

VENICE, ITALY

Hands-On Bamboo Construction Workshop

8, 9, 10, 11 & 12 | JULY | 2026



WORLD
BAMBOO



Bamboo
Architecture
Company



Hands-On Bamboo Construction Workshop

Building the Future of Sustainable Architecture

An immersive, international, hands-on experience in bamboo construction, design, and innovation, **set in the unique landscape of Venice, Italy.**



The **Hands-On Bamboo Construction Workshop** is an international, five-day immersive experience for professionals seeking practical, real-world skills in bamboo construction.

Hosted in Venice, Italy, the workshop brings together global experts, World Bamboo Ambassadors, and international practitioners to explore bamboo through hands-on building, real-scale structures, and collaborative design.

Participants engage directly in the design and construction of bamboo systems, combining organic forms, prefabricated elements, and parametric approaches, connecting traditional knowledge with contemporary and future-oriented architecture.

More than a workshop, it is a global exchange platform that connects participants with an international bamboo community shaping the future of sustainable construction.

Why Bamboo

Bamboo is no longer an alternative material, it is a strategic solution for the future of sustainable construction.

With its exceptional structural performance, rapid renewability, and low environmental footprint, bamboo is increasingly recognized as a key material for climate-resilient architecture, regenerative design, and circular construction systems.

This workshop places bamboo at the center of architectural practice, not as theory, but as a real, buildable material capable of meeting contemporary design, engineering, and sustainability challenges.

Why Now

As the construction sector faces growing pressure to reduce carbon emissions, rethink material choices, and respond to global environmental challenges, the demand for nature-based, low-impact building systems has never been greater.

Bamboo stands at the intersection of innovation, tradition, and sustainability.

This moment calls for professionals who not only understand bamboo conceptually, but who can design and build with it responsibly and confidently.



Workshop Highlights

Global Exchange & Learning Experience



- World Bamboo Exchange Session, curated by the World Bamboo Organization
- International experts and World Bamboo Ambassadors
- Global perspectives combined with practical expertise



Theoretical–Practical Workshops Designed and delivered by Bamboo Architecture Company

- ✓ Open to all audiences
- ✓ No prior experience required

- Essential foundations of bamboo construction
- Efficient use of tools and assembly methods
- Work with regionally sourced bamboo
- Build real structural elements

This workshop is officially certified under the World Bamboo Organization (WBO) Official Education Certification Program, ensuring international recognition, quality standards, and professional credibility. Upon completion, participants receive a WBO-certified Certificate of Participation, validated, traceable, and globally recognized.





WBO Global Bamboo Exchange Session

Open Session | Q&A

This session will bring together international bamboo professionals and World Bamboo Ambassadors, offering participants a broader global perspective on bamboo innovation, practice, and impact.

JULY 8 TH

World Bamboo Ambassadors & International Experts Session

9:00 AM

Michel Abadie | France

Why Bamboo Matters: A Welcome Address from WBO

9:30 AM

Susanne Lucas | USA

Growing Bamboo: From Cultivation to Global Solutions

10:00 AM

Jean-Luc Kouyoumji | France

From Harvest to Construction: Bamboo Treatment, Drying, and Preservation

10:30 AM

Jaime Espinosa | Spain

Designing and Building with Bamboo: Lessons from the Field

11:00 AM

Olav Bruin | The Netherlands

Designing with Nature: Bamboo, Biophilic Architecture, and Place

11:30 AM

Martin Mortera | Mexico

Building with Bamboo at Scale: Engineering, Architecture, and Real Projects

12:00 PM

Edouard Sherwood | France

Bamboo Fiber Composites: Engineering the Next Generation of Sustainable Materials

Agenda

Hands-On Bamboo Construction Workshop

JULY 9 TH

08:30 - 09:00 | Registration

Participant check-in and welcome.

09:00 - 09:30 | Opening Session

- Introduction to Bamboo Architecture Company, Hosts and VERA'S NGO
- Welcome and presentation of participants, organizers, and hosts
- Overview of the workshop objectives, methodology, and team rotation system

Core Workshop Themes

- Bamboo Model Making
- Fabrication of bamboo scale models to explore structural logic and design principles.
- Organic Bamboo Construction
- Hands-on exploration of free-form and organic bamboo building methods.
- Main Pavilion Construction
- Collaborative construction of the central bamboo pavilion, focusing on structure and assembly.
- Prefabricated Portals and Columns
- Design and construction of prefabricated bamboo portals and column systems.
- Parametric Architectural Design
- Introduction to parametric bamboo architecture, including paraboloid and hyperboloid structures.

