Travel Advisory 4-6 April, 2014

Welcome

Dear Delegates and Family Members,

Welcome to the 102nd R8 Committee Meeting in Budapest. In this document you can find useful information about the city. Thank you for coming, we hope you will enjoy your stay and all the activities.

Peter Kadar IEEE Hungary Section Chair

Hotel Intercontinental Budapest – the Meeting Venue

The Hotel Intercontinental Budapest is located beside the spectacular Danube river, in the heart of Budapest, close to the city and just opposite to the Castle District.

Address:

Hotel Intercontinental Budapest Apáczai Csere János utca 12-14 Budapest H-1052 Phone: +3613276333

"Vörösmarty tér" L1 Metro Station is 3 minutes walk "Deák tér" L2 Metro Station is 5 minutes walk "Deák tér" L3 Metro Station is 5 minutes walk "Eötvös tér" No.2 Tram Stop is 1 minutes walk "Erzsébet" No.15 Bus Stop 5 minutes walk

The hotel has 402 elegantly appointed rooms and suites – functional and comfortable with all expected modern amenities – appealing to discerning business and leisure travellers equally. Experience 180-degree panoramic views over Chain Bridge, the Danube and the former Royal Palace that are as intriguing by day as by night.

With breathtaking views of the vibrant life of Budapest, the Club InterContinental Lounge provides its guests with a superb feeling of exclusitivity. Club Lounge is also an ideal venue for conducting business or just relaxing.

Twelve meeting rooms featuring daylight are located on the first floor, inviting the groups from 10 to 850 persons. InterContinental Budapest is the perfect partner for a successful business presentation or an unforgettable celebration customised entirely to your needs.







A retreat for body and soul – enjoy our state-of-the-art SPA InterContinental featuring four tastefully decorated treatment suites, a swimming pool, a sauna and a steam bath. The fitness centre is open 24 hours a day.

Arrival from Budapest, Liszt Ferenc Int. Airport to downtown By taxi



Főtaxi, the taxi company with the longest tradition (founded 1913) in Hungary transports passengers between the terminals and Budapest. Főtaxi's several hundred cars, trained and experienced colleagues ensure a safe basis to satisfy passengers' needs at a high standard.

Taxi drivers speaking at least one foreign language are in service with large, category 'A' cars younger than five years. All cars are equipped with a POS terminal, therefore credit cards are also accepted. Reservations can be made in person at the Főtaxi booths located at the exits at Terminals 2A and 2B. At the taxi rank in front of the stands, taxis are parking continuously waiting for passengers. From 1 September 2013 a new Taxi Decree was introduced in Hungary regulating the price* of the taxis at a fixed tariff of 280 HUF/Km (0.95 EUR/Km) in addition to the one-off basic fee of 450 HUF (1.50 EUR) and waiting fee. A ride to the city center should typically cost around 6500 HUF (22 EUR) depending on traffic conditions. Please be aware of exposing yourself at risk by using non-regulated taxi service providers soliciting at the terminal buildings.

Telephone: +36 1 222 2 222

Mobile phones: +36 20 222 2 222, +36 30 222 2 222, +36 70 222 2 222 Website: www.fotaxi.hu

One way from the airport to the Hotel can't be more than 30 EUR or 9000 HUF.

By minibus

Are you looking for a reliable and comfortable door-to-door transfer from/to Budapest Airport? Then the AirportShuttle-Minibus is the best choice for you. It provides a really convenient and reasonable airport door-to-door transfer between the Airport and any point of Budapest and its fleet operates 24 hours a day.

The transfer operates as a shared-ride service, which means that passengers travelling to /from the same/ closely situated address are escorted in the same vehicle. The travelling time is



optimized and supervised by a GPS-based fleet-monitoring system, which is capable of displaying the actual position of all vehicles in real-time. Every vehicle is equipped with dual-air conditioning systems and free Wi-Fi hotspots for gratis internet access, further increasing the passenger comfort during the journey.

The service provides the transfer with a boarding capacity of 8 to 10, and 30 to 50 passengers. The AirportShuttle-Minibus Desks are to be found at every terminal (Terminal 1, Terminal 2A and 2B) and welcome the arriving guests to Hungary at the "Gates of the Country". All Minibuses arrive at and depart from the Terminals' Main Entrance.

Reservations can be made in person at the AirportShuttle-Minibus Desks or at least 12 hours before your flight departure via online reservation system <u>www.airportshuttle.hu</u>, through travel agencies or by calling the Call Center by dialing the number (+36-1) 296-8555.

The online reservation can be made and the payment is done in a few seconds. If you've succeeded in paying with your credit card, you will be sent a Confirmation E-Mail and a text message (SMS) with your Reservation Code and Invoice in it. With the Reservation Code the passenger is authorized to register at the AirportShuttle-Minibus Desk at a separate e-Ticket Lane with no queue.

Contacts: Telephone (24 hours a day) (+36-1) 296 8555 Fax: (+36-1) 296 8993 Web: <u>www.airportshuttle.hu/en</u> General information: <u>info@airportshuttle.hu</u> Booking: <u>booking@airportshuttle.hu</u>



Payment

The Currency in Hungary is the Hungarian Forint (HUF) 1 Euro (€) is about 300 HUF 1 USD (\$) is about 220 HUF At most places Bank cards are accepted. (The cards must be handled always in front of your eyes!) After all official payments you must get receipts, you can ask for an invoice, if necessary.

