

Getting married in Italy



A useful guide with checklist

Including a list of documentation needed by nationality, an overview of top-locations in Italy, a useful list of free software and tools to organize your wedding and popular wedding vendors in Italy

Every journey...



starts with a first step. First of all, a big congratulations on your decision to get married in Italy! It's such a big step in everyone's life, and while this special bond is a special stepping stone in your relationship, getting married abroad can seem very difficult at times. A different language, cultural differences, bureaucracy... things add up fast and many give up before even really getting started. But fear not! Here we have collected the knowledge of dozens of wedding planners, vendors and couples that successfully got married in Italy - and they all agree: the extra effort is more than worth it - you will be rewarded by dreamlike landscapes, beautiful villages, amazing weather, unique food and wine -

your guests will be amazed by Tuscan villas, breathtaking borghi from the Renaissance, astonishing medieval cities surrounded by the sea, in a country where it feels like every single stone is full of history.

We hope you find this guide useful - we have structured it in a way to make reading it as enjoyable as possible; first we start of by giving you general ideas for each step, and at the end of this guide you will find the checklist that you can print, to keep up with all the various tasks.

To give you some ideas about the vast range of locations available in Italy we have collected a few popular wedding venues, divided by Northern Italy, Central Italy and Southern Italy.

Finally you will find a list with the documentation needed, ordered by nationality.

As documentation requirements can change over time, at the end you will find the bibliography with links to the official government websites, where you can find the latest information depending on your specific needs and background.

With this we give you a useful guide to start out your journey of getting married in Italy. If you already got married and would like to share your experience with other couples or if you feel like something specific is missing, we'd love to hear from you! Send us a message to guide@thewaistcoats.com and we will make sure that the next version of this guide includes even more useful information.

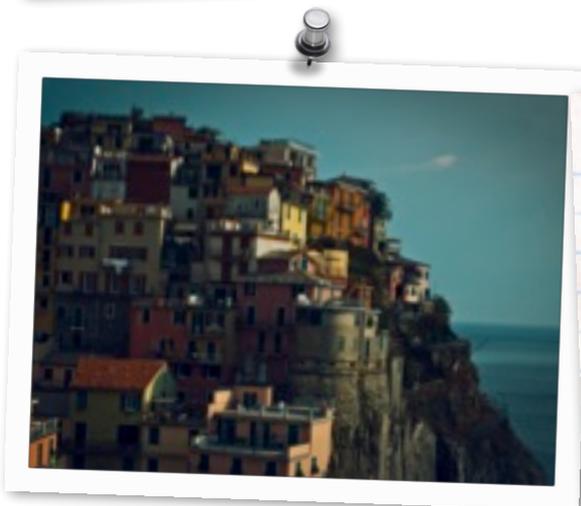
That said, we wish you all the best for your wedding in Italy - probably one of the most romantic and beautiful places on this planet!

The Waistcoats

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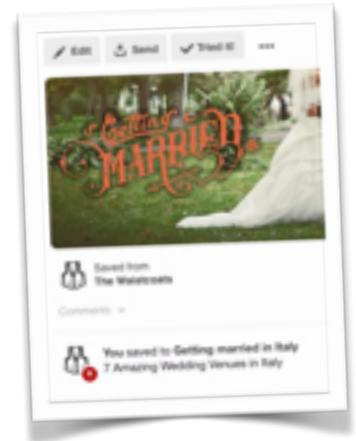


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Step 1 - Getting Started

Collect your ideas

First of all, it's a good idea to start collecting ideas. Brainstorming and Mind-Mapping are great techniques to gather ideas. You can use free online services: Pinterest allows you to group photos and website links into boards (<https://www.pinterest.com/>), which is a great way to group topics together, while the basic version of Evernote (<https://evernote.com/>) allows you to organize photos, text, webpages and clips. You can also add your own notes and share them.



Pick a date

If you have a little flexibility it is probably best to narrow down the date of the wedding to a time period, as your favorite venue might not be free on the date you have picked. Consider that in Italy the high season is between June and

September. And not only are there thousands of couples from abroad who want to wed in Italy - of course Italian couples are getting married too and often they will get preference when booking a venue; sometimes they book two years ahead for some locations. Fortunately some venues have specialized in catering to wedding couples from abroad, so fear not! Also, consider that in the South it stays warm longer, so you might still get great temperatures in October on top of getting better deals! Which brings us to the next topic, the budget.

