

By Your EUI4U Team

Nr. 3/2021 (April)

## Glancing at the flats

### Hello EUI Flats Community, and Happy Spring!

As we move towards Spring, and towards the end of the academic year, we have included important information in this April Newsletter regarding your life at the flats, improvements and works that will be taking place in the upcoming months, and details concerning your housing lease renewal.

The EUI4U Housing Office envisions this Newsletter as a place where tenants can share useful information regarding life at the Flats; where the REFS can update tenants on changes or construction that is currently taking place (or that is schedule to take place in the upcoming months); and, why not, an outlet where we can share one or two photos or creative pieces per month taken by tenants who have an eye for photography. Because this project is brand new, we can mold it into whatever works best for *you*!



### *What's happening at the Flats?*

**Bike Racks Installation:** this project is still one of our



top priorities, and we are now waiting for approval from the local Comune di

Firenze, who are in charge of deciding where these bike racks can be installed, and when.

PDM has already been equipped with a bike rack that we hope will help all bike-owning tenants.

**Automatic gate at PDM:** the automatic gate at PDM is now complete! If you own a car and wish to park it in the garage, please email us at [eui4u.flats@eui.eu](mailto:eui4u.flats@eui.eu) requesting a remote control and/or a manual key. Because of the limited amount of parking spaces, please note that there is a limit of one car per

family/apartment. Do not forget to register your motorized vehicle with the [EUI Parking Office](#).

**New waste bins:** the recycling bins have been delivered to all PAB and PDM apartments. All flats are now equipped with 4 waste-bins, to be used to properly recycle all trash items. Please note that glass containers and bottles must be disposed of separately. For PAB, please dispose of all glass in the large blue bins located outside of the PAB premise. For PDM, please note that the closest glass collectors are along Via Faentina (to the right of the apartments). As a reminder, here are the **specific trash pick-up** days:

<b>PAB</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Organic:</b> Monday, Wednesday, Friday</li><li>▪ <b>Plastic:</b> Tuesday, Saturday</li><li>▪ <b>Paper and Cardboard:</b> Monday</li><li>▪ <b>Undifferentiated waste:</b> Thursday</li></ul>
<b>PDM</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Organic:</b> Monday to Friday</li><li>▪ <b>Plastic:</b> Tuesday, Saturday</li><li>▪ <b>Paper and Cardboard:</b> Monday, Friday</li><li>▪ <b>Undifferentiated waste:</b> Thursday</li></ul>

**Stairwell cleaning at PAB:** the cleaning and repainting of all four stairwells at PAB is underway. Please refrain from leaving your bikes in the stairwells, as they constitute a fire hazard and might get damaged during the repairs.

**Storage room at PDM:** we are currently discussing the possibility of installing closed storage racks at PDM. While the space is limited, using a small percentage of the parking spots might seem the best option. Of course, it is not our intention to diminish parking spots at PDM, so the installation of storage closets will closely depend on the feasibility of this improvement.

**More greenery at PAB:** we are looking into planting bushes and plants in the central areas of PAB Flats. As the nice weather approaches, we will send a standardized calendar for bi-weekly grass-cutting at PAB. This might imply that some areas at PAB be blocked off for a few hours so that our maintenance staff can have access to the greenery that needs trimming.

**Mosquito nets at PDM:** the installation of mosquito nets in all PDM apartment is now complete. You can finally enjoy a mosquito-free summer!

**New camera installation at PAB:** as part of the EUI safety and security procedures, our HSSO has installed a new camera on the PAB premise, in order to allow for surveillance around the entire PAB perimeter. However, we have been informed that the common/social areas have been left out of the surveillance recordings. For any questions, please feel free to write to our HSSO at [safety\\_security@eui.eu](mailto:safety_security@eui.eu).

**Electronic check-in and check-out procedures:** we have completed the digitalization process for all typologies of apartments at PAB. We are now working on the three typologies at PDM. Our goal is to have all check-ins and check-outs digitalized by August 2021.

**Package collection box at PAB:** A package collection box has been installed at PAB, close to the entrance. Please inform the carriers when you purchase an item online that they can leave the package in the collection box if you are not home. Please note that the EUI does not take responsibility for missing or damaged items.

## ***Renewal of Your Rental Contract***

As you've read in the emails that the EUI4U Housing Office has sent out, we are getting ready for the

Allocation procedure for the next academic year. However, before we open up rooms to newcomers, it is our policy to renew the contracts of current tenants.

