TOPONYMIC GUIDELINES FOR MAP EDITORS AND OTHER EDITORS

Toponymic guidelines for map editors and other editors
ITALY (Third draft edition)*

* Submitted by Italy
First edition prepared in 1987, by prof. Sandro Toniolo, on account of the Italian Association of Cartography.
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1 LANGUAGES

1.1 General remarks

Italy is essentially a multilingual Country with Italian (*italiano/*lingua italiana) being the primary language used nationwide. Minority languages occupy a subordinate position and are only used locally or regionally. The Italian language is understood by every person, also by those who normally use other languages or Italian dialects for their colloquial speech. In a few parts of the State the following non Italian idioms are used:

a) The French language with Franco-Provençal dialects (see 1.3.1)
b) The German language with Austro-Bavarian dialects (see 1.3.2);
c) Slovenian dialects (see 1.3.3);
d) Ladin dialects (see 1.3.4.1);
e) Sardinian dialects (see 1.3.4.2);
f) Provençal dialects (see 1.3.4.3);
g) Croatian dialects (see 1.3.4.4);
h) Catalan dialects (see 1.3.4.5);
i) Greek dialects (see 1.3.4.6);
j) Albanian dialects (see 1.3.4.7).

1.2 Official languages

1.2.1 General remarks

Italian is the official language of the Italian Republic; it is official also in the Holy See, in the Republic of San Marino and it is one of the official languages of Switzerland. Italian is a member of the Roman branch of the Indo-European language family. It is sometimes bracketed with Rumanian in the East Romance subdivision, the main distinguishing feature from the West Romance subdivision being the formation of the plural in West Romance by the addition of the ending -s, while in East Romance there is a vowel change in plural formation. Besides Italian, also French and German have an official status in the autonomous region of the Valle d'Aosta/Vallée d'Aoste and in the autonomous province of Bolzano/Bozen respectively. In these areas such languages have the same status as the Italian language. Italian is written in the Roman script and has its own orthographic sistem.
The Italian orthographic system

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aa</th>
<th>Dd</th>
<th>Gg</th>
<th>Ii</th>
<th>Oo</th>
<th>Rr</th>
<th>Uu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bb</td>
<td>Ee</td>
<td>Hh</td>
<td>Mm</td>
<td>Pp</td>
<td>Ss</td>
<td>Vv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cc</td>
<td>Ff</td>
<td>Ii</td>
<td>Nn</td>
<td>Oq</td>
<td>Tt</td>
<td>Zz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The letter Jj, always followed by a vowel, is considered a semivowel, and can often be found in ancient words and in names of ancient origin; it occurs also in some place names as a variant of the vowel Ii (e.g. Mar Jonio, Jesi, Jesolo).

The letters Kk, Ww, Xx, Yy occur only in words of foreign origin or in the orthography of words of some Italian dialects.

1.2.3 Pronunciation of Italian words

Italian pronunciation is essentially melodic. It is marked by purity of vowel sounds, by heavy stress, and by its vocalic character. All Italian vowels are pure, pronounced with the voice well forward in the mouth with no nasal resonance, and with a clear-cut sound.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sound</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>/a/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>/b/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>/k/ before: a, o, u and consonant /t/ before: e, i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cc</td>
<td>/kk/ before: a, o, u and consonant /tj/ before: e, i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ceh</td>
<td>/kk/ only before: e, i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ch</td>
<td>/k/ only before: e, i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cq</td>
<td>/kk/ always followed by the semivowel u</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>/d/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>/e/ /ɛ/ (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f</td>
<td>/f/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g</td>
<td>/g/ before: a, o, u and consonant /dʒ/ before: e, i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gg</td>
<td>/gg/ before: a, o, u and consonant /dʒdʒ/ before: e, i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ggh</td>
<td>/gg/ only before: e, i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gh</td>
<td>/g/ only before: e, i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gl</td>
<td>/gl/ before: a, e, o, u /ʎ/ /ʎ/ (2) before: i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gn</td>
<td>/n/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h</td>
<td>is silent (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i</td>
<td>/i/ /i/ (4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Notes on the pronunciation

1. When not stressed, always /e/; when stressed, the pronunciation may be /e/ or /e/.
2. In some words /a/, in other ones /g/.
3. Used especially in the digraphs ch, gh in order to give the sound, /k/, /g/ respectively to the consonants c, g when put before: e, i.
4. /i/ only in the diphthongs: ia, ie, io, iu with the stress on the second letter; and in the diphthongs: ai, ei, oi, ui, with the stress on the first letter.
5. When not stressed, always /o/; when stressed, the pronunciation may be /o/ or /o/.
6. The consonant q can be found only before the semivowel u, with which it forms the digraph qu.
7. In some words /s/, in other ones /z/.
8. /w/ only in the diphthongs: ua, ue, ui, ou with the stress on the second letter; and in the diphthongs: au, eu, iu, ou, with the stress on the first letter.
9. Only in words of German or English origin; the pronunciation is the same as in the German words or in the English ones.
10. Like the vowel /semiwouel i.
11. In some words /ts/, in other ones /dz/.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>j</td>
<td>/j/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k</td>
<td>/k/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l</td>
<td>/l/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m</td>
<td>/m/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n</td>
<td>/n/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o</td>
<td>/o/ /o (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p</td>
<td>/p/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q</td>
<td>/k/ (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>r</td>
<td>/r/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s</td>
<td>/s/ /z/ (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sc</td>
<td>/sk/ before: a, o, u, h, l, r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/l/ before: e, i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sch</td>
<td>/sk/ only before: e, i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t</td>
<td>/t/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>u</td>
<td>/u/ /w/ (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v</td>
<td>/v/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>w</td>
<td>/v/ /w/ (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x</td>
<td>/ks/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>y</td>
<td>/i/ /j/ (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>z</td>
<td>/ts/ /dz/ (11)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes on the pronunciation:

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9. Only in words of German or English origin; the pronunciation is the same as in the German words or in the English ones.
10. Like the vowel /semiwouel i.
11. In some words /ts/, in other ones /dz/.
1.2.4 Characteristics of the Italian language and orthography necessary for the understanding of maps

1.2.4.1 Diphthongs and triphthongs

The diphthongs are formed by the combination of the vowel/semivowel i, u and an always stressed vowel. The diphthongs are ia, ie, io, ui, ua, ui, ui, ou (with the semivowel in front position); ai, ei, oi, au, eu, iu, ou (with the stressed vowel in front position).

The combination of the vowel i, u with another vowel does not automatically form diphthongs. In some words i, u are followed or preceded by other vowels without forming diphthongs: in these cases we have to speak of hiatus.

There are also some triphthongs like: iai, iei, iuo, uai, uoi, where the stress cannot be on the semivowel i, u.

1.2.4.2 Digraphs and trigraphs

As we have seen in a preceding section, -e following digraphs exist: ch, gh, gl, gn, qu, sc; moreover the two digraphs ci, gi followed by another vowel, where i is used to give the sound /t/ or /3/ respectively to the consonants c, g when i is followed by the vowels a, o, u.

There are moreover two trigraphs gli, sci, where i is used to give the sound /l/ or /l/ respectively to the digraphs gl, sc when followed by the vowels a, o, u. Double consonants, so much used in Italian orthography, are not considered digraphs; they are only used to intensify the sound of such consonants, which is longer and more vigorous than that of single consonants. We can compare this sound with the relatively uncommon doubling which occurs in English when a word ending in a consonant is followed by a word beginning with the same consonant or consonant sound (e.g. pen nib, black cat).

1.2.4.3 Spaced-out lettering and division into syllables

Every non monosyllabic word can be divided into syllables; therefore it is necessary to be able to distinguish Italian syllables.

A syllable is always formed by at least one vowel with or without one or more consonants (e.g. a-sti, Mo-de-na, Grap-pa). Diphthongs and triphthongs are considered single vowels; digraphs and trigraphs are regarded as single consonants. Therefore diphthongs, triphthongs, digraphs and trigraphs cannot be spaced-out (e.g. ie-si, Gi-o-ia Tau-ro, Dob-bia co, Sir mio-ne, Bre-seia, Fo-li-gno, Ca-sti-glio-ne; whereas Ga-e-ta, A-o-sta, Cu-ne-o, can be spaced-out since the com-
Combination of vowels ae, ao, ee does not form diphthongs but are hiatus). As it is not always possible to distinguish between diphthongs and hiatus, it is preferable not to separate two or three linked vowels. The double consonants, namely bb, cc, dd, ff, gg, ll, mm, nn, pp, qq, rr, ss, tt, vv, zz, to which we have to add cch, ggh, ccl, are to be divided in this way: b-b, c-c, d-d, f-f, g-g, l-l, m-m, n-n, p-p, q-q, r-r, s-s, t-t, v-v, z-z, c-ch, g-gh, c-q (e. g. Chiog-gia, Co-mac-chio, Pol-li-no, Tir-re-no, A-rez-zo, Cal-ta- nis-set-ta, Luc-ca).
The other groups of consonants are mainly the following:
s + consonant/consonants (1)
l, m, n, r + consonant/consonants (2)
consonant + l, r (3)
other uncommon combinations (4).

Notes

(1) Preconsonantic s is always to be united with the following consonant/consonants (e. g. Pe-sca-ra, To-sca-na, A-sti, A-o-sta).
(2) l, m, n, or r, followed by one or two other consonants, is to be separated from such consonant/consonants, since it belongs to the preceding syllable (e. g. Mon-te-pul-cia-no, Val-tel-li-na, Val-da-gno, Val-sta-gna, Cam-po-sam-pie-ro, Ta-ran-to, Gen-nar-gen-tu, Po-ten-zo, I-blei, A-bruz-zo, Or-ties. O-han-tu, En-trac-que).
(3) l, or r, preceded by another consonant, is to be united with such consonant in the same syllable (e. g. I-blei, A-bruz-zo, Or-ties. O-han-tu, En-trac-que).
(4) There are, moreover, two other groups of consonant combinations:
a. bd: cn, ct, gm, mn, pn, ps, pt, tm;
b. ph, rh, th. Which are extremely rare in modern place names (e. g. Rho, Santhià), whereas they can often be found in place names from the ancient Greek and Roman times, i. e. in some historical maps of Italy. The consonants of the first group can be separated from each other, whereas the two consonants of the second group are to remain united (e. g. Licta-rius Mons, Ze-phy-rum, San-thià).

1.2.4.4 Capitalization

Every word considered part of a proper geographical name is capitalized, including adjectives and common nouns, but excluding articles and prepositions in the middle of compounds names (e. g. Monte Rosa, Bassano del Grappa, San Donà di Piave, Chiesa in Valmalenco, Lago di Como, Isola d'Elba).
There is no rule about the way articles are to be written at the beginning of proper place names: with a capital or a lower case. It is preferable that
the initial letter of such articles be lower case, with the exception of La Spezia and L'Aquila, where the articles La, L' have to be written, according to an Italian act, with the capital L.

1.2.4.5 Stress and accents

Stress normally falls on the last but one syllable (i.e. the penultimate syllable). Variations are usually not marked in the written language, although dictionaries do indicate it. A written accent exists for showing unusual stress (e.g. Cantù, Santhià, Forli, San Donà), i.e. when stress falls on the last syllable of nouns formed by two or more syllables. We can find accents in some monosyllabic nouns to distinguish homophones or homographes, i.e. words with the same sound or with the same orthography, but this does not occur in place names.

