



Italian Language School

WELCOME TO GENOVA!

Italian
Language
and
Culture

*

Italian
Language
Certificates

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Long-term
courses

*

Specialised
courses



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THE SCHOOL

A Door to Italy - Scuola di Italiano per Stranieri, was founded in 2002. It specialises in the successful organisation of every aspect of a language course, taught by experienced teachers including additional social activities to enjoy the local culture, cuisine and products. All the language courses take place all year round in our premises in the heart of the town. Each year hundreds of students from all over the world enjoy our top quality courses.



The school is located in an elegant and fascinating 19th century building and offers to its students large and sunny classrooms with air condition, a relax area to have a pleasant break with coffee, snack, daily newspapers, free internet point, WiFi connection, a furnished library and an information point for cultural and leisure activities.

The A Door to Italy teaching team work together since many years. Teachers are highly qualified with extensive teaching experience in Italy and abroad. They use the communicative method and work to make the school the ideal context to learn Italian.

The instructional material is original, constantly updated and customized to the group/students' needs. It is drawn from books, newspapers, magazines, multimedia material and videos.

The administrative staff help during all the booking process and welcome students from their arrival till departure, arranging accommodation, cultural activities and all the additional services.

GENOA

Genoa, the capital of the region Liguria, is a city with a lot to offer to those who have the desire and time to discover its secrets and to experience its fascinating history and traditions, as well as a lively and ever-changing present, with a vision towards the future.

Genoa's old town is the best example of an entirely preserved medieval town in Europe and in the Mediterranean area: a large part has been declared a World Heritage site by Unesco.

A stay in Genoa gives also the possibility of visiting the world-renowned village of Portofino and the marvellous Cinque Terre.

The origin of the name Genoa has different interpretations, but the most fascinating of them is that it comes from the Latin word janua, which means door...we like to think of the city as if it were a doorway as it has always been, where ships arriving at its port find a safe shelter and an entryway to the commercial streets of the continent. It can be considered a door to the cultures that throughout the centuries have created the city such as it is today.



Following this interpretation, our desire is that Genoa and the school A Door to Italy serves as the door to Italy for all people wishing to learn Italian language and culture!



Why Genoa?



- Genoa is rich in history and it is a town with centuries-old traditions of academic excellence.
- Genoa has a large international community, so foreign students feel at home.
- Genoa is much more affordable than other main cities in Italy
- Genoa is a jumping-off place for visits to Liguria region (Cinque Terre, Portofino, Sanremo); France (Cote d'Azur and Montecarlo) and Tuscany.
- Genoa is just 1 hour and half far from Milan.
- Genoa is easy to reach by plane, train or car from all over the world!
- Genoa enjoys typical maritime Mediterranean climate that gives pleasant and mild temperatures.
- Genoa is a seaside town that offers the possibility to spend also a nice vacation on our beautiful beaches
- Genoa is a real Italian city where foreigners can meet Italians and find thousands of occasion to speak all day long!
- Genoa is a good location for both cultural vacation and leisure holidays.





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Why A Door to Italy?

- The school is approved by the Italian Ministry of Education.
- A Door to Italy is a member ASILS (Association of Schools of Italian as a Second Language) that guarantees the high quality of the courses and services of the school through a QUALITY CERTIFICATION issued by the certifying institution UNITER
- A Door to Italy is a member of EDUITALIA (Association that brings together institutions with the best educational offer dedicated to foreigners).
- A Door to Italy courses are recognized by the Swedish organization CSN and the German BILDUNGSURLAUB
- A Door to Italy is home to the certifications issued by the University for Foreigners of Perugia, CELI for students and DILS PG for Italian teachers of L2 / LS.
- A Door to Italy is the center of AIL exams, linguistic certification issued by the Italian Academy of the Language of Florence, for Italian language and culture students
- The school promotes the study of Italian language through the IIC - Italian Cultural Institutes - in the world (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and other official institutions, offering numerous scholarships for the most deserving students.
- A Door to Italy organizes study programs in Italy for HIGH SCHOOLS and FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES, with the possibility to combine a training experience in a local company.
- A Door to Italy helps students obtaining the visa and the permit of stay.
- Studying Italian at A Door to Italy is easy and enjoyable. Teachers often use role-playing games, songs, games and fun educational material, always real and updated to engage and motivate students to the maximum.
- Small groups with different nationalities make the lessons useful and interesting, speeding up the learning process.
- A Door to Italy offers a wide variety of accommodation and leisure activities. Learning Italian with A door to Italy offers the chance to experience a 360 ° Italian experience!



