



Travel notes Italy - Bassano

We are happy that you decided to go with us to Italy! In this letter you will find all the necessary information about the paragliding course. It is important that you read this information well in advance. If you still have questions after reading, then feel free to e-mail us at info@paragliding.nl.

Course dates

For the course dates we refer to the program overview on our website: the first day of the course is the first date as stated on the website.

Example: code 4 Bassano Sunday 16th up to and including Friday 21st March. The course starts on Sunday, March 16th.

The PaHo team will remain available until at least 17:00 hrs on the last day of the course.

Meeting point and opening briefing

On the first day of the course, we will meet at 8:45 a.m. at Tilly's Locanda in Semonzo, where the group will be staying. We kindly ask you to please be on time and bring the required insurance- and disclaimer form. We start the course with an opening briefing in which many important organizational matters are discussed: attendance is mandatory for safety reasons!

Travel directions car

If you leave early, it is a 1-day drive to Bassano from the Netherlands. Take the route over the Brennerpas, Bolzano, Trento. Then take exit Trento Nord and stay on the SS47 in the direction of Padova. After about 90km take the exit Bassano centre and follow the road towards Bassano. At the first traffic lights take a left turn towards Romano d'Ezzelino. After a few kilometers you will drive into the town of Semonzo. Take the road left into the direction of Cimma del Grappa. After about 500m there is a small road going to the right called Via Casale. Take this road and you will arrive at Tilly's.

Carpooling

Carpooling is fun, cheaper and better for the environment! If you are willing to take other students with you, you can indicate this when registering for the course. Your e-mail address will then be visible to other participants so that they can contact you to carpool. If you want to ride with someone else, you can log in to the pilotzone and click on 'My courses', under 'Carpooling' you will see the addresses of participants who have indicated that they can take someone with them.

We create a WhatsApp group for each course: in this group you can also easily contact your fellow students to make carpooling arrangements. The link to participate in the Whatsapp group will be sent to you by email. Of course, it is up to you if you want to participate in the group or not.

Airtravel

An alternative is to fly with Easyjet or KLM (to Venice Marco Polo) or Ryan Air (to Venice Treviso) to Venice. If you fly on Treviso you have to take the bus from the airport to Treviso train station. The bus stops along the main road that runs in front of the airport. Tickets you can buy in the bus, NOT in the arrival hall. From Treviso trainstation take the train to Bassano del Grappa. Don't forget to stamp your ticket in one of the machines before getting onto the train! The trip costs about 10 euros in total. Tilly's Locanda (see below) can pick you up from Bassano del Grappa train station for a small fee.

If you fly to Marco Polo you have to buy the bus ticket in the arrival hall at the big ticket desk "public transport". Buy a ticket to Venice Mestre Railway, it costs approx. 8 euros. Upon arrival at the station the bus stops at the side of the station, you have to walk a short distance. The entrance to the train station is at the MacDonalds. Here you have to buy a ticket for the train to Bassano del Grappa, do not forget to stamp your ticket in one of the machines, otherwise you will get a fine on the train. Tilly's Locanda (see below) can pick you up from Bassano del Grappa train station for a small fee.

Transport in Bassano

PaHo arranges the transport from landing area to the takeoff with the PaHo minibus. These transport costs are not included in the course fee but must be paid on site. We work on a pay per flight basis: you only pay for the ride with us if you have actually flown. The costs of a single bus ride depends on the distance to the

take-off. At the end of the week we count the number of flights made and we calculate how much you owe. Please bring cash money to pay for the bus rides.

Course participants or sometimes team members take turns in driving the minibus, so now and then you'll skip a flight to drive the bus. Our experience is that this process regulates itself, since very often people take a break from flying or the conditions are not suitable for some participants anyway.

Accommodation practical details

We will stay together at the friendly paragliding hotel **Tilly's Locanda**, see <http://www.tillys.it/>. PaHo considers it important that we all stay in one location: it makes organizing the course easier and, of course, much more enjoyable. In addition, we benefit from a favorable room rate because we are staying at the hotel as a group.

