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Welcome to Alce !

“Alce and the splendid city of Bologna are ready to give you a very warm welcome. Our centre here offers top quality teaching and a friendly learning environment.

All in all, an experience we are sure you will treasure for life.”

The City of Bologna

Bologna, the capital of the Emilia-Romagna region, is a city steeped in history and culture. Surrounded by green hills, the town conceals countless artistic and architectural treasures in the shade of its towers and porticoes. It is one of the most amazing urban centres in existence and rarely are citizens as proud of their hometown as the Bolognese. The old town centre is extensive, well-preserved and rich in memories of the many civilisations that have lived here over the ages. The urban structure was defined by the Romans. The medieval street system, that extends from the city centre like the spokes of a wheel, was laid down by the Longobards. Numerous convents bear witness to the bygone power of the Popes and the impressive Jewish ghetto, still intact today, is also movingly reminiscent. Another fine feature of the town are its picturesque red brick towers. In the past there were over 200 of these, each demonstrating the power of the important families who built them.

Two of the finest examples, the Asinelli Tower and the unfinished Garisenda Tower, have now become a symbol of the town. But what really distinguishes Bologna's

urban character are its porticoes. No other city in the world can boast a monumental procession of arcades that stretches, almost without interruption, for over thirty five kilometres. Admired by visitors for centuries, this unique example of architectural harmony has recently been submitted for nomination as a World Heritage Site. An important centre in medieval times, Bologna is not only famous for being the birthplace of the oldest university in the western hemisphere, it was once also one of Europe's major harbours. In bygone times, large, industrial cities depended on water and Bologna's advanced technical system of waterways and canals facilitated mercantile navigation and enhanced its business activities. Today, most of Bologna's canals flow underground, but many have been recently restored and opened to visitors.

Bologna is also an important gastronomic centre. Its inhabitants regard preparing and savouring food, not as a mere necessity, but as a refined art where new and classic flavours are blended with skill and passion.

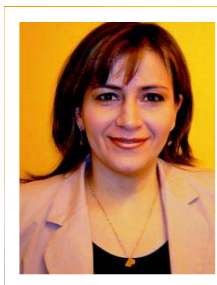


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THE SCHOOL



ALCE is a school that specialises in teaching the Italian language to overseas students. It was founded in 1999 with the simple goal of providing students with a comprehensive educational and cultural experience, within a friendly and encouraging environment. Each year we welcome students from all over the world and our wide range of courses is designed to meet their every need. Our teaching is modern and uses multimedia technology, but one thing has and never will change and that is our insistence on the same high standards and the same warm welcome we gave when we started. We work constantly to guarantee this and to maintain the quality on which our reputation is founded.

By studying Italian in Italy you will learn the language far more effectively and quickly than you could at home. You will also have the chance to experience Italian lifestyle, make new friends from around the world, and develop your understanding of our increasingly intercultural world. ALCE brings all of these experiences together in educational programmes that are proven, effective and stimulating. We are, and will always be, a traditional institution where you will be treated as an individual, not as a number, and where teachers and staff respect your commitment to your education and take pride in your achievements. We look forward to welcoming you to Bologna and on behalf of all the teachers and staff, I would like to invite you to join us this year.

Rossana Fulchini
Principal



Why study with us?

- A great city and a wonderful location (authentically Italian and away from mass tourism)
- Very easy to reach (international airport, low cost connections, main railway junction in Italy)
- A medium size family run school fully accredited (**IALC, CSN, Bildungsurlaub, Eduitalia**)
- Well equipped, bright teaching rooms and a computer area with free access to the internet and student e-mail facility
- A language institute that is open all year-round
- An official **CILS** examination centre (authorized by University of Siena)
- Good opportunities to meet Italian people
- Our courses represent excellent value for money
- A relaxed and friendly learning atmosphere
- Mixing with students of other nationalities makes for confident communication
- Individual attention in the classroom
- The right course to suit your age and your needs
- A quality accommodation experience guaranteed (including our unique directly managed student house / residence)



Our Teachers

Our teachers are all native speaker language graduates and hold a language teaching qualification. In this way we guarantee a high standard of tuition. Our teachers are used to different learning styles and are well aware of the need for flexible teaching methods, especially with classes of mixed age, nationality and motivation. Improving a student's communication skills involves working on linguistic goals and socio-cultural adaptation, developing learning and communication strategies, emphasizing sentence coherence and cohesion, and focusing on meaning first, and then structure. We encourage our students to avoid simply imitating structures and to express themselves through their own linguistic creativity. Our teachers regularly attend teaching refresher programmes organised by our teaching coordinator, who also supervises the tests we use to chart the progress of our students during courses.

