



GENERAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

HOW TO REACH PRATO

BY AIR

The closest airports to Prato are the "Galileo Galilei" of Pisa, which is the Tuscan official airport, and the "Amerigo Vespucci" of Florence, but Prato can also be reached from the "Guglielmo Marconi" airport of Bologna.

Florence Airport (www.aeroporto.Firenze.it) is at Peretola, very close to Florence and Prato province.

The airport is not yet directly connected to the Italian railway, but a good bus service, provided by "autolinee Lazzi" and CAP, connects the airport to Prato Central Station.

Taxis are available at the airport. Average cost to Prato: 35 Euros.

Car rental: Prato is very easy to reach by car as the airport is on the motorway, at exit A11 "Firenze Nord". It is only 5 km to the "Prato Est" exit.

Pisa Airport (<http://www.pisa-airport.com/>) is located close to the railway station "Pisa Aeroporto", with train service to "Santa Maria Novella" station in Florence.

Car rental: the airport is very close to the "Pisa Nord" exit on the A 11 motorway. Take the motorway, direction "Firenze", 65 km to the "Prato Ovest" exit.

From **Bologna Airport** (<http://www.bologna-airport.it/>)

By car take the A1 motorway, direction "Firenze Nord" then the A11, direction "Prato Est" - "Pisa Nord".

By train, take a city bus, "Bologna BLQ" directly to Bologna Central Station, then the train on the Bologna-Florence line.

BY CAR

Take the A1 Milano-Napoli motorway ("*Autostrada del sole*") then the A11 motorway, Firenze - Pisa Nord.

Prato is also connected to Florence, Pistoia and Bologna by national and provincial highways. The main route between Prato and Bologna is the SS 325 that crosses the Val di Bisenzio area (Vaiano, Cantagallo and Vernio).

Prato GPS co-ordinates:

43°53'6"72 N 11°5'30"84 E

More information is available on: www.autostrade.it

BY TRAIN

Prato has good rail connections to the biggest Italian cities as Rome, Milan, Florence, Bologna, Venice, Naples.

Two railway lines reach Prato, the Bologna-Florence and the Florence-Pistoia/Lucca.

The Bologna-Florence line stops at Prato Centrale, Vaiano and Vernio.

The Florence-Pistoia/Lucca line stops at 3 stations in Prato city: Prato Centrale, Prato Porta al Serraglio e Prato Borgonuovo.

Train timetables can be checked on www.trenitalia.it

FS Prato Station: Station Square, tel. +39 0574 33008

LOCAL TRANSPORT

BUS

Bus Terminal : Station Square

59100 Prato (PO)

Call center +39 0574 6081 Tel. +39 0574 608235

Fax +39 0574 42952

Ticket desk open every day from 6.00 until 20.00.

CAR RENTAL

Car rental AVIS (Arno Autonoleggio) PRATO

c/o Art Hotel Museo - Viale della Repubblica 289

Tel. +39 0574 596619

RADIO TAXI AND TAXI POINT

In Prato there are two taxi ranks, one in the Dom Square, the other one close to Central Station. Tel +39 0574 5656

24h service every day for all destinations.

GENERAL INFORMATION

CLIMATE

The climate is pleasant, warm in summer, but often windy: temperatures 22° - 35°C.

CURRENCY

The Euro

BANKING FACILITIES

Banks are generally open from 9.00 am until 03.00 pm Monday to Friday. Withdrawal machines are permanently open. A machine is located in front of the main congress hall, the "Politeama Theatre".

CREDIT CARD

Generally the major credit cards such as Visa, Mastercard, American Express are accepted in hotels, shops and restaurants.

INSURANCE

The congress organising committee accepts no liability for personal injuries or for loss or damage of property belonging to participants.

MEDICAL SERVICE

A medical service and first-aid service will be available during the congress days.

ITALY and TUSCANY

For more information about Italy, Tuscany and Prato visit the following websites:

- www.italia.gov.it - (official website of Italian government)
- www.provincia.prato.it - (official website of Prato Province)
- www.regione.toscana.it - (official website of the Tuscany Region)
- www.comune.prato.it - (official website of the Municipality of Prato)

CONGRESS WEBSITE

The regularly updated website of the congress:

www.ifotescongress2007.org