



LEARNING EXPEDITION TO TUSCANY

20th (full day) and 21st (morning) November 2024

Event schedule

Day 1: November 20th | Growing with Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain | Evening Networking

Location: Firenze – c/o Il Fuligno - CSF Montedomini – Via Faenza, 48
(<https://maps.app.goo.gl/mtSMmEYzt5arUyp2A>)

9:00 - 9:30 (30min) – Welcome Delegates with Italian coffee

9:30 - 11:00 (1h30) – Pitching session: The Delegates introduce themselves to increase collaboration and networking potential during the LEx

11:00 – 11:30 (30min) – *Coffee break*

11:30 - 13:00 (1h30) – Use cases session: Presentation of a selection of use cases to solve challenges of the 3 Ecosystems with Advanced Technologies, and open discussion

13:00 - 14:30 (1h30) – *Networking Lunch break*

14:30 - 15:30 (1h) – Mini Acceleration event on AI: Bring home key information and tools about AI and its usage to help companies' growth

15:30 - 16:30 (1h) – Mini Acceleration event on Blockchain: Bring home key information and tools about Blockchain and its usage to help companies' growth

16:30 – 16:50 (20min) – *Coffee break*

16:50 - 18:00 (1h10) – Work in groups (1h) and final conclusions (10min)

Time/location tbc - *Networking apero-dinner with DITECFER members*



Day 2: November 21st | Visits to Tuscan companies

8:00 (sharp) - Meeting at Tramway stop “Stazione Scalette” (left side of the Firenze Railway station “Santa Maria Novella”: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/gx3os1eG4Ht7eRzB8>). You will buy the ticket on board by "tapping" your debit/credit card. By tram, we will reach the location where our private bus will pick-up the group and transport it to the companies:

9:00 - 10:00 - Visit #1 Hitachi Rail GTS Italia

10:30 - 12:30 - Visit #2 Knorr Bremse Rail Systems Italia (lunch on site)

13:00 - The group is back at the tram station "T2 Guidoni" (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/Xm4PiqqS8YipZZxh6>), where - using T2 tram line - the Delegates can:
a) arrive to Firenze airport “Amerigo Vespucci” by tram (1 stop away)
b) return to Firenze city centre (Santa Maria Novella Railway Station) by tram (25-30 min) (buy your ticket by tapping your debit/credit card) (**The IDEALIST Partners return to Firenze city centre for the Steering Committee meeting, to take place in Via Valfonda, 9 (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/sJDVZdfoGyric4qYA>), near Santa Maria Novella Railway Station**)

Who is Hitachi Rail GTS Italia (HR GTS ITA):

Hitachi Rail GTS is the former Thales Transportation, acquired by the Japanese group in July 2024, this way becoming a stronger global leader covering all Value Chain in Rolling Stock, Command Control Signalling, Ticketing etc. for Rail, Metro and Tramway transportation.

What you will visit:

Hitachi Rail GTS Italia is the Global Centre of Competence for Tramways of the Group. Among the most recent product advancements, the “Autonomous Tram AI”, i.e. a system that integrates Artificial Intelligence with key functions such as next-generation autonomous positioning (NGAP) for track location with an accuracy of less than 1 metre, and obstacle detection, classification and tracking around the tram (ODT) to minimise false positives and negatives. These systems use a state-of-the-art sensor fusion algorithm (SFA) that combines measurements from IMU, radar, Lidar, stereo cameras and GNSS sensors. The system has been tested on the Firenze Tramway for 2 years.

This innovation represents the most advanced status of Trams autonomy in Europe and at global level. The Delegates will therefore learn how AI can be scaled to such a high level of performance to deliver disruptive solutions to the market.

Who is Knorr Bremse Rail Systems Italia (KBRSI):

KBRSI is one of the multinational companies established in the Firenze hinterland thanks to the rail engineering specialisations driven by the University of Firenze.

KBRSI is a Tier 1 company within the Rail value chain, as producer of rolling stock systems and components such as braking systems, doors systems, TCMS (Train Control Monitoring System, which is the brain and the backbone of a train), HVAC (Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning), toilet systems. Its



customers in Italy include Hitachi Rail STS and Alstom, and as a group all the main global train manufacturers. The Knorr Bremse group is also developing the DAC-Digital Automatic Coupling for freight trains within the Europe's Rail DAC Delivery Programme; also, it has recently acquired the signalling competences from Alstom in North America.

