

This thesis is concerned with a comparison of works written by GDR authors Hanns Cibulka, Waldtraut Lewin and Christine Wolter which deal with the motif of the journey to Italy. The analysis is based on spatial and intercultural theories, which are presented in the first part of the thesis. The genre of travelogue, the motif of the Italian journey in the German-language literature and political conditions for the creation and publication of travelogues in the GDR are also introduced. The core of the thesis is the comparison of eleven texts, especially travelogues, regarding the spatial and social dimension of travelling. The first aspect covers reflections of Goethe's *Italian journey* and the function of travelling, as well as the depiction of nature, urban space and architecture and the treatment of the garden motif. Regarding the second aspect, the author follows the narrative techniques used in portraying the mediators between the travelling writers and the Italian culture, as well as in the depiction of tourists or strangers. An additional question of the study is whether (and possibly how) the writers reflect on the GDR regime against the background of the Italian scenery.