



# *Ascending and Descending landscapes*

Italy 2019

ELASA

Mini meeting



*From 2 to 8 May 2019*

# ELASA

ELASA is the European Landscape Architecture Student Association which connects landscape architecture students all over Europe through different events and meetings organized every year. The main idea is to provide opportunities where students can interact, exchange ideas and learn from each other, from hosting landscape architects, or other experts. We strive to organize two meetings per year. An annual meeting (summer) and a smaller mini-meeting (spring) which are organized in a different country each year, by students from the University of that country.

This year's spring mini-meeting event is organized in Italy. The importance of the diverse event locations is to have the opportunity to travel and see different problems, solutions, projects and to get in touch with the culture of the organizing country. The individual ELASA meetings each year focus on a different topic. They consider different landscape features and characteristics, and they include various projects, with organized tours from the authors or other related experts.

ELASA is an open association without a board or membership. Meetings are based on the enthusiasm and spontaneity of landscape architecture students and find continuity via a self-regulating system that is already in function since 1990.

ELASA represents landscape architecture students in meetings of the European and global professional and educational landscape architecture organizations like IFLA (International Federation of Landscape Architects), EFLA (European Federation of Landscape Architecture) and ECLAS (European Counsel of Landscape Architecture Schools). ELASA has an active participation in the LE:NOTRE project (Landscape Education: New Opportunities for Teaching and Research in Europe) of ECLAS.

# ITALY

Welcome to Italy! As you maybe already know, we are carbohydrate-addicted, and we live in a territory that looks like a boot. In pasta and pizza we trust, and so will you at the end of this journey. By the way, Italy is actually a nation located in South-Europe, in the heart of the Mediterranean Sea. Due to its central geographic location in Europe and the Mediterranean, Italy has historically been home to a myriad of peoples and cultures. As a reflection, Italy is home to 54 World Heritage Sites. Italy's geological structure, including the Alps and the Apennines, Central Italian woodlands, and Southern Italian Garigue and Maquis shrubland, also contribute to high climate and habitat diversity. Infact, Italy has a high level of floral biodiversity, with 6,759 species, and a vast landscape variety. For centuries divided by politics and geography until its eventual unification in 1861, Italy's culture has been shaped by a multitude of regional customs.

Many of you already visited Italy a lot of times, mostly visiting the North and the Center. That's why we decided to prepare for you a South-oriented tour that, as students of landscape architecture, will be really interesting for the landscapes we will discover together.

Last but not least to understand our complex and controversial culture we will give you some tips about how to interact with efficacy with the body language in the following pages.

We really hope that you will enjoy this trip and looking forward to have you all here.

Keep following our tips in the next pages!

With love,  
The Italian team

# THEME

## Why Matera?

Known as "the Underground City", Matera is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. Its historical centre "Sassi" is considered a World Heritage Site by UNESCO since 1993. The city is the only place in the world where people can boast to be still living in the same houses of their ancestors of 9,000 years ago. Matera is now declared Italian host of European Capital of Culture for 2019.

The city has gained international fame for its ancient town, the "Sassi di Matera". The Sassi originated in a prehistoric settlement, and these dwellings are thought to be among the first ever human settlements in Italy. The Sassi are habitations dug into the calcareous rock. The ancient town grew up on one slope of the rocky gravine created by a river that is now a small stream.

Until the late 1980s, the Sassi was considered an area of poverty, since its dwellings were uninhabitable.

The present local administration promoted the regeneration of the Sassi with the aid of the Italian government, the European Union and UNESCO. Today is representing an excellent example of landscape and town rehabilitation.

## Why Ascending and descending landscapes?

Like in the Esher's Ascending and descending picture, Matera is an incredible place in which the sense of time and space are lost. Thanks to the recent restoration of the old city, the caves in which life is growing again are the same in which the ancient population lived thousands of years ago. This wonderful cultural landscape is a great demonstration of how the human life and the landscape can be integrated together.

Furthermore, we will run across wine routes, ghost cities, temples, following the topography of the South Italian peninsula, we aim to bring you through interesting sites, looking for useful ways to preserve and promote the cultural heritage and the landscape.

# ORGANIZERS



LAVINIA RACCAH

Hey everyone I'm Lalli and this is my fourth Elasa meeting, can't wait to have you all hosted in our amazing Country! Elasa is such a great association and I'm so happy and proud to host the first Elasa meeting that ever happened in Italy. Some of you already know that I love nature, travelling, cooking for others (especially sweets) and being creative at all times!



