



USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT MILAN

13th WFTO Biennial Conference

23-28 May 2015, Milan (Italy)

ACCOMMODATION

Klima Hotel Milano Fiere



Via Privata Venezia Giulia, 8 - 20157 Milano
Tel. + 39 02.455046.1 - Fax. +39 02. 3557386
info@klimahotelmilanofiere.it

The KLIMA HOTEL MILANO FIERE will be the main venue for the 2015 WFTO Biennial Conference and where in principle participants will be staying. The Klima Hotel is the first hotel in Milan completely ecofriendly. The hotel was created following an ecological pattern; that is why it is considered a “green hotel”. The entire wall of the main entrance is composed by solar panels, which contribute to produce a great part of the energy necessary to the hotel daily activities. On the other hand, the wall situated on the back of the hotel, is completely covered by a vertical garden.

Hostel Milan



Via Martino Bassi, 2 – Milano
Tel +39 02 39267095 Fax +39 02 33000191
milano@aighostels.it

Participants and exhibitors for the Milano Fair City/World Fair Trade Exhibition (see more below) and ‘over-flowing’ participants from the WFTO Conference will be hosted also at the Milan Hostel.

The **position** of Milan Hostel is ideal for all kinds of travelers: not far from Fiera Milano City, a few metro stops from **Piazza Duomo** and Rho-Fiera, and the New Exhibition Ground.

Note: Milan will be really overbooked in that week. You can manage the accommodation by yourself, but you will find few places available and very high prices. The EXPO is expecting over 100.000 visitors per day, but Milan offer only 54.000 beds in its Hotel facilities.

Minibar

The organization (WFTO/AGICES) does not cover any mini-bar expenses, alcoholic drinks or any other expenses besides the ones on the registration conference pack. You have to pay directly to the Hotel for the items in your mini-bar, if you consume them.

HOW TO GET TO MILAN

By Plane

Milan is very well-connected to the major cities in Europe and worldwide thanks to its 3 airports.

- **Malpensa airport**, is the biggest airport in the Milan area and is located approx. 50 km NW of Milan;
- **Linate airport**, is smaller, a true city airport, just a few km East of the city center. Mainly for national and European flights;
- **Orio al Serio airport**, main hub for low-cost airlines, located near the town of Bergamo, around 50km from Milan.

All airports have regular bus connections to Milan.

By Train

Milan is also easy to reach by train due to the extensive railway networks of [Trenitalia](#), connecting the city to other major Italian cities as well as European metropolis including Paris, Zurich, Geneva, Munich, Stuttgart, Vienna and more.

Milan main Train Station: **Milan Central Station** (Milano Centrale)

Estimated time and costs for train travels from other Italian cities to Milan:

