

HOW TO GET TO VENICE

NEARBY AIRPORTS

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

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

TRAINS

<http://www.trenitalia.com/en/index.html>

LAND AND WATER CONNECTIONS

<http://www.hellovenezia.com/>

http://www.hellovenezia.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=68&Itemid=127&lang=en

<http://www.actv.it/english/home.php>

<http://www.alilaguna.it/index.en.html>

<http://www.veniceconnected.com/>

From Marco Polo airport (Venice)

Venice Airport "Marco Polo"

T +39 041 260 9260

www.veniceairport.it/?lan=en

The most convenient way to get to Venice from Marco Polo airport is either by bus or by boat. In order to take a bus you should use the exits on the ground floor and you will find the bus stop on your left. You can buy tickets from the ACTV and ATVO stand in the arrivals lounge from 8 AM to 12 AM. You can also buy the ATVO tickets on board.

Get off at Piazzale Roma, the main bus station of the city and the last stop.

For further information visit

<http://www.veniceairport.it/page/servizi/trasporti/treno?m=01020201&language=en>

If you prefer to catch a boat, turn left as soon as you leave the airport. You will find signs that lead you to the boat-stop where you can catch either the Alilaguna red line or the Alilaguna blue line (see <http://www.alilaguna.it/index.en.html>).

If you want to get off at *Zattere* you should catch the red one, if you want to get off at *Fondamenta Nuove* you have to catch the blue one.

For further information visit www.venicelink.com/index.php?lang=english

From Antonio Canova airport (Treviso)

Treviso Airport due to essential runway works, will be closed from the 1st June to 30th September 2011 (inclusive).

By train

If you come to Venice by train, you will arrive at the Santa Lucia Railway Station, a large building located at the beginning of the Grand Canal. It is easy to reach the city centre on foot walking down the Strada Nuova or by taking the water bus (*vaporetto*) from one of the jetties that are just outside the station.



By car

The "Ponte della Libertà" is the bridge which connects Venice to the mainland and ends at "Piazzale Roma", the only part of the city where cars can enter. There are several indoor and outdoor car parks in Piazzale Roma that vary in the parking fees asked: up to 12 hours, the minimum price is 26 Euros.



You can also park at the "Tronchetto" island (less expensive), which you reach by turning right immediately at the end of the "Ponte della

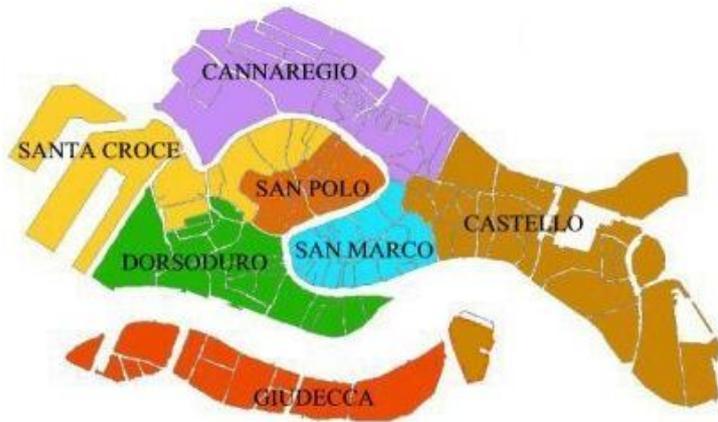
Libertà", just before you get to "Piazzale Roma".

You can get to the city centre easily from both these points by public water buses, water taxi or on foot; you can also reach Piazzale Roma from Tronchetto by the new People Mover.



VENETIAN DISTRICTS

The city of Venice is divided into six districts called sestrieri. Each sestriere has different progressive street numbers except for the biggest areas, which include separate islands. The six sestrieri of Venice are: San Marco, taking his name from San Marco church; Castello, one of the first venetian areas to be inhabited, takes its name from an ancient castle now disappeared; Cannaregio, from the morass where a grove of reeds used to grow; San Polo, the city centre and Santa Croce, the smallest district; Dorsoduro, from the thick sandy hills over which the district has raised and Giudecca, from the name of this separate island facing Zattere.



