

- **GENERAL INFORMATION**



Bologna is the capital city of Emilia-Romagna, a northern Italian region. Home to the oldest University in the Western world, the "**University of Bologna**" founded in **1088**, Bologna is a highly sophisticated city with one of the best quality of life and highest living standard in the whole nation. This is due to its strong industrial tradition, its wide range of highly-developed social services, and its physical location at the crossing-point of the most important highways and railways in the country. Until the early nineteenth century, when a large-scale urban reconstruction project was undertaken, Bologna stood as one of the best-preserved medieval cities in Europe; to this day it is unique in its historic value. Despite having suffered considerable bombing damage in 1944, Bologna's historic centre contains a wealth of important Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque artistic monuments.

Bologna developed along the Via Emilia as an Etruscan city and later Roman colony; the Via Emilia still runs straight through the city under the changing names of Strada Maggiore, Rizzoli, Ugo Bassi, and San Felice. The original Roman ramparts were supplanted by a high medieval system of fortifications, remains of which are still visible, and finally by a third and final set of ramparts built in the thirteenth century, of which numerous sections survive. Over twenty medieval defensive towers, some of them

leaning precariously, still stand from the over two hundred that were constructed in the Middle Ages. The cityscape is further enriched by elegant and extensive arcades (or porticos), for which the city is famous. In total, there are some 38 km of arcades in the city's historical center (over 45 km in the city proper), which make it possible to walk for long distances sheltered from rain, snow, or hot summer sun. The Portico of San Luca, one of the longest in the world (3.5 km, 666 arcades) connects Porta Saragozza (one of the twelve gates of the ancient medieval wall) with the San Luca Sanctuary, on Colle della Guardia, over the city (289 m.)

Climate

September is usually a sunny month with an average temperature of 20-25°C. Since rain showers are possible, light clothing and a raincoat are recommended.

Electricity

Electricity is supplied at 220 Volts, 50 cycles AC. Round-pin plugs only can be used in Italian sockets. Please use an adapter plug and a voltage converter if you need 110/120 volt appliances.

Currency & Value Added Tax (VAT)

The Italian currency is Euro (€); 1 € is approximately 0.72 US\$. Credit cards and traveler cheques are accepted almost everywhere. VAT (in Italian IVA) is charged on most goods except when purchased in duty-free shops and it is included in the quoted price. The current rate may range from 10% to 20% depending upon item. If you produce items and tax invoices, VAT may be refunded at international airports.

Shopping

Shops generally open from Monday through Saturday at 9:00 - 13:00. and 15:30 - 19:30. Most of the shop along Via Indipendenza, Via Clavature and Via d'Azeglio open also on Sundays. On Thursday afternoons, several shops are closed.

Insurance Disclaimer

Please arrange your own travel and health care insurance. The organizers will not be held liable for accidents, theft and property damage, nor for delays or any modification of the program.

Visa Requirements

All foreign participants must have a valid passport except the European Union citizens, who need only an identification card. Invitation letters to apply for a visa will be sent by the Secretariat

(mtusa@allmeetings.it) upon request. To know whether you need a visa, please check at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Web Site.

Transportations

Tickets can be bought **on-board** in most buses and also in newspaper stands and tobacco shops (to be validated when entering the bus).

>> **Single** Tkt (1 hour): 1,20 € or 1,50 € on the bus

>> **Daily** Tkt (1 day): 4,00 €

>> **City Pass** (10 Tkts): 11,00 €

>> **Aerobus** (from/to the airport/center): 6,00 €

<http://www.atc.bo.it>

Private Cars

Private cars are not allowed in the city centre, including the area of the Conference site, but hotel customers are allowed to reach their hotels (ask to your hotel).

The speed limit on highways is 130 km/h (80 mi/h) and 100km/h (60 mi/h) when raining. The speed limit on country roads is 90 km/h (60 mi/h), while being 50 km/h (31 mi/h) in cities and villages, unless otherwise specified. On these roads, lights must be switched on during all the day. Safety belts are compulsory.

