



# MOUNTAINLIKERS

## 9th WORLD CONGRESS ON SNOW AND MOUNTAIN TOURISM

“**MOUNTAINLIKERS: Sport and Adventure: A Promising Combination**”

02-04 March, 2016, Sant Julià de Lòria, Principality of Andorra

### GENERAL INFORMATION NOTE

Since 1998, the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and the Principality of Andorra have been organizing the World Congress on Snow and Mountain Tourism with increasing success.

In 2016, the objective of the Congress once again is to create a platform to share knowledge and success stories in the field of **Adventure and Sport Tourism** with the contribution of 30 experts from different parts of the world.

This year's edition will further focus on innovative practices in mountain destinations in their efforts to mitigate seasonality by promoting new activities related to nature, sports, culture, gastronomy and wellness.

The Principality of Andorra is strongly committed to develop and manage **Sport Tourism** by promoting important events such as the “Ski World Cup for Women”, the “Mountain Bike & Trials World Championships”, the “Tour de France” and “La Vuelta”. Naturlandia in Sant Julià de Lòria also offers a wide range of experiences related to adventure, sport and cross-country skiing.

Sant Julià de Lòria is delighted to welcome you for the World Congress on Snow and Mountain Tourism. With its altitude between 850 and 2.600m it borders with the capital of the Principality, Andorra la Vella. Sant Julià de Lòria is an attractive Parish with its shopping facilities and wine producing as one of its recent attractions. The Lauredià Culture and Congress Centre will be the venue of the Congress and will welcome the participants and the tourism professionals from all over the world.

Organized by



## 1. Place and dates of the Congress

The 9th World Congress on Snow and Mountain Tourism will be held on 2-4 March 2016. The Lauredià Culture and Congress Centre will be the venue of the Congress.

### LAUREDIÀ CULTURAL AND CONGRESS CENTRE

Plaça de la Germandat

Sant Julià de Lòria (ANDORRA)

Tel: (+376) 744 044

E-mail: [cultura.alaiza@comusantjulia.ad](mailto:cultura.alaiza@comusantjulia.ad)

Web: [www.cccl-andorra.com](http://www.cccl-andorra.com)

The official website of the Conference is: [www.congresdenu.ad](http://www.congresdenu.ad)



The inaugural session will take place on **Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016, in the Auditorium Claror of the Lauredià Culture and Congress Centre**, at 9:00. The Welcome Dinner will be organized at Naturlandia area (altitude 1.600m) of Sant Julià de Lòria.

The closing session will be held at the **Lauredià Culture and Congress Centre on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 at 18:15** and will be followed by a farewell reception/cocktail which will terminate around 22:00.

On Friday 4 March 2016, the local organizers will invite all participants to take part in **Enjoy Andorra!** with optional activities in Naturlandia (Adventure and Activity Theme Park), skiing in GrandValira and VallNord ski resorts, a visit in Caldea – Inúu (thermal bath and wellness centre), a ride on the touristic bus, etc.

## 2. Registration for the Congress

As in the previous editions, to cover the costs involved in the organization of the Congress, the Congress Secretariat will charge a participation fee, with an exemption for **UNWTO Members and its official delegates: Member States (in particular, National Tourism Administrations and National Tourism Offices), Associate Members and Affiliate Members.**

Governments, entities and bodies invited by the Secretary-General in his letter dated 19 January 2016 are requested to complete the participation form attached to the letter and send it to **both addresses** shown below before 15 February 2016.

For hotel reservations, transport and travel between the airport and Andorra and for the social program together with the programme for accompanying persons, delegates are kindly requested to contact with the **Congress Technical Secretariat:**

All other participants **are requested to register online.** The official website of the Congress is: [www.congresdenu.ad](http://www.congresdenu.ad)

<b>World Tourism Organization</b>	<b>Contact:</b> Mr. Sascha STANGE Destination Management	Calle Capitán Haya, 42 E-28020 MADRID España Tel.: +34 91 567 82 28 Fax. +34 91 571 15 16 <a href="mailto:destination@unwto.org">destination@unwto.org</a>
<b>Technical Secretariat of the Congress</b>	<b>Contact:</b> Ms. Meritxell DURÓ Technical secretary	Av. Carlemany 89B, despatx G AD700 Escaldes-Andorra Tel. + 376 827 682 Fax. + 376 864 668 <a href="mailto:info@congresdenu.ad">info@congresdenu.ad</a> <a href="http://www.congresdenu.ad">www.congresdenu.ad</a>

### 3. Entry formalities and visas

Since participants must enter Andorra through France or Spain, citizens of states which require a visa to enter the European Union, must obtain a multi-entry/multi-exit Schengen visa in order to be able to travel to and depart from Andorra.

