



Internationalization of
Higher Education:
moving beyond mobility
28-30 October – Siena, Italy



Practical Information

Siena and its surroundings

Tuscany, Italy

From the Etruscans to the Romans to the Renaissance, Tuscany is possibly the greatest repository of art in the world, from extraordinary paintings and sculpture to frescoes and architectural masterpieces. Seven Tuscan localities have been designated World Heritage Sites: the historic centre of Florence (1982); the historical centre of Siena (1995); the square of the Cathedral of Pisa (1987); the historical centre of San Gimignano (1990); the historical centre of Pienza (1996); the Val d'Orcia (2004), and Medici Villas and Gardens (2013). Tuscany has over 120 protected nature reserves making it one of the most beautiful place in the word.

Tuscany is famous all around the world for its colors, tastes and scents: it is a region of excellence in the area of food and wine. Its lands produce highly appreciated wines, such as the Chianti Classico and the Brunello di Montalcino, that are known worldwide. Just as important are the region's productions of Tuscan olive oil and local cheeses (Pecorino di Pienza) and cold cuts (such as salumi di cinta senese). Tuscan cuisine distinguishes itself for its tasty dishes made with genuine, natural ingredients which make even the simplest dishes true delicacies to savor and enjoy (bistecca Fiorentina, cinghiale, pappa al pomodoro, ribollita among many others).

Siena in a few words

Siena is located in the hearth of **Tuscany** and is one of the best preserved medieval towns in Italy.

The historic centre of Siena, with its ancient buildings and churches, has been declared by **UNESCO a Word Heritage Site**. Once in Siena you should not miss to visit the *Torre del Mangia*, the *Palazzo Pubblico*, the *Piazza del Campo* where the annual *Palio horse race* takes place twice a year and the majestic Cathedral.

You should absolutely not miss to visit museums that houses historical frescos and art treasures. Siena is famous also for its landscape and surroundings. It is an excellent base for excursions in Tuscany and its charming towns such as *Pienza*, *San Gimignano* and *Montalcino*.

How to move in Siena?

Siena is a small city, not designed for cars. It was one of the first European cities to limit motor traffic in its historic centre, which is now only pedestrian. However, since everything is close, it is possible to walk from and to any location.

A fleet of small buses provides links between the main areas (for more information and bus schedules please visit: www.tiemmespa.it - in Italian)

It is a bit problematic to park for free, but many parking areas are available at a walking distance from the historical center (please visit: www.sienaparcheggi.com - in Italian).

Radio Taxi: + 39 0577 49222



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Travelling to Siena: about transportation and other info

Even if you may have to transit via Paris, France or Rome, the capital of the country, many cities are served by a national or international airport.

The city of Siena is not one of them, but it remains easy to reach it from the following airports:

From Florence



"Amerigo Vespucci" Florence Airport is the closest to Siena (about 70 km - www.aeroporto.firenze.it).

A shuttle to the centre leaves just outside the airport. Departures are scheduled every 30 min, and it takes about 20 min to arrive at Santa Maria Novella (SMN) Railway Station. Both buses and trains to Siena leave from there.

www.aeroporto.firenze.it/en/passengers/from-to-the-airport/bus



The bus station in Florence is very close to SMN Railway Station.

There is a non-stop line to Siena called "Rapida" taking about 1h15 to reach Siena. The "Ordinary" line takes 1h45. Usually, buses leave every hour, and they arrive in the center of Siena (Piazza Gramsci): www.busfox.com/timetable.



Trains to Siena leave from SMN Railway Station (www.trenitalia.com)

The direct train takes 1h30 to reach Siena. With a change in Empoli, it takes 1h40.

The Railway Station in Siena is about 2 km far from the historical center. Urban buses leave every 10 min to the center.

From Pisa



"Galileo Galilei" Airport in Pisa is about 150 km far from Siena (www.pisa-airport.com)

The airport is located just 1 km from Pisa. You can reach the Central Railway Station in 8 min by the Pisa Mover Bus. Departures outside the airport every 10 min.



The bus from Pisa Airport to Siena leaves outside the airport

Direct bus: only one bus per day (www.sienamobilita.it/sienapisa.html)

Bus change in Florence: The trip takes about 3 hours (the schedule is available [here](#)). Buses arrive in the center of Siena (Piazza Gramsci).

From the Airport catch the Pisa Mover Bus to Pisa Central Railway Station (10 min)



Trains to Siena (with a change in Empoli) leave approximately two times per hour.

The trip takes about 2 hours (more info: www.trenitalia.com).

The Railway Station in Siena is about 2 km far from the historical center. Urban buses leave every 10 min to the center.



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From Rome



"Leonardo da Vinci" Airport in Rome is about 250 km far from Siena (www.adr.it/fiumicino)

To reach Siena from Rome you can also either take the bus or the train. However, the trip by bus is easier and shorter.