Emergency numbers

Ambulance: 118

Police: 113 – 112

Fire brigade: 115

Medical Center: 848 832 832

Emergency hospital

Sant'Orsola Hospital

Via Massarenti - Phone. 848 884 888

Marconi Aeroport

Phone. +39 051-6479615 - (every day from 6.30 up to 21.30)

Taxi

Taxi CAT - +39 051-53 41 41

Taxi COTABO - +39 051-37 27 27

Rent a car

HERTZ: 1. Via Amendola 16, Bologna -

Call +39 051 254830 <http://www.hertz.it/>

AVIS: 1. Bologna Aeroport – Call: +39 051 6472032

2. Via Marco Polo 91/A – Call: +39 051 6341632

<http://www.avisautonoleggio.it/>

Tourist Information

- **Food Tours (free tour):** A funny walk through the ancient shops in the historical city centre. The presence of university students helped the opening of this kind of "shops" since the XIIIth Century. Also today along the narrow streets of the medieval town, some XIVth Century pubs are still very crowded. To buy the famous tortellini we suggest to go and visit one of the most famous food shop in Bologna: Tamburini shop and restaurant, Via Caprarie 1. Along the way you will find some very comfortable aperitif bars like "Il Calice"- Via Clavature, "Maxim" - Piazza della Mercanzia, "Rosa Rosae" - Via Clavature, or the oldest bar in Bologna "L'Osteria del Sole" - Vicolo Ranocchi
- **Trambus Open:** Trambus Open gives you the opportunity to discover the beauties, art, monuments and secrets of the wonderful city of Bologna from a new perspective. The service runs every day with innovative single deck topless buses. Highly qualified staff will welcome and assist you on board: an audio system in 8 languages will give you the main info about the sites along the itinerary. How to book the Trambus: Telephone to +39.051.350.853 - Mondays to Fridays (except holidays) 10.00 - 13.00 or e-mail to: info.bologna@trambusopen.com or asking to the conference desk. Costs of the Trambus: Adult 10,00 Euros; Kids (from 5 to 8 years) 5 Euros; Kids (under 5) free.