Our Different Levels

On the first day the student is asked to take a test to determine his/her level. This test is both written and oral, and is always simple and informal. The test is designed to determine each student's particular needs. The ALCE teaching programme operates through a series of levels and modules at the end of which the student takes a test to evaluate his progress. These tests are extremely comprehensive and include written comprehension, written composition, oral comprehension, grammar and syntax, dialogue and conversation.

Levels	CEF	Levels	ALCE
A1 - Breakthrough		Beginner	
A1 - Breakthrough		Elementary	
A2 - Waystage		Pre-Intermediate	
B1 - Threshold		Intermediate	
B2 - Vantage		Upper-Intermediate	
C1 - EOP		Advanced	
C2 - Mastery		Upper-Advanced	

Our Methods

Our aim is to help you learn quickly and effectively. To achieve this we teach in a direct and communicative manner, in Italian from the very first day, using the most advanced methods and the most dynamic and interactive techniques. All aspects of the language are covered with an emphasis on speaking and listening. As well as teaching Italian we also organise social and cultural activities to help make communication easier in normal everyday situations. The learning process focuses entirely on your needs as a student, your way of learning, and the classroom activities you like best. At ALCE we know that the best place to learn a language is in the country where it is spoken, as there you are in direct contact with local people. This is why we encourage you to take part in the various cultural and social exchange activities we organise with our Italian and international students. At ALCE in Bologna we offer you all this and much, much more.

Italian Courses

Our Italian courses are designed for all foreigners wishing to get to know or increase their knowledge of our language for personal or professional reasons. Our Italian Courses follow ALCE methods that insist on high quality, professional teaching in an informal environment. Our teaching methods combine a traditional approach to basic grammar and syntax, with an innovative use of audio, video and real life materials. But what really sets our institute apart is the emphasis we place on the teacher-student relationship, as we are confident that this is the key to effective teaching. All of our teachers tailor their teaching as far as possible to the needs of each and every participant. We deliberately keep our classes small, between 3 and 8 students, and our Italian Course is organised by level to ensure that the teaching we provide perfectly matches your degree of preparation.



DIFFERENT COURSES

Intensive Course - GI22

We recommend this course to students who wish to learn the language and absorb the culture naturally, without rushing, but with no delays. The length of the course ranges from two weeks to a full academic year. This course offers four hours of lessons per day, from 9.00 to 13.00, Monday to Friday, plus (at least) two hours (one afternoon class of conversation or phonetic) per week. Groups range from 3 to 8 students; and an excursion and activity programme is included.

Super Intensive Course - GI30

This course offers students all the facilities of the Intensive course, The course consists of six hours of lessons per week, from 9.00 to 13.00 in the morning and 14.00 to 15.00 in the afternoon, Monday to Friday. Groups range from 3 to 8 students; and an excursion and activity programme is included.

Important: When are enrolled less than 2 students at the same level, we guarantee, at the same price, 5 on to one afternoon classes per week.

Course fact-file

Students	Adults (17 & Over). Written parental approval is required for 17 year olds joining this course
Course Length	A minimum of 2 weeks. Starting on any Monday
Tuition	22 lessons (21 hours and 50 minutes per week)
	30 lessons (29 hours and 50 minutes per week)
Class Size	Maximum 8
Class Size	Beginners to Advanced

Combined (intensive + on-to-one)

This course consists of morning classes plus one hour of private (one-to-one) lessons in the afternoon. The private lessons give students the opportunity to concentrate on their own individual needs and interests.

The course consists of 25 lessons per week, from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm in the morning and 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm in the afternoon, Monday to Friday. Groups range from 3 to 8 students; and an excursion and activity programme is included.

