

MAZZESCHI

ITALIAN IMMIGRATION & CITIZENSHIP

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NEWS, UPDATES AND CURIOSITIES ON ITALIAN
IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP

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THESE ARTICLES ARE PUBLISHED ALSO ON
OUR WEBSITE WWW.MAZZESCHI.IT



MOVING TO
ITALY
AND IMPORTING
YOUR
BELONGINGS
DUTY FREE

ARE YOU MOVING TO ITALY?

Non-EU expats who are transferring their residence to Italy are entitled to import personal household goods tax-free.

You can ask for tax exemption documentation from the Customs Office or import agent at the port of arrival.

CONDITIONS FOR TAX EXEMPTION



To qualify for tax exemptions the Customs Office will ask you to fulfill the below conditions:

- If you are importing Household goods and vehicles you must have owned and used them for at least 6 months before the relocation;



- You shall prove to have lived in the country where the shipment is coming from for at least 12 months;
- You shall prove to have applied for the residence registration at the city hall (iscrizione anagrafica) before the arrival of the shipment*;
- The importation shall take place within 12 months from the date of the residence registration in Italy.



REMARKS

When moving to Italy, please take into account the below exceptions:

- Consumable goods such as food, beverage, and alcohol including wine are subject to duty taxes;
- New furniture and household items are subject to duty taxes;
- Electronic equipment requires a specific import permit issued by Italian competent authorities;
- Electrical bicycles or electrical scooters must comply with EU requirements and have the "CE" logo to pass the Customs checks.



WHAT TO DO IF THE CUSTOMS AUTHORITY BLOCKS THE SHIPMENT BECAUSE YOU ARE NOT RESIDENT IN ITALY YET?



Here are some possible solutions you may try to release the shipment:

- Pay duties and taxes;
- or

- While registering as a resident in the Italian city hall, start the procedure of "Daziato Sospeso": instead of paying a bond deposit, the shipment can be cleared through a "Polizza Fideiussoria" (Insurance policy) issued by your bank as a guarantee that you will either produce sufficient supporting documents for tax exemption or pay duties and taxes within the established date. Upon obtaining residency the guarantee can be withdrawn.

Last but not least, please make sure to hire a shipping company that has a clear understanding of Italian customs formalities before shipping your goods.





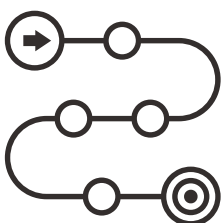
DELAYS IN ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP APPLICATION: A QUICK GUIDELINE WHEN THERE IS A DELAY



THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT WHEN YOUR ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP APPLICATION IS PENDING FOR MONTHS

Delays in Italian citizenship application may occur. Processing times are getting longer and sometimes applications for Italian citizenship by marriage and/or residency remain pending even for some years before any progress on the status of the application is seen.

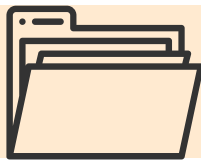
In order to minimize the possibility of prolonged process, you may take into account the following guidelines.



THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT WHEN APPLYING FOR ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP

“ ARE YOU APPLYING FOR ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP? IN THAT CASE, KEEP IN MIND THE FOLLOWING POINTS: ”

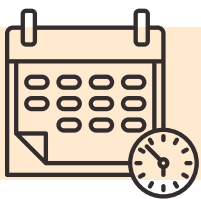
DOCUMENTATION



When applying for Italian Citizenship, it is important to submit a set of documents as precisely and consistently as possible. It is very likely to omit a document necessary for citizenship purposes or to stumble over a detail that does not match the certificates.



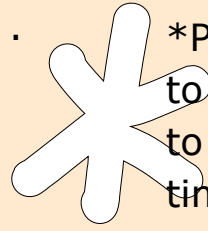
Even a minor discrepancy should be avoided. The fewer discrepancies, the quicker the procedure. Incorrect certificates may delay the processing of your application or affect your eligibility for Italian citizenship.



TIMING

In case you have submitted your application before Dec. 19th, 2020, the processing time for acquiring Italian citizenship is, by law, 4 years from the day of application.

In case you have submitted your application after that date, Italian authorities have 24 months extendable to 36 to provide an outcome.



*Please be informed that due to the pandemic 82 days need to be added to the above timeframe. These days correspond to the suspension of time limits that occurred during that period

APPLYING FOR ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP: WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT PHASES OF THE PROCESS? WHAT DOES EACH PHASE MEAN?



