

Dear All,

you are receiving this message because either you formally subscribed to our mailing list, or at some point mentioned you would like to receive information about SSPT23. You can of course unsubscribe at any moment.

This is a preliminary newsletter; its main purpose is to confirm your address is in the list.

At the same time, I will take this occasion to give you some practical and some scientific information.

1. As traditional in SPT meetings, there will be ample time for informal interactions; we hope to limit formal talks' time to about four – and anyway no more than five – hours per day (one day is traditionally, in SPT meetings, devoted to an excursion). This might imply a filter on contributed (that is, self-proposed) talks. A call for contributed talks will be issued later on (decision will be made in time for the reservation deadline, see below). Late proposals will be accepted if slots are still available.
2. There will be no proceedings.
3. As implied by the name “small SPT” the workshop is meant to be smaller than usual SPT meetings; this for at least two reasons: on the one hand we are not so sure there will be no COVID-related restrictions next year (so we will avoid to have a completely full room); on the other hand, late planning made that the conference is in date conflict with other initiatives relevant to some parts of the usual SPT community (one of these, WASCOM, devoted to continuum Mechanics, is actually taking place in Bari, so quite nearby). This also means that, while retaining the interdisciplinary character of SPT meetings, this issue could be less dispersive than usual.
4. A first version of the SSPT web page is now online, <http://www.sptspt.it/SPT2023.html>. There you will also find a first list of people who intend to be with us; please note that this list should be meant “post COVID”: we have learned that a number of unexpected problems can arise, and so all names should be understood as “to be confirmed”, both due to possible personal matters and to the world's situation. (Should you be in that list due to a misunderstanding about how firm is your intention, please let us know.)
5. As some of you know, we had at some point just abandoned the idea of a meeting in 2023; this also because hotels were reluctant to take any commitment about prices to be charged, due to the highly oscillating prices of a number of essential commodities (such as energy). It was our good fortune that **Raffele Vitolo** (whom I thank again) was just running a meeting in Otranto and had a direct connection with the Hotel we are going to be in. Thus organization started a bit late, and this is surely going to show up in the preparatory stage (hopefully not in the workshop itself).
6. The meeting will take place in “Hotel degli Haethey” (a strange word, apparently meaning “foreigners” in some archaic local language); this is conveniently located at walking distance both from the train station (10 min) and from the beach (5 min), as you can see on google maps.
7. The Hotel has about 50 rooms. These will be reserved for SPT until the end of January (note this is different than stated in the preliminary announcement), and will be given

on a “first come first served” basis. After that date, rooms could be given to the general public. Instructions on how to book will be circulated as soon as the Hotel establishes a procedure for us – to be sure you get the discounted rates, see below. In order to book you will have to contact directly the hotel, and give a credit card number. Cancellation will be possible free of charge until April 30 (thus roughly one month before the conference); details will be available at a later stage.

8. You are of course free to lodge elsewhere and access the Hotel meeting room.
9. The fares we agreed upon are the following for HALF BOARD (note: the restaurant might be closed at lunch; but a number of restaurants and eateries are available in the immediate neighborhood of the hotel. If restaurant is open, lunch would cost about 10.00 per meal), per person per day:

Standard room	67.00
Superior room	76.00
Supplement for DuS	10.00 (tbc)

10. The workshop will start on Monday (5/6) morning and end on Friday (9/6) in late afternoon; that is, Sunday 4/6 is arrival day, Saturday 10/6 is departure day. The hotel expects you to stay for six nights. The fares above are meant for people staying for the whole period, while for a partial stay the general public fares will be applied.
11. The nearest airports are Brindisi (about 95 km) and Bari (about 200 km). Otranto has a train station and is reached by train via Lecce. The hotel can arrange road transfers from the airports or from the Brindisi airport bus terminal in Lecce. Details about transfer by public transport will be posted once summer schedule are available.

Giuseppe Gaeta

November 18, 2022