Interested parties may obtain the visa in the appropriate diplomatic or consular missions.

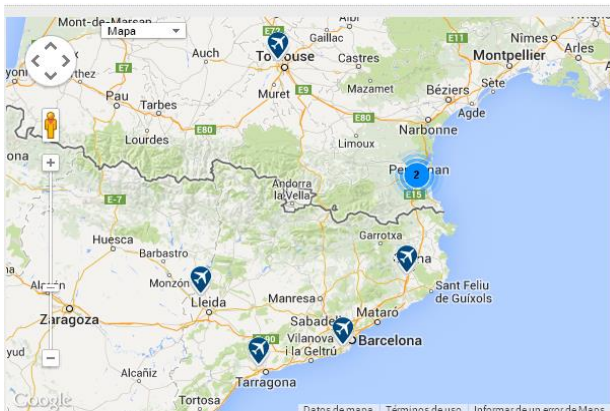
Delegates are requested to obtain their visa prior to travelling, in order to avoid any difficulties that might arise in the border posts of both Spain and France.

In the absence of Spanish or French diplomatic representation in their countries, delegates are requested to go to any diplomatic or consular mission of other signatories of the Schengen Agreement in their home countries in order to obtain a Schengen visa.

For more information, visit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Andorra [www.mae.ad](http://www.mae.ad).

### 4. Transport and access to Andorra

- **By air:**



Andorra has no airports within its territory but within a radius of 200km there are several international airports.

Participants who come by plane should fly to Barcelona (Spain) or to Toulouse (France). Many international routes connect the two cities with different destinations worldwide. From both airports Andorra is accessible by road, either by private vehicle or regular bus line.

Also see: <http://www.mobilitat.ad/ca/linies-regulars-internacionals>

In 2015 the Andorra – la Seu d'Urgell Airport has been inaugurated. It is located some 20km from Andorra (aprox. 20 minutes by car) [www.aeroportandorralaseu.cat](http://www.aeroportandorralaseu.cat). The company TSA offers air taxi service. Please consult prices and arrangements via telephone + 376 324652, email [tsa@tsa.ad](mailto:tsa@tsa.ad), or see the website [www.tsa.ad](http://www.tsa.ad)

- **By road:**

From Barcelona, the route to Andorra goes through the Vallvidrera tunnels heading to Manresa, Túnel del Cadí, La Seu d'Urgell and Andorra. Journey time is approx. 2 hours.

It is possible to take an alternative route without tolls through the Martorell A2 motorway heading towards Cervera-Lleida, and passing through Guissona, Pons and Seu d'Urgell. Journey time is 2 hours 30 minutes.

From Toulouse, the route to Andorra is the A61 motorway heading towards Montpellier - Foix, and taking the exit to the Nacional 20 highway, heading towards Andorra – Pas de la Casa. Journey time is 2 hours 30 minutes.

- **By bus:**

Two bus companies service the route from El Prat airport in Barcelona (Spain) and from Toulouse - Blagnac (France) to Andorra.

Schedules and rates: See the information below should give a first orientation. Please see the websites for updates and adjustments)

