



ONE WORLD
IMMIGRATION

ITALY

Residency by Investment



Key points about the Italy Golden Visa

Legal basis. The Investor Visa for Italy program has been operating since 2017, introduced and regulated by:

- Article 1.155 of the Budget Law No. 232/2016;
- [Interministerial Decree dated July 21st, 2017](#);
- [Article 26 of the Italian Consolidated Law on Immigration](#).

Investment options. A non-EU citizen can get an Italy Golden Visa if they invest:

- €250,000+ – in an innovative startup;
- €500,000+ – in an Italian company.

Investments must be kept to maintain residency.

Simplified procedures. Investors do not need to:

- take exams on knowledge of the Italian language or the history of the country;
- visit Italy before the date of their biometrics appointment;
- live in Italy unless they plan to acquire Italian citizenship in future.

€250,000+

Required investments

4+ months

RP obtaining period



8 facts about Italy

Rome

The capital of Italy with a population of about 2.9 million people. Rome is called the Eternal City, as the Roman civilization left a significant mark on world history

302,073 km²

Country's size. Italy is located in Southern Europe and is washed by four seas – the Adriatic, Ligurian, Ionian and Tyrrhenian.

58.9 million

The population of Italy. Each year the country is visited by 50 million tourists

Two enclave states

Are located within the territory of the country – San Marino and the Vatican

Italian

The official language of Italy and the third most popular language in the EU. Around 85 million people speak Italian

58

UNESCO world heritage sites are situated in Italy. Along with China, Italy has the highest number of them

\$39,000

Italy's GDP per capita in 2023

€3,100

Average property price per square metre in Rome

7 benefits of the Italy Golden Visa

1 **Visa-free travel to Schengen countries**

Investors with a residence permit in Italy visit the Schengen countries without visas and can spend up to 90 days out of 180 there.

2 **Creation of a safe haven**

A residence permit allows you to come to Italy at any time, even when the borders are closed. At the same time, moving to the country is a right, not an obligation.

3 **Opportunity to work and run a business in Italy**

Investors can open their own company, work under an employment contract in a local company or be self-employed. It is not required to obtain a work permit.

4 **Tax optimisation**

Investor Visa holders who move their tax residence to Italy can opt for a flat tax of €300,000 per year on foreign income. Eligibility requires not having been an Italian tax resident for at least 9 of the past 10 years. The regime lasts up to 15 years and can include family members for an extra €50,000 per person per year.

5 **Access to European education**

Children of investors can study for free in Italian schools and universities.

6 Quality healthcare

The whole investor's family has an opportunity to get treatment in the Schengen countries' clinics without the need to obtain a visa.

7 Prospects of permanent residency and citizenship

Permanent residency is obtained after 5 years of living in Italy. The status is valid for life but the card itself must be renewed every 5 years. You can apply for citizenship after 10 years of residing in the country.

Who can obtain the Italy Golden Visa?

Investor

Over 18

Non-EU and non-EEA citizen

With a legal income

With no criminal record

With valid health insurance

Spouse

Officially married to the investor

Children under 18

Children over 18

If financially depend on the investor due to their state of health leading to total disability

Parents

Financially depend on the investor and have no other children in their country of origin or provenance

Or aged over 65 and their other children are unable to support them for documented, serious health reasons

Startup investment option – €250,000+

The investor purchases a stake or shares in an innovative Italian startup. To qualify, a startup must meet the following criteria:

- a new company or has been established for no more than 5 years;
- based in Italy or in another European Economic Area country but with a production site or branch in Italy;
- has an annual turnover of less than 5 million euros;
- not listed on a regulated market or multilateral trading platform;
- does not and has not distributed profits;
- has the development, production, and marketing of a product or service with high technological value as the main purpose;
- not the result of a merger, demerger, or sale of a business unit.

Additionally, the startup should meet at least one of the following subject criteria:

- incurs R&D expenses equal to at least 15% of the higher value and total production value;
- employs highly qualified personnel, with at least 1/3 are PhD holders, PhD students or researchers or at least 2/3 hold a Master's Degree;
- owns, has filed for, or holds a licence for at least one patent or owns registered software.

