

WATER FLOOD IN VENICE

The impact of climate change and tourism

Livia Delaporte, Unione Inquilini

Soha Ben Slama, coordinator International Tribunal on Evictions



International Tribunal of Evictions – Cumbre Social Madrid 08/12/2019

MESTRE
MARGHERA

VENEZIA
historic
center

LIDO

PELLESTRINA

260520
inhabitants

MESTRE
MARGHERA

VENEZIA
historic
center

LIDO

PELLESTRINA

260520
inhabitants

Historic
center

52336

ACQUA ALTA 2019 / climate change exodus



12 november 2019 **+187cm**

ACQUA ALTA 2019 / climate change exodus



. estimated damages
2 billion euros

12 november 2019 **+187cm**

ACQUA ALTA 2019 / climate change exodus



. estimated damages
2 billion euros

. 2 dead people on the island
of Pellestrina

. most affected are the
elderly, children, poor people



ACQUA ALTA 2019 / climate change exodus



. estimated damages
2 billion euros

. 2 dead people on the island
of Pellestrina

. most affected are the
elderly, children, poor people



. local social associations
rescued the population

Centro sociale Morion, Unione
Inquilini, Fridays for future, ASC
Assemblea Sociale per la Casa



Data	Altezza (cm)
16 aprile 1936	+ 147
12 novembre 1951	+ 151
15 ottobre 1960	+ 145
4 novembre 1966	+ 194
3 novembre 1968	+ 144
17 febbraio 1979	+ 140
22 dicembre 1979	+ 166
1 febbraio 1986	+ 158
8 dicembre 1992	+ 142
6 novembre 2000	+ 144
16 novembre 2002	+ 147
1 dicembre 2008	+ 156
23 dicembre 2009	+ 144
25 dicembre 2009	+ 145
24 dicembre 2010	+ 144
01 novembre 2012	+ 143
11 novembre 2012	+ 149
12 febbraio 2013	+ 143
29 ottobre 2018	+ 156





Data **Altezza (cm)**

16 aprile 1936 + 147

12 novembre 1951+ 151

15 ottobre 1960 + 145

4 novembre 1966 + 194

3 novembre 1968 + 144

17 febbraio 1979 + 140

22 dicembre 1979 + 166

1 febbraio 1986 + 158

8 dicembre 1992 + 142

6 novembre 2000 + 144

16 novembre 2002+ 147

1 dicembre 2008 + 156

23 dicembre 2009 + 144

25 dicembre 2009 + 145

24 dicembre 2010 +144

01 novembre 2012+ 143

11 novembre 2012+ 149

12 febbraio 2013 + 143

29 ottobre 2018 + 156





Data Altezza (cm)

16 aprile 1936 + 147

12 novembre 1951+ 151

15 ottobre 1960 + 145

4 novembre 1966 + 194

3 novembre 1968 + 144

17 febbraio 1979 + 140

22 dicembre 1979 + 166

1 febbraio 1986 + 158

8 dicembre 1992 + 142

6 novembre 2000 + 144

16 novembre 2002+ 147

1 dicembre 2008 + 156

23 dicembre 2009 + 144

25 dicembre 2009 + 145

24 dicembre 2010 +144

01 novembre 2012+ 143

11 novembre 2012+ 149

12 febbraio 2013 + 143

29 ottobre 2018 + 156

5 of the top 10 have occurred in the past 20 years, and the most recent last year





Data Altezza (cm)

