

V23. Italian Research Introduction

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Italy Introduction

- The People
- The Country
- The Heritage
- The Family
- The Church
- The Music
- The Food
- The Arts
- The Architecture

The Three Basic Research Facts

1. Full Original Name (nome, cognome)
 - For example, Antonino Porcello
 - Watch for variations in spellings (e.g., A. Porchella)
2. Approximate Date of Birth (nascita)
 - For example, 10 December 1888 (note 4 digit year)
 - Estimates (fathers birth year ~ = son's birth - 20 years)
3. Location of Birth or town (comune)
 - Country and region
 - Provinces and town

Finding the Name

- Talk to Relatives (Best and Worst way)
 - Gather existing documents
 - Watch for mistakes, watch for omissions
- Research Documents
 - For example, son born in 1985
 - Estimate (fathers birth = 1985 - 20 = 1965)
- Search Heirlooms
 - Travel cards, religious articles
 - Family Bibles, photographs
 - Passports, newspaper clippings

Italian Naming Ideas

Finding the Birth Date

- Birth Records, Baptism Records
- Marriage Announcements, Marriage records
- Death records
- School records
- Censuses (watch the spellings)
- Ship Passenger Lists
- Family Bibles

Looking for a Birth Date

Italian Regions

- The 107 Provinces
- Finding the City Locator Fiche
- Detail Files Information
- Sicily
- Naro in Agrigento, Sicily

Things to Know About Italian Records

Migration

Passenger Ship Records

Family History Center Records

Arranged by Locality

- Anno (year)
- Provincia (province)
- Distretto (district)
- Comune (city or town)
- Type records (b, b, n, m, d)
- Indexed/non-indexed records
- Grouped records
- Municipal records

Book References

Cole, Trafford R. *Italian Genealogical Records*. Ancestry Incorporated: Salt Lake City, 1995 (ISBN 0-916489-58-2)

Colletta, John P. *They Came in Ships*. Ancestry Publishing, 1998 (ISBN: 0-91648-942-6), 109 pages

Harper Collins *Italian Dictionary*. Harper & Row: New York, 1990 (ISBN 0-06-055253-0)

Nelson, Lynn. *Discovering Your Italian Ancestors*. Betterway Books: Cincinnati, Ohio 1997, (ISBN 1-55870-426-4)

Terrific Family History Library and other Italian Reference Materials

- Family History Library Catalog (30968)
- Italian Genealogical Word List (34071)
- Italian Letter-Writing Guide (36338)
- Italian Research Outline (34113)

Addendum to Italian Genealogy I: Key Italian Word Listing

Complete list at: https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Italian_Genealogical_Word_List

Italian	English	English	Italian	English	Italian
Frequently seen words		Counting Numbers		Months	
anni	age (years of)	1	uno	January	gennaio
anno	year	2	due	February	febbraio
bambino	child	3	tre	March	marzo
battesimo, -i	baptism(s),	4	quattro	April	aprile
cognome	surname	5	cinque	May	maggio
coniugato, -i	marriage(s)	6	sei	June	giugno
cresima, -e	confirmation(s)	7	sette	July	luglio
decesso, -i	death(s)	8	otto	August	agosto
figlia di	daughter of	9	nove	September	settembre
figlio di	son of	10	dieci	October	ottobre
genitori	parents	11	undici	November	novembre
indice	index	12	dodici	December	dicembre
infante	child	13	treddici	Days of the Week	
nata, nascita, -e	birth(s)	14	quattordici	Sunday	domenica
notificazioni	banns	15	quindici	Monday	lunedì
madre	mother	16	sedici	Tuesday	martedì
padre	father	17	diciassette	Wednesday	mercoledì
sposo	husband	18	diciotto	Thursday	giovedì
matrimonio,	marriage(s)	19	diciannove	Friday	venerdì
mese	month	20	venti	Saturday	sabato
moglie	wife	21	ventuno	Times of the Day	
decesso, -i	death(s)	22	ventidue	afternoon	pomeriggio
neonato, neonata	child	23	ventitre	16th hour :(4:00 PM)	alle ore sedici
nome	name	24	ventiquattro	before noon	ante meridiane
notificazioni	banns	25	venticinque	day	giorno
padrini	godparents	26	ventisei	evening	sera
parrocchia	parish	27	ventisette	hour	ora
pubblicazioni	banns	28	ventotto	midday	mezzogiorno
seppellimento,	sepolto,	29	ventinove	midnight	mezzanotte
sepulture, -i	burial(s)	29	ventinove	month	mese
sposa	wife	30	trenta	monthly	mensile
sposato	marriage(s)	31	trentuno	morning	mattina
sposo	husband	40	quaranta	night	notte
vedovo, -a -	widower,	50	cinquanta	the month of	del mese di
	widow	60	sessanta	on the day	addì
		70	settanta	year	anno
		80	ottanta	yesterday	ieri
		90	novanta	yesterday evening	iersera
		100	cento	yesterday morning	iermattina
		200	duecento		
		1000	mille		