The list of current projects is updated every week and posted on the [portal startup.registroimprese.it](http://portal.startup.registroimprese.it).

Business investments – €500,000+

Eligible investment types. Both investments made through capital increases and those involving the purchase of shares or quotas in corporations are eligible.

Eligible companies. The investor purchases a stake or shares in an operating Italian limited company.

A company is considered "operating" if it is active and has filed at least one balance sheet by the date of the visa application. The company can be either listed or unlisted.

In addition to the standard company types such as s.r.l., s.p.a., and their variants, direct investments in other companies similar to corporations are allowed. These include:

- Sicavs – investment companies with variable capital;
- Sicafs – investment companies with fixed capital;
- SGRs – asset management companies;
- SIMs – securities brokerage companies.

However, investments in mutual funds or OICRs established as autonomous assets divided into units and managed by a manager are not permitted.

Application requirements. Providing the company's name and tax code is essential and mandatory, and this information must be included at the time of application.

Expenses under the startup option

The total sum depends on the chosen startup and number of family members in the application.

Investments	€250,000+
Subscription fee	€12,200
Tax ID and Digital Signature	€781
Power of attorney	€605+
Document translations	€500+
Visa and expenses at the consulate	€400+
Residence permit fees	€3,406.14 for the main applicant €567.20 per dependant aged 18+ €313.44 per dependant under 18

Step-by-step procedure for obtaining an Italy Golden Visa

1

Preliminary Due Diligence

1 day

Immigrant Invest has its own compliance department. Investor documents are checked by certified specialists – Compliance Anti Money Laundering Office, who know everything about the peculiarities of Due Diligence in different countries.

The check is needed to identify potential problems and reduce the risk of refusal. Thanks to the check, we increase the chances of obtaining a document by 99%.

The process takes one day, and the investor provides only a copy of the passport. The results are confidential – they are used only by our lawyers to prepare all the necessary documents for the investor to participate in the program.

Our check is mandatory. Without it, Immigrant Invest does not sign a contract with the investor. If risks are found during the check, we offer a solution to the problem: for example, choose another program or attach additional documents to the application.

[Learn more about Due Diligence](#)

2

Collecting the documents and applying for Nulla Osta

7+ days

Nulla Osta is a certificate of absence of obstacles for obtaining an investor visa. It gives the investor the right to apply for a visa within 6 months. To obtain a certificate, the investor collects documents and submits them to Immigrant Invest.

Lawyers translate documents and certify copies. Then they create an account for the investor on the program website, fill out a personal questionnaire and upload the necessary documents:

- a copy of the passport;
- a certificate of professional experience;
- documents confirming the presence of investments;
- a written commitment to investing in the Italian economy after obtaining the visa.

3

Issuance of Nulla Osta

90 days

The program committee considers the investor's application within 90 days. It may request additional documents or schedule a video interview. As soon as the Committee makes a decision, a notification will be sent to your personal account on the website.

4

Submission of an application

7+ days

Nulla Osta is valid for 6 months. During this period, the investor must apply for a visa at the Italian consulate in their country. The investor must provide the following:

- a Nulla Osta certificate;
- a copy of the passport;
- a contract of the purchase or lease of residential property in Italy;
- a confirmation of income that exceeds health care costs – €8,500+;
- a photo.

Immigrant Invest lawyers accompany the investor and help them apply for a visa.

5

Obtaining an investor visa

10 to 120 days

The consulate checks the documents of the investor and their family. The maximum period for consideration of an application is 120 days. In practice, visas are approved within 10–20 days from the date of application. The answer is sent to the investor's email address.

6

Visiting Italy and applying for a residence permit

30+ days

The investor visa is valid for 2 years. During this time, the applicant must enter Italy and apply for a residence permit.

The Migration Service of Italy, known as the Questura, reviews the investor's documentation.

If additional information is required, the applicant has 30 days to provide it. Once the application is approved, the investor receives residence permit cards.