Power Supply

The domestic electricity supply is 230 V/50 Hz throughout Hungary with 2 + 1 PE pin wall sockets. (Type CEE7/4).

Time Zone

In April, the Time Zone in Hungary is CEST (UTC + 2)



Weather

In April we normally have bright sky, light wind, 15-20 °C (trees blossoming and birds singing). Before Easter temperatures may drop to 5-10 °C, due to the "Lenten wind" and some showers can be expected. The climate change brought some snowy surprises last spring.

Travelling around in Budapest

Public transport is quite comfortable in Budapest. You can take the tram, bus, trolley bus, metro, suburban train, cog-wheel-train. We propose you to buy a 3 day travel card. It is valid from the time of issue or it can be purchased in advance with a starting time (month, day, hour, minute) requested by the customer and it is valid for 72 hours.

Tickets	
Single ticket	HUF 350
Single ticket bought on the spot	HUF 450
Block of 10 tickets	HUF 3 000
Short section metro ticket for up to 3 stops	HUF 300
Single ticket for public transport boat	HUF 750
Daily tickets	
Budapest 24-hour travelcard	HUF 1 650
Budapest 24-hour group travelcard	HUF 3 300
5/30 BKK 24-hour travelcard	HUF 4 550
Budapest 72-hour travelcard	HUF 4 150
Budapest 7-day travelcard	HUF 4 950
Budapest Card for 24 hours	HUF 4 500
Budapest Card for 48 hours	HUF 7 500
Budapest Card for 72 hours	HUF 8 900
Bicycle pass-sticker	HUF 540







Social Events

Short walk in the downtown area

On 5th of April at 5 PM short walks will be led by guides starting from the hotel to the city. You can return to the Hotel afterwards to change or you can continue directly to the event venue.

Social Event on 5th of April – 7 PM – in the building of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

A spectacular venue offers the divine panorama of the worldfamous landmarks of Budapest. Our guests can admire the breathtaking views of the illuminated Chain Bridge, the Castle of Buda, the Matthias Church and the River Danube when looking out of the windows. **The building is located 5 minutes walk from the Hotel Intercontinental**.

The Hungarian Academy of Sciences (HAS) is committed to the advancement, shaping and serving of science. Keeping the criteria

of excellence in the forefront, the main responsibilities of the Academy, as the prime representative of Hungarian science, are to support and represent various scientific fields, and to distribute scientific results. HAS contributes not only to the organisation of scientific research in Hungary, but also aims at tying the connection between Hungarian and international research closer. The Academy supports the scientific activities of promising young researchers, defends science ethics in public life, and guards the honour and values of scientific endeavors.

The building of the Academy, inaugurated in 1865, was built in Neo-Renaissance style. This architectural trend, which virtually dominated the construction boom in Budapest that started in the 1870s, had been an alien, controversial new tendency in Hungary only a decade before. While west and east of us, in Paris and St. Petersburg, classicism developed

evenly in the direction of the neo-Renaissance and, later, at the end of the century, the neo-Baroque style, in Hungary the events of 1848 caused a break in urban development and construction, as a result of which the new style could not emerge as part of an internal organic development. This explains the heated arguments that surrounded the building of the palace.

The stormy events of its birth did not leave their mark on this harmonious, building, richly ornamented both inside and outside, which has always been a distinctive element of the cityscape. One of the reasons is the difference in scale that has always set it apart from the neighbouring buildings. It was larger than the surrounding classicistic buildings of the Reform Age, breaking the well-ordered unity and harmony of the square. But a half a century later the Academy already







looked small beside the huge newly erected bank and insurance head offices, and compared to the government buildings and hotels today. Nevertheless, the closed, clean-cut mass, the heavy block of the projection, and its mature architecture make the palace even today one of the prominent sights of the square.

More information: <u>http://mta.hu/articles/main-building-105001</u>

Highlights recommended to see in Budapest

Castle hill, downtown area, Gellert hill; Margaret Island; Zoo; city park called "Városliget"; Museum of Fine Arts, baths, other museums, Opera House (outside/inside), Metro line No.1., Academy of Music, etc...

Useful links to planning your stay in Budapest

Taxi from the airport

http://www.bud.hu/english/passengers/access_and_parking/by_taxi

Airport shuttle

http://www.bud.hu/english/passengers/access_and_parking/by_airportshuttle

Highlights of Budapest <u>http://visitbudapest.travel/guide/budapest-attractions/</u>

Baths and spa http://baths.topbudapest.org/

Museums <u>http://www.budapest.com/city_guide/culture/museums.en.html</u>

Hungarian Electrotechnical Museum <u>http://elektromuzeum.hu/hu/</u>

Jewish relicts <u>http://visitbudapest.travel/guide/jewish-budapest/</u>

Islam in Hungary <u>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islam_in_Hungary</u>

Turkish baths <u>http://elismondom.wordpress.com/2013/03/27/budapest-furdovaros-</u> torok-emlekek-4/

Theaters and concert halls

http://www.budapest.com/city_guide/culture/theaters_concert_halls.en.html

Budapest guide

http://visitbudapest.travel/guide/budapest-pdf-guides/