In the most accurate texts acute accent (e.g. perché, né) points out the close sound /ɛ/ /ø/ respectively of the vowels e, o; while the grave accent (e.g. caffè, città) is used either to indicate the open sound /ɛ/ /ø/ of the same vowels, or to show the stress on the vowels a, i, u. Circumflex accent may be used (but now very rarely) only on the final i of some homographs (e.g. principi = principles) in order to be distinguished from principi = princes, the former noun stressed on the last but one syllable, the latter one on the last but two syllables).

In cartography, only grave accent is to be used and solely on the stressed last syllable, if ending in a vowel, of polysyllabic nouns.

On the road maps 1:200000 of the Italian Touring Club one can find the accent also on every place name ending in a consonant (e.g. Cormòns, Barcis) and on place names ending in a vowel, in which stress is on the last but two vowels (not syllables) (e.g. Genova, Venezia). Such an accent, which is grave on the last vowel and acute in the other cases, is only a graphic sign to indicate how nouns are to be stressed.

1.2.4.6 Gender

Only two noun genders exist: masculine and feminine. In general, words ending in -o are masculine and those ending in -a are feminine; there are only a few exceptions. Many nouns end in -e and some in -i: these nouns can be either masculine or feminine.

Normally the Italian names of cities are feminine, since the word città (city, town), which is feminine, is implied in the proper nouns: so, not only Roma, Venezia, Londra (London), ending in -a are feminine, but also Milano, Torino, Firenze, Napoli, Berlino (Berlin), Parigi (Paris).

On the contrary, the Italian names of small towns and villages are very often masculine, as the word villaggio or paese (village), which is mascu-
line, is implied in the proper nouns (e. g. Mogliano Veneto, Cividate Camuno, Fara Vicentino); but there are many villages which are feminine, like Gallicia Veneta, Villafranca Padovana.

1.2.4.7 Formation of the plural

In general, masculine nouns ending in -o change the o into i (e. g. anno = year; anni = years); feminine nouns ending in -a change the a into e (e. g. settimana = week, settimane = weeks). There are a few masculine nouns ending in -a and a few feminine nouns ending in -o. Masculine and feminine nouns ending in -e change the e into i (e. g. masculine mese = month, mesi = months; feminine luce = light, luci = lights). Nouns ending in -i do not change in the plural.

1.2.4.8 Articles

Articles may be definite or indefinite. The masculine definite articles are il, lo, l' (in the singular), i, gli, gi' (in the plural); the feminine definite articles are la, l' (in the singular), le (in the plural). The masculine indefinite articles are un, uno; the feminine indefinite articles are una, un'. Il, i, un are used before nouns beginning with every consonant except the z, the preconsonant s, or the digraph gn. La, una are used before nouns beginning with a consonant. Lo, uno are used before nouns beginning with: z, the preconsonant s, or the digraph gn. L', un' (which are the elision of the articles lo, la, una) are used before nouns beginning with a vowel. Gli is used before nouns beginning with: a consonant, z, the preconsonant s, or the digraph gn. Le is used before nouns beginning both with a consonant and with a vowel. Gi' (which is the elision of the article gli) may be used only before nouns beginning with i.

1.2.4.9 Adjectives

Adjectives are most often placed after the nouns they qualify, with which they agree both in gender and in number, whether used attributively or predicatively. In general, adjectives end in -o if masculine, in a if feminine; some belonging to both genders end in e. Normally those ending in -o, -a change these vowels in the plural respectively into i, e; e. g. Monte Alto, Croda Alta, Poggi Alti, Serre Alte; while those ending in -e for both genders change this vowel into i; e. g. Lago Verde (masculine), Grotta Verde (feminine), Piani Verdi (masculine), Terre Verdi (feminine).
1.2.4.10 Prepositions

Among the many Italian prepositions the following are to be found in place names: di (of), a (at, in), da (by, from), in (in), con (with), su (on), per (for, to), sotto (under), sopra (on), dentro (in, into), fuori (out), presso (by), fra (among, between), tra (among, between).

In colloquial speech and also in many compound place names some prepositions are combined with definite articles to form the following contracted prepositions: del (di+il), dello (di+lo), della (di+la), dei (di+i), de’(di+i), degli (di+gli), delle (di+le), dell’(di+lo, di+la); al (a+il), allo (a+lo), alla (a+la), ai (a+i), agli (a+gli), alle (a+le), all’(a+lo, a+la); dal (da+il), dallo (da+lo), dalla (da+la), dai (da+i), dagli (da+gli), dalle (da+le), dall’(da+lo, da+la); nel (in+il), nello (in+lo), nella (in+la), nel (in+‘f), ne’ (in+‘l), negli (in+gli), nelle (in+le), nell’ (in+lo, in+la); sul (su+il), sullo (su+lo), sulla (su+la), sui (su+i), sugli (su+gli), sulle (su+le), sull’ (su+lo, su+la).

1.2.4.11 Elision

An apostrophe is very often used to indicate the loss of a final unstressed vowel of a word followed by another word beginning with a vowel. In toponymy, apostrophes may be found easily in place names preceded by an article, in a few compound place names, especially those linked by a preposition (usually d’ from di) or a contracted preposition (e. g. L'Aquila, Colle Val d'Elsa, Reggio nell'Emilia). Apostrophes may be found also in other place names, like Castell'Arquato.

1.2.4.12 The apocope of nouns

Some Italian words ending in a vowel preceded by l, n, r lose their final part (one or two letters) when followed by another word beginning with a vowel or with a consonant (excluded x, z, s preconsonantic s and the groups gn, ps) without assuming an apostrophe. A few place names, too, are usually written and pronounced without the last syllable; e. g. San (from Santo), Val (from Valle), Mar (from Mare); therefore we can find in the maps place names like the following: San Marino, Val Venosta, Mar Tirreno.

1.2.4.13 Compound geographical names

While the names of populated places and of regions are very often formed only by one noun (e. g. Roma, Torino, Napoli, Lombardia, Lomellina) the majority of the other geographical names consist of two or more nouns: a
generic part (e.g. monte, lago, valle) and a specific one; so we have Monte Bianco, Lago Maggiore, Val Sugana.

Some specific terms may sometimes be used without the generic term, especially for a few major geographical features, i.e. for some mountains (e.g. Cervino, Cimone, Dolomiti), passes (e.g. Brennero, Bernina, Futa), islands (Sicilia, Sardegna, Egadi, Pelagie), lakes (e.g. Garda, Trasimeno), and for all the rivers (e.g. Po, Tevere, Amo, Brenta). But in colloquial speech it is always necessary to use the article before the specific (e.g. il Cervino, le Dolomiti, la Futa, le Egadi, il Garda, l'Arno), with the exception of the specific of many islands, which refuses the article (e.g. Ischia, Capri, Pantelleria).

Among compound names formed by two or more nouns one have to distinguish the names of inhabited places from other names (municipalities, regions, mountains, lakes, capes, islands, etc.).

The compound names of inhabited places can be written as one word (e.g. Montebelluna, Valdobbiadene, Camposampiero, Portoferaio, Orzinuovi, Orzivecchi), or formed by two or more parts, which are linked by a preposition (e.g. Bassano del Grappa, Palazzolo sull'Oglio, Reggio di Calabria, Reggio nell'Emilia, Sanmazzaro de' Burgondi, Castelnuovo ne' Monti, Francavilla al Mare), or by an article (e.g. San Giorgio la Molara, Sant'Angelo le Fratte), or by a hyphen (e.g. Giardini-Naxos, Barcellona-Pozzo di Gotto). In many cases the two parts of the compound names of inhabited places are placed side by side without prepositions or articles; the latter part may be an adjective, agreeing in number and gender with the noun of the former part (e.g. Vittorio Veneto, Canisano Vicentino, Corte Franca, Ascoli Piceno, Petralia Soprana, Petralia Sottana, Odalengo Grande, Odalengo Piccolo, Muro Lucano) or another noun/other nouns (e.g. Recoaro Terme, Porto Garibaldi, Lignano Sabbiadoro, Bosco Chiesanuova, Castel Gandolfo, Sesto San Giovanni, Castel San Pietro Terme, Castelnuovo di Garfagnana, Prato Polesine, Gabicce Mare, Palma Campania).

The compound names of mountains, lakes, islands, capes, etc. are usually written separately and often linked by a preposition (e.g. Po di Volano, Lago di Como, Alpi Maritime, Monti Berici, Monte Bianco. Colle di Cadibona, Isola d'Elba, Val di Comacchio, Val Venosta, Monte Sant'Angelo a Tre Pizzi, Bonifica del Mantello); in a few cases only they are united in one word (e.g. Valtellina, Valassina, Monviso). The hyphen linking together the two parts of a compound name is used only in the names of some regions (e.g. Trento-Alto Adige/Trento-Südtirol, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Emilia-Romagna), of one province (Massa-Carrara), and of a few municipalities (e.g. Zibido San Giacomo, Serrara Fontana, Olivetta San Michele, Pontecagnano-Faiano).

In some maps one may find a hyphen also in bilingual areas between Italian names in former position and French/German names in latter position (e.g. Bolzano-Bozen, Passo del Brennero-Brennerpass, Val Gardena-Großarl). But it is much better to separate Italian names from
French/German ones by means of a slash in order to show clearly that both names are official and are equally valid (e.g. Bolzano/Bozen, Bressanone/Brixen, Aosta/Aoste, Val Gardena/Grodnertal).

In the compound names of inhabited places the latter part of the name, called in cartographical jargon *aggiunta*, that is to say *additional*, is usually written in a smaller size with the exception of names linked by means of a hyphen. The two or more parts of the names of geographical features other than inhabited places are written in the same size.

Double names in the bilingual areas, which are separated by means of a hyphen or a slash, should be written in the same size; but for shortage of space in the maps the latter name is very often written in a smaller size than the former one.

1.2.5 Italian dialects

In Italy many, often widely diverging, Italian dialects exist, that can be gathered in two very large families: Northern Italian dialects and Middle-Southern Italian dialects, separated by an ideal boundary which runs along the Northern Apennines between La Spezia on the West and Rimini on the East. To the Northern Italian family belong the following groups of dialects: Gallo-Italic (the regions of Piedmont, Lombardia, Liguria, Emilia-Romagna, and western part of Trentino-Alto Adige/Trentino-Südtirol); Venetian (the region of Veneto and southern and eastern part of Trentino-Alto Adige/Trentino-Südtirol); Friulan (the region of Friuli-Venezia Giulia); Ladin (the region of Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Dolomitic area); and moreover Istrian, spoken in Istria area.

To the Middle-Southern Italian family belong the following groups of dialects: Tuscan (the region of Toscana); Median (the regions of Lazio, Umbria, and the Marche); Southern intermediate (Abruzzo, Molise, Campania, Basilicata, and Northern part of Puglia); Southern extreme (the region of Sicily and the Southern parts of Puglia and Calabria).

All Italian dialects come directly from the Latin as does the Italian language. As a matter of fact Italian come from the Italian dialects, that of Firenze, which acquired the dignity of a literary language in the 14th century and later on became the administrative language of the then Italian states. The geographical names hardly reflect the regional and local dialects, because the geographical names were usually recorded in Italian; therefore it seems not necessary to give a detailed description of the dialects in these guidelines for cartography.

