

POLITECNICO  
DI MILANO

IABMAS 2012

6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on  
**Bridge Maintenance, Safety and Management**  
Stresa, Lake Maggiore, Italy, July 8-12, 2012

## Tour for Accompanying Persons

### MILAN AND THE DUOMO CATHEDRAL

Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

#### 1. Tour Description

After a transfer by private bus, the morning will be dedicated to the city of Milan. Milan (**Milano in Italian**), the motivating force behind the financial sector of Italy, is the second largest city in the country behind Rome. The fashion expositions, nightlife, Italian food and the metropolitan area of Milan provide the futuristic outlook of Italy, which attracts many youngsters. The tour will take you first on a Guided bus tour of the city, then the next stop will be at La Scala Theatre.

**La Scala** (Italian: Teatro alla Scala), is a world renown opera house in Milan, Italy. The theatre was inaugurated on 3 August 1778 and was originally known as the New Royal-Ducal Theatre at La Scala. Most of Italy's greatest operatic artists, and many of the finest singers from around the world, have appeared at La Scala during the past 200 years. Today, the theatre is still recognized as one of the leading opera and ballet theatres in the world and is home to the La Scala Theatre Chorus, La Scala Theatre Ballet and La Scala Theatre Orchestra. The theatre also has an associate school, known as the La Scala Theatre Academy (Italian: Accademia Teatro alla Scala), which offers professional training in music, dance, stage craft and stage management. From La Scala, you will walk through Galleria Vittorio Emanuele to reach the most attractive monument in the City : Milan's Cathedral.



The Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II is a double arcade in the center of Milan, Italy. The structure is formed by two glass-vaulted arcades intersecting in an octagon covering the street connecting Piazza del Duomo to Piazza della Scala. The Galleria is named after Vittorio Emanuele II, the first king of the Kingdom of Italy. It was originally designed in 1861 and built by Giuseppe Mengoni between 1865 and 1877. The central octagonal space is topped with a glass dome. The Milanese Galleria was larger in scale than its predecessors and was an important step in the evolution of the modern glazed and enclosed shopping mall, of which it was the direct progenitor. It has inspired the use of the term *galleria* for many other shopping arcades and malls.



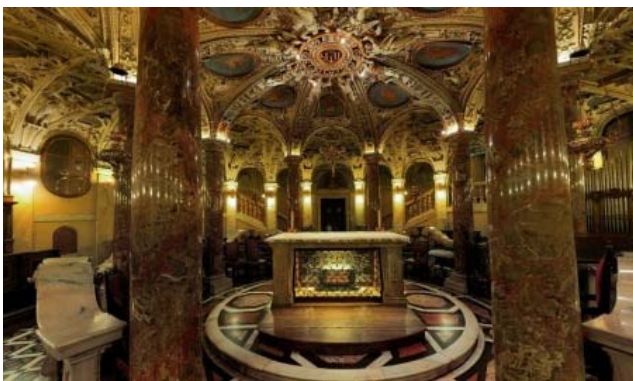
The Galleria is often nicknamed *il salotto di Milano* (Milan's drawing room), due to its numerous shops and importance as a common Milanese meeting and dining place. More than 130 years after its inauguration, the four-story arcade includes elegant shops selling most things from haute couture and jewelry to books and paintings, as well as restaurants, cafés, and bars. Today, the Galleria is the site for many luxury goods shops, including Prada, Massimo Dutti, Gucci and Louis Vuitton, as well as fast food restaurants such as McDonald's.

Dedicated to Santa Maria Nascente (Saint Mary Nascent), **Milan Cathedral** is the seat of the Archbishop of Milan. The Gothic cathedral took nearly six centuries to complete and it is the fourth largest cathedral in the world and the largest in the Italian state territory. The cathedral's five wide naves are reflected in the hierarchic openings of the facade. The great windows of the choir are reputed to be the largest in the world. Milan Cathedral is 157 meters long and 40,000 people can fit comfortably within. What to see all the extras of the Duomo are very interesting: the roof climb; the treasury and the excavations of the Early Christian baptistery.





The roof climb provides a unique and memorable opportunity to walk high on the roofs of the huge Gothic cathedral. The views are magnificent and the opportunity to see the pinnacles and sculptures close up along the way is worth the climb alone. A complex of 135 spires and 3200 statues, crammed onto the roof and into the facade, adorn the exterior of this vast cathedral. In particular, the central spire is capped by a golden statue, called Madonnina, literally "little Madonna", traditionally considered the Milan's protector. Entrance is from the north side of the cathedral (walk around left from the front). You can choose to walk up the stairs - which are solid, square, and more roomy than many cathedral stairways - or take an elevator for a higher price.



The crypt is entered from inside the cathedral near the choir. Entrance to the crypt is free and many visitors descend the short stairway to visit the tomb of Cardinal Borromeo. Also in the crypt is the Tesoro del Duomo, or Cathedral Treasury. If you have any interest in medieval art, religious art, or "old stuff" in general, this is a must-see.

Archaeological excavations beneath the cathedral have revealed the foundations of a Paleochristian Baptistry dating from the 4th century. It is said to be the baptistry in which St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, baptized his student Augustine.

For those registering to the visit of LEONARDO DA VINCI'S "LAST SUPPER", the afternoon will be dedicated to the visit of the famous painting, situated in the refectory of the convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie ("**Holy Mary of Grace**") a church and Dominican convent.



The famous Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece "The Last Supper", initiated in 1495 and finished in 1498. The difficult restoration works, made in 1999, confirmed all the expressive strength of this extraordinary masterpiece of the Christian art.

## 2. Tentative Tour Scheduling

08.30 am	Departure from Stresa to Milan by private Bus
10.30 am	Sightseen bus tour of the City Visit at La Scala Visit at Milan Cathedral – Lunch Free visit of Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II Visit at Leonardo's "Last supper"
16.30	Transfer from Milan to Stresa by private Bus
18.30	Arrival in Stresa

## 3. Booking and Payment

The tour is managed by Palazzo dei Congressi di Stresa.

The ticket cost is 90,00 Euros per person. This includes the cost of bus transfer to Milan and return, English Speaking guide, earphones.

Extra cost for the guided visit to the "Last Supper": Euro 14,00 per person.

Lunch starting from Euro 25,00 per person is not included in the cost. However, accompanying persons registered at the Conference are entitled to receive a packet lunch without additional costs. The packet lunch must be required one day in advance and personally taken before leaving for the tour. Please refer to the Secretariat Desk on site.

The tour is intended for a minimum of 15 participants. In case this minimum number is not reached, registered participants will be refunded.

To join the tour please fill in the [registration form](#) and send it to:

### **Palazzo dei Congressi**

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Deadline for booking is July 2nd, 2012. After this date tickets will be subject to availability.

Should you have any inquiry about this tour please contact Ms. Nicoletta Bisi at: [segreteria@stresacongressi.it](mailto:segreteria@stresacongressi.it)