



## **Conference Guide**

## Conference Venue

The conference will take place at the Russott Hotel\*\*\*\*

The Russott Hotel is ideal for those who want to combine a business visit with the chance to visit a city which is unique: Venice. Just a few kilometres away from Venice Marco Polo international airport is the first hotel on the mainland side of the bridge which links Venice to the mainland. It is located in the new San Giuliano Park, the largest in Europe, which offers a wide range of recreational activities from nature trails to jogging, cycling and walking tracks.



**Address:** via Orlanda 4, Mestre, Venice, Italy

**Tel:** +39 041 5310500

**Fax:** +39 041 5312278

**Email:** [reservation@russotthotels.com](mailto:reservation@russotthotels.com)

**URL:** <http://www.russotthotels.com>

## History of Venice

Venice is a city in northeastern Italy sited on a group of 118 small islands separated by canals and linked by bridges. It is located in the marshy Venetian Lagoon which stretches along the shoreline, between the mouths of the Po and the Piave Rivers. Venice is renowned for the beauty of its setting, its architecture and its artworks. The city in its entirety is listed as a World Heritage Site, along with its lagoon.



Venice is the capital of the Veneto region. In 2009, there were 270,098 people residing in Venice's comune (the population estimate of 272,000 inhabitants includes the population of the whole Comune of Venezia; around 60,000 in the historic city of Venice (Centro storico); 176,000 in Terraferma (the Mainland), mostly in the large frazioni of Mestre and Marghera; 31,000 live on other islands in the lagoon). Together with Padua and Treviso, the city is included in the Padua-Treviso-Venice Metropolitan Area (PATREVE), with a total population of 1,600,000. PATREVE is only a statistical metropolitan area without any degree of autonomy.

The name is derived from the ancient Veneti people who inhabited the region by the 10th century BC. The city historically was the capital of the Republic of Venice. Venice has been known as the "La Dominante", "Serenissima", "Queen of the Adriatic", "City of Water", "City of Masks", "City of Bridges", "The Floating City", and "City of Canals". Luigi Barzini described it in The New York Times as "undoubtedly the most beautiful city built by man". Venice has also been described by the Times Online as being one of Europe's most romantic cities.

The Republic of Venice was a major maritime power during the Middle Ages and Renaissance, and a staging area for the Crusades and the Battle of Lepanto, as well as a very important center of commerce (especially silk, grain, and spice) and art in the 13th century up to the end of the 17th century. This made Venice a wealthy city throughout most of its history. It is also known for its several important artistic movements, especially the Renaissance period. Venice has played an important role in the history of symphonic and operatic music, and it is the birthplace of Antonio Vivaldi.

Read more: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Venice#History>

## The city

Venice is one of Italy's top travel cities and a beautiful, romantic destination with many attractions. Its small, traffic-free streets along the winding canals make for great walking. You'll find many magnificent churches and palaces, lively squares, and interesting shops. Venice actually consists of 117 bodies of land connected by more than 400 bridges over its 150 canals. The Grand Canal is like Main Street, cutting through the center of the city. Venice is in on northeast coast of Italy. It is protected from the Adriatic Sea by a strip of land called the Lido. The region around Venice is called the Veneto.



Read more: <http://goitaly.about.com/od/veniceitaly/p/venice.htm>



# City Map



# How to get to Venice

## By plane

Venice Marco Polo is the closest airport to central Venice, while Treviso airport is 70 minutes by bus from Piazzale Roma (the main Venice road terminus), is used by most low-cost airlines.

### **Venice Marco Polo Airport**

**Address:** Via Galileo Galilei, 30/1, Venezia, Italy

**Tel:** +39 041 260 6111

### **Treviso Airport**

**Address:** Via Noalese, 63E, 31100 Treviso, Italy

**Tel:** +39 0422 315111

## By Train

Venice has two rail stations.

### Venice-Mestre Rail Station

The first station that all Venice-bound trains enter is the Venice-Mestre Rail Station. This station does not bring you to Venice, but rather Mestre, mainland Venice.

