

# 99th R8 Committee Meeting in Tallinn Travel Advisory

### Meeting location

Our meeting will be held at <u>Meriton Grand Conference and Spa Hotel Tallinn</u>. The hotel is located next to the Old Town of Tallinn, a few hundred meters from the Parliament building and the national flag tower "<u>Tall Hermann</u>".

The hotel has a rich history, being built in 1960s and extended with the addition of the Spa wing just a few years ago. Owing to that history, the hotel has a "classic" and Spa side which are interconnected on the lower two floors.

The hotel has a total of 8 bars and restaurants on the ground floor, which should provide ample space for ad-hoc discussions outside the main meeting.

For anyone arriving in a car, the hotel has underground parking at a fee of  $12 \in /day$ .

#### Getting there

All flights to Tallinn (including Ryanair and Easyjet) land at <u>Tallinn Airport</u> which is located close to the center of the town. The distance from the airport to the hotel is about 6 km. There are several transport options you can choose from.

There is the 90K airport bus that loops the main hotels, harbour and center. The tickets (2 $\in$ ) can be bought from the driver. The bus leaves every 30 min, with the ride taking about 25 minutes. You need to exit at the "hotell Tallinn" stop that's right next to the hotel (walk forward and turn right to get to the entrance). The bus to the airport leaves from the same stop and the ride takes 20 minutes. The timetable is available online. In the airport, the bus stop is one level down from the arrivals.

A second option is an <u>airport shuttle</u> that operates as a shared taxi. The cost is 5€, payable at the Airport Shuttle counter. The maximum waiting time before leaving is 15 minutes.

Taxi to the hotel costs 10-15€. There is a taxi stop just outside the arrivals area, with white, black and yellow taxis queuing for customers. You can pick any taxi you like, but note that the white ones of Tulika taxi charge about 20% less than the others. Visa and Mastercard are accepted for payment and you can get a printed receipt. Tulika should also accept AmEx.

Tallinn is very close to Helsinki across the Gulf of Finland. Ferries with a travel time of 2-3h connect the two towns at regular intervals, with the ferry terminals located in the center of both towns. One-way tickets start at about  $30 \in$ .

# Practicalities

The official currency in Estonia is the Euro. There are a number of exchange offices, rates and charges vary. Card payments are accepted in almost all retail outlets but not necessarily by street vendors.

Electricity is 220V, two-prong plugs like in Germany and Nordic countries.

Estonia is very secure in general, but there are thieves targeting specifically tourists in the Old Town, beware of people trying to confuse you.

## Sightseeing and shopping

There is a wealth of information about Tallinn on the <u>Tallinn Tourist Office webpage</u>. As we are located next to the Old Town, a lot of sightseeing can be done on foot. The shopping district is on the other side of the Old Town, 30 minutes for a fast walker or a couple of stops on the No 40 bus (tickets  $1.60 \in$  from driver,  $1 \in$  from kiosks) leaving across the street from the hotel entrance. Exit in the Estonia stop (3rd stop, 6 min ride). There are a number of buses for getting back, including trolleybus 1 and buses 22, 40. Feel free to use the online <u>Trip Planner</u>, the stops next to the hotel are called "hotell Tallinn".

Welcome to Tallinn!

Urmet Jänes Estonia Section Chair