<b>Novatel</b>	<b>Eurolines</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barcelona Airport – Andorra Bus Terminal: 10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 16:00, 18:00 20:00 and 22:00.</li> <li>• Andorra Bus Terminal – Barcelona Airport: 05:00, 07:00, 09:00, 11:00, 13:00, 15:00 and 17:00</li> <li>• Approximate journey time: 3 hours 30 minutes</li> <li>• Stops at Terminals 1 and 2 of the Barcelona Airport</li> <li>• No other stops until final destination at Andorra Bus Terminal</li> <li>• Rate: <b>56 € return</b></li> </ul> <p>Novatel can provide drop-off at hotel (for a small surcharge)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barcelona Airport – Andorra Bus Terminal: 7.30, 11:00, 13:00, 15:00, 17.30, 20:00 and 23:00.</li> <li>• Andorra Bus Terminal – Barcelona Airport: 6.15, 8.15, 11.15, 13.15, 15.15, 18.15, 20.15 and 22.15.</li> <li>• Approximate journey time: 3 hours and 30 minutes.</li> <li>• Stops at Terminals 1 and 2 of the Barcelona Airport and at the Sants train station.</li> <li>• No other stops until final destination at Andorra Bus Terminal</li> <li>• Rate: <b>57.50 € return</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toulouse – Andorra –Toulouse</li> <li>• Toulouse Airport – Andorra Bus Terminal: 11.00, 15:30 and 20.00 h.</li> <li>• Andorra Bus Terminal – Toulouse Airport: 5:00, 10:00 and 15:00.</li> <li>• Approximate journey time: 3 hours 30 minutes</li> <li>• Rate: <b>64 € return.</b></li> </ul>	
<p>More information: Tel. (+376) 803 789            Web: <a href="http://www.andorrabybus.com">www.andorrabybus.com</a>  <a href="http://www.mobilitat.ad/ca/linies-regulars-internacionals">http://www.mobilitat.ad/ca/linies-regulars-internacionals</a></p>	<p>More information: Tel. (+376) 805 151            Web: <a href="http://www.andorradirectbus.es">www.andorradirectbus.es</a></p>

- **Airports – shuttle service**

The Technical Secretariat of the Congress can arrange, with advance payment, a direct transfer from the airport to Andorra.

To check rates and book this service, delegates are requested to contact the Technical Secretariat, whose contact details are provided in section 2 of this note, indicating their arrival and departure details and accommodation preference.

## **5. Accreditation and badges**

All participants are requested to pick up their badges at the entrance hall of the Lauredià Culture and Congress Centre in Sant Julià de Lòria on the first day of the Congress (**2nd March**) **from 8:00 to 9:00**.

Participants must wear the badge in order to attend the sessions and other events taking place during the Congress.

## **6. Opening, duration of the sessions and dinners**

### **Wednesday 2nd March 2016**

The inaugural session will take place on Wednesday, **2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016 from 9:00 to 9:30** at the **Auditorium Claror** of the **Lauredià Culture and Congress Centre**, Sant Julià de Lòria, Andorra.

The working sessions will take place at the same venue from **9:00 to 17:00**.

The Welcome Dinner offered by Andorra will take place after closing the sessions of the first day. Buses will be provided at the entrance of the Congress venue and depart to Naturlandia **around 17:45**. Naturlandia is situated at an altitude of 1.600m and the bus takes 20 minutes by road from Sant Julià de Lòria ([www.naturlandia.ad](http://www.naturlandia.ad)) It is recommended to wear warm shoes and a coat. **The Welcome Dinner will start at 18:30 and ends around 22:00**. Buses will take the participants back to Andorra la Vella to the partner hotels after the event.

### **Thursday 3rd March 2016**

The sessions start at 9:00 and end at 19:00.

A farewell Cocktail will be offered after the official closing session of the Congress (19:00 to 20:00) at the venue of the Congress.

## **7. Working languages**

The working languages of the Congress are English, Spanish, French and Catalan. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided. At the entrance headphones will be distributed and they should be returned at the end of each session.

## **8. Provisional programme of the Congress**

The provisional program of the Congress is indicated the following websites: [snowmountain.unwto.org](http://snowmountain.unwto.org) and [www.congresdeneu.ad](http://www.congresdeneu.ad)

## **9. Accommodation**

The Technical Secretariat of the Congress has negotiated to facilitate special rates with the hotels listed on the conference website ([www.congresdeneu.ad](http://www.congresdeneu.ad)).

Participants are strongly recommended to make their reservations as soon as possible, in one of the hotels listed on [www.congresdeneu.ad](http://www.congresdeneu.ad). **Hotel reservation is the responsibility of each participant**. Participants should consult with the Technical Secretariat the specific procedures regarding early arrivals and late departures, as well as the terms and conditions in case of cancellations or changes. The transport to the Congress venue for participants will only be provided from the partner hotels indicated on the webpage of the Congress.

