

## TRANSPORTATION

### Water

According to figures of the Italian Ministry of Transport, the percentage of total freight carried by coastal shipping and rail had fallen to 19 percent and 13 percent by 1993 from 27 percent and 20 percent respectively in 1970. In the same period, the percentage of freight carried by road increased from 44 percent to 61 percent. Italy has six major seaports; Genoa, Livorno, Naples, Palermo, Trieste, and Venice. In addition, there are 35 smaller ports mostly used for coastal shipping.

### Air

Alitalia, a state-owned company, is Italy's principal airline, providing both international and domestic service. Additional domestic service is provided by ATI, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Alitalia, Itavia, and Alisarda airlines. Charter service is offered by SAM, also an Alitalia subsidiary, while air-taxi service is available from Unijet Italia in Rome and Agena in Milan. Italy has an extensive airport network consisting of 19 international, 17 domestic, and 59 general aviation airports. Alitalia and foreign airlines maintain excellent services from Rome and Milan to all parts of the world. There were 12 million international arrivals in 1993--5 million under the Italian flag--and 12 million departures, 5 million using the national airline.

### Road

The Italian highway system is approximately 198,000 miles, including over 3,000 miles of super highways called the autostrada. The network connects the major industrial centers and offers easy access to Northern Europe. Trucking services are operated mainly by private companies under government concession. While most of the Alpine passes are closed during the winter, direct road communication with Switzerland and France is maintained through the Gran San Bernardo, San Gottardo and Mont Blanc tunnels.

### Rail

The railroad system is nationalized and operated by the Italian State Railways {Ferrovie dello Stato, abbreviated FS}, a government agency. The railroad provides an efficient and economical method of freight transportation. More than half of the rail system is electrified. The length of railways at the end of 1993 was 19,000 kilometres {12,000 miles}. Ferrovie dello Stato has been converted from a branch of the Italian Ministry of Transport into a commercial state-owned corporation.