



MOSTRA INTERNAZIONALE  
D'ARTE CINEMATOGRAFICA  
LA BIENNALE DI VENEZIA  
28.08 ————— 07.09 2024



La Biennale di Venezia

Arte  
Architettura  
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Danza  
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Teatro  
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# Introductory Guide to Attending the Venice International Film Festival

A Handbook For The Industry Professionals

**BIENNALE CINEMA 2024**  
**28.08 — 7.09 2024**

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Please use the following guide to gain **an initial overview of the Venice International Film Festival** and understand the essential steps to get the most out of your festival experience as an **industry professional**. It is important to emphasise that every aspect of the Festival, serving both submitters and the public, is extensively and meticulously covered in its dedicated section on **La Biennale website**, which everyone's invited to consult **in preparation for and throughout the event**.

While the complete Festival's line-up will not be announced until the end of July, with the annual **press conference available for streaming** on our **channels**, we strongly recommend initiating your preparations well in advance. Getting acquainted with the upcoming edition of the Festival and its **layout** is essential: conduct some research and take advantage of the online resources from past editions for valuable information. Understanding the event and its offerings will help you identify the most suitable entry options and outline your schedule. Consider also familiarizing yourself with Venice and its geography, as this may also prove helpful in choosing the right accommodation. **Early planning** will be crucial to ensuring a seamless and enriching Festival experience.

# Attending the Festival

Established in 1932, the Venice Film Festival is held annually from **late August to early September** on the Lido island in Venice, welcoming cinema enthusiasts from all backgrounds. Visitors can enjoy the scenic Lido, an 11-kilometre-long barrier island renowned as a fancy tourist destination. While some preliminary planning is recommended, attendees will have the opportunity to discover exceptional works from the **global film and entertainment scene** while delving into the unparalleled beauty of the context. For an initial overview of the Lido, its services, and accommodation options, it may be helpful to consult the [Visit Lido website](#).

Access to the Festival **outdoor areas** does not require any form of accreditation or ticket. Once through the security checkpoints, all visitors can freely explore the Festival grounds and its amenities. Importantly, all [venues](#) are all **barrier-free** and equipped to ensure absolute **accessibility for all attendees**. Most key Festival locations are conveniently within walking distance and, with numerous bars and cafés, and the beach nearby, all easily reachable within minutes, there are plenty of options to unwind and fill the time between screenings and appointments. The layout of the Festival proves ideal for both leisure-seeking attendees and professionals with hectic schedules.

Entry options (accreditation, subscriptions, tickets) are numerous and cater to a variegated array of spectators. Professionals, in particular, have a multitude of options to attend screenings and view the films within the programme. Upon purchasing the Industry [accreditation](#) best suited to their needs, professionals can also benefit from numerous initiatives and networking opportunities organized within the context of the **Festival's film market, the Venice Production Bridge (VPB)**. With its comprehensive **infrastructures and services** designed to support and encourage business activities, the VPB provides invaluable opportunities for professionals to forge partnerships, secure funding, and navigate the intricate pathways of the **film industry**.

It is warmly recommended that all prospective attendees consult our website and [FAQs](#) for detailed information about the Festival, including its [sections and regulations](#), submission procedures, and eligibility criteria.

# Networking at the Festival

Industry professionals applying for Industry accreditation (**Gold, Trade, or Professional**) should explore the services provided by the Venice Production Bridge (VPB). Accreditation is assigned based on professional activities. The VPB is an essential part of the Venice Film Festival, serving as an ever-expanding convergence point where **creatives and industry professionals** gather to showcase their work and engage in meaningful discussions about the ever-evolving landscape of **filmmaking** and **storytelling**. From a logistical standpoint, participants will be able to utilize the spaces provided by the **historic Hotel Excelsior** and the island of the Lazzaretto Vecchio or **Immersive Island**, easily accessible via a dedicated shuttle service.

