

OIE Information & Travel Cheat Sheet



Country:

Italy (IT)

Sex & Dating

- Dating culture is considered to be more traditional than U.S.
 - Flirting and expressive communication is common, PDA is prominent
- Society remains largely patriarchal
 - Catcalling of women is not uncommon

Alcohol & Drugs

- Legal age to buy/consume alcohol: 18
 - Drinking in public is generally legal, forbidden in some public places
 - Binge drinking is not common
- Cannabis (marijuana) recreational use is illegal
 - Medicinal use permitted under conditions
 - Widely decriminalized

LGBTQIA+ Culture

- IT is generally an accepting country
 - More socially conservative due to influences of Catholic church
 - Same-sex civil unions are legal, same-sex marriages are not
- Resources
 - Rainbow SIG
 - Diversity Abroad
 - OutRight Action International

Cultural Customs and Norms

- Population: 60 million
- Currency: Euro
- Official Language: Italian
- Appearances are very important in Italy
 - First impressions hold significance
- Initial greetings are typically formal
- Punctuality is not mandatory
- Generally slower pace of life compared to U.S.
 - Riposo: extended lunch break hours in afternoon, shops are typically closed

Resources

112 General EU emergency number

+39 Country phone code

- [DU's Travel Assistance](#)
 - Phone: +1 443-569-8601 / Website: [dutravelassistanceprovider](#)
 - Please use DU credentials to sign in
- Student Support Program (My SSP): 24/7 Mental Health Support
- U.S. Department of State Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP): [travel.state.gov](#)



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This is meant to be a helpful resource for students in selecting, understanding, and preparing for their time abroad. There is no intent to discriminate, generalize or stereotype the country or culture with the information

provided here. A variety of sources, both formal and informal, were researched to gather this information.