



## Consolato d'Italia – Brisbane

# ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP

## General Information

v. 6.17

Italian citizenship can be acquired mainly:

1. by birth (from a parent who is/was an Italian citizen at the time of birth) – see point 1
2. through marriage to an Italian citizen – see point 2
3. by re-acquisition (for former Italian citizens only) – see point 3

For a full list of instances of eligibility for Italian Citizenship, please refer to our website.

### 1. DETERMINING CITIZENSHIP BY DESCENT (*Jure Sanguinis*)

Italian citizenship can be acquired by descent at the time of one's birth, as long as one parent was an Italian citizen at the time. Due to previous laws in force before the formation of the Italian Republic **women can only transmit citizenship to children born after 1 January 1948**. Prior to this date, only fathers could transmit the Italian citizenship.

Any claim for Italian citizenship must be supported by documentary evidence. Once the relevant documents have been produced to this Consulate, they will be forwarded to the competent Italian Municipality for registration.

As of **8 July 2014**, according to the Italian law (art. 5-bis of the D.L. 24.04.2014, n. 66, and the act n. 89 of 25.06.2014) every application for the recognition of Italian citizenship by descent (*jure sanguinis*) is subject to a non-refundable administrative fee (irrespective of the outcome) of EUR 300, **payable only in cash in Australian dollars**. This fee only applies to adults applicants (18+) and must be paid on the day of lodging.

### 2. ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP THROUGH MARRIAGE

**Case 1:** Foreign women who married an Italian citizen prior to 27 April 1983, **automatically acquired Italian citizenship on the date of marriage**. An original copy of the woman's birth certificate is required (please note an original copy of the marriage certificate may be required). This application is also subject to the EUR 300 fee **payable only in cash in Australian dollars**.

**Case 2:** Spouses of Italian citizens residing abroad can apply for Italian citizenship after 3 years of marriage (or 18 months if they have children together) Further details may be found in the "[Citizenship by Marriage](#)" fact sheet).

### 3. REACQUIRING CITIZENSHIP

Re-acquisition is **automatic after one year of legal residence in Italy**, or it can happen in a **shorter time frame** if one decides to **reside in Italy** for this purpose. Once in Italy, one must register as a resident in an Italian Municipality of choice and submit the citizenship request to the Mayor of that Municipality (Comune).

Further details may be found in the "[Reacquisition of Italian Citizenship](#)" fact sheet.

### Important Note

Under Italian law, children who were **naturalized** Australian citizens along with their parents prior to 16 August 1992, **would lose Italian citizenship** at the time. Please note that before **8 March 1975 adult age in Italy was reached at the age of 21; after this date, it changed to 18**.

**After 16 August 1992, Italian citizens who acquire another citizenship, do not lose their Italian citizenship.**



Consolato Generale d'Italia – Brisbane

## ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP BY DESCENT Step by Step Guide

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### PRE-REQUISITES

The Consulate of Italy in Brisbane is competent for processing citizenship applications for QLD and NT residents **ONLY**. A proof of residence is required upon submitting the application. For non-Australian Citizens, a long term visa or permanent residency is required.

### STEP 1: ONLINE BOOKING

Visit our website and follow the instructions to book an appointment for citizenship. One appointment only must be booked for all members of the same family, living at the same address. However, one “main applicant” must be chosen for the time of booking.

### STEP 2: WHAT TO BRING AT THE CONSULATE

- Documentary evidence of citizenship of the main applicant’s parent/ancestor (old Italian Passport, Italian birth and marriage certificates, and any other documentation providing proof of the parent/ancestor Italian Citizenship).
- If the parent/ancestor is/was not Australian, original and copy of the Australian visa if issued after 16 August 1992 or **Certificate of Evidence of Resident Status** (from the Australian Department of Immigration and Border Protection).
- Any naturalization document relevant to the parent/ancestor.
- Applicants must bring their own birth/marriage/change of name/divorce certificates, duly legalized by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade ([www.dfat.gov.au](http://www.dfat.gov.au)) and translated into Italian by a NAATI accredited translator and their minor child/children’s birth certificates, if the same has/have not been previously registered.
- Simple copies of all applicants ID (driver license, passport).
- For each adult applicant, EUR 300, **payable only Australian dollars** (call us in advance to check the exact amount in AUD) **CASH ONLY**

Please Note:

- We reserve the right to request any further documentation we shall deem necessary to complete the application.
- Original documents will not be returned.

For any further questions on Italian citizenship applications please call 07 32298944, or email [consolato.brisbane@esteri.it](mailto:consolato.brisbane@esteri.it).