13:00 - 14:00 | Lunch Break

18:00 | Conclusion



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Workshop Structure

Participants will be divided into working teams, rotating throughout the day across the following core thematic stations, ensuring hands-on exposure to all key construction techniques.



Agenda

Hands-On Bamboo Construction Workshop

JULY 10 TH

Workshop Structure

Participants will be divided into working teams, rotating throughout the day across the following core thematic stations, ensuring hands-on exposure to all key construction techniques.

09:00 - 09:15 | Morning Briefing

- Review of Day 1 outcomes and constructed elements
- Overview of Day 2 construction objectives and team assignments

Participants will continue working in rotating teams, further developing the bamboo structures initiated on Day 1, with a focus on refinement, structural completion, and technical execution.

Core Workshop Themes

- Continuation of Organic Bamboo Construction
- Continuation of Main Pavilion Construction
- Continuation of Prefabricated Portals and Columns
- Continuation of Parametric Architectural Design
- Continuation of Introduction to parametric bamboo architecture, including paraboloid and hyperboloid structures.

13:00 - 14:00 | Lunch Break

18:00 | Conclusion



Hands-On Bamboo Construction Workshop

JULY 11 TH

Workshop Structure

Participants will be divided into working teams, rotating throughout the day across the following core thematic stations, ensuring hands-on exposure to all key construction techniques.

09:00 - 09:15 | Morning Briefing

- Review of Day 1 outcomes and constructed elements
- Overview of Day 2 construction objectives and team assignments

Participants will continue working in rotating teams, further developing the bamboo structures initiated on Day 1 and Day 2, with a focus on refinement, structural completion, and technical execution.

Core Workshop Themes

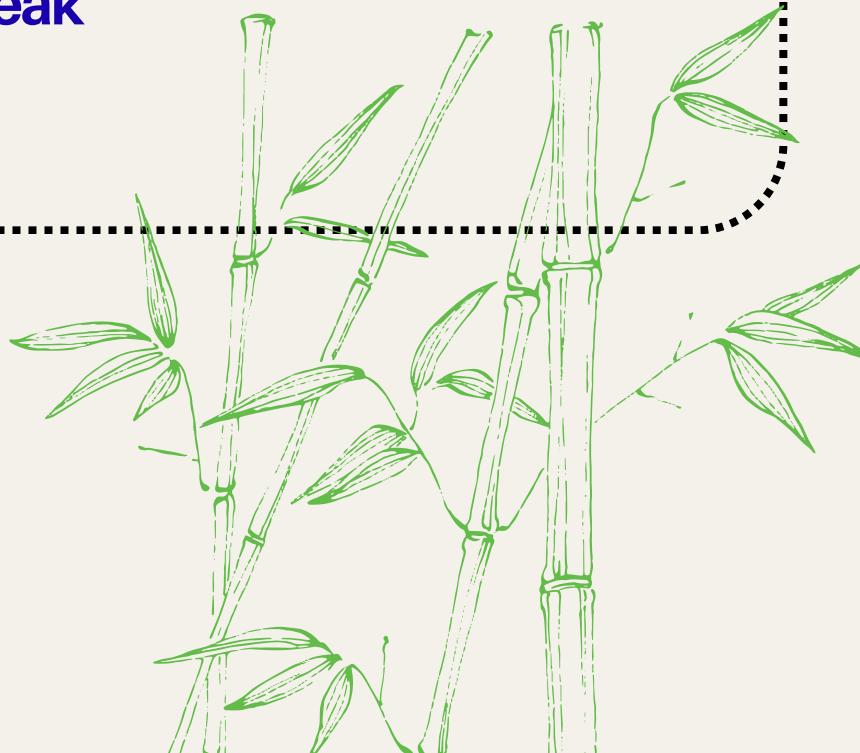
- Continuation of Organic Bamboo Construction
- Continuation of Main Pavilion Construction
- Continuation of Prefabricated Portals and Columns
- Continuation of Parametric Architectural Design
- Continuation of Introduction to parametric bamboo architecture, including paraboloid and hyperboloid structures.

