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COMPASS

Cross-Border Marriage Kit

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CROSS-BORDER MARIAGE KIT

FRA – ITA

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Overview

CATEGORY	FRANCE	ITALY
AUTHORITIES IN CHARGE	Town Hall (Mairie) – civil registrar. Banns must be posted (10 days).	Comune (Ufficio di Stato Civile) – civil marriage is the only legally valid form. Religious marriages must be registered at the Comune.
COSTS	Civil ceremony is free ; costs for translations and document copies.	Civil ceremony is usually free ; small administrative fees for additional copies or services.
PROCESSING TIMES	Banns posting at least 10 days . File preparation: ~ 1–2 months depending on documents.	Pubblicazioni di matrimonio : posted for 8 days + 3 waiting days. File preparation: ~ 2–4 weeks .
LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS	Documents must be in French (or translated by a sworn French translator), unless issued as multilingual extracts .	Documents must be in Italian (or translated by a sworn Italian translator – traduttore giurato).
APOSTILLE / LEGALISATION	Not required under EU Regulation 2016/1191 and the CIEC Convention .	Same: multilingual extracts accepted, no apostille/legalisation required.
IMMIGRATION EFFECT	Italian spouse in France → must apply for VLS-TS visa , then vie privée et familiale residence card.	French spouse in Italy → right of residence under EU free movement , must register at the Comune / Questura .

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Legal Requirements

FRANCE

- **Civil marriage** at the **Town Hall (Mairie)** is the **only legally valid** form; religious weddings have **no legal effect**.
- **Where you can marry:** in the commune where at least **one spouse resides** (or has a parent domiciled). A **1-month residence link** is generally required.
- **Banns:** must be published for **10 days** at the mairie.
- **Witnesses:** minimum **2**, maximum **4**, all adults with valid **ID**.

Documents required (Italian spouse):

- **Passport or Italian ID card** (Carta d'Identità).
- **Full birth certificate** (*Estratto dell'atto di nascita con annotazioni*), issued within **6 months**.
- **Nulla Osta al Matrimonio** (*Certificate of No Impediment*), issued by the **Italian Consulate in France** in accordance with Art. 116 of the Italian Civil Code.
- **Proof of residence** in France (if applicable).
- If previously married → **divorce decree** or **death certificate**.
- **Translations:** Italian documents must be translated into **French** by a **sworn translator**, unless provided as **multilingual extracts**.
- **Apostille/legalisation:** **Not required** between France and Italy (EU Regulation 2016/1191 + CIEC Convention).

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ITALY

- **Civil marriage** at the **Comune (Ufficio di Stato Civile)** is the **only legally valid** form; religious marriages must be registered to have legal effect
- **Eligibility:** both spouses must be **18 or older** and legally capable.
- **Pubblicazioni di matrimonio:** banns must be published for **8 days** at the Comune, plus **3 clear days** before the marriage can be celebrated.

Documents required (French spouse):

- **Passport or French ID card.**
- **Full birth certificate** (issued within **3 months**).
- **Certificat de Capacité à Mariage (CCAM)**, issued by the **French Consulate in Italy** (mandatory for transcription).
- **Certificat de célibat** or **certificat de coutume** (sometimes requested to prove marital capacity).
- **Proof of residence** in Italy, if domiciled there.
- If previously married → **divorce decree** or **death certificate**.
- **Translations:** French documents must be translated into **Italian** by a **sworn translator (traduttore giurato)**, unless issued as multilingual forms.
- **Apostille/legalisation:** not required within the EU (EU Regulation 2016/1191).

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Marrying in France (with an Italian citizen)

DOCUMENTS

- **Passports/IDs** for both spouses.
- **French spouse:** recent **birth certificate** (≤ 3 months).
- **Italian spouse:** recent **birth certificate** (≤ 6 months) + **Nulla Osta al Matrimonio** (Certificate of No Impediment) issued by the Italian Consulate.
- **Proof of residence** in the French commune.
- If previously married → **divorce decree** or **death certificate**.
- **2–4 witnesses** with valid ID.
- **Translations:** Italian documents must be translated into **French** by a sworn translator, unless issued as **multilingual extracts**.