GETTING AROUND

ACTV is the name of the public transport system in Venice. It combines both land transportation with buses, and canal travel with water buses (vaporetti).

http://www.hellovenezia.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=50&Itemid=77&lang=en

If you want to travel in Italy while you are in Venice you can use the public transports. A number of trains to the main Italian cities leave from the Santa Lucia railway station everyday.

For further information visit www.ferroviedellostato.it/homepage_en.html

Both ACTV and ATVO offer bus services from Piazzale Roma to the mainland and the other way around.

For further information visit www.actv.it/en and www.atvo.it/index.php?lang=en and http://www.ehow.com/how_7733_around-venice-cheap.html

Water bus

The public boats called vaporetti and motoscafi run almost constantly during the day and evening, and you'll seldom have to wait more than a few minutes for one to come along.

The standard water bus fare is a painfully steep €6,50.

See further information about fares and reductions for tourists at

http://www.hellovenezia.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=69&Itemid=219&lang=en

Tip: Smaller boat stops may not have ticket booths. In such cases, board the vaporetto and ask the conductor for a ticket (biglietto) immediately. The alternative--keeping your mouth shut and hoping you aren't noticed--could result in a hefty fine and public humiliation.

Water taxi

The sleek, wood-trimmed water taxis of Venice are priced for the limousine crowd, with extra fees for radio-dispatched service, trips after 10 p.m., and Sunday travel. Warning: Aquatic cabs don't have meters, so know what you're paying before the skipper casts off.

Gondola

The gondolas of Venice are beautiful but expensive. Gondoliers often demand more money for less than the officially allotted time, so make your agreement with the Gondolier before you're taken for a ride.

Traghetto

With only a handful of bridges crossing the Grand Canal's four-kilometre length, Venetians rely on gondola ferries called *traghetti* at seven points between the railroad station and the Santa Maria della Salute church. Follow the yellow gondola signs down to the water, where you'll pay only a small fee to reach the other side.

GET A MAP!

Getting around Venice is an adventure in itself.

There's something wonderful about stumbling onto unexpected spots, so wrong turns and flawed directions may be a blessing in disguise.

Therefore, prepare yourselves ... a decent pair of comfortable shoes and off you go into the labyrinth of *calli, campi, rughe, salizade and fondamenta*, either losing your bearings or finding magnificent hidden corners, magnificent views and famous palaces, impressive basilicas or tiny churches. All you have to do here is remember that everything goes slower, not a lot, but enough to make life less hectic.

GETTING TO KNOW VENICE

VENICE

Venice is a city five kilometres long and two kilometres wide - roughly the size of New York's Central Park - and does not have any roads. The city is made of some 118 islets and 170 canals joined together by over 400 bridges.

It is connected to the mainland by the Ponte della Libertà, a one kilometre-long bridge spanning across the water, which ends at Piazzale Roma, a large circular square with bus and coach stations and car parks.

Everyone knows Venice!



Gondolas bobbing on the Grand Canal, and a picturesquely decaying city sinking slowly into the waters of the Lagoon.

And yet Venice is a city of many surprises and delights for the visitor.

The first one is that you will spend most of your time walking - the pavements play as major a role in the city as do the canals.

The one thing you won't see is cars, drivers have to leave their vehicles at the city gate, and that makes exploring this romantic, art-filled and utterly unique city very enjoyable.

And though tourists crowd the city, most of them head straight for the Basilica di San Marco and the Doge's Palace; a little trip off the beaten track yields huge rewards, as you nip down narrow alleys and find beautiful little churches, street markets and yet another canal before you.

