

Active Students

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Logistic Information Document



Useful information for your stay in Catania
Partner meeting

Date: 19th – 20th October 2023

Welcome to Catania!

Dear participants,

The EPC team is glad to welcome you to Sicily. In this guide, we will provide you with all the information that will be needed during your stay in Catania.

Catania is the second largest city in Sicily, after Palermo, and among the ten largest cities in Italy. It is located on Sicily's east coast, at the base of the active volcano, Mount Etna, and it faces the Ionian Sea. Catania is also known by the name 'The Black City', due to its unique buildings that have been blackened by years of soot and ash from the volcano.

We wish that you will make the most of your stay and are able to experience the very best of Sicilian food, culture and people. We hope our meeting will prove to be productive, informative and enjoyable!

The EPC team

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Travelling from the airport and arriving at Hotel

[Alibus line](#) connects the International Airport of Catania with the most important places in the city, like Stesicoro square, via Etna, Corso Italia and the central station. The ticket costs 4 euro and it lasts 90 minutes. It also allows the visitors to get on the other buses of the urban area.



Taxi (15/20€) from the Airport to the city centre

Conference room

The partner meeting will be at the EProjectConsult office in Catania.

Address: **Via Naumachia 6-8 - Catania – 95121 Italy**

Hotels and Hostels near to the conference room

We have listed several accommodation options which are close by, please see below.

[Best Western Hotel Mediterraneo](#), Via Dottor Consoli 27, 95124 Catania, Italia

[Katane Palace](#), Via Camillo Finocchiaro Aprile, 110, 95129, Catania

[NH](#) Piazza Trento, 13, 95129 Catania

[Mercure Catania Excelsior](#) Piazza Giovanni Verga, 39, 95129 Catania

[Liberty Hotel Catania](#) Via S. Vito, 40, 95124 Catania

[20 Miglia](#) Via Monsignor Ventimiglia, 168, 95129 Catania

[Palace Catania](#) Via Etnea, 218, 95131 Catania

[Santuzza Hotel](#) Via Etnea, 270, 95131 Catania

[Otto Mood](#) Viale XX Settembre, 18, 95129 Catania

[Manganelli Palace](#) Via Recalcaccia, 2, 95131 Catania

[Hotel Valentino](#) Piazza Turi Ferro, 39, 95131 Catania

How to get around Catania by bus

The Azienda Municipale Trasporti or AMT operates a large network of buses that have several routes throughout Catania. The cost of a bus ticket is 1 euro and is valid for 90 minutes from the time of validation. On-board purchase is also possible, but at an increased fare. You can buy day tickets that are good for multiple rides; those are more expensive but are a good value if you are planning multiple stops throughout the day.

Tickets can be picked up at tobacco shops or tabacchi, newsagents, or AMT kiosks located near bus stops throughout the city.

The [AMTS website](#) presents all the routes, stops and their schedules. We highlight here the most convenient routes for tourist purposes:

- **Line 504M**, which connects the Plebiscito parking lot to the historic center.
- **Line D**, which connects Borsellino Square to the Plaia lidos. Beach lovers will certainly find it useful.
- **Line 534**, which goes to nearby Aci Trezza and Aci Castello.

Catania Metro

It presents just one line with 10 stops: Nesima - San Nullo - Cibali - Milo - Borgo - Giuffrida - Italia - Galatea - Giovanni XXIII - Stesicoro. The most important stop for visitors is Stesicoro because it's just in front of the historical center.

The price for a one ride ticket is 1 euro, and it lasts 90 minutes, the daily tickets costs 2 euros instead and it has to be used within midnight. You can also buy a ticket combining AMTS buses and metro and it costs 1,20 euro for 120 minutes' validity.

Agenda

Thursday, 19 th Oct 2023		
10:00 – 10:05	Welcome and working agenda overview	A Rocca
10:05 – 10:30	Ice Breaking Activity	A Rocca
10:30 -11:00	Project overview and clarifications Project Management, Coordination & Internal Communication	Šiaulių r. Dubysos aukštupio mokykla
11:00 – 11:45	LTT online: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Let's make it online to be healthy (Iceland) A healthy mind in a healthy body (Italy) 	Iceland Italy
	Coffee Break	
12:00 – 13:00	LTT online Q&A	All partners
14:30 – 16:00	IO2 – E Modules and Web Platform time	Akdeniz Yenilikçi Toplum Derneği
16:00 - 17:00	IO2 – E Modules and Web Platform time Q&A	All partners
	Coffee break	
17:20 – 18:00	Risk mitigation strategies / 'tops and tips' Following steps and actions	All partners
	Free time to visit Catania	
20:00	Social Dinner	