THE COURSES

A Door to Italy offers a wide variety of general and specialised courses, geared to the specific needs of our students.

Courses are catered for groups or individuals coming from different countries and with different purposes. General language and cultural courses are available all year round.

More targeted courses offer Italian for professionals, such as Italian for business, Italian for professional interpreters and Italian for teachers.

Language classes are aimed at developing the student's general language competence and the ability to communicate in an international environment and in everyday situations, as well as at work and in social life situations. Throughout the course, learners expand their vocabulary repertoire and learn new grammatical structures, which they practice in the context and, further, they improve their ability to communicate, read and write fluently and correctly. At school we use the communicative method, preferring oral communication but not disregarding aspects of written ability, focusing on the four language abilities (listening, speaking, reading, writing).



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THE GENERAL ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE COURSES

STANDARD COURSE

- Lessons in small groups.
- 20 lessons/week from Monday through Friday

The Standard course is the best way for students of all six ability levels, from the beginner A1 to the advanced C2, to join grammar and conversation. Groups are heterogeneous, multilingual and small and this helps to ensure that the students are given personal attention and the opportunity for self-expression.

INTENSIVE COURSES

- Lessons in small groups + Individually
- 20 lessons/week in the morning + individual lessons in the afternoon.

Choice is among 4, 6, 8 or 10 hours of individual lessons per week. The intensive course is best for all students who desire to learn as much as possible in a short period of time. The intensive programs have always been successful because the individual lessons are very good at establishing and fixing new aspects of the language. During private lessons teachers create a tailor made program to let the student face and solve learning difficulties.

ITALIANO FACILE

- Lessons in small groups.
- 12 lessons shared in 3 days/week

The Italiano Facile course is suitable for students from the A2 level and over. The course is particularly suggested with a minimum attendance of 4 weeks, but it is available also for shorter period.

EXTENSIVE EVENING COURSE

- Lessons in small groups.
- 1,5 hour/lesson twice a week in the evening time,

This gives workers the possibility to learn or improve the language after their work schedule. The course is also held for all the levels

INDIVIDUAL or DUO COURSE

Lessons are 'one-to-one' or in very small groups of 2 students with similar language ability. The program is completely customized, following students' knowledge and needs. Considering the extreme flexibility of the schedule and attendance, it is particularly suitable for busy people. The individual course or duo course are also suitable for those people who attend a standard course, but having little time to stay in Italy, they desire to use the individual hours to dive as deep into the language as possible. Individual and semi-individual classes can also focus on cultural programs or on business Italian.

50+ PROGRAM

This course is thought for over-fifties that desire to get deeper into Italian language and discover Genoa and its surroundings during a pleasant study holiday. It is a 2 weeks intensive program, which includes Italian lessons in the morning, cultural and gastronomic activities and excursions in the afternoon and over the weekend. All activities are in Italian language, accompanied by a one person from A Door to Italy's staff.

ITALIAN FOR FAMILIES

A 2-weeks programme for families with children, from 6 years old. Language classes, held in small groups, take place in the morning, leisure activities in the afternoon. Parents' lessons and children classes have same schedule, to help families organizing their language studies. Leisure activities, instead, are thought and planned to let them live a vacation all together.

ONLINE LESSONS

Individual classes via Skype are the best solution to keep in touch with the Italian world and to learn Italian directly from home or office, following your schedule and needs. During online lessons the student will develop conversation, refresh vocabulary and grammar, correct past exercises, as it is in a live lesson.

CERTIFICATION COURSES CELI, CILS, AIL

We propose specific INDIVIDUAL courses, to prepare the student to the exam through the analysis of the past papers. Individual lessons are available all year round depending on student's needs and plans. Lessons can be easily combined to the standard language course.

SPECIAL FOR WORKING

Sectorial language is available for students with a good level of Italian (at least B1). It is aimed to improve a specific language field. The program is individual and tailored upon students' needs.


