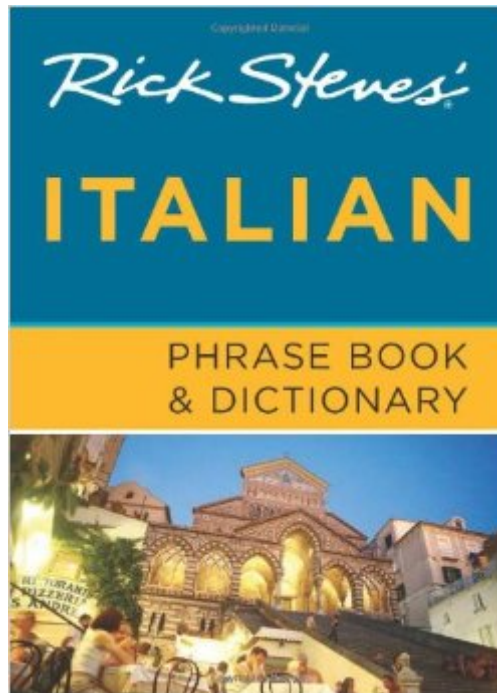


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# Rick Steves' Italian Phrase Book & Dictionary



## Synopsis

Buon giorno! From ordering calamari in Venice to making new friends in Tuscan hill towns, it helps to speak some of the native tongue. Rick Steves, bestselling author of travel guides to Europe, offers well-tested phrases and key words to cover every situation a traveler is likely to encounter. This handy guide provides key phrases for use in everyday circumstances, complete with phonetic spelling, an English-Italian and Italian-English dictionary, the latest information on European currency and rail transportation, and even a tear-out cheat sheet for continued language practice as you wait in line at the Sistine Chapel. Informative, concise, and practical, Rick Steves' Italian Phrase Book and Dictionary is an essential item for any traveler's zainetto.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (254 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,253 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in [Books > Travel > Reference > Phrasebooks](#) #3 in [Books > Travel > Europe > Italy > General](#) #10 in [Books > Reference > Dictionaries & Thesauruses > Foreign Language Dictionaries & Thesauruses](#)

## Customer Reviews

This little booklet provides the appropriate phrases for every conceivable situation; written with Rick Steves' customary humor. Among many helpful phrases, I'm not likely to forget how to tell a taxi driver to "slow down or I'm going to throw up." lol This covers EVERYTHING. and the booklet is small, making it easy to lug around. HIGHLY RECOMMEND!

After several trips to Italy with only a few words in my Italian vocabulary, I decided to get this little guide to give myself more confidence. I find the language is not quite so difficult as I thought and this book helps with the most common situations that travelers must confront. I'm looking forward to trying out my new vocabulary on my next trip to Italy.

I've only had it a few days. It contains lots of useful translations and the size is perfect (without the print being tiny). It is organized in an unusual way for my brain, so finding words and phrases quickly isn't easy. Perhaps with more use it will become more usable. The sections are all color coded, so perhaps that will help.

This book was extremely helpful with my Senior Citizen Italian beginners class. About 25 seniors are learning Italian and this book is a great reference book to us. All the class has jumped on the band wagon and we all have the same book. I would definitely recommend it to any one who is learning this new language. I had always wanted to learn a 3rd language and it has been very helpful to me and to the class as a whole. I'm glad you had this book available for purchase. Thanks .

This book covers every item and topic you can think of. Will be very useful for ordering meals and figuring out what something says. The cheat sheet in the back of Rick Steves' Italy 2014 is what I plan to use first, and use this to figure out things that require more in-depth information.

This was very useful on our recent trip to Italy. We had both the Lonely Planet phrase book and this one with us, but this is the one we ended up using. We found it easier to navigate and more comprehensive than the other. It had more information and was organized more clearly than Lonely Planet. In particular, I thought the Rick Steve's pronunciation guide was easier to follow and got me closer to the correct pronunciation than the Lonely Planet book. However, what really tipped it over the edge was its section on health and medical care. My husband and I -- who travel frequently and rarely get sick -- contracted some kind of horrible flu/sinus infection/plague on the way out of Rome and needed to seek urgent medical consultation and care from a pharmacy on the Amalfi coast. The Rick Steves guide came to our rescue because it had more than three times the amount of health and medical vocabulary than the Lonely Planet book, which we desperately needed because we had a lot of specific symptoms to communicate and the pharmacist/doctor only spoke a few words of English. Thanks to Rick Steves, we were able to explain what was going on and get the right medical information (and medicine) to help us recover quickly. I don't know what we would have done if we had only had the Lonely Planet phrasebook to go on. We might have been given cough drops instead of antibiotics. If you are on the fence, this is the way to go.

I thought I was going to love this little pocket-sized book, but after spending 3 weeks with it in Italy I

found it annoying and frustrating. The book is organized in a very odd way and it made locating information quite baffling. The eating section was by far the worst. It is broken up into small sections that have nothing to do with the way Italian menus are laid out with no easy way to look up the meaning of a word. Instead, the little sections - broken up into even smaller sections - are listed by type (again, not the 'types' that are listed on an Italian menu). For instance, the pasta is broken up into multiple sections; short noodles, long noodles, stuffed, etc. And is sorted by what you want to eat (at least that's my best guess) instead of by word, so you can't simply go in and look up 'capellini', you must already know that it's a long noodle because you'll only find it listed under the 'long noodle' section. So - what's the point? There is a small section in the back of the book that is a dictionary, however you won't find food items listed there. Our group of 5 wound up throwing it down in frustration. Sadly, there is a lot of great information in this book - but it's maddening layout makes it not worth the space it takes up in your pocket or bag.

I chose this rating instead of the highest simply because we haven't been on our trip so haven't tried to actually use the book it yet. I have poured over the book and each time learn more about Italian. From the pronunciations I am finding it is similar to Spanish, at least enough to help me out. So far I find the phrase categories very logical. Thank goodness you have the sections color-coded. I'd like little fold-out tabs with each category, but I know that adds to cost. I love that you have the menu decoder and the dictionary colors offset from the colors of the other categories. The tear out cheat sheets are right up my alley. Thanks to you I don't have to make my own. I am inspired by the book and can't wait to get to Italy and to talk with folks.

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