DANIELE STEFÀNO

I'm Daniele Stefàno and I'm doing a PhD on Landscape and Environment in Rome. I'm scared and happy at the same time to organize this event. I love to discover new territories as well to meet people, and ELASA seems to be a perfect combination of all that. I'm daltonic and I love maps, and I can't wait to see you all.



MONICA LANARO

Hello! My name is Monica and I'm currently studying for my master's degree in Landscape Architecture in Rome. I was born in Bolzano in Northern Italy and grew up bilingual. I speak German, Italian, English, a bit of Spanish and I recently started learning Arabic. Besides languages, I love art and botany. I'm looking forward to meet you all and discover Italy together



# ORGANIZERS



SARA SAVONE

Hi everyone, I'm Sara and this is my first ELASA meeting. I'm graduated in industrial design and now I'm attending the master degree in Landscape Architecture in Rome. I can't wait to share with you my passion for nature and landscape.



MARCO ALESSANDRINI

Ciaooo, my name is Marco and I'm graduating in Landscape Architecture master degree in Rome. I've been twice in Erasmus, so I like being surrounded by students from different cultures, and for this reason I'm looking forward to sharing moments with you in this amazing country. I love cooking all kind of pasta and explore nature.

2. May

# PROGRAM

16.00 arrival and welcome at meeting point - hostel

18.30 game presentation and knowing each other

20.00 italian welcome dinner at the hostel

21.30 discovering Rome by night

### 3. May

- 07.00 Breakfast at the hostel
- 08.00 Departure from the hostel direction Sapienza University of Rome (Borghese)
- 08.30 ELASA welcome presentation at University
- 09.00 Franco Zagari's lecture about his works in landscape architecture
- 09.30 Fabio Di Carlo's presentation on landscape architecture courses in Rome
- 10.00 Tour of Zagari's project - Rome - Piazza Montecitorio
- 11.30 Brunch time in Villa Borghese
- 12.00 Departure towards the hostel
- 12.30 Back at the hostel picking up luggages for leaving
- 12.50 Departure from the hostel towards Termini Station
- 13.53 Departure by train towards Matera
- 19.30 Arrival at Ostello dei Sassi Matera (hostel)
- 20.30 Welcome dinner at the hostel



## 4. May

09.00 Breakfast at the hostel

10.30 Guided tour of the Sassi of Matera

12.30 Pic nic lunch in the surroundings of Matera

13.30 Sketch session of the surroundings of Matera

14.30 Treasure hunt in the Sassi of Matera

17.00 End of the treasure hunt - video presentation

(19.00 Eventual buying at the supermarket for the international evening)

20.00 "Panzerotto" dinner at the hostel

21.30 Night out in Matera - Area 8 site

5 May

- 08.30 Breakfast at the hostel
- 10.00 Departure from the hostel direct in Parco della Murgia Materana
- 10.30 Visit at the Parco della Murgia Materana (trip in the nature)
- 12.30 Pic nic lunch at the Belvedere of Matera
- 13.30 Departure by bus direction the ghost town of Craco
- 14.30 Visit at the ghost town of Craco
- 16.00 Sketch session in the nature
- 17.00 Departure towards Ostello dei Sassi Matera
- 18.00 Preparing food for the international evening
- 20.00 International evening at the hostel
- 21.30 Wine tasting at the Enoteca in the Sassi

6 May

- 07.30 Breakfast at the hostel
- 09.00 Workshop Presentation at University
- 09.00: Mininni e dottorandi UNIBAS
- 10.00 SIA - Alberi monumentali
- 11.30 Coffee break
- 12.00 Suolo Europa
- 13.00 Pic nic lunch outdoors
- 14.00 AIAPP presentation for workshop
- 15.00 Workshop with AIAPP at University
- 18.00 Final presentation at University
- 19.00 Coming back to the hostel
- 20.00 Dinner out offered by Elasa
- 21.30 Drinks in the surroundings

7 May

- 07.30 Breakfast at the hostel
- 09.00 Final Presentation at Casa Cava and distribution of the certificates
- 11.00 Departure from hostel towards Rome
- 17.10 Arrival at Rome Termini
- 18.00 Arrival at the hostel in Rome and check in
- 19.30 Night out in Rome and italian dinner offered by Elasa

8 May

09.00 Breakfast at the hostel

10.30 Goodbye