If your contract is scheduled to end between June and August 2021, and you would like to renew your lease agreement, please send an email to [eui4.flats@eui.eu](mailto:eui4.flats@eui.eu) as soon as possible. We will be soon launching the allocation application, and without a written confirmation of your intent to renew, your room/apartment will be considered vacant and free to assign to a newcomer.

### ***That's Good to Know!***

While some tenants have been living at the flats for some time, and might know all the ropes, we would like to offer some useful information for all newcomers:

- ✚ Please remember to register your motorized vehicle upon arrival. We ask that you also register any guests' vehicles, as well. You can do so via this link:  
<https://www.eui.eu/ServicesAndAdmin/LogisticsService/GeneralLogistics/Parking/ParkingattheEUI#EuiCarParksRulesRegulations>
- ✚ If residents require a remote control to open the car gate, please send us an email at [eui4u.flats@eui.eu](mailto:eui4u.flats@eui.eu). You will be able to pick the remote up directly at the EUI4U Housing Office (BF065) and you will be asked to return it upon check-out. Please note that remote controls have a cost of 25 euros for PAB and 70 euros for PDM, which you will be asked to pay at check-out if the remote control is lost or broken.
- ✚ All tenants can report maintenance issues in their apartment by opening a ticket via the EUI4U Helpdesk:  
<https://helpdesk.eui.eu/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCustomerPortal>.

Please note that maintenance staff can enter your apartment within five working days, between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm. Your presence is not required at the time of their visit. Should their intervention require a second visit, the apartment tenants will be duly informed.

- ✚ The laundry rooms at PAB and PDM are now equipped with hand sanitizer, as well as disinfectant and paper towels that you can use to wipe down washing machines and dryers before each use. Please refrain from using the laundry room between 11:00pm and 7:00am to avoid any disturbance.

### ***COVID-19 Updates***



From Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> to Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, all of Italy will automatically become **red**. You will be allowed to visit one household per day (2 adults + children under 14 years of age) within your region,

although you must respect the curfew between 10:00pm and 5:00am.

Furthermore, from March 29<sup>th</sup> until April 6<sup>th</sup>, Tuscany finds itself in the “red” group of regions.

This means that:

- A curfew is in place between the hours of 10:00pm and 5:00am, unless there are serious work-related or health-related reasons that force you to leave your apartment. Should that be the case, you must carry an “[autocertificazione](#)”, or “auto-declaration” on you at all times.
- Restaurants, bars, cafes, ice cream parlours are open for take-out and delivery only.
- Museums and cultural centers will remain closed.
- Gyms, pools, and sports centers are closed. You can exercise individually outside.
- All stores, with the exception of primary necessity stores (grocery stores, pharmacies, opticians), tobacconists, newspaper stands, and personal care stores, will remain closed until further notice.
- All high-school and university students will study from home 100% of the time. Second and third-year middle school students will also study from home 100% of the time. Nurseries, kindergartens, primary schools, and first year middle schools will reopen on April 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Travel to and from other regions, as well as from one Comune to another, is not allowed, unless there are serious work-related or health-related reasons. Should that be the case, you must carry an “[autocertificazione](#)”, or “auto-declaration” on you at all times.

Should Tuscany become an “orange” region in the near future, here is what you should keep in mind:

- A curfew is in place between the hours of 10:00pm and 5:00am, unless there are

serious work-related or health-related reasons that force you to leave your apartment. Should that be the case, you must carry an “[autocertificazione](#)”, or “auto-declaration” on you at all times.

- Restaurants, bars, cafes, ice cream parlours open for take-out and delivery only.
- Museums and cultural centers will remain closed.
- Gyms and pools are closed. You can exercise individually outside or practice non-contact sports within your Comune of residency (in your case, Florence or Fiesole).
- Nurseries, kindergartens, primary schools, and middle schools are open 100%. High schools and universities are open between 50% and 75% according to government decisions.
- Stores remain open. All stores inside shopping centers will remain closed on weekends and holidays, with the exception of grocery stores and markets, pharmacies, tobacconists, and newspaper stands.
- Travel to and from other regions, as well as from one Comune to another, is not allowed, unless there are serious work-related or health-related reasons. Should that be the case, you must carry an “[autocertificazione](#)”, or “auto-declaration” on you at all times.
- You can visit friends and family once per day within your Comune of residence (in your case, Florence or Fiesole). The visit must be limited to two people (excluding children under the age of 14 and people with disabilities).