13:00 - 14:00 | Lunch Break

18:00 | Conclusion



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Agenda

Hands-On Bamboo Construction Workshop

JULY 12 TH

09:00 - 09:15 | Morning Briefing

- Review of outcomes from Days 1, 2, and 3
- Overview of final construction goals, completion tasks, and team assignments

Final Construction Phase

Participants will continue working in rotating teams, completing and refining the bamboo structures developed throughout the workshop, with a strong focus on structural integrity, detailing, and completion.

Core Workshop Themes

- Completion of Organic Bamboo Construction
- Completion of Main Pavilion Construction
- Completion of Prefabricated Portals and Columns
- Completion of Parametric Architectural Structures
- Final Detailing and Finishing Works

12:00 | Workshop Conclusion

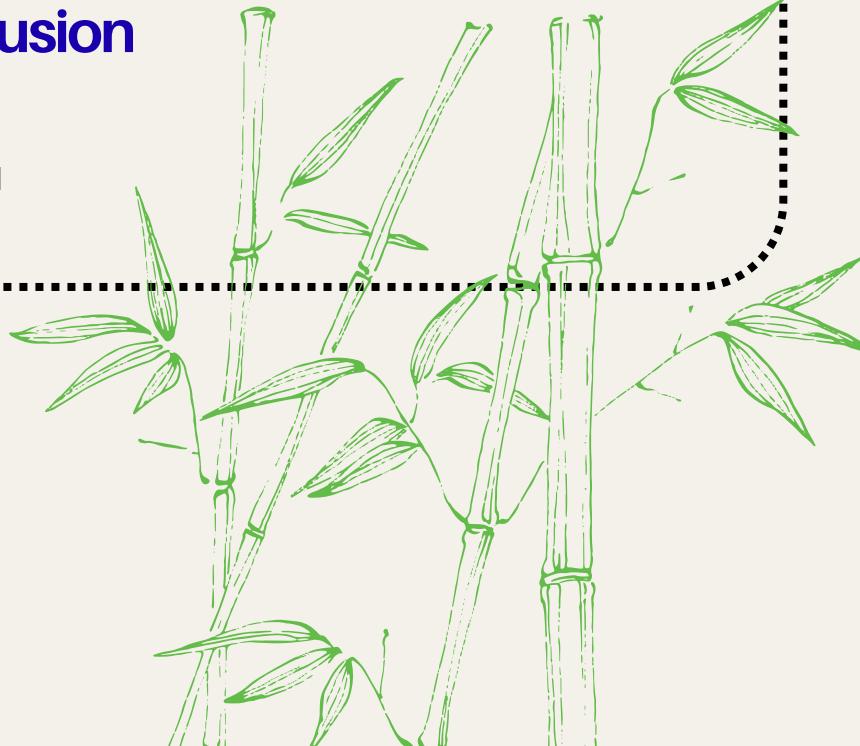
- Final walkthrough of completed structures
- Collective reflection and technical feedback
- Official closing of the workshop and farewell



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Workshop Structure

Participants will be divided into working teams, rotating throughout the day across the following core thematic stations, ensuring hands-on exposure to all key construction techniques.



Speakers & Trainers

Hands-On Bamboo Construction Workshop



Susanne Lucas (USA)

Is the Founder and Executive Director of the World Bamboo Organization and a leading global advocate for bamboo as a key resource for sustainable development. With over 30 years of experience and a background in horticulture, her work spans bamboo cultivation, landscape design, propagation, and global networking.

She holds a Bachelor of Science in Horticulture from Colorado State University and is the author of *Bamboos* (Reaktion Press), a widely recognized reference on ornamental bamboo. Susanne has chaired and organized World Bamboo Congresses and international bamboo events across Asia, Europe, and the Americas, building one of the world's strongest professional bamboo networks.

Her work focuses on promoting bamboo solutions for climate resilience, sustainable construction, ecosystem restoration, and economic development. She is deeply committed to inspiring global collaboration and the next generation of bamboo leaders.



Michel Abadie (France)

Is a journalist, filmmaker, designer, and long-standing global advocate for bamboo, with over 30 years of international experience at the intersection of communication, design, and sustainability.

