

**Invitation to the 'peak' summit
an informal gathering for ASPO & The Oil Drum members
26, 27 & 28 June 2009 in Italy**

The idea of an informal meeting came about at the ASPO Barcelona conference in 2008. As a supplement to the formal ASPO conference, participants will have the opportunity to share knowledge and ideas in an interactive creative setting, and to spend some time with good friends from the internet who rarely see each other in person. As a consequence, Ugo Bardi (ASPO Italy) and Rembrandt Koppelaar (ASPO Netherlands) got together and decided to organize a meeting in Italy.

This meeting, to take place on 26, 27 & 28 June in Italy at the "Alcatraz free University" near Perugia, will have a spontaneous self-organized program according to the 'bar camp' rules. People can bring any topic to the informal meeting that they want to discuss. The only limitation being the wide 'systems boundary', so that issues should be directly or indirectly related to the heart of ASPO & The Oil Drum, discussions about energy and our future. On the evening of each day, beginning on the afternoon of the 26th, a loose schedule will be made for the following day of all those interested in presenting or hosting a discussion on certain topics. Participants can work out ideas and papers beforehand or give talks on the fly. Everyone is free to join sessions to their liking or make individual small group appointments if wanted to serve a discussion better. This way of hosting a discussion gives the opportunity to iterate and integrate as the meeting evolves. There will thus be no rigid program and no conference fee except for the lodging and board costs.

Location of the meeting



The meeting will take place at *Libera Università di Alcatraz* (Alcatraz University) near Perugia, in Italy. It is a fantastically beautiful place in the Italian hills between Rome and Florence. Owned by Mr. Iacopo Fo, the son of the Nobel prize in literature Dario Fo, it is a structure built specifically to hold meetings; being self-contained with several meeting rooms providing the possibility to room and board about 50 people. They will host the meeting for free, provided that attendees pay the fees for room and board.

Alcatraz University from the Italian hillside

Subscription and payment of lodging

To maintain a creative meeting of the minds, as well as due to limitation of the venue, attendance will be limited to about 50 people. Costs of full board including food is 63 euro per day for a total of 189 euro for the three days and nights. Members of ASPO and The Oil Drum are preferred and will get first seat. Subscriptions will be processed on a first come, first served basis. The final deadline for subscription is May 15th.

In order to book, please send a message to Rembrandt Koppelaar contact@peakoil.nl also in copy to Ugo Bardi (ugo.bardi@unifi.it). Upon approval of your application a registration form will be sent with room and payment details. An option to extend the stay in Italy is included in the registration form.



Ugo Bardi (ASPO Italy) discussing critical phenomena (or perhaps performing a magic trick) in one of the Alcatraz University meeting rooms

Route to Alcatraz University from Rome

To reach Libera Università di Alcatraz from Rome one needs to travel by train to the city of Perugia which takes 2,5 to 3 hours at a cost of around 20 euro. From there, the only possible transportation is a taxi to Libera Università di Alcatraz.

- From the Termini station in Rome take one of the trains in the direction of Ancona that either goes straight to Perugia or only until the station of Foligno.
- In case the train only goes until Foligno one needs to take a connecting train to Perugia in the direction of Terontola/Florence.
- At Perugia train station one needs to take a taxi to Libera Università di Alcatraz at the street of Santa Christina 14 in Gubbio. The cost of the taxi journey is around 50 euro, so we advise participants to join up as to save on costs (as well as on fossil fuels). As a service to participants we will facilitate joint taxi arrangements on 26 June to diminish costs as well as fossil fuel usage. To partake in this service a separate e-mail needs to be sent to Rembrandt Koppelaar (contact@peakoil.nl) under the name of taxi service with the estimated time of arrival at Perugia on 26 June.

More information on the journey including taxi groups and a train timetable for trains going from Rome to Perugia on 26 June and to Rome from Perugia for the return journey on 28/29 June will be sent to participants as soon as available.

Route to Alcatraz University from Florence

To reach Libera Università di Alcatraz from Florence one needs to travel by train to the city of Perugia which takes 2 to 2,5 hours at a cost of around 13 euro. And from there take a taxi to Libera Università di Alcatraz.

- From the train station Firenze S. M. Novella in Florence at most times there is a direct train to Perugia that leaves 13 minutes past the hour
- Otherwise one needs to take the same train and switch at the last station, Terontola-Cortona, to travel to Perugia.
- At Perugia train station one needs to take a taxi to Libera Università di Alcatraz at the street of Santa Christina 14 in Gubbio. The cost of the taxi journey is around 50 euro, so we advise participants to join up as to save on costs (as well as on fossil fuels). As a service to participants we will facilitate joint taxi arrangements on 26 June to diminish costs as well as fossil fuel usage. To partake in this service a separate e-mail needs to be sent to Rembrandt Koppelaar (contact@peakoil.nl) under the name of taxi service with the estimated time of arrival at Perugia on 26 June.

More information on the journey including taxi groups and a train timetable for trains going from Florence to Perugia on 26 June and to Rome from Florence for the return journey on 28/29 June will be sent to participants beforehand.



A view of the restaurant at Alcatraz University

Additional information

Rembrandt Koppelaar (contact@peakoil.nl) and Ugo Bardi (ugo.bardi@unifi.it) will be glad to answer any queries.