

MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

The IWF hosts general meetings once a month featuring a presentation by an invited speaker. Members also have the opportunity to get together in smaller groups organized around specific interests. These various "interest groups" meet to run, hike, chat over coffee or an aperitivo, discuss books, organize activities for children, and find language exchange partners. Special events include an annual holiday party and a family picnic. Dates and event descriptions may be found on the IWF website.

OUR MEMBERS

The diversity of our membership reflects the founding spirit of the IWF with more than 100 members of all ages, backgrounds and professions, originating from more than 20 different countries. Members range from recent arrivals in Bologna to long-term residents who value the international community offered by the IWF. The IWF also has numerous Institutional Members, including associations, companies and universities who wish to extend the benefit of IWF membership to the English-speaking women in their organizations.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership in the IWF Bologna runs from July to June. Membership fees are used to support the operation of the association and entitle members to attend IWF-sponsored activities, gain access to the password-protected areas of the online community and participate in interest groups. New visitors are invited as guests to their first general meeting or interest group activity. Information on membership fees and payment options may be found on the IWF website.

ONLINE COMMUNITY

The IWF operates a dynamic website that allows users to easily connect with one another and the association. Members may visit the website to learn about upcoming activities, search the member directory, download our newsletter vox@bo, consult the job bank for employment opportunities, and view photo albums of IWF events. Among the most useful tools are the online forums, interactive bulletin boards where members can read and post messages on any number of topics ranging from health care to apartment hunting.

BOLOGNA INSIDE GUIDEBOOK

In 2006, the IWF published *Bologna Inside, Second Edition: everything you need to know to make Bologna home*, a guidebook for English speakers living in or around Bologna. The guidebook, available in a 192-page volume and online at www.iwfbologna.com, is aimed not at tourists, but rather at newcomers who seek to make Bologna "casa" and need help orienting themselves to the area's resources, services and bureaucratic procedures. With 90 personal vignettes by 60 unique women authors and 10 portraits of IWF members, this guide offers a unique, personal read for those interested in a truly inside view of daily life in Italy.

The guidebook is a service project for our community and is distributed free of charge. Individual copies may be requested at general meetings of the IWF Bologna, at the URP of the Province of Bologna located in Via Benedetto XIV, 3 and at the URP of the City of Bologna located in Piazza Maggiore. Companies, associations and other groups are asked to contact the IWF for multiple copies.

The International Women's Forum of Bologna is a non-profit association founded in October 1998 for English-speaking women of all nationalities.

The group serves as a professional, cultural and social resource for its members, providing opportunities to exchange experiences, make professional contacts, find support and friendship, and speak English.

Whether you have just landed in Bologna or have called it home for decades, the IWF offers an enriching experience for all its members.

www.iwfbologna.com



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