1 2

Phase 1 and 2: "Inquiry checks are underway on the elements acquired related to clarifications and integrations with other offices involved in the proceeding

3

Phase 3: "Preliminary and cognitive elements have been acquired, which are now subject to necessary investigations useful for the definition of the proceeding"

4

Phase 4: "All the necessary information has been acquired, and the application is being evaluated"

5

Phase 5: "The procedure related to the file in question is concluded and the relevant order has been sent to the competent bodies for the consequent fulfilments and determinations"

6

Phase 6: "The investigation was favourably concluded and the concession decree is being sent to the Prefecture which will take care of its notification. If the applicant resides abroad, the decree will be sent to the Consular Authority"

7

Phase 7: "Application file defined. You will receive a communication from the Prefecture/Consulate"

*Note: Italian authorities may use wordings slightly different from the above and they may combine some phasis.

SOME USEFUL TIPS YOU SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT WHEN APPLYING FOR ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP

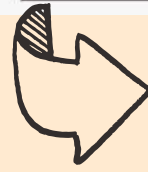


- Be sure to file the documentation in the right order and with no discrepancies.
- Rome wasn't built in a day, so please be patient for a few months!
- During the first phase, if you do not see any progress, you may send a gentle follow-up message to Italian authorities informing them that you make yourself available and cooperative for any needs they may have.
- Once you reach the 5th phase, we suggest you send a formal request to know the outcome of the application.
- During the 6th stage, you may try to put some pressure on the authorities by sending a tougher and more direct follow-up message to speed up the process.
- Once the final stage has been reached, it is possible for the successful applicant to contact the consular authorities or the Prefecture to assert his or her right and request an appointment to be provided at the earliest opportunity.



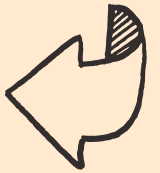
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HOW CAN WE
HELP YOU?

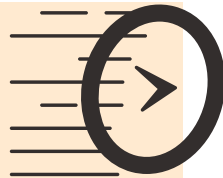


Does bureaucracy put you
on the spot?

Does legal terminology get
you in trouble?



WHAT HAPPENS IF
THE TIME LIMIT RUNS
OUT?



There are various ways that the applicant can take to ensure that he or she receives an outcome on the submitted citizenship application. Depending on the stage at which the application is pending, the applicant may take specific formal requests directed to the Consular authorities or Prefecture.

Usually, a 30-day limit is left for them to provide an outcome.



We are delighted to let you know that Mazzeschi srl provides assistance and supports in the compilation of formal requests addressed to the Public Administration and any other interested body.

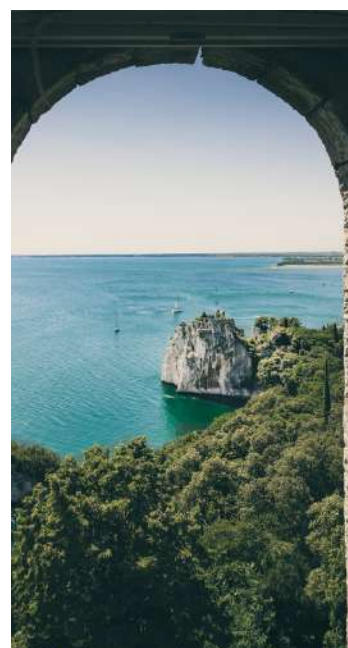
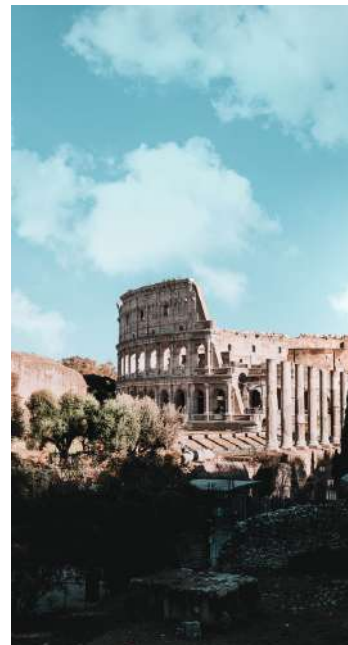
If you are having problems with long processing time of your Italian Citizenship application, you can contact us. Our staff of the Italian citizenship department will do their best to help you.

MAZZESCHI SRL

TUSCANY - MILAN - TOKYO - TAIPEI

WHEN THE ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP WILL BE GRANTED, YOU WILL BE AN ITALIAN CITIZEN. WHAT SHOULD YOU DO AFTER OBTAINING THE ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP?

If a decree has been issued awarding Italian citizenship, first congratulations!



The Italian Consulate or the territorial Prefecture will notify the applicant, who will book an appointment at the Italian Town Hall or at the competent consulate to take the official oath.

Remember, the newly became Italian citizen must take the oath within six months from the date of notification of the decree granting Italian nationality.



ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP SCAMS AND FRAUD: FALSE ITALIAN CITIZENSHIPS GRANTED TO BRAZILIAN NATIONALS



LATELY, ANOTHER ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP SCAM WAS FOUND. THIS SPEED-BASED TRICK OF ITALIAN CITIZENSHIPS GRANTED REMOTELY (WHICH IS ILLEGAL) DOES NOT SEEM TO GET ANY OLD.



The small town of Lauriano Po, with not even 1.500 habitants, ended up in a judicial storm over a system of bribery where public officers falsely confirmed the residency of 68 Brazilian nationals on a two-room bed&breakfast, which led to the recognition of Italian citizenship by descent.



Among the victims, there is also the Arsenal footballer Gabriel Martinelli and his father who received a certificate of residence without ever having set foot on Italian soil.

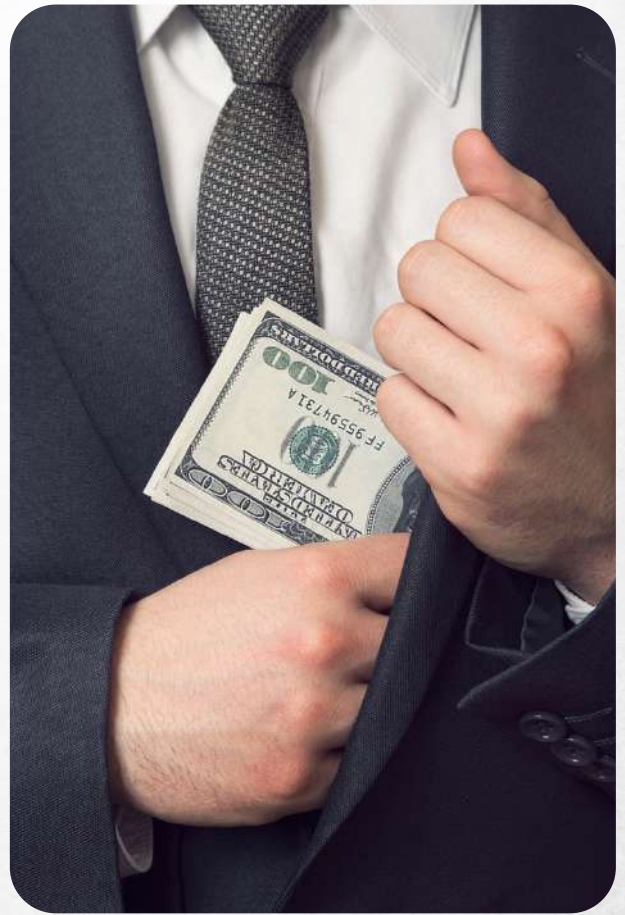


This "path", which may appear simple and easy, brought in very large sums of money.



Brazilian citizens turned to an intermediation company to obtain Italian citizenship by descent; the money was paid to the agency, which first took care of obtaining fictitious residencies and then of the recognition of Italian citizenship along with some public officials who also offered their support for AIRE registrations.

The judicial inquiry, which is taking place between Piedmont and Tuscany, has several statal officers, among those under investigation, including also the mayor, who seems to have received many precious gifts.



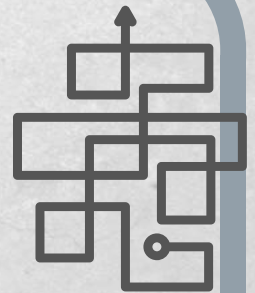
Unfortunately, there have been many similar cases in the past.



We suggest to beware of these kinds of "easy and fast options" and always checking official information, for example: <https://www.esteri.it/en/servizi-consolari-e-visti/italiani-all-estero/cittadinanza/>.



In many cases, the process of obtaining Italian citizenship by descent can take a long time, where even obtaining an appointment seems to be a "mission impossible".



This situation may bring some frustration, yet, choosing a non-legal path is not an option. There are also legal remedies against the consulate's delays that may apply to your case.



8 BENEFITS OF ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP

ARE YOU CONSIDERING
APPLYING FOR ITALIAN
CITIZENSHIP?

HAVE YOU ALREADY
STARTED WITH THE
ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP
APPLICATION
PROCESS?

HERE ARE THE
BENEFITS OF
OBTAINING
ITALIAN DUAL
CITIZENSHIP:

1

NO TAX
OBLIGATIONS
UNLESS YOU TAKE
RESIDENCY IN
ITALY

The acquisition of Italian citizenship does not — per se — bring any tax liability. According to Italian Law, in fact, a person is considered to be resident in Italy for income tax purposes only if, for the majority of the year (at least 183 days a year, 184 for leap years):

- they are entered in the National Registry of the Resident Population in Italy; or
- they have their habitual abode in Italy; or
- They have their main centre of affairs and interests in Italy.



