

BANKING

Banks are open Monday-Friday usually from 8:20 am to 1:00 pm, and from 2:45 - 3:45 pm (except for the Villazzano bank, which is open only in the mornings). The most convenient way to withdraw money from your home bank account is by using one of the many *bancomats* (or ATMs), which are scattered throughout the city. Many of the larger networks (PLUS, CIRRUS) are available, but not all are located at the same machine. Look around for the network signs on each *bancomat*. Because most banks charge a service fee for each ATM transaction, it makes sense to withdraw the largest amount available (250 Euros) at a time rather than more frequent withdrawals of lesser amounts.

Personal checks are seldom used in Italy and bills are paid in cash at the post office. If you lose your ATM card, notify the issuing bank immediately. It is a good idea to have a backup card or credit card with cash advance service so that you aren't without money.

To report missing credit cards:

- American Express 06/72282 or 02/876674
- Cartasi (Visa & Mastercard) 800/018548 or 02/34980111