Roma Termini – Milano Centrale: 3 hours / around 80 €

Venezia S. Lucia – Milano Centrale: 2,5 hours / around 40 €

Torino P. N.– Milano Centrale: 1,5 hours / around 25 €

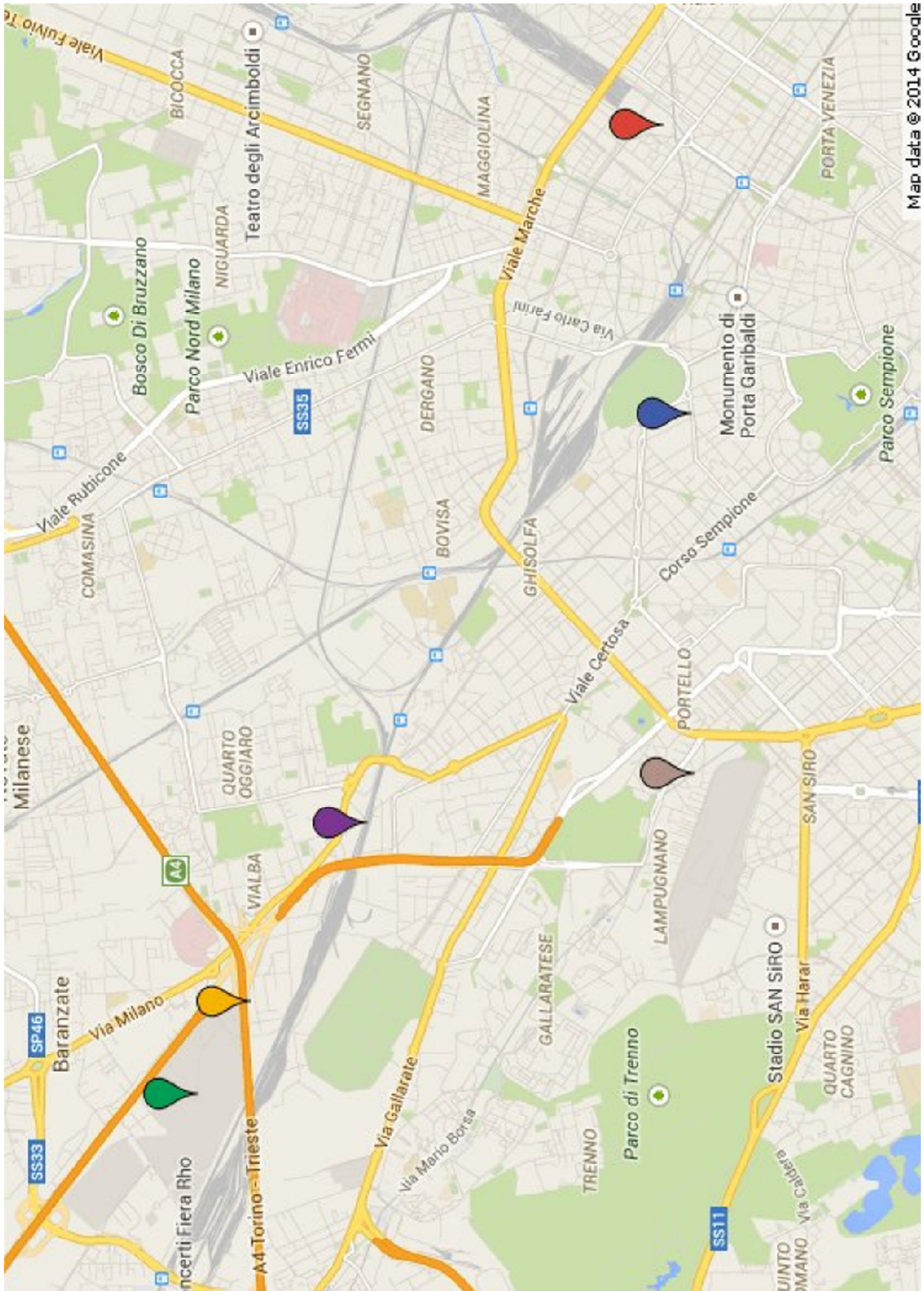
To the Klima Hotel

Klima Hotel is reachable by bus shuttle service which connects the hotel to the airports and the Milan Central Station.

Note: **Taxi service in Italy is quite expensive.** Getting around the city by public transportation is easy and absolutely recommended. Milan has an underground and several regular city bus lines. More info at: <http://www.atm.it/en/>

- Milano Central Station
- Milano Certosa Station
- Klima Hotel

- Fabbrica del Vapore
- EXPO entrance
- Hostel Milano



REGISTRATION

Registrations for the 13th WFTO Biennial Conference will be open from 1 November 2014 until 30 April 2015. A late fee will be applied to participants registering after 1 March 2015. More details on the conference packages, prices, deadlines and the registration form can be found at www.wfto.com

VISA APPLICATION and INVITATION LETTER

If you need an invitation letter for visa purposes, you can request it in the Registration Format <http://tiny.cc/wftweek>

European Citizens whose country is under the authority of the Schengen Treaty may enter Italy with nothing more than a valid identity card or passport.

Citizens from all other countries must show their valid passport on the border; where a visa is required, this must also be presented to the border authorities and must indicate the length of the holder's stay and his or her destination. Visa applications – specifying the reason for the trip – must be made to the Italian Consulate in the applicant's country of residence, and are generally issued 90 days after the application is made. To know if you need a VISA in order to enter Italy, you can visit this website from the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs: http://www.esteri.it/visti/index_eng.asp

Once visitors arrive in Italy, those who will not be staying in a hotel or similar accommodation facility must register with the local police headquarters within 8 days of their arrival in the country. Visitors staying in hotels or other tourist accommodation facilities will automatically be registered upon reception there.

Make sure you have a copy of your invitation letter.

OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION

Sustainable tourism in Italy

Two Italian tour operators of sustainable tourism, **RAM Viaggi** and **Viaggi&Miraggi**, created a few amazing proposals dedicated to WFTO members coming to Italy for the Conference. If you wish to visit new places in Italy before or after the World Fair Trade Week guided by these experienced organisations linked to the Fair Trade movement, please read their proposals here in attachment and contact them directly.

Currency

In Italy, as in most of Western Europe, the official currency is the Euro (€). The Euro is divided into 100 cents, with two decimals after the comma. So, a price will often be displayed as €10,00 (ten euros); or €2,14 (two euros and 14 cents), etc.

Changing money into Euro: it is expensive to change foreign currency in Italy, exchange bureau fees are high. Banks will only exchange currency for their own customers. We advise to use ATMs to withdraw cash.

ATMs (Automatic Teller Machines) in Italy are known as *Bancomat*, and can be found everywhere. Using a credit card, or even better, a debit card or your local bank card is very easy. If you are unsure about the compatibility or the banking systems, contact your credit card's company or local bank.