What you will visit:

KBRSI has recently made investments in Industry 4.0 technologies to increase process efficiency in the company. Namely, the testing area has been improved and the internal logistics has been reorganised (over one-million-euro investment). All this has been accompanied by an internal process of employees' upskilling/reskilling, which now allows to make the most of the new technologies by each member of the personnel, resulting in higher speed, efficiency, and overall working quality.

You will be introduced to the company with a presentation, followed by the visit to the production lines, including discussion about how to best implement new technologies under the human resources' point of view.

Funding Scheme for SMES

Participants to the LEX as "SME representatives" can benefit from support for travel expenses. The travel voucher will be distributed by your local cluster: CAAR, APPAU, Albatros, CCB, CIMES, COMET, GKZ EV, MLK, Polymeris, SAC.

After the event your company can invoice the cluster for "participation to IDEALIST Learning Expedition at DITECFER".

About Firenze

On Firenze there is little more to say: it is one of the most beautiful and iconic cities in the world. Home to "Renaissance" and to stunning monuments and museums, it is also the capital of Tuscany, which is one more landmark for art, culture, food, wine. But while Firenze and Tuscany are world famous for these "soft" elements, they are also home to "hard" industry and leading industrial ecosystems. The most famous are Life Science, Geothermal Energy, Paper, Yachting, Automotive, Textile, and of course Railway industry. Discover more: [Welcome | Feel Florence](#)

Travelling to Firenze

By Plane

Nearest airports:

- **Firenze (FLR)**. You can reach the city centre by tram (the stop is right off the Airport building. Tickets can be purchased on board, tapping your credit/debit card; cost: 1,70 €) or by taxi.

- **Pisa (PSA)** at 90 km (direct regional trains from Pisa Centrale to Firenze-Santa Maria Novella. For tickets: [EN - Trenitalia](#))

Other near airports:

- **Bologna (BLQ)** at 120 km (direct high-speed trains from Bologna-Centrale to Firenze-Santa Maria Novella. For tickets: [EN - Trenitalia](#))

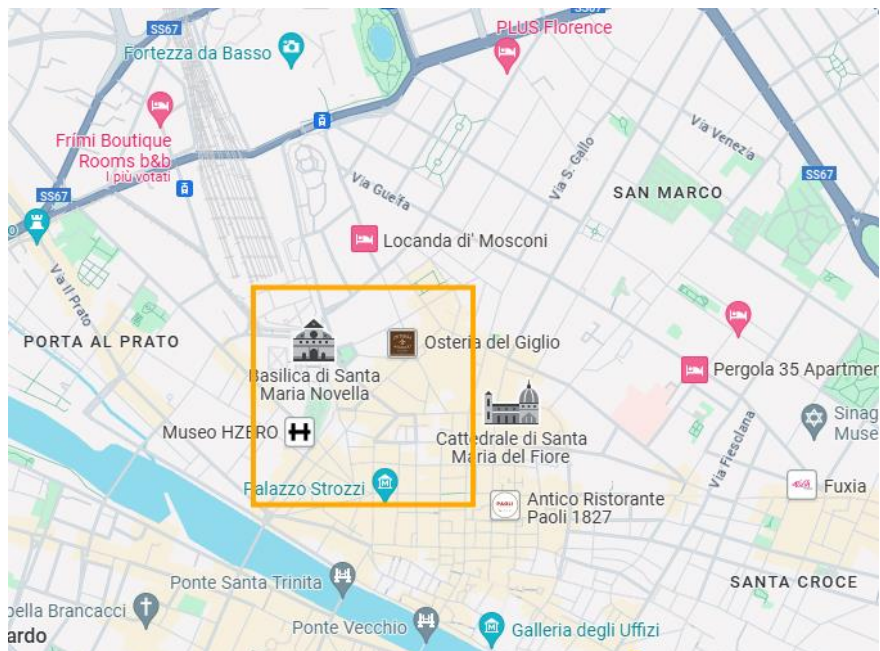
By Train:

The target railway station is **Firenze-Santa Maria Novella** (for tickets: [Trainline : Search, Compare & Buy Cheap Train Tickets](#))

Accommodation Options

Any hotel in the city centre close to the SMN-Santa Maria Novella railway station is fantastic as transportation to the venue by tram is easy and you can discover the city in the evening by walking.

