New life for former newsstands in the
tourist areas of Veneto

Next Stop: Veneto
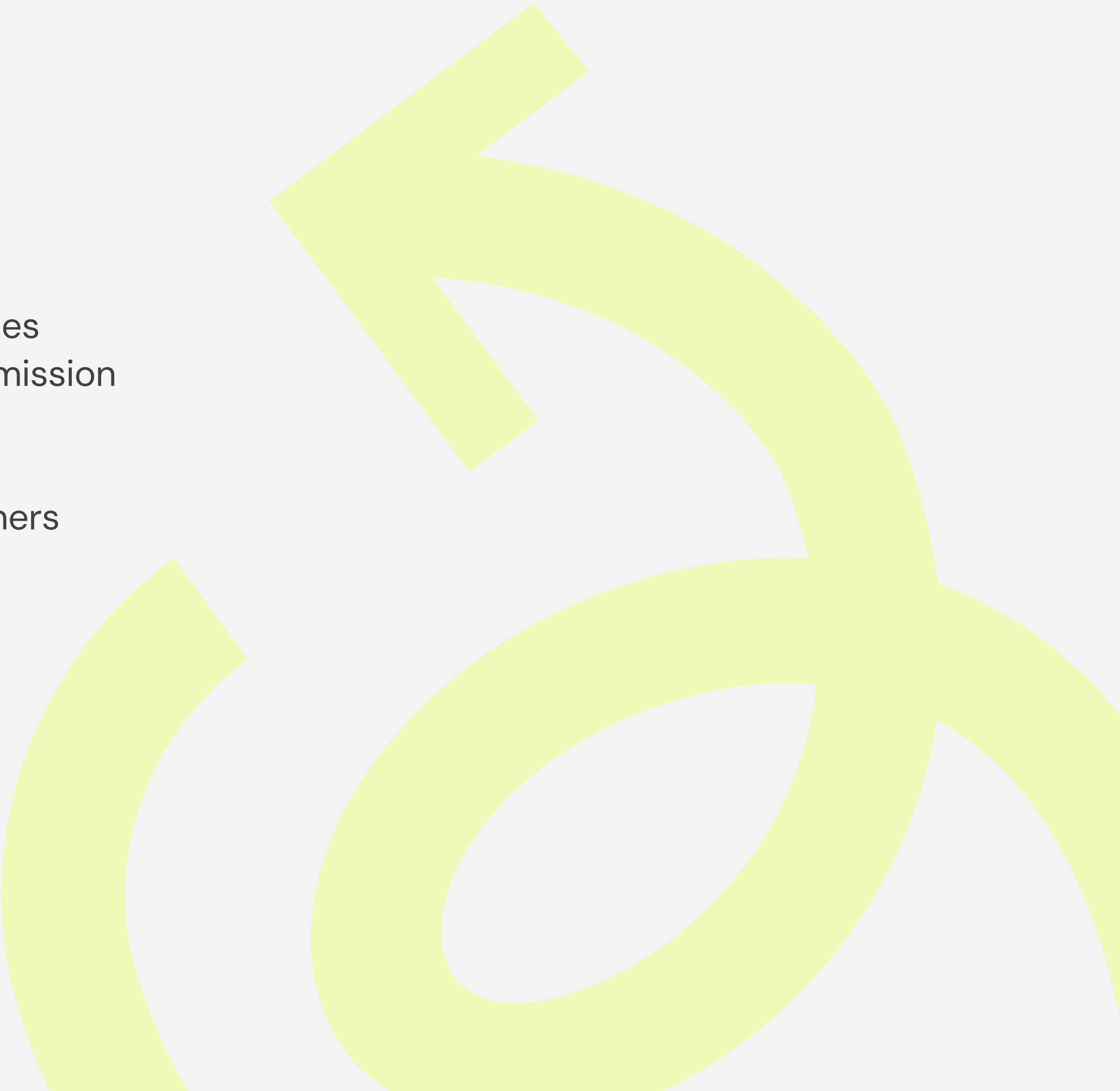
Project brief for the pilot
competition by @aureacompetitions

Next Stop: Veneto

Intro

The value of Infopoints

In a world where information flows quickly but rarely stops, urban InfoPoints represent a new way of making knowledge tangible and accessible in public space.