## **10. Social programme**

On Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> March we offer to all participants the outdoor programme **Enjoy Andorra!** with the support of Naturlandia, the Vallnord and GrandValira ski resorts, Caldea – Inúu among others. This outdoor programme is free of charge (Places are subject to availability).

More information on **Enjoy Andorra!** as well as the departure times, etc will be announced on the webpage [www.congresdeneu.ad](http://www.congresdeneu.ad) in January 2016.

If you are interested in participating in the optional activities of **Enjoy Andorra!** we recommend you to fill in all necessary information in the registration form provided ([www.congresdeneu.ad](http://www.congresdeneu.ad)). Deadline for the submission of the registration form is 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016. All places for the activities will be allocated in order of registration.

## **11. Programme for accompanying persons**

The organization has prepared for persons accompanying the delegates, an optional programme.

If you are interested in participating, please contact the Technical Secretary of the Congress, whose contact details are provided in section 2 of this information note.

## **12. Practical information**

- **Climate**

Andorra enjoys a high mountain climate with Mediterranean influences. In winter temperatures are rather cold and mild during the summer season with wide variations depending on altitude and orientation.

Andorra has a very high percentage of sunny days and the climate is dry. The average annual minimum is 4°C and the average maximum is 16°C. During the month of March, the temperature variation during the day is pronounced, with minimum temperatures of 0°C in the mornings and evenings, and maximums of 12°C in the middle of the day.

At the altitude of Naturlandia (1.600m), minimum temperatures range between -5°C and 0°C.

Please find more detailed information on the weather forecast on the following webpage: [www.meteo.ad](http://www.meteo.ad)

- **Local time**

Andorra is one an hour ahead of the Greenwich Mean Time (GMT + 1).

- **Currency**

The common currency in Andorra is the Euro. All banks provide currency exchange services and ATMs are available 24 hours a day. International credit cards such as Visa, MasterCard and American Express, among others, are accepted.

- **Language**

The official language is Catalan. Spanish and French are also commonly used languages in the Principality.

- **Banks and currency exchange**

Bank branches open Monday to Friday from 9:00 to 13:00 and 15:00 to 17:00. Some branches open without interruption from 9:00 to 17:00. Banks are closed Saturdays and Sundays.

- **Business hours**

More than 2000 shops of the Principality open every day (including Sundays). Opening hours are generally from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and until 9 p.m. on Saturdays.



- **Electricity**

Electrical current is 220 volt/50 Hz. Outlets take plugs with two round pins.

- **Telephone**

The international code of Andorra is 376. Most foreign mobile phones work in Andorra. It is possible to purchase prepaid SIM cards through the following provider:

**Andorra Telecom**

Av. Meritxell, 112, AD500 Andorra la Vella.

Mobiland Clic prepaid card with 60 € of credit. Credit refills of 15 €, 30 € and 60 € are available.

- **Andorra WiFi**

Andorra WiFi is the public WiFi network of Andorra Telecom provided in the two main shopping streets of Andorra la Vella and Escaldes-Engordany.

This network allows two types of connection:

**Free basic connection:** This connection provides access to the websites of Andorra, national applications and websites of participating shops. It also allows access to Google Business Photos and Google Street View.

**Internet connection:** With this connection it is possible to use and view any application and website on the Internet, including instant messaging apps (WhatsApp, Line and WeChat) as well as voice-over-IP (Skype and Facetime).

The options for purchasing this connection are as follows:



How to purchase Internet access: <http://www.andorratelecom.ad/web/quest/andorra-wifi>

Free Wi-Fi is available at the premises of the Congress venue during the days of the event. Find free WiFi in Sant Julià de Lòria also in the tourist information offices in the Germandat Square (in front of the Congress Centre) and at the Prat Gran park.

### 13. **Tourism information**

For further information, please refer to the tourism section of the following website: [www.visitandorra.com](http://www.visitandorra.com) or the official tourism website of Sant Julià de Lòria [www.santjulia.ad/turism](http://www.santjulia.ad/turism) and [www.naturlandia.ad](http://www.naturlandia.ad)