Weather

The average daily temperature in Milan on May is 15°C (59°F), reaching highs of 21°C (70°F), and dropping to an average minimum temperature of 9°C (48°F). Milan sees an average rainfall of 132 mm over 12 days throughout this month. You can use your most typical dress, according to temperatures, but you have to remember that if you are visiting churches or holy places, it is better not to dress shorts (if you are a man) and cover your shoulders (if you are a woman).

Measures and Weight

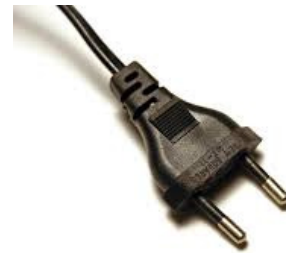
Italy, like most of the world, uses the decimal metric system. You just multiply or divide by 10, 100, or 1000. However, even a simpler system can be disorienting if you're not familiar with it.

Fruit and vegetables are sold in "*chilogrammi*" (kilograms) or simply "*chili*" (pronounced keel-ee). A *chilo* is a little more than two pounds and is divided into ten *etti*.

The basic measure is the meter (*metro*), which is a little more than a yard. A meter is divided by 100 centimeters. A thousand meters make a kilometer, which is used to indicate distances. A mile is about 1600 meters, more than one and a half kilometer.

Electrical outlets

Find below the picture of the traditional plugs in Italy. Don't forget to bring your adaptor. Voltage is 220V. The normal plugs used around continental Europe (with 2 pins) will work correctly in Italy.



Water

You can safely drink tap water.

Restaurants

Most restaurants and bars have specific opening times, and they will close in the afternoon. Lunch hour is usually 13:00-14:00 (some start eating as early as 12:30) and most will be done by 14.30. Dinner: a good rule of thumb is a reservation for 20:00/20:30 (many restaurants won't open until 19:00/19:30). If you're hungry earlier, why not have an *aperitivo* (pre-dinner drink) before dinner?

N.B. You don't need to tip in Italy. Usually a tip is already included in the bill. Many Italians only leave a tip for a very exceptional service, or leave the change (a few euros) when paying cash (i.e. leaving a 100 € banknote on a 97 € bill).

Italian sounds... and signs

Here you have some Italian helpful sentences you can use during your stay.

Thank you! = **Grazie**

Thank you very much = **Grazie mille**

You are welcome = **Prego**

Can you help me please? = **Per favore, mi potrebbe aiutare?**

It's cold = **Fa freddo**

It's warm = **Fa caldo**

I need a ticket to.....please = **Vorrei un biglietto per, grazie.**

What time the next bus to.....leaves? = **A che ora passa il prossimo autobus per.....?**

Maybe you'll see some people signing while speaking. Italians often use hand language to communicate some messages.

Here's a funny video about it made by the US consulate in Milan:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2Y-L-dKeEo>

Healthcare and Emergencies

EU and non-EU citizens are entitled to assisted health care in EU countries (namely citizens from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Serbia, Montenegro, Vojvodina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Monaco, San Marino, Tunisia, Cape Verde and Croatia) traveling in Italy with the required health certificate (European Health Insurance Card or a provisional replacement certificate) may obtain required health services directly, free of charge – excepting the payment of an eventual fee (called *ticket*) – at a public hospital or facility covered in private agreement with the National Health Service.

Non-EU citizens coming from countries not covered by the agreement are provided with health services that **must be paid for** in accordance with the relative scale of charges.

If you apply for a visa for tourism you'll probably have to buy a short-term health insurance and this will cover health costs in accordance with its provisions.

Emergency telephone numbers

General emergency: 113

Ambulance/Medical emergencies: 118

Fire brigade: 115

EXPO Milano 2015 – Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life

By the way, the Klima Hotel is very close to the "EXPO Milano 2015" site. Expo Milano 2015 is a non-commercial Universal Exhibition. Open from May 1 to October 31, 2015, the Expo will host over 130 participants. Running for 184 days, this giant exhibition site, covering one million square meters, is expected to welcome over 20 million visitors. More at <http://www.expo2015.org/en/index.html>

As you can see on the World Fair Trade Week plan, a visit to EXPO site should be possible on **May 23rd**.

Milano Fair City – World Fair Trade Exhibition



From May 28th to 31st you will have the possibility to participate to the World Fair Trade Exhibition. Some figures: more than 200 exhibitors from all over the world, from the sectors of food and craft, social economy, international cooperation and Fair Trade, of course. Over 50.000 visitors are expected.

A special location was chosen to host our fair: *La Fabbrica del Vapore* (the Steam Factory). Born at the end of the 19th century, in the middle of the industrial revolution, the Steam Factory is one of the first big industrial buildings in Italy. For more details, visit the website: <http://www.fabbricadelvapore.org/en/>

EXHIBITORS: Are you interested to participate as exhibitor to the Milano Fair City fair? You can find all the information at this link: <http://www.fairtradeweek2015.org/the-world-fair-trade-fair/?lang=en>