

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **When can I make my travel arrangements?**

We strongly recommend that you wait until the first week of June to book your flight and purchase Travel Insurance (TI). Prior to making your reservations, please email Antimo ([Antimo@voomago.com](mailto:Antimo@voomago.com)) or Lori ([lori@voomago.com](mailto:lori@voomago.com)), to make sure your workshop choice will be offered. Once you receive that confirmation, you can book your flight and purchase your TI.

### **Can I choose to stay elsewhere?**

Of course, you can. However, the rates at the hotel are very competitive and the services include an abundant breakfast buffet. If you decide to stay elsewhere, consider that you'll be paying extra for breakfast and transportation to the workshops.

### **Can I share a room?**

Yes. Please join the Cultural Global Labs group on Facebook and post that you are looking for a roommate. Once you make your reservation with the hotel, specify that there will be two of you. How you split the payment for the room is up to you.

### **What is the closest airport to Lecce?**

The closest airport is BRINDISI (BDS). Bari is another option, but it is approximately 2 hours away by car.

### **How can I get from the airport to the hotel?**

The cheapest way is to take the city bus from the airport to the Brindisi train station. You can get on the bus right outside of airport arrivals. At the Brindisi train station, buy a train ticket to Lecce. When you arrive at the Lecce train station, take a taxi from there to the hotel. (*The entire trip could take you up to 2.5 hours.*) Although it will cost a little more, the simplest, fastest, and most convenient way is to schedule a shuttle pick up. (*This will take you 40-50 minutes to get to the hotel.*) **To schedule a shuttle pick up**, send an email to [Antimo@voomago.com](mailto:Antimo@voomago.com) that includes your flight information and arrival time, along with your name, phone number, and email address.

### **Can I stay longer to explore?**

Of course. The hotel will extend the guest rates a few days prior to and a few days after the workshops. If you want to travel to a different part of the region with a small group, you may want to consider joining Antimo for three additional days of travel immediately following the workshops. Transportation, accommodations, tours, and meals are included in the cost. Email [Antimo@voomago.com](mailto:Antimo@voomago.com) to find out more.

### **Will I get a certificate for attending the program?**

Yes, you will receive a certificate of attendance.

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### **Can the workshops count toward a certification program?**

Yes, attending the 5 days (3-days in classroom + 2 experiential days) can be applied to the Intercultural Communication Institute Certificate Program. Please refer to the link to find out more about the different levels of certification, and the costs associated with the program. <https://intercultural.org/program/intercultural-certificate-program/>

### **What is the weather like in July in Southern Italy?**

During most of July and August the weather in Puglia is hot but dry. The temperature tends to be around 95 degrees Fahrenheit, and drops only into the 70s at night.

### **What is the appropriate attire during the conference?**

Considering that Italy's dress code tends to be more formal than not, we recommend business casual for the first three days of workshops taking place at the hotel, and casual for the last two days when we will be traveling about. Do bring a swimming suit as we will be by the sea on a couple of occasions.

### **Anything I should know about Puglia and the customs of the region?**

You may find that not all public places or homes have air conditioning. Historically Puglia has been a poor and agricultural region, so they are very careful about using natural resources and very keen on conservation. Beverages are NOT served with ice, and even if you find a place that serves ice, you will not receive much of it. During the summer most restaurants will not open until 8 or 9 pm.

### **Is it safe to walk alone at night in Lecce?**

Lecce is a very safe place, with many tourists during the summer. However, there are occasional pickpockets mingling among the crowds, so you should always be aware of your surrounding and possessions. It's best not to have an open purse or backpack or to carry a wallet in your back pocket. During the summer, it's not uncommon to have people, including families with children, walking around until 1 or 2 am.