One-To-One Individual Lessons

General - OGI

This is the most personalised option – a course that consists entirely of individual, one-to-one lessons. The programme is completely based on your individual needs and adapts immediately to take account of the developments you have made. Experience has shown us that this type of course guarantees the very best results and progress. Both the content and timing of this course can be adapted to suit the student's requirements.

Professional - OPI

Both the content and timing of this course can be organised to suit the needs of professional people in areas such as the business, legal, architectural, scientific and commercial sectors.



Two-To-One Individual Lessons

General - TGI

If two people are interested in taking lessons together, the two-to-one option is a great opportunity in both financial and educational terms, as it rapidly increases Italian communication skills for everyday and academic use.

Professional - TPI

The same arrangement with the option of focusing on specialised professional areas, such as the business, legal, architectural, scientific and commercial sectors.

Preparatory for University - UP

This course prepares for **academic** life at an Italian-speaking university. Our special university preparation course combines Italian language and academic study skills (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths, Logics ..) and will give foreign students a good chance of success in the selection process. This course consists of 4 morning classes (GENERAL INTENSIVE ITALIAN) plus 2 lessons in the afternoon (SCIENTIFIC SUBJECTS). It is designed for admission into the following faculties: Medicine, Veterinary, Science, Pharmacy, Engineering, Biology. The course lasts 4, 6 or 8 weeks.

Sample weekly timetable

Time	From Monday to Friday - GI22	
09.00 - 10.50	grammar - vocabulary - listening	
10.50 - 11.00	Break	
11.00 - 13.00	reading - communicative activities	
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch	
	Monday (Orientation tour - 1° Monday of each month) (Supervised self-study with teacher - all Mondays except the first-)	All!
	Tuesday (Conversation class or Phonetics an pronunciation workshop)	Levels rotation
14.00 - 16.00	Wednesday (Italian Cinema)	All!
	Thursday (Accompanied visit to the museums - free of charge)	All!
	Friday (local guided visits, city tours, cultural an social events) ("Aperitivo" - pre dinner)	All!

CILS Certification and levels

ALCE is an **authorized examination centre** for the CILS certificate (Certificazione di Italiano come Lingua Straniera), offered by the Unistrasi (**University for Foreigners of Siena**). The CILS certificate is a title of proficiency in the Italian language and is recognized by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Therefore, it is widely acknowledged in all fields yielding this certificate essential when seeking employment in Italy or the international labour market. The CILS certificate is considered as a requirement for the admission of International students to the Italian higher education system. The successful accomplishment of the Livello CILS Due – B2 exam exempt international students from the Italian proficiency admissions test at the University. There are six CILS levels: Livello A1, Livello A2, Livello UNO-B1, Livello DUE-B2, Livello TRE-C1 and Livello QUATTRO-C2, each certifying progressively higher standards of Italian.

CILS Preparations Course

This course prepares students for the official **CILS exam**. This preparation course lasts six weeks and consists of four hours of lessons per day for the first four weeks, and six hours of lessons per day for the last two weeks.



Eight Study Tour - Italian "on the road"



This truly unique and exclusive program combines the opportunity to see some of the most beautiful cities of Italy with daily Italian lessons "on the road". The program will start in Bologna with stops in the main cities and towns of Art of North and Centre Italy, in Tuscany, Umbria and Lazio.

Students can apply for:

- One week Italian language course in Bologna + one-week tour
- Two (ore more) weeks Italian language course in Bologna + one-week tour.

"Italian on the road" includes:

- Classes (15 hours) with our teachers
- Guided visits
- Transportation by mini-van or private bus
- Accommodation in *** 3 stars hotels - twin room
- All breakfasts
- Dinners (as in the programme)

Day 1: Morning: Departure from **Bologna** at 09:00. Arrival to **FIRENZE** - the sightseeing tour begins, lunch break (time off on your own). Afternoon: Basilica di Santa, Piazza San Firenze, Bargello, Palazzo Vecchio, Via Calzaioli, San Lorenzo Church and Church of Santa Maria Novella. Overnight stay

