

By Your EUI4U Team

Nr. 6/2021 (December)

Monthly Newsletter – December 2021

Glancing at the flats

Hello EUI Flats Community!

This issue of the EUI Flats newsletter will focus on useful information for the upcoming months, including the Winter holiday closure and COVID information (vaccines, mask-mandate, and Super Green Pass). We hope all EUI Flats tenants have settled in nicely, and that life in your apartment is going smoothly.

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*!



Meet the EUI4U Team

The EUI4U 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. While some of you might already know us, please let us introduce ourselves to those who have arrived this year.

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, and MAE Cards. They will be among your first EUI contact-persons. Their office is located in Badia Fiesolana 443.

- **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 by setting up an appointment! Their office is located in Badia Fiesolana 065.
- **Life in Florence:** Federica Sergori (assisted by Jennifer Monti) 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, the YALP Fellows, and Policy Leader Fellows; of organizing guided tours of the main EUI buildings for all EUI members; and for 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:** our colleagues from FHS are responsible for the private housing market at the EUI. They share an office with Jennifer and Federica in Badia Fiesolana 065.
- **Tenant Representative:** although not a part of the EUI4U Team, Gabriele Macci (a 5th year researcher in the Department of Economics) is this year's Tenant Representative and a tenant at the EUI Flats. He serves as your point of contact for any questions or concerns you have directly at the flats.

What's happening at the Flats?

Vehicle registration: for all of you who have a motorized vehicle at the flats, or who plan on purchasing/renting one, please do not forget to register your motorized vehicle with the [EUI Parking Office](#). For any additional questions, you can always contact the Housing Office at eui4u.flats@eui.eu.

Leaving your car at the flats during Winter break: if you wish to leave your motorized vehicle at the flats during Winter break, we kindly ask that you send the Housing Office an email informing us of this. We will, in turn, send you a form to fill out and hand to the Control Room officers.

Storage room at PDM: We are happy to report that new storage lockers have been completed and installed at PDM. If you have not already done so, please stop by the Housing Office in Badia Fiesolana 065 to collect your key and attach it to your keychain. Please remember to give the storage room

key back to our checkout staff when you vacate the apartment.



Greenery at PAB: The project to plant more bushes and plants at PAB is currently underway. The maintenance team is hoping to plant new bushes and plants with the start of the new year, as well as to remove the weeds that grow between bricks.

Package collection box at PAB: as many of you already know, a package collection box has been installed at PAB, close to the entrance. We have also placed a notice for all couriers to drop the packages in the parcel collection box should you not be home at the time of delivery. Please note, however, that the EUI does not take responsibility for missing or damaged items.

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 **green** 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:**

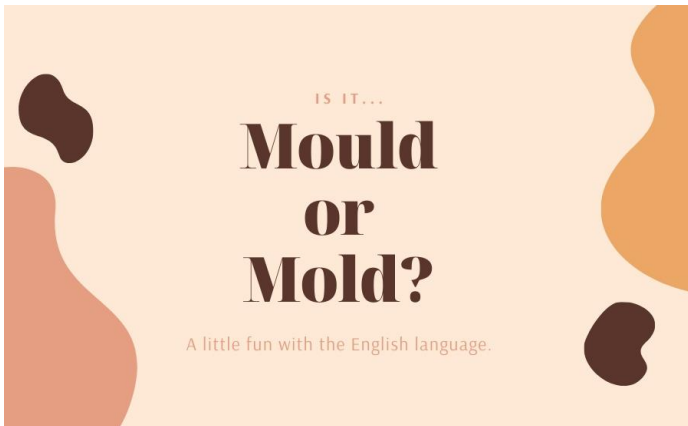
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| <p>PAB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Organic: Monday, Wednesday, Friday▪ Plastic: Tuesday, Saturday▪ Paper and Cardboard: Monday▪ Undifferentiated waste: Thursday <p>PDM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Organic: Monday to Friday▪ Plastic: Tuesday, Saturday▪ Paper and Cardboard: Monday, Friday▪ Undifferentiated waste: Thursday |
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Heating at the Flats: please note that the heating at the flats is centralized and controlled by our technical unit. Heating will automatically switch on and off throughout the day within the timeframe set by the tech unit. Please note that once the temperature in the apartment reaches 21,5 degrees Celsius, the heating will switch off. Likewise, should the temperature inside the flat ever drop below 17°C (which is highly unlikely), the heating will turn on automatically. We kindly ask you to remember to switch the radiators off when you leave your apartment for a several hours or days to avoid the waste of energy. If you and your flatmate plan on leaving for the Winter break, we kindly ask that you inform the Housing Office so we can send someone to manually switch off the thermostat, as to avoid wasting energy.

