



THE PRESIDENCY OF THE EU STRATEGY
FOR THE ADRIATIC AND IONIAN REGION



The event is co-financed by:



Contacts of the 3rd EUSAIR Annual Forum

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3RD FORUM

OF THE EU STRATEGY
FOR THE ADRIATIC
AND IONIAN REGION



CATANIA
24-25 MAY 2018

*OUR REGION
OUR FUTURE*

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CONCEPT NOTE OF THE FORUM

The 3rd EUSAIR Forum, organised by the Italian Republic in close cooperation with the European Commission and with the support of the EUSAIR Facility Point, will be held in Catania (Italy) on 24-25 May 2018. The Event will present the progress and achievements of the EUSAIR macro-regional Strategy and promote the strengthening of the network and partnerships within the Adriatic and Ionian Region.

Special focus will be given to the improvement of Connectivity as a booster to the successful development of the Area. The 3rd Forum will promote a discussion on EUSAIR prospects and encourage the dialogue between the financial partners, including EU Programmes Authorities, and strategy actors, aiming to bridge the gap between the Strategy's objectives and funding opportunities.

Ministers from the eight EUSAIR Countries, EU Commissioners, representatives from other EU institutions, Regional and local governors and key implementers of the Strategy will be among the speakers joining the Forum.

The 3rd EUSAIR Forum will provide a distinctive context where stakeholders, beneficiaries, academics, entrepreneurs and policy-makers will identify the opportunities for increased cooperation within the Strategy's four Pillars – Blue Growth, Connecting the Region (transport and energy networks), Environmental Quality, and Sustainable Tourism – while also considering EUSAIR cross-cutting



issues. Such an occasion will provide an opportunity to reinforce collaboration and partnerships within the Adriatic and Ionian Region. In this framework, those attending the Forum will benefit from the dissemination of knowledge and information on EUSAIR undergoing activities.

As in previous years, the Forum will be preceded by the Adriatic and Ionian Council/ EUSAIR Ministerial Meeting on 24 May, bringing together the EUSAIR Countries' Ministers of Foreign Affairs, those responsible for EU Funds, and the European Commissioners. The Ministerial Meeting will allow the representatives from the participating countries to discuss and share views on future developments of the Strategy, as well as on the strengthening of regional cooperation in the Adriatic and Ionian Region. The Ministerial Meeting is expected to adopt the Catania Declaration, indicating the EUSAIR and Adriatic-Ionian Initiative way forward.

A EUSAIR Business to Business (B2B) session is also foreseen, bringing together SMEs, Chambers of Commerce, Research Institutes, and other organisations of the Adriatic and Ionian Region. The B2B event is meant to provide an occasion to explore and assess new business opportunities, while fostering prospects for longer term cooperation among the various stakeholders and key players in the Region.

Eventually, several thematic meetings will also be held back-to-back with the Forum, providing a valuable opportunity to debate on specifically relevant issues to the Strategy.



3RD FORUM OF THE EU STRATEGY FOR THE ADRIATIC CATANIA 24-25 MAY 2018 AND IONIAN REGION



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OVERVIEW OF THE 3RD ANNUAL FORUM

MONDAY, 21 MAY 2018

Side event

15.00-17.30

Palazzo
Platamone

**TERRITORIAL COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN:
THE SICILIAN REGION**

[Special registration required, on the spot registration available]

Organised by the Sicilian Region

TUESDAY, 22 MAY 2018

Side event

09.30-17.30

Palazzo
Platamone

**DEVELOPMENTAL TRAJECTORIES FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN:
SCENARIOS AND DEVELOPMENTS FOR BASIN COOPERATION**

[Special registration required, on the spot registration available]

Organised by the Agency for Territorial Cohesion, Italy

WEDNESDAY, 23 MAY 2018

Side event

09.30-17.30

Palazzo
Platamone

**INTERREG V-B ADRIATIC-IONIAN PROGRAMME – ADRION
FIRST ANNUAL FORUM “A VIEW AHEAD TOGETHER”**

[Special registration required, on the spot registration available]