STEPS & TIMELINE

1. **Gather documents** (allow 4–6 weeks for Nulla Osta + translations).
2. Submit the **marriage application file** to the mairie.
3. Possible **pre-marriage interview (audition)** at the mairie.
4. **Publication of banns** for **10 days**.
5. Celebrate the **civil ceremony** at the mairie with witnesses.
6. Obtain the **French marriage certificate** and **livret de famille**.
7. Italian spouse registers the marriage in Italy if needed.

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Marrying in Italy (with a French citizen)

DOCUMENTS

- **Passports/IDs** for both spouses.
- **Italian spouse:** recent **birth certificate** (≤ 6 months).
- **French spouse:** recent **birth certificate** (≤ 3 months) + **CCAM (Certificat de Capacité à Mariage)** issued by the French Consulate in Italy.
- **Certificat de célibat / certificat de coutume** (sometimes requested by the Comune).
- **Proof of residence** (residence certificate if domiciled in Italy).
- If previously married → **divorce decree** or **death certificate**.
- **Translations:** French documents must be translated into **Italian** by a sworn **traduttore giurato**, unless multilingual extract provided.

STEPS & TIMELINE

1. File **pubblicazioni di matrimonio** at the Comune.
2. Comune posts banns for **8 days + 3 clear days** before marriage.
3. Once banns period is over, the marriage can be celebrated.
4. Celebrate the **civil ceremony** before the Ufficiale di Stato Civile.
5. Obtain the **Italian marriage certificate (Estratto dell'atto di matrimonio)**.
6. For French recognition → submit certificate for **transcription** at the French Consulate in Italy or the **SCEC Nantes**.
7. Once transcribed → obtain the **French livret de famille**.

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Recognition in the other country

French marriage recognized in Italy

REQUIREMENT	HOW TO PROVIDE	WHERE	TIMING	NOTES
MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE	Obtain an official French marriage certificate (preferably a multilingual extract).	From the mairie where the marriage was celebrated.	Immediately after marriage.	Italy accepts multilingual extracts under CIEC/EU rules.
APOSTILLE / LEGALISATION	Not required under EU Regulation 2016/1191 and CIEC Convention .	N/A	N/A	Documents circulate freely between FR-IT.
TRANSLATION	Only required if no multilingual extract is provided.	Sworn Italian translator (traduttore giurato) .	Few days.	Normally avoided thanks to multilingual extracts.
REGISTRATION IN ITALY	Register French marriage certificate at the Comune / Ufficio di Stato Civile .	Local Comune.	2–6 weeks.	Ensures recognition for residence, family status, and admin.

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Italian marriage recognized in France

REQUIREMENT	HOW TO PROVIDE	WHERE	TIMING	NOTES
MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE	Obtain official Italian marriage certificate (Estratto dell'atto di matrimonio) , ideally in multilingual format.	Issued by the Comune .	Immediately after marriage.	Multilingual extract avoids translation.
APOSTILLE / LEGALISATION	Not required (FR-IT under EU Reg. 2016/1191 + CIEC).	N/A	N/A	Apostille exemption applies.
TRANSLATION	Only required if no multilingual extract is issued.	Sworn French translator (<i>traducteur assermenté</i>).	Few days.	Not needed with multilingual version.
TRANSCRIPTION IN FRANCE	Submit Italian certificate for transcription into French registers.	French Consulate in Italy or SCEC Nantes .	1–3 months.	Mandatory to obtain livret de famille and for French admin recognition.