SPECIAL FOR TEACHERS


A Door to Italy offers the teachers of Italian language different opportunities for their career. Observational training for new teachers with no or little experience: new teachers take part to all the phases of the preparation of the teaching material and lessons for all the groups (A1 - C2). They participate to the oral and written testing, to the daily briefing, to the preparation of the role play, the games and songs. The school is DILS-PG (I and II degree) exam centre. For experienced teachers LS/L2 in Italy or abroad: teachers can participate to the 1 or 2 week programmes, based on the theoretical and practical professional development, through the work on the four language abilities, such as use of listening, reading, speaking and writing exercises, activities, games, to create a pleasant atmosphere and to push students to speak.


SPECIAL FOR INTERPRETERS AND TRANSLATORS


A Door to Italy works with interpreters of the European Institutions since 10 years. Our offer includes: Group course in small groups focused on real and updates listening exercises to improve lexical and cultural understanding; Practical Training lead individually and shaped on the student's personal and professional needs. Cultural course called "Viaggio in Italia" a 360 ° excursus on contemporary Italian culture, politics, economy and society, through the voice of its protagonists. The course is addressed to professional interpreters and interpreting students who have almost finished their studies. Course goals: improvement of general and sectorial language; development of anticipation skills; analyses on basic grammatical elements (connectives, conversational signals, verbs, substantives); full comprehension of oral language; general knowledge of Italian society, politics, history and culture. Learning techniques include audio and written texts. Listening and interpreting (simultaneous, consecutive, chochutage), intense and stimulating activities, articles and cloze tests developing lexical skills, improvement of grammar in anticipating, textual coherence and cohesion analysis. Teaching material is entirely authentic and up to date.


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LANGUAGE PLUS... COURSES

Students may desire to deep the local culture or to enrich their experience in Italy combining the study of the Italian language in the morning, to other classes taken in the afternoon.

A Door to Italy offers the students different possibilities:

... COOKING

Individual or small groups

Cooking lessons are dedicated to students wishing to taste and experience local food and learn cooking Italian and Genoese famous dishes.

Teacher not only explains but shows to students, who are involved practically in the preparation of the recipes.

Finally the class tastes the prepared food, which is also considered an unforgettable moment of socialization.

It is also possible to follow special cooking lessons based upon special recipes.

... OPERA SINGER AND LIBRETTI

The purpose of this course, addressed to Opera singers, is to perfect pronunciation through opera's libretti reading and to perfect intonation with singing lessons with a professional singing teacher. During winter courses, participants will have the possibility to go to the Carlo Felice Opera's Theatre with special price reductions for our students.

... DIVING

It is designed for adventurous people wishing to combine a full cultural experience with a unique dive vacation exploring the Ligurian Sea, the gulf and its beauties.

It is possible to have single diving sessions or to take the Open Water Dive Certificate (for those who have not dived before) or the Advanced Open Water Dive certificate, with PADI instructors.

Minimum necessary attendance is 2 weeks.

All didactic materials and the equipment regarding the diving lessons are provided by the diving school and are included in the price.

... PHOTOGRAPHY

Lessons are in small groups or individually.

Nowadays the ability of taking good pictures is appreciated. Even though people do not need for professional purposes, improving shooting abilities and knowledge of different techniques answers to the growing demand of those who want to photograph for passion or for socialization.

The course is held by a professional photographer.

... POTTERY

Lessons are in small groups or individually.

The course is based on ceramic laboratory and textile printing.

Courses are suitable for children and for adults, for non experienced people or for people who have knowledge in this field.

The pottery courses represent a good moment of socialization and a relaxing moment of self expression.



LONG TERM COURSES

THREE-MONTH COURSE - SEMESTER COURSE - ROUND YEAR COURSE

- Lessons in small groups.
- 20 lessons/week from Monday through Friday

The ideal minimum stay for a language course should be 12 weeks: during this period, the student will have more confidence in the language skills throughout a complete full immersion in the Italian culture and way of life. Taking part to a long-term course, students acquire the minimum level necessary to enter Italian University if they need and they can also take advantage of their Italian Long-Term course by taking an internationally recognized certification (CELI, CILS, AIL, PLIDA) while living in Italy.