Organised by Interreg V-B Adriatic-Ionian programme – ADRION



THURSDAY, 24 MAY 2018

Side event

09.00-13.45 <i>Palazzo Platamone</i>	BUSINESS TO BUSINESS (B2B) The B2B session aims to facilitate meetings and exchange between SMEs, universities, chambers of commerce, clusters and other stakeholders in the Adriatic and Ionian Region with the objective to find partners for new projects and/or explore new business opportunities. The session is organised by Enterprise Europe Network (EEN). Participants to the B2B will also have to register separately in order to attend the Forum. [Special registration required: : https://b2b-eusair-forum-2018.b2match.io] Organised by Enterprise Europe Network and regional partners.
09.00-12.45 <i>Monastero (Santo Mazzarino)</i>	Research and Innovation
09.00-12.45 <i>Monastero (Coro di Notte)</i>	Territorial Potentials Connected to Migration Flows
09.00-12.45 <i>Monastero (A1)</i>	Agenda 2030 and National Strategies for Sustainable Development (TBC)
09.00-12.45 <i>Monastero (A2)</i>	Management Strategy of Protected Areas in the EUSAIR
10.30-13.45	EUSAIR MINISTERIAL MEETING / ADRIATIC-IONIAN COUNCIL [For official delegations only]



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3rd EUSAIR FORUM <i>Monastero dei Benedettini di San Niccolò l'Arena</i>		
09.00-17.00	Registration	
12.45-14.00 <i>Chiostro di Ponente</i>	Networking lunch	
14.00-16.30 <i>Auditorium</i>	Welcome and Opening Session Welcome speeches Keynote addresses Panel discussion - EUSAIR Ministers	
16.30-17.00	Coffee Break	
	Parallel sessions I: Developing Connectivity	
	A new vision of Transport for Economic Development and Cohesion <i>Auditorium</i>	Energy Networks for Economic Development and Market Integration <i>Santo Mazzarino</i>
19.30-21.30 <i>Venue TBA</i>	Light dinner	
22.00 <i>Venue TBA</i>	Cultural events	



FRIDAY, 25 MAY 2018

3rd EUSAIR FORUM

09.00-10:30	Parallel sessions II: Financing Opportunities			
	Blue Growth <i>Coro di notte</i>	Connecting the Region <i>Auditorium</i>	Environmental Quality <i>Refettorio Piccolo</i>	Sustainable Tourism <i>Santo Mazzarino</i>
10.30-11:00	Coffee Break			
11.00-13.15 <i>Auditorium</i>	Plenary session: EUSAIR Prospects: United we Stand, Together we Progress Panel discussion: Reporters from parallel sessions and side events <i>(60 min)</i> Panel discussion: What future macro-regional strategy? <i>(45 min)</i> Open discussion and summing up <i>(30 min)</i>			
13.15-13.45 <i>Auditorium</i>	Closing session Concluding remarks Handover of EUSAIR Chairmanship to Montenegro			
14.00-15:30	Farewell Lunch			



3RD FORUM OF THE EU STRATEGY FOR THE ADRIATIC CATANIA 24-25 MAY 2018 AND IONIAN REGION



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PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Registration

All participants are kindly requested to fill in the online registration form on the EUSAIR website:

www.adriatic-ionian.eu

Online registration system will be open from 19 April to 18 May 2018. Upon registration, each participant will receive an e-mail from the EUSAIR Facility Point, confirming the participation in the 3rd EUSAIR Forum.

Should you need any technical assistance in relation to the registration, please contact:

eusair.point.svrk@gov.si



City of Catania panoramic view

Destination

Renowned port and Sicily's second largest city after Palermo, Catania is an important economic hub for Italy, with its 350,000 inhabitants, and a greater metropolitan area population of 767,000. The city overlooks the Ionian Sea, the eastern coast of Sicily, and is dominated by the Etna Mount, the ever-present volcano that has largely shaped both the history and current existence of Catania.