Key Words in Documents		Some Professions		Special Document Words	
English	Italian	Italian	English	Italian	English
Birth Certificate	atto di nascita	agricoltore	farmer	archivi di stato	state archives
Mayor-	sindaco	albergatore	innkeeper	beni immobili	real property
Official-	ufficiale	assessore	alderman	bisnonna	great-grandmother
City-	città	avvocato	lawyer	bisnonno	great-grandfather
Act of-	atto di	banchiere	banker	carte	maps, charts
Certificate-	certificato	barbiere	barber	casa	house
Profession-	professione	barca,	boat maker	celibe	bachelor, bachelorette, single, unmarried
Parish-	parrocchia	barcaiolo	boatman		
Parish priest-	parroco	barilaio	cooper,	censimento	census
Priest-	sacerdote	barista	bartender	chiesa	church
Bishop-	vescovo	beccaio	butcher	cittadinanze	citizenship
Time-	tempo	beccamorti	grave digger	cittadino, -a	citizen
Witnesses-	testimoni	becchino	grave digger	corrente mese	current month d.
Notice-	indicazione	bettoliere	tavern keeper	don	respectful male title
Page-	foglio	bidello	janitor	decennio	decade
Mr-	signore	bifolco	plowman	decesso, -a	deceased, late
Mrs-	signora	boaro	cattle hand	dichiarato che	declared that
father-	padre	Borghese	burgher, citizen	è comparso, -a	appeared
mother-	madre	bottaio	cooper	estratto	extract
husband-	marito	bottegaio	shopkeeper	frazione	hamlet
wife-	moglie	bovaro	cattle driver	fu	late, deceased, was
son-	figlio	bracciale	laborer	gemelli	twins
daughter-	figlia	bracciante	farm laborer	genealogia	genealogy
baby (m), (f)	bambino, -a	bucataia	washwoman	indice	index
grandmother-	nonna	cacciatore	hunter	indici decennali	ten-year index
grandfather-	nonno	cafone	peasant	legge	law
aunt-	zia	calderaio	tinker	maggiore	eldest
uncle-	zio	calzolaio	shoemaker	marito	husband
birth-	nascita	cameriera	maid, girl	moglie	wife
baptism-	battesimo	cameriere	waiter	notificazioni	marriage banns
marriage-	matrimonio	cappellaio	hatter	numero	number
banns-	solenne promessa di celebrare matrimonio	carabiniere	policeman	ora	hour
death-	morto	carbonaio	coal dealer	processetti	marriage supplement
name-	nome	carraio	wheelwright	professione	profession
surname-	cognome	cucitrice	seamstress	provincia	province
parents-	genitori	dottore	doctor	pubblicazioni	publications (marriage banns)
great grandfather-	bisnonno	fattore	farmer	regione	region
great grandmother-	bisnonna	ferraio	blacksmith	riveli	tax lists, declarations
as above-	come sopra	filatore	spinner	Sesso	sex (gender)
first	primo	filatrice	spinner	sottoscritto	the undersigned
second	secondo	fioraio	florist	stato civile	civil registration
		fornaio	baker	testimonio, -a	witness
		gendarme	policeman		