



Map created by National Geographic Maps

Italy is a boot-shaped peninsula that juts out of southern Europe into the Adriatic Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea, Mediterranean Sea, and other waters.

Mountains crisscross the interior, dividing it into regions. The Alps spread across the top of the country. From the western end of the Alps, the Apennines mountains stretch south down the entire peninsula.

West of the Apennines are wooded hills that are home to many of Italy's historic cities, including Rome. In the south are hot, dry coastlands and fertile plains where olives, almonds, and figs are grown.

Key Vocabulary	
amphitheatre	brick built oval stadium - Roman architecture
borders	political factors and physical (e.g. rivers, mountains and seas) affect where borders between countries are set
Euro	the unit of money used across most of Europe
Mediterranean	southern areas of Europe which have mild winters and hot summers (e.g. Italy, Spain)
temperate	this middle section of Europe has cold winters and mild summers (e.g. U.K., Germany, Poland)
peninsula	A piece of land which is almost completely surrounded by water

Climate

Climate is the weather conditions that prevail over a longer period or the weather patterns that are found in an area.

- Temperate climates, much like the U.K. where there is rainfall and deciduous forests (trees which lose their leaves in the winter)
- Mediterranean climates which are dry and hot and attract many tourists.
- Alpine climates which are mountainous and cold.

Physical Geography

This relates to the natural features of the earth's surface, including land formations, climate, oceans, seas, rivers and distribution of plants.

Human Geography

This relates to how humans affect or influence the earth's surface.

Key Facts and Figures: Italy

Continent	Europe
Capital	Rome
Population	60.48 0million (2018)
Highest mountain	Mont Blanc, 4,810 m (the highest mountain in the Alps)
Volcanoes	Italy has three active volcanoes: Vesuvius, Stromboli and Etna
Longest river	River Po,
Largest lake	Lake Garda, 370 km ²
Seas	Mediterranean, Ligurian, Adriatic, and Ionian seas
Currency	Euro

salve	hello
ciao	hi/bye
buon giorno	good morning
arrivederci	goodbye
grazie	thank you

Physical Features

The Alps



These are the longest mountain range in Europe and the highest in western Europe (excluding Russia). They are 1200km across and pass through 8 alpine countries (Switzerland, France, Germany, Austria, Slovenia, Monaco, Italy and Liechtenstein).

The Apennines



The Apennines range runs north to south down the centre of the country.

River Po



The longest river in Italy is the River Po. It is approximately 670kmin length and its source is the many streams found in the Alps.

Human Features

The Leaning Tower of Pisa



The Leaning Tower of Pisa is a bell tower in Pisa, Italy. The Tower of Pisa is world famous for its prominent tilt to one side.

Colosseum



The Colosseum in Rome, built in 70 A.D., as one of many built throughout Italy during the time of the Romans. This huge amphitheatre could hold 50,000 spectators and was often the scene of chariot races, gladiator and animal battles along with executions.

The ruins of Pompeii



A Roman town which was destroyed from the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. Many tourists visit this area to explore what it was like during the