

Resident FAQ: BASIC INFORMATION

How do I apply?

The application form in .pdf or .html format can be found on the web at: <http://www.artsinvenice.it/> or in the 'info-download' pages at: <http://www.scuolagrafica.it>

How will I be notified of acceptance?

All inquiries, letters of acceptance and subsequent communication will be conducted through email.

Can I get financial support/aid for my residency?

The Scuola is an independent institution relying only upon Students' and Residents' fees for its budget. We regret therefore that we are unable to grant any financial support.

How do I pay my deposit and the total fees?

A deposit will be required to hold your place on the calendar within 15 days of your acceptance as a Resident. The deposit can be paid by bank transfer (details are sent in the acceptance letter). The balance due is to be paid upon arrival in Venice.

Do I need a visa?

Check with the Italian consulate in your country of residence. Most visitors to Italy from Western Europe and the United States do not need a visa for visits of 90 days or less.

How do I get to Venice?

Many major carriers fly directly to Venice's Marco Polo airport. A bus, waterbus or water taxi can be taken from Marco Polo to Venice. Some flights can be made from London to Treviso where a bus will take you directly to Venice. If you are arriving by train the train station for Venice is Venezia Santa Lucia. From there one can walk to the Scuola.

How do I get to the Scuola once I am in Venice?

From Marco Polo airport:

Take the orange bus no. 5 (3,00€, buy ticket in airport terminal) to Piazzale Roma in Venezia (the end of the line). Upon arrival, walk toward the canal and buy a ticket for the waterbus no. 1 (called "vaporetto," 6,50€). This will go all the way down the Grand Canal stopping at every stop along the way. Get off at the 3rd stop, San Marcuola, which is on the left side of the canal (later we will assist you in purchasing a pass to buy tickets at local fares). Walk around the church to the left and veer left behind the church. The first little street on your right is Calle Seconda del Cristo. Turn right onto this street and walk about half way down the calle. At the exact place where a small street intersects from the left there is a doorway on the right, no. 1798. Ring the buzzer if the gate is closed.

From Treviso:

Follow the instructions as above after reaching Piazzale Roma by the blue ATVO bus from the airport in Treviso (8,00 €, buy ticket in terminal).

From the train station:

Exit the train station and walk to your right, following the street "Lista di Spagna." Follow the street until you come to a bridge, cross the bridge and continue walking about 500 yards until you come to the first open intersection. Turn right at the small grocery store on one corner. Turn left at the second small street on the left. At the end of this short street there is a T intersection, we are directly at the T, no. 1798.

RESIDENCY INFORMATION

Where will I live in Venice?

Each Resident has his/her own bedroom in a shared apartment with other Residents or faculty/staff of the Scuola. Each apartment has kitchen and each Resident is provided with bed linens and towels. There is a laundry room with washing machines in the basement (laundry is free of charge). Residents are responsible for buying and cooking their own food. All apartments are provided with free Internet DSL wireless connection.

The apartments are a 25 minute walk from the Scuola. Sometimes our apartments are full; in such cases artists are lodged in alternative private housing.

What are the hours I can work at the Scuola?

Residents have access to the Scuola from 8:30 in the morning until 10:30 at night, 7 days a week. Cleanup is expected to begin at 10:15 so as to be out of the building by 10:30pm.

Will there be an orientation?

All Residents receive thorough orientation for the printshop and the painting studio, as well as orientation for logistical aspects of staying in Venice including passes for the waterbus system and addresses of stores for art supplies, groceries and the like. Residents receive keys to the printshop and the library after they attend orientation.

What is the Printshop like?

The printshop contains: 5 etching presses, 2 lithography presses, 2 offset (flatbed) lithography presses, 1 vertical handpress, letterpress proof press, 12 type faces, 2 clean areas, cutting area, aquatint room and a ventilated acid room. The printshop is provided with inks, solvents, tarlatans, scrapers/spatulas, rollers, cleaning up products, tools and tissue and proof paper. Residents are responsible for purchasing good paper for printing or drawing, anything not already provided for in the studio such as specialty art supplies or inks.

What is the Painting Studio like:

The Painting Studio is located across a walkway from the printshop. It is a large studio (capable of accommodating 9 students or 3 Residents at any one time) and has north facing skylights and 30 foot ceilings. It is equipped with ventilation, water and clean up sink, tools for stretching canvas and primers such as gesso and medium. There are hot plates for encaustic and standing easels for working. The Scuola has plaster casts of the figure (torso, feet, hands, head). The Scuola is within walking distance of the Grand Canal and a variety of beautiful locations for plein air painting.

What can I participate in at the Scuola or expect from my time in Venice?

The residency program at the Scuola is designed as an "Independent" residency. Most Residents come with an idea of what they want to achieve and why they want to be working in Venice and are self-directed, creating their own schedules to fit their interests and projects. The Scuola has no set program for Residents to participate in, however, during the academic year courses are conducted every afternoon in the printshop. Residents are welcome to sit in on studio courses with the permission of the instructor. Residents find the interaction and sharing in the studio to be a positive benefit of the residency. Residents find a happy balance between studio time and excursion time and often develop a pattern that works well and produces great results. We suggest that Residents consider their reasons for coming to Venice and create a proposal and routine that takes advantage of all that Venice has to offer.

Will I have an assistant?

The Scuola does not provide an assistant specifically for Residents. We do have a printshop assistant whose responsibility it is to keep the shop in working order, maintain supplies and sell materials to students or Residents as needed. The assistant also acts as translator for classes taught in Italian. The assistant is willing to help instruct/refresh the memory of printing methods (often artists have forgotten or they find our system different here).

Are there computers and the internet?

The Scuola is equipped with iMacs (running SnowLeopard and Adobe CS5) and a DSL internet connection. Wireless is also available for your laptop. We suggest that Residents using the Scuola's computers have a USB pen to save their work. A4 color printers are available (€ 0.25 per copy) as well as a reflective scanner. There is a photocopier at the Scuola that can enlarge up to A3. If you have a digital camera, it is always suggested that you bring the camera's software to be certain of access to your camera from the scuola's computers. Internet access is free of charge but is controlled on an hourly basis and is not available evenings or weekends. We advise that artists bring their own laptops to be sure of unrestricted access.

Art supplies, should I bring or can I get them there?

It is suggested that you bring only those supplies you use often and are necessary to your work. The Scuola provides proofing paper for the printshop and inks. We do not supply good printing paper or drawing/painting supplies or brushes. Good paper can be bought in Venice as well as supplies such as brushes, pens and inks. There are 3 art supply stores in Venice and one large art supply store on the mainland as well.

Can I receive phone calls at the Scuola or at the apartments?

The apartments are not equipped with a phone for incoming or outgoing calls. Residents can be reached in an emergency through the office phone at the Scuola. To call home to other countries, phone cards are available at any cigarettes and stamps shops (tabacchi). Cell phones can be purchased for around 100 Euros.

Where can I receive packages and snail mail while on my residency?

Mail can be sent to:

Your Name C/O Scuola Internazionale di Grafica,

Cannaregio 1798, 31021 Venezia, Italia.

When your relatives or friends are sending you a package, always have them to write:

UNSOLICITED GIFT, WITH NO COMMERCIAL VALUE

If they don't do so the package may get stuck at the customs and shipped back to your country.