A pioneer of the global bamboo movement, Michel has been actively involved since the late 1980s, becoming President of the European Bamboo Society and playing a key role in the creation of early international bamboo networks. His work includes organizing major bamboo exhibitions in Europe, directing bamboo-focused films, and developing innovative bamboo products and experimental applications, including in transportation and construction.

In 2007, he became President of the World Bamboo Organization, where he has continued to shape the global agenda for bamboo through World Bamboo Congresses, workshops, and international projects across Asia, Europe, Africa, and Latin America. Michel remains a leading voice promoting bamboo as a strategic material for addressing environmental and social challenges worldwide.

Speakers & Trainers

Hands-On Bamboo Construction Workshop



Jean-Luc Kouyoumji (France)

Holds a PhD in Civil Engineering and Building Sciences and has been a senior research scientist at FCBA since 1997. He has led more than 35 European and national research projects and authored over 38 scientific publications in building acoustics, energy-efficient construction, and bio-based materials. He is a key expert in wood and bamboo construction, technology transfer, and innovation, and has collaborated extensively with universities and institutions in Europe, Canada, Asia, and Latin America.

Founder of Bambou Sciences et Innovations (BSI) and a World Bamboo Ambassador since 2015, Jean-Luc has been deeply involved in bamboo research, product development, and value-chain projects worldwide. He is also the scientific coordinator of the WoodRise Alliance, promoting high-rise timber construction at a global level.



Jaime Espinosa (Spain)

Is a Spanish architect from Madrid specializing in bamboo architecture and sustainable construction. His work with bamboo began in 2004 during his studies at the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid. He holds two master's degrees in Architecture and Sustainable Urban Design and is currently a PhD candidate at UPM.

In the present, Jaime directs his own architecture studio while being a PhD candidate at UPM's Department of Construction and Architectural Technologies. He is the founding and still current Secretary of AsIB – Iberian Bamboo Association and represents it at UNE – Asociación Española de Normalización (the Spanish office for standardization), where he has translated the ISO standards related to structural bamboo culms. Among his clients, private and public agents as well as third sector, are found Greenpeace and the Red Cross. He is proudly a World Bamboo Ambassador since 2017. Up to date, he has had the opportunity to materialize structural bamboo related projects in Tanzania, Mexico, Spain, Vietnam, Colombia and Madagascar.

Speakers & Trainers

Hands-On Bamboo Construction Workshop



Olav Bruin (Netherlands)

Is a Dutch architect with nearly two decades of international experience in the design of resorts, private residences, social housing, and educational facilities. He specializes in biophilic architecture and the use of locally sourced, sustainable materials that integrate seamlessly with their natural and cultural contexts.

A dedicated bamboo advocate since 2006, Olav has delivered award-winning bamboo architecture projects across Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America. His work has received prestigious international recognitions, including the UNESCO Prix Versailles, Architecture Master Prize, International Architecture Award, Green Good Design Award, and Ahead Global Award.

He currently serves as Creative Director at Atelier Nomadic (Rotterdam) and is a Partner at Nomadic Resorts, leading innovative, nature-driven design practices worldwide.



Martín Mortera (México)

Is an architect, designer, and sustainability advocate with over 14 years of experience specializing in bamboo and earthen (adobe) architecture. He holds a degree from the Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, complemented by academic exchanges in Colombia and Cuba.

He is the Executive Director and CEO of Bamboo Architecture México, where he has led major sustainable construction projects across Mexico, Peru, and India for international hospitality brands and institutional clients, including Four Seasons, Hilton, Garza Blanca, and KAN Tulum, as well as governmental projects in Mexico.

Martín is also Co-Founder of the Oro Verde Bambú Cooperative, an initiative focused on alternative education, social economy, and human-centered sustainability. A recognized international speaker, he has represented Mexico at events across Latin America, North America, Asia, and Europe, promoting bamboo as a strategic material for sustainable development.

Speakers & Trainers

Hands-On Bamboo Construction Workshop



Guillermo Mortera (Mexico)

Is a Mexican architect and sustainability communicator with international experience in bamboo architecture, environmental communication, and local development. He has served as Director of Communications of the World Bamboo Organization since 2018 and is a Board Member of the NED Jaquith Foundation (USA).

