

G E B C O
GENERAL BATHYMETRIC CHART OF THE OCEANS



INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC
ORGANIZATION

MONACO



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission

PARIS

From: Mr. David M. Clark, GEBCO Permanent Secretary, National Geophysical Data Center,
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To GEBCO Guiding Committee, Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names,
Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping, interim Sub-Committee on Regional
Undersea Mapping, Nippon Foundation/GEBCO Project Management Committee,
GEBCO Scientific Advisers, Corresponding Members, UNH Alumni, IBC
Chairmen/Editors and others

02 April 2013

Dear Colleague,

Meeting in Venice, October 7-11, 2013

First Circular

The GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC), Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping (TSCOM), Sub-Committee on Regional Undersea Mapping (SCRUM) and Nippon Foundation/GEBCO Training Project Management Committee (NMC) will meet at Istituto di Scienze Marine in Venice (Italy). The GEBCO Bathymetric Science Day will also be held this week at this venue.

The address of the meeting is Istituto di Scienze Marine -- Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche Arsenale - Tesa 102-104, Castello 2737/F 30122 Venezia, Italy. Tel (+39) 041 2407927 Fax (+39) 041 2407940. The contact for local arrangements is Magda Casarin E-mail magda.casarin@ve.ismar.cnr.it Please always copy to m.rovere@ismar.cnr.it and f.fogliini@ismar.cnr.it

1. Program

The formal meeting Program is planned as listed below, in chronological order. However, it is realized that not all participants will need to attend for the whole period. For non-committee and non-subcommittee members, if you are interested in attending any of the meetings, please inform the relevant chairman of your interest. Names of Chairmen and Working Group leaders can be found on the GEBCO web site. The Science day is open to all, but a pre-list is necessary because the max attendance inside the room is 70 participants + speakers. Please note that the Guiding Committee will not meet in open session although some key non-GC members and official observers will be invited to attend.

Special trips and events are being planned for Thursday, October 10. They will include guided visits to the La Biennale art exhibition <http://www.labiennale.org/en/biennale/index.html> and/or boat trips to the lagoon for bathymetry data acquisition onboard a small ISMAR vessel (8 people maximum onboard at a time). More information will be provided in the Second Circular.

There are two venues for the GEBCO meetings which adjacent to each other: Tesa 102 and Tesa 104

Date	Venue	
	Tesa 102 - Sala Plenaria	Tesa 104- breakout rooms
Monday 7 October 2013	TSCOM/SCRUM	
Tuesday 8 October	GEBCO Science Day	
Wednesday 9 October	TSCOM/SCRUM	
Thursday 10 October	NMC /FIELD TRIP	FIELD TRIP
Friday 11 October	GCC	

2. Passports and visas

All foreigners intending to enter Italy must provide the documentation required to justify the reasons and duration of their stay as well as, in some prescribed cases, the availability of adequate economic means and lodging. Visa applications are to be made at the Italian Consulate or Embassy in their place of residence or any other signatory country of the Schengen agreement. Please visit this website to find if you require a visa: http://www.esteri.it/visti/home_eng.asp

The information here furnished concerns only persons travelling for tourism with ordinary passports or identity cards. Special circulation conditions apply to European Union and European Economic Area citizens and their family members, as well as to Third Country citizens legally residing in the Schengen Area. EU citizens do not require a visa to enter Italy. Citizens from the following countries do not need a visa, but only a valid passport, for a stay between 30 and 90 days (ask your Embassy for the exact duration):

Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Ivory Coast, Japan, Kenya, (South) Korea, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Samoa, San Christopher and Nevis, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Swiss, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, USA, Venezuela.

On the basis of the existing Visa Facilitation Agreements with the UE, the visa applicants of the following Countries will be charged 35 euro, for the type A, B and C visas only: Ukraine, Russian Federation, FYROM, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Albania and Moldova.

The following categories of third country applicants are exempt from payment of the visa-application handling fee:

- students (short- and long-term stay);
- children under 6 years of age (short-term stay);
- relatives up to the fourth degree of kin of EU citizens (short- and long-term stay);
- researchers as defined by recommendation 2005/761/EC of 28.09.2005

- some categories of beneficiaries envisaged by Art. 6 of each EU Visa Facilitation Agreement.