16 aprile 1936 + 147

12 novembre 1951+ 151

15 ottobre 1960 + 145

4 novembre 1966 + 194

3 novembre 1968 + 144

17 febbraio 1979 + 140

22 dicembre 1979 + 166

1 febbraio 1986 + 158

8 dicembre 1992 + 142

6 novembre 2000 + 144

16 novembre 2002+ 147

1 dicembre 2008 + 156

23 dicembre 2009 + 144

25 dicembre 2009 + 145

24 dicembre 2010 +144

01 novembre 2012+ 143

11 novembre 2012+ 149

12 febbraio 2013 + 143

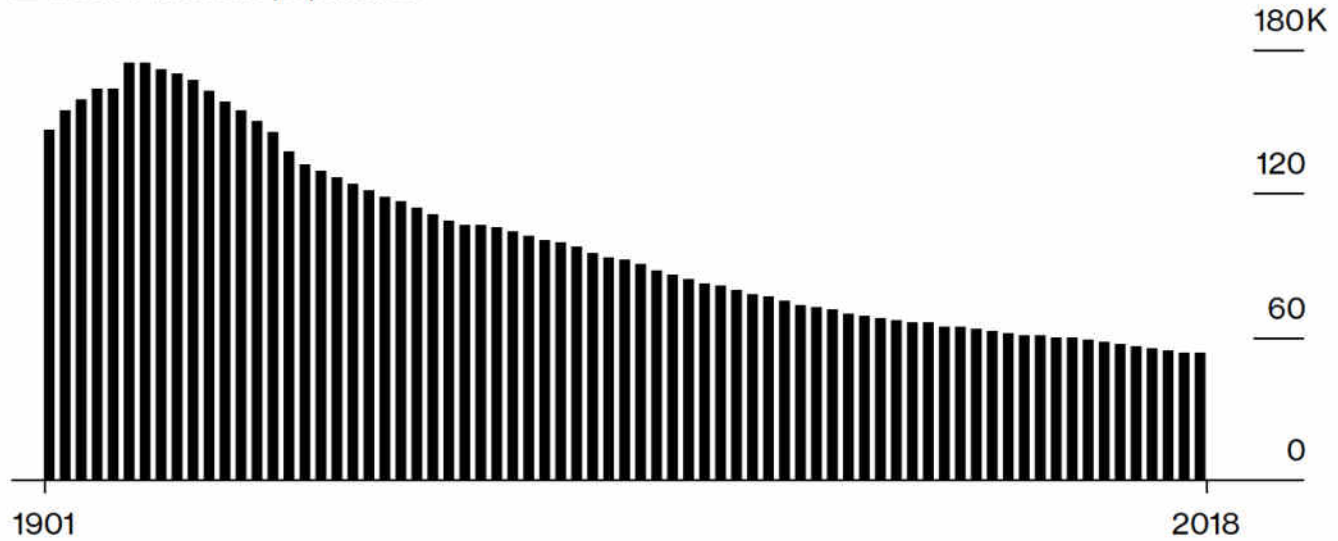
29 ottobre 2018 + 156

5 of the top 10 have occurred in the past 20 years, and the most recent last year