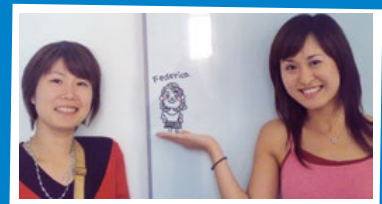
STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS FACULTY LED PROGRAMS

A Door to Italy is pleased to cooperate with Schools and Universities to provide academic programs.

The main goal of a study abroad experience is to provide the opportunity to increase one's international education and student career in an international environment, while studying Italian language and culture fully immersed in local life, culture, history, traditions, territory.

A Door to Italy provides all the services for an all-inclusive program: logistics, accommodation, Italian language and culture courses, specific courses in the humanities (available in Italian and English), in-company meetings, trips and excursions.

The school and teachers have a long experience in teaching Italian to foreign students who are deaf, involving them in all the activities foreseen by the normal program. For them there are available placements in companies, Italian language courses, culinary courses and LIS courses, Italian Sign Language.



ACCOMMODATION

A Door to Italy offers a wide range of housing options, from basic accommodation up to the high level solution, close to school in the city centre, to guarantee our students a pleasant stay.

All of our accommodation arrangements are carefully selected and constantly monitored by the staff of the school.

Our students can choose to live with an Italian family (half board on request) or to share an apartment with other students (single, double and triple room's option available).

For those who prefer to live independently it is possible rent one of our nice private apartments completely furnished and conveniently located close to the school. Many hotel solutions are available at special rates.

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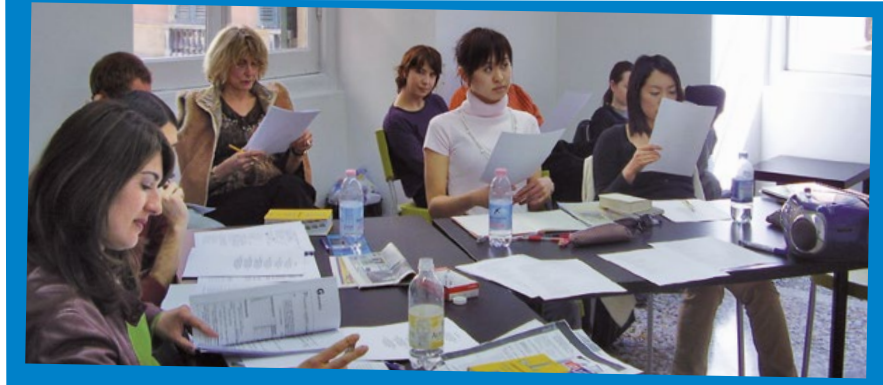
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SERVICES

- **Visa and Permit of Stay:** we provide all the necessary documents to apply for the Study Visa and we offer assistance with the preparation and submission of Permit to Stay applications (even before leaving the home country).
- **Transfer Service:** On request, the school may provide pick-up service from the airport/train station to the reserved accommodation.
- **Internet point and Wi-Fi zone**
- **Welcome Kit** including information material, grammar book, student card and the possibility to access to lots of discounts.



SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The school organises a rich and full program of social activities for students in order to practise the language also outside the classrooms and to let students socialize in a friendly atmosphere.

Living in Italy - even if it is only for a short time - is a unique experience, full of opportunities. Genoa is a lively city, with an exciting cultural scene! The city offers a broad range of events throughout the year to satisfy the tastes of all age groups.

The school's cultural program makes it possible for you to enjoy the city and its events while learning Italian.

The following activities are offered on a regular basis:

- Introduction to Genoa with a guided tour of the town with our teachers
- Visits to some of the most famous and interesting museums
- Visit to the aquarium (the biggest aquarium in Europe, main centre of the scientific biological studies of the last decades)
- Sing the songs: Italian and Genoese songs to exercise pronunciation
- Soirées to the theatre: opera, drama or comedy
- Dinner or "aperitivo" at the Italian way
- Excursions over the weekend to surroundings
- Films in Italian language with introduction of the teacher
- Conversation workshops

Participation to most of the school's extracurricular activities is free of charge. It is always requested to students to cover their trips, meals, and museum and transport tickets.



Students interested in moving on their own find our staff ready to help planning visits and excursions on their needs!

www.doortoitaly.com



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