Set your budget

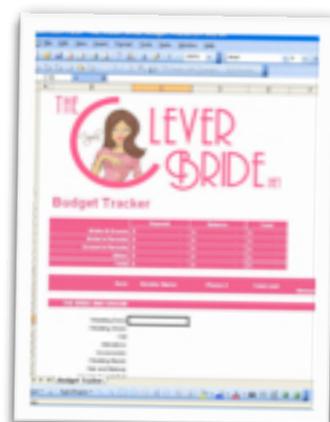
Keeping your budget under control is important, if you don't want **costs to explode**. A great way to keep organized is by using free Excel-templates

for weddings, which you can find here:

<http://www.excelspreadsheet.net/personal/15-useful-wedding-spreadsheets/>

As mentioned above, the time you plan your wedding can make a huge difference in your budget. Weddings in May can be much more affordable, while the weather is mainly mild, as compared to a wedding in July, which is high-season for weddings in Italy. Also, try to save money where possible. Sometimes doing your own research gets you a better deal - if, for example, a wedding venue proposes their own photographers, videographers, etc., very often they have an arrangement with these vendors, and often they keep a cut for themselves. If instead you do your research on google and organize your own florist or wedding live music entertainment, often you can find attractive alternatives. Also, in Italy it is okay to ask if vendors offer a discount; sometimes booking a full day service with a vendor can also be cheaper than booking three different vendors, as they will grant you a discount for covering the entire day and travel costs will be minimized as the vendor will already be on location.

A wedding planner costs more, but a good wedding planner will make sure that you get the best deals, so in the end it can be worth it and it takes a load off you, as they will help you dealing with the infamous Italian bureaucracy - but that's another topic.



Step 2 - Find your style

A wedding by the sea

A wedding by the sea can be everything from an actual wedding on a beach (e.g. in Nettuno), to a wedding atop of a cliff (e.g. in Sorrento), which makes for an impressive view.



A wedding in a village

Prefer a wedding in rural village instead? For example Tuscany offers great venues, surrounded by green, ecotourism venues, castles, borghi, little villas, or entire wedding towns, which will make your dreams come true!

Also Umbria offers beautiful landscapes and villages, which is probably why Neil Patrick Harris, famous for his role as Barney Stinson in "How I met your mother", got married in Perugia!

A lake wedding

Lake weddings are also very popular, not only since George Clooney bought his house next to Lake Como. Lake Weddings give the wedding a touch of exclusivity and the landscape, often surrounded by hills, sure is one of many reasons why guests choose to get married on a Lake. Other popular lake options in Italy include Lake Garda, Lake Maggiore, Lake Orta and Lake Bracciano.

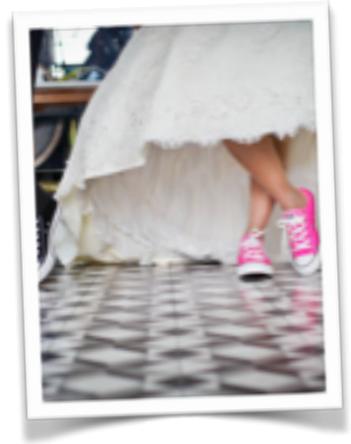


Step 3 - Legal Requirements

First things first

The paperwork required for getting married sure is the least fun part of organizing your wedding.

Requirements change depending on whether you want to be married in a catholic church, if you are looking for a civil location, which country you are from and whether or not your wedding is a same-sex marriage.



Useful to know:

- Catholic weddings are legally recognized in Italy
- No official residency requirement for civil ceremonies in Italy
- For other religions, proof of a civil marriage is required before you can celebrate in a church

Documents you will need

First of all, it is very important to make sure that your passport is still valid and will be valid by the time you get married. You will also need to provide official, long form, signed Birth Certificates.

Since requirements are specific to each Nationality, please look up the section on page 22.



Also consider other paperwork you might need to take care of - if there is any form of music at your wedding, no matter if live or not, you will also have to pay the SIAE tax (your venue/wedding planner can help you with this).

Step 4 - Religious or Civil?

Useful to know

The only church ceremonies that can be performed legally in Italy without the requirement for a civil ceremony beforehand are Catholic Ceremonies.



Catholic Church Wedding

At least one of the partners must be Catholic and **neither one can be divorced**. You should contact the priest well in advance, as they might decide not to marry you for one reason or another (e.g. he only weds

Italian couples). Bear in mind that this process takes time, so begin it at least 6 months before.