FREQUENCY
ACCELERATION

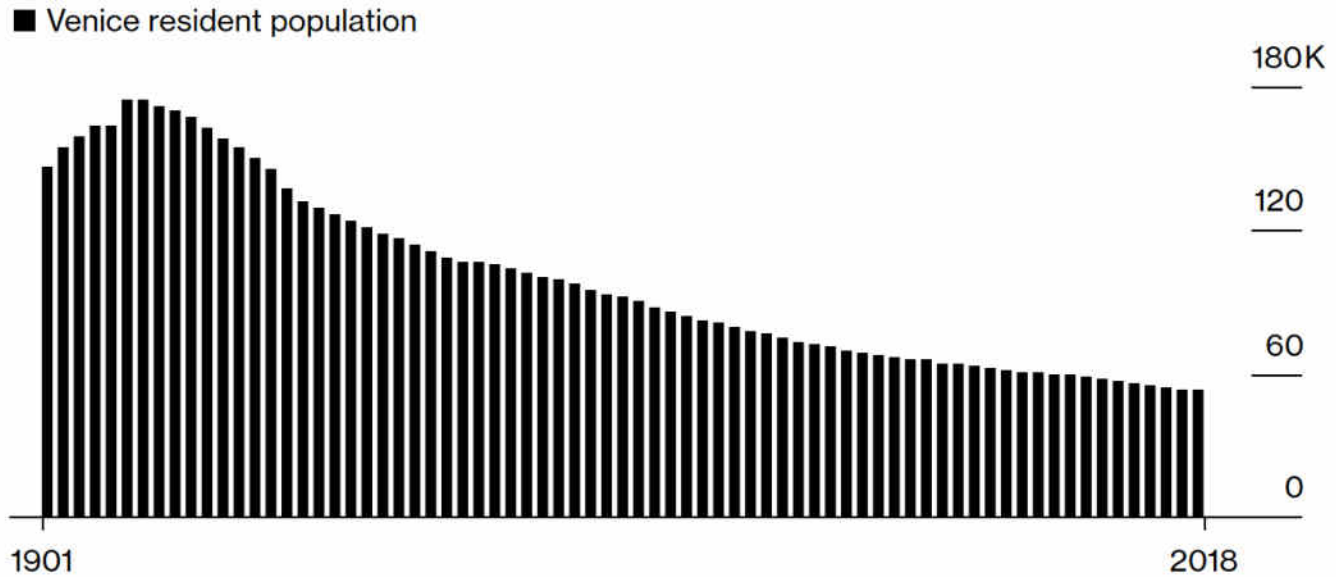


■ Venice resident population



Source: Municipality of Venice

174,8K in 1951 // 52K in 2019

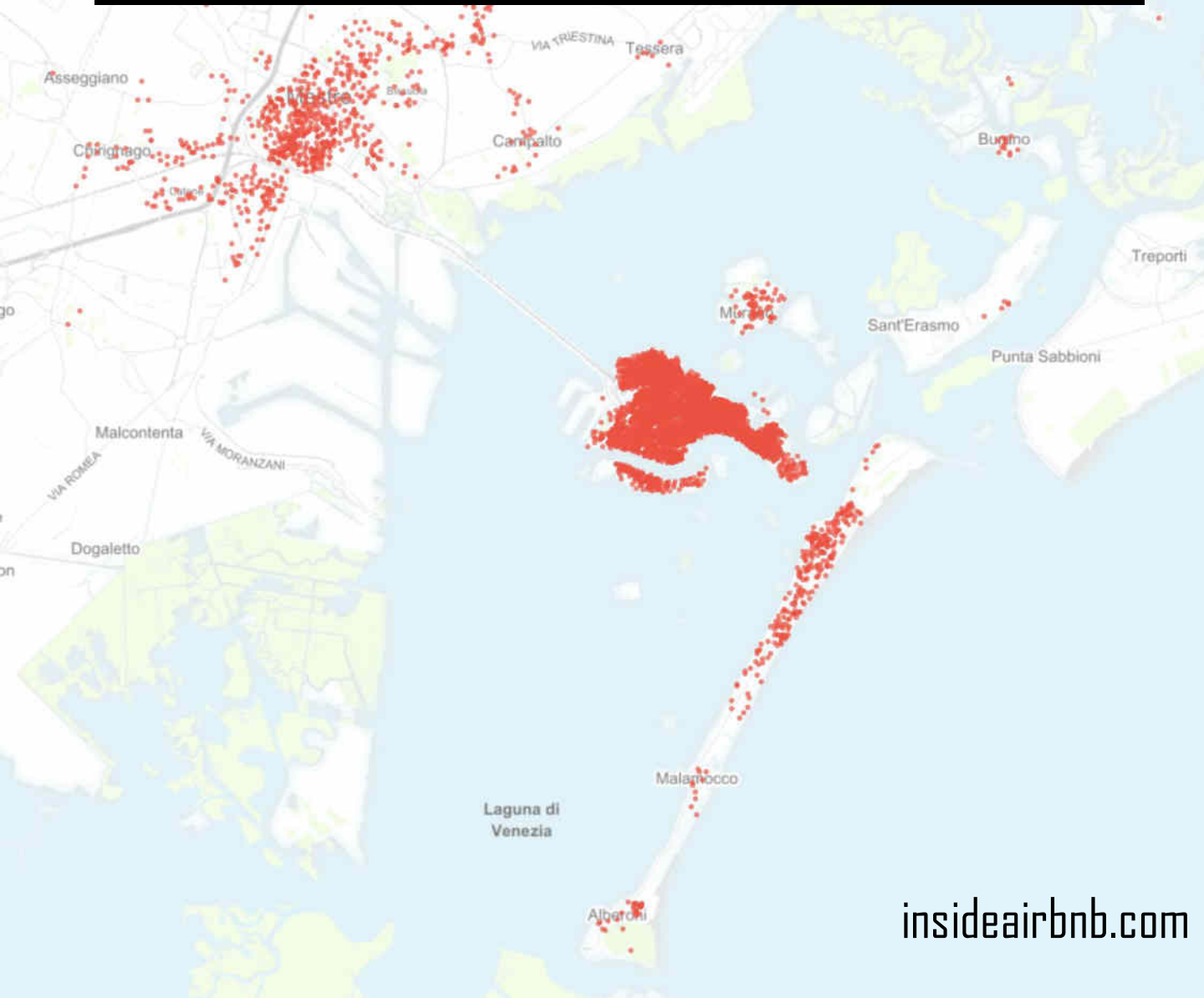


Source: Municipality of Venice

174,8K in 1951 // 52K in 2019

Between 2018 and 2019 : - 803 inhabitants

OVERTOURISM / capitalism evicts



- . 8469 listings
- . 81% in the historic center
- . 76,5% of entire homes/apartments
- . 84% with high availability

