

Know Before You Go

Bio-Char II: Production, Characterization and Applications

An ECI Conference Series

<http://www.engconf.org/19AJ>

**September 15-20, 2019
Grand Hotel San Michele, Cetraro (Calabria), Italy**

September 9, 2019

To: Participants, Biochar II Conference
From: Barbara Hickernell, CAE, ECI Executive Director

We are looking forward to your participation in this conference. Please read this note as there are items in it that may be helpful to you before your arrival at the conference. You will receive electronic copies of the abstracts later this week.

Conference Hotel: Grand Hotel San Michele
Contrada Bosco 30 – 87022 Cetraro (Calabria), Italy
Phone: +39-0982-91012 - Fax: +39-0982-91430 - Email: sanmichele@sanmichele.it
Their website: www.sanmichele.it.

The hotel is located high on a 120-meter cliff overlooking the Mediterranean. On a clear day, the Eolian Islands (where the volcano on Stromboli is currently active) and Mount Etna are visible. The hotel itself is surrounded by an organic farm that provides the hotel every day with fresh organic food. It has its own private beach of sand and pebbles that is reached by a 92-meter high private lift that almost takes you down to sea level.

Driving Directions

Take the motorway Roma to Caserta Sud – Salerno – Lagonegro Nord – Fondo Valle Noce – S.S. 18 until km 293.100

Train: The Paola Railway station is about 21 km from the hotel.

Transfers from Lamezia Terme Airport

Airline: The conference hotel can arrange transfers from [Lamezia Terme Airport](#) (SUF) to the hotel on Sunday, September 15, and transfers from the hotel to the airport on Friday, September 20. The cost will vary depending upon the number of attendees traveling together at the same time. The costs of transfers will be shared among those in the same vehicles. The costs are:

Car: 90 € (Up to 3 passengers) (1 passenger is 90 €, 2 passengers are 45 €/passenger; 3 passengers are 30 €/passenger)

Minibus: 122 € (up to 8 passengers – cost shared by number of passengers)

The cost will be billed to your incidental room charges.

Please note that for night shuttle services (between 1.00 am and 5.00 am) there is a 30 € supplement.

Note that if you arriving earlier than September 15 or plan to stay after the conference, the hotel can arrange transportation but most likely it will be on an individual basis.

If you would like to arrange a transfer, please email the following information to: sanmichele@sanmichele.it by September 13 to arrange for a transfer to the hotel.

- your name
- your email
- flight arrival and departure dates
- name of airline, flight numbers, scheduled arrival/departure times
- number of people you are booking

Please note that you are attending the ECI conference from September 15-20.

The airport is 75 km from the hotel.

Train: The Paola Railway station is about 21 km from the hotel by ItaliaRail. Please email sanmichele@sanmichele.it by September 1 to arrange for a transfer to the hotel.

Sunday conference check-in: The check-in is from 17:00 – 18:30 in in the conference center and will be followed at 19:00 by the welcome reception and dinner at 20:00 (both in the hotel).

Monday morning: Breakfast is available from 07:30 to 08:45 and the technical session begins at 08:45.

Weather: Temperature highs are expected to be in the mid-70s °F (24° C) and lows in the mid-60s °F (18°C) during the conference week. Please check www.weather.com for an update before you pack. In any case, we advise that you bring sunscreen and a sweater or jacket for the meeting room.

Speakers: We expect that all presentations will be on PowerPoint and we will have a computer projector as well as a laptop with Microsoft PowerPoint. Please bring your presentation on a memory stick for loading onto the ECI computer. **Sandra Fogg** will be assisting with the audio-visual during the week and will help load your talk on the conference computer. Be sure that you have provided your session chair with a **brief** biography for your introduction. You will have a well-informed audience, so you can omit introductory slides. The audience can always ask questions. Use large fonts in the figures (including graphs) so that they can be read in one glance.

Each speaker is requested to prepare and bring, in addition to their oral presentations (10-12 min presentation + a couple of minutes for immediate questions), a poster (approx. 84 cm wide by 118 cm high) to complement the presentation and to be presented in the evening during the posters and social time session.

It is essential to the conference schedule that you keep to your given time - and be certain that you allow enough time for questions/discussion. Keeping in the tradition of these conferences, please be available during the conference for discussion and questions. Meals and social hours are perfect for discussion and questions.

Dress: ECI conferences are casual.

Currency: The currency in Italy is the Euro. Currently, 1 Euro = US\$1.104 and = CDN\$1.45. ATM machines are available at all airports as well as at various banks throughout the area.

Electricity: Please be certain to bring the proper electrical adapter for your electrical appliances.

Poster Presenters: Posters should be printed in A0 size, portrait format (84 cm wide by 118 cm high). Pushpins will be provided.

Guests/Accompanying Persons: If you decide to bring a guest at the last moment, please email Kathy (kathy@engconfintl.org) to arrange for payment.

Internet access: There is complimentary wireless access in the hotel

Miscellaneous: The following are a few housekeeping items that you need to be aware of:

- If you have special **dietary needs** (e.g., vegetarian, allergies, etc.) that you didn't communicate to us when you registered, please make sure we are made aware of them during registration so that we can give the hotel this information. All those with special needs meals will be given a card to identify themselves to the wait staff.

- If your arrival or departure date should change prior to the conference, please notify the hotel and Kathy Chan (Kathy@engconfintl.org)
- An electronic evaluation form will be distributed on Thursday during the conference. Please complete it as your comments will be very useful to the planners of the next conference in the series.
- If you require **photocopying**, please make your arrangements at the hotel desk - the cost will be billed to your room incidentals.

As a courtesy to conference participants, we request that all mobile phones be turned off (or to “vibrate”) during the technical sessions. If it is necessary to use your mobile phone, we request that you step outside the meeting room to an area that will not disturb other attendees. As usual, all conference functions are smoke-free.

Franco Berruti is the technical liaison from the ECI Conferences Committee and I (**Barbara Hickernell**) am the ECI site manager. We thank the conference co-chairs, **Franco Berruti** (Western University, London, Ontario, Canada), **David Chiamonti** (RE-CORD, University of Firenze, Italy), **Ondrej Masek** (University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK), and **Manuel Garcia-Perez** (Washington State University, USA) who put in a great deal of effort to produce this program.

Last minute questions?

Contact the ECI office at 1-212-514-6760 or email **Kathy Chan** (Kathy@engconfintl.org). If you need to contact the ECI staff from Friday onwards, you can text or call Barbara Hickernell at 1-914-484-7349.

We wish you all an intellectually stimulating, productive and enjoyable conference.