Day 2: Morning: Departure to **SIENA** at 09:00. Guided tour of the city of Palio under the UNESCO World Heritage Site, universally known for its artistic and monumental richness. The tour Includes some of the most important medieval centres as Piazza del Campo, the Palazzo with the Torre del Mangia, the Duomo and the Baptistery. Afternoon: Lunch break (time off on your own) and departure to **SAN GIMIGNANO**, the "City of a Hundred Towers" - time off, ideal for a walk in the ancient medieval village. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Day 3: Morning: Departure to **PERUGIA** at 08:00, arrival on site, accommodation and breakfast mat the hotel - Italian lessons (10.30 - 13.30). Afternoon: Perugia - a city rich in art, history and monuments. Guided tour of Old Town with the Fontana Maggiore, the Etruscan traces and the Palazzo dei Priori. Organized overnight stay.

Day 4: Morning: Breakfast & Italian lessons (10.30 - 13.30) - Departure to **ASSISI**. City tour with stops at St. Francis, the Church of Santa Chiara and the old center with the Town Square, the Temple of Minerva, Torre Civica and Palazzo del Capitano del Popolo. Afternoon: Departure for **SPOLETO**. Guided tour of the Cathedral and Piazza della Libertà with walk through the streets of the historic center. Organized dinner and overnight stay

Day 5: Morning: Breakfast & Italian Italian lessons (10.30 - 13.30) - Departure to **ROMA**. Arrival and accommodation at the hotel. Lunch break (time off on your own) Afternoon: first guided walk in the capital, organized dinner at a typical restaurant in Trastevere and overnight stay.

Day 6: Morning: Breakfast & Italian lessons (10.30 - 13.30) Afternoon: "**ROMA ANTICA e CRISTIANA**". Guided tour of the Basilica of St. Peter. Visit to the ancient city: Campidoglio, Piazza Venezia, Foro Romano, the Colosseum (external part), the Arch of Constantine.. Dinner time - off on your own exploring the city. Organized overnight stay

Day 7: Morning: Breakfast & Italian lessons (10.30 - 13.30) Afternoon: "**ROMA RINASCIMENTALE**": San Pietro in Vincoli, the Trevi Fountain, Piazza di Spagna, Trinità dei Monti, Pantheon and Piazza Navona. Late afternoon departure to **ORVIETO**. Arrival and accommodation at the hotel, organized typical dinner and overnight stay.

Day 8: Morning: Breakfast in ORVIETO. City tour - guided tour and visit of the Cathedral and St. Patrick's Well. 11:30 departure. Afternoon: Stop in **MONTESPULCIANO**. Departure. Return to **BOLOGNA** in the late evening, welcome back drink.



Master Class Over 45s

This is a course aimed at students over the age of 45. Lessons (which take place in small groups of 3 - 8 students) are designed for learning everyday Italian with a greater focus on spoken language than on grammar and written work. Teachers are aware of the specific needs of older students, of their different learning speeds, and their greater interest in the cultural aspects of Italian, such as customs, festivals, history and literature. The courses last for two weeks with 4 hours of General Italian a day and a specific programme of specially-designed activities and excursions for the over 45s. The course programme includes being picked up from Bologna airport, a welcome drink, 20 lessons a week and a wide range of cultural activities for two days a week, including Italian cookery courses and wine testing sessions. The cost of the course includes entrance to all museums, an evening at the theatre, dinner with the teacher, and a day trip (Saturday). We are also happy to make reservations at hotels or bed and breakfast accommodation for you.

Business Italian Courses

Our Business Italian courses last for 4 weeks. They consist of 6 hours of class per day, four of General Italian and two of Business Italian and are ideal for those who need to develop their Italian for business purposes. The course focuses on contracts, telephone communication, commercial correspondence, as well as general commercial and socio-economic Italian. Minimum level: Intermediate.

Italian for Law

This course consists of 4 lessons in a Standard language course plus 2 private tutorials on Italian for Law, each day. The course is designed for those students who are already expert in the field of law in their own language and who are interested in the specialized language for professional reasons or for study purposes. The programme focuses on different areas

Culture and Conversation Course

These courses explore various aspects of Italian culture, with a particular focus on the spoken language, and are designed for students who wish to learn more about the history of the language, Italian literature and Italian dialects. Every course lasts 2 afternoons, from 14.00 to 16.00 (days arranged according to the weekly schedule, from Monday to Friday). They act as a perfect addition to morning group classes. The student can attend conversation classes for as many weeks as desired. The start-date for the course is every week BUT ONLY as a complement to GI22 course.

