

ITALY 2026 EVENTS

JANUARY

Jan 1: New Year's Day
Quiet holiday. Most celebrations happen the night before.

Jan 6: Epiphany & La Befana. Marks the end of Christmas. Children receive candy—or coal.

Jan 16–17: Feast of Saint Anthony Abbot
Bonfires and processions, especially in southern Italy.

Travel tip: Fewer tourists. Shorter attraction hours.

FEBRUARY

Carnevale (late Jan–mid Feb)

Venice and Viareggio host Italy's most famous celebrations.

Feb 6–22: Winter Olympics Events in Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo.

Feb 24–28: Sanremo Music Festival

Travel tip: Venice is extremely busy. Book early.

MARCH

Mar 6–15: Winter Paralympics

Mar 17: National Unity Day
Ceremonies nationwide (not a public holiday).

Mar 22: Rome Marathon
Road closures in central Rome.

Travel tip: Shoulder season begins.

APRIL

Easter Weekend (date varies)
Processions on Good Friday. Family lunches on Sunday.

Apr 21: Rome's Birthday

Apr 25: Liberation Day (Public Holiday)

Travel tip: One of the busiest months. Plan ahead.

MAY

May 1: Labor Day (Public Holiday)
Concerts and events across Italy.

May 8–31: Giro d'Italia

May 9: Venice Biennale opens

May 15–19: Infiorata di Noto

Travel tip: One of the best months to visit Italy.

JUNE

June 2: Republic Day (Public Holiday)
Military parade in Rome.

Opera season begins
Verona Arena and Rome's Caracalla Baths.

Travel tip: Summer crowds start building.



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JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
<p>July 2: Palio di Siena</p> <p>July 3–12: Umbria Jazz (Perugia)</p> <p>July 14–15: Saint Rosalia (Palermo)</p> <p>July 18-19: Festa del Redentore (Venice)</p> <p><i>Travel tip:</i> Hot and busy in cities.</p>	<p>Aug 15: Ferragosto (Public Holiday) Cities empty. Beach towns fill up.</p> <p><i>Travel tip:</i> Expect closures in smaller towns.</p>	<p>Food festivals (sagre) begin</p> <p>Sept 6: Venice Historical Regatta</p> <p>Sept 7: Paper Lantern Festival (Florence) also... Feast of San Gennaro – Naples</p> <p><i>Travel tip:</i> Excellent weather and fewer crowds.</p>
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<p>From Oct 10: Alba White Truffle Fair</p> <p>Oct 28–Nov 1: Lucca Comics & Games</p> <p><i>Travel tip:</i> Ideal for food lovers.</p>	<p>Rome Jazz Festival</p> <p>Nov 13–22: Eurochocolate (Perugia)</p> <p><i>Travel tip:</i> Quiet and budget-friendly month.</p>	<p>Christmas markets</p> <p>Dec 7: Saint Ambrose (Milan)</p> <p>Dec 13: Saint Lucy</p> <p><i>Travel tip:</i> Festive without peak-season crowds.</p>

Quick Planning Notes

- Public holidays = closures + crowds
- Festivals = book lodging early
- August needs careful planning
- Spring & fall are ideal

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Visit ouritalianjourney.com for itineraries, town guides, and real-life travel advice.

If you are planning to visit Tuscany or Umbria, we suggest our two non-traditional travel guidebooks: Tuscany Treasures and Umbria Treasures, both with personal stories, places to visit, tons of tips, and festivals to expect in each town.

