

in concerto

'IN CONCERTO': DUCO TRAVEL SUMMIT CELEBRATES THE SEVENTH EDITION OF DUCO ITALY IN MILAN

The finest Italian hospitality providers connect with the world's top English-speaking travel advisors in perfetta armonia at this boutique high-end travel summit in Milan from March 24th – 28th, 2025

DUCO Travel Summit proudly announces its seventh annual edition of DUCO Italy, held in Milan from March 24th to 28th, 2025. Following the success of its inaugural Milanese edition in 2024, this year's summit embraces the theme *DUCO In Concerto*, celebrating the essence of collaboration—just like in music, where every sound, every instrument, and every performer plays a unique role, and it is through their collaboration that a symphony is created—by connecting the world's most influential English-speaking travel advisors with Italy's finest hoteliers and luxury travel providers.

DUCO Travel Summit pioneered the concept of a destination-focused event dedicated to high-end hospitality, serving as a groundbreaking initiative to spotlight a single destination in its own setting. Now in its seventh year in Italy, this exclusive, invitation-only gathering connects the country's most distinguished hoteliers and travel experience providers with leading English-speaking travel advisors, as well as DMCs and trusted City Partners.

With a unique approach to hosting meetings across multiple prestigious venues, DUCO continues to elevate Italy's standing on the global luxury travel calendar seamlessly blending business with cultural immersion.

DUCO is proudly supported by the **Chamber of Commerce of Milano Monza Brianza Lodi** and **Milano & Partners**. Fiorenza Lipparini, Director General of Milano & Partners shared, "We are pleased to welcome international operators and buyers in luxury tourism and connect them with the local hospitality industry. Let us open the gates of the city to the second Milanese edition of DUCO to jointly celebrate the artistic and cultural excellence that distinguishes Milano as a global destination in the high-end segment of the tourism industry." Elena Vasco, Secretary General to the Chamber of Commerce of Milano Monza Brianza Lodi noted, "We are hosting DUCO convinced that it constitutes a major opportunity for firms and establishments in the metro area to reap the great opportunities and successfully manage the challenges of high- quality tourism. We are committed to supporting initiatives that can enhance the uniqueness of Milano as a luxury destination revolving around taste, art, culture and creativity".

Official Partners also include **MonteNapoleone District**. Guglielmo Miani, Chairman of MonteNapoleone District, commented: "We are delighted to partner with DUCO, a unique and international initiative that promotes and strengthens Milan's role as a premier destination for high-end tourism. With its cosmopolitan charm and status as a global hub of luxury in many of its facets, from fashion, goldsmithing and design to cuisine and hospitality, Milan stands as an iconic city that attracts visitors from all over the world. In such context, the Montenapoleone District reaffirms itself as the ideal starting point for a journey to discover Italy, both as the world's number one luxury shopping street and as a place that embodies elegance, heritage, and the essence of the Made in Italy lifestyle. Through an exclusive offering encompassing culture, tradition and innovation, we aim to create new synergies to expand elite tourism and provide unique experiences that showcase the very best of Italian hospitality on a global scale".

DUCO Italy 2025 welcomes 342 of the country's top hospitality professionals and 280 leading Italian travel advisors, including the most influential travel advisors in the English-speaking market. The immersive experience includes enriching pre-scheduled twenty-minute daytime appointments at select venues across Milan, complemented by engaging evening events that showcase the best of Milanese hospitality, gastronomy, and culture.

Park Hyatt Milano will welcome attendees for registration and the press program, featuring a dedicated hospitality desk from the MonteNapoleone District. On the same day, a group of buyers will have the opportunity to enjoy a guided visit to Il Duomo, a curated Milan Experience by Veneranda Fabbrica del Duomo and Yes Milano. Furthermore, PISA 1940 extends an exclusive invitation to all DUCO Italy participants for a specially designed visit, crafted to celebrate this exceptional occasion.