Venice has been the setting or chosen location of numerous films, novels, poems and other cultural references.

www.english.comune.venezia.it is the official web-site of the city of Venice with information on the City Council, culture, events, tourism.

www.venezianews.it/english and www.agendavenezia.org/en are websites on exhibitions, events and traditional feasts in Venice.

www.meetingvenice.it/en, www.venice-tourism.com/en/visit-venice.html, www.veniceconnected.com, are virtual guides to the city of Venice

VENETIAN NIGHTLIFE

At night there are mainly two areas where university students spend their time. One is Campo Santa Margherita with its bars and cafés where you can sit outside and chat with friends. The other is close to the Rialto Bridge, Campo Bella Vienna and Erbaria, where many bars and little restaurants have recently opened.

For detailed information on the forthcoming events visit www.agendavenezia.org/en

SPRITZ and SPUNCETTI

The spritz is an alcoholic beverage, commonly served as an aperitif - among the most renown in Italy, particularly in the Northern regions. The original Venetian recipe consisted in white wine mixed with water, and its diffusion dates back to the Asburgic Empire's domination of the Veneto region. It is widely accepted that the name spritz derives from the German verb spritzen (to sprinkle): it seems that the Austrian soldiers, trying to lower the alcoholic content of the Venetian wines, started mixing them with water - another theory relates the name of the beverage with the one of a typically Austrian wine, coming from the Wachau district. Nowadays, the most known version is one of a bitter,



summery predinner aperitif made of either Aperol or Campari (providing the red colour which has actually become a guarantee of sorts for the drink itself) and mixed with white sparkling wine (usually prosecco) and soda or sparkling water. It is usually served in a lowball glass with ice, a slice of orange, and sometimes an olive. Regional recipes are widely available as well: in Trento the sparkling wine is normally replaced by spumante, while in Bolzano the drink is made only by sparkling water and white wine (and it's normally known as Veniceno, to confirm its ancient origin). Nowadays, the so-called "spritz hour" has come to be quite a popular rite, involving both youngsters and aged. In Venice the beverage is quite commonly served along with the famous cicchetti, an impressively wide range of appetizers – seafood, sandwiches, mixed cheeses and cold cuts, grilled vegetables. Curiously enough, some famous brands have lately decided to market certain products using the "spritz" name – a circumstance that has provided further fame and popularity to the original recipe.

TOP 5 THINGS TO DO IN VENICE



1. Get Lost in Venice



2. See St. Mark's Square when it's empty



3. Take the #1 Vaporetto for a Grand Canal Tour



4. Wander the Streets of Burano Island



5. "Window" Shop at the Rialto Market

MUSEUMS

Venice is a town very rich in museums and art.
Here you can find the links to the main ones:

- François Pinault Foundation

www.palazzograssi.it/en

- ✓ Palazzo Grassi
- ✓ Punta della Dogana

- Giorgio Franchetti Gallery at Ca' d'Oro

www.cadoro.org/sito/ing_museo.html

- Grand School of San Rocco

www.scuolagrandesanrocco.it/inglese/index_ita.htm

- Monumental rooms of the Marciana Library

www.marciana.venezia.sbn.it

- Musei Civici

www.museiciviveneziani.it/?lin=EN

- ✓ Ca' Pesaro - International Gallery of Modern Art
- ✓ Ca' Rezzonico - Museum of 18th century art
- ✓ Carlo Goldoni's house
- ✓ Museo Correr
- ✓ Lace Museum
- ✓ Glass Museum
- ✓ Museum of Natural History
- ✓ Museo Fortuny
- ✓ Palazzo Ducale (Doge's Palace)
- ✓ Palazzo Mocenigo
- ✓ Clock Tower

- Peggy Guggenheim Collection

www.guggenheim-venice.it/inglese/default.html

- The Accademia Galleries

www.gallerieaccademia.org/sito/ing_museo.html

- The Querini Stampalia Museum

www.querinistampalia.it/museo

SUPERMARKETS

In Venice there is a great variety of little shops selling almost every thing you may need, but the biggest supermarkets are in Piazzale Roma, Zattere and Strada Nuova. Supermarkets usually are open every day from 8 AM to 8 PM. There are also market places in the Rialto Bridge area, where you can buy good quality fresh vegetables, fruit or fish. There are also several shopping malls in Mestre that are easily reachable by bus from Piazzale Roma.

