

**Conference Location:**



**Grand Hotel Baglioni**

Piazza Unita Italiana 6, Florence, Italy

**Tel:** +039 055 23 580

**Fax:** +039 055 23 588 895

**Email:** [info@hotelbaglioni.it](mailto:info@hotelbaglioni.it)

**URL:** <http://www.hotelbaglioni.it/>



## How to get to Florence

**By Air:** Florence Airport ("Aeroporto di Firenze") or Amerigo Vespucci Airport (Airport Code - IATA: FLR, ICAO: LIRQ) is an airport located close to Florence, Italy. It is one of two main airports in the Tuscany region, the other being Galileo Galilei Airport in Pisa

**Visa:** A valid passport (or identity card for European Community nationals) is required. Visas are not necessary for citizens of EU countries, the U.S.A., Canada and the majority of countries. Please contact your local Portuguese Embassy, minister of foreign affairs or your Travel Agency for further information.

**Airport: Aeroporto Di Firenze**  
Tel.: +39 055 30615  
**Lost&Found Office:** +39 055.3061302 from 08:00 to  
09:00 and from 13:00 to 14:00pm  
URL: <http://www.aeroporto.firenze.it/en/>

## How to get to the Hotel

### By taxi

Taxis are stationed in front of the arrival terminal or can be called by radiotaxi.

**Phone** +39.055.4242 / 4390 / 4499 / 4798 - 055.2001326

Taxi journey time from the airport to Florence city center is about 15 minutes

<http://www.aeroporto.firenze.it/en/passengers/from-to-the-airport/taxi.html>

<http://www.florenceinitaly.com/florence-tourist-information/florence-airport.html>

### Bus

Public buses are provided by ATAF. You can buy tickets at kiosks/newsagents/bars where the symbol "Biglietti ATAF" is shown, or at the bus station outside Santa Maria Novella train station. There are many type of tickets available including a day ticket €5, a 3 day ticket €12 and 4-rides ticket at €4.50. A single ticket is around €1.20. Single tickets are also sold by the driver, but at an increased price of €2. Depending on the ticket you will either have to swipe it or have it stamped in the machine on the bus. Tickets are usually valid for about 70 minutes on the whole network, so that you can just hop on and off at will.

To see the full route lines you can visit the following link:

<http://www.ataf.net/en/timetables-and-routes/timetables-and-routes/route-list.aspx?idC=180&LN=en-US>

### Rent a car

When you get to the end of Viale Francesco Redi turn right, and then left, into Via Guido Monaco at the end of which turn left into Via Fratelli Rosselli. After the railway underpass take the Viali di Circonvallazione flanking the Fortezza da Basso. Continue along Viale Lavagnini. At the first traffic light turn right into Via Santa Caterina and continue as far as the railway station, passing through Piazza Indipendenza. It will take two minutes to get to Piazza Unità d'Italia and the Grand Hotel Baglioni.

## Rent a car companies

The following car rental agencies operate at the airport (arrival terminal)