1.2.6 Linguistic substrata recognizable in Italian place names

Italy is a Country of ancient civilization, and it was inhabited several centu-
In historical times the languages spoken in what is now the Italian Republic were mainly Ligurian in the NW, Venetian in the NE, Celtic in the North, Etruscan, Umbrian and Latin in the middle part of the peninsula, and Greek in the South and in Sicily; but before the advent of these peoples there surely lived other groups speaking pre-Indoeuropean languages (maybe also some languages mentioned above are pre-Indoeuropean). All these languages, of which, save Latin and Greek, neither the structure or the vocabulary are known, left a lot of place names on the territory. The most important of such names were latinized later on, so that it is now even more difficult to understand the meaning of a large part of the Italian place names.

In the Middle Ages the advent of Longobardian and Arabian peoples in the North and in the South respectively added a few more place names to Italian toponymy. We can understand the meaning of such names as well as of the old Greek names and of the ones given by Romans to a few cities (e.g. Napoli from the Greek Neapolis, Piacenza and Aosta respectively from the Latin Placentia and Augusta), and also the meaning of the names formed in recent times, whereas we cannot know the meaning of the more ancient place names. But it is sometimes possible to learn the origin of several place names by taking into account some suffixes: in fact, a number of place names ending in -asco (e.g. Buccinasco, Binasco) are considered to be of Ligurian origin, those in -ago, (e.g. Amago, Crescenzago) and those in -ate (e.g. Lambrate, Brunate) are probably of Celtic origin, and those in -engo (e.g. Albarengo, Martinengo) of Longobardian origin. Moreover, a number of names ending in -ano (e.g. Bassano, Conegliano) are likely predial names from Roman times.

1.3 Minority languages

According to the law N. 482, of December 15th 1999, Norms concerning the protection of historical linguistic minorities, and of the Presidential Decree N. 345 of May 2nd 2001, Regolamento di attuazione della legge n. 482, del 15 dicembre 1999 recante norme di tutela delle minoranze linguistiche storiche, has been enacted and controlled the protection of the language and the culture of the “Albanian, Catalans, Germanic, Greek, Slovenian and Croatians and of those speaking French, Franco-Provençal, Friulan, Ladin, Occitan and Sardinian” populations. The dispositions of protection are applied in the territorial and sub-municipal amits on the base of special delimitation, approved by the Provincial Council and felt the interested communes. In the communes where the delimitation of the areas has been approved to be submitted to application of the dispositions of protection, “in addition to the official toponyms, the town Council can deliberate the adoption of toponyms
conforming to the traditions and to the local uses”.

“All above said is to be intended in addition to the protection norms existing in the Regions with special Statute and in the Provinces of Trento and Bolzano”.

Besides those instructions, many other different regional laws outline the great attention given for the protection, evaluation and promotion of the local languages, culture and traditions of the various ethnic and linguistic communities, historically present on our national territory, and for the consequent respect and retrieval of the related toponymy.

The current laws are:

- Regional Law n. 40, dated November 3rd 1998, (issued on the “Bollettino Ufficiale” (B.U.), in the Basilicata Region, November 1998, n. 64); *Norms for the promotion and protection of the Arbereshe Community in the Basilicata Region – Cancellation of the Regional Law dated March 28th 1996, n. 16*, which at the art. 1 “acknowledges the ethnic linguistic communities of Arbereshe origin historically present in the following municipalities: Barile, Brindisi di Montagna, Ginestra, Maschito, San Costantino Albanese e San Paolo Albanese”; and in art. 2, letter “b”, specifically foresees the release of annual contributions to the said municipalities for the realisation of initiatives concerning “the development of the historic and linguistic research, the publication and/or diffusion of studies, researches and documents, the activation of courses of local culture, the improvement of languages and toponymy”;

- Regional Law dated May 14th 1997, n. 15 (published on the “B. U.”, of the Molise Region, May 16th 1997, n. 10, under the title of *Protection and improvement of the cultural patrimony of the linguistic minorities historically present on the territory, as a non secondary element of the Molise Region culture*; and at art. 4, “e” letter), among the other aspects foresees the promotion and support of the cultural initiatives inherent to the “collection and study of the toponyms in the Croatian and Albanian languages and of the related scientific publications, also for the purpose of highlighting, by appropriated signals, the original toponymy”;

- Regional Law dated September 8th 1981, n. 68 (issued on the B. U. of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region, September 8th 1981, n. 81), named: *Regional actions for the development and diffusion of the cultural activities*, which create the possibilities of economic support in favour of acts “for the collection and study of the toponyms in local language and related scientific publications, also with the aim of outlining, by appropriated indications, the original toponymy”;

- Regional Law dated March 22nd 1996, n. 13 (issued on the B. U., Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region, March 27th 1996, n. 13), with the title *Norms for the protection and promotion of the Friuli language and culture, and the creation of a service for the regional and local languages*, which establishes also the fundamental principles for the management of a active politics of the Friuli language and culture saving and develop-
ment, as an essential factor of the ethnic and historic identity of the regional community”; at art. 2, gives official status to the “Friuli language” as one of the languages of the same regional community; at art. 11-bis, letter “b”, allows the statutes of Provinces, Municipalities and other local Entities, to foresee, according to the limits established by national law (“D.L. 2 gennaio 1997, n. 9”), the use of the corresponding geographical names besides the official toponyms, wherever deemed appropriated; at art. 13 indicates the criteria for producing the “official graphics of the Friuli language”, referring at comma 2 to the work of Xavier Lamuela, *La grafia friulana normalizzata* (published in Udine – 1987), as text to be adopted, “taking into account the following”:

a) substitution within the word corpus and at its beginning of the diagram “Ts” with the sign “z”;
b) substitution of the diagram “cu+vocal”, in the toponyms and historical homonyms, by the diagram “q+ v o calm””, finally, at art. 19 (letter “c”), the same law confirms, among the others, the similar instructions established by the Regional Law dated September 8th n. 68, concerning the possibility of economic support for the activities of “collection and study of the toponyms in Friuli language and related scientific publications, also with the aim of stressing by due indications the original toponymy;”

- Regional Law dated November 7th 1994, n. 45 (issued on the B. U., Emilia-Romagna Region, dated November 11th 1994, n. 120), called: *Protection and improvement of the Emilia-Romagna dialects*, which, at art. 3 (letter “h”), order the support for the toponymy study and research activities,

- Regional Law dated July 30 1996, n. 30 (issued on the B. U., Lazio Region, August 10th 1996, n. 22 – S. O. n. 3), named: *Instructions about municipal areas*, which gives norms inherent to the creation of new communes and the modification of territorial areas and of the commune names;”

- Regional Law dated April 10th 1990, n. 26 (issued on the B. U., Piedmont Region, April 18th 1990, n. 16), named: *Protection, promotion and improvement of the knowledge of the original Piedmont linguistic patrimony*, which at art. 6, comma 1, promotes and supports the investigations about the local toponyms”; at the following comma 2, same article, orders the creation of a Regional Commission of Experts, designated by the Culture Borough Council Clerk and including: two university experts of linguistic and geographic matters; an expert of regional history and a representative of the “Supervisory for the Environmental and Architectonic Resources of the Piedmont - Soprintendenza ai Beni Ambientali ed Architettonici del Piemonte”;

- Regional Law, dated December 23rd 1994, n. 73 (issued on the B. U., Veneto Region, December 27th 1994, n. 109), named: *Promotion of the ethnic and linguistic minorities of the Veneto region*, which, at art. 2,
envisions, among the others, the possibility of annual economic contributions for “the improvement of language and toponymy”;
- Regional Law, dated August 19th 1998, n. 47 (issued on the B. U., Valle d’Aosta/Vallée d’Aoste Region, August 25th 1998, n. 36), named: Protection of the characteristics and the linguistic and cultural traditions of the “walser” populations of the “Lys” valley, which promotes “the preservation and improvement of the walser traditions, with particular attention to toponymy”.

1.3.1 French language with Franco-Provençal dialects

French, the official language of the French Republic and one of the official languages of Switzerland, has an official status in Italy, beside Italian, in the autonomous region of the Valle d’Aosta/Vallée d’Aoste, which is situated close to the French border. But people normally use Franco-Provençal dialects.

In a few valleys of Piemonte (Stura, Lanzo, Orco, Soana, Dora Riparia, Dora Baltea) and moreover in two municipalities of the province of Foggia (the region of Puglia) Franco-Provençal dialects are also spoken.

1.3.1.1 The French alphabet

A a E e I i M m Q q U u Y y
B b F f J j N n P p R r V v Z z
C c, Ç ç G g K k O o, Æ æ S s W w
D d H h I i P p T t X x

1.3.1.2 Pronunciation

See “Guide de Toponymie - France”.

1.3.1.3 Geographical names

Since the Second World War only the traditional French names are recorded in the official maps representing the Valle d’Aosta/Vallée d’Aoste and consequently in the maps of private cartography firms. But although the names of the region and of the region’s capital are both officially bilingual they are written only in the Italian form (i.e. Valle
1.3.2 German language with Austro-Bavarian dialects

German, the official language of the bordering Republic of Austria, of the Federal Republic of Germany, and moreover one of the official languages of Switzerland, is widely spoken also in the autonomous province of Bolzano/Bozen, which is part of the autonomous region of Trentino-Alto Adige/Trentino-Südtirol. When this region was allocated to Italy after the First World War, the total number of German-speaking people was estimated at 233000, against 7000 Italian-speaking inhabitants: the former made up 97% of the total population. Due to immigration of Italian people, almost only directed at the towns, the share of the German-speaking people was gradually reduced to 60% (1971) of the total population (but in the countryside this figure was 90%). As a result of the peace treaty of Paris in 1947, Südtirol was again allocated to Italy and in 1948 it was accomodated together with the province of Trento (Trentino) in an autonomous region. With the new autonomy statute of 1972 the use of German in official administration was again permitted, and all official documents have to appear both in German and Italian. In colloquial speech the inhabitants of Alto Adige/Südtirol normally use Austro-Bavarian dialects very similar to those spoken in bordering Tirol, a Bundesland of Austria. Other German dialects are spoken in a few areas of the Alps and of the Pre-Alps (the regions of Piemonte, Valle d’Aosta/Vallée d’Aoste, Lombardy, Veneto, and the province of Trento).

1.3.2.1 The German alphabet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aa, Ää</th>
<th>Ee</th>
<th>Ii</th>
<th>Mm</th>
<th>Qq</th>
<th>Uu, Üü</th>
<th>Yy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bb, Ff</td>
<td>Jj</td>
<td>Nn</td>
<td>Rr</td>
<td>Vv</td>
<td>Zz</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cc, Gg</td>
<td>Kk</td>
<td>Oo, Öö</td>
<td>Ss, ß</td>
<td>Ww</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dd, Hh</td>
<td>Ll</td>
<td>Pp</td>
<td>Tt</td>
<td>Xx</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.3.2.2 Pronunciation

See "Toponymic guidelines for Cartography – Germany" and "Toponymic guidelines for Cartography – Austria".
1.3.2.3 Geographical names

Though the Italian government recognizes the principle of equal status of German and Italian for Trentino-Alto Adige/Trentino-Südtirol since 1948, the place names of this province are recorded almost every body in their Italian form in all the official maps 1:25000 and 1:50000 of the Italian Military Geographic Institute whereas in many maps produced by private cartography, like those issued by the Italian Touring Club 1:200000, both names versions are given where space permits, with the Italian name in former position followed by the German form in latter position, separated from each other by means of a slash (e.g., Bressanone/Brixen, Adige/Etsch, Val Pusteria/Pustertal, Passo del Rombo/Timmelsjoch). German-speaking people of Trentino-Alto Adige/Trentino-Südtirol, however, debate the Italian forms of many place names only recently (that is after the First World War) established and officially recognized by the Italian government. In the small areas of the other regions where German dialects are spoken or were spoken until recently, German place names are numerous only for landscape features of the local toponymy, seldom so for populated places which were the first to be Italianized in the past.

