

Getting married in Italy? Here's what to do.

Destination weddings are becoming quite the trend, especially in Italy. But it's not so easy! Here's the step-by-step to help guide you through.

- Create photocopies of both parties' driver's license, passport, and any visa documents if you are a current resident (permesso di soggiorno, carta d'identita)
- Obtain official copy of both parties' birth certificates in *long form*, and also a translation of it in Italian.
- Get both language versions of birth certificate authenticated with an Apostille by the Dept. of State (in whichever state they were issued)
- If either party is divorced, you must also obtain a divorce decree from whichever county it was finalized in.
- You will also need to translate the decree into Italian, and have both language versions authenticated with an Apostille by the Dept. of State (in whichever state they were issued)
- With these documents ready, make an appointment at the nearest Italian consulate/embassy in US for an Atto Notorio. This certifies to Italian authorities your ID and freedom to marry (no impediments).
- You will need to bring 2 witnesses to this Atto Notorio appointment. You will also need copies of their driver's license.
- Note: you must receive the Atto Notorio *within* a 3 month period BEFORE the wedding date :)
- If both parties are American citizens, you will receive TWO Atto Notorio documents. One for each spouse.
- Have available ~\$150 for Atto Notorio
- Next doc: Nulla Osta for marriage. Obtain this from an American embassy/consulate once you are in Italy. Like the Atto Notorio, this also certifies that there are no legal impediments to marry.
- If both parties are American citizens, you will receive TWO Nulla Osta documents. One for each spouse.
- With those documents, go to the nearest Tobacco shop ("Tabacchi") to purchase TWO "marco da bollo" stamps for 16 Euro (one for each spouse).
- Hand-deliver these documents with the marco da bollo stamps to the local prefettura (police station). You will receive certified signatures on the Nulla Osta during that visit.
- Take: Atto Notorios + certified Null Ostas + your IDs + copies if your IDs + birth certificate/divorce decrees (and translations) to town hall where you wish to marry. Make an appointment.
- You are ready! Congratulations!