

Logistics in Bologna

Geographical position

Bologna is the nerve centre for overland communications between Northern Europe and the Mediterranean basin; it is a key crossing-point for freight traffic passing through Italy. 75% of goods transiting between the North and South of Italy passes through Bologna.

Logistics firms

There are 3,500 firms dedicated to freight transport, logistics and related activities in the Bolognese metropolitan area, of which 90% are dedicated to road transport. The big-name Global Logistic Providers include *TNT Logistics, Kühne&Nagel, Schenker, Geodis, Saima Avandero-Abx, DHL, Gefco, Bartolini, Arcese Logistics International, Fercam, Indesit, Prologis* and *Volvo*.

Bologna Freight Village

It is one of Europe's largest intermodal platforms, and the first to be fully cabled, and is directly linked to the Bologna-Padova (A13) motorway; it features 20 km of railway tracks and covers an area of 2 million m²; an expansion of 2.7 million m² is scheduled, of which 1 million covered; over 5 million tonnes of freight transited through the Freight Village in 2006; it is home to over 100 freight transport and logistics firms, for a total of 1,500 employees.

New freight yard in Imola

It will occupy an area of 78,000 m² and will feature an area specifically dedicated to freight handling and storage with 15,000 m² of warehousing.

Key logistics facilities

Bologna hosts 3 key logistics facilities serving as focal points for logistics-related activities and offering opportunities for further sector development: Centergross (500 businesses handling an annual total of 3.5 million tonnes of cargo), CAAB (150 businesses handling an annual total of 380,000 tonnes of cargo) and the Airport of Bologna.

Vocational training and human resources

Bologna benefits from a network of specialist operators in the field of logistics and haulage thanks also to the presence of logistics training centres in both the public (regional and provincial centres, undergraduate and graduate logistics courses at the University of Bologna) and the private domains (initiatives led by sectoral associations, professional agencies and consultancy firms).

Trade fairs and sector-specific events

Movint (International Industrial and Mechanical Handling Exhibition) and **Expologistica** (Exhibition of Integrated Means, Systems and Services for Logistics and Transport), two yearly appointments in Bologna constituting a single event dedicated to promoting technological and organisational innovation which has made logistics a strategic tool for corporate management.