1.3.3 Slovenian dialects

Slovenian, the official language of the Republic of Slovenia, is spoken besides Italian in the extreme North-Eastern part of Italy (the region of Friuli-Venezia Giulia) along the Slovenian border. The areas where Slovenian dialects are used are the Natisone valley and the surroundings of Tarvisio, Gorizia and Trieste. Of these areas, only the Natisone valley was Italian before the First World War, while the remaining areas became Italian after that war.

1.3.3.1 The Slovenian alphabet

| A, a | E, e | J, j | O, o | T, t |
| B, b | F, f | K, k | P, p | U, u |
| C, c | G, g | L, l | R, r | V, v |
| Č, č | H, h | M, m | Š, š | Z, z |
| D, d | I, i | N, n | S, s | Ž, ž |

1.3.3.2 Pronunciation

See “Toponymic Guidelines for Cartography - Slovenia”.
1.3.3 Geographical names

In the Region of Friuli-Venezia Giulia, a number of place names adopted from Slovenian dialects have been assimilated into Italian and therefore lack the diacritical marks which were once recorded in the original spelling.

In areas where only Slovenian is spoken and in bilingual zones, proper Slovenian place names occur frequently in road signs alone or together with Italian or Italianized forms.

But the Italian census statistics only give Italian toponyms, whereas, in the case of Trentino-Alto Adige/Trentino-Südtirol, bilingual names are given, and for the Valle d’Aosta/Vallée d’Aoste, nearly only French names. Also the official basic maps 1:25000 and 1:50000 only record Italian names.

In a few recent maps produced by private cartography firms the Slovenian forms of some place names appear in latter position separated from the Italian forms put in former position by means of a slash.

1.3.4 Other non Italian dialects spoken in Italy

In some parts of Italy there are other non Italian dialects spoken by a few minorities. They are chiefly the Ladin and the Sardinian dialects, followed by the following ones: Provençal, Croatian, Catalan, Greek, and Albanian, used in some much smaller areas.

1.3.4.1 Ladin dialects

Ladin, which belongs to the Roman group of the Indo-European family, is the fourth national language of Switzerland beside the three official languages, German, French and Italian. In Italy some Ladin dialects, often very much diverging from each other, are spoken in two distinct areas:

a) in the Dolomitic area, especially in the four valleys of Badia, Marebbe, Fassa, and Gardena (the autonomous region of Trentino-Alto Adige/Trentino-Südtirol) and in the valleys of the North-Western section of the province of Belluno (the region of Veneto);

b) in the historical region of Friuli, that is to say in the Northern and Middle parts of the autonomous region of Friuli-Venezia Giulia.

As already referred to, the differences among Ladin dialects are very strong, owing to the difficult connections among the several valleys in the past, so that each dialect was formed in isolation, from already different forms of vulgar Latin. As a matter of fact, there are some scholars who do not recognize any unity in the Ladin dialects, and refuse to confer them the status of a language.
1.3.4.2 Sardinian dialects

All over in the island of Sardegna, that is an autonomous region, Sardinian dialects are spoken, except in some small areas where a Catalan dialect (Alghero and its surroundings) and two Ligurian dialects (areas of Carloforte in the island of San Pietro; and of Calasetta in the island of Sant'Antioco) are normally used.

Sardinian is one of the languages of the Roman group derived directly from Latin. Owing to the insularity of the region it preserved a striking and clear archaic look both in its structure and in its vocabulary, so that it appears to be the Roman language most similar to Latin. Some of the most evident peculiarities of this language with regard to Italian are the plural forms ending with the consonant s and the articles su, sa, sos, sas derived from the Latin pronoun ipse instead of from the pronoun ille as in other Roman languages.

No one among the Sardinian dialects spoken in the region is standardized, just as in the case of Ladin, so that it is not deemed appropriate to speak of a language.

1.3.4.3 Provençal dialects

These are very similar to those used on the French side of the Western Alps; in Italy they are spoken in the upper parts of some valleys in the region of Piemonte along the border with France, and moreover in the small area of Guardia Piemontese (the region of Calabria). The valleys of Piemonte where Provençal dialects are spoken are the following: Vermenagna, Gesso, Maira, Varaita, Po, Pellice, Chisone, Dora Riparia.

1.3.4.4 Croatian dialects

These are connected with those spoken in the Republic of Croatia, where the Croatian language is official, and are used in three municipalities (Acquaviva Collecroce, Montemitro, and San Felice del Molise) of the province of Campobasso, in the Molise region.

1.3.4.5 Catalan dialects

It is linked with the Catalan dialects used in Catalonia, that is to say in the North-Eastern part of Spain, where Catalan is the official language beside Spanish; in Italy it is spoken only in the small area of Alghero and its surroundings (the Region of Sardegna).
1.3.4.6 Greek dialects

Greek is the official language of Greece and one of the two official languages of Cyprus. In Italy it is spoken in the form of a few rather archaic dialects in the Southern parts of the two regions of Puglia and Calabria.

1.3.4.7 Albanian dialects

Albanian is the official language of the Republic of Albania. In Italy some Albanian dialects are spoken in many areas of South Italy, especially in the regions of Abruzzo, Molise, Puglia, Basilicata, and Calabria, and in the Autonomous Region/island of Sicilia.

1.3.4.8 Geographical names

In the region of Sardinia, a large part of names both of inhabited places and of other geographical features is written in Sardinian and accurately recorded in official documents and in the topographical maps issued by the Italian Military Geographic Institute. The situation is very different in the regions where Ladin is spoken: Ladin place names are numerous only in the local toponymy but almost all names for important objects are now Italian or Italianized. Nearly the same is valid for the Provençal toponymy. Owing to the late immigration of Croatian, Catalan, Greek, and Albanian people, that is to say when the Italian region was already densely populated, only very few place names have been recorded in these dialects and all these names are of rather recent origin. Place names like Napoli (from the Greek form Neapolis) and a few others of ancient origin are an exception to the rule.
In general it doesn't exist in Italy some law that controls in organic way the toponymy in his complex, but they are still in vigor the following norms:

for the revision of the place-names brought on official map of the state, to the senses of the law June 8th 1949, n. 605, Composizione della Commissione permanente incaricata di dirigere il lavoro di revisione toponomastica della Carta d'Italia, after the constitution of the Italian Republic, the assignment was entrusted to a committee, whose composition resulted the following: President: the commander of the Italian Military Geographic Institute, Members: the president of the Italian National Committee for the Geography of the National Council of the searches or his delegate, the commander of the Italian Hydrographic Institute of Navy or his delegate, the president of the Italian Touring Club or his delegate, the president of the Scientific Committee of the Italian Alpine Club or his delegate, the president of the Italian Geographic Society or his delegate, a representative of Presidency of the Council of the Ministers, a representative of the Department of the Interior; and, for the part regarding their region or their province: the president of the provincial Junta of Bolzano/Bozen or his delegate, the president of the Provincial Junta of Trento or his delegate, the head of the Provincial administration of Gorizia or his delegate, the head of the provincial administration of Udine or his delegate, the president of the Regional Junta of Valle d'Aosta or his delegate, a representative of the regional Deputation of history; the directors of the institutes of Geography of the universities or them delegates, the directors of the regional centers of study or them delegates; Secretary: an employee or an official of the Italian Military Geographic Institute;

for how much it concerns in general to the administrative so-called names, the Constitution of the Italian Republic, to the art. 133, establishes that: “The Region felt the interested populations, is able with his laws to found in his own territory new communes and to modify their areas and denominations”; such disposition is confirmed by the Presidential Decree N. 1, of January 14th 1972 Trasferimento alle Regioni a statuto ordinario delle funzioni amministrative statali in materia di circoscrizioni comunali e di polizia locale urbana e rurale e del relativo personale, that to the art. 1 establishes that “they are transferred to the regions with ordinary statute overalls the functions practiced by the central and peripheral organs of the state in subject of town areas. Particularly the functions relating to: [...] the denomination of communes, of hamlets and of villages; [...])”;

regarding to the areas of national territory in which the disposition of guardianship of the historical linguistic minorities are applied, to the sense of the law n. 482 of December 15th 1999 and of the Presidential
Decree n. 345 of May 2nd 2001, to the Town Councils is attributed the faculty to deliberate the adoption of place-names conforming to the traditions and to the local uses, in addition to the official toponyms; more particularly, especially for the territories of the regions with special statute, following rules are valid:

for the Region Valle d’Aosta/Vallée d’Aoste, the constitutional law n. 4 of February 26th 1948, Statuto speciale per la Valle d’Aosta, to the Title II, art. 2, establishes that the same region has legislative power for the toponymy, using an expression of general character, that doesn’t seem to limit its competencies only to the denominations of the communes, while to the Title VIII, art. 42, integrally take back the constitutional law of art. 133, for what it pertains to the denomination of the communes; the general competencies in toponymy is confirmed then by the law n. 196, of May 16th 1978, Norme di attuazione dello statuto speciale della Valle d’Aosta;

for the Region Trentino-Alto Adige/Trentino-Südtirol, the constitutional law n. 5 of February 26th 1948, Statuto speciale per il Trentino-Alto Adige, and the following Presidential Decree n. 670 of August 31st 1972, Approvazione del testo unico delle leggi costituzionali concernenti lo statuto speciale per il Trentino-Alto Adige, to the Title I, item II, art. 7, c. 1, take back the Constitution of art. 133, for what it pertains to the denomination of the communes; while to the following item III, art. 8, establish that the Provinces of Trento and Bolzano have the power to emanate legislative norms regarding the toponymy, “without prejudice to the disposition regarding the obligation of the bilingualism in the territory of province of Bolzano”; besides, the Title XI, art. 101, provides that “in the province of Bolzano the public administrations has to use, in the respects of the citizen of German language, also the German toponymy, if the provincial law has verified the existence of it and approved the diction”; and still to the same Title XI, art. 102, provides that “the Ladin population and those Mocheni and Cimbri of the communes of Fierozzo, Frassilongo, Palù del Fersina and Gusarna have the right [...] to the respect of the toponymy”; finally, according to Presidential Decree n. 574 of June 30th 1951, Norme di attuazione dello statuto speciale della Regione Trentino-Alto Adige, to the Title XIV, art. 73, “in the Ladines valleys [...] it can be used the Ladin in the local toponymy, in addition to the Italian language and the German language”;

for the Region Friuli-Venezia Giulia, the constitutional law n. 1 of January 31st 1963, Statuto speciale della Regione Friuli-Venezia Giulia, to the Title II, item I, art. 5, establish the legislative power of the same region to the toponymy; besides, for the modification of the denomination of the communes, the Presidential Decree n. 834 of August 9th 1966, Norme di attuazione dello statuto speciale della Regione Friuli-Venezia Giulia, provides the realization of special referenda, regarding to the Slovenian linguistic minority, the law n. 38 of February 23th
2001, Norme a tutela della minoranza linguistica slovena della regione Friuli-Venezia Giulia, to the art. 10, provides that “with Decree of the President of Regional Junta, on the base of the proposal of the Committee [...], they are individuated, on the base of the list of which to the article 4, the communes, the hamlet, the places and the corporate [...] in which the use of the Slovenian language is provided in addition to the Italian language [...] for the indications of place-names” (for hamlet, the same law, to the art. 29, precise that we have to intend him as “an autonomous center endowed with an own individuality”);

for Region Sicilia, the constitutional law n. 2 of February 26th 1948, Conversione in legge costituzionale dello Statuto della Regione siciliana, approvato con decreto legislativo 15 maggio 1945, n. 455, doesn’t make explicit references to the toponomy, but to the Title II, Section I, art. 15, attributes the competence to the region in the subjects of “administrative district, organization and control of local government units”;

for the region Sardinia, the constitutional law n. 3 of February 26th 1948, to the Title V, Art. 45, punctually provides “the Region, consulted the interested populations, is able with law to found in own territory new communes and to modify their districts and denominations”;