The rail station is located in Piazzale Favretti 1 - 30170 Mestre

### **Useful numbers:**

**Tel:** +39 041 892021 (timetable - tickets booking and sale)

**Tel:** +39 041 784319 (helpdesk)

**Fax:** +39 041 784498

*For customers with disabilities:*

**Tel:** +39 041 785570

**Tel:** +39 041 929472

**Fax:** +39 041 785038

### Venice Santa Lucia Station

The rail station is located on Fondamenta S. Lucia - 30100 Venice.

### **Useful numbers:**

**Tel:** +39 041 892021 (timetables)

**Tel:** +39 041 785670 (helpdesk)

**Fax:** +39 041 785038

*For customers with disabilities:*

**Tel:** +39 041 785570

**Tel:** +39 041 785038

For more information on train timetables: <http://www.trenitalia.com/en/index.html>

# Transportation in Venice

## Buses

*ACTV* - The Azienda del Consorzio Trasporti Veneziano is the municipal public transport company that operates within the Municipality of Venice. It also runs the urban public transport services within the territory of the Municipality of Chioggia and the suburban lines in the province of Venice.

## Urban bus lines

If you are on the Venetian mainland you can easily get around on one of the many ACTV buses that are in regular service from 05:00AM to 01:00AM. During the night hours some circular lines operate in connection with the night navigation service. Two urban circular lines link the city centre with the Ospedale dell'Angelo hospital. Some high frequency lines connect Mestre with Venice (Piazzale Roma and Tronchetto).

Bear in mind that certain lines that cover sections beyond the borders of the Municipality of Venice are subject to a suburban fare. These differ from the classic suburban lines both for the type of bus employed and for the urban line stops.

### Standard urban bus stop sign:

- With a white background urban lines,
- with a blue background suburban lines,
- with a white and blue background, lines subject
- to either an urban or suburban fare and
- with a red background the T1 tram line with an urban fare



Lido and Pellestrina urban service:

four different lines serve the island of Lido di Venezia (Giralido) while another mixed land-water line connects Lido to the Island of Pellestrina and to the city of Chioggia, by means of a ferry boat that takes over in the points where the connection is possible only by sea. During the summer months the Lido urban service is increased.

Read more: <http://www.veniceconnected.com/content/actv-buses>

**Waterbuses** (vaporetti) and road buses (which operate in Mestre on the mainland, and on the Lido) are run by ACTV. There are two main waterbus routes: from Santa Lucia station and Piazzale Roma road terminus, you can either head down the Grand Canal to Rialto and San Marco on the scenic lines 1 or 2, or loop around the main “island” of Venice to the north or south on the 4.1/4.2 or 5.1/5.2 lines.

If you are heading for the Lido, the quickest routes are the 6 or (from San Marco only) the 10. For Murano, take the 4.2 (4.1 in the other direction). For the islands of the northern lagoon, take the 12 at Fondamente Nove on Venice’s northern shore; change to the 9 at Burano for Torcello.

### **Types of tickets:**

*Single* - 7,00 € (valid for 60 minutes)

*24 hours* - 20,00 €

*Weekly* - 50,00 €

### **Water taxis**

These sleek motorboats are a stylish and speedy way of getting around, but they are not cheap.

### **Types of Tickets:**

- 60,00 € for up to five passengers (including luggage) to travel from the train station to *Rialto* or *St Mark’s*
- 100,00 € up to five passengers (including luggage) from the airport to Venice or the Lido. Additional passengers pay 10,00 € (each), plus 5,00 € for luggage.

**Tel:** +39 041 5222303 (reservation)

**Web:** <http://motoscafivenezia.it/>



## Gondolas

The daytime rate for an hour in a gondola (up to six passengers) is 120,00 € till 19:00PM. After that hours between 19:00PM and 08:00AM it rises to 150,00 €. The minimum fare is 80,00 € for 40 minutes, though you may be able to negotiate at slow times. A new by-law requires fares to be clearly displayed at gondola stops so customers can point and protest if they think they're being charged too much.



## Sights

Venice has many fine attractions and museums but one of the best things to do is take some time wandering along the canals off the main tourist track.