There is a huge offer of hotel accommodation and private apartments. Simply search on [Booking.com](#) targeting the area between the SMN Railway Station, the Duomo, the Arno River (the yellow area in the picture).



Dining in Firenze

Firenze is full of restaurants; here is a small selection of our preferred ones in the inner city centre:

1. **Osteria Antico Noé (€)**: A typical Florentine trattoria created in the premises of a former butcher's shop under the San Pierino arch. The restaurant is for those who love the genuine flavours of the past typical of Tuscan cuisine: homemade pasta, excellent meat and carefully selected quality wines. The restaurant's specialities include tasty hors d'oeuvres of cured meats and cheeses; soups with vegetables and cereals and homemade pasta; Florentine steaks,



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mixed grills and tripe; exquisite homemade desserts. (<https://www.thefork.it/ristorante/osteria-antico-noe>)

- Il Mercato Centrale Firenze** (€/€€): The old Firenze Central Market 10 years ago turned into this great place home to selected artisans producing and cooking the most typical Italian and local food: bread and baked products, fresh fish, fried food, vegetarian and vegan dishes, meat and charcuterie, buffalo mozzarella, cheese, chocolate and gelato, fresh pasta, pizza, wine, “lampredotto” (the most typical street food in Firenze, absolutely worth a try: <https://www.destinationflorence.com/en/blog/104-the-famous-lampredotto-panino-much-more-than-just-a-simple-street-food>), dim sum (because 15km from Firenze lies Prato, home to the largest Chinese community in Italy and one of the largest in Europe), truffles and much more. All the stores inside the huge market area are run by artisan traders who share the love of what they do. You just choose what you want, take a seat, and order your preferred drink. (<https://www.mercatocentrale.com/florence>)
- Cibrèo Trattoria – Il Cibreino** (€€): Florentine and Tuscan cuisine in the “trattoria” formula of the Cibrèo galaxy of high-level restaurant (see *the following restaurant*), cafeteria and theatre. In the trattoria you will find the more popular soul of the adjacent Cibrèo restaurant, a simple and pleasantly convivial environment that dispenses the same tasty cuisine and friendly service. The proposals are mainly Tuscan and focus on respect and the strength of the flavours. Reservation required. (<https://www.cibreio.com/en/cibreio-trattoria>)
- Cibrèo Restaurant** (€€€): An elegant dining room - almost a private living room - and a pleasantly friendly service are the outline of a cuisine that focuses on great flavours, following a roundup of dishes that are now historical, enhancing the taste of the house and the traditions of the territory. Among the appetisers, the ‘Vassoio del Cibrèo’ is highly recommended. Reservation required. (<https://www.cibreio.com/en/cibreio-restaurant>)
- Cantinetta Antinori** (€€€): Located on the ground floor of Palazzo Antinori, one of the finest examples of Florentine architecture from the mid 1400’s, in the historic city center, it is the restaurant of the renowned wine maker “Antinori” (the producer of “Supertuscan” wines such as Solaia and Tignanello). You can come either for wine tasting only or for a dinner experience based on authentic and distinctive flavors reminiscent of the territory’s characteristic aromas, accompanied by a selection of Antinori estate wines. Reservation required. (<https://cantinetta-antinori.com/en>)
- Caffé dell’Oro** (€€€): Contemporary Italian café (breakfast, morning coffee, lunch, afternoon tea, aperitifs, dinner and after-dinner) in a truly privileged position, with front-row views across to the Ponte Vecchio – even more stunning from one of the al fresco tables overlooking Lungarno degli Acciaiuoli, a charming pedestrian street crossing the heart of Florence. The menu offers a contemporary take on traditional Italian dishes, winning over even the most cosmopolitan palates with delicate blends of ingredients and an international approach to fine cuisine. Reservation suggested. (<https://www.lungarnocollection.com/caffe-dell-oro>)