Other regional law instructions establish, besides, the official denomination of municipalities and the activation of appropriated regional toponymic commissions. In particular, the following instructions have been given:

- Regional Law dated December 9th 1976, n. 61 (issued on the B. U., Valle d’Aosta Region, December 18th 1976, II. 13), named: Official municipality names of the Valle d’Aosta Region and norms for the protection of the local toponomy, at the art. 1, lists the official names of the “valdostani” municipalities, stressing that “as for its region main municipality are considered official both the name in Italian “Aosta” and that in French “Aoste”; and at art. 2, gives the possibility to the Regional Council of creating a Commission for the local toponomy;

- Provincial Law (Autonomous Province of Trento), dated August 31st 1987, n. 18 (issued on the B. U., Trentino-Alto Adige Region, September 8th 1987, II. 40), named: Creation of the cultural Institute mocheno-cimbro and norms for the preservation and evaluation of the culture concerning the German speaking populations, the municipalities of “Palù del Ferina”, “Pierzozzo”, “Frassilongo” and “Lucerna”, Trento Province”; it gives the cultural Institute mocheno-cimbro the task of providing “advice as for the local toponomy matters related to the local linguistic area mocheno-cimbra”;

- Provincial Law (Autonomous Province of Trento), dated August 27th 1987, n. 16 (issued on the B. U., Trentino-Alto Adige Region, September 8th 1987, II. 40), named: Toponymy Discipline, which at para 1°, art. 2, creates the Provincial Commission for the toponomy, “with
the purpose of assuring a due scientific support in the compilation of
the Trento Toponymic Dictionary, inherent to the choice and transcrip-
tion of toponyms within the administrative and cartographic use, besi-
des to all initiatives aiming at the respect of the Ladino toponymy". The
said Commission, appointed by the Provincial Council, remains in
charge for one legislature and is formed of a President, university tea-
cher in linguistic disciplines, and by five members: two experts of lin-
guistic issues or of cultural – historic Trento environment; the Director
of the Provincial Service charged of toponymy; an Official of the
Provincial Service charged of the management of the Technical Map of
the provincial territory. Also officials, experts and delegates of other
Institutions or Associations particularly interested, can attend the
Commission meetings, without voting, by authorisation of the said
Commission, and, if in the agenda meeting is listed a toponym of a par-
ticular municipality, participates in the works even the Maire, or one
delegate of his of the interested municipality; at art. 3 is also estab-
ished that the Commission:
a) defines the methodological and scientific criteria which have to be
followed in the toponymic researches, useful for the compilation of the
Trento Toponym Dictionary;
b) verifies the results of the above said toponymic researches;
c) proposes to the Provincial Council, after verifying the studies and
the global processing of the research activities, the publication of the
Trento Toponymic Dictionary and eventually of its related issues;
d) proposes the criteria for the choosing and transcription of the
toponyms mentioned at art. 11;
e) expresses the evaluations foreseen by the current law;
f) produces its technical opinion about every other issue concerning
toponyms, whenever required by the Provincial Council; at art. 7 de-
fines the norms for “naming new fractions or the modification of existing
fractions; at art. 10 disciplines the use of traditional toponyms, stressing
that, “considering the names given according to the previous articles
which have official status, municipality administrations can establish
to side them with the traditional toponyms locally used, given that these
last do not appear as minimal graphic variants referred to the official
denominations", to be approved by the Provincial Council, “after get-
ting the technical advice of the Toponymic Provincial Commission”; at
para 3*, finally, it disciplines the preservation of the Ladino Toponymy,
creating its related toponymic repertory, to be considered as an instru-
ment for the correct identification of toponyms in the Ladino Area of
“Fassa”; and it establishes the municipality duty of harmonising the
toponymy of their related interest to the contents of the said repertory”,
using the double denomination, if “for the same area is foreseen the
double Ladino and Italian denomination”;
- Regional Law July 26th 2002, n. 25 (issued in the B. U., Lazio
Region, August 20th 2002, n. 23 S. O. n. 5), named: Norms for the knowledge, retrieval and promotion of Regional Toponymy, at art. 2, establishes that, due to the aims of the same law, toponymy includes:
a) names of inhabited and urban areas;
b) every denomination related to places, natural contexts and monumental objects;
c) every denomination related to circulation areas, as defined by art. 41, of the Presidential Decree dated May 30th 1989, n. 223”;
at art. 3, orders among other matters “the creation [...] of the archives of the Lazio Region Toponymy, as a specific data bank within its regional informative system of environmental and cultural resources”; at art. 6, institutes the Regional Commission for toponymy, located at the Regional Culture Borough Council, “as advising and assisting technical – scientific organ, besides being useful instrument for the cooperation among the national, regional and local administrations”; this said Commission is named by the Regional Council President and remains in charge for five years; its composition includes a President, chosen among the university teachers, expert in linguistic, toponymic and historical – cultural issues, and twelve members, id est: two experts in linguistic, toponymic and historical – cultural issues, three regional experts about, respectively, culture, urbanisation and institutional affairs – local entities, a delegate of the Regional Union of the Lazio Provinces (U.R.P.L.), of the National Municipality Association of Italy (A.N.C.I.), a delegate of the National Municipality Union of Lazio, mountain communities and entities (U.N.C.E.M.), a delegate of the Association of Autonomous Entities of Lazio, of the Roman Society of Country History, and finally the delegates of the Regional Supervisory of Cultural Resources of Lazio and of the Supervisory of Cultural Resources of the Municipality of Rome.
3 SOURCE MATERIAL

3.1 Maps

The official topographic maps of Italy are those produced by the Italian Military Geographic Institute and by, Idrographic Institute of Marine, Agenzia per il Territorio del Ministero delle Finanze (ex Catasto), Servizio Geologico d’Italia and Centro Informazioni Geotopografiche dell’Aeronautica. Other topographic maps are produced by the Regions, at the scale 1:5000 e 1:10000 “Carte tecniche regionali” (Technical regional maps).

The most important maps of the Italian Military Geographic Institute are. 

\[ \text{Carta topografica d'Italia serie 25} \]  (Topographic map of Italy series 25)

The series is composed of 2298 elements named "sezioni" (sections), which have a format of 10' in longitude and 6' in latitude. The series is not yet completed. Sections are elaborated with numeric or analogic aerophotogrammetric survey and drawn with automatic or manual methodologies. The geographic format of a section is submultiple of the map of Italy at scale 1:50000 (a quarter) and it covers an area of 150 square kilometres about.

\[ \text{Carta topografica d'Italia serie 50 e 50/L} \]  (Topographic map of Italy series 50 and 50/L)

The series is composed of 636 elements named "fogli" (sheets), which have a format of 20' in longitude and 12' in latitude. The series is not yet completed. This cartography is derived from the survey at scale 1:25000.

\[ \text{Carta "II Mondo (JOG) 1501" serie 250/G} \]  (Map "The World (JOG) 1501 series 250/G)

The map is composed, as for the first part under the Italian competence, of 39 sheets at scale 1:250000, which have the format of 2° (at North of 40° N) or of 1°30' (at South of 40° N) in longitude and 1° in latitude. The aeronautical information, overprinted in violet, are added by the Aeronautical Geotopographic Information Centre (CIGA). It is printed in 7 colours and is updated every six years.

\[ \text{Carta d'Italia serie 250} \]  (Map of Italy series 250)

The map is composed of 15 sheets at scale 1:250000, with variable format according to the extension of the administrative regions.

\[ \text{Carta "Il Mondo 1404" serie 500} \]  (Map "The World 1 404" series 500)

The map is composed, as for the Italian competence, of 14 sheets at scale 1:500000, which have usually a format of 4° in longitude and 2° in latitude.

\[ \text{Carta "II Mondo 1301" serie 1000} \]  (Map "The World 1 301" series 1000)

The map is composed, as for the Italian competence, of 6 sheets at scale 1:1000000, which have the format of 6° in longitude and 4° in latitude.

\[ \text{Carta topografica d'Italia serie 25/V} \]  (Topographic map of Italy series 25/V)

The series is composed of 3545 elements named "tavolette" (sheets),
which have a format of 7'30" in longitude and 5' in latitude. The series is completely, but not updated at present.

Carta topografica d'Italia serie 100/N e 100/L (Topographic map of Italy series 100N and 100/L)

The map is composed of 278 elements named "fogli (sheets), which have a format of 30' in longitude and 20' in latitude. The series is completely published, but not updated at present.

Spaziocarta serie 50/S (Spacemap series 50/S)

The map is composed of 636 sheets 1:50000, which have a format of 20' in longitude and 12' in latitude. It is carried out from the panchromatic digital data worked out by the HRV sensors placed on the SPOT satellites. On the images, opportunely corrected both under the geometric and radiometric aspects, it is transferred the toponomy of the most inhabited places and of the most significant orographic and hydrographic elements. It is printed in black and white.

In addition to these series, numeric cartographic data are produced in vector, raster, and matrix format. Vinyl resin relief models, the so called "relief maps" (carte in rilievo), are produced too.

The official nautical charts are prepared by the Istituto Idrografico della Marina (Genova, Passo Osservatorio 4) and cover all the Italian seas at different scales for different purposes.

Some administrative regions, moreover, are producing a series of maps (Carta tecnica regionale, that is a technical regional map) in the scales 1:5000 or/and 1:10000, which cover only a part of the own regional territory in digital form too.

3.2 Gazetteers

In 1997 the Italian Military Geographic Institute has produced the lists of names recorded in the topographical maps in the scale 1: 25000.

The DBTopo contains all the toponyms existing in the official maps of Italy, called "Carta topografica d'Italia alla scala 1:25000" (last edition of old series). The Italian Military Geographic Institute has inserted it in its catalogue.