Since the primary goal of the Venice Production Bridge (VPB) is to focus on and enhance production, it offers a comprehensive range of activities and initiatives that encompass the entire **film production process**. This includes everything from the original concept and intellectual property (**Book Adaptation Rights Market, BARM**) to the financial completion of projects (**Venice Gap Financing Market, VGFM**, and **Venice Immersive Market, VIM**). It also covers work-in-progress screenings with financial or in-kind support (**Final Cut in Venice, FCV**), as well as sales and distribution (**VPB Market Screenings**) and streaming broadcasting (**Meet the Streamers**).

While all **Industry Professional** accreditation holders are granted access to the Festival areas, the possibility to see all selected films of the Venice International Film Festival and Venice Immersive Section at Isola del Lazzaretto Vecchio, and admission to the Press & Industry screenings, only **Industry Gold** and **Industry Trade** accreditation participants are entitled to consult the **Industry Guide** and request the Venice Production Bridge services through the dedicated Industry Services form, access the VPB Market Screenings and get to meet the selected projects' representatives and publishers through one-to-one meetings. Some VPB panels and conferences are also open to non-accredited visitors and will be made available **via streaming**.

For all those planning to join the VPB, it is recommended to visit The Venice Production Bridge website to review its regulations and brochure, subscribe to their newsletter, and contact [vpboffice@labiennale.org](mailto:vpboffice@labiennale.org) in case further assistance is required.

# Looking for Accommodation

For those intending to focus their stay around the Festival and spend the majority of their visit in the vicinity, it would be ideal to secure accommodation on the Lido itself. The Lido offers a variety of options, but availability is limited, especially in September (peak season) and during the Festival dates. It is therefore advisable to **start searching well in advance**. If you happen to have any acquaintances in the area, ask for insights and recommendations. [Visit Lido](#) provides valid information on the island's environmental and historical points of interest as well as suggestions on how to find accommodation.

If finding accommodation on the Lido proves challenging, explore options in Venice. While availability may still be restricted, Venice offers more choices across different budgets. The Lido is well-connected to Venice by frequent public waterbuses, and all stops are within short walking distances. Less expensive accommodation options may be found on the **mainland**, but be aware that the journey to reach the Lido would take significantly longer, increasing transportation costs accordingly.

To explore availabilities, we suggest using platforms like **Booking.com, Expedia, or Airbnb**. When possible, contact the establishment directly for queries and reservations. Visit Lido also enlists a series of options on the Lido. It is also recommendable to use travel blogs and social networks to research venetian neighbourhoods, verifying their proximity to the venues and identifying the most convenient travel options.

It is worth reminding that the Festival will offer hospitality to some members of the participating films' delegations, mainly to directors and leading actors – unless a different arrangement is formally requested and approved. Assistance will also be offered to other delegation members, who can submit requests via a **dedicated email address**, which is generally communicated in July. If you are involved in the making of any of the films and/or projects within the programme and are part of its delegation, please contact us directly.

## SOME OPTIONS ON THE LIDO

### **Ausonia Hungaria \*\*\*\*\***

Gran Viale Santa Maria Elisabetta, 28  
30126 Venice Lido  
T. +39 041 2420060  
[hello@ausoniahungaria.com](mailto:hello@ausoniahungaria.com)  
[www.ausoniahungaria.com](http://www.ausoniahungaria.com)

### **Hotel Villa Mabapa \*\*\*\***

Riviera San Nicolò, 16  
30126 Venice Lido  
T. +39 041 5260590  
[info@villamabapa.com](mailto:info@villamabapa.com)  
<http://www.villamabapa.com>

### **Residenza d'Epoca**

#### **Hotel Quattro Fontane \*\*\*\***

Via Quattro Fontane, 16  
30126 Venice Lido  
T. +39 041 526 0227  
[info@quattrofontane.com](mailto:info@quattrofontane.com)  
[www.quattrofontane.com](http://www.quattrofontane.com)

### **Villa Pannonia \*\*\*\***

Via Doge Michiel, 48  
30126 Venice Lido  
T. +39 041 526 0162  
[info@hotelvillapannonia.it](mailto:info@hotelvillapannonia.it)  
[www.hotelvillapannonia.it](http://www.hotelvillapannonia.it)