Early settled by the Sicels, an ancient Italic population, the city was founded as a Greek colony around the 8th century B.C., and then, before becoming part of Italy, was at the heart of Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Ostrogoth, Arab, French, and Spanish civilisations.



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Despite several destructions due to natural calamities such as eruptions and earthquakes or caused by wars and invasions, the city maintains a huge amount of its heritage and richness in culture and arts.

Catania's present beauty results from its sumptuous reconstruction in the 18th century, the main protagonist being the architect Giovanni Battista Vaccarini, who designed the most prestigious buildings.

The city offers a plethora of interesting attractions such as the *Basilica Sant'Agata*, *Teatro Romano*, *Museo Civico*, *Teatro Massimo Bellini*.

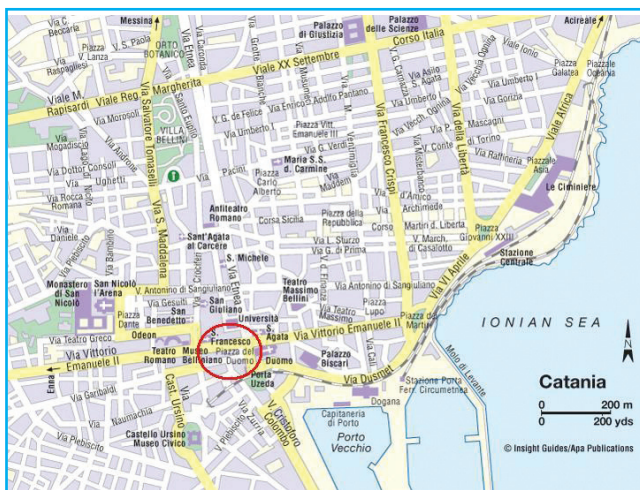
Furthermore, the proximity to the Etna Mount and, at the same time, to seaside sites offers a great amount of different day trips and outdoor sightseeing excursions.

More information on Catania can be found on this website:

www.visitsicily.info.



Sant'Agata





Conference venue



Benedictine Monastery of San Nicolò l'Arena

The 3rd Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region will take place at the Benedictine Monastery of San Nicolò l'Arena, located in Piazza Dante, 32 – Catania. For information on the Monastery Conference Centre:

www.monasterodeibenedettini.it

The Benedictine Monastery of *San Nicolò l'Arena* is one of the largest monasteries in Europe and a UNESCO World Heritage Site as a part of *Val di Noto* World Heritage Site. It is the second biggest Benedictine monastery in Europe. The Marble Cloister corresponds to the original square plan. The Monastery was founded in 1558 and today hosts the Department of Humanities of the University of Catania, the oldest in Sicily and one of the oldest in Italy.