Friday, 20th October 2023		
10:00 -10:20	Reporting - Q&A	Šiaulių r. Dubysos aukštupio mokykla
10:20 – 11:30	External communication and dissemination	All partners
11:30 – 12:00	Following steps and actions	Šiaulių r. Dubysos aukštupio mokykla
	Coffee break	
12:20 – 12:50	Evaluation	
	<i>Free time to visit Catania</i>	

Landmarks and Monuments

Start by going to **Piazza del Duomo**, which is (as with everywhere in Sicily) the heart of the city. Standing in the center of the square, you can admire the city's emblem: **The Elephant's Fountain** (Fontana dell'Elefante in Italian). This fountain depicts an elephant carved in black lava, topped by an Egyptian obelisk. Legend has it that this statue holds the power to appease Etna's volcano anger. On this square, you can also see Catania's Palazzo Municipio. Behind the fountain, there is **Catania Cathedral**, which can be visited free of charge every day of the week. Its exterior facade is very beautiful, all in white marble and the interior is dedicated to Saint Agatha, a young virgin tortured after refusing the amorous advances of a Roman prefect. This Christian martyr became the patron saint of the city, celebrated every 5th of February during the Feast of Sant'Agata. Its relics are located inside the cathedral.

In the cathedral, you can also see the tomb of **Vincenzo Bellini**, the famous classical composer. Just behind the piazza del Duomo, go for a walk in the **fish market**, the Pescheria. But beware it's a real authentic market! You will stroll among decapitated swordfish, live lobsters, sardines and anchovies. Adjacent to La pescheria is a more classic market, renowned for its vast choice of cheeses. The markets are held every morning on weekdays. From piazza del duomo, take **Via Etnea**, the main street of Catania. This street's name comes from the view you will have there. At the end of the road, if the weather is clear, you will be able to see the silhouette of the famous volcano that many tourists from all over the world come to admire: the Etna. While you're here, you can do some shopping in Via Etnea's many shops, or drink a coffee and enjoy a pastry! At the southern end of Via Etnea, there is the **Piazza dell'Universita**. This square is surrounded by two magnificent palaces facing each other: **The Palazzo dell'Universita** which houses the old university and the **Palazzo San Giuliano**. Both palaces have beautiful facades and nice inner courtyards, don't hesitate to enter the university to admire them.

[To see: The four lampposts, each symbolizing a mythical episode of Catania.]

You should definitely go to the gardens of **Villa Bellini**, they are ideal to enjoy a bit of freshness, take a rest or picnic. This park, located Via Etnea, is open until 10 pm. You can stroll around the large trees and many fountains or simply sit on a bench in the shade. The place is very pleasant, with a children playground (in case you have kids!). Festivities, such as concerts, are regularly organized there. You can also take advantage of the opportunity to visit the Villa Bellini (if you are lucky enough to have it open)

Via Crociferi is the 2nd street to walk along during your visit to Catania. It could be nicknamed "the Church Street" as you can admire not less than 4 churches along the street. Here are the churches you can visit there:

- The San Francesco Church: to be seen for its giant candelabra.
- San Benedetto, said to have been built in one night.
- San Benedetto Church, dedicated to Saint Benedict

- San Giuliano Church
- San Nicolo all' Arena Church: certainly not the most beautiful, as the construction was never finished.

If you want to visit the churches, you should note that most of them are only open in the morning.

The must-see attraction of Via Corciferi is certainly the former **Benedictine Monastery of San Nicolò l'Arena**, which now houses a part of the university. It's the 2nd largest in Europe, and you can visit it freely or with a guide.

If you have time, go have a look at the **Roman Theatre**, next to Piazza del Duomo. You will be surprised by its architecture and vaults. Seeing it there, standing in the middle of modern buildings is quite surprising!

Ursino Castle is an ancient Norman fortress that now houses the Municipal Museum (free visit). Originally, this castle located at the top of a hill was built on a cliff, overlooking the sea. It's really hard to imagine, as it's today about 1km inland! Many earthquakes and the huge volcanic eruption of Etna in 1669 completely changed the landscape of the area. Hopefully, the lava flows surrounded the castle without damaging it. The castle museum houses an important archaeological collection consisting of ceramic vases, sculptures and numerous paintings.

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