2

RIGHT TO SETTLE AND WORK IN ITALY AND ALL EUROPEAN UNION COUNTRIES

All EU citizens and their family members have the right to move and reside freely within the EU. The conditions for the exercise of the right of free movement and residence within the territory of the Member States by EU citizens and their family members are set out in the Free Movement Directive 2004/38/EC:

- EU citizens can live in another EU country for up to three months without any requirements other than holding a valid identity card or passport.
- In order to stay in another EU country for more than three months, EU citizens have to meet certain conditions depending on their status (for example worker, self-employed, student, etc.) and may be asked to comply with administrative formalities.
- EU citizens have the right to permanent residence in another EU country after legally residing there continuously for five years. They may be temporarily absent (for example due to an illness, to study, or because of a posting).
- Family members of EU citizens, either EU citizens or nationals of a non-EU country, have the right to accompany or join EU citizens in another EU Member State. They may be asked to comply with certain conditions or formalities.



3

AUTOMATIC
ACQUISITION
OF EU
CITIZENSHIP

Every person holding the nationality of a Member State is a citizen of the European Union. Citizenship of the Union is complementary to but does not replace national citizenship. EU citizenship comprises a number of rights and duties in addition to those stemming from the citizenship of a Member State. For all EU citizens, citizenship implies:

- The right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States (Article 21 TFEU);
- The right to vote and to stand as a candidate in elections to the European Parliament and in municipal elections (Article 22(1) TFEU) in the Member State in which they reside, under the same conditions as nationals of that State;
- The right to diplomatic protection in the territory of a third country (non-EU state) by the diplomatic or consular authorities of another Member State, if their own country does not have diplomatic representation there, to the same extent as that provided for nationals of that Member State;
- The right to petition the European Parliament and the right to apply to the Ombudsman (both Article 24 TFEU) appointed by the European Parliament concerning instances of maladministration in the activities of the EU institutions or bodies;
- The right to write to any EU institution or body in one of the languages of the Member States and to receive a response in the same language (Article 24(4) TFEU);
- The right to access European Parliament, Council, and Commission documents, subject to certain conditions (Article 15(3) TFEU).





4

IF YOU CHOOSE TO RESIDE IN ITALY, YOU CAN REGISTER WITH THE HEALTH NATIONAL SYSTEM (HNS)

In Italy, healthcare is guaranteed by the National Health Service (SSN) to which all residents in one of the situations indicated by national regulation are obligatorily signed up. Healthcare services (medical care) are provided to those signed up by Local Healthcare Authorities (LHA) and Hospital agencies which constitute organs of the SSN.

Services can also be provided by private healthcare bodies which have signed the relevant contracts with the LHAs. To sign up for the SSN and receive an SSN number, consult the LHA in your place of residence. When signing up, the person can choose their GP from a list of doctors registered with the SSN. General assistance is provided directly through the office of the pre-selected or local doctor.



5

THE RIGHT TO
EMERGENCY
HEALTHCARE IN ALL
EU COUNTRIES



The European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) is a free card that gives you access to medically necessary, state-provided healthcare during a temporary stay in any of the 27 EU countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland or the United Kingdom under the same conditions and at the same cost (free in some countries) as people insured in that country.

The benefits covered include, for example, benefits provided in conjunction with chronic or existing illnesses as well as in conjunction with pregnancy and childbirth.

6

RIGHT TO PASS ON
AUTOMATICALLY
CITIZENSHIP TO ANY
OF YOUR CHILDREN
UNDER THE AGE OF
18



Italian citizenship is based upon the principle of "jure sanguinis". This means that a child who is born to an Italian father or mother, is also an Italian citizen, no matter where the child is born. Children under the age of 18 are automatically Italian if one of the parents is an Italian citizen, and their birth certificate is registered with the Italian authorities.

Italian citizens resident abroad must send the documentation to register the minor's birth certificate to the Registry Office (Ufficio di Stato Civile) of the Italian Consulate before the child turns 18.

7

RIGHT TO VOTE
FOR ITALIAN AND
EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT
ELECTIONS

Italian citizens living abroad and regularly registered with AIRE may exercise their right to vote abroad in their place of residence for national elections, for abrogative and constitutional referendums under Articles 75 and 138 of the Constitution, and for European Parliament elections.

8

CONSULAR
PROTECTION
FROM THE
EMBASSY OF ANY
OTHER EU
COUNTRY IN A
COUNTRY
OUTSIDE THE EU

The right to diplomatic protection in the territory of a third country (non-EU state) by the diplomatic or consular authorities of another Member State, if their own country does not have diplomatic representation there, to the same extent as that provided for nationals of that Member State;

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MAZZESCHI

HELLO

JUNE!