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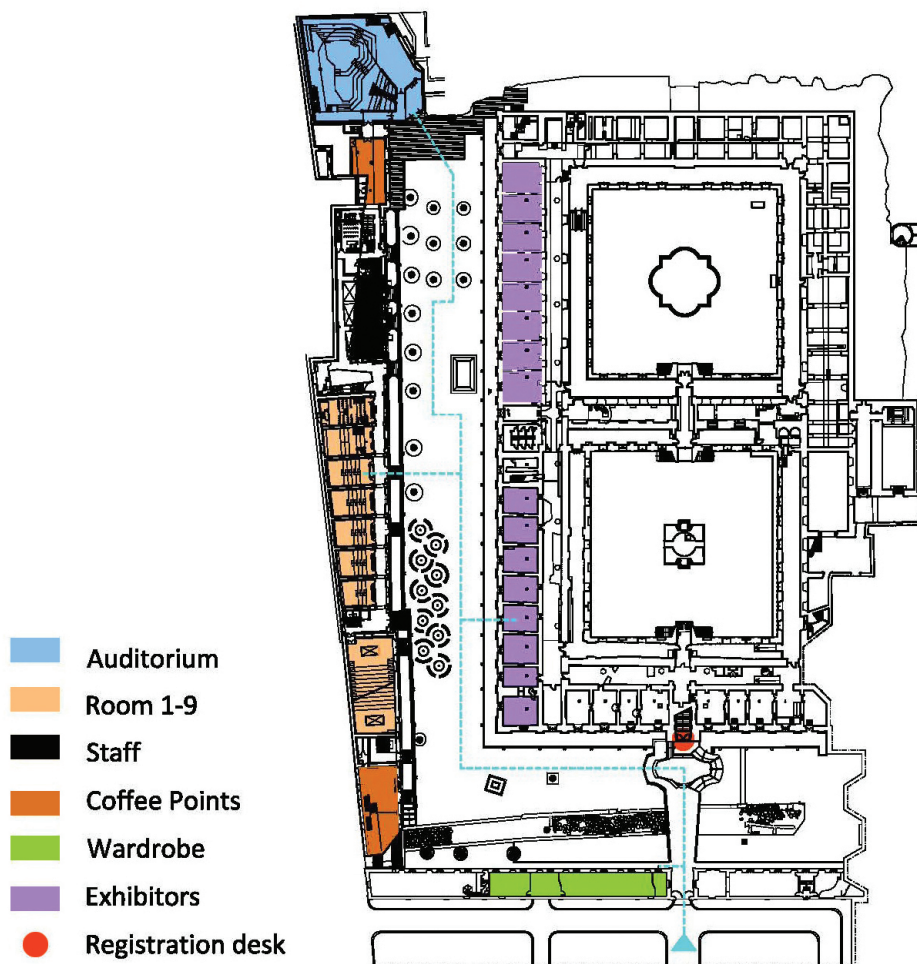
CATANIA 24-25 MAY 2018



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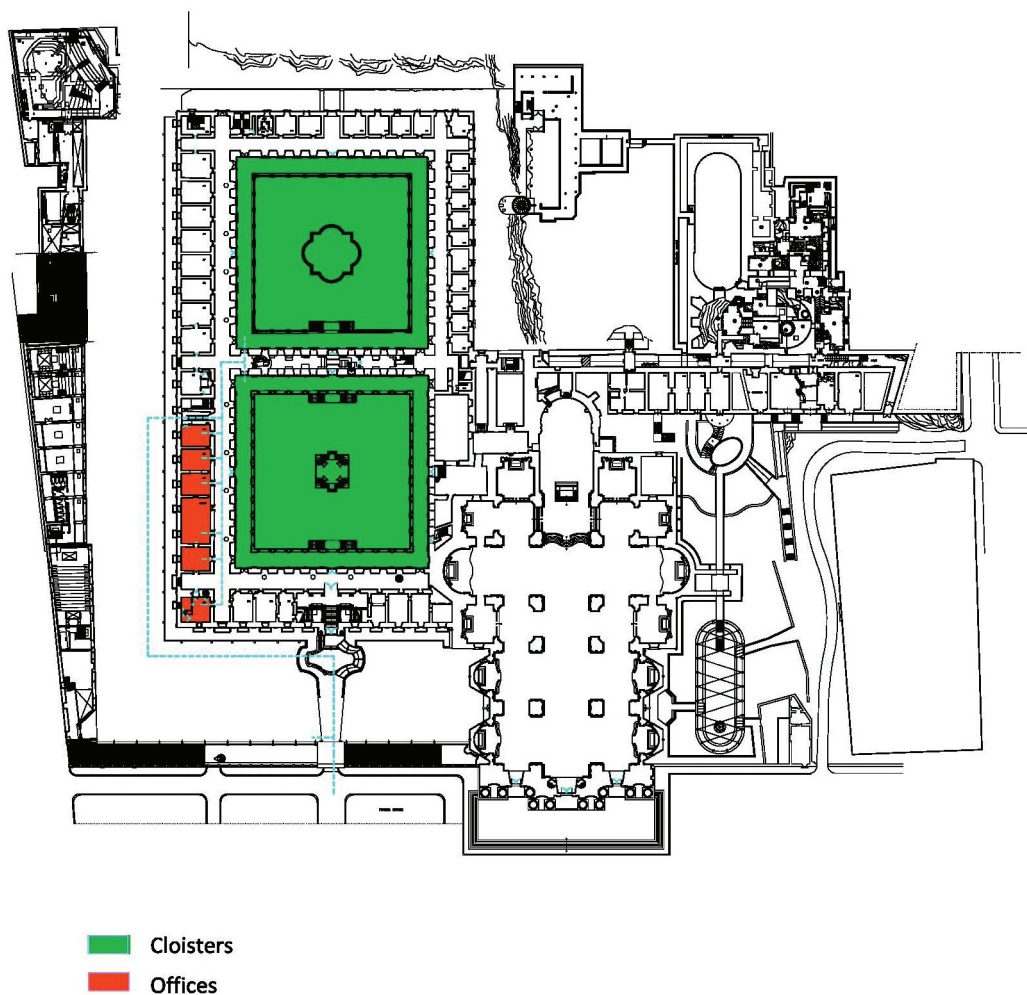
VENUE MAPS