### Auto Europa / Sicily by Car

**Open:** 08.00/23.0 dom. 08.00-21.00 - **Phone:** 055.3436031



### Avis

**Open:** 08.00/23.00 - **Phone:** 055.315588



### Budget Autonoleggio

**Open:** 08.00/23.00 - **Phone:** 055.315588



### Europcar

**Open:** 09.00/23.00 - **Phone:** 055.318609



### Hertz

**Open:** 08.30/22.30 sab. e dom. 09.30-22.30 - **Phone:** 055.307370



### Maggiore / National

**Open:** 08.30/22.40) - **Phone:** 055.311256



### Sixt rent a car

**Open:** 08.30/21.30 - dom. 08.30/13.00 16:00/20.00 - **Phone:** 055.309790

## **By train**

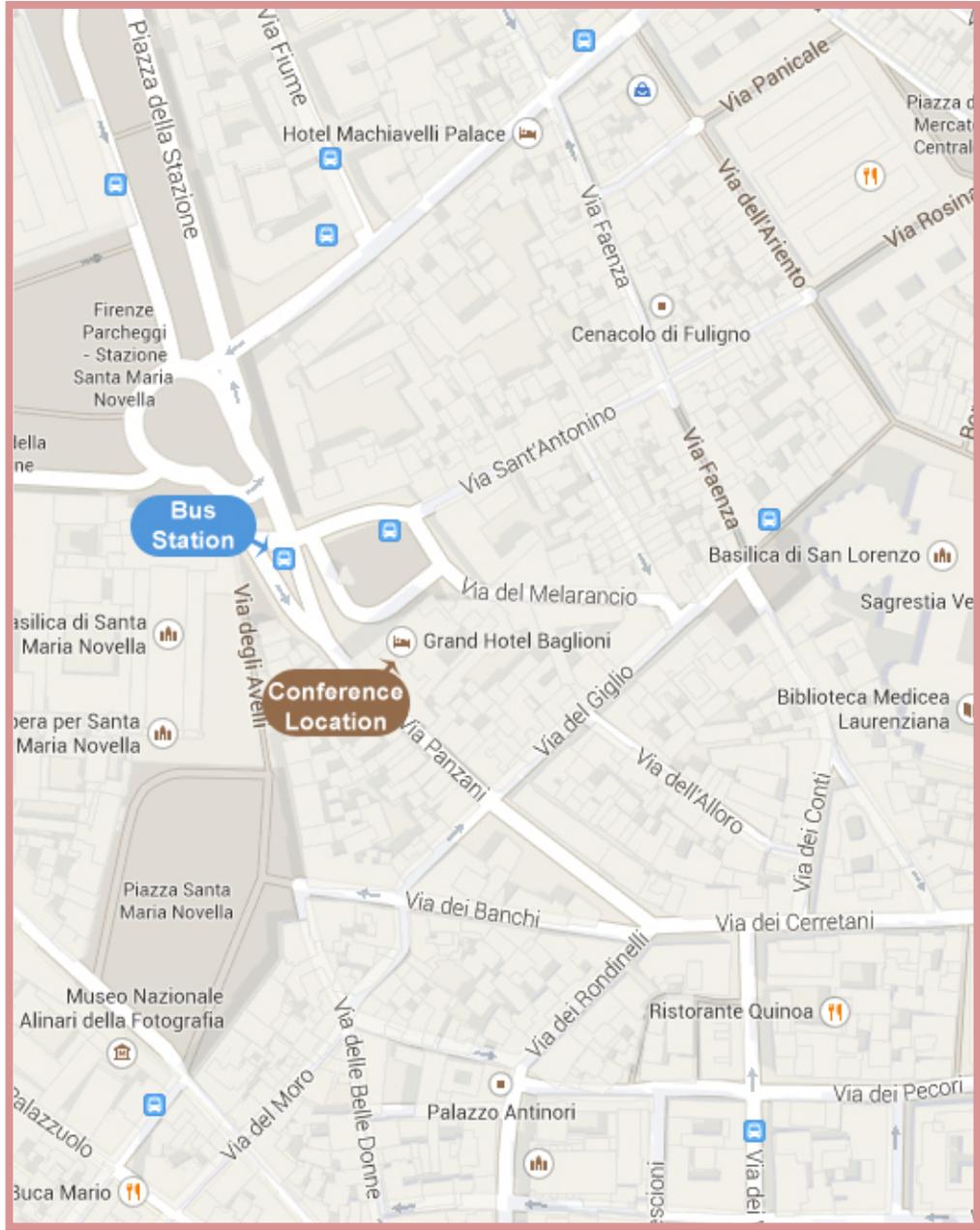
The Grand Hotel Baglioni is in Piazza dell'Unità d'Italia which is about 200 meters from the central Santa Maria Novella railway station. You can also get to the hotel by taking the underpass from inside the station to the square.

Operation hours: 06:00 to midnight

For more information about the ticket fares and timetable you can visit the following link:

<http://www.raileurope.com/europe-travel-guide/italy/florence/train-station/santa-maria-novella-train-station.html>

Conference location map



## Florence

**Location:** 43.7833° N, 11.2500° E

**Population:** 370,092

**Area:** 39.54 sq miles (102.4 km<sup>2</sup>)

**History:** Florence is a major historical city in Italy, distinguished as one of the most outstanding economic, cultural, political and artistic centres in the peninsula from the late Middle Ages to the Renaissance. The foundation of Florence dates back to Roman times, despite evidence existing to show that Florence was already occupied in prehistoric times. The oldest part of the city bears the imprint of these Roman origins as it originated as one of Caesar's colonies. For the sake of defence, the city was set at the confluence of two streams, the Arno and the Mugnone, where the oldest populations had previously been located. Rectangular in plan, it was enclosed in a wall about 1800 meters long. The built-up area, like all the cities founded by the Romans, was characterized by straight roads which crossed at right angles. The two main roads led to four towered gates and converged on a central square, the forum urbis, now Piazza della Repubblica, where the Curia and the Temple dedicated to the Capitoline Triad (Jupiter, Juno, and Minerva) were later to rise.

