



SPIE Fluctuations and Noise

21 – 24 May 2007
La Pietra Conference and
Events Centre
Florence, Italy

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Symposium Location and Accommodations

La Pietra International Conference and Events Centre
Via Bolognese, 120
50139 Florence, ITALY
Tel. +39 055 5007.225
<http://www.nyu.edu/lapietra/home.html>

The La Pietra International Conference and Events Centre provides the perfect setting for symposium meetings in the historic surroundings of Florence. This location has in the past hosted international summit meetings.

The scenic La Pietra estate is spread across 57 acres on a hillside with views of the beautiful city of Florence. The estate's historic villas are fully equipped with an array of AV equipment and conference facilities to meet the needs of attendees and presenters alike. The location is also home of the New York University in Florence.

Accommodations

Due to the high tourist demand throughout the year, SPIE recommends that participants book their hotel rooms via Hotel Reservation sites such as florence-hotel-booker.com, expedia.com or their preferred travel site as soon as possible. If participants are unable to book a hotel room via the Internet, please contact the Hotel Agency Scaramuzzi Team at Tel +39055/49.49.49 - Fax +39055/47.63.93, Website : www.scaramuzziteam.com, email: hotels@scaramuzziteam.com who will be able to help.

By Plane

Florence International Airport (Amerigo Vespucci) is located 4 km from Florence. The airport has a range of services including a Tourist Information point. Some selected airlines that operate from Florence include Air France, Alitalia, Lufthansa and Continental Airlines, providing flight services from many European and international city destinations. www.aeroporto.firenze.it

Transfer by taxi to the City Centre or to the La Pietra International Conference Centre, takes approximately 20 minutes. Taxis are white in colour, the fare includes a service charge they can only be hired from dedicated ranks some of which are located at the airport, Santa Maria Novella railway station, Piazza San Marco, Piazza del Duomo, Piazza della Signoria, and Piazza della Repubblica.



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There is also a shuttle bus service that is operated by ATAF and SITA (Mon-Fri 08.00-19.00 and Sat./Sun. 08.00-13.00), transfer time takes approximately 25 minutes. The cost of a bus ticket is €4,00 and can be purchased on board the bus. www.ataf.net

La Pietra can be reached by the number 25 bus (operator ATAF) from the Florence railway station (Santa Maria Novella). The bus stop is located just beyond the main gate.

Pisa International Airport (Galileo Galilei) is located 60 km from Florence the journey by train takes about 1 hour. www.pisa-airport.it

By Train

Trenitalia are Italy's railway operator. Florence is on the main line from Milan and Bologna to Rome.

Train services range from the Eurostar Trains that run direct between the main Italian and European cities (special supplements apply to this service); through to more localised services that stop at smaller destinations on route to the larger cities. It is advisable to look to purchase rail tickets in advance of travel where possible thus avoiding queues at the larger railway stations and through a recognised travel agent.

Santa Maria Novella is the main railway station that serves the city centre of Florence, bus and taxis connection points for hotels and the La Pietra international conference centre can be found here.

Further details regarding travel by train is available through www.trenitalia.it

By Car

For directions and information about on site entry and parking to the La Pietra International Conference Center please use the following link: - <http://www.nyu.edu/lapietra/location.html>



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Transport between the city centre hotels and the La Pietra Centre

A daily coach / bus service will be in operation between the Conference Centre and the City Centre over the conference days. The transfer schedule follows below. Participants who do not stay in the hotels listed here can still use the shuttle, but need to come to the agreed stops at the times indicated.

Sunday, 20th May 2007

Bus Transfer Florence City – Villa La Pietra,

Departure: outside CIT Viaggi (Piazza della Stazione 51R)

Service runs every half hour from 14.30 – 17.30 hrs. Buses will return attendees to the CIT Viaggi at the end of the reception at 20.00 hrs.

Monday – Thursday, 21st to 24th May 2007

Bus Transfer Florence City – Villa La Pietra,

NB: on Tuesday, 22nd May, buses will leave for the city of Florence after the banquet at 23.00 hrs.

Bus No.	Staying at Hotel	Address	Shuttle bus pick-up point	Departure AM	Return leaving La Pietra PM	Distance from hotel
1	Palazzo Ognissanti ****	Via Finiguerra, 12r	In front of hotel	7.30	Mon 6.45pm Tues: 11pm Wed: 7.10pm Thurs: 12.30pm	n/a
2	Balestri ***	Piazza Mentana, 7	In front of hotel	7.30	Mon: 6.45pm Tues: 11pm Wed 7.10pm Thurs: 12.30pm	n/a
3	De La Pace ***	Via La Marmora, 28	In front of hotel De La Pace	7.30	Mon 6.45pm Tues: 11pm Wed: 7.10pm Thurs: 12.30pm	n/a
	Hotel Palazzo Ricasoli ****	Via delle Mantellate, 2				400 mt



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Bus No.	Staying at Hotel	Address	Shuttle bus pick-up point	Departure	Return leaving La Pietra	Distance from hotel
4	Le Due Fontane ***	Piazza della Santissima Annunziata, 14	In front of hotel	7.30	Mon 6.45pm Tues: 11pm Wed: 7.10pm Thurs: 12.30pm	n/a
5	Malaspina ***	Piazza Indipendenza, 24	In Piazza Indipendenza (center of piazza)	7.30	Mon 6.45pm Tues: 11pm Wed: 7.10pm Thurs: 12.30pm	100 mt
	Cellai ***	Via Ventisette Aprile, 14				150 mt
	Rapallo ***	Via Santa Caterina d'Alessandria, 7				170 mt
6	Corona ***	Via Nazionale, 14	At the bus stop in front of Hotel Corona	7.30	Mon 6.45pm Tues: 11pm Wed: 7.10pm Thurs: 12.30pm	n/a
	Sempione ***	Via Nazionale 15				60 mt
	Globus ***	Via San Antonino, 24				250 mt
	Vasari ***	Via Cennini, 11				270 mt