Ground floor



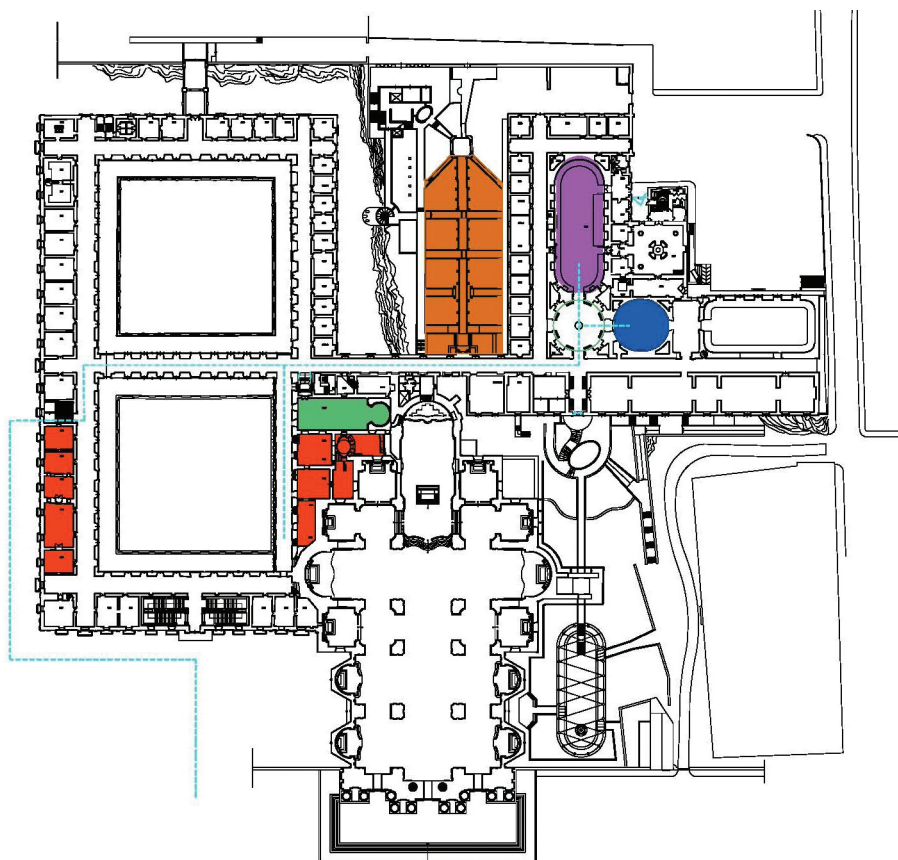


First floor plan





Second floor plan

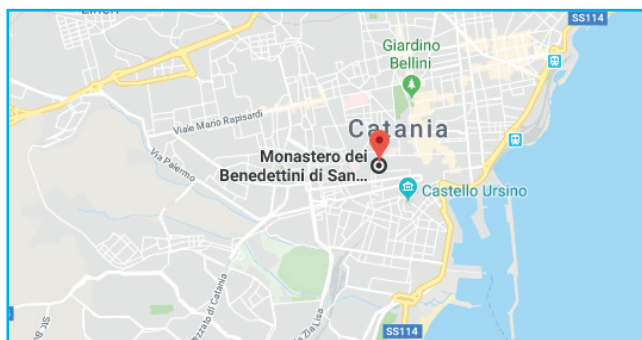


- Refettorio Piccolo
- Coro di notte
- Aula Santo Mazzarino
- Offices
- Giardino dei Novizi - Coffee point



How to reach the Monastery

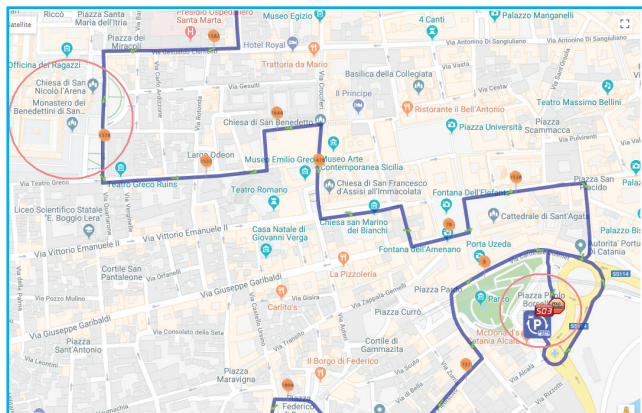
Location of the Monastery.



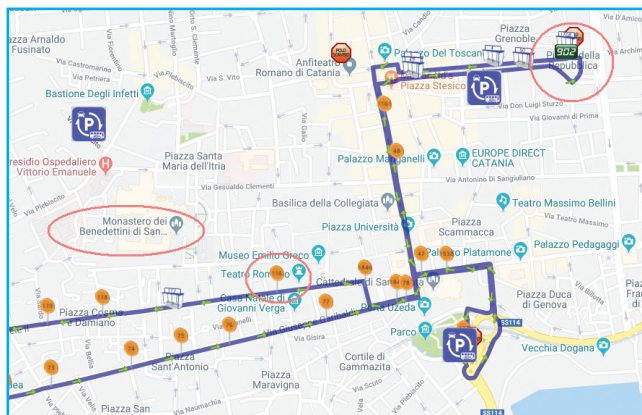
From the city centre

By bus

From Piazza Borsellino
(Port, “Archi della Marina”):
Take **Bus 503** “Linea Circolare”
and get off in Piazza Dante.



From Piazza della Repubblica
(Train Station): Take **Bus 902**, get
off in Via Vittorio Emanuele after
the Greek-Roman Theatre, and
walk through Via Quartarone to
Piazza Dante.



For more information please visit
www.amt.catania.it



By taxi

Radio Taxi Tel: **+ 39 095 330966**

Taxi Sat Service: Tel. **+39 095 6188** - **www.6188.it**

www.6188.it

Languages and Interpretation Services

English is the language of the Forum. Interpretation from/to Italian will be provided **only** during the Plenary Sessions.

Accommodation

Catania, Sicily's second largest city, offers a wide range of accommodation options. In order to facilitate your stay in Catania, a number of hotels have been selected in the city and its surroundings with pre-booked rooms in different price categories, to suit everyone's budget and interests. Please, check the list provided by www.adriatic-ionian.eu.

When you contact a listed hotel, please communicate "EUSAIR" as preferential code.

You can also use other online accommodation reservation services, such as hotels.com; booking.com; expedia.com; airbnb.com.

