

The following information is subject to change without notice or liability.

WORKING HOLIDAY VISA (WHV) FOR AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS

A. HOW TO APPLY FOR A WORKING HOLIDAY VISA

Applications for "working holiday" visas to Italy may be lodged at the Consulate of Italy in Brisbane by Australian citizens who are ordinarily residents of Queensland or Northern Territory.

The applicant must:

1. be an Australian citizen;
2. be aged between 18 and 30 inclusive at the time of application for the visa;
3. not include any minor dependents in the application;
4. have not previously taken part in the Working Holiday scheme;
5. hold a valid Australian passport;
6. hold a valid round trip ticket or sufficient funds to purchase a return ticket;
7. possess sufficient funds to support themselves during the period of stay in Italy (equivalent of at least at € 10,000 per one year, to be calculated on a pro -rata basis). The applicant's proof of financial means is to be demonstrated through hard-copies of bank statements showing transactions for at least the previous 30 days.
8. hold a Travel insurance policy (from local Australian insurance company) and Insurance Table of Benefits, with minimum coverage of €30,000 for emergency hospital and repatriation expenses, valid in all Schengen countries.
9. have proof of available lodging in Italy: tourist vouchers, hotel booking, offer of hospitality - any proof of lodging needs to be under the applicant's name (same as on passport).

Application for the "working holiday visa" is to be made by completing an application form (National Visa form), available on the Consulate's website, and mentioning one's intention to spend a period of holiday in Italy, as well as the intention to undertake temporary work activities not exceeding a total of six months with a limit of up to three months with the same employer. Before proceeding, WHV holders must be aware that this visa is exclusively granted for 365 days. Also, due to the high number of requests by foreigners, WHV holders may experience long queues and delays at the Italian Questura (Police station) where they need to go in order to obtain the "residence permit".

Please note that our visa officers reserve the right to request additional documentation to support a visa application

B. ONCE IN ITALY: RESIDENCE PERMIT FOR "WORKING HOLIDAYS"

1. Within 8 working days of arrival to Italy, the holder of the "working holiday" visa must go to the Questura (Police Station) in the province where they intend to reside in order to apply for the "permesso di soggiorno" (residence permit).
2. The application for the residence permit is to be made using the special application form available at the Questura and must contain the following:
 - personal details;
 - place where the applicant intends to reside;
 - reason for the stay ("working holiday");
 - 4 photographs;
 - photocopy of the passport and the "working holidays" visa label.
3. When applying, the following documents are to be presented:
 - the passport endorsed with the entry visa for "working holidays";
 - the documentation showing proof of the necessary financial means, which will have already been presented to the diplomatic/consular office where the visa was issued.
4. After having examined the documentation and ascertained the identity of the applicant, the officer assigned with processing the applications will issue the applicant with a confirmation of receipt of the application, indicating the day on which the "permesso di soggiorno" can be collected. It should be noted that this confirmation of receipt is sufficient to initiate the file with the "Direzione Provinciale del Lavoro" (Provincial Employment Department).
5. After the validity period of the "permesso di soggiorno" has expired, the holder of a "working holiday" visa must leave the country: the "permesso di soggiorno" is in fact not renewable, nor able to be converted to another type of "permesso di soggiorno".

WORK PERMIT AFTER YOU ARRIVE TO ITALY

The work permit is issued by the Direzione Provinciale del Lavoro (Provincial Employment Department which is a branch of the Ministry of Labor in each provincial capital) competent for the area in which the work activities will be undertaken.

Processing of the work permit is to be commenced **after the foreign national has arrived to Italy**, and after obtaining the "permesso di soggiorno". The holder of a "working holiday" visa is permitted to work for a total period not exceeding six months during their stay in Italy and not more than three months with the same employer. The permit to work is issued upon the request of the employer. To obtain this permit to work, the employer shall present to the Provincial Employment Department a request which must contain:

- 1) all information regarding the company or employer;
- 2) all details about the Australian worker to be employed;
- 3) the undertaking to ensure that the Australian citizen will be remunerated and covered by the relevant insurance as set down in the current legislation and in the applicable national collective labor contracts;
- 4) the address of the company where the employment will be undertaken;
- 5) indication of the type of accommodation.

The employer must further attach to the application:

- 1) their Chamber of Commerce registration certificate;
- 2) copy of the employment contract and the documentation drawn up for fiscal purposes, confirming the employer's Financial viability.

Once the abovementioned requirements have been fulfilled, the work permit will be issued within 20 days from the receipt of the application.