When booking the course, you can also book your room at Tilly's online right away. You can choose which room type you prefer, whether you'd like to share a room with a fellow participant (of the same gender), or if you'd like to bring your partner. It's also possible to stay at Tilly's with a camper (note: limited space!); you can indicate this during your booking as well. Your hotel booking runs from the arrival day on Saturday until the Saturday morning after the course — shorter stays are not possible. If you wish to arrive earlier or stay longer, you can book additional nights directly through Tilly's website. Room rates start from **€45 per person per night** based on a shared room. Please note: check-in time on Saturday is from 3:00 PM onward.

If you prefer to stay elsewhere, you can indicate this during your booking.

Insurance and disclaimer

To participate in our course, you are required to have travel insurance that does not exclude air sports. You can book such insurance (costs apply) while booking your course through us if you wish. Please note:

- if you choose to purchase travel insurance through us, it cannot be cancelled afterwards.
- We can only take out this insurance for you if you have a Dutch, German or Belgium address. Otherwise you will have to take out your insurance elsewhere.

On the first day of the course you will be requested to hand over your signed 'Insurance and disclaimer form' to the instruction team. Please download this form in advance from our website at the 'Register' page.

Please note that you cannot participate in the course if you are not able to hand over this signed form!

If you have signed up for travel insurance with us you can check the appropriate box stating that the policy is provided by PaHo. We do not need any further information in this case.

In the unlikely event that an incident occurs, it is crucial that the instruction team has been provided with the correct and complete insurance details and contact details!

We advise everyone to request a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) in advance, this is possible free of charge via your medical insurance. With this card you are entitled to necessary medical assistance without any problems abroad.

Third-party liability insurance

An aircraft must have third-party liability insurance in order to be covered for damage to property/property of third parties (for example if you fly into someone's car). If you rent a paraglider from Paragliding Holland, you are automatically covered by our school liability insurance. If you are a member of the KNVvL, you are automatically covered by the third-party liability insurance of the Paragliding department of the KNVvL. Please note: if you do have your own glider, but you are not a member of the KNVvL, you will not be covered by either third-party liability insurance! In short: everyone with their own paraglider must have their own liability insurance to cover this risk. This is possible via membership of the KNVvL (this is the cheapest), but you are of course free to arrange your insurance elsewhere.

Invoice

Everyone receives an invoice after booking the course. This invoice needs to be paid in full at least 6 weeks before the start of the course. You can transfer the open amount to our account number IBAN NL29INGB0001598737, Paragliding Holland in Wijk Duurstede. Please mention your invoice number. Participation in the course is only possible when the entire invoice has been paid.

Radio communication

During the course we use radios with LPD channels. Because there is often a lot of radio traffic we use the LPD channels with a CTCSS code so you only receive our messages. At the start of the course we will announce which LPD channel we will use. For the CTCSS code we always use code 4 on the Midland XT60 / G7 radio, for the Wouxun KG-UVDP1 / Midland CT790 this is subchannel 77.0HZ. If you rent a radio with us you will get a suitable radio from us on the first day of the course.

If you have your own radio: you must have a radio that also has LPD channels! We advise you to use the CTCSS code. If you don't use this code you will still receive our radio communication but you might also receive disturbances on the radio. We assume that you are familiar with the operation of your radio (read your instructions carefully). Of course we will gladly help with setting up your radio, but we are not familiar with every type of radio on the market.

Every student is required to fly with a so-called earpiece during the course so that you can clearly hear the instructions our team provides. If you do not have your own PMR/LPD radio earpiece, you must purchase this earpiece with us. The costs of the earpiece (9 euros) will be settled at the end of the course together with the bus money. Other types of earpieces (e.g., iPhone headphones) will NOT be accepted for safety reasons and compatibility with the radios. We do not provide earpieces for rent.