As Co-Founder of Bamboo Architecture Company and the Oro Verde Bambú Cooperative, he has worked on sustainable construction and reforestation initiatives in Mexico, Peru, and India, collaborating with clients such as Four Seasons Group, Conrad by Hilton, and Hilton Group. His work focuses on bamboo as a tool for community development, rainforest conservation, and regenerative design, and he has supported the organization of World Bamboo Congresses and Workshops worldwide. He holds degrees in Architecture and Economic Development and International Cooperation.



Gabriela Gomez (Italy)

Is a Mexican architect based in Venice. She holds a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Architecture from IUAV University of Venice, with international academic experience at ENSAP Lille (France) and La Cambre Horta (Brussels).

Since 2020, she has collaborated with architecture, urbanism, and landscape studios in Italy, the Netherlands, and Mexico. She currently works with the Italian firm H&A, focusing on architectural development and site supervision for projects within the European PNRR. Her experience includes university campuses, performance venues, and the new entrance pavilions for the Venice Biennale.

Her background also includes collaborations with De Urbanisten, CZ Studio, and Mauricio Rocha + Gabriela Carrillo, as well as participation in specialized research programs and W.A.Ve. workshops in Venice, and technical support for the Mexican Pavilion at the 57th Venice Architecture Biennale.

Speakers & Trainers

Hands-On Bamboo Construction Workshop



Orjad Verjoni (Italy)

Is an architect working between Venice and Tirana. He holds a Master's Degree in Architecture and Innovation and a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from IUAV University of Venice.

He is a co-founder of Cinque Architettura e Ingegneria in Tirana, where he leads project direction, site supervision, and project management for residential, hospitality, healthcare, and public architecture projects, as well as international competitions. In parallel, he works as PM Design Architect at duebarradue in Venice, overseeing architectural design and project coordination across multiple sectors.

Previously, he collaborated with FAAM Architects in Eindhoven, contributing to residential, civic, and urban-scale projects. Orjad is also a professor at POLIS University in Tirana, teaching Urban and Architectural Design. His work has received honourable mentions in international competitions across Europe, including recent recognition in Albania for the Faith Park international competition.



Edouard Sherwood (France)

Edouard Sherwood is a Chartered Mechanical Engineer with a background in robotics from the University of Surrey, UK, and over 24 years of experience in advanced engineering and innovation. He has worked in R&D for high-tech industries and as a consultant and team leader on major international aerospace projects, including with Airbus and Liebherr Aerospace.

In 2010, he founded COBRATEX, where he serves as CEO, developing and patenting a groundbreaking mechanical technology to produce continuous bamboo reinforcements for composite materials. The company is currently scaling up industrial production, positioning bamboo as a high-performance, sustainable material for advanced applications.