Archaeological finds, many of which came to light during the course of works which "gave new life", to the old city center, have made it possible to locate and identify the remains of various important public works such as the Capitoline Baths, the Baths of Capaccio, the sewage system, the pavement of the streets and the Temple of Isis, in Piazza San Firenze. At that time the Arno was outside the walls, with a river port that constituted an important infrastructure for the city, for in Roman times the river was navigable from its mouth up to its confluence with the Affrico, upstream from Florence, and the first bridge in Florentine history was built in all likelihood somewhat upstream from today's Ponte Vecchio, around the first century B.C.. The city developed rapidly thanks to its favourable position and the role it played in the ambit of the territorial organization in the region and it soon super ceded Arezzo as the leading centre in northern Etruria. Economic power was the driving force behind the urban growth of the young colony. Commercial activity and trade thrived thanks to the fact that important communications routes, land and water, intersected at Florentia and offer an explanation for the presence of those oriental merchants, probably on their way from Pisa, who first introduced the cult of Isis and then, in the 2nd century, Christianity. The earliest indications of the Christian religion are bound to the cults of the deacon Lorenzo and the Palestinian saint, Felicita and so the first Florentine churches were built: San Lorenzo consecrated in 393, the first diocese, and Santa Felicita, whose origins go back to the 4th and 5th centuries. However, the Florentines do not seem to have had a bishop prior to the late 3rd century. The first one recorded is San Felice who participated in a Roman synod in 313.



## The city

Florence was founded in 59 BC as a settlement for former soldiers who were allotted land by Julius Caesar in the rich farming valley of the Arno. Dubbed Florentia, the city was built in the style of a military camp with a castrum of grid pattern and the main streets, the cardo and the decumanus, intersecting at the present Piazza della Repubblica, which can still be seen in the city center. Florentia was situated at the Via Cassia, the main route between Rome and the North, which position enabled it to rapidly expand as a commercial center. Emperor Diocletian made Florentia capital of the province of Tuscia in the 3rd century AD. St Minias was Florence's first martyr. He was beheaded at about 250 AD, during the anti-Christian persecutions of the Emperor Decius. The Basilica di San Miniato al Monte now stands near the spot.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_Florence](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Florence)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_Florence](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Florence)

<http://www.aboutflorence.com/history-of-Florence.html>

### **Tourist Office 1**

**Opening hours:** Monday-Saturday from 09:00 – 18:00

**Address:** Via Cavour 1/RED, Florence

**Tel:** +39 055290832 or +39 055290833

**Email:** [infoturismo@provincia.fi.it](mailto:infoturismo@provincia.fi.it)

**Web:** <http://en.firenzeturismo.it/en/firenze-territorio/tourist-information-offices-in-florence-pdf.html>

### **Tourist Office 2-Infopoint Stazione**

**Opening hours:** Monday-Saturday from 09:00 – 19:00

**Address:** Piazza Stazione 4, Florence

**Tel:** ++39 055212245 or +39 0552728208

Email: [turismo3@comune.fi.it](mailto:turismo3@comune.fi.it)

**Web:** <http://en.firenzeturismo.it/en/firenze-territorio/tourist-information-offices-in-florence-pdf.html>

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**Web:** <http://en.firenzeturismo.it/en/firenze-territorio/tourist-information-offices-in-florence-pdf.html>

Access to the Gala Dinner

**The Conference Banquet will be held on 3.11.2014 @ Panoramic Restaurant @ 5th Floor**

**Hotel:** Grand Hotel Baglioni 4\*

**Address:** Piazza Unita Italiana 6, Florence, Italy

**Tel:** +039 055 23 580

**Fax:** +039 055 23 588 895

**Time:** According to the program



## Information



### **Weather**

Weather in Florence and Tuscany is generally pretty mild but Florence's location in a valley makes temperatures vary from other areas in Tuscany. The warmest months are generally July and August, while June and September are both nice with warm weather without it being too hot.