### **Hotel Villa Tiziana \*\*\***

Via Andrea Gritti, 3  
30126 Venice Lido  
T. +39 041 526 1152  
[info@hotelvillatiziana.net](mailto:info@hotelvillatiziana.net)  
<http://www.hotelvillatiziana.net>

### **Hotel La Meridiana \*\*\***

Via Lepanto, 45  
30126 Venice Lido  
T. +39 041 5260343  
T. +39 041 5269240  
[reception@hotelmeridiana.com](mailto:reception@hotelmeridiana.com)  
<http://www.hotelmeridiana.com>

### **Hotel Rivamare \*\*\***

Lungomare Marconi, 44  
30126 Venice Lido  
T. +39 041 5260352  
<http://www.hotelrivamare.com>  
[info@hotelrivamare.com](mailto:info@hotelrivamare.com)

### **Hotel Rigel \*\*\***

Via Enrico Dandolo, 13  
30126 Venice Lido  
T. +39 041 526 88 10  
[info@hotelrigel.it](mailto:info@hotelrigel.it)  
<https://www.hotelrigel.it/>

### **Hotel Il Giardinetto \*\*\***

Piazzale Santa Maria Elisabetta, 3  
30126 Venice Lido  
T. +39 041 731 562  
[info@hotelgiardinettovenice.it](mailto:info@hotelgiardinettovenice.it)  
[www.giardinettovenice.com](http://www.giardinettovenice.com)

### **Hotel Villa Albertina \*\***

Via Vallarosso, 1A  
30126 Venice Lido  
T. +39 041.5260879  
[albertina@villalbertina.com](mailto:albertina@villalbertina.com)  
<https://www.villalbertina.com/it>

### **Hotel Cristallo \*\***

Gran Viale Santa Maria Elisabetta, 51  
30126 Venice Lido  
T. +39 041 526 5293  
[info@cristallovenezia.com](mailto:info@cristallovenezia.com)  
<https://www.cristallovenezia.com/>

### **Hotel Sorriso \*\***

Via Colombo, 22  
30126 Venice Lido  
T. +39 041 5260729  
[hotel@sorrisovenezia.it](mailto:hotel@sorrisovenezia.it)  
<http://www.hotelsorrisovenezia.it/en>

*The list above is non-exhaustive.*

*The Festival has no agreements with the facilities above.*

# Getting to the Lido

## BY PLANE

The closest airport to the Lido is **Venice Marco Polo Airport**.

Here are several options available for reaching the Lido from the airport:

- **Water Taxi:** the most direct option, available 24/7 at the airport docks. The fare ranges from €120 to €150, including potential luggage surcharges. The journey takes about 30 minutes.
- **Alilaguna Waterbus:** opting for the linea Blu / Blue line or linea Rossa / Red Line (suspended during wintertime) provides a direct route to the Lido, with an approximate travel time of 1 hour. Fares are reasonable, and tickets can be conveniently purchased online or at designated ticketing offices at both the airport and the dockyard.
- **Public Bus and Vaporetto:** take the **ATVO bus** (Airport Shuttle) or **line 5** (ACTV) from the airport to Piazzale Roma in Venice, a journey lasting about 20-30 minutes. From Piazzale Roma, you can then board a **vaporetto** (water bus) to Venice Lido, with lines 5.1 or 6 being the most commonly used for this route.

For arrivals at Treviso Airport, take a shuttle bus to Piazzale Roma (about 1 hour) or consider an NCC transfer. *Historical Note:* The Lido has the Giovanni Nicelli airport for private aircraft, the oldest commercial airport in Italy.

## BY CAR

Reaching the Lido by car involves a combination of driving and **ferry travel**, as Venice itself is a city of islands with limited road access. We recommend checking ferry schedules in advance as they may undergo seasonal variations.

To reach Lido by car you can access Venice by road, following signs to reach the city, and head towards **Tronchetto**, a designated **parking area** with a large parking facility where you can choose to leave your car. From Tronchetto, take the ferry to the Lido: ferries operate regularly and the journey across the lagoon takes approximately 30 minutes. **A Municipal Garage**, the largest parking facility in Venice, is instead located in Piazzale Roma, bus and car terminal.