Mould prevention in the apartments

Although the colder weather is approaching, 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. If you do choose to dry your clothes inside, please open your windows and let some fresh air in to avoid the formation of humidity. You should also open your windows after showering and after cooking, as to avoid the stagnation of any excess vapour.



Winter Closure

The EUI will be closed for Winter break between Wednesday, December 22, and Tuesday, January 4 inclusive. Please note that during this time the ticketing system will also be suspended. Tickets opened during winter break will be seen and dispatched upon the reopening of the institute. The EUI emergency number, on the other hand, will remain active 24/7 and can always be used in case of emergency.

The Badia Fiesolana will remain open during the break. Please expect a detailed email in the upcoming days with opening days and times.

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. 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 5:00pm. Your presence is not required at the time of their visit. Should their intervention require a second visit, you will be duly informed.
- ✚ The laundry rooms at PAB and PDM are 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.
- ✚ Please remember that masks are mandatory when indoors—even for fully vaccinated people. This includes the laundry room at PAB and PDM, the storage room at PAB, and any indoor space at the EUI flats.

COVID-19 and the EUI

As of September 15, 2021, everyone entering the EUI premises must show their green-pass, which is obtainable in several different ways:

- ✚ Proof of vaccination: provided by the health authorities upon receiving the second dose (or available in the digital vaccine file for those with tessera sanitaria)
- ✚ Negative swab test (antigenic or PCR molecular, valid 48 hours)
- ✚ Proof of recovery from COVID-19
- ✚ Medical exemption to COVID-19 vaccines and swab tests duly documented

Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday all EUI members (and their immediate family members) can get a rapid, antigen swab test done free of charge in the Medical Room of the Badia Fiesolana, between 8:30am and 12:30pm. No reservation is necessary, and swab tests will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

A number of pharmacies in Florence and surrounding areas also offer swab tests, although a reservation will be necessary in that case. Please email eui4u.lifeinflorence@eui.eu should you have any questions or require assistance in booking an appointment.

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
- Fanfani Medical Center
- Helab Medical Center
- Dr. Silvia Kurpanik

Family members of the EUI community, EUI pensioners and EUI members who have not yet booked a vaccination can request a vaccination slot by sending an email to our Health, Safety, and Security Officer at safety_security@eui.eu

Registering with the National Health Service in general terms: It is currently possible for EUI members to join the Italian National Health Service with a paid contribution calculated on income, for which fees vary substantially between students/researchers/fellows and other members of the community. For any questions, please contact Life in Florence at eui4u.lifeinflorence@eui.eu

Booster shots and Super Green Pass

As of December 6, 2021 a Super Green Pass has been introduced by the Italian Government. This pass is scheduled to remain valid until January 15 2022, unless the government chooses to prolong its validity. This special type of pass can be obtained in two ways only:

- ✚ Completion of vaccine cycle (two shots of Astrazeneca, Pfizer, and Moderna, or one shot of J&J plus the booster shot)
- ✚ Proof of recovery from COVID-19

Please keep in mind that you will need the Super Green Pass to conduct most indoor activities (gyms, restaurants, fairs, etc.). The “regular” Green Pass (obtainable with a swab test) will still be sufficient to work and is now also required to travel on any form of local public transportation (this includes the local buses, as well).

Anyone who has completed their first cycle of vaccination is eligible to receive a booster shot of the COVID-19 vaccine **at least 5 months after the second dose.** For those who have a *tessera sanitaria* and are enrolled in the Italian Health System, you can reserve your booster shot appointment via the [online portal](#). For those who do not possess a

tessera sanitaria, please be on the lookout for an email from the Secretary General with information on how to obtain your booster shot.

Mask-mandate at the EUI and in Florence

Please note that it is now mandatory to wear a mask in the Center of Florence and in any crowded outdoor space. Masks are still mandatory in all indoor spaces. Please note that the mask-mandate is also mandatory in any enclosed area at the EUI flats (laundry room, storage room, etc.) Please keep this in mind even if you are vaccinated, as you can still spread the virus.

Spotlight(s)!

Christmas event at the EUI

On December 15 the EUI will hold its annual Christmas event, starting at 5:00pm with the President's opening remarks. There will be a Christmas market in the Badia cloister from 12:00pm to 6:00pm approximately. At 5:10pm Santa Claus will arrive with presents for the children.

Orto Sociale

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.”



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, 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 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.