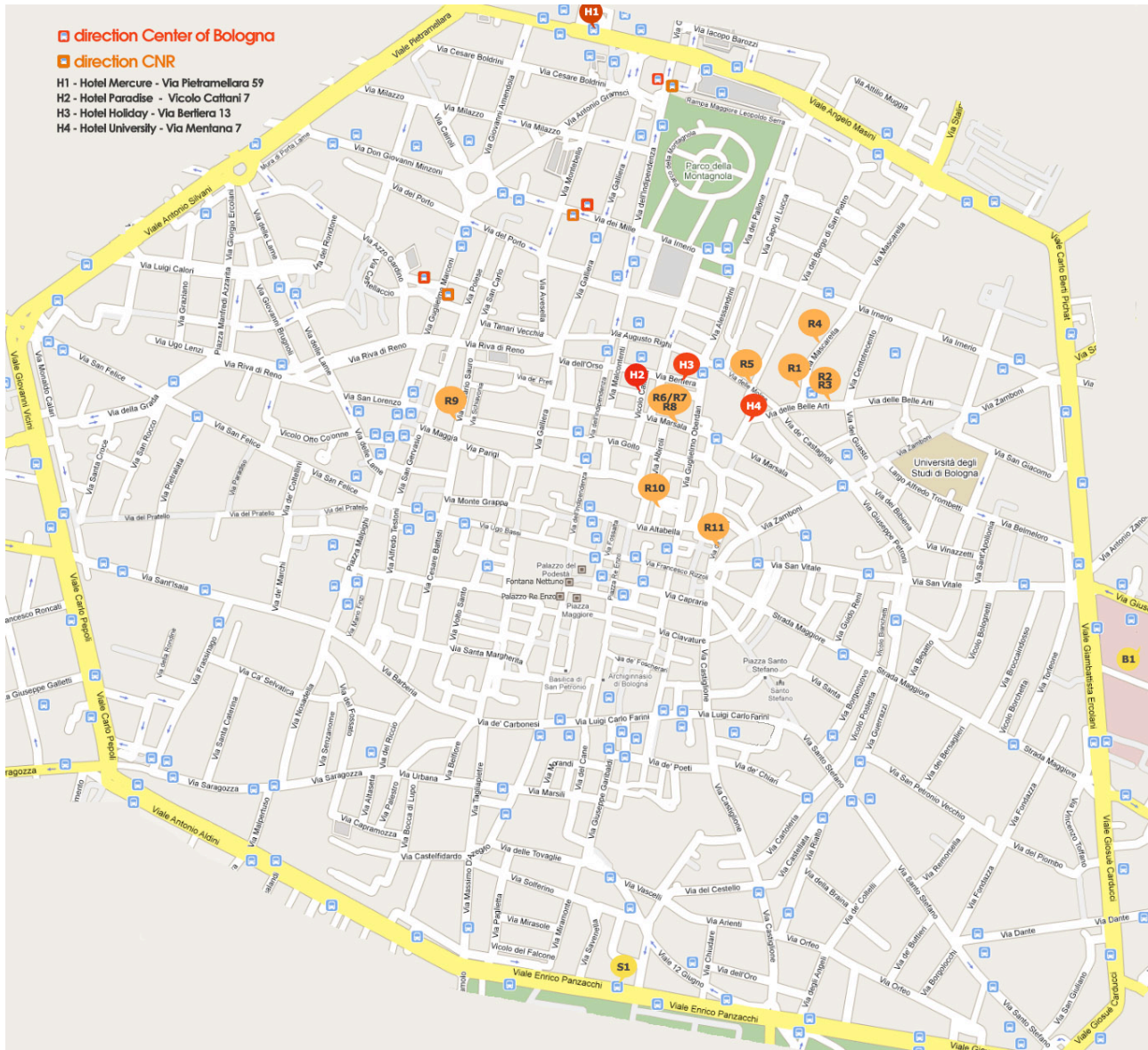
Other info available on the official Bologna web site

<http://iat.comune.bologna.it/IAT/IAT.nsf/HomePageE?openpage>

Tourist Office

Piazza Maggiore, phone +39 051 239660, +39 051 251947, +39 051 6472113

A list of suggested restaurants in Bologna



R1 – OSTERIA CANTINA BENTIVOGLIO

Via Mascarella, 4/B - Phone. 051-26.54.16

Traditional cuisine and excellent wine selection; live jazz music.

R2 – TRATTORIA BELLE ARTI

Via Belle arti, 6/f - Phone. 051-26.76.48

Southern Italian specialities from Lucania.

R3 – TRATTORIA ANNA MARIA

Via Belle Arti, 17/A - Phone. 051-26.68.94

Traditional bolognese cuisine.

R4 – TAVERNA MASCARELLA

Via Mascarella, 22/A - Phone. 051-22.43.72

Sardinian fare.

R5 – LE STANZE

Via del Borgo San Pietro, 1/A - Phone. 051-27.36.02

Traditional bolognese cuisine and local atmosphere.

Open in the afternoon.

R6 – MARSALA 19

Via Marsala, 19 - Phone. 051-29.16.845

Elegant ambiance for traditional bolognese cuisine.

R7 – BEL FIORE

Via Marsala, 11/A - Phone. 051-22.66.41

Traditional bolognese cuisine with local specialities.

R8 – IL MARSALINO

Via Marsala, 13/D - Phone. 051-23.86.75

Traditional bolognese cuisine with local specialities.

R9 – TAVERNA DEI LORDS

Via Nazario Sauro, 12/B - Phone. 051- 22.10.43

Traditional bolognese cuisine with local specialities.

R10 – CENTRO NATURA

Via Albari, 6 - Phone. 051- 23.56.43

Geared to vegetarian, vegan and microbotic orientation in an history downtown palace.

R11 – TINELLO

Via dei Giudei, 1/C - Phone. 051- 22.15.69

Traditional bolognese cuisine.