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Second Senior **SPECIAL SUBJECT: GEOGRAPHY** **III TERM**

Let's watch a video to get to know a little about Italy.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=65a2Qzb_Vo8&ab_channel=JoyousTravel

Now, read more information below.

Four Amazing Places To See In Italy

It is no surprise to see why Italy is a country of choice for travellers worldwide.

Italy is located in Europe and is the 5th most visited country in the world in regards to international tourism arrivals. Most people principally visit the country for its rich history, culture, art, fashion, and cuisine. Tourists also travel to Italy for its ancient monuments, beaches, and beautiful coastline. The country has more World Heritage Sites in the world than any other country.

Venice



The famous canals of Venice.

Located in the northeastern part of Italy is the famous city of Venice. The city is situated on an archipelago made up of 118 islands which are connected by bridges and divided by canals. One of the most exciting things about Italy, or Venice to be specific, is the Venetian Lagoon. The lagoon is an enclosed bay lying between the Piave River and the Po River. The city of Venice is famous for its unique architecture. Venice has also been known by other names including, "The Floating City", "City of Bridges", "City of Canals" and "City of Masks" among others. A portion of the city is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Leaning Tower in Pisa



Leaning Tower of Pisa

The famous Leaning Tower is in fact the city cathedral's bell tower, in Italian called '**campanile**'. The tower was constructed in 1173 but the structure was miscalculated and built on not so solid ground, so the tower began leaning early on! It is said that Italian scientist Galileo Galilei used the tower for various gravity experiments, such as dropping various objects from the top of the tower. The tower is only about 56/183 ft metres tall while the tower's tilt is actually more than 4.3 metres/14ft, when measured. Meaning the top is leaning over so much the tower seems to fall. In 1999 some soil was taken away from underneath the tower, to lower the degree of the tilt and pull the tower more upright so it would not topple over. If you want to climb to the top of the tower, there are 294 steps to climb!

Colosseum in Rome



Colosseum in Rome

The Colosseum is one of the landmarks most people can easily link to Italy. The huge oval amphitheatre stands in the city centre of Rome and construction was started in 70 AD. Built in Roman design borrowed from the Greeks, the amphitheatre was built in the bed of a dried out lake. The colosseum was the place in those days where the Romans held their popular fights and games. There were **gladiator games, animal hunts and mock sea battles held in the colosseum**. About 50,000 people could be seated on the steps of this ancient amphitheatre.

Ponte Vecchio in Florence



Florence and the Ponte Vecchio, the 'Old Bridge'

The '**Old Bridge**' or as the Italians call it '**Ponte Vecchio**' is crossing the **Arno River** which flows through the capital city of the Italian region of Tuscany. Many artisans and craftsmen have their little workshops on this bridge. The historic centre of Florence is also known for its cathedral, palaces; and the Uffizi art galleries are among the most visited by travellers. Michelangelo's 'David' statue is one of the most famous sculptures in the world. According to UNESCO about 30% of the world's most important works of art can be found and viewed in Florence!