



# Italian language

European day of languages  
26<sup>th</sup> September



# *European day of languages*

- Celebrated on *26 September*, the European Day of Languages is a means of **promoting awareness among the general public of the importance of language learning and protecting the linguistic heritage.**
- The European Day of Languages was **first celebrated in 2001 during the European Year of Languages.**
- The European Year of Languages was successful in involving millions of people across **45 countries** in activities to celebrate linguistic diversity and the benefits of being able to speak another language.



# Italian language

- **Italian** is a Romance language of the Indo-European language family that evolved from the Vulgar Latin of the Roman Empire.
- Spoken by about **85 million people** (2022), **Italian** is credited as being the most direct descendant of Latin, being the closest to it .



- Widely considered as one of the most beautiful spoken languages in the world, **Italian** is thought of as the language of the *opera*, *art*, *gastronomy* and, of course, *romance* .



- Indeed, for those not native to **Italy**, the **Italian** language is often learned for these reasons and not from any real necessity.

# Classic Italian proverbs

## **Far d'una mosca un elefante**

Similar to 'To make a mountain out of a molehill', in this case '**To make an elephant out of a fly**', this proverb is about making a big deal out of something very small and insignificant

- The standard **Italian** language has a poetic and literary origin in the writings of Tuscan and Sicilian writers of the 12th century, and, even though the grammar and core lexicon are basically unchanged from those used in Florence in the 13th century, the modern standard of the language was largely shaped by relatively recent events.

- The **Italian** language has progressed through a long and slow process, which started after the Western Roman Empire's fall in the 5th century.



# Words in English and Italian

**Italian**

**camera**

**biblioteca**

**linguaggio**

**Buongiorno**

**ciao**

**English**

**room**

**library**

**language**

**good  
morning**

**hello**





# Interesting facts

- **Italian** became an official language in 1861
- The **Italian** alphabet only has 21 letters
- Over 700,000 Americans speak **Italian**
- The longest **Italian** word contains 30 letters
- The word 'America' comes from **Italian**



- If you visit **Italy**,you will hear various accents and dialects as you travel the country .

- Despite the number of dialects, you may be surprised to discover that everybody understands your **Italian** and you understand theirs.



# Italian-speaking countries

- Italy
- San Marino
- Switzerland
- Vatican City
- Some parts of Croatia
- Some parts of Slovenia



# Thank you for your attention

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