Civil Wedding

There is no official residency requirement for civil weddings in Italy, making it much easier to get married there. Generally you need proof of being a single person. Also, you will need an interpreter at your wedding (this is a legal requirement, although you can decide to bring your own interpreter, which doesn't have to be an official translator, so that is a great opportunity to save some extra money).



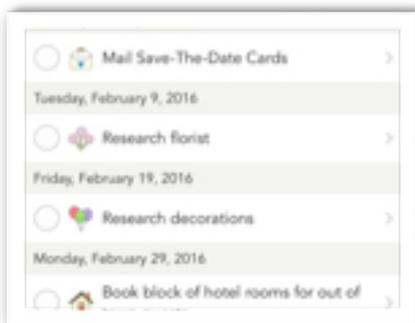
You might as well decide to just have a **symbolic ceremony**, where all you need really is the permission of the owner of the venue.

You can find more specific requirements for each nationality on **page 22**.

Step 5 - Use helper tools to plan your wedding

Trello and other (free) web-based project management applications

Sometimes it can be hard to keep track of every moving part of your wedding - all your communications, photos, prices, inquiries, responses, paperwork, phone calls, paper notes... if you're not the most organized person (or especially if you are), why not use the power of project tools that have stood the test of time? One of them is called "Trello". Trello is great, because 1. the free version is enough for planning a wedding and 2. the way it is organized by cards makes it easy to stay on top of every single aspect at any time (and you can share it with your wedding planner, so you can see changes in real-time!). You can set up a free account here: <https://trello.com/>. There is a huge range of templates that you can copy and use available online, too!



Apps

Why not use an App on your smartphone to stay organized? After all a smartphone is one of the items we always carry with us. A great iOS app (free) is available here: [https://](https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/weddinghappy-wedding-planner/id432763910?mt=8)

itunes.apple.com/us/app/weddinghappy-wedding-planner/id432763910?mt=8

At the end of this guide you can find more links to useful apps and webservices/pages, that you can use to organize your big day!

Step 6 - Find your dream venue

Finding a venue online

To get a first idea about venues, to make things easier by now you should have a better idea if you like to do a lake wedding, sea wedding, a wedding in a village and so on. As an orientation on the next three pages you will find a few popular venues in Italy. With that in mind you can start searching online for e.g. "Irish Wedding Venues around Rome" or "Castle wedding destinations around Florence" and so on. That way you won't be overwhelmed by search results, and you can start to visit the websites of the venues and check if they have a specific wedding section. Also, you can make first contact and figure out how fast their response-time is, how professional they are in their response and also how good their communication skills are in English.



A few useful tips:

- Some venues are booked out for two years in advance for dates during wedding-peak season, so make sure to inquire as soon as possible
- Sometimes it's easier to have a wedding planner arrange a venue for you (if it's a seasoned wedding planner chances are also that they know somebody in the venue, which makes things easier)
- Some venues, especially in the South of Italy, will try to discourage you to use vendors outside of their vendors list but if you don't like the vendors they provide you are legally free to choose your own
- Some venues have a curfew. Make sure you plan this into your daytime schedule, especially if you have organized for live music/DJ etc.

Venues in the North of Italy



Villa Cortine,
Sirmione



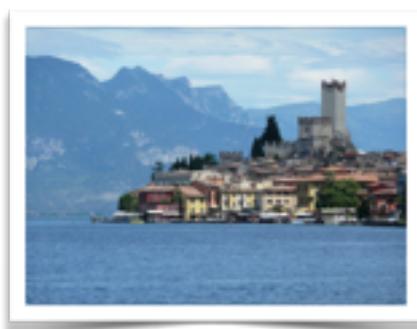
Palazzo Zeno - Cà Zen
Venice



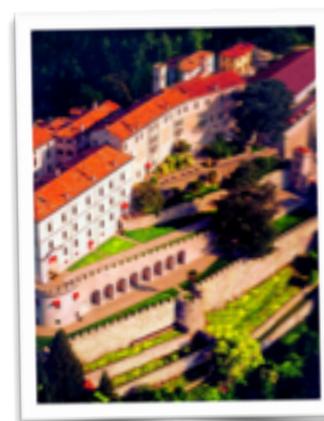
Locanda Cipriani
Venice



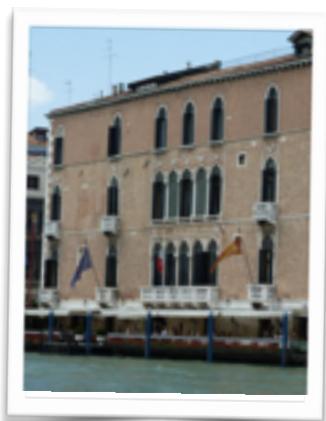
Byblos Art Hotel Villa Amistà
Verona



Castle of Malcesine
Lake Garda



Castel Brando
Treviso



Palace Hotel Gritti
Venice



Lido di Lenno
Lake Como



Beachclub Orta
Lake Orta

Venues in the Center of Italy



Castello di Vincigliata
Fiesole (Florence)