Italian Plus

If, beyond learning Italian in Italy and a full immersion study abroad stay, you also want an advanced cultural experience in Bologna, you can choose our Italian plus **CULTURE** courses and combine them with our Italian Language courses. Minimum Italian level: pre-intermediate. Suggested starting date: 3rd Monday of each month (or every Monday on demand). 3 options:

History, Art History, Literature:

Bologna is perfectly situated to offer Italian language students easy access to the beautiful and historically important treasures of North Italy. There is a saying that the "Bolognese" do not realize how beautiful their city is. Actually, they are well aware of it. Bologna is the result of a magical and alchemic mixture of art and culture. We wish to welcome you soon in Bologna, and give you the opportunity to discover a city steeped in history and culture.

Ceramics - Pottery: This program is offered to those who want to learn how to make ceramics and other forms of art crafts on request. You will be tutored by professional craftsmen at the atelier.

Painting - Drawing: This program is designed to give beginners and more experienced artists who feel they lack some basic techniques, an introduction to painting and drawing. One of the key objectives of the course is to enable students to learn enough about painting and drawing in its many forms



Excursions to historical sites and wine and food tasting trips

The historical, artistic and cultural heritage of Italy has been long considered the pride and joy of this nation. Nowhere else in the world can boast the same archaeological and artistic treasures as Italy. Your time at ALCE is therefore the perfect opportunity to discover the infinite natural and cultural riches of a nation that is always ready to welcome tourists. Cities of artistic importance, museums, art galleries – traces of the past can be found throughout the Italian peninsula. Unexpected surprises await all travellers, especially those who are willing to venture off the beaten track of the more popular tourist attractions. ALCE invites you to visit a different Italy where you can discover and genuinely get to know the history and culture of its people. We will be happy to take you to lesser known, but equally beautiful and important places, and help you discover the countryside and Italy's innumerable gastronomic delights. Italy complex character is based not just on artistic beauty but also on a series of interacting cultures that are reflected in its food and its wine. In hotels, bed and breakfasts and agriturismo farm accommodation, you can explore this undiscovered Italy and enjoy the surprises that this unique country offers every single day.

Social Programme and students support

The social programme is organised directly by the school's Director, assisted by the Activities Coordinator and by the teachers in the school. Most of these activities are included in the course fee and are completely FREE (eg. Cinema, walking tours, visits to Museums and Galleries, hot chocolate afternoon with table games, "aperitivo" ..). Some activities require a charge for admission, tickets and /or transport. These are organized on a pay-as-you-go basis (eg. Excursions to cities of Art, cooking classes, wine testing sessions, dinner out ..). Our activities offer an ideal opportunity to explore the city and surroundings and to meet new friends. The programme differs in focus from educational to cultural, fun to inspirational. All events are supervised and accompanied by our staff and we strongly encourage the participation: this helps and accelerates your Italian language learning.,

The **weekly programme** includes:

- 1 afternoon of supervised self-study / reinforcement
- 2 evening events
- 1 conversation or phonetic class
- 2 guided visits or cultural trips in Bologna
- 1 Italian Film
- 1 full day excursion every 2 weeks

Sample weekly timetable

Day	Time	Activities	Levels
Monday	15.00	Bologna City!! Orientation tour	All !
Tuesday	14.00 14.00	Conversation class Phonetic / pronunciation class	A1 – A2 B1 – B2
Wednesday	14.00 18.30	Italian cinema "Aperitivo"	All ! All !
Thursday	14.00	International Music Museum	All !
Friday	14.00 19.00	Guided visit: "The medieval doors of Bologna" "Tra-ghetto" - Bologna underground	All ! All !
Saturday	9:00	Full day excursion to Verona	All !



Italian Cookery Classes

These classes are designed to show you the secrets of Italian cuisine. Secrets that spring from the diverse histories of the country's various regions, all of which boast numerous regional and local specialities. Qualified chefs will help you prepare superb dishes, step by step. The basic techniques are learned 'over the stove' and at the table, and at the end of each session there is the opportunity to taste exquisite combinations of food and wine. The whole process is summarised in a cookbook for you to take away, which lists the techniques you have used and developed.