They are small, widespread micro–architectures placed in strategic points of the city or territory to welcome, orient and inform citizens, tourists and travelers.

No longer simple kiosks or counters, but experiential places that merge technology, architecture, and local identity.

The concept of an InfoPoint is not only about transmitting data: it is a way of telling the story of the territory through space, giving a recognizable face to hospitality.

Intro   Cycling as territorial connection

In recent years, two-wheel tourism has become one of the most authentic and sustainable ways to explore a region.
 Cycling means slowly crossing places, experiencing them with all the senses, rediscovering the human scale of space.
Veneto, with its developed network of 8,000 km of bike paths and scenic cycle routes in continuous expansion, is today the first destination for cycle tourists in Italy, with 15% of total presences.

From the Munich–Venice route connecting the Dolomites to Venice, to the Treviso–Ostiglia and the Veneto Ring, up to Garda–Venice and coastal routes such as the spectacular "Via del Respiro" above the Venetian Lagoon, Veneto offers hundreds of kilometers of trails through natural landscapes, art cities and historic villages.
These routes form a new cultural and sustainable infrastructure: the paths of slow travel, connecting different localities united by conscious tourism.
In this context, InfoPoints become stops, charging hubs, orientation points and small local identity centers able to tell the richness of Veneto.

Location

Veneto

Veneto is a region of contrasts and harmonies: from the Dolomites to the sea, from farmland to the canals of Venice, every landscape reflects a deep relationship between nature and culture.

Historic cities like Verona, Padua and Vicenza coexist with natural areas such as the Po Delta and Lake Garda, and symbolic places like Venice and Cortina d'Ampezzo.

It is a highly infrastructured territory yet still crossed by suspended spaces — places in between that await rediscovery.

InfoPoints aim to become contemporary markers of orientation and identity within this geographic and cultural mosaic.

Location

A network system

The project envisions 21 InfoPoints distributed across the main tourist locations and hubs of Veneto.

These points often coincide with former newsstands — once daily information hubs, now unused due to the shift toward digital media.

The project aims to give these micro-architectures new life, turning them into contemporary InfoPoints.

There is no single site, but a widespread network of installations:

each prototype must adapt to different urban and landscape conditions while maintaining a coherent and recognizable architectural language.

Possible locations include:
 • central or peripheral urban areas
 • scenic spots along cycle routes
 • railway and intermodal stations
 • equipped rest areas near natural paths

Each InfoPoint should become a familiar landmark, expressing belonging to the greater system of a sustainable, bike–friendly Veneto.

Project: Objectives

The competition invites participants to design an InfoPoint to replace or regenerate former disused newsstands along regional cycle routes.

The goal is to create a contemporary, interactive and sustainable space integrating informational, technological and service–based functions.

InfoPoints must:
• provide tourist and territorial information (physical and digital)
• support cycling mobility (repairs, inflation, charging)
• promote eco–friendly and accessible tourism
• reflect the identity and cultural values of the Veneto region.

The design must be flexible, replicable, environmentally respectful, combining technological innovation, material economy and aesthetic value.

Project

Project: Details

Area: 15–30 m²

Mandatory features:
• reception desk for one staff member
 • staff-only restroom
 • bike inflation & repair station
 • electric bike charging station
 • ATM
 • snack vending machine
 • parcel locker (optional)
 • integrated solar panels

Materials & language:
The architecture must interpret local symbols (such as the Lion of Saint Mark) while proposing a contemporary, distinctive design.

The InfoPoint of the future is not an arrival point, but a place of encounter between mobility, territory and architecture — a project about recycling, innovation and community.

