

# 8 Facts about Roma people you didn't know



Many myths have been elaborated about the origin of that mysterious people present in every western country called by different names, usually known as Gypsies, Gitanos, Cigány, etc., today we will show you some facts about them!

## FACT #1: Gypsies have their own flag



The Romani flag or flag of the Roma is the international flag of the Romani people. The flag consists of a background of blue and green, representing the heavens and earth, respectively; it also contains a 16-spoke red cartwheel, in the center. The latter element stands for the itinerant tradition of the Romani people and is also an homage to the flag of India,

## FACT #2: Charlie Chaplin was Roma



One of the greatest filmmakers in world cinema Charlie Chaplin was actually Roma and that he was born in a Gypsy caravan.

Chaplin's birth certificate has never been located. His mother, Hannah – maiden name Hill – was descended from a travelling family. In the 1880s, the Black Patch was a thriving Romany community on the industrial edge of Birmingham.

## FACT #3: Dr. Schack August Steenberg Krogh a Roma Nobel prize



He was born in Denmark and Awarded with the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1920 for his discovery of the regulation of the capillaries during muscular work, studies which were published in his book *The Anatomy and Physiology of the Capillaries* (1922).

## FACT #4: Juscelino Kubitschek, Brazil president



Juscelino Kubitschek, President of Brazil (31/1/1956–31/1/1961), His grandfather was a Czech Rom, Jan Kubíček, born in Třeboň, Bohemia. JK (as he is usually known) transformed Brazil into an industrial power, founded the automotive industry and developed the construction of roads throughout the nation His best known achievement was the foundation of Brasilia

## FACT #5: Andrea Pirlo is Roma Sinti descendant



Is an Italian football legend , Pirlo made over 115 times for the Italian national team, after having first making an appearance in 2002 and then retiring as a player in 2015.

He was also part of the Italian team that won the FIFA World Cup 2006

## FACT #6: Romani migrate from the Punjab region now India, to Europe



According to genetic and historical evidence, they left the Indian subcontinent approximately 1,500 years ago.

## FACT #7: Antiziganism (discrimination against the Romani)



Has been called “the last acceptable racism” in Europe. In the UK, nine out of 10 Romani children have suffered racial abuse and adults are denied entry to pubs and holiday camps. Shockingly, when a 15-year-old was kicked to death by a mob shouting “f\*\*king gyppos,” the judge refused to treat it as a hate crime.

## FACT #8: There are numerous subgroups of Roma people



The Roma, the Sinti, the Kale, the Manouches, and the Romanichal, they tend to be loosely defined. Other subgroups are based not on ancestry or language/dialect but on historical occupations: the Ursari ‘bear-trainers’, the Lovari ‘horse-dealers’, and the Kalderash/Kelderare ‘cauldron-makers’, etc.

## FACT #9: Roma have been persecuted for hundreds of years



When the Romani arrived in Romania (in the 14th century), they were forced into slavery to the state, as well as to monasteries and private citizens. Other European countries introduced laws to forcibly “integrate” the Romani, which in practice meant banning their language and taking their children into care.

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