Casa Giulia Country House
Trevi



Borgo San Faustino
Orvieto



Palazzo Mannocchi
Petritoli



Borgo di Tragliata
Tragliata (Rome)



Villa Rosantica
Rome



Villa Grazioli
Grottaferrata (Rome)



Il Castello Borghese
Nettuno (Rome)



Villa Vistarenni
Gaiole in Chianti

Venues in the South of Italy



La Plage Resort
Taormina (Sicily)



Villa Garbo,
Sicily



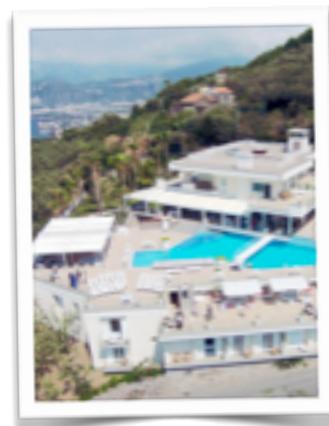
Grand Hotel Cocumella
Sorrento



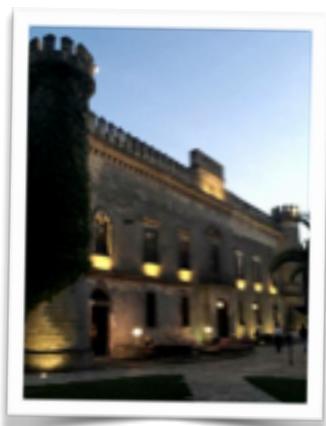
Townhall of Ostuni
Ostuni



Villa San Giacomo
Positano



Villa Eliana
Sorrento



Castello Monaci
Salento



Villa Oliviero
Positano

Step 7 - Inquire for vendors

Photographer

Getting a good photographer is very important. A good photographer will have high technical skills, is there when needed (and invisible when needed too), but most important - a good photographer will be able to capture the emotion of the moment. Make sure to look at the portfolio and blog of the photographer (same goes for the videographer) and make sure that he or she understands exactly what you are looking for. Therefore a photographer who has experience dealing with couples from abroad and is fluent in English, is a must.



Music Entertainment

As with the photographer, it is important that the provider of music entertainment has a lot of experience dealing with foreign customers, as their needs often differ dramatically compared to a local Italian wedding party. A good starting point is to check their website, read their blog and listen to their songs, read reviews and see how professionally they communicate. Also, see if they are willing to learn a few songs - a real wedding band should learn the first dance for free - often they also offer extra services (e.g. DJ, ceremony etc.).

As a general rule, and this goes for any vendor, don't hesitate to ask if something is not offered on their website - they might be able to accommodate your request. If something is way out of your budget, don't hesitate to tell the vendor - you might get a discount or work out a better deal (e.g. get more for the same price). It's all about communication, really.

Step 8 - Get wedding essentials

Rings

At this point probably you have already looked around for wedding rings - this is something that can be taken care of in your country, unless you are looking for original rings from Tuscany; finding the right rings is a science in itself, but since we're focusing on getting married in Italy, this will be a topic for a different guide.



Dress

Finding the right wedding dress can be difficult, but don't forget that once you found a dress you like you can adapt and modify it to fit your needs 100%. More important than finding a dress (or a suit) that fits you is to stay in shape, so that 5 months later you will still fit in. With a healthy diet you'll make sure that you neither gain nor loose too much weight. Trying the dress on a few weeks before the wedding is as important, as this will give you time for some last-minute adjustments .

Transport

For an entrance with style don't forget to organize a limo/vintage car with driver to bring you to the venue on your big day! If the venue is further away from where your guests are staying, don't forget to organize a shuttle service that will bring guests to, and at certain times, back to their accommodation.



