



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE

Joint Field Study in the Vallombrosa Forest (Italy)

Introduction

The Forest School of the University of Florence is the ancient program in forestry of Italy.

The Vallombrosa forest and the facility of the Paradisino was used in the XIX century as the didactical infrastructure for training the candidate members of the Forest Service of the Kingdom of Italy.

The forest is nowadays a protected area owned by the State and managed by the National Forest Service that also owns the Paradisino building.

In 1924 the Forest School was incorporated in the University of Florence and the Paradisino and the Vallombrosa forest are since then used for training field activities.

For the 2016 in the week **30th of May - 3rd of June** the Paradisino will host the field



work of **Forest inventory and Remote Sensing** (coordinated by Prof. G. Chirici), the following week (**6th– 10th of June**) is devoted to **Forest management & Silviculture** (coordinated by Prof. S. Nocentini and F. Salbitano).

Both the courses are for

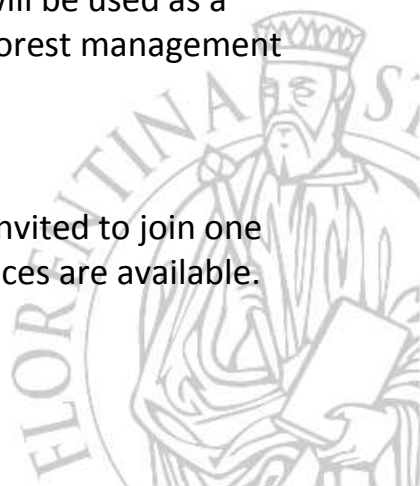
the first year students of the graduating program at the University of Florence (post bachelor degree). Approx. 30 students are expected to attend these field activities.

The two weeks are linked. In the sense that during the first week the students, organised in teams, will collect the information in the field that will be used as a basis to decide optimal silvicultural treatments and preparing a forest management plan.

The proposal

Graduating forest and environmental students from abroad are invited to join one or both the weeks for a joint field experience. Approx 30 – 40 places are available.

Draft programme



29th -30th May arrival and check-in

Forest inventory

30th May introduction to the forest of Vallombrosa and finalities of the summer school. Work programme. Students will receive instructions and instruments for carrying out a multisource forest inventory in a study area of the forest.

31st May field work and in the evening data preparation

1st June field work and in the evening data preparation

2nd June – field work / data acquisition with UAV and pre-elaboration

3rd June data elaboration

4th / 5th June data elaboration + excursions in different forest / environmental / cultural areas nearby (Florence, Chianti area, etc.)

Forest management & Silviculture

6th of June introduction to local forest management practices and silviculture methods. Work programme.

7th field work, forest description

8th field work and first forest compartments delineation

9th data elaboration

10th presentation of the results

Facilities

At the Paradisino rooms for students have 3 / 4 beds per room, organized in two floors. One bathroom with showers at each floor.



At the ground floor, the canteen, a classroom with computer, and a large open space are located. A terrace dominates the Abbey.

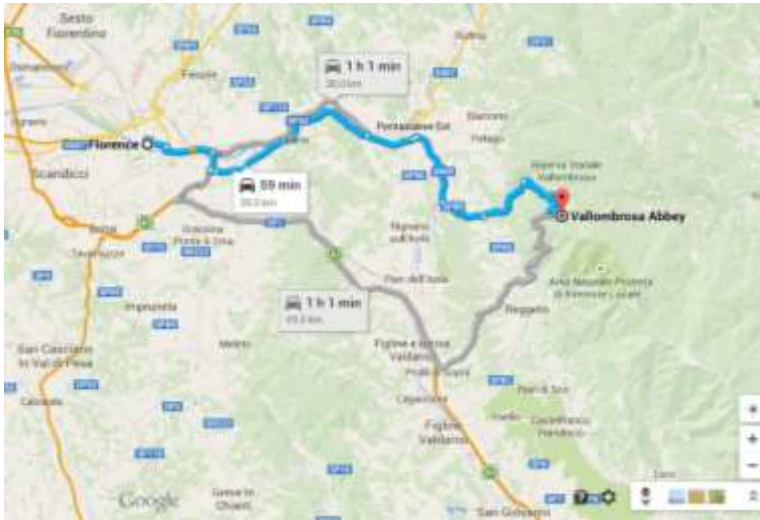


The Paradisino is connected with a WiFi with the network of the University of Florence.



How to reach Vallombrosa

Vallombrosa is a Benedictine abbey and a small village about 30 km east-south-east of Florence, in the Apennines Mountain at 1000 a.s.l.



Buses connect the main railway station in Florence with Vallombrosa in 1 hour.

For reaching Florence by plane, you may fly directly to Peretola Airport (airport of Florence) or to Pisa Airport, and then reach Florence by bus or by train.

To reach Florence (Central railway

station Santa Maria Novella) from Pisa by bus, see: http://www.pisa-airport.com/index.php?lang=en&id_sect=270

To reach Florence (Central railway station Santa Maria Novella) from Pisa by train, see:

http://www.pisa-airport.com/aeroporto_di_pisa_221.html

What you have to bring with you

Warm clothes in several layers. The average minimum temperature in May is 8°C and the maximum is 16°C

(<http://www.meteosystem.com/wlip/vallombrosa/index.php>).

Heavy shoes (boots) for the field trip

Beds are provided with blankets and pillows only: bring with you bed linen or a sleeping bag

Towels

Detergents for personal care (shampoo, soap)

The cost

The cost is equal to 22€ per day per person, including light breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

