

## Your Arrival in Italy

Once my flight lands in Firenze (that's Florence, in Italian!), what are my next steps?

Procedures and security rules change frequently, but generally the pattern is something like this:

- After you exit the plane and step into the Florence airport, follow the signs (and your fellow passengers) toward Passport Control and Baggage Claim.
- The Passport Control lines can be lengthy (especially in the "non-EU passports" line), but usually move quickly. The Passport Control officer will typically ask a question or two about the reason for, and length of, your visit, then stamp your passport and allow you through.
- As you reach the Baggage Claim area, you should see signs or screens at each carousel announcing which flight's checked baggage will be arriving at that carousel.
- Once you have picked up your checked baggage, proceed to the exit toward the "unsecured" area of the airport. You may find separate doors or lanes for those who do or don't have items to declare. You won't have anything to declare upon arrival, so feel free to exit through the "nothing to declare" lane/door (past any security officers -- you're not required to stop to check in with them, but they can stop folks for spot checks).

Yes! I got my luggage at baggage claim, and I'm good to go! Now what do I do?

You're headed to Grand Hotel Cavour, Via del Proconsolo, 3, 50122, Firenze. The Florence airport (Aeroporto di Firenze-Peretola) is approximately 25 minutes by car or tram from Grand Hotel Cavour. You have a few options to get from the airport to the hotel:

- Taxi. This will cost around \$30 per ride (so if you're sharing a taxi with a traveling companion, it will save money!). Taxis are located in front of the terminal building as you exit. (Do NOT accept ride offers from anyone soliciting passengers inside the terminal.)
- Book a driver. <u>Use this link</u> to book with a well-reviewed company. They'll be waiting outside baggage claim with a sign with your name on it, and will drive you to the hotel. This will cost around \$50 per person.
- The airport tram. The tram departs every 5-10 minutes, and you can purchase tickets from a machine in the airport (it's about \$2 per person). Follow the signs for the tram, and take it to the Unità stop (it's the last stop on the line, so just wait until the tram has reached its final destination) in Florence's city center. From there, it's about a 15-minute walk to the hotel.
- Nervous about this? Don't be! Liz and Adam are arriving in Florence early, and will be there to help! Adam will happily meet you at the airport and get you squared away (whether with a taxi, pre-booked ride service, or tram), and Liz will happily meet you on the other end to help you get checked in to the hotel. Just email us if you'd like us to help, and we'll work with you in advance to coordinate a plan for your arrival!

Let us know if you have any additional questions about arriving in Florence!