Step 9 - From macro to micro

Send out invitations

You have inquired amongst your guests if they'd be willing to travel abroad before, haven't you? And you have already sent out "Save the dates" on time, haven't you? Then you're all set. As soon as you have received confirmation from you venue/wedding planner about your wedding date, it's time to create your invitations and send them out! Want to take care of this yourself? Try <http://www.vistaprint.com/>!



Organize flights and accommodation

Have you thought about how you will get to your wedding? As soon as you have the dates confirmed you should make sure that you keep an eye on cheap rates (Skyscanner is great for that: <https://www.skyscanner.net/>). If your wedding venue doesn't also include the accommodation, it's also time to look up accommodation that is close enough and that is prepared to host a wedding couple.

Set up a wedding registry

A wedding registry makes it easier for guests to understand what gifts couples like and, once set up (often via a website such as <https://www.theknot.com/registry>), they can view and purchase any of the items on that list. Thanks to such a list which updates in real-time, duplicate gifts are a thing of the past.



Step 10 - The final countdown

Get into great shape

Eating healthy is not only important to fit into your dress or suit, but to keep you healthy and fit throughout the entire process of planning your wedding and having you in the best (mental and physical) shape possible on your wedding day which, as much joy as it will bring, can be very long and demanding. So it's time to start putting those soda cans away, keep yourself hydrated, maybe start a short-term gym membership (or, if you don't have that time try home-workout programs such as P90X, or if you're not into that kind of workout try free apps such as RunKeeper to stay motivated and do regular workouts). There are also great Yoga exercises available online for free (e.g. <https://www.youtube.com/yogawithadriene>). If you ever thought about trying meditation, but were put off by all the esoteric stuff surrounding it, you may want to try <http://www.headspace.com>. Headspace takes all the scientifically proven elements and keeps meditating fun and light!



Wrap up the last details

Now it's a good time to take a look at your checklist and make sure you haven't forgotten any details. Did you pack your sunscreen? Did you bring your hay-fever medicine? Did you order that barrel of Scotch for uncle Tom? Did you communicate any changes to your wedding planner? Great, then you're good to go.

Enjoy your big day!



Don't forget: Ultimately this day is all about you having a great time. You have worked so hard to enjoy your wedding in this beautiful place. People travelled far to come to your wedding. Make sure you enjoy this moment and cherish the fact that your dream has come true. You are here, with your beautiful partner, getting married - in Italy. Congratulations!

Checklist

+1 Year before the wedding

- Start brainstorming about things you like for your wedding (e.g. create an idea board on Pinterest)
- Set a date/time period
- Decide on a wedding style
- Create a wedding website
- Consider purchasing wedding insurance
- Start to create a guest list
- Decide if you want a wedding by the sea, in a castle etc.
- Decide in which region in Italy you'd like to get married
- Decide how much your total budget is going to be
- Research wedding dress and veil style
- Renew passports if they will expire within the next year
- Get in touch with your wedding planner (if you have one)
- Check if you meet the legal requirements, based on your nationality, religious vs. civil wedding vs. same sex wedding etc.

9-10 months before the wedding

- Contact and book photographer, catering, live music (ceremony, aperitifs, reception) etc.
- Send out Save the Dates.
- Buy the wedding ring
- Buy the wedding dress (and help choose bridesmaids' dresses)
- Establish a fitness routine.

6-8 months before the wedding

- Send out the invitations (the sooner the better as it will make it easier for guests to find affordable accommodation and flights)

- Communicate first dance and special requests with musicians so that they have time to rehearse them
- Research a few hotels to help guests finding accommodation (or check if the wedding venue offers accommodation for your guests already)
- Start planning your honeymoon
- Set up a gift registry

4-5 months before the wedding

- Work out or refine a routine for mental and physical health (e.g. meditation, yoga, healthy diet)
- Finalize your wedding vows
- Communicate with your wedding providers in Italy to sort out the last details

2-3 months before the wedding

- Change names on bank accounts, credit cards etc.
- Communicate with best man and bridesmaid about hen party/stag night
- Finalize wedding day timeline (and communicate it to vendors)
- Finalize playlist with musicians
- Go to the dressmaker for any last-minute alterations
- Buy your wedding lingerie

1 month before the wedding

- Call vendors to confirm date, times and location
- Confirm honeymoon reservations
- Get your hair cut, coloured
- Pick up wedding dress
- Ship any special items to Italy
- Pack your bags

Wedding Day

- Eat a good breakfast
- Allow yourself plenty of time to get ready
- Give wedding rings to best Man.