Participants are invited to transform former newsstands into contemporary hubs of hospitality and orientation, imagining a more legible, sustainable and connected Veneto—one that is experienced, discovered, and understood through cycling.

The Plastic Museum – delavegacanolasso
Foto di Miguel de Guzmán + Rocío Romero

Valutation

Evaluation Criteria

The jury will evaluate proposals based on:

- originality of the concept
- integration with natural and urban context
- adaptability to different sizes
- graphic representation
- economic feasibility

Projects combining feasibility with artistic intensity and expressive value will be especially appreciated.

Submission Schedule

Early Registration
11.12.2025 – 30.12.2025
(h 1:00 pm CET)

Standard Registration
dal 30.12.2025 al 15.02.2026
(h 3:00 pm CET)

Late Registration
dal 15.02.2025 al 15.03.2026
(h 3:00 pm CET)

Submission Deadline
15.03.2026 (h 3:00 pm CET)

Finalists Announcement
30.03.2026

Submission   Required Deliverables

One A1 board
[59,4 × 84,1 cm]
• File format: JPG
• Filename: order number_1 (ex. 12345_1)
• Max size: 20 MB
• Orientation: horizontal
• Language: English

The board must include all graphic information necessary to illustrate the project (title, diagrams, sketches, plans, sections, collages, model photos, renderings).

The Order Number must be placed in the upper–right corner.

No names or identifying references allowed.

One descriptive text

• File format: docx/doc
• Filename: order number_text (ex. 12345_text)
• Max 500 words
• A4, vertical layout
• Language: English

Info Point City Station – hochstrasser.
Conné Van D'Grachten's photo

Submission

Registration & Submission

Only one team member completes the registration:

Inside the website www.aureacompetitions.com, go to the competition page where you will find the registration option. Enter all the required information and complete the registration process.

After completing the payment, you will receive a confirmation email containing your Order Number, which will be your identification code for submission.

To upload your deliverables, access the same website and go to the "Upload Deliverables" section of this competition. Once the submission is completed, the participant will receive a confirmation email.

Prize Pool

2.000,00 € (VAT included)

1st Prize: €1,200
2nd Prize: €500
3rd Prize: €200

2 Special Mentions: free competition coupon

10 Finalists: publication on Aurea Competitions channels

Yourbanflat S.r.l. reserves the right to contact winners for potential collaboration.

Jury

Andrea Benedetti
Panificio Architecture Workshop

Benedetti graduated in Sustainable Architecture at IUAV University of Venice in July 2010, laying from the very beginning the foundations of a career driven by a strong environmental sensitivity. Shortly after, he broadened his expertise by obtaining the qualification of "Lignius Expert" from Lignius – the Italian National Association of Prefabricated Wooden Houses. He later transformed the family's historic Bakery into an Architecture Studio — the Panificio Architecture Workshop — which became a symbol of his "craft-based" approach.
Starting in 2021, he assumed significant institutional roles, becoming a Council Member of the Brescia Chamber of Architects, and, from 2025, a Board Member of FOAB – Fondazione Architetti Brescia.
He is also the Representative for the Young Junior Professionals and Access to Training Commission of the OAPPC Brescia.

Eugenio Farina
Architect/Designer & Lecture of Scuola Italiana Design

Farina graduated in Architecture and Interior Design from the Politecnico di Milano and later earned a diploma in Industrial Design. Shortly after, he took on the role of Commercial Director in the family business, a position he held until 2000.
From the very beginning of his career, Farina has shown a strong inclination toward product design: in 2005, he founded ART and THINGS, a studio specializing in design work ranging from household appliances and awnings to furniture, sofas, and upholstered products.
His professional activity also reflects a deep commitment to education: from 2004 to 2015 he served as the Educational Director at the Italian Design School (Scuola Italiana Design) in Padua, where he continues to teach, sharing his expertise in the field of design.

