

### Knowledge Organiser

Year Group	Subject	Topic
3	Geography	European Geography – Italy

#### The Big Picture

Italy is a country in Southern Europe. It is known for its rich history, famous cities, beautiful coastlines, mountains, lakes and volcanoes. In this unit, pupils will locate Italy on a map of Europe, compare it with the United Kingdom and explore its physical and human geography. They will learn about Italy's climate, major cities, mountains, lakes and volcanoes before creating a travel leaflet to showcase their learning.

#### Enquiry Question

Where is Italy located?  
 How is Italy similar to and different from the United Kingdom?  
 What is the climate like in Italy?  
 What mountains and lakes can be found in Italy?  
 Why are volcanoes important in Italy?  
 What makes Italy a popular place to visit?

#### Key Vocabulary








Population - The number of people living in a place.  
 Mountain Range - A group of connected mountains.  
 Alps - Mountain range in northern Italy.  
 Apennines - Mountain range running through Italy.  
 Lake - A large area of water surrounded by land.  
 Coastline - Where the land meets the sea.  
 Island - Land completely surrounded by water.  
 Capital City - The most important city in a country.

Volcano - An opening in the Earth's crust.  
 Eruption - When a volcano releases lava, ash and gas.  
 Fertile - Good for growing crops.  
 Equator - An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth.  
 Europe - A continent in the Northern Hemisphere.  
 Mediterranean Sea - The sea surrounding Southern Europe.  
 Climate - The usual weather conditions over a long period of time.

#### What I Need to Remember

- ★ Italy is in Southern Europe.
- ★ Italy is surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea.
- ★ Italy is shaped like a boot.
- ★ Rome is the capital city.
- ★ Italy has a Mediterranean climate.
- ★ The Alps and Apennines are Italy's major mountain ranges.
- ★ Lake Garda is Italy's largest lake.
- ★ Italy has three active volcanoes: Mount Etna, Mount Vesuvius and Mount Stromboli.
- ★ Volcanoes help create fertile soil for farming.

#### Sticky Knowledge

- IT Italy is a country in Southern Europe.
-  Italy is shaped like a boot.
-  Rome is the capital city.
-  Italy has a Mediterranean climate.
-  The Alps and Apennines are Italy's mountain ranges.
-  Italy has three active volcanoes.
-  Lake Garda is Italy's largest lake.
-  Volcanic soil helps crops grow.



# ITALY – CORE KNOWLEDGE



## 1. WHERE IS ITALY?

Italy is a country in Europe.

Italy is located in Southern Europe beside the Mediterranean Sea.

Italy is often described as being shaped like a boot.

Italy has two large islands:

- Sardinia
- Sicily

Two small countries are found within Italy:

- San Marino
- Vatican City

The Italian flag is called Il Tricolore and has three colours:

- Green
- White
- Red



## 2. IMPORTANT CITIES IN ITALY

### ROME

Capital city of Italy.

Once the centre of the Roman Empire.

Population: approximately 4.2 million.



### MILAN

Famous for fashion and design.

Population: approximately 3.1 million.



### VENICE

Built on more than 100 islands.

Famous for its canals instead of roads.

Population: approximately 270,000.



## 3. PEOPLE IN ITALY

The main language spoken is Italian.

The main religion is Christianity.

Italy has a population of around 60 million people.

This is similar to the UK's population of around 66 million people.



## 4. CLIMATE IN ITALY

Climate is the weather of a place over a long period of time.

Italy is generally warmer than the UK because it is closer to the Equator.

Italy has a Mediterranean climate:

- Mild winters
- Hot, dry summers

Northern Italy can be cooler and snowy because of the mountains.

Italy has a long coastline with:

- Sandy beaches
- Rocky cliffs

### SUMMER



### WINTER



## 5. MOUNTAINS AND LAKES

A mountain is a large landform that rises above the surrounding land.

Italy has two major mountain ranges:

### The Alps

Located in northern Italy.



### The Apennines

Stretch down the length of Italy.



A lake is a large body of water.

Many lakes are found in northern Italy.

The largest lake is **Lake Garda**.



## 6. VOLCANOES

A volcano is an opening in the Earth's crust where molten rock, gas, ash and steam can escape.

Italy has three active volcanoes:

### MOUNT ETNA

Tallest active volcano in Europe.



### MOUNT VESUVIUS



### MOUNT STROMBOLI



Active volcanoes have erupted at least once in the last 10,000 years.

Volcanic soil is very fertile and helps crops grow well.



**ITALY IS A BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY WITH AMAZING HISTORY, STUNNING LANDSCAPES AND FRIENDLY PEOPLE!**