Wine Tasting

These lessons are given by a professional wine expert (belonging to AIS - Italian Sommelier Association) who will take you on a tour designed to broaden your knowledge of one of Italy's most typical and traditional products, namely wine. Not only will you learn the theory of wine but above all how to taste wine and how to match it with various foods. The course finishes with a visit to a wine-cellar where you will learn about the various processes used to turn a bunch of grapes into a bottle of wine.

ACCOMMODATION

Bilbo House

Our unique option **directly managed** by us, that is a modern house located in a quiet residential part of the city about **10 minutes walk from the school** and the centre. We found out that our students enjoy the pleasant and friendly atmosphere: they live independently but at the same time belong to a 'family' group of international students. They can choose to stay in a single or a shared bedroom. Bathrooms and showers are shared. Student can prepare their own meals in the well-equipped kitchen. **All expenses and wi-fi connection included.**

With a Family

All of our host families are carefully selected and are checked regularly. This option includes half-board (breakfast and lunch or dinner) or self-catering (only use of kitchen). Students eat a main meal with the family and are therefore brought naturally into contact with everyday Italian life. Cleaning and laundry services are included.

Shared apartments

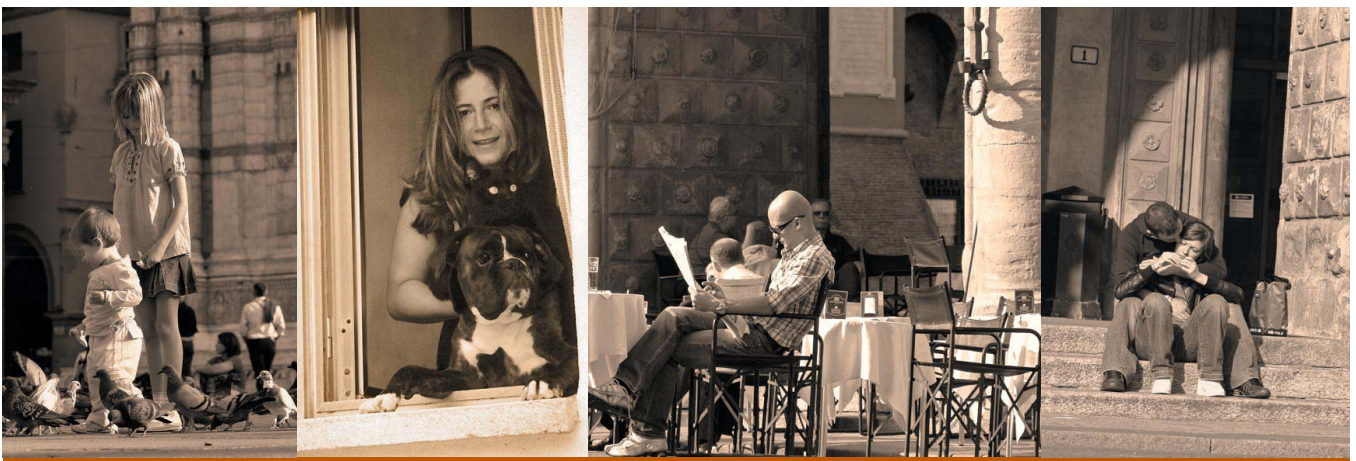
Most of our apartments are located in the centre of Bologna, allowing you to reach the school within ten-fifteen minutes. The rooms are simply furnished and are either single or double (shared with a friend). Students share the communal areas. This option allows you to live independently but also in contact with Italians. Cleaning services are not included.

Bed and Breakfast

Well-known in Northern Europe, this form of accommodation has now become very popular in Italy thanks to recent legislation. Good value for money and opportunities to meet Italian people in a familiar informal environment

Hotel and private flats

The classic solutions to your accommodation needs at a slightly higher price. A high standard of cleanliness and comfort is guaranteed. Independent flats are ideal for families and groups of friends. Excellent agreement with centrally located "boutique" hotels.



Accademia Lingue e Culture Europee



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