For an alternative route, consider heading to Punta Sabbioni, situated on the mainland near Venice and offering convenient parking spaces. Once there, you can board a ferry to reach Lido.

## **BY TRAIN**

The main train station for Venice is **Venezia Santa Lucia station**, providing direct access to the Grand Canal. Santa Lucia is also directly linked to Piazzale Roma by the “Ponte della Costituzione”, a brief 5-10 minute walk away. While it is quite feasible to explore Venice on foot from the station, opting for waterbuses proves to be a more practical choice. The waterbus stop, “Ferrovia”, is positioned in front of the station. Ticketing offices are a few steps from the station, and during peak seasons, a temporary information point may be set up just outside its main entrance for additional assistance.

## **USEFUL CONTACTS**

### **Aeroporto Marco Polo Tessera**

T. +39 041 260 9260

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

### **Aeroporto Canova Treviso**

T. +39 0422 315111

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

### **Tronchetto Parking**

[www.tronchettoparking.it](http://www.tronchettoparking.it)

### **Piazzale Roma Parking**

[https://avm.avmspa.it/it/content/](https://avm.avmspa.it/it/content/autorimessa-comunale-1)

[autorimessa-comunale-1](https://avm.avmspa.it/it/content/autorimessa-comunale-1)

### **ACTV – AVM website**

<https://actv.avmspa.it/en>

### **ALILAGUNA tickets and fares**

<https://www.alilaguna.it/en/tickets/>

[fares](https://www.alilaguna.it/en/tickets/fares)

### **Tronchetto-Lido Ferryboat**

#### **Booking Service**

[https://avm.avmspa.it/en/content/](https://avm.avmspa.it/en/content/actv-ferry-boat)

[actv-ferry-boat](https://avm.avmspa.it/en/content/actv-ferry-boat)



# Reaching the Festival and Navigating the Area

Regardless of the mode of arrival in Venice, we recommend referring to the [Venezia Unica website](#) for exhaustive instructions on navigating the city and its islands. Venezia Unica serves as both a sales network and the official tourist portal for Venice. **Pre-purchasing tourist tickets** (valid for 1, 2, 3, or 7 days) online is advisable for seamless access to AVM group buses and waterbuses upon arrival. **AVM and ACTV tickets** can also be bought at ticket offices and self-service machines at major transport hubs like Venice Marco Polo Airport, Venice Santa Lucia Train Station, Piazzale Roma, and key waterbus stops. For details on purchasing tickets, visit [AVM's points of sale](#). Review schedules carefully, especially during major events like the Festival, as they may change.

Once on the Lido, various transportation options are available, including walking and local transport. Upon arriving at the main stop, S. M. Elisabetta, the Festival can be reached on foot along the lagoon or the Lungomare Marconi in approximately 20 minutes. Unlike Venice, Lido permits cars, offering the option to take a bus or taxi to any destination. Additionally, **bicycles** can be rented from numerous nearby rentals, with **bike and electric scooter sharing services** available 24/7. All accreditation holders and subscribers with **chip-on papers** are entitled to **free public transportation** on the Lido MC, V, A, C, and CA bus lines, as well as the MC (Ferrovia-Lido Casinò) and 20 (S. Zaccaria-Lido Casinò) waterbus lines throughout the Festival. Request chip-on papers when collecting your badge, and present both to inspection staff on public transport.

Most Festival venues are situated in the surrounding area of the **Palazzo del Casinò**, which has served as the Festival's headquarters since its construction in the 50s. The area in front of the Sala Giardino, Palazzo del Cinema, and Palazzo del Casinò is **pedestrianized** with no vehicular access. Cyclists must dismount and push their bicycles. Both outdoor and indoor venues are furnished with **restroom facilities** and **designated resting areas**, all opportunely marked on the map provided in the programme. A luggage deposit and the official **Biennale gift shop** are situated next to Palazzo del Cinema. Most importantly, **on-site medical assistance** will be available throughout the Festival. An advanced medical station, staffed by doctors and specialized volunteers from the Croce Rossa, will be set up to ensure the well-being of all attendees.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