The main characteristics of this database can be so summarized:
- toponymic georeferentiation is expressed by coordinates in meters, Gauss-Boaga projection, using the national datum "Roma 40" and, only for the application point of the toponym, the "European Datum 1950";
- compilation source of the database is obtained from IGM 1:25000 maps, named "Tavolette";
- DBF (DBIII) is the format of this DB;
- planimetric accuracy of every single toponym is of about 1 mm graphic (25 m);
- a post thematic accuracy check has outlined an error presence of
about 3% out of the total records;
- the peculiarity of this DB consists in its historical toponyms, being its first compilation source formed of maps already out of production, realized more or less during the years 1940 / 1990;
- total dimensions of this DB correspond to about 800,000 records.
This DB contains information concerning three categories of toponyms:
- toponyms referred to topographic elements represented on the map by punctual elements, like isolated houses, mines, grottoes, wells, whose position is expressed with reference to the center of the graphic element to which they are related;
- toponyms referred to topographic elements of linear type, like rivers, roads, whose position is expressed with reference to its point nearest to the center of development of the toponym, being careful as for the repetition of the same toponym every time it appears on the map, with the sole variation of its position; roads, whose position is expressed with reference to the point of this topographic element closer to the toponym center of development, being careful as for the repetition of the same toponym every time it appears on the map, with the sole variation of its position;
- toponyms referred to topographic elements of spatial type, like inhabited centers, lakes, woods, whose position is expressed with reference to the barycenter area to which everyone of them refers, being careful as to express, in case this barycentre is not included in the considered area, the toponym position by a point always belonging to the same particular and as much as possible nearest to the barycentre of the area;
- toponyms referred to topographic elements of extended spatial type, like geographic regions, mountain chains, plains, beaches, whose position is expressed with reference to the barycentre of the rectangle of minor obstruction in whose interior the toponym stands.
Every record forming the database is structured by alphanumerical data containing the following information:
- TOPO: complete form of its name, according to its transcription given on the map;
- SCNO: eventual second name;
- FACC: code FACC (Feature and Attribute Coding Catalogue) of DIGEST (Digital Geographic Exchange Standard), which identifies it, whose complete list is reported in a proper file, MDB format (Access 7.0) and DBF format (DBIII);
- ATTR: attributes, maximum number of 4;
- TAVO: acronym of seven alphanumerical features, identifier of the cartographic element where the toponym is included, where the first three numbers identify the Italy Map sheet at scale 1:100000 (from 001 to 277), the fourth number identify the grid at scale 1:50000 (from 1 to 4), the fifth number identify the orientation of the “Tavoletta” (from 1 to 4), the sixth element is a feature that can take the form of S or W, in
order to indicate that is respectively a cartographic element of "bis" type of a normal element, and the seventh element is also a feature which can appear with the form of a W or E, for indicating the zone, respectively, West or East;
- EDIZ: edition of the same cartographic element;
- NSER: series number of the same map;
- DATA: year in which the survey has been carried out;
- ESTP: East coordinate, in meters, of the toponym, given in the Gauss-Boaga national system, referred to punctual objects;
- NERP: North coordinate, in meters, of the toponym, given in the Gauss-Boaga national system, referred to punctual objects;
- ESTL: East coordinate lower left, in meters, of the rectangle of minor obstruction where the particular to which the toponym is referred is contained, in the Gauss-Boaga national system;
- NORL: North coordinate lower left, in meters, of the rectangle of minor obstruction where the particular to which the toponym is referred is contained, in the Gauss-Boaga national system;
- ESTR: East coordinate upper right, in meters, of the rectangle of minor obstruction where the particular to which the toponym is referred is contained, in the Gauss-Boaga national system;
- NORR: North coordinate upper right, in meters, of the rectangle of minor obstruction where the particular to which the toponym is referred is contained, in the Gauss-Boaga national system;
- EUTM: East coordinate, in meters, of the toponym, in the ED 50 system, referred to punctual objects;
- NUTM: North coordinate, in meters, of the toponym, in the ED 50 system, referred to punctual objects.
Besides a complete list of names of inhabited places can be found in the regional volumes of the last Censimento Generale della Popolazione (General Census of Population), taken in 1991; the volumes are issued by the Istituto Centrale di Statistica (Roma, via Cesare Balbo, 16).
There is also a work issued by the Italian Touring Club (Milano, corso Italia 10) in 1993: Ammiorio Generale dei comuni e delle frazioni d'Italia (General Year-600k of Italian municipalities and their territorial subdivisions), which, however, gives the situation for 1991.
Rich in place names, but not complete, there is the Indice dei nomi (Place Names Index) of the Atlante Stradale d'Italia at scale 1:200000 in three volumes, issued and updated by the Touring Club Italiano regularly.
Other two gazetteers issued by Istituto Geografico De Agostini (Novara, Corso della Vittoria 91) are included in the Grande Atlante d'Italia (Great atlas of Italy) at scale 1:300000 and in the Atlante Stradale d'Italia (Road atlas of Italy) at scale 1:200000. The last one is updated every year.
4 GLOSSARY OF APPELLATIVES, ADJECTIVES AND OTHER WORDS NECESSARY FOR THE UNDERSTANDING OF MAPS

4.1 General remarks

Owing to the presence in Italy of so many place names written in languages other than Italian, the geographical generic terms, too, are very numerous. In order to avoid a too long and articulate list of such generic terms, the French, Franco-Provençal, Provençal, German, and Slovenian geographical generic terms are not presented here, as they can be easily found in the Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors issued by the Countries concerned. Only the most important and most widespread Italian terms, together with some Ladin and Sardinian ones distinguished from Italian terms by means of the letters (L) and (S) put in brackets, are given here.

Terms are given also in feminine forms and in plural, especially adjectives, when necessary. In these cases singular forms are separated from the plural by means of a semi colon (;), masculine forms are separated from the feminine by means of a comma (,): e.g. alt-o, -a; i, -e show respectively the following forms of the Italian adjective alto (high): singular masculine (alto), singular feminine (alta), plural masculine (altri), plural feminine (alte); Ligur-e;i show respectively the singular form (both masculine and feminine) and the plural (both masculine and feminine) of the Italian adjective Ligure; Liguri (Ligurian). The same occurs with many substantives: e.g. lag-o; -hi show respectively the singular form and the plural one of the Italian noun logo (lake); laghi (lakes).

4.2 The list of Italian, Ladin and Sardinian generic geographical terms with a few adjectival modifiers, prepositions, and conjunctions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>abbazia</td>
<td>abbey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abiss-o; -i</td>
<td>abyss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abruzzes-e; i</td>
<td>relating to the Abruzzo Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>acqu-a; -c</td>
<td>water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>acquedott-o; -i</td>
<td>acqueduct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>acut-o; -a; -i, -e</td>
<td>sharp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>adriatic-o; -a; -i, -he</td>
<td>Adriatic, relating to Adriatic Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aeroporto</td>
<td>airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agh-e; -is (L)</td>
<td>river</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agli</td>
<td>by the; on the; near the (masculine plural)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agrigentin-o; -a; -i, -c</td>
<td>relating to Agrigento</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agro</td>
<td>plain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ai
al
albanese-e,-i
albergo
alessandrina-o,-a; -i, -e
alla
alle
allo
alp-e; -i
Alp-e; -i
alpin-o, -a; -i, -e
alt-o, -a; -i, -e
alpino/altopiano
altura-a; -e
ambasciata
anatzu (S)
anconetan-o, -a; -i, -e
anconitan-o, -a; -i, -e
anfiteatro
antic-o, -a; -hi, -he
aostan-o, -a; -e, -i
appenninic-o, -a; -i, -he
Appennin-o, -i
apuan-o, -a; -i, -e
aquila-o, -a; -i, -he
arcipelag-o; -hi
arc-o; -hi
arcu/arcuragna (S)
area di servizio
aren-a; -as (S)
arettin-o, -a; -i, -e
argin-e; -i
arsenal-e; -i
artificial-e; -i
ascolan-o, -a; -i, -e
astigian-o, -a; -i, -e
atesin-o, -a; -i, -e
by the; on the; near the (masculine plural)
by the; on the; near the (masculine singular)
Albanian hotel
relating to Alessandria
by the; on the; near the (masculine and feminine singular)
by the; on the; near the (feminine singular)
by the; on the; near the (feminine plural)
by the; on the; near the (masculine singular)
shepherd's hut in the Alps; mountain pasture area
Alps
alpine; relating to the Alps
high
plateau; highlands
heigt
embassy
swamp
relating to Ancona
relating to Ancona
amphitheatre
ancient
relating to Aosta
relating to the Appennines
Appennines
relating to the Apuanian Mountains
relating to L'Aquila
archipelago
bow
pass
service station
sand
relating to Arezzo
embankment
arsenal
artificial
relating to Ascoli Piceno
relating to Asti
relating to the river Adige
attà (S)
autostrada; -e
avelline; -i
azza (S)
baccu (S)
bacin-o; -i
badde/baddi (S)
baia
baita
banatzu/benatzu (S)
banchina
banc-o; -hi
bannaxi (S)
bares-e; -i
barriera
basilica
basso, -a; -i, -e
bassofondo
basopiano
bastione
bottada (S)
becco
bellune; -i
beneventano, -a; -i, -e
bergamasco, -a; -hi, -he
bianco, -a; -hi, -he
biblioteca
biellesi; -i
blanc (L)
brocc-o; -he
bolognese; -i
bolzanino, -a; i, e
bonifica
borgata
borgo
bresciano, -a; -i, -e
brindisino, -a; -i, -e
brughiera
bruncu (S)
bucca (S)
burrone
bus (L)
ca'
cabu (S)
cadin (L)
cagliaritano, -a, -i, -e
cala
calabres-e, -i
calabr-o, -a, -i, -e
cald-o, -a, -i, -e
calle
campagna
campan-o, -a, -i, -e
campeggio
camp-o, -i
campo bassano, -o, -a, -i, -e
canal -e; -i
cappanna
cap issa/capitta/capizza (S)
capo
cappella
carnic-o, -a, -i, -he
carrares-e, -i
cas-a; -e
cascata-a; -e
cascina
casertano, -a, -i, -e
casteddu
castell-o, -i
catanes-c; -i
catananzaro, -c; -i
catena-t; -e
cattedrale
cava
cavalcavia
caverna
cavo, -a, -i, -e
cea/cheia (S)
central-e; -i
centro
certosa
cesenatico, -i
chiadin (L)
chiamp/chiampón/(L)
chianal; -s (L)
chiese (L)
chiesa
dolina, valley
relating to Cagliari
inlet
Calabrian, relating to the Calabria Region
Calabrian, relating to the Calabria Region
hot; warm
path; calle (narrow street in Venice)
country; land
relating to the Campania Region
camping
field
relating to Campobasso
canal
hut
peak; top
head; cape; point
chapel
Carnic
relating to Carrara
house
fall
farmstead
relating to Caserta
peak; top
castle
relating to Catania
relating to Catanzaro
chain; range
cathedral
quarry
fly-over bridge
fly-over bridge
cave
hollow
valley
central; middle
centre
charterhouse
relating to Cesena
basin; valley
field
valley
house
church
chietin o, a: i, e
chilometr-o; -i
ciampini (L)
cias-a; -e (L)
cim-a; -e
cimitero
circonvallazione
cischiel (L)
città
cittadella
cittadina
civic-o, -a; -i, -he
clap (L)
col/cól (L)
collae/collaz (L)
coll-e; -i
coll-in-a; -e
comasc-o, -a; -hi, -he
comunal -e; -i
comun -e; -i
conca (S)
conc-a; -he
confin-e; -i
confine di Stato
consolato
contrà/contrada
convento
cornetto
corno
corrente
corsn
cort-o, -a; -i, -e
cosentin-o, -a; -i, -e
cost-a; -e
costier-a; -e
crter-e; -i
cremasc-o, -a; -hi, -he
cremones-e; -i
crep (L)
crecpaccio
crest-a; -e
crete (L)
croc-e; -i
croda
crotoniat-e, -i; crotones-e; -i
relating to Chieti
kilometre
peak
house
peak
cemetery
ring-road
castle
town; city
citadel; fortress
small town
relating to the town
stone; mount
rounded hill
rounded hill
hill
hill
relating to Como
municipal
municipality
cave
basin; valley
border; boundary; frontier
national boundary
consulate
street
convent, nunnery, friary
little horn; peak
horn; peak
stream
main street; avenue
short
relating to Cosenza
coast
crater
relating to Crema
relating to Cremona
rock; peak
crevasse
ridge
mount; peak
cross
peak
relating to Crotone
cruse (L)
cuccureddu (S)
cuccuru (S)
cuel; -is (L)
cuneens -e; -e
dal (L)
da le (L)
darsena
de (L)
degli
dei
del
dele (L)
dell'
della
delle
delu
dente
depressione
de sa (S)
de sas (S)
de sos (S)
destru-o; -u; -i, -e
de su (S)
di
di dentro
di fuori
dig-a; -he
di li (S)
di lu (S)
di mezzo
dipartimento
di sopra
di sotto
dl'a (L)
dles (L)
dogana
dolina
domu (S)
dorsale
doss-so; i
dun-a; -e
cross
cross
hill
hill
peak; summit
relating to Cuneo
of the (masculine singular)
of the (feminine singular)
basin
of
of the (masculine plural)
of the (masculine plural)
of the (masculine singular)
of the (feminine plural)
of the (masculine and feminine singular)
of the (feminine singular)
of the (feminine plural)
of the (masculine plural)
right
of the (masculine singular)
of the
inner
outer
dam
of the (masculine plural)
of the (masculine singular)
middle; central
department
upper
lower
of the (feminine singular)
of the (masculine and feminine plural)
customs
doli
house
ridge
little hill
dune
duomo
cathedral
ega (L)
water; stream
emilian-o, -a; -i, -e
Emilian, relating to the Emilia Region
ennes -e; -i
relating to Enna
equidistanza
contour interval
Est
East
estern-o, -a; -i, -e
outer
estuario
estuary
faro
lighthouse
ferrares-e; -i
relating to Ferrara
ferovi-a; -e
railway
fiorentin-o, -a; -i, -e
relating to Florence
flumini (S)
river
flume; -i
river; stream
foc e; i
mouth
toggian-o, -a; -i, -e
relating to Foggia
foga/foglie (S)
mouth
fontan-a; -e
fountain; spring
font-e; -i
spring
forcalforcola
alpine pass
forcella
narrow alpine pass
forces (L)
gorge
forest-a; -e
forest; wood
forlives-e; -i
relating to Forli
gerre; ravine
forra
fort
forra
fortress
fortezza
mouth
fri (S)
cold
friulan-o, -a; -i, -e
relating to the Friuli
frontier-a; -e
frontier; boundary
frumini (S)
river; stream
fruncu (S)
peak; top
frusinat-e; -i
relating to Frosinone
fumarol-a; -e
fumarole
funicolare
cable-railway
tunnel	funivia
cableway
funtana (S)
spring
furcella/furcetta (L)
pass
furcia (L)
pass
galleria
tunnel
garganic-o, -a; -i, -he
relating to the promontory of Gargano
genae/genena (S)
pass
relating to the Genova glacier
basaltic upland
garden; park
botanical gardens
zoological gardens
summit; top; mountain ridge
relating to the Venezia Giulia
the (masculine plural)
gorge
bay; gulf
relating to Gorizia
big; great
big; great
Greek
rounded top
relating to Grosseto
big
cave
mountain group
cave
cross
deep gorge
peak
gorge
the (masculine plural)
witch
pass
the (masculine singular)
relating to Imperia
in
under construction
lower
inlet; creek
in the
inner
Ionic, relating to Ionian Sea
relating to the Trpinia region
the (plural)
ridge
relating to Isernia
isle; island
block of houses
islet; small island
isthmus
jana (S)
jof (L)
ju (L)
juel (L)
l'

