

6th EDITION OF THE International Birdwatching and Nature Tourism Fair 2012 Comacchio (Ferrara, Italy), 27th-29th April



The International Birdwatching and Nature Tourism Fair in Comacchio (Ferrara, Italy), in the Po Delta Park in the Emilia-Romagna Region, is an event not to be missed for any birdwatching and nature photography fan.

The event, which in past years registered an average of 30,000 visitors and 200 exhibitors, takes place in an area that represents a preferred destination for slow tourism and birdwatching.

Dates: 27th-29th April 2012

Location: Villaggio espositivo Argine Fattibello, Comacchio (Ferrara, Italy) in the Po Delta Park in the Emilia-Romagna Region

Type: professional trade show open to the public

Opening hours: 10.00-19.00

Services: press office, lectures hall, workshop room, conference room, security service, bar and food area

Who are the exhibitors

The professional exhibition area is dedicated to optics, photography and equipment for birdwatching and nature photography, biodiversity, Slow Tourism, specialized press, sportswear, educational and environmental training, Tour Operators and natural destinations, Italian and foreign parks and reserves, organizations and associations, municipalities, provinces and regions.

Why should I exhibit

The International Birdwatching and Nature Tourism Fair is the only specialized Italian event dedicated to birdwatching and nature tourism, that at international level ranks second behind the British Birdwatching Fair.

With its unique format the exhibition hall allows on-site testing of the latest products and systems, in an area overlooking the Fattibello Valley. The participants will be able to discover new photographic techniques and environmental tourism, which is rapidly growing if compared to traditional tourism. In addition there are **many innovations too:**

Photography

- ✓ Guest of honour of the 6th edition of the Fair is the **Fotofestival 2012**, organized in collaboration with AFNI - Associazione Fotografi Naturalisti Italiani, with the winners of the famous International competition **Asferico 2012**
 - **high-quality photographic exhibitions** on Full-HD widescreens and **meetings** with internationally renowned photographers from all over Europe, 27th and 28th April
 - **Asferico 2012 award ceremony**, Saturday, 28th April (evening)
 - **video-projections organised by AFNI members**, Sunday, 29th April
 - **Asferico 2012 exhibition opening (80 photographs)**
 - **AFNI annual meeting**
- ✓ photographic excursions in the park's most interesting sites and lectures on photography during the 3 days of the event
- ✓ photo-exhibition *Il mio Delta - Otto fotografi e il loro punto di vista sul parco del Delta del Po (My Delta - Eight photographers and their point of view on the Park)*, organised by *Delta in focus* photographers
- ✓ 6th edition of the photo-competition *Delta in focus*, organised in 4 categories: Birds of the Delta, Birds of the World, Natural landscapes and Slow Tourism
- ✓ **digiscoping**, in collaboration with Skua Nature
- ✓ **photo-market:** exchange-exhibition event for old, used and digital cameras and accessories.



Birdwatching

- ✓ meeting and field trip with **Lars Svensson**, the internationally renowned birdwatcher and author of the Collins Bird Guide, in collaboration with EBN Italia
- ✓ **lectures on birdwatching** in collaboration with Lipu, EBN Italia and other environmental organisations
- ✓ **Birdgarden**: practical activities for adults and children organised by Birdfeeding and Skua Nature
- ✓ **Field trips** with expert guides in the park's most interesting sites
- ✓ **The Big Year, 12 months of absolute birdwatching**: national competition organised by EBN Italia.

Slow Tourism

Several activities will be dedicated to **Slow Tourism**; to the fair will participate the projects partners (30) of the SLOW TOURISM Strategic Project, funded under the Italian-Slovenian Cross-border Cooperation Programme 2007-2013, the European Regional Development Fund and several other national funds. The partners come from the Italian regions Veneto, Emilia-Romagna and Friuli and the Slovenian regions Goriška and Gorenjska. They will be showing their offer in the fields of cycling tourism, river tourism, bird watching, nature tourism and sports tourism.

Why should I visit the fair

This is the first and only specialized and professional Country event, where in addition to meet the companies, visitors find themselves in the heart of the Po Delta Park, Emilia-Romagna, where they can discover its priceless natural heritage by foot, boat or bicycle.

Side events

During the event, you will be able to participate to several side events: hiking, boating, biking and horseback riding in the most beautiful sites of the Po Delta Park, educational workshops for families with children, tastings, photo exhibitions, conferences, sports gatherings and much more.

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