### **Time**

Italy is in the Central European time zone (CET = GMT/UCT + 1)



### **Banks**

Monday – Friday 08:30 - 15:00



### **Post Office**

Most banks open between 08:30 to 13:30 and 14:45 to 15:45, Monday to Friday. Many of them are in the heart of the city and usually have ATMs outside that accept a wide network of cards and offer excellent wholesale exchange rates.



### **Shopping**

The majority of shops are open all day from 09:30 to 13:00 and 15:00 – 19:30 Monday to Saturday. Sundays and public holidays are the usual closing days, although there are some exceptions



### **Electricity**

In Italy electrical current is 220 volts/50Hz and the European round 2-pin plugs are standard. Americans and Canadians with 110V equipment will need a transformer which changes the voltage and an adapter to fit in Italian sockets. These can be bought at any hardware store. British, Australians and South Africans can use a plug adapter which most department stores stock.



### **Special Needs**

Delegates and accompanying persons with disabilities are invited to advise the Congress Secretariat.



### **Pharmacy**

A chemist or drugstore is known as a Farmacia and most of them tend to keep the same working hours as other shops. If your nearest drugstore is closed it will list other chemists open at lunchtimes, holidays or at night.



### **Currency**

The unit of Italy currency is Euro (€). Major credit cards are accepted in most hotels, shops and restaurants. Travelers' check and currency can be changed at exchange bureaus.



### **The Duomo Cathedral**

Florence's cathedral stands tall over the city with its magnificent Renaissance dome designed by Filippo Brunelleschi. The cathedral named in honor of Santa Maria del Fiore is a vast Gothic structure built on the site of the 7th century church of Santa Reparata, the remains of which can be seen in the crypt. The cathedral was begun at the end of the 13th century by Arnolfo di Cambio, and the dome, which dominates the exterior, was added in the 15th century on a design of Filippo Brunelleschi. A statue to each of these important architects can be found outside to the right of the cathedral, both admiring their work for the rest of eternity.

**Address:** Piazza Duomo

**Tickets:**

Free entrance. The entrance is through right door facing the façade.  
Disabled access through the Porta dei Canonici (south side)  
Audio guide rental available inside

**Opening hours:**

10:00am - 17:00pm

Thursdays: 10:00am - 16:00/17:00pm (depends on season)

Saturdays: 10:00am - 4:45pm

Sundays and religious holidays: 13:30 - 16:45pm

For more information you can visit:

<http://www.visitflorence.com/florence-churches/duomo.html>

## The Uffizi Gallery

The Uffizi gallery was built in 1581, under the request of Granduca Francisco de' Medici, son of Cosimo I. The original design was that of Giorgio Vasari, one of the leading painters and architects during the 15th century. His plan for this museum was quite a strategically planned building as it was constructed adjacent to the Medici Palace and extended until the Arno River, over the Ponte Vecchio Bridge.

**Address:** Piazzale degli Uffizi

**Tickets:** Full 6,50€ reduced 3,25€ (during temporary exhibitions, full price becomes 11€ )

**Opening hours:** 08:15 to 18:50. Tuesdays through Sunday, entrance every 15 min

For more information you can visit: <http://www.uffizi.com/>



## The Accademia Gallery

If you're thinking of visiting the Galleria dell'Accademia, your most likely target are the magnificent giant marble sculptures created by Michelangelo, and above all, the glorious David. If you explore the museum with a bit more time, the Accademia will offer you much more in the less crowded halls, satisfying any curiosity for botany, music, art symbols and painting techniques.

**Address:** Via Ricasoli, 58-60113/R 50122 Firenze

**Tickets:** Full 6,50€ reduced euro 3,25€ (11,00€ with temporary exhibitions included)

**Opening hours:** 08:15 - 18:50 Tuesday to Sunday. Closed on Mondays

For more information you can visit:

<http://www.visitflorence.com/florence-museums/accademia-gallery.html>

## The Leonardo da Vinci Museum

The **Leonardo da Vinci's Museum** is located in the heart of the city, very close to the Brunelleschi's dome of the main Cathedral Santa Maria del Fiore. At the entrance you will find the new bookshop, with a variety of interesting books, including our catalogue cured by Carlo Pedretti and a wide assortment of gadgets. Visiting the exhibition hall you can discover the world, the life, the works of the universally recognized as a worldwide Genius, whom secrets are still not yet completely revealed.