la
lac (L)
lag-o; -hi
lagun-a; -e
lagunar-e; -i
land-a; -e
landri (L)
largu
larg-o, -a; -hi, -he
latinena-e; -i
latitudine
laziale
le
lecces-e; -i
leches-e; -i
lech (L)
Levante
lid-o; -i
ligur-e; -i
lis (L)
litoral-e; -i
livello medio del mare
livornes-e; -i
lo
lodigian-o, -a; -i, -e
lombard-o, -a; -i, -e
longitudine
lu (S)
lucan-o, -a; -i, -e
lucches-e; -i
lung-o, -a; -hi, -he
macchia
macerates-e; -i
Madonna
maggior-e; -i

pass
mount; peak
pass; top
pass
the (masculine and feminine singular)
the (feminine singular)
lake
lagoon
relative to one lagoon
barren land; moor; heath
cave
square
large; broad
relating to Latina
latitude
relating to the Lazio region
the (feminine plural)
relating to Lecce
relating to Lecco
lake
East
shore
Ligurian, relating to the Liguria Region
the (masculine and feminine plural)
coastal
mean sea level
relating to Livorno
the (masculine singular)
relating to Lombardy
Lombard, relating to the Lombardia Region
longitude
the (masculine singular)
Lucan, relating to the Basilicata region
relating to Lucca
long
scrub
relating to Macerata
the Virgin Mary
greater
malesa
mannu (S)
mantovan o, -a; -i, -e
marchigian-0, -a; -i, -e
mare
marghine (S)
marina
marin-0, -a; -i, -e
marittim-0, -a; -i, -e
masses-e; -i
materan-o; -i
median-o, -a; -i, -e
medi-o, -a; -i, -e
mediterrane-o, -a, -i, -e
meridian-o; -i
meridional-c; -i
Meridione
messines-e; -i
metallifer-0, -a; -i, -e
metanodotto
metropolii
metropolitana
metropolitan-0, -a; -i, -e
mezzan-o, -a; -i, -e
migli-o; -a
milanes-e; -i
minier-a; -e
minor-e; -i
modenes-c; -i
molin-o; -i
molisano
mol-o; -i
monastero
mont (L)
montagn-a; -e
montan-o, -a; -i, -e
mont-e; -i
montighiu/montigiu (S)
moren-a; -e
morenic-o, -a; -i, -e
municipio
munt (L)
museo-o; -i
napoletano-o, -a; -i, -e
naviglio

shepherd's hut in the Alps
big
Mantuan, relating to Mantova
relating to the Marche Region
sea
boundary
coast; seashore
marine; sea (attributive)
maritime
relating to Massa
relating to Matera
central; middle
central; middle
Mediterranean
meridian
Southern
South
relating to Messina
metalliferous
gas pipeline
metropolis; large city
underground; subway
metropolitan
central; middle
mile
relating to Milan
mine
lower
relating to Modena
mill
relating to the Molise region
pier; wharf
monastery; nunnery
shepherd's hut in the Alps
mount; mountain
mountain (attributive)
mount; mountain
hill
moraine
morainic
townhall
alp
museum
relating to Naples
canal; waterway
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Italian</th>
<th>English</th>
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<td>nazionale</td>
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<td>necropolis</td>
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<td>negli</td>
<td>in the (masculine plural)</td>
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<td>in the (masculine and feminine singular)</td>
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<td>in the (feminine singular)</td>
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<td>net-o, -a; -i, -e</td>
<td>black</td>
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<td>nevos-o, -a; -i, -e</td>
<td>snowy</td>
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<td>nissen-o, -a; -i, -e</td>
<td>relating to Caltanissetta</td>
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<td>Nord</td>
<td>North</td>
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<td>novares-e; -i</td>
<td>relating to Novara</td>
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<td>nud-o, -a; -i, -e</td>
<td>naked</td>
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<td>nuores-e; -i</td>
<td>relating to Nuoro</td>
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<td>nuov-o, -a; -i, -e</td>
<td>new</td>
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<td>nuragh-e; -i (S)</td>
<td>megalithic building</td>
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<td>occidental-e; -i</td>
<td>Western</td>
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<td>Occidente</td>
<td>West</td>
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<tr>
<td>odla (L)</td>
<td>peak</td>
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<tr>
<td>oleodotto</td>
<td>oil pipeine</td>
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<td>beyo nd</td>
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<td>oratory</td>
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<td>oriental-e; -i</td>
<td>Eastern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oriente</td>
<td>East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oristanes -e; -i</td>
<td>relating to Oristano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ospedal-e; -i</td>
<td>hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ovest</td>
<td>West</td>
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<tr>
<td>padovan-o, -a; -i, -e</td>
<td>relating to Padua</td>
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<tr>
<td>padru (S)</td>
<td>plain</td>
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<tr>
<td>paes-e; -i</td>
<td>village</td>
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<tr>
<td>pal/pala (L)</td>
<td>mount; peak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pal-a; -e</td>
<td>peak; summit</td>
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<tr>
<td>palazz-o; -i</td>
<td>palace</td>
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<td>palazz-o; -i</td>
<td>relating to Palermo</td>
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<td>palma</td>
<td>rounded top</td>
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<tr>
<td>palad-e; -i</td>
<td>marsh; fen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parallel-o; -i</td>
<td>parallel</td>
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<tr>
<td>pare o; hi</td>
<td>park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pareco nazionale</td>
<td>national park</td>
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<tr>
<td>pardu (S)</td>
<td>plain</td>
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<tr>
<td>parmigian-o, -a; -i, -e</td>
<td>relating to Parma</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
passaggio a livello
passo
patru (S)
pattada (S)
pauli (S)
paves-e; -i
pedra (S)
pendenza
pendula (S)
penisola
perda (S)
perdaffitta (S)
periferia
perugin-o, -a; -i, -c
pesares-e; i
pescares-e; -i
piacentin-o, -a; -i, -e
piana
piano
pianura
piazz/piazzale
piazzetta
picco
piccol-o, -a; -i, -e
picen-o, -a; -i, -e
pietr-a; -e
picicci
piemontese
pineta
pisan-o, -a; -i, -e
piscina
pissandol; -s (L)
pistoi-e; -i
pitzu/pizzu (S)
piz (L)
pizzo
plaia (S)
plan; -s (L)
plan/planu (S)
plan-e, -is (L)
poggio
Ponente
pont-e; -i
pontile
pordenones-e; -i