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Special cases & red flags

- **Nulla Osta requirement** → Italian law (Art. 116 Civil Code) requires a **Nulla Osta al Matrimonio**, delivered by the Italian Consulate, for Italian citizens marrying abroad. Without it, the French mairie cannot proceed.
- **Banns vs. pubblicazioni** → In **France**, banns must be **posted for 10 days**; in **Italy**, **pubblicazioni** are required for **8 days + 3 clear days** before marriage.
- **Document validity** → France requires documents issued within **3 months**, while Italy accepts up to **6 months**. Older certificates are rejected.
- **Translations** → France requires **sworn French translations**; Italy requires **sworn Italian translations (traduttori giurati)**, unless multilingual civil-status forms are used.
- **CCAM mandatory** → French citizens marrying in Italy must obtain a **Certificat de Capacité à Mariage (CCAM)** from the French Consulate before the wedding. Without it, transcription in France will be refused.
- **Residency condition** → At least **one spouse must be domiciled** in the commune (France) or Comune (Italy) where the marriage is celebrated. Proof of residence is mandatory.
- **Religious marriages** → Catholic or other religious weddings in Italy have **no legal effect** unless registered at the Comune.

Immigration impact →

- Italian spouse in France → must apply for a **VLS-TS visa**, then a **Vie privée et familiale residence card**.
- French spouse in Italy → benefits from **EU free movement**, but must **register with the Comune/Questura** for residency.

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Checklists

FRANCE

1. Contact the **mairie** to confirm the **required documents**.
2. Prepare **passports/IDs** for both spouses.
3. Obtain a **recent French birth certificate** (≤ 3 months).
4. Obtain an **Italian birth certificate** (*Estratto dell'atto di nascita*) (≤ 6 months).
5. Request the **Nulla Osta al Matrimonio** from the **Italian Consulate in France**.
6. Provide **proof of residence** in the French commune.
7. If previously married → include **divorce decree** or **death certificate**.
8. Arrange **sworn French translations** of Italian documents, unless in **multilingual extract format**.
9. Submit the **marriage file** at the mairie.
10. Attend the **pre-marriage interview (audition)** if required.
11. Ensure **publication of banns** for **10 days**.
12. Celebrate the **civil ceremony** at the mairie with **2–4 witnesses**.
13. Receive the **French marriage certificate** and **livret de famille**.

ITALY

1. Contact the **Comune (Ufficio di Stato Civile)** to begin the **pubblicazioni di matrimonio**.
2. Prepare **passports/IDs** for both spouses.
3. Obtain an **Italian birth certificate** (≤ 6 months).
4. Obtain a **French birth certificate** (≤ 3 months).
5. Request the **CCAM (Certificat de Capacité à Mariage)** from the **French Consulate in Italy**.
6. Provide a **certificat de célibat / certificat de coutume** if required by the Comune.
7. Provide **proof of residence** in Italy (if applicable).
8. If previously married → include **divorce decree** or **death certificate**.
9. Arrange **sworn Italian translations** (*traduttore giurato*) of French documents unless issued as **multilingual extracts**.
10. Submit the **marriage file** to the Comune.
11. Wait for **pubblicazioni** to be posted for **8 days + 3 clear days**.
12. Celebrate the **civil ceremony** at the Comune.
13. Obtain the **Italian marriage certificate (Estratto dell'atto di matrimonio)**.
14. For recognition in France → request **transcription** at the French Consulate or **SCEC Nantes**.
15. Receive the **French livret de famille**.

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Templates

This section provides **official resources and sample documents** commonly required :

Use the hyperlinks below to access the official template or instruction page.

1. France – Statutory Declaration / Attestation of Single Status

Official French self-declaration sometimes requested by mairies.

 [Access the Attestation sur l'honneur template \(Service-Public\)](#)

2. Italy - Nulla Osta al Matrimonio

Certificate of no impediment required for Italian citizens marrying abroad, issued by the **Italian Consulate in France**.

 esteri.it/nulla-osta-matrimonio

3. France – Certificate of Capacity to Marry (CCAM)

Required for French citizens marrying in Italy, issued by the **French Consulate in Italy**.

 it.ambafrance.org/mariage

4. France/Italy – Sworn Translator Directories

To find official translators for sworn translations.