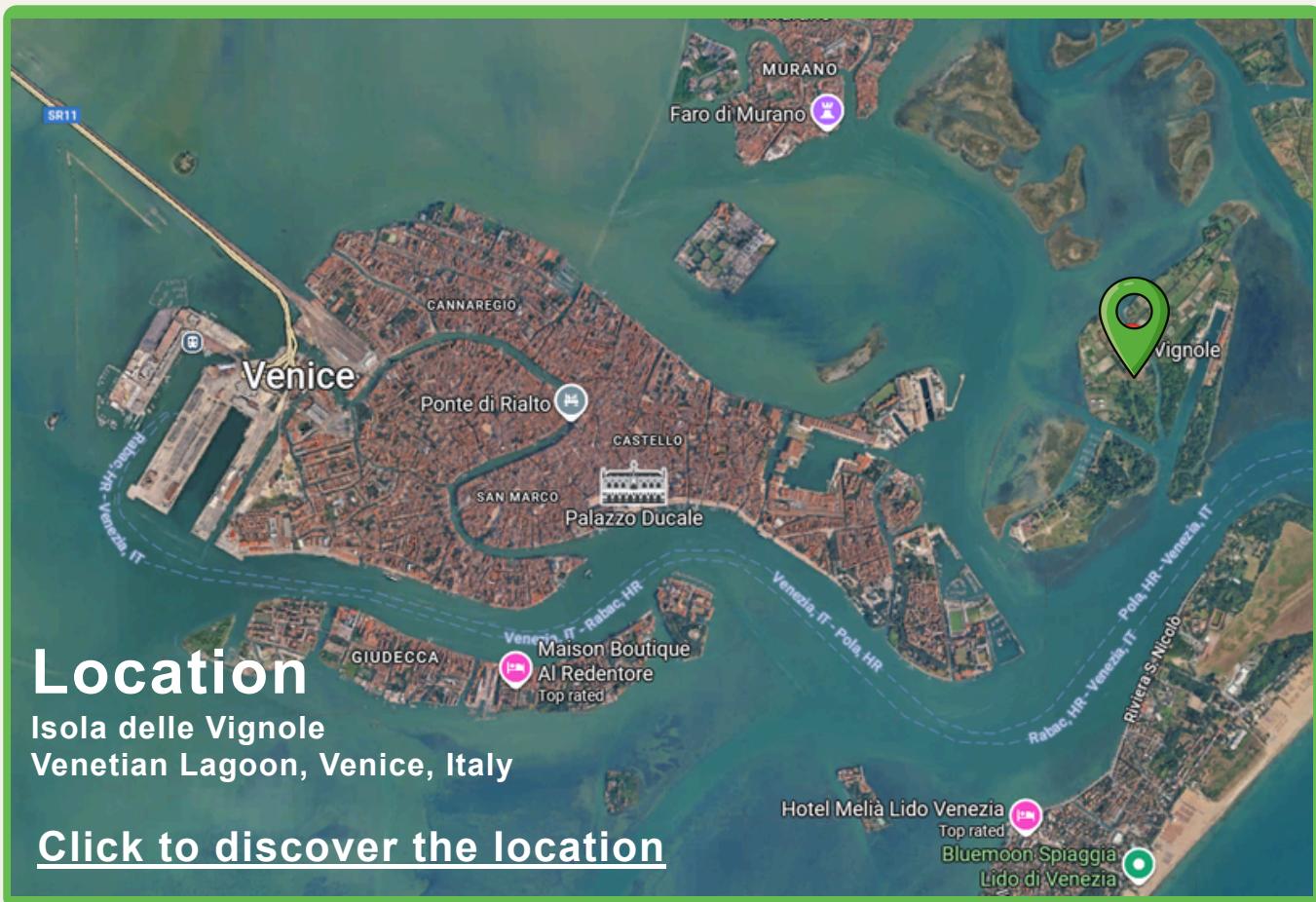


VERAS – Vignole Renewable Energy & Healthy Agriculture

The venue at Isola delle Vignole, hosted by VERAS, offers a living laboratory where participants engage with bamboo construction within an active framework of renewable energy, ecological regeneration, and community-based sustainability.

VERAS – Vignole Renewable Energy & Healthy Agriculture is a non-profit association founded with a visionary purpose: to transform an abandoned, state-owned land of exceptional environmental value into a living model of ecological regeneration, community resilience, and sustainable innovation.

At the heart of VERAS lies the ambition to create a public Agro-Environmental Park, where nature, food production, and renewable energy coexist in harmony. The project envisions the installation of a photovoltaic greenhouse as the foundation of the Vignole Energy Community, generating clean, locally produced “zero-kilometre” energy while supporting healthy, regenerative agriculture.



Join Us

Build, learn, and connect in an international bamboo construction experience in Venice.

Secure your place and be part of a hands-on workshop certified by the World Bamboo Organization.

Registration & Fees

- Students: €270
- General Admission: €350

Places are limited to ensure a high-quality, hands-on learning experience.

Registration & Payment

Online Registration



For fast, secure, and international payments, we strongly recommend registering through Eventbrite.

Register & Pay Online (Credit / Debit Card):

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1979933954757?aff=odddtcreator>

Alternative Payment Methods

For institutional registrations or direct payments, bank transfer is also available.

Bank Transfer – Italy

Account Holder: Gabriela Gomez Ortega

Bank: Intesa Sanpaolo

IBAN: IT46J0306902113100000011740

BIC / SWIFT: BCITITMM

Bank Transfer – Mexico

Company Name: Bamboo Architecture MX S de RL de CV

RFC: BAM200928I51

Bank: BBVA México

Account Number: 0115843693

CLABE: 012650001158436934

What's Included

- Training materials
- Tools, equipment, and safety gear
- Access to all theoretical and hands-on sessions
- WBO-Certified Certificate of Participation

What's Not Included

- Accommodation
- Transportation
- Meals
- Travel expenses



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