POST OFFICES

There are several post offices in Venice.

The main ones are:

Poste – Piazzale Roma

Santa Chiara, 511 – Venice

T +39 041 244 6811

Opening hours

From Monday to Friday 8.30 AM > 6.30 PM

Saturday 8.30 AM > 1 PM

Poste – Rialto

Salizada del Fontego dei Tedeschi, 5554 – Venice

T +39 041 240 4149

Opening hours

From Monday to Friday 8.30 AM > 6.30 PM

Saturday 8.30 AM > 1 PM

For further information visit www.poste.it/en

CLIMATE

Temperatures in Venice are much more moderate than either Florence or Rome's climate in summer but even so, summers tend to be hot and sunny with daytime temperatures ranging from 25°C (80°F) in June to as high as 31°C (90°F) in August – mid September: in fact in 2009 it reached over 40°C (104°F).

The evening temperatures fall to about 16°C (60°F) in June, rising to around 18°C (65°F) which is very comfortable for sitting out to eat.

Rainfall tends to remain fairly similar throughout the year in Venice, with the exception of 'Acqua Alta' in spring and autumn, but in summer it generally falls in short, sharp thunderstorms, usually in the afternoon.

Although you need to go prepared for rain (take an umbrella!) you'll also find the storms help to clear the humidity from the air, making your night's sleep much more pleasant.

COST OF LIVING

Eating out 10 - 30 € (a meal)

Breakfast at a café 1,50 - 3 €

Transports 6,50 € (water bus ticket)

B&W photocopy 0,05 - 0,10 €

Colour photocopy 0,50 - 1,00 €

Cinema ticket 5,50 - 7 €

Museum ticket 4 - 10 €

Internet point 5 - 10 € (1 hour)

5 REASONS WHY VENICE IS FOR NERDS! (from <http://techland.time.com/>)

1) Extremely Efficient Caffeine Delivery Systems.

"The Italians, they've really nailed something here. You roll into some hole in the wall, you ask for coffee. They don't bring you coffee, they bring you espresso, for maximum caffeine density. You don't even have to sit down if you don't want to, you just do it like a shot. A chair would just harsh the buzz. Then you're gone, back out into the city, vibrating with mild stimulants. By the end of the week I was rolling doppio, twice a day"

2) Extremely Efficient Alcohol Delivery Systems.

"You can drink wine pretty much all the time. Factor in the massive caffeine intake and your whole consciousness is constantly being re-engineered, chemically, over the course of any given day. It's way cyber"

3) They Don't Play Sports.

"Well, they probably do, but it's not like there's a stadium in Venice, or even much in the way of playing fields. You're in a medieval city hacked out of nothing in the middle of a lagoon -- where are you gonna put your jocks? Plus I'm sure the ball would always be falling into canals and such."

4) It's All About Culture Contact.

"At first I wondered why I felt like I was walking through a Star Trek episode all the time -- more so even than usual -- until I realized that Venice is basically all about alien cultures interacting. It was a major point of call for western traders heading east and vice versa, all of whom would leave bits of language and art and technology and such behind them on their way through, along with their money, of course. It's your basic wretched hive of villainy. I wouldn't be surprised if there are Jawas running some of those old junk shops. Who would've noticed? (Yeah, I'm mixing references here. Leave me alone, I have a caffeine headache.)"

5) It's an Artifact.

"There's no way to explain the weirdness of Venice till you go there, but if you haven't been, I can't emphasize this enough: the whole thing is a construct. They built a city out of practically nothing in the middle of a lagoon, by sinking millions of wooden pilings into mud. It's this massive half-ruined piece of medieval gadgetry -- Venice is as much a technological artifact as the Death Star, or the Ringworld (or Halo for that matter), or a Dyson Sphere, or one of Iain Banks's orbitals..."