Requirements for Catholic weddings

Please note that you should not apply for documents and certificates more than six months prior to wedding date or they will expire.

Catholic weddings in Italy can only take place by the priest's permission and upon presentation of the following documentation:

- Formal letter on church letterhead from your parish priest stating that you have fulfilled all PRE CANA procedures and granting permission for the wedding to be performed in the church of your choice.
- A letter from the Archbishop or Vicar of the parish stating the same - your priest can obtain this for you.
- ALL certificates of baptism, first communion and confirmation must be sent TOGETHER with this letter, together with a mixed marriage application completed if one of the spouses is not Catholic.
- Original of the marriage encounter with church seals/signatures (they issue a form). This original is not just the certificate but also a type of signed questionnaire.
- Seals or stamps must be from the parish office, so that everything looks correct.
- For foreigners marrying in Italy, it is also necessary to produce a Pre-Nuptial Inquiry or Pre-Nuptial Investigation, since this contains the Nulla Osta which is the authorization given to the spouses by their Bishop. It will contain permission for marrying outside of their parish. It is signed by the diocese of the couple.

These documents must be sent within 2 months of the wedding date, so that there is enough time to make sure they are all correct and that nothing is

missing. Please be aware of the following important note regarding previous divorce:

If you have been divorced, you will not be allowed to marry again in a Catholic Church. The ceremony could be done only if you acquire an annulment from your previous marriage and have it recognized by the Church.

Please note that Church authorities in Italy should be contacted well in advance for information.

Requirements for Irish citizens

Irish citizens need to obtain the following documents:

- Statutory declaration by Irish citizen called a "Certificate de coutume" to get married abroad.
- (A divorced person or a person who is or intends to marry a person under the age of 18 years should use a different form).
- Completion of the MP2A form/declaration. This declaration must be made and signed in the presence of a Notary Public, a Commissioner for Oaths or a Solicitor, if in Ireland, or a Diplomatic or Consular Officer of Ireland, or Notary Public, or Commissioner for Oaths, if abroad. Bring all the following documents to the DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS in Dublin. They will check them and if everything is ok they will send an email to the Irish Consulate in Rome, that will issue the "Nulla Osta".
- MP2A form
- Birth certificate long form (showing both parents names)
- Copy of the passports.

Requirements for British citizens

British citizens need to obtain the following documents:

Please note that you should not apply for documents and certificates more than six months prior to wedding date or they will expire.

The first step is to obtain a "Certificate of No Impediment".

Go to your local Registry Office and inform them of your marriage, and you will obtain such Certificate 23 days after the publishing of your Banns. When in Italy, you must go to an appropriate British Consular office to obtain the "Nulla Osta" .

Bring with you the Certificate of No Impediment, together with:

- your full Birth Certificates (which must include names of both parents)
- Passport and copy of Passport of both British Citizens getting married (If your passport shows a different name from the one on your Birth Certificate, please bring deed poll showing the change of name).
- Divorce Decree Absolute if you are divorced
- Evidence of termination of any previous marriage of both parties, if applicable.

Please note that the Italian Law does not allow a woman to remarry until 300 days have passed from the date of her divorce, although you could apply for a waiver at the Italian local Civil Court (Tribunale Civile). If you wish to obtain further information about this issue, please contact the marriage Office of the Town Hall where the wedding is to take place. Upon inspection of all paperwork presented, the Consulate will issue the "Nulla Osta", which must be presented at the registry office where the marriage will take place.

Requirements for Jewish weddings

For a Jewish wedding you need to obtain the following documents:

Please note that you should not apply for documents and certificates more than six months prior to wedding date or they will expire.

The religious Jewish community in Italy is 100% Orthodox.

There are various synagogues throughout Italy, and you should choose your one by introducing yourself to the local Rabbi, via a presentation letter, sent either via email or fax.

- Certificates from an orthodox Rabbi declaring that you are both Jewish and free to marry.
- If divorced, a legal and religious Dissolution of Marriage has to be provided.
- Ketubah of the bride's and the groom's parents' weddings.
- The bride-to-be may perform the mitzvah in Italy or in her own community, in which case she should produce a certificate attesting that the mitzvah was performed, dated not more than four days before the wedding ceremony.

Requirements for Same-Sex Weddings

For a same-sex wedding you need to obtain the following documents:

Gay Marriage is still not legal in Italy, but as of the 21st of July 2016, same sex couples in Italy can enter into a Civil Union

Although many aspects of planning a same sex wedding in Italy mirror those of a heterosexual wedding, there are some additional steps you will have to consider before you tie the knot in Italy.

