

Italy

I chose to write about Italy because all of my patron saints lived in Italy. Italy, on the map, is shaped like a boot. Italy, at first, was just a bunch of little Italian states, but they united together under a king named Victor Emmanuel. The two places in Italy that I would like to visit are Lucca and Venice. I chose to write about Lucca because my patron saint (St. Gemma) lived there. I also wanted to write about Venice because it is such an interesting place! I think Venice is fun because the streets are water!

Italy is a rocky peninsula. A peninsula is a piece of land in which three sides are surrounded by water. What is now Italy was before a part of the Holy Roman empire. In 800 A.D Charlemagne was crowned by the pope. Charlemagne made Rome great, but sadly, after his death it all crumbled apart. In 962 the German king, Otto I re-founded the Roman empire.

The people of the little states (city states) did not call themselves Italian, even though they lived in Italy. In the years after the American revolution the new idea of liberty and revolution began to become popular in the French kingdom. The French tried to overthrow their king. The Italian states also liked that idea and they offered to help the French. Italy grew angry at the French for the harsh treatment that they were putting upon them.

The Austrians came to rule some of the Italian states by Napoleon who gave Venice to Austria. Many Italians thought that the Italian states should unite and overthrow the Austrians. Some Italian states were ruled by countries, but most were just ruled by their own little rulers. The people of these Italian states got together and discussed what to do. You could tell these people apart. These men wore long hair and beards. The police always watched out for these people. That is why these people met in secret meetings or societies and they used codes in case of spies. One of these societies was called "The Carbonaria". These societies united and fought against the Austrians. The revolutionaries lost the battle.

The pope fled from Rome because it was too dangerous. The pope, wishing to return to Rome when safe, asked the French to throw out the rebels. The French agreed, and they went to get rid of the rebels. The Italians did everything they could to drive off the French, but the French won. In the time of the Renaissance the Italian

states were free. This gave the Italians hope. The Italians, or rebels, threw away the idea of having an Italian republic. They decided that they would try to unite the Italian states into a kingdom. The Italians finally succeeded and they crowned Victor Emmanuel king of Italy in 1861!

The first place I would like to visit in Italy is the city of Lucca. I would like to visit Lucca because my patron saint, St. Gemma, lived there. Lucca is a pretty place to visit. One of the things I would like to see in Lucca is the San Giovanni Church. The San Giovanni Church was the church of my other patron saint, St. Padre Pio. I also would like to see the Guinig tower that has a garden on the top. If I went to Lucca I would like to take a walk in Lucca and just look around.

The second place I would like to visit in Italy is Venice. In Venice I would like to go on a boat in the water streets! Then I would like to visit the Lido beach! I love going to the beach! Then I would eat pizza. Then I would see the mosaic of Noah's Ark.

The Romans founded Italy, and Italy crumbled into different states, and the states united under King Victor Emmanuel. Lucca was once not a part of Italy, but it did become Italian in 1860. Venice became a part of Italy in 1204. Italy has been a kingdom since 1861. Italy is a fun and pretty country! Italy is a great place to visit!

The End

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