



## ISU Ice Figure skating competition 12-15 november 2009

### First information

The Italian Figure Skating Federation (FISG) and the Ice Club Merano are honoured to welcome you to the 12<sup>th</sup> Merano Cup.

### Geographical position

Merano is located in the north Italian Alps close to the Austrian and Swiss border. The Dolomites, worlds most famous skiing and climbing area, are just round the corner and the capital city of the self-governed province South Tyrol, Bolzano-Bozen, is only at a 25 km distance.

Such well known cities like Innsbruck (Austria) and Verona (Italy) could be reached in approximately two hours by car.

The countryside of the Merano area is blessed, in a most particular way, with all the marvellous contrasts which this part of the world is known for:

the valleys meander at an altitude of a mere three hundred meters above sea-level backed by mountain peaks of over three thousand meters. Glaciers and rocky outcrops shaped by whirling snow storms tower above a sub-tropical garden paradise: an entire continent seems to be concentrated in this small corner of land: Scandinavia and the Riviera, wide ice fields shadowing a perfumed flower garden. These include the fascinating combination of South Tyrolean traditions and Mediterranean flair.



### Travelling information

Merano lies within the heart of the alps in South Tyrol in Italy. Although its peaceful, unique and beautiful position in the alps, Merano is easily and fast accessible. The next bigger city nearby is Bozen, which is the capital of South Tyrol and an important traffic junction. The distance to Bolzano/Bozen, is only 28km:



### **By plane:**

**Bolzano Int. Airport** (BZO) [www.abd-airport.it](http://www.abd-airport.it) 28 km distance to Merano  
**Verona "Valerio Catullo" Int. Airport** (VRN) [www.aeroporto.verona.it](http://www.aeroporto.verona.it) 170 km distance to Merano  
**Innsbruck Airport**, [www.innsbruck-airport.com](http://www.innsbruck-airport.com) 170 km - 1:45 hours by car  
**Milan-Bergamo Airport** [www.sacbo.it](http://www.sacbo.it) 270 km - 2:45 hours by car  
**Milan Malpensa Airport** [www.sea-aeroporto.milano.it](http://www.sea-aeroporto.milano.it) 350 km - 4:00 hours by car

### **Taxi Service – shuttle bus**

Like in the last years, also for this year's edition of the Merano Cup we have organized a special taxi service at special price conditions for the participants. Just let us know where and when do you like to be picked up and we will take care about.

For organisation reasons it is necessary that we get your communication timely (**travel sheet**) about the place, date and time of your arrival, the number of passengers and the number of luggage.

The payment of the travel costs have to be transferred to our bank at the latest one day before your arrival.

**For further information please mail to: [maria@bocek.it](mailto:maria@bocek.it)**

### **Accommodation**

We have sorted out hotels in different Price categories (\*\*\*/\*\*\*\*/\*\*\*\*\*S) which we can book for you at special prices. (**List of hotels**)

Please let us know (**hotel-sheet**) within 25<sup>th</sup> oktober the nr. of rooms ( single double) you would require and we will take care about bookings. **The rooms must be paid directly to the Organizing Committee, upon registration.** We kindly ask the team leader to come to the finance desk located in the accreditation office (Ice Rink Meranarena) to settle the hotel invoice. Only cash or VISA-credit-card payments will be accepted.

All phone bills, room services and other possible extra costs are born by the respective guest/team must be paid before check-out at the hotel directly.

### **Visa requirements**

All citizens from the Schengen-area may enter Italy without presenting their passport. For citizens from other countries a valid passport is necessary. Please check with the Italian Embassy or Consulate whether your country needs also a visa (<http://www.esteri.it/eng/>).



## The official icerink “Meranarena”

The *Meranarena* ice-rink is one of the most beautiful multi-purpose ice-sports and event facilities in the Southern Alps region offering available capacity for 3.000 spectators. The modern architectural structure located straight to the famous *Merano horse racing circuit* matches perfectly to the environment and meets all requirements for athletes and public.

The ice-rink surface is 30 by 60 meters, the stadium is heated in the winter season and air-conditioned in the summer months.

Even though the *Meranarena* is situated at the town periphery, it is only a ten to fifteen minutes walk to the city centre and the old town which offers many opportunities for shopping, sightseeing and amusement.

## Sighthseeing

Meran is well worth visiting for its historic sights alone. There are castles, churches, museums and quaint corners waiting to be discovered. Highlights include the charming Art Nouveau Kurhaus and theatre, and the gardens of Trauttmansdorff, with the castle where Sissi stayed.

## Shopping

Meran’s town centre is a veritable paradise for everyone who loves shopping. There are exclusive boutiques, trendy jeans outlets, branches of the most famous fashion chains, gourmet shops, bookshops and jewellers. There is nothing you will not find here. Just come and see!

## Climate

The sub-mediterranean climate on the south side of the Alps ensures beautiful summers, clear autumn days and mild winters. During the autumn the weather conditions in Merano are usually rather stable and many sunny days are foreseen. The temperatures shift between 15°C in the night and 20-25°C during the day.