



# ITALIAN FOR BEGINNERS

**BENVENUTO IN ITALIA • WEEK 1**

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Titolo: Italian for beginners: Benvenuto in Italia • Week 1

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# BENVENUTO IN ITALIA

ITALIAN	ENGLISH (literal)	ENGLISH
<b>Benvenuto in Italia!</b>	<b>Welcome in Italy!</b>	<b>Welcome to Italy!</b>
A: <b>Buongiorno!</b> <sup>1</sup>	A: Good day!	A: Good morning!
B: Ciao, amico mio! Benvenuto in Italia!	B: Hi, my friend! Welcome in Italy!	B: Hi, my friend! Welcome to Italy!
A: <b>Grazie</b> <sup>2</sup> mille!	A: Thousand thanks!	A: Thank you so much!
B: <b>Come stai?</b> <sup>3</sup>	B: How are you?	B: How are you?
A: <b>Tutto bene</b> , <sup>4</sup> grazie. E tu?	A: All good thanks. And you?	A: All good, thanks. How about you?
B: Molto bene! <u>Sono</u> <b>felice</b> <sup>5</sup> di <u>vederti</u> .	B: Very well! I'm happy to see you.	B: I'm very well! I'm happy to see you.
A: Anche io <u>sono</u> molto felice di <u>vederti</u> .	A: Also I am very happy to see you.	A: I'm really happy to see you too.
B: Fantastico!	B: Fantastic!	B: Fantastic!



# NOTES

1 **Buongiorno** (Good morning) is one of the most common greetings in Italian. Other very common greetings are **salve** (hello) and **ciao** (hi). **Buongiorno**, like in English, is only used during the first half of the day, and is formal, like **salve**. **Ciao**, on the other hand, is informal and can be used as a greeting in any situation: either when you arrive or when you're leaving.

2 **Grazie** (Thank you) is perhaps one of the most used words and probably the second word you learned after **ciao**. You can use it in any context, and there are various ways of emphasizing your gratitude; here are some others: **grazie mille** (thank you very much), **grazie tante** (thank you so much), **grazie infinite** (thank you very much).

3 **Come stai?** (How are you?) In Italian, unlike in English, you don't need to use the subject pronoun (I, you, he/she/it, we, you, they), because you'll already understand it from how the verb is conjugated. It's not wrong to include the subject pronoun in a sentence, but it is repetitive.

4 **Tutto bene** (Everything's good) is one of the most common ways of responding to the question **come stai?** (How are you?) Other ways include **bene** (good/well), **molto bene** (very good), **tutto ok** (everything's ok), **tutto a posto** (all's well) or **non molto bene** (not very well), **mica tanto bene** (not so good), when things aren't going well.

5 **Felice** (Happy), *(io) sono felice di essere qui* (I'm happy to be here); *(io) sono felice* (I'm happy). This adjective, like most adjectives, is accompanied by the verb 'to be'. The opposite of **felice** (happy) is **infelice** (unhappy): *oggi non sono felice* (today I'm not happy); *oggi sono infelice* (today I'm unhappy).



# GRAMMAR BOX

## PRESENT SIMPLE

ESSERE	TO BE
Io <b>sono</b>	I am
Tu <b>sei</b>	You are
Lui/Lei/Esso <b>é</b>	He/She/It is
Noi <b>siamo</b>	We are
Voi <b>siete</b>	You are
Loro <b>sono</b>	They are

VEDERE	TO SEE
Io <b>vedo</b>	I see
Tu <b>vedi</b>	You see
Lui/Lei/Esso <b>vede</b>	He/She/It sees
Noi <b>vediamo</b>	We see
Voi <b>vedete</b>	You see
Loro <b>vedono</b>	They see



# CULTURAL NOTES

## DID YOU KNOW:

Italy is the fifth most visited country in the world. The breathtaking countryside, the architecture, the history, the food and much more attract around 60 million tourists a year. On a global level, Italy has the same number of UNESCO World Heritage sites as China, with 55 to date. If you still had any doubts about visiting this beautiful country, you no longer have an excuse!

## LO SAPEVI CHE:

L'**Italia** è il quinto paese più visitato al mondo, i paesaggi mozzafiato, le opere architettoniche, la storia, il cibo e tanto altro attirano ogni anno circa 60 milioni di turisti.

A livello mondiale l'Italia è a pari merito con la Cina come numero di siti dichiarati Patrimonio dell'Umanità dall'UNESCO; ne conta, ad oggi, 55.

Se avevi ancora dubbi sul visitare o meno questo bellissimo paese, ora non hai più scuse!