

**DEAR FRIENDS,**

**ABOUT THE VENICE MANDOLIN FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA**

It would be nice if everybody, individual participants and members of guest orchestras, will play in The Mandolin Festival Orchestra (VMFO). The festival is based on joy with music and friendship. This is typical of Italian musicians. No prestige and a wonderful enthusiastic audience meet us in Venice. That's why it's so fun to play in Italy.

**REGISTRATION**

You do not need to formally register right now. It goes well a little later. However, you should make a preliminary booking, as soon as possible, and we will keep your place for participation in the festival until you say something else. The deadline for registration is 15 February 2024.

**ABOUT LODGING AND TRAVEL**

You can find flights, trains or buses online and I think you should check accommodation on

[www.booking.com](http://www.booking.com) They also have apartments.

Then there are lots of websites with apartments, such as Venice apartments, etc. and they have fine objects in central historic Venice.

You can also find cheaper hotels in Marghera and Mestre. From Marghera and Mestre it takes about 15 minutes by bus or tram to Venice, Piazzale Roma. And then walk 10 - 20 minutes, or take the vaporetto (water bus), to the church / hall where we start the day 10:00 with rehearsals with The Venice Mandolin Festival Orchestra (VMFO).

Inside Venice is also the church's dormitory Patronato Salesiano Leone XIII.

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

I recommend you to make reservations in the area near of San Marco or Rialto, than it is near to everything. The concerts will take place in different churches in Venice and the rehearsals of The Venice Mandolin Festival Orchestra (VMFO) in Venice.

There will be some concerts at Lido near the vaporetto station at Lido for the guest orchestras, probably not for VMFO. The place for the party is not decided yet. So Rialto, San Marco eventually around Accademia is also good areas for your stay.

Of course we will invite the soloists and / or conductors, free of charge for the big carnival-style party with typical Venetian entertainment in Baroque style with dancers and snacks & drinks. VMFO will play at the party. Travel and accommodation costs are not borne by Venice Mandolin Festival.

The price for the participants per person is: Euro € 150 for adults / Euro € 100 for students / Euro € 50 for companions, including the carnival style party with snacks & drinks. Children under 12 year is free of charge. Free entrance to all concerts.

The exact venues of concerts and rehearsals will come soon, as well as a proposal where and when your orchestra and The Venice Mandolin Festival Orchestra will play concerts. This is because that the Venetians are planning the details of the schedule. Please wait until I will inform you.

We would like to know the orchestra who wants to play the honorable inauguration concert of The Venice Mandolin Festival 2024, at 1 May at 19:30? The church is open for rehearsal 3 hour before the concert.

Feel free to ask questions. We will inform you more about details.

**PLEASE SPREAD OUT THE INFORMATION, SHEET-MUSIC AND THE PDF FILES TO ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR ORCHESTRA AND RELEVANT INFORMATION TO YOUR COMPANIONS.**

Lots of regards / keep in touch.

Lars Forslund