### WATER TAXI VENICE AND LIDO

#### **Veneziana Motoscafi Soc. Coop.**

T. +39 041.716.000

T. +39 041.716.124

<https://www.venezianamotoscafi.it/>

#### **Venezia Turismo**

T. +39 041 2402711

[operativo@vенеziaturismo.net](mailto:operativo@vенеziaturismo.net)

<https://www.vенеziaturismo.net>

### TAXI CARS IN VENICE AND LIDO

#### **Radio Taxi (Venice and Mestre)**

Call Centre: +39 041.59.64

Reservations: +39 041 595 1402

[info@radiotaxivenezia.it](mailto:info@radiotaxivenezia.it)

#### **Piazzale Roma Taxi**

**(Venice and Mestre)**

T. +39 041 5237774

#### **Taxi Lido (Lido)**

Piazzale S. Maria Elisabetta  
and Festival area

T. +39 041 5265974

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Emergency Hotline (Italy): 112

Local Police: 113

Medical Emergency: 118

### FESTIVAL STAFF

General inquiries:

[cinema@labiennale.org](mailto:cinema@labiennale.org)

[info@labiennale.org](mailto:info@labiennale.org)

### WIFI

To access the wi-fi in the

Venice Film Festival areas:

[https://www.comune.venezia.it/it/  
content/venice-connected](https://www.comune.venezia.it/it/content/venice-connected)

## USEFUL APPS TO DOWNLOAD



# Accessing Screenings

Industry professionals have several options to attend Festival screenings and view films:

**APPLY FOR ACCREDITATION.** Professionals in the cinematographic sector can apply for accreditation tailored to their specific field and objectives.

- **Industry Gold, Trade, and Professional Accreditation:** targeted at industry professionals and those engaged in artistic or technical activities within the audio-visual sector. It is possible, exclusively for Industry Gold and Trade participants, to purchase exclusive services of the Venice Production Bridge. On a more leisurely note, Industry accreditation holders will also enjoy discounted rates at **“La Pagoda”**, an exclusive restaurant and lounge bar. Related inquiries should be sent to [registration@labiennale.org](mailto:registration@labiennale.org).
- **Film Delegation Accreditation:** for individuals involved in the creation, production, and distribution of films featured in the Official Selection and parallel programmes. Designated contacts will be informed following film registration. Questions and requests should be e-mailed to [filmdelegation@labiennale.org](mailto:filmdelegation@labiennale.org).
- **Venice Immersive Accreditation:** grants access to the Venice Immersive Island.

**PURCHASE TICKETS FOR SCREENINGS.** Tickets for screenings are available exclusively **online** at [biennalecinema.vivaticket.it](http://biennalecinema.vivaticket.it) starting from mid-August. Tickets sell out quickly, are personal, and non-transferable. Discounts are available for under 26/over 60 and Biennale Card holders. For queries on tickets and subscriptions, contact [biglietteria.cinema@labiennale.org](mailto:biglietteria.cinema@labiennale.org).

Review the benefits and services of your access title. The program distinguishes between gala screenings, Press & Industry screenings, public screenings, and pass-holder-only screenings. VPB Market screenings are available for Industry Gold and Trade pass holders. Ensure you adhere to the **entry rules** and arrive early for screenings to avoid being denied entry. For specific occasions, such as evening premieres and ceremonies, formal attire is advisable though not obligatory. Tickets or subscriptions don't guarantee access to the Sala Grande's **red carpet**. La Biennale may allow entry up to 45 minutes before the screening or restrict it on busy occasions at its discretion.

Theaters accommodate spectators with reduced mobility.

Requests for wheelchair or attendant assistance can be emailed to [biglietteria.cinema@labiennale.org](mailto:biglietteria.cinema@labiennale.org).

***Whatever your professional field and aspirations,  
we hope the Festival leaves you with a memorable and fruitful experience,  
as it has for many throughout its history, and will hopefully continue to do in the future.  
We look forward to welcoming you all on the Lido.***

***The Venice International  
Film Festival Team***