Federico Palumbo
Architect BIM Specialist & Consultan

Palumbo graduated in Architecture from the Politecnico di Torino in 2023 and completed, with top marks, a Second-Level Master's in BIM Management at the Politecnico di Milano. His thesis — later republished by several AEC-sector platforms — proposes an innovative strategy for natively integrating VR into BIM processes.
Registered with the Turin Chamber of Architects since 2024, he collaborates with architecture and engineering firms, providing BIM consultancy and support in architectural and structural modeling for both public and private projects.
Active in promoting digital innovation within the sector, since 2024 he has been a member of iBIMi–buildingSMART Italy, and since 2025 he has been listed in the Italian register of certified BIM professionals.

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Terms and Conditions

1.1. These regulations contain the rules governing the Competition.
1.2. The Competition does not constitute a prize contest pursuant to art. 6 of Presidential Decree 430/2001, and the publication of these Regulations does not constitute a public offer. By paying the registration fee, the user declares that they are aware of and fully accept the Competition Regulations.

2. GENERAL RULES

2.1. Entrants may participate individually or as a group.
2.2. Participants may be students or non-students; they are not required to be experts in the disciplines of the Competition.
2.3. Each group member must be between 18 years old (completed) and 29 years old (not yet completed).
2.4. There are no restrictions on the maximum number of members per group.
2.5. Group members may come from different universities with no nationality restrictions.
2.6. The Prize amount is awarded regardless of the number of group members. Aurea will cover all bank fees related to prize payments. However, any fees charged by the winner's bank or currency conversion fees shall be borne exclusively by the winner. Prizes will be paid only after verifying the winners' identity and after they sign a self-declaration in which they fully accept the Terms and Conditions of the competition.
2.7. Payment of one registration fee allows the submission of one project only. Submitting additional projects is permitted exclusively by paying as many registration fees as the number of additional projects.
2.8. The jury is composed of independent and impartial members. The jury's decision is the result of subjective evaluation and is final and unquestionable. By accepting these regulations, participants expressly waive any appeal or objection against the jury's decision. If one or more jury members withdraw, Aurea will replace them with equally reputable and impartial members.

2.9. Participants are prohibited from contacting jury members regarding any matters related to the Competition.
2.10. Anyone with a family relationship up to the second degree with one or more members of the Jury is prohibited from participating.
2.11. Accepted payment methods include: credit card and any other methods supported at the time of the transaction within the platform.
2.12. Participants are prohibited from publishing or disseminating any material related to their Competition submissions before the announcement of the Winners.
2.13. Aurea Competitions reserves the right to modify the competition dates, jury composition, or project submission methods. Any changes will be announced at least 48 hours before the project submission deadline through Aurea's media channels.
2.14. Participants must comply with deadlines, procedures, fees, and submission requirements. It is recommended to complete all online procedures well in advance. Aurea Competitions is not responsible for technical issues or network malfunctions.
2.15. Participants must strictly comply with deadlines, registrations, and payments.
2.16. Authorship of each submission is attributed equally among all Team members.

3. GROUNDS FOR EXCLUSION

3.1. Any of the following may result in the exclusion of participants and/or their group:
a. Any violation of the Terms and Conditions;
b. Submitting material through a procedure different from that specified in the submission requirements;
c. Submitting material after the submission deadline;
d. Naming files differently than specified in the submission requirements;
e. Submitting boards or text files containing references to the participants' identity (e.g., name, university...);
f. Submitting boards containing texts not written in English;
g. Submitting material that is inconsistent with the principles of the competition or considered incomplete;
h. Submitting a project that significantly deviates from the aims of the competition;

i. Participants having family relationships with judges up to the second degree;
j. Submitting a project that is not new and original or that is not the result of the participants' intellectual work (i.e., it does not belong to them);
k. Aurea, through a technical and objective evaluation, will discard projects that do not meet the requirements listed in the Terms and Conditions or in the specific rules of the individual competition and/or that fall within any of the above cases. Discarded projects will not be evaluated or considered by the jury. Disqualified participants and their groups will not receive any refund;
l. By submitting their materials, participants expressly declare that they do not fall under any of the exclusion grounds listed above.

4. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

4.1. By participating in the Competition and accepting these regulations, Aurea reserves the right to use the submitted material for print or digital publications and exhibitions, and the right to use, adapt, modify, publish, display, reproduce, and distribute the projects for marketing and advertising purposes in any manner or form and through any medium, pursuant to the "Right of reproduction and right of publication" (art. 12, Law 633/1941 – Italian Copyright Law).
4.2. Aurea is not responsible if the intellectual property of the uploaded projects does not belong, in whole or in part, to the participants, or if the participants are not entitled to exploit the project, including the right to take part in a competition of this kind.
4.3. By participating in the competition and accepting its rules and Terms and Conditions, participants declare that they are the authors (and/or co-authors in case of teams) of the uploaded materials.
4.4. Uploaded projects are acquired by Yourbanflat S.r.l., which obtains exclusive and perpetual rights to use and exploit the material, including outside the Italian territory. Aurea may reproduce, publish, modify, and license the material to third parties, without additional compensation to participants beyond the awarded prize, and only with written agreement with Yourbanflat S.r.l. in case of exploitation for construction or commercial purposes. Participants retain the moral right to authorship, which must be acknowledged in any

use or dissemination of the project. No participant may claim any financial benefit, except for winners, who will receive the prize awarded and cannot claim any further economic benefits.

5. PRIZE AWARDING

5.1. The schedule for the publication of results is to be considered temporary and subject to verification of the requirements defined in the Regulations.
5.2. Upon publication of the results, Aurea reserves the right to verify and collect copies of the Winners' identity documents and all documentation signed by the Winners as required by Aurea.
5.3. Prize payments are conditional on verification of the Winners' identity and on the signing of a self-declaration confirming full compliance with the Competition Regulations.
5.4. To receive prizes, winners must provide their bank details when requested.
5.5. The prize fund is covered by Yourbanflat S.r.l., which will transfer the corresponding amounts directly to the winners.

6. INDEMNITY

6.1. Participants agree to compensate and hold harmless Aurea and Yourbanflat S.r.l. from any cost or damage related to the violation of third-party intellectual property rights.
6.2. Participants agree to fully indemnify Aurea and its members and officers, and Yourbanflat S.r.l., from and against all legal claims, liabilities, damages, losses, or any cost, expense, and legal fee arising from any activity mentioned in the Terms and Conditions or from participation in a competition.

7. PRIVACY AND DATA PROCESSING

7.1. Personal data processing will be carried out by Aurea solely for the purpose of participating in the competition and awarding the prizes, as indicated in the Privacy Policy pursuant to art. 13 of EU Reg. 2016/679.
7.2. Participants are responsible for the truthfulness and accuracy of the data provided, including personal information. Aurea assumes no responsibility for false information. In any case, Aurea reserves the right, in compliance with

privacy regulations, to verify the data provided by requesting a copy of an identity document showing the personal information used during registration.
7.3. Aurea is not responsible for false statements made by participants.

8. WITHDRAWAL AND REFUNDS

8.1. In accordance with the Italian Consumer Code (Legislative Decree 206/2005), the right of withdrawal is valid within 14 days from the payment date (including weekends and holidays).
8.2. In any case, the right of withdrawal may not be exercised after the submission deadline, nor if the participant has downloaded the competition material. Refunds are made in the same currency as the original payment and are therefore subject to exchange rates.
8.3. To exercise the right of withdrawal, contact: aureacompetitions@gmail.com

9. GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION

For any dispute relating to the interpretation, execution, or termination of this contract, the parties agree that exclusive jurisdiction lies with the Court of Padua (Italy).

Next Stop: Veneto

New life for former newsstands along Veneto's main destinations

Next Stop: Veneto is the first pilot competition by Aurea.
 We apologize for any inconvenience (you deserve all of them).

For any info, contact us
(we won't reply anyway).

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