Please, note this is for information purposes only in order to facilitate your stay in Catania; it does not constitute endorsement of any kind for any hotel or reservation service. Whatever your choice, we recommend that you book your hotel as soon as possible and well in advance, as May is high season in Sicily.



HOW TO REACH CATANIA

Airport

Catania-Fontanarossa Airport, also known as “Vincenzo Bellini” Airport, is an international airport in Sicily located about 4.3 km southwest of Catania.

Accessibility and Transport

From /to Catania Airport

Travelling to and from the Airport is easy, due to its proximity to the city centre.

Airport shuttle: There is an organised shuttle service with **AMT Alibus** from Catania International Airport to the city centre and the train station. The shuttle bus goes every 20 minutes, from 5.00 a.m. to midnight. The ticket costs EUR 4, and, once validated, is valid for ninety (90) minutes. Please, validate your ticket in the electronic ticket machine located in the bus.

AMT "ALIBUS" – Catania Airport Shuttle Bus |

Toll Free Number +39 800 018696

www.amt.ct.it

Public bus: Local Bus line 457 will take you downtown from the Fontanarossa Airport in 20 minutes, just like ALIBUS, but you might have to wait a bit longer because the public bus goes every 40 minutes.

Single ticket costs only EUR 1. Tickets shall be bought before entering the bus. Tickets are sold at the news agency (Tabacchi) located at the Airport. Bus departure point is at the bus station opposite to the Airport building.

Radio Taxi: + 39 095 330966 - www.radiotaxicatania.org

Taxi Sat Service: +39 095 6188 - www.6188.it

Taxi flat rate from the Airport to the city center (and the Forum premises) is €25.



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Info Point (Airport)

Aeroporto Internazionale “Vincenzo Bellini”

Tel. +39 095 4014081 - e-mail: infoturismo.aeroporto@cittametropolitana.ct.it

Catania Tourist Information

Arrival Area (next to Lost & Found Office) - Tel. +39 095 723 96 82

Tourist Office

www.comune.catania.it

For more information, please visit:

www.aeroporto.catania.it

Info Point in Catania

Palazzo Minoriti

Via Etnea, 63/65 – 95121 Catania

Tel. +39 095 4014070

E-mail: turismo@cittametropolitana.ct.it

Tourist Office

Via Vittorio Emanuele II, 172 – 95131 Catania

Toll Free Number 800 841 042

Tel.: +39 095 742 55 73 - Fax: +39 095 742 55 15

E-mail: bureau.turismo@comune.catania

Parking

For security reasons, no parking is provided in the Venue area.

However, some parking spaces are reserved for individuals with disabilities.

GENERAL INFORMATION ON CATANIA

Official language: Italian

Local Time: GMT/UTC +1

Climate and weather: in May the climate is mild and dry. May is springtime in Catania, and is typically the sixth warmest month of the year. Daytime maximum temperatures: around 22°C (71°F); nighttime average temperature: 12°C (53°F)

Banks: Banks are open Monday to Friday 08:20-13:20 - 14:35-16:05. Some banks may have different opening hours. For more detailed info, please visit: bankingitaly.com

Currency: euro (EUR)

Currency Exchange: Foreign currencies can be exchanged into euros (EUR) at most banks and exchange bureaus in Catania or at the Airport.

Power supply: 230 AC/50Hz.

First Aid and medical assistance

First Aid will be provided free of charge at the Forum venue. Serious cases will be directed to appropriate medical/hospital facilities. Please note the Forum participants shall be held responsible for their own travel insurance covering all and any medical treatment.

We kindly remind you the Italian Government cannot be held liable for medical treatment expenses of participants in the Forum and Side Events.

Useful numbers

Police/Carabinieri	112
Fire Brigades	115
First Aid – Ambulances	118
Car emergency services (ACI)	1530
Sea rescue - Blue number	803116
Emergency medical services	+39 095 377122
Traffic info office	+39 095 531333