For example, you will have to see if your Italian Same Sex Union will be officially recognized in your home country (you can find out more about the laws between different states here). If it won't, you may wish to consider a symbolic wedding instead of a legal ceremony.

TIP: You might also need to be a bit more cautious when choosing a location for your wedding, as you may unfortunately receive a negative reaction to your partnership in some of the more traditional parts of the country. Of course this is a generalization, and many small villages will be more than happy to welcome you. A good rule of thumb is to go and visit the town you wish to get married in before committing to anything, and see if you feel comfortable there with your same sex partner.

Requirements for U.S. citizens

U.S. citizens need to obtain the following documents:

Please note that you should not apply for documents and certificates more than six months prior to wedding date or they will expire.

- Valid Passport or, if in the Army, ID Card plus permission to marry issued by the Commander.
- Birth certificate showing both parents' names
- If applicable, Final Divorce Decree, Annulment Decree or Death Certificate of previous spouse.
- These documents must be translated into Italian.
- To be legal in Italy, the translated documents must be given the Apostille Stamp by the Secretary of State in the state where each document was originally issued.
- Obtain an Atto Notorio from an Italian Consul in the United States. This is a declaration that according to US laws there is no obstacle to the marriage, and it must be sworn to by two witnesses.

Upon your arrival in Italy, you need to obtain:

- Another Declaration (Nulla Osta), sworn to by the US citizen at US Consulate in Italy stating that there is no legal impediment to his/her marriage under Italian Law and US Law.
- Legalization of the Nulla Osta must be done by the office of the Prefecture. There is one in every provincial capital.
- A waiver for a woman who has been divorced within the last 300 days must be obtained from the Procura della Repubblica (District Attorney), issued on presentation of a medical certificate that she is not pregnant.

Requirements for Canadian citizens

Canadian citizens need to obtain the following documents:

Please note that you should not apply for documents and certificates more than six months prior to wedding date or they will expire.

You must obtain an Affidavit, stating that there is No Impediment to your marriage. You can do this either in Canada or at the Canadian Consulate in Milan or the Canadian Embassy in Rome. Then present this document to the Registry Office in the city where the wedding will take place.

- Canadian passport and Proof of Canadian citizenship (Birth certificate, Citizenship certificate, Certificate of Registration of a Birth Abroad, Certificate of Retention of Canadian Citizenship).
- Final Divorce Decree or Death Certificate of previous spouse if divorced or widowed.
- Complete details of the future spouse are also required (full name, father's and mother's maiden names, date and place of birth, residence)
- Document issued by the Provincial Vital Statistics authorities in Canada confirming that no registration of marriage appears in their records.

A woman whose previous marriage was terminated within the last 300 days must obtain a waiver from the Court. This is issued on presentation of medical evidence that she is not pregnant Upon your arrival in Italy.

If you have not received the Declaration (Nulla Osta) from a Canadian authority abroad, you will need to make the necessary arrangements here in Italy. The declaration issued by the Embassy or Canadian consulate must be authenticated at the Prefecture - Legalization office.

Once the declaration has been obtained and legalized, it is presented to the Marriage office where the wedding will take place.

Requirements for German citizens

German citizens need to obtain the following documents:

Please note that you should not apply for documents and certificates more than six months prior to wedding date or they will expire.

- Your valid and current I.D. card and/or your passport
- The International birth certificate Form
- If previously divorced, your divorce decree
- Certificate of No Impediment. If you are divorced this certificate reports the date of divorce.
- The so called Nulla Osta and the Atto Notorio are usually not required.
- If you have been divorced less than 300 days from the proposed wedding date, there are further requirements to obtain permission to marry in Italy. Please ask for further information to the German Consulate in Italy.

Once in Italy you may be required to issue a statement at the wedding hall, in which you declare that you are free and willing to marry (bring an interpreter if necessary). This is not required everywhere, but if it is, it needs to be done 3 working days before the wedding (bear this in mind, when planning your trip schedule).

Requirements for Russian citizens

Russian citizens need to obtain the following documents:

Please note that you should not apply for documents and certificates more than six months prior to wedding date or they will expire.

In order to get married in Italy Russian citizens need a Nulla Osta which may be obtained by showing the following documents to the Russian Embassy in Italy:

- 2 original Russian passports, one for internal use and the other for use abroad
- Original Birth Certificate
- If previously divorced/widowed, you need to show your divorce decree or death certificate

If documents bear different names, you have to show the document where we can see that you changed it officially.