level crossing
pass
plain
little plateau; mesa
swamp
relating to Pavia
mountain, stone
steep; slope
fall
peninsula
mountain; stone
megalicth stone; menhir
suburbs; outskirts
relating to Perugia
relating to Pesaro
relating to Pescara
relating to Piacenza
plain
plain
plain
square
little square
peak
little; small
relating to Piceno
rock; stone
country church
relating to the Piemonte Region
pine wood
relating to Pisa
swimming-pool
fall
relating to Pistoia
peak; top
peak
peak
beach
plain
plateau
plain
hill
West
bridge
wharf
relating to Pordenone
port-a; -e
gate
porta/portedda (S)
pass
portella
pass
porto
harbour; haven
post-a; -e
mail; post
posterior-e; -i
back
potentin-o, -a; -i, -e
relating to Potenza
pozz-o; -i
fountain; well; oil-well
pra (L)
field; meadow
prat; -is (L)
meadow
prateria
grassland
prates-e; -i
relating to Prato
prat-o; -i
meadow
pre/pré (L)
field; meadow
principal-e; -i
principal; main
profondità
depth
profond-o, -a; -i -e
deep
promontorio
depth
provinc-ia; -e/-ie
cape; promontory
provincial-e; -i
country; district; province
pugliese
relating to the Puglia Region
punta
cape
quartier-e; -i
city-district; quarter
ragusan-o, -a; -i, -e
relating to Ragusa
ravennat-e; -i
relating to Ravenna
rada
inlet
reatin-o, -a; -i, -e
relating to Rieti
reggian-o, -a, -i, -e
relating to Reggio nell'Emilia
reggin-o, -a; -i, -e
relating to Reggio di Calabria
regional-e; -i
regional
region-e; -i
province; region
rifugio
shelter; refuge
rio
brook; river; stream
rimines-e; -i
relating to Rimini
rion-e; -i
city-district; quarter
ripisn-o; -i
level ground; terrace
riserva naturale
nature reserve
ristorante
restaurant
riu (S)
river; stream
riul (L)
stream
riv-a; -e
bank; shore
riviera
cost
roccia
rock; peak
roddin-o, -a; -i, -e
relating to Rovigo
roggia
irrigation ditch
roman-u, -a, -i, -e
romagnol-o, -a; -i, -e
ros (L)
ross-o, -a; -i, -e
rotond-o, -a; -i, -e
rovin-a; -e
runcu (S)
rup-e; -i
ruscello
sa (S)
sacrario
sacr-o, -a; -i, -e
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salernitan-o, --a; -i, -e
salin-a; -e
saltuisartu (S)
San
sant-o, -a; -i, -e
santuario
sard-o, -a; -i, -e
sas (S)
sass (L)
sassares-e; -i
sass-o; -i
savonese-; -i
scala
scarpat-a; -e
scav-o; -i
schina (S)
sclivia
scoglier-a; -e
scogl-io; -i
secc-a; -hc
sedda (S)
seggiovia
segni convenzionali
sella
selva
sene-s-e; -i
sentiero
serr-a; -c
settentrionale
Settentrione
siciliano

Roman, relating to Rome
relating to the Romagna Region
red
red
round
ruin
peak: top
cliff; rock
brook; stream
the (feminine singular)
memorial church
holy
relating to the Salento region
relating to Salerno
salt-works
country
Saint
Saint
sanctuary; pilgrimage church
Sardinian, relating to the Sardegna Region
the (feminine plural)
mountain; rocky top
relating to Sassa i
peak; stone; mountain
relating to Savona
scale
slope
excavation
ridge
ski-lift
cliff; reef
reef; rock
sand bank
pass
chair-lift
conventional signs
pass
forest; wood
relating to Siena
path
gorge; ridge
Northern
North
relating to the Sicilia Region
taviole (L)
teatin-0,-a; -e, -i
teatro
teleferica
telegrafo
tempio; -li
teramano-0,-a; -i, -e
terme
teramo-0,-a; -i, -e
terme
terme
test
tiberino-0,-a; -i, -e
ticines-c; -i
tirrenico
tor (L)
torinese-c; -i
torino (L)
torron-0,-a; -i
torrente
toscano-0,-a; -c
traforo
trapanesi-c; -i
treno navetta
urentino-0,-a; -i, -e
treviglano-0,-a; -i, -e
trieste-0,-a; -i, -e
turris (L)
udines-e; -i
umbro-0,-a; -i, -e
urban-0,-a; -i, -e
urbinate-0,-i
Valdostano-0,-a; -i, -e
valico
vallata-0,-c; -i
valle
vallo
cavalcasca
varesino-0,-a; -i, -e
vecchio-0,-a; -i, -ie
veneto-0,-a; -i, -e
veneziano-0,-a; -i, -e

field
relating to Chieti
theatre
cableway
telegraph
theatre
relating to Teramo
thermal baths
relating to Terni
country; land
head; peak
Tiberine
relating to the Ticino river
relating to Tyrrenian Sea
peak
rounding to Taurin
rounded mountain
tower
stream
Tuscan, relating to the Toscana Region
tunnel
relating to Trapani
shuttle service train
relating to Trento and to the Trentino region
relating to Treviso
relating to Trieste
rounded mountain
relating to Udine
Umbrian, relating to the Umbria region
urban; city (attributive)
relating to Urbino
relating to the Valle d’Aosta Region
pass
valley
valley
wall
valley
relating to Varese
old; ancient
Venetian, relating to the Veneto Region
relating to Venice
verbane e; -i
vercelles-e; -i
verd-e; -i
verones-e; -i
versant-e; -i
vert (L)
vesuvian-o, -a; -i, -e
vett-a; -e
vi-a; -e
viale
vibones-e; -i
vicentin-o, -a; -i, -e
vicolo
villa
villagg-io; -i
viterbes-e; -i
vruncu (S)
zeppara (S)
zon-a; -e
zuc (L)
zuel (L)
relating to Verbano
relating to Vercelli
green
relating to Verona
slope; versant
green
relating to the Vesuvius
summit; top, peak
road; street; way
avenue; boulevard
relating to Vibo Valentia
relating to Vicenza
alley; lane
country-house, villa
village
relating to Viterbo
peak
gravelly land; peak
district
mount; peak
pass
### MAIN ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE TOPOGRAPHICAL MAPS OF ITALY IN THE SCALES 1:25000 AND 1:50000.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Complete form</th>
<th>English form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.; A.i</td>
<td>Alp-e; -i</td>
<td>Alps</td>
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<td>altop.o</td>
<td>altipiano/altopiano</td>
<td>plateau; highlands</td>
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<td>arcip.go; arcip.bi</td>
<td>arcipelag-o; -hi</td>
<td>archipelago</td>
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<td>castell-o; -i</td>
<td>head; cape; point</td>
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6 ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

6.1 General remarks

The Italian Republic is divided administratively in Regions (regioni), which in turn are divided (except in one case i.e. the Valle d’Aosta/Vallé d’Aoste) in two or more provinces (province). All the provinces are divided in municipalities (comuni: 8102); which can be sub-divided in two or more territorial parts (frazioni).

6.2 The regions

There are 20 administrative Regions. Five of them, namely Valle d’Aosta/Vallée d’Aoste, Trentino-Alto Adige/Trentino-Südtirol, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Sicilia, and Sardegna, have an autonomy statute which was introduced some years after the Second World War in order to secure the rights of the various minority language groups and to preserve their own particular culture.

6.2.1 The list of the regions

The names of the two officially bilingual regions are given in the Italian form and in the non-Italian version separated by means of a slash. In brackets the English exonyms are given. Behind the semicolon the name of capital town of each region is put with its English exonym in brackets. The Regions from North to South and from West to East with the island regions listed last are:

- Valle d’Aosta/Vallée d’Aoste; Aosta/Aoste
  Piemonte (Piedmont); Torino (Turin)
- Lombardia (Lombardy); Milano (Milan)
- Trentino-Alto Adige/Trentino-Südtirol; Trento
- Veneto; Venezia (Venice)
- Friuli-Venezia giulia; Trieste
- Liguria; Genova (Genoa)
- Emilia-Romagna; Bologna
- Toscana (Tuscany); Firenze (Florence)
- Marche (The Marches); Ancona
- Umbria; Perugia
- Lazio (Latium); Roma (Rome)
- Abruzzo, L’Aquila
- Molise; Campobasso
- Campania; Napoli (Naples)
- Calabria; Catanzaro
- Puglia (Apulia); Bari
- Basilicata; Potenza
- Sicilia (Sicily); Palermo
- Sardegna (Sardinia); Cagliari

The three Regions of Trentino-Alto Adige/Trentino-Südtirol, Veneto, and Friuli - Venezia Giulia are also often called “Tre Venezie” or Triveneto. Abruzzo can also be called Abruzzi, but this last noun is less appropriate. Basilicata’s other non-current denomination is Lucania.

6.3 The provinces

There are 103 provinces. Two of them, namely the provinces of Trento and Bolzano/Bozen, have an autonomy statute, similar to the one of the five autonomous regions.

6.3.1 The list of the provinces (in brackets the English exonyms are given):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Valle d’Aosta/Vallée d’Aoste</th>
<th>Trentino-Alto Adige/Trentino-Südtirol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>Trento</td>
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<td>Alessandria</td>
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<td>Biella</td>
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<td>Cuneo</td>
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<td>Novara</td>
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<td>Torino (Turin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Verbano-Cusio-Ossola</td>
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<td>Vercelli</td>
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<td>Lombardia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bergamo</td>
<td>Friuli-Venezia Giulia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brescia</td>
<td>Gorizia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Como</td>
<td>Pordenone</td>
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<td>Cremona</td>
<td>Trieste</td>
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<td>Lecco</td>
<td>Udine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mantova (Mantua)</td>
<td>Liguria</td>
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<td>Milano (Milan)</td>
<td>Gênova (Genoa)</td>
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<td>Imperia</td>
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<td>Sondrio</td>
<td>La Spezia</td>
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<td>Varese</td>
<td>Savona</td>
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<td><strong>- Emilia-Romagna</strong></td>
<td><strong>- Molise</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bologna</td>
<td>Campobasso</td>
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<td>Ferrara</td>
<td>Isernia</td>
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<td>Forlì-Cesena</td>
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<td>Modena</td>
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<td>Parma</td>
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<td>Piacenza</td>
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<td>Ravenna</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reggio nell’Emilia</td>
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<td>Rimini</td>
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<td>Catanzaro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Firenze (Florence)</td>
<td>Cosenza</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grosseto</td>
<td>Crotone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Livorno (Leghorn)</td>
<td>Reggio di Calabria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lucca</td>
<td>Vibo Valentia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massa-Carrara</td>
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<td>Pisa</td>
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<td>Pistoia</td>
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<td>Bari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascoli Piceno</td>
<td>Brindisi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macerata</td>
<td>Foggia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesaro e Urbino</td>
<td>Lecce</td>
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<th><strong>- Umbria</strong></th>
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<td>Catania</td>
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<td>Téramo</td>
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### Cartographical representation of the province names

The provinces have the same names as their respective capital towns, except for Forli-Cesena, Massa-Carrara, Pésaro e Urbino and Verbano-Cusio-Ossola, the capital towns of which are Forli, Massa, Pésaro and Verbania respectively. Therefore, according to Italian cartographical tradition, the denominations of the provinces, except for the four latter cases, are not recorded in the maps when the names of the capital towns are put in evidence by means of an underlining or some other symbol.

In a few thematic maps, especially in those regarding road traffic, and in many road and/or tourist maps, cartographers prefer to put in the maps the car registration plate initials (capital town of every province), instead of the province denomination.

<table>
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