out your dream of moving to Italy is obtainable, and I am here to help you throughout your journey. One thing I have learned is that the more connections you make, the smoother the process will go. Personally speaking, I have hired a relocation specialist, immigration attorney, Italian record service provider and mortgage broker. They have each been crucial on my journey to dual Italian citizenship. *Italian bureaucracy is no joke*. Believe me when I say it is all about who you know; which is why having the locals on your side makes things go a heck of a lot easier. Don't be afraid to reach out & ask for help. And that is what I am here for too!



Grazie!

I have always felt more at home when traveling in a different country. My heart finally feels at peace when I am in Italy & surrounded by my Italian heritage. If I can figure it out, so can you!



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PS. Future e-books are in the works! First, an e-book dedicated to obtaining Dual Italian Citizenship through ancestry! Second, an e-book diving into the intricacies of applying for a visa. Join my email list so you are the first to know when they launch!
