

invitations

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Italian Steps Stage 5: Out on a date

Giovanna's out on a date with Nereo. They've just finished having dinner – but how will the evening end? Find out, and learn the Italian you'll need for meeting people and making and receiving invitations.

Find out too about the **passeggiata** and all about going out for the evening in Italy.

Key language

Cosa prendi? What will you have?
Cosa facciamo? What shall we do?
Andiamo Shall we go/ Let's go
Vuoi/ vuole? Do you want? (informal/ formal)
Offro io It's on me
Va bene OK
Volentieri With pleasure
Mi dispiace I'm sorry

Useful vocabulary

andare to go
venire to come
bere to drink
prendere to have (lit. to take)
adesso now
un gelato an ice cream
a piedi on foot
in macchina by car

Learning hint

'Little and often' is a good watchword when learning a new language. Spending just a short time on your Italian every day will be more effective than a mammoth session once a week. It doesn't have to involve sitting down with a computer or a book; a conscious effort to focus on Italian can be a great way of using 'dead' time in waiting rooms, queues or traffic jams. Try visualising images from Italian Steps and recalling the related language. Or using car number plates to focus on the alphabet and numbers.

Quiz

1. You're listening to a group of youngsters making arrangements in the hotel lobby and you hear a girl say **Andiamo alla spiaggia**. What is she suggesting they do?
2. During the **passeggiata**, are you more likely to hear **Buongiorno** or **Buona sera**?
3. Does **prendiamo** or **mangiamo** fit logically in this space? _____ **un digestivo**?
4. How would you ask a child if s/he'd like an ice cream?
5. A friend orders **un cono al cocco**, turns to you and asks **Anche tu?** What does he want to know?
6. What does **È stata una bella serata** mean?

Answers on www.bbc.co.uk/languages/italian/answers.shtml