Flying with your own gear

If you have your own glider and your own harness with emergency parachute, you are obliged to make sure that your material meets the KNVvL requirements. In other words, make sure that your glider is within the inspection expiry date and the emergency chute was folded no more than half a year ago. If you do not have a license yet we only allow you to fly on an EN A or EN B glider.

Flight helmet

During all Paragliding Holland courses, it is compulsory for all participants to wear an approved flying helmet. The helmet must bear the EN-966 certification, snowboard helmets are usually not certified to this norm! It is also mandatory for beginner pilots to wear a helmet with chin guard for their first 5 flights. After that we adhere to the rules of the KNVvL and pilots can decide for themselves if they want to fly with or without a chin guard. However, we strongly recommend all pilots to use a helmet with chin guard as it increases safety. If you do not have your own helmet, you can rent it with us.

Food, drinks and ATM

There is a small supermarket and an ATM within walking distance of Tilly's. During the course we usually have lunch at Tilly's, but you can of course also bring your own packed lunch and something to drink. In the evening we always go out for dinner (usually around 8 p.m.) at Tilly's or one of the other restaurants in the area. You are of course not obliged to join us for dinner, but it is fun!

Packing list

If you come to fly with us, you are required to have with you:

- Sturdy mountain/hiking shoes for good grip and protection of your ankles. Preferably high shoes for maximum protection of your ankles.
- Gloves to protect your fingers from the lines (so no open gloves)
- Smooth, long pants so you can easily slide into your seat (no jeans)

It is also advisable to have with you:

- Warm clothes (it can be cold in the air)
- Windbreaker
- Sunglasses
- Sunburn
- Hat/cap against the sun
- Small daypack
- Snack / sports bars
- Drink/water bottle

Keep in mind that your clothes can get dirty and your shoes wet if the grass is damp.

Preparations

Of course, it helps enormously if you prepare well for the course. Here are some tips:

- We strongly recommend beginners to purchase the book 'Paragliding: the beginner's guide' in our webshop (see: https://www.paragliding.nl/shop/boeken_kaarten_media?product_id=1190) and do a little self study before joining the course. It really speeds up the learning process! Or you can buy the Free Flying book and read the first few chapters. You can order the book in our webshop: https://www.paragliding.nl/shop/boeken_kaarten_media?product_id=1389
- On our website you will also find all kinds of useful instructional videos that you can watch, see: <https://www.paragliding.nl/video/player.php>
- And finally for our beginners: you could also follow a ground training in the Netherlands, see: https://www.paragliding.nl/cursus/grondtraining_nederland.php

Daily course schedule

Day 1

We start all our courses with an opening briefing, which is mandatory for all participants to attend as important safety aspects are discussed here. After the briefing, the equipment is handed out and we split the group into beginners and (semi) advanced students. The beginners go to the training area with a separate instructor to complete a combination of practical exercises and theory in approximately 1.5 to 2 days. When the beginners are ready for their first flight, they join the flying group.

The flying group starts with a short theoretical refresher, after which we watch the landing and take-off and then take to the air for the real work.

Day 2 to 6

We start every day with a short briefing and then go up towards the take-off to fly. In the afternoon we take a lunch break. After lunch we fly again and at the end of the day we conclude with a debriefing in which learning points are discussed, feedback is given and exercises are discussed.

On the last day we usually stop flying a little earlier because we also have to sign the logbooks, hand in the equipment, pay for bus rides, etc. The instruction team is available for the course until at least 5 p.m. on the last day.

Mind you: the above is weather dependent! If the weather does not allow us to fly, we can focus on theory or the afternoon / day is free to do some other fun activity. Of course, everything is done in consultation with the group.

Buy your own kit?

During the course, the instruction team can always advise you on gliders, harnesses, vario's, radios and the like. Take a look at our website under Shop for all the products we have in store and feel free to drop by to try it out. If you would like to try out a specific glider during the course let us know well in advance by e-mail, so we can make sure they are on site.

See you in the sky!