

Fun Facts about Italy....

- ☀ Boot shaped and is slightly larger than Arizona.
- ☀ Borders France, Switzerland, Austria and Slovenia.
- ☀ Has more than 450 islands, the two largest are Sicily and Sardinia.
- ☀ Has three major active volcanoes, Vesuvius, Etna and Stromboli.
- ☀ Mostly mountainous, Monte Bianco or Mont Blanc is the highest peak in the Alps and lies along the French-Italian border.
- ☀ Divided into 20 political regions with about 60 million people, its capital is Rome.
- ☀ Houses Vatican City, the smallest country in the world.

A Brief View of Italy's History

Evidence of early civilizations in Italy dates back to 8,000BC. The Etruscans and Greeks settled there about 700BC. It was the seat of the Roman Empire for over 700 years until 476AD, when Germanic tribes invaded.

Middle Ages brought the powerful trading city states of Genoa, Florence, Venice and Milan. During the 14th century Renaissance, the Italian language was born and Italy's art and culture spread throughout Europe.

The states were unified in 1861 into the Kingdom of Italy by Garibaldi. It became a republic after WWII in 1946.

House of Italy Activities

Visit our website for more information.

Open House

Every Saturday and Sunday from 11:00am to 4:00pm. Visitors can experience Italian culture and chat with our hosts while enjoying coffee, biscotti and spumoni.

Sunday Family-Style Dinners

Every third Sunday, The House of Italy holds an Italian dinner and a variety of interesting events with music, lectures, wine or olive oil tastings and other special presentations.

Lawn Program

The House of Italy presents, in August, an Italian entertainment program.

December Nights

We offer Italian food, desserts and coffee at this traditional annual event in Balboa Park.

Scholarships

We award scholarships to high school graduates of House of Italy family members.

Language Classes

The House of Italy offers Italian conversation classes twice weekly throughout the year.

Italian Cinema

The House of Italy sponsors and promotes the "San Diego Italian Film Festival" and "Cinema Little Italy" which show Italian films (with English subtitles) throughout the year.

Benvenuti alla Casa d'Italia



Welcome to the House of Italy



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Every Saturday and Sunday
11:00am - 4:00pm

Monthly Dinners
Every Third Sunday
Hall of Nations, Balboa Park
5:00pm - 7:30pm

2191 Pan American Rd. W.
Balboa Park
San Diego, CA. 92101

Please visit our website
www.houseofitalysandiego.org



Our Objectives

- ✿ *Preserve and foster the art and culture of Italy.*
- ✿ *Extend hospitality to our visitors with a warm Italian welcome.*
- ✿ *Promote a spirit of goodwill among all nations.*
- ✿ *Sponsor cultural, educational and social activities and programs.*

Our History

The House of Italy, along with other international cottages of Balboa Park, was founded in May of 1935 in conjunction with the California Pacific International Exposition.

The houses were open to the public to display arts, crafts and folkways of their native lands. It was so popular that after the expo closed, the cottages remained at the park.

After World War II, when the park was annexed by the U.S. Navy, the cottages reopened as the House of Pacific Relations International Cottages.

The present House of Italy was reestablished in 1973 and the doors were open to greet thousands of visitors with a traditional warm Italian welcome.



Italy's Contributions to the World

Composers:

Verdi, Puccini, Vivaldi, Rossini, Paganini, Morricone, Rota.

Singers:

Caruso, Pavarotti, Sinatra, Zuccherò, Bocelli, Zappa, Croce.

Artists:

Michelangelo, da Vinci, Raphael, Bernini, Botticelli, Titian, Caravaggio.

Architects:

Brunelleschi, Bramante, Palladio, Piano.

Cinema:

La Dolce Vita, Divorce Italian Style, 8-1/2, Life is Beautiful, Cinema Paradiso, Il Postino, The Godfather, La Strada, Two Women, The Great Beauty.

Directors/Producers:

Fellini, Leone, Visconti, De Sica, De Laurentis, Coppola, Rossellini, Bertolucci, Capra.

Actors:

Valentino, Mastroianni, Loren, Benigni, Pesci, Tucci, Cardinale, Magnani, Rossellini, Stallone, Tomei, Pacino, Tarantino, Turturro, Lollobrigida,

Writers:

Dante, Petrarch, Machiavelli, Puzo, Collodi, Eco, Boccaccio, Calvino, Pirandello.

Explorers/Inventors:

Polo, Columbus, Vespucci, Galileo, da Vinci, Marconi, Fermi.

Sports:

Berra, DiMaggio, Andreotti, Graziano, Marciano, Zamperini.

Fashion:

Armani, Gucci, Prada, Versace, Pucci, Ferragamo.

Cars, Motorini:

Fiat, Ferrari, Maserati, Lamborghini, Bugatti, Vespa.



Famous Italian Cities and Other Places

Rome:

Colosseum, Pantheon, Roman Forum, St. Peter's Basilica and Square, Sistine Chapel, Vatican Museums, Trevi Fountain, Appian Way.

Venice:

St Mark's Square, Rialto Bridge, Doges Palace, Accademia Gallery, Gondolas, Carnevale.

Florence:

Uffizi Gallery, Duomo, Ponte Vecchio.

Milan:

Cathedral, Galleria, La Scala, Italian Fashion.

Pisa:

Leaning Tower, Cathedral, Baptistry.

Naples:

Pompeii, Vesuvius, Pizza Napoletana.

Sicily:

Mt. Etna, Valley of the Temples, Syracuse.

Other Cities:

Lake Cuomo, Amalfi Coast, Italian Riviera, Dolomites, Cinque Terre, Tuscany Hill Towns.

Come si dice . . . in Italiano?

<i>Hi, Hello</i>	<i>Ciao</i>
<i>Bye</i>	<i>Ciao</i>
<i>What is your name?</i>	<i>Come si chiama?</i>
<i>Good morning/afternoon</i>	<i>Buongiorno</i>
<i>Good evening</i>	<i>Buona sera</i>
<i>Good night</i>	<i>Buona notte</i>
<i>Goodbye</i>	<i>Arrivederci</i>
<i>How are you?</i>	<i>Come stai?</i>
<i>I'm very well</i>	<i>Molto bene</i>
<i>Thanks</i>	<i>Grazie</i>
<i>You're welcome</i>	<i>Prego</i>
<i>Enjoy your meal</i>	<i>Buon Appetito</i>
<i>Cheers salute</i>	<i>Cin cin</i>
<i>One to ten:</i>	
<i>1, 2, 3</i>	<i>uno, due, tre,</i>
<i>4, 5</i>	<i>quattro, cinque,</i>
<i>6, 7, 8</i>	<i>sei, sette, otto,</i>
<i>9, 10</i>	<i>nove, dieci</i>