Hotel Principe di Savoia and Villa Necchi Campiglio will host scheduled appointments. During the three days of appointments at Hotel Principe di Savoia, a dedicated hospitality desk will showcase the destination of Madonna di Campiglio, offering a space for networking and discovery. The Leading Hotels of the World will elevate the coffee break at Villa Necchi Campiglio with the *Salotto del Caff*è, offering a refined experience for attendees.

DUCO's Standing Opening Cocktail & DUCO Awards will take place at Magna Pars, l'Hotel à Parfum, while Four Seasons Milano will welcome guests for an elegant Standing Cocktail. To conclude, MonteNapoleone District will close its main street for an exclusive Passeggiata, complete with a festive fanfare, reserved for DUCO participants. For full details, please refer to the <u>Event Program</u>.

DUCO will also host a three-day Press Program for media from March 23rd to 25th, 2025, in Milan. The program begins with a Welcome Press Dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel Milano for international press guests, hosted by Four Seasons Hotel Milano and attended by City Partners Representatives, including the Chamber of Commerce Milan Monza Brianza Lodi, MonteNapoleone District, and Yes Milano. The press office will be located at Park Hyatt Milano, where a full-day press program on Monday, March 24th, will facilitate one-to-one meetings between exhibitors and media throughout the day. Lunch will be served at Pellico 3 Milano Restaurant, with the presence of the Andrea Bocelli Foundation. The day will conclude with the Standing Opening Cocktail and DUCO Awards at Magna Pars l'Hotel à Parfum. The final day, Tuesday, March 25th, will include visits to the DUCO appointments venue Villa Necchi Campiglio, followed by a guided visit at Museo Bagatti and a press lunch hosted by MonteNapoleone District at Lucid Club Milano.

DUCO Italy proudly features a selection of Exhibitors who are esteemed members of renowned associations, including The Leading Hotels of the World, Preferred Hotels & Resorts, Relais & Châteaux, and Small Luxury Hotels of the World. For the full list of Exhibitors, please refer to the Exhibitors List.

DUCO Italy 2025 will continue its tradition of honoring excellence with the DUCO Italy Awards, celebrating the best hoteliers, experience providers, and favorite properties as voted by attendees with winners in four categories: Patrizio Cipollini Award | Best Hotelier; Unique Experience Provider; Most Charming Hotel (up to 50 rooms); Greatest Italian Hotel (more than 51 rooms). The winners will be announced at the March 24th evening event at Magna Pars L'Hotel à Parfum. Discover the complete list of 2025 nominees at <u>this link</u>.

For the seventh edition, DUCO is embracing a more digitally oriented approach, extending beyond the annual gathering. <u>DUCO Galleria</u> serves as an ongoing showcase of Italy, offering regional highlights, exhibitor insights, hidden gems, culinary treasures, and creative content at one's fingertips. In parallel, DUCO Italy remains a year-round platform for inspiration, exclusive insights, and the finest travel experiences—stay connected via <u>Instagram</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>. During the summit, the DUCO App will provide attendees with a comprehensive digital platform for networking, scheduling, and event information.

About DUCO Travel Summit

Founded in 2016 by Carolina Perez, DUCO Travel Summit is a destination-oriented initiative. It is the first travel summit of its kind to focus on a single destination, as well as

a channel for promoting the destination through marketing actions and digital platforms. DUCO Travel Summit organizes DUCO Italy, an annual event founded in Florence in 2018. Since 2024, DUCO Italy has been held in Milan, while DUCO France will continue to be held annually in Paris. DUCO has also announced the launch of DUCO Spain & Portugal, scheduled to take place in Marbella, Spain. The DUCO concept is the result of the passion of the company's founder, Carolina Perez, who is of Italian heritage and grew up in Brazil. After leading the family business, Teresa Perez Tours, in São Paulo for 16 years, Carolina created and founded Travelweek São Paulo, which was acquired by ILTM Reed Exhibitions in 2013 and rebranded as ILTM Latin America.

To learn more about DUCO Travel Summit including DUCO Italy, DUCO France and DUCO Spain & Portugal, please visit <u>www.ducotravelsummit.com</u>.

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