 service-public.fr/traducteurs

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Official Sources

TOPIC	AUTHORITY / URL	NOTES
GENERAL MARRIAGE IN FRANCE	Service-Public: service-public.fr/F930	Official French guidance on civil marriage (residence, banns, witnesses).
TRANSCRIPTION OF A FOREIGN MARRIAGE (FRANCE)	Service-Public: service-public.fr/F21614	How to obtain the CCAM and transcribe an Italian marriage into French registers.
LEGALISATION / APOSTILLE (FR-IT)	EUR-Lex: eur-lex.europa.eu/2016/1191	EU Regulation abolishing apostille for civil-status documents; introduces multilingual forms.
ITALY — GENERAL MARRIAGE PROCEDURES	Ministry of Justice: giustizia.it/pubblicazioni	Official Italian guidance on pubblicazioni di matrimonio and civil ceremonies.
FRANCE — CCAM FOR MARRIAGE IN ITALY	French Consulate in Italy: it.ambafrance.org/mariage	Consulate guidance for French citizens marrying in Italy; mandatory CCAM requirement.

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Glossary & Notes

TERM	DEFINITION / NOTES
BANNS (FRANCE)	Public announcement of intended marriage posted at the mairie for 10 days before the wedding. Mandatory in France.
PUBBLICAZIONI DI MATRIMONIO (ITALY)	Italian equivalent of banns: publication at the Comune for 8 days + 3 clear days before the wedding can take place.
NULLA OSTA AL MATRIMONIO	Certificate of no impediment required by Italian law (Art. 116 Civil Code). Issued by the Italian Consulate for Italian citizens marrying abroad.
CCAM (CERTIFICAT DE CAPACITÉ À MARIAGE)	Certificate issued by the French Consulate in Italy proving a French citizen is legally free to marry. Mandatory for transcription in France.
MULTILINGUAL CIVIL-STATUS EXTRACTS	Birth, marriage, death certificates issued under EU Regulation 2016/1191 and the CIEC Convention , accepted in both France and Italy without apostille/legalisation.
TRANSCRIPTION	Process of recording an Italian marriage into French civil registers (via Consulate or SCEC Nantes) to obtain a livret de famille .
LIVRET DE FAMILLE	Official French family record book delivered after transcription. Required for administrative purposes (residence permits, registering children, visas).
SWORN TRANSLATOR	Traducteur assermenté in France or Traduttore giurato in Italy, required for official translations if multilingual forms are not used.
RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT	At least one spouse must reside in the commune (France) or Comune (Italy) where the marriage is celebrated. Proof of domicile is mandatory.

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Annexes

ANNEX	TITLE	FILE
MARRIAGE IN FRANCE WITH A FOREIGNER	Service-Public page explaining rules and required documents for marrying a foreign national in France.	service-public.fr/F930
MARRIAGE ABROAD – TRANSCRIPTION	Procedure for transcribing an Italian marriage into French registers (Consulate or SCEC Nantes).	service-public.fr/F21614
FRENCH CONSULATE IN ITALY – MARRIAGE & CCAM	Consular guidance for French citizens marrying in Italy (mandatory CCAM).	it.ambafrance.org/mariage
ITALY – PUBBLICAZIONI DI MATRIMONIO	Italian Ministry of Justice page explaining banns and civil marriage procedures.	giustizia.it/pubblicazioni
ITALY – NULLA OSTA AL MATRIMONIO	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs page explaining the Nulla Osta requirement for Italians marrying abroad.	esteri.it/matrimonio

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Legal Disclaimer & Thank You

This Cross-Border Marriage Kit has been carefully researched and compiled to provide practical guidance for international couples.

However, it does **not constitute legal advice**.

- Laws and procedures may change at any time.
- Requirements may vary depending on the specific **State** or **French municipality** involved.
- Always verify your situation directly with the **competent civil authorities**, embassies, or consulates before submitting documents.
- LexAtlas cannot be held liable for any administrative delays, changes in law, or outcomes arising from the use of this guide.

For complex or exceptional cases (previous marriages, immigration complications, name changes, adoption, or nationality issues), we strongly recommend consulting a qualified attorney or notary.

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