➤ confiscated from the real estate market

. Basic economic activities supplanted by touristic industry

EVICIONS 2018



. 1622 evictions procedures

. 357 evictions (1 /day)

. 100% unpaid rents

. Truly **3 evictions /day** estimated by Unione Inquilini Venezia

taking into account: people who leaves before eviction, for dignity, for best conditions in every day life (high costs of basic needs, high tax burden, disappearance of traditional jobs, tourism nuisance)

TOURISM CHANGES CLIMATE





CRUISE SHIPS

- . fragilizing buildings (waves and vibrations),
the lagoon (canals developments),
aggravating the phenomenon of "acqua alta"
- . air pollution (CO2 emissions)



CRUISE SHIPS

- . fragilizing buildings (waves and vibrations), the lagoon (canals developments), aggravating the phenomenon of "acqua alta"
- . air pollution (CO2 emissions)

TOURISM = 8% of world's emissions of greenhouse gases linked to human activity (transport, shopping, food)

A group of five people are sitting on inflatable chairs in the Venetian lagoon. They are smiling and appear to be enjoying their time. In the background, the ornate facade of St Mark's Basilica is visible, along with other buildings of the Venetian architecture. The water is calm, and the sky is overcast. A white thought bubble graphic is overlaid on the image, containing the text 'iSUCH A GOOD TIME!'.

iSUCH A GOOD TIME!

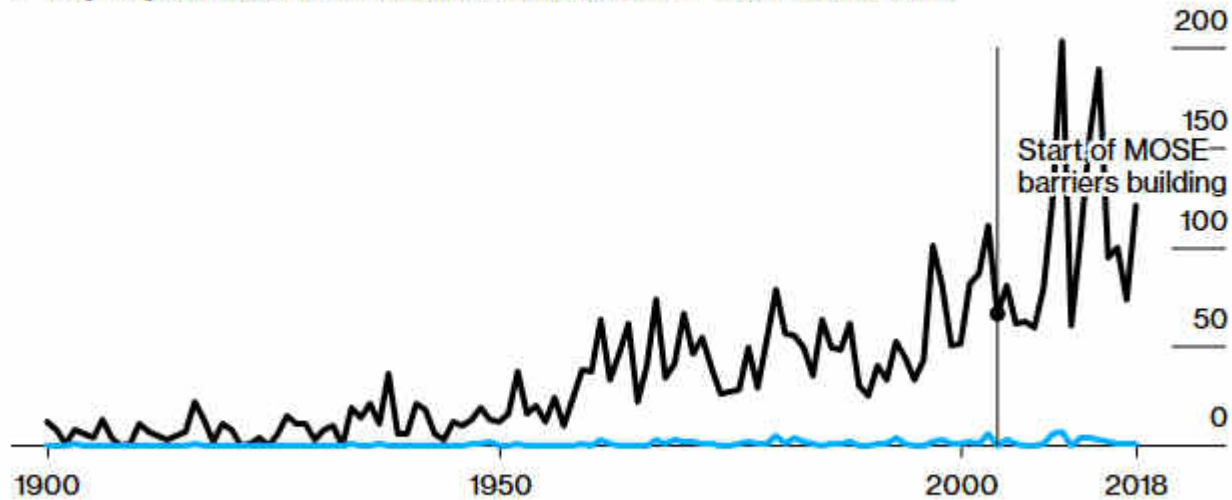
PUBLIC POLICIES



Sinking Venice

The city was flooded a record 203 days in 2010, seven years after MOSE started

／ Days a year Venice is flooded more than 80 cm ／ More than 120 cm



Source: Venice Tide Center, Venice in Peril Fund

PROPOSAL

. prohibition for cruise ships to enter the lagoon

PROPOSAL

. **prohibition for cruise ships to enter the lagoon**

. **restoration of the lagoon natural state**

(new activities outside the tourist industry, employment opportunities, valorization of local know-how)