- **Saint Mark's Square** - Piazza San Marco is the main square of Venice surrounded by chic sidewalk cafes and fancy shops. While it's a great place to enjoy the scenery and people, you will definitely pay top price to sit at an outdoor table. In the evening, you can listen to live music, too. Walking in the piazza and taking photos is, of course, free.



- **Saint Mark's Basilica** - Basilica di San Marco is a beautiful church blending the architecture of East and West. It was consecrated in 832 AD.



- **Doge's Palace** - Palazzo Ducale, also on St. Mark's Square, is the most impressive building in Venice and well worth a tour. It was the political and judicial hub of Venetian government until the fall of the Venetian Republic in 1797. The palace was connected to its prisons by the famous "Bridge of Sighs"



- The **Bridge of Sighs** (Italian: Ponte dei Sospiri) is a bridge located in Venice, northern Italy. The enclosed bridge is made of white limestone and has windows with stone bars. It passes over the Rio di Palazzo and connects the New Prison to the interrogation rooms in the Doge's Palace. It was designed by Antoni Contino (whose uncle Antonio da Ponte had designed the Rialto Bridge) and was built in 1602.



- **Grand Canal** - Canal Grande is the main thoroughfare of Venice. It's full of all kinds of boats and lined with beautiful buildings.



- **Rialto Bridge** (Ponte di Rialto), the main bridge crossing the Grand Canal in the heart of Venice, is over 400 years old. Nearby is the Rialto Market, an interesting and lively food market with lots of little shops.



- **Galleria del'Accademia** is one of Italy's best art museums with 24 rooms in 3 historic buildings. Get there early to avoid the crowds. See Top Museums in Venice.



- **Venice's Top Islands** - visit one or more of the islands on a day trip. Two of the most popular are Murano, famous for glass making and full of colorful houses and famous for lace.

Read more: <http://goitaly.about.com/od/veniceitaly/p/venice.htm>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/destination/italy/venice/33581/Venice-city-break-guide.html>

### **Murano Island**



### **Burano Island**



## Dinning

### **Osteria Da Fiore**

**Address:** San Polo Calle del Scaleter, Venice, Italy

**Tel:** +39 041 721 308

**Web:** <http://www.dafiore.net/>

### **Osteri all' antico Dolo**

**Address:** San Polo San Polo 778, Ruga Rialto, Venice, Italy

**Tel:** +39 41 522 654

**Web:** <http://www.anticodolo.it/>

### **Osteria Alle Testiere**

**Address:** Castello Castello 5801, Venice, Italy

**Tel:** +39 41 522 7220

**Web:** <http://www.osterialetestiere.it/Testiere/Benvenuto.html>

### **MET**

**Address:** Castello Riva degli Schiavoni 4149, 30122 Venice, Italy

**Tel:** +39 41 520 5044

**Web:** [http://www.hotelmetropole.com/index\\_eng.htm](http://www.hotelmetropole.com/index_eng.htm)



Read more: [http://www.edinformatics.com/travel/best\\_restaurants\\_venice\\_italy.htm](http://www.edinformatics.com/travel/best_restaurants_venice_italy.htm)

More options on restaurants:

**Osteria Cuccagna Restaurant**

**Address:** Via Ludovico Manin, 22 Venezia, Italy

**Tel:** +39 041 974611

**Dall'Amelia**

**Address:** Via Miranese, 113 Venezia, Italy

**Tel:** +39 041 913955

**Alla Pergola Bianca**

**Address:** Via Giorgio Rizzardi, 75 Venezia, Italy

**Tel:** +39 041 929730

**Hours:** Thursday 9:00 am - 15:00 pm, 18:00 pm - 2:00 am

**Pizzeria Al Giardinetto Di Bodini Alberto & Alessandro Snc**

**Address:** Via Giuseppe Zambelli, 11 Venezia, Italy

**Tel:** +39 041 921563

**Hours:** Thursday 18:00 pm – 12:00 am

**Ristorante Indiano Gourmindia**

**Address:** Via Forte Marghera 129. 30173 Mestre, Italy

**Tel:** +39 041 951718

**Hours:** Thursday 7:30 – 11:00 pm

**Ristorante Naru**

**Address:** Via Trento, 28 Mestre Venezia, Italy

**Tel:** +39 348 084 6574