Finally, should Tuscany become a “yellow” zone, here is what you need to know:

- A curfew is in place between the hours of 10:00pm and 5:00am, unless there are serious work-related or health-related

reasons that force you to leave your apartment. Should that be the case, you must carry an “[autocertificazione](#)”, or “auto-declaration” on you at all times.

- Restaurants, bars, cafes, ice cream parlours are open until 6:00pm. Take away is available until 10:00pm, and delivery is available until midnight.
- Museums are open from Monday to Friday (except holidays).
- Gyms and pools are closed. You can exercise individually outside or practice non-contact sports.
- Middle-school students will attend in-person lessons. High-school students will attend classes in person for 75% or 50% of the time.
- University courses and laboratories might be held in a hybrid or remote format.
- Stores remain open. All stores inside shopping centers will remain closed on weekends and holidays, with the exception of grocery stores and markets, pharmacies, tobacconists, and newspaper stands.
- Until April 30<sup>th</sup>, no one can leave Tuscany unless it is for work or health-related reasons (you must carry an “autocertificazione” or “auto-declaration” with you at all times).
- You can visit friends and family once per day within Tuscany. The visit must be limited to two people (excluding children under the age of 14 and people with disabilities).

As a reminder, tenants who are currently sharing a flat with a non-family member, and who are entering Italy from a non-EU or Schengen-Area country, must self-isolate for 15 days outside of their PAB or PDM apartment. The EUI has a convention with the Student Hotel, although there are many other options, as well.

## ***Easter closure***

The EUI will observe Easter break between Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup> and Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, and will reopen on Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. However, the Badia Fiesolana building will remain open from Thursday to Monday (excluding Saturday and Sunday) from 9:00am to 6:00pm. Please note that working spaces are limited, and that you must be registered in order to access the Badia during those days. If you have not already registered through the specific survey, please write to the Academic Service to request a working space. For emergencies during the Easter closure, please call the Control Room at 055-4685999.

## ***Mould prevention in the apartments***

As we leave the cold winter months behind us and open our windows to let in some fresh air, let us remind you that air circulation in your apartments is one of the best ways to prevent mould formation in your flat. We strongly recommend that you do not air wet clothes to dry inside of the apartment— please use the dryers as much as possible or, for PDM tenants with terraces, drying racks. If you do choose to dry your clothes inside, please open your windows and let some fresh air in. You should also open your windows after showering and after cooking, as to avoid the stagnation of any excess vapour.



As a reminder, heating in Italy is centralized and it depends on the Comune of residence (in your case, Florence and Fiesole). Tenants cannot set their own temperature in each apartment; rather, the EUI has set specific windows of time during which the heating will turn on automatically. These times are between 7:00am and 12:00pm, and again between 2:00pm and 10:00pm. However, please rest assured that should the temperature ever drop below 17°C (which is highly unlikely), the heating will turn on automatically. Heating in all EUI buildings (including PAB and PDM Flats) will most likely be switched off after Easter break.

### **COVID-19 and the EUI**

The Secretary General has recently sent out an email informing the entire EUI community of the possibility of getting rapid antigenic swab tests done for free on the EUI premise. Through its collaboration with the Red Cross, EUI members can voluntarily request the abovementioned test—which take approximately 15 minutes. Be on the lookout for future emails from the Secretary General informing the EUI community about the next slots available.

For updated COVID19 information, please visit the dedicated website:

<https://www.eui.eu/ServicesAndAdmin/CommunicationsService/News/2020/COVID2019-virus>

\*\*Please note that all EUI members between the ages of 16 and 79 are now eligible to receive the AstraZeneca vaccine, free of charge. You can register for the vaccine at the following link:

<https://prenotavaccino.sanita.toscana.it/#/home>

You will be happy to know that the EUI has also established agreements with four medical centers and medical practitioners in Florence, where you

can get several types of COVID-19 tests at a discounted price:

#### **Life Brain Medical Center**

- Coronavirus Sars-Cov-2 test (includes confirmation test in case of positivity IgM/IgA-IgG): €32
- COVID Molecular RNA swab: €65
- COVRAG antigenic swab test: €32

#### **Fanfani Medical Center**

- Rapid qualitative test NCOV19 (IGG and IGM): €28
- Antibodies Anti-Ncov19 test (IGG and IGM): €48

#### **Helab Medical Center**

- Qualitative blood test: €35
- Quantitative blood test: €50
- Rapid antigenic nasopharyngeal test: €60
- Molecular nasopharyngeal test in PCR: €80

#### **Dr. Kurpanik**

- Roche nasopharyngeal swab: €50 in doctor's office, €65 at home visit
- Simens nasal swab: €50 in doctor's office, €65 at home visit
- Abbott antibodies test: €50 in doctor's office, €65 at home visit

For additional information, please check out our agreements and discount page below.