All GEBCO participants should check, well before they travel, whether they will need a visa to enter Italy. It is strongly recommended that you apply well in advance for your visa. If you need a **letter of invitation** to support your visa application please contact David Clark, GEBCO Permanent Secretary, at the address above.

3. Hotel accommodation

ISMAR was not able to make block bookings for the meeting because the city of Venice is an international tourist destination. October is the high season for art exhibitions and international congresses. Due to the peculiarity of the city of Venice, hotels are divided in areas which are located in places where the access to the meeting venue is relatively easy, but be prepared to walk in Venice.

The only way to walk to the meeting venue is to follow the pathway of the ferry line 5.2. at stop Celestia or Bacini (see Image 1). Ferry lines (vaporetto) web site is <http://www.actv.it/en> There is no direct access for pedestrians from the ferry stop "Arsenale" (see Image 2) to the meeting venue.

Hotels, bed and breakfast, relais, private accommodations are available through the various online hotel booking web sites, **but it is highly recommended to book well in advance.** There is a tax for staying in Venice which is 3 € per person/day.

Examples of Web booking sites are: Kayak (<http://www.kayak.com/hotels>); Orbitz (<http://www.orbitz.com>); Travelocity (<http://www.travelocity.com>); Venice Apartments (<http://www.veniceapartment.com>)

A few suggested hotels include:

Rialto and neighbourhood (20 m walking from the meeting venue or by ferry line 5.2 see image 2)

Hotel Antica Locanda Sturion*** <http://locandasturion.com/it/> (Gran Canal)

Hotel Santa Marina**** <http://www.hotelsantamarina.it/it/> (close to the Rialto bridge), this hotel accepted the following rates: dbl/twn/dus euro 300,00/250,00. When booking with this hotel you may quote: ISMAR CNR GEBCO meeting.

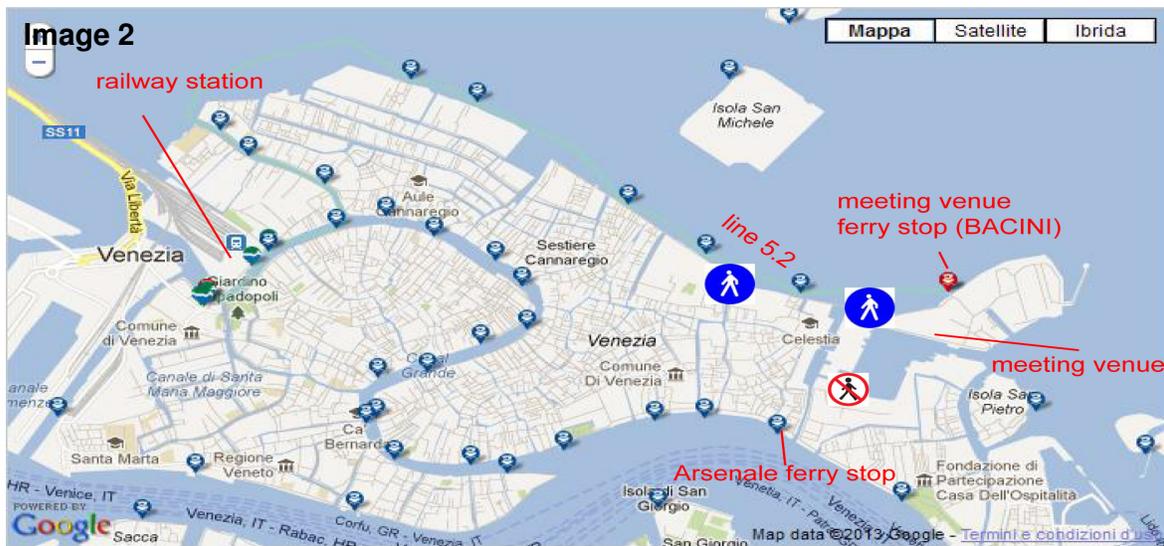
Nearby a ferry stop to reach the meeting venue (line 4.1 see image 2)