Direct bus from the airport: the airport departures are planned in the morning. The trip takes 3 hours and 15 min (the schedule is available [here](#)).



Direct bus from Roma Tiburtina Bus Station: from the airport to Roma Tiburtina catch **FL1 rail line regional trains**. Departures every 15 min on weekdays and every 30 on public holidays (for more info, please click [here](#) and visit www.sena.it/Home/78-1-en.html)

The bus ride to Siena takes 2h45 and you will arrive in the center of Siena (Piazza Gramsci)

Trains leave from **Roma Termini Railway Station**

From the airport to Roma Termini Railway Station catch:



- *Option a:* the **Leonardo Express**, non-stop service devoted exclusively to airport passengers, to/from Roma Termini with departures every 30 min and a journey time of 31 min
- *Option b:* the **FL1 rail line regional trains** to/from other stations in Rome, including Rome Tiburtina, with departures every 15 min on weekdays and every 30 min on public holidays (www.adr.it/web/aeroporti-di-roma-en-/pax-fco-train)

There is no direct train from Rome to Siena, a change in Chiusi has to be made. The trip takes 3 to 4 hours depending on the waiting time in Chiusi (www.trenitalia.com).

Passports and Visas

Every person entering Italy should be in possession of a *valid passport*. **Some countries require a visa**. Please have a look at: www.esteri.it/visti/index_eng.asp. The IAU urges you to contact the closest Italian Embassy and/or Consulate: authorities will provide you with the appropriate information as well as more details about the duration needed in order to obtain your visa if needed. If so, we urge you to start the visa request process early.

Currency/Exchange rates

In Italy the official currency is the **Euro (€)**. The Euro is divided into 100 cents (centimes, centesimi), with two decimals after the comma. So, a price will often be displayed as € 5,00 (five euros); or € 2,12 (two euros and 12 cents).

The best places to change money are usually *Western Union* and *MoneyGram* agencies.

Western Union

- **Phone Center Rahman**
Via Della Sapienza 22 - 53100 Siena
- **Cheap Phonecenter Sas**
Via Cecco Angiolieri 16 - 53100 Siena



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- **The Money Changers**
Piazza Tolomei 4 - 53100 Siena
- **Xenos Money Transfer**
Piazza Del Sale 7 - 53100 Siena

MoneyGram

- **Cheap Phone Center Snc**
16 Via C. Angiolieri - 53100 Siena
- **Akter Point**
93 Via Montanini - 53100 Siena

Time difference

CET (Central European Time) is in use in Italy.

Average weather in Siena

Siena weather is characterised by an excellent temperate climate, with weather that is mild through most of the year and generally avoids the worst extremes of hot or cold that can be found elsewhere in Italy. Siena has four seasons: spring (March to May), summer (June to September), autumn (October to November) and winter (December to February).

In October temperatures still feel pleasantly warm, and there are plenty of blue skies to enjoy, average temperatures are around 21°C / 70°F maximum and 10°C/50°F minimum.

Electricity



The electric current in Italy is 220 V. Remember to provide specific adapters.



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More about the IAU International Conference

Conference Venue

Università di Siena
Presidio Mattioli
Via P.A. Mattioli 10 - 53100 Siena

The Conference Venue is located in the south-western part of Siena old city, close to *Porta Tufi*. This area used to be occupied by a paediatric hospital. Nowadays, the *Mattioli Complex*, designed by the Florentine Studio Natalini Architetti, is part of an age-old environment striking a balance between conservation and innovation.

It was inaugurated in 2001 and hosts the Departments of Law and the Department of Political and International Sciences

To visit the Conference venue please click [here](#).

Language of the Conference

The Conference languages are English and French.

Official letters of Invitation

Should you require an official letter of invitation to obtain your visa to enter Schengen Area, please contact e.boisfer@iau-aiu.net. Please note, however, that the Co-organisers do not undertake any obligation to pay any expenses incurred by supplying these letters. Furthermore, for some countries, a confirmation of registration with payment may be required by the authorities.

Registration desk

Come and meet with IAU and UoS staff to register on site and collect your badge as well as your conference documents.

Please do not forget to bring your proof of payment (receipt), otherwise you may be invited to pay your registration fees on site.

Participants who encounter difficulties to settle their fees via bank transfer are expected to come with the exact amount of money to be paid (in Euros €). Thank you for your understanding

Badges

You will receive your name badge at the registration desk. The name badge must be worn during all the time of conference.



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Insurance and Liability

The Co-organizers do not accept liability for personal injury or loss or damage of private property of participants and accompanying persons either during or while travelling to the Conference. Participants are strongly recommended to seek insurance coverage for health and accident, lost luggage and trip cancellation.