### **Spotlight!**

This month the spotlight is given to a wonderful activity on campus, called Orto Sociale (Social Garden). We hope that many of you will decide to join. Below are a few words from Anastasia Remes, the person in charge of this initiative.

“The EUI ORTO Community Garden, located next to Villa Paola in the Badia Fiesolana, was founded at the end of 2018. We grow many different herbs, flowers and fruits, as well as a large variety of annual vegetables. We apply permaculture principles and have created all our garden beds without tilling the soil. The goal is not only to grow our own food but also to increase biodiversity and regenerate the soil. We organise regular meetings, during which we maintain our shared plot. All harvests are shared between participants. Follow our progress on Instagram under the hashtag #euiorto! If you would like to join the Gardening Club or are interested in starting a small herb garden at the flats, please write to [anastasia.remes@eui.eu](mailto:anastasia.remes@eui.eu).”



### ***Meet the EUI4U Team***

The EUI4U Unit is a brand new project that combines several units and services that already existed at the EUI, while also promoting new activities and services. EUI4U is a central part of the REFS, one that is geared towards the pre-arrival, post-arrival, and pre-departure support that all EUI members might require.

Among the services offered by EUI4U, EUI members can find the following:

- **Welcome Unit:** Stefania Bocchi and Julia Valerio will assist you with questions regarding your arrival at and departure from the EUI. This includes, but is not limited to, visas and residency permits, tax codes, bank accounts, and MAE Cards. They will be one of your first EUI contact-persons.
- **Housing Office:** Jennifer Monti and Federica Sergori are your contact-persons for any issues or questions related to EUI Housing (Ponte alla Badia and Pian del Mugnone). Feel free to email them or visit them in their office anytime!
- **Life in Florence:** Federica Sergori is your reference-point for any questions that pertain to life outside of the EUI Campus. From questions on how to enrol your kids in school, to requesting suggestions on medical practitioners; from practical questions on how to purchase a bus ticket to suggestions on a good restaurant, the Life in Florence team is here to help. You might also want to check out the many discounts and agreements that all EUI members have with local businesses and associations. The Life in Florence team is also in charge of organizing the extracurricular activities for the STG Master Students, as well as creating a Volunteer network in Florence in which all EUI members can get involved.
- **Life on Campus:** Stefania Bocchi and Julia Valerio will be able to answer all your queries regarding life on campus—including extra-curricular activities and events.
- **Technical troubleshooting:** the fifth member of the EUI4U team is Dario Fantini, our in-house ICT support who helps newcomers set up their own laptops, phones, and looks after the installation of licenses for specific software (e.g. STATA).

- **Florence Housing Service:** Mariagrazia Calise is responsible for the private housing market at the EUI. She works for Florence Housing Service and shares an office with Jennifer and Federica in Badia Fiesolana 065.

according to the evolution of the COVID-19 emergency.

If you need to speak with us, we encourage you to send us an email at [eui4u.flats@eui.eu](mailto:eui4u.flats@eui.eu) or call us at +39 0554685245 or +39 0554685240. You can certainly visit us in person, though we recommend booking an appointment ahead of time.

### ***Did you know that...***

...all EUI members with a valid EUI ID have access to discounts and agreements with stores, companies, and medical practitioners around Florence?



You can find an updated list of all partnerships via this link:

<https://www.eui.eu/ServicesAndAdmin/LogisticsService/EUI4U/EUI4U-Conventions-and-agreements>

If you would like to suggest a new agreement, please email us with the name of the person/place you are recommending, and a brief description of the services offered. We are always looking to increase our partnerships and keep our info as updated as possible.

### ***Useful Info***

The EUI4U Housing Office is located in the Badia Fiesolana, room 065, and is currently open from Monday to Friday, from 9:00am to 5:00pm. Please note that the opening times are subject to change,