The couple must apply for the Nulla Osta in PERSON no one else will be allowed in the Embassy or Consulate to assist them.

Requirements for Australian citizens

Australian citizens need to obtain the following documents:

Please note that you should not apply for documents and certificates more than six months prior to wedding date or they will expire.

Before leaving Australia, you are advised to obtain an "Atto Notorio" (Affidavit) from the Italian Embassy or Consulate in Australia.

- Make sure you travel with your Australian passport.
- If you were married before, bring evidence of the termination of the previous marriage.

Please note that in Italy, a divorced woman cannot remarry within 300 days of the date of her divorce, unless she has a special permission from an Italian magistrate.

- If you are widowed, you must bring the death certificate of your previous spouse.
- Once in Italy, you need to apply for a Statutory Declaration (Nulla Osta), which must be signed, whether you are single, divorced or widowed, in the presence of an Australian Consular officer at the Australian Embassy or Consulate, stating that "there are no impediments" for either of you to get married.
- The Nulla Osta must then be legalized by the Prefecture. Bring with you a revenue stamp which you can purchase at a tobacconist.
If you are unable to obtain an Affidavit from an Italian Consulate in Australia, you may obtain one from the Civil Court in Italy, either in Rome or Milan.
- An appointment must be taken with the Civil Court and you must specify that you are free to marry, and you must show a Visa or a ticket which shows recent entry into Italy or into the European Union.

Bring with you two adult witnesses. If either spouse or one of the witnesses does not speak Italian, it is necessary to provide an interpreter, in addition to the two witnesses.

Please note that neither spouse can act as witness or interpreter.

For the Civil Ceremony, bring the Atto Notorio and Nulla Osta to the Marriage Office, in the Italian city where you plan to marry. Book an appointment to make a Declaration of Intent to Marry, and another for the actual marriage ceremony.

Bring with you two witnesses, and an interpreter.

If one or more of the parties is Italian or is an Australian with Italian residency, then Banns must be posted at least two weeks before the date of the actual marriage.

Useful links and further reading

Tools to organize your wedding/photos/documents:

Trello:	trello.com Organize your tasks in a visual way
Pinterest:	pinterest.com Organize your ideas and inspirations
WeddingMapper:	weddingmapper.com Create a wedding map for your guests
Evernote:	evernote.com Organize your notes, photos etc. in folders/subfolders
Dropbox:	dropbox.com Keep documents, scans etc. in one place
Wedding Happy:	https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/weddinghappy-wedding-planner/id432763910?mt=8 A free iOS app to keep track of your wedding tasks

Print Services:

VistaPrint:	vistaprint.com Print your own invitation cards/flyers/anything really
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Wedding Registry:

Amazon:	amazon.com
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Requirements for church wedding in Italy:

http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/italiani_nel_mondo/serviziconsolari/statocivile/matrimonio.html

Requirements for Irish citizens getting married in Italy:

<https://www.dfa.ie/irish-embassy/italy/our-services/marriage-and-civil-partnership/>

Requirements for UK citizens getting married in Italy:

<https://www.gov.uk/marriage-abroad>

Requirements for same sex wedding in Italy:

http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/italiani_nel_mondo/serviziconsolari/statocivile/unioni-civili-convivenze-di-fatto.html

http://europa.eu/youreurope/citizens/family/couple/registered-partners/index_en.htm

Requirements for U.S. citizens getting married in Italy:

<https://it.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/marriage/>

Requirements for Australian citizens getting married in Italy:

<http://italy.embassy.gov.au/rome/marriage.html>

Requirements for Canadian citizens getting married in Italy:

http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/italy-italie/consular_services_consulaires/marriage-mariage.aspx?lang=eng

Requirements for German citizens getting married in Italy:

http://www.italien.diplo.de/Vertretung/italien/de/04-RK/Konsularischer-Service-Informationen/Eheschlie_C3_9Fung-in-Italien.html

Requirements for Jewish weddings in Italy:

Requirements for Russian citizens in Italy:

<http://www.rusconsroma.com/article.sdf/it/Servizi/nulla-it>

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Help us to improve this guide

We'd love to hear your feedback! Do you feel we missed something important? Or do you have a great idea about something that you think would totally be useful for other couples? Let us know!

Send us an email to guide@thewaistcoats.com and we will make sure that you will receive credit in our next edition.