PROPOSAL

- . **prohibition for cruise ships to enter the lagoon**

- . **restoration of the lagoon natural state**

(new activities outside the tourist industry, employment opportunities, valorization of local know-how)

- . **protection for proactive policies** and local authorities when it's about safeguarding climate and local population (juridic protection such as the creation of a special status, financial support), so that they can act and enforce our proposals

PROPOSAL

- . **prohibition for cruise ships to enter the lagoon**

- . **restoration of the lagoon natural state**

(new activities outside the tourist industry, employment opportunities, valorization of local know-how)

- . **protection for proactive policies** and local authorities when it's about safeguarding climate and local population (juridic protection such as the creation of a special status, financial support), so that they can act and enforce our proposals

- . recommendations already pronounced at the **6th ITE session 2017 in Venice** (against overtourism and its bad effects)

PROPOSAL

- . **prohibition for cruise ships to enter the lagoon**
- . **restoration of the lagoon natural state**
(new activities outside the tourist industry, employment opportunities, valorization of local know-how)
- . **protection for proactive policies** and local authorities when it's about safeguarding climate and local population (juridic protection such as the creation of a special status, financial support), so that they can act and enforce our proposals
- . recommendations already pronounced at the **6th ITE session 2017 in Venice** (against overtourism and its bad effects)
 - . Housing policy that encourages owners to rent for **residential use** (tax breaks for example)
 - . Housing policy which promotes the access to an adequate house to **young** couples and those with a **low income**
 - . Safeguard, conversion and **re-use of public assets** (mostly for social and affordable housing)
 - . **Land use policies**, planning and building regulations, which limit the invasion of tourism industry (limit number of souvenir shops for example)
 - . Rigorous **fiscal control** on the allocation of social housing units, better enforcement of building regulations

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

SOURCES

- ITE, 2017, *Verdict and Recommendations: Case of Pellestrina island, Venice, Italy*, link [https://www.tribunal-evictions.org/international_tribunal_on_evictions/recommandations/6th_session_2017/verdict_and_recommendations_case_o_f_pellestrina_island_venice_italy](https://www.tribunal-<u>evictions.org/international_tribunal_on_evictions/recommandations/6th_session_2017/verdict_and_recommendations_case_o_f_pellestrina_island_venice_italy</u>)
- ResetVenezia, "1.000 nuove case in 8 anni a Venezia. Il Modello Venezia di CERV", 26/01/19, link <http://resetvenezia.it/2019/01/26/1-000-nuove-case-in-8-anni-a-venezia-il-modello-venezia-di-cerv/>
- QuiFinanza, "Affitti brevi, Italia si rivolge a Corte Ue: cosa prevede la «legge Airbnb»", 19/09/19, link [https://quifinanza.it/fisco-tasse/affitti-brevi-italia-corte-ue-cosa-prevede-legge-airbnb/310305/](https://quifinanza.it/fisco-<u>tasse/affitti-brevi-italia-corte-ue-cosa-prevede-legge-airbnb/310305/</u>)
- Venetian Social Network, link <http://www.venessia.com/>
- C. Albanese, G. Salzano and F. Vespignani, "The Long, Slow Death of Venice", 30/06/19, link <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2019-06-30/venice-is-dying-a-long-slow-death>
- S. Smith and Y. Talmazan, "Venice fears exodus of residents after latest flood", 24/11/19, link <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/venice-fears-exodus-residents-after-latest-flood-n1089566>
- Inside Airbnb data, link http://insideairbnb.com/venice/report_en.html
- DW Documentary, "Is tourism harming Venice?", 02/07/18, link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHNWZ018ln8>
- Anna Somers Cocks, "This is no way to solve the cruise ship issue in Venice", 04/12/17, link <https://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/this-is-no-way-to-solve-the-cruise-ship-issue-in-venice>
- Francesco Bandarin, "A former Unesco chief denounces its failure to protect Venice at Baku meeting", 10/07/19, link [https://www.theartnewspaper.com/comment/a-former-unesco-chief-denounces-its-failure-to-protect-venice-at-baku-meeting](https://www.theartnewspaper.com/comment/a-former-unesco-chief-denounces-its-failure-to-protect-venice-at-baku-<u>meeting</u>)