**Address:** Via de Servi 66 R 50122 Florence

**Tickets:** Adults: 7,00€, students and over 65 years old: €5,00

Free entrance for children under 6 years old and handicapped

**Opening times:** November-March: everyday 10:00 - 19:00



For more information you can visit: <http://www.mostredileonardo.com/leonardo-da-vincis-florence-museum/>



## The Baptistery

The Baptistery in Florence is part of the Duomo complex, which includes the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore and the Campanile. Historians believe that construction of the Baptistery, also known as Battistero San Giovanni or Saint John's Baptistery, began in 1059, making it one of the oldest buildings in Florence.

**Address:** Piazza Duomo in the historic center of Florence

**Tickets:** 4€

**Opening:** Tuesdays-Saturdays, 12:15 - 19:00. Sundays and first Saturday of the month 08:30 - 14:00

## Piazza della Signoria

The Piazza della Signoria has been the center of political life in Florence since the 14th century with the prominent Palazzo Vecchio overlooking the square. It was the scene of great triumphs, such as the return of the Medici in 1530 as well as the Bonfire of the Vanities instigated by Savonarola, who was then himself burned at the stake here in 1498 after he was denounced by the Inquisition as a heretic. A marble circle inscription on the piazza shows the location where he was burned. The sculptures in Piazza della Signoria bristle with political connotations, many of which are fiercely contradictory. The David (the original is in the Galleria dell'Accademia) by Michelangelo was placed outside the Palazzo Vecchio as a symbol of the Republic's defiance of the tyrannical Medici.



## Campanile - Bell Tower

The Campanile, bell tower, is in Piazza del Duomo. The first story was designed by Giotto and it is commonly called Giotto's Campanile. Buy a ticket and climb the 414 stairs (no lift) for great views of the Cathedral and its dome and the city of Florence and surroundings

**Address:** Piazza Duomo in the historic center of Florence

**Opening:** Tuesdays - Sundays, 8:30 - 19:30

## Dinning in Florence

### Ristorante Pizzeria L 'Angolo Del Gusto

**Address:** Via Taddeo Alderotti, 37, 50139 Florence, Italy

**Tel:** +39 055435718

**Cuisine:** Italian



### Il Desco

**Address:** Via Cavour, 27, 50129 Florence, Italy

**Tel:** +39 055 288330

**Cuisines:** Mediterranean

### Pescheria San Pietro

**Address:** Via L. Alamanni 7/R, 50123 Florence, Italy

**Tel:** +39 055 238 2749

**Cuisines:** Italian, Gastropub, Wine Bar, Chowder





**Osteria delle Tre Panche**

**Address:** Via Antonio Pacinotti, 32-r, 50131 Florence, Italy

**Tel:** +39 055 583724

**Cuisines:** Italian

**Ete Bistro**

**Address:** Via Faenza 55r, 50123 Florence, Italy

**Tel:** +39 055 215364

**Cuisines:** Organic



**La Buchetta Cafe**

**Address:** Via De' Benci 3/3a, 50122 Florence, Italy

**Tel:** +39 055 217833

**Cuisines:** Italian, Mediterranean



## **Cacio Vino Trallalla'**

**Address:** Borgo SS. Apostoli 29R, 50123 Florence, Italy

**Tel:** +39 055 215558

**Cuisines:** Italian



## **La Prosciutteria**

**Address:** Via dei Neri 54, 50122 Florence, Italy

**Tel:** +39 055 265 4472

**Cuisines:** Italian, Winery, Sandwiches, cuisine.name.191



**Sources:** [http://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurants-g187895-Florence\\_Tuscany.html](http://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurants-g187895-Florence_Tuscany.html)

<http://www.mostredileonardo.com/leonardo-da-vincis-florence-museum/>

<http://www.visitflorence.com/florence-museums/accademia-gallery.html>

<http://www.visitflorence.com/florence-churches/duomo.html>

[http://www.uffizi.com/http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_Florence](http://www.uffizi.com/http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Florence)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_Florence](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Florence)

<http://www.aboutflorence.com/history-of-Florence.html>

<http://www.ataf.net/en/timetables-and-routes/timetables-and-routes/route-list.aspx?idC=180&LN=en-US>

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

<http://goitaly.about.com/>

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/italy/florence/sights>