Hotel Reali**** <http://www.hotelaireali.com/it/> (Campo San Bortolomeo, Rialto)

Hotel Campiello*** <http://www.hcampiello.it/it/rooms.htm> (Riva degli Schiavoni)

Hotel Gabrielli**** <http://www.hotelgabrielli.it/it/hotel> (Riva dei Sette Martiri)

For students a less expensive accommodation is available at Salesiani <http://www.salesianivenezia.it>, it is a religious congregation who hosts tourists and people for less expensive rates. Unfortunately the website is in Italian only, but all rooms (single and double) have private bath, telephone and AC, and first breakfast is included (approximately 50 € per person). If some of the participants want to choose this option, please always copy magda.casarin@ve.ismar.cnr.it, m.rovere@ismar.cnr.it and f.fogliini@ismar.cnr.it when writing to info@salesianivenezia.it, we will help you with the reservation.



Certosa Island

The Venice Certosa Hotel (<http://hotel.ventodivenezia.it>) is placed in a secluded and special location which is an island very close to the meeting venue (only 10 minutes by public ferry), 10 double rooms will be available for 100 € first breakfast included, 8 single rooms for 65 € first breakfast included. Supplementary bed at the cost of 25 €/night. A restaurant is present inside the Venice Certosa Hotel. Private transportation to the meeting venue will be arranged if a large number of participants will book this solution. Public ferries are available (lines 4.1 and 4.2) that connect the island to the city centre in 15 minutes (06:00 a.m.-21:00 p.m.) and a free private shuttle to the hotel is available at night. **The cut-off date for reservations in the Venice Certosa Hotel is April 26th.** If you are interested in this solution, please book urgently and contact m.rovere@ismar.cnr.it. When booking with this hotel you may quote: ISMAR CNR GEBCO meeting, and a non-refundable deposit (after September 10th) will be requested.

4. Meeting Registration

It is very important that you register your attendance to the meeting with the GEBCO Permanent Secretary, David Clark at the address above, as soon as possible. Please send your name, institution, email address and the dates you will attend. This information is necessary to plan the agenda and logistics for the meeting. Because of the hotel situation in Venice, it would be very useful for us to know where you will be staying. Therefore, please also send me the name of your hotel you will be staying during your time in Venice.

5. Local information

Venice is an Italian city (Western Europe) which lies offshore on a series of islands in the NE Adriatic Sea and is the capital of the Veneto Region. Venice is situated in a natural lagoon on 118 small islands separated by canals (channels) and linked by bridges. The official language is Italian; English is widely spoken at restaurants and hotels. Around 60,000 people reside in the historic city of Venice.

The historical city is divided into six areas or "sestiere". These are: Cannaregio, San Polo, Dorsoduro (including the Islands of Giudecca and Isola Sacca Fisola), Santa Croce, San Marco and Castello. Other islands of the Venetian Lagoon (like Lido, Certosa, Murano, Burano, St. Erasmo etc) do not form part of any of the sestieri. Each sestiere has its own house numbering system.

Venice is one of the world's greatest pedestrian cities. No automotive vehicles are permitted within the city of Venice, except for some restricted places like near the train station (Venezia Santa Lucia) and on the Lido Island. Everything and everyone in the city is transported by boat. The old city is very compact; the most familiar historical sights are Piazza San Marco and the Grand Canal. In places the streets are so narrow that you can stretch your arms out and touch the buildings on either side of the street.

September to November sees average rainfall rise to more than 60 mm and visitors to Venice can expect at least one rainy day in a week. But temperatures hold up well at 15°C. The Acqua Alta phenomenon (flooding in the streets of Venice) is not expected in this season; in any case it will be forecasted at least 3 days in advance.

6. How to arrive

The Venice airport is an international port of call. Connections are easy from the airport both to historic Venice and the mainland (Venezia Mestre). Historic Venice is well connected by train to the most important Italian cities.

I look forward to seeing you in Venice!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David M. Clark".

David Clark
GEBCO Permanent Secretary