

2nd international Congress on World Civilizations and Historic Routes

15-16 November 2018 - Sofia, Bulgaria

General Information Note



1. DATES AND PLACE

The 2nd International Congress on World Civilizations and Historic Routes will take place on 15-16 November 2018 in Sofia, Bulgaria.

The Congress will take place at:

Sofia Hotel Balkan, Royal Hall

Official website: <https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/sofic-sofia-hotel-balkan-a-luxury-collection-hotel-sofia/>

2. REGISTRATION

Participants interested in attending the Congress should complete the registration form available on the official website. International participants will be requested to provide their accommodation and travel information by filling in the Travel details form, which will be sent to them at a later stage.

The registration form is available [here](#).

Registration deadline: 31 October 2018

3. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

HOST COUNTRY COORDINATOR	UNWTO COORDINATOR
<p>Ministry of Tourism of Bulgaria</p> <p>Mrs. Elvira Misheva, International Cooperation and Investments in Tourism Tel. +359 2 904 68 48 +359 897 944 884 (mobile) Email: e.misheva@tourism.government.bg</p> <p>Mrs. Zlatina Lyutova, International Cooperation and Investments in Tourism Tel. + 359 2 904 68 14 + 359 897 02 02 81 Email: z.lyutova@tourism.government.bg</p>	<p>World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)</p> <p>Regional Programme for Europe Tel. +34 91 567 8209 Fax. +34 91 571 3733 Email: europa@unwto.org Website: www.unwto.org</p>

4. FRONTIER FORMALITIES

All participants of the 2nd International Congress on World Civilizations and Historical Routes are kindly requested to check that they have a **valid travel document (passport)** that allows them to travel to the Republic of Bulgaria.

Detailed information about VISA procedures can be found [here](#).

- [Information about the Visa Regime for foreigners with ordinary passports for a short stay \(until 90 days\)](#)
- [Information about the Visa Regime for foreigners with diplomatic and service passports](#)

Types of visas

- Visa A (for airport transit) - [more information](#)
- Visa C (for a short stay for the purpose of transit or a planned stay) - [more information](#)
- Visa D (for a long stay) - [more information](#)

Requirements when entering the country

A foreigner may enter the Republic of Bulgaria if he/ she is a holder of a regular foreign travel document or another equivalent document as well as a visa if required.

Visa issuing

A foreign citizen wishing to apply for a Bulgarian visa shall hold a regular travel document that meets the following requirements:

- Its validity expires at least 3 months after the intended date of departure from the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria or in case of multiple visits - after the last scheduled date of departure from the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria;
- Contains at least 2 blank pages for visa purposes;
- Has been issued within the last 10 years.

Visas are issued by the diplomatic and consular representations of the Republic of Bulgaria.

Visa applications

- Visa applications forms are submitted not earlier than 3 months before the date of the intended travel, personally or through an authorized agent, with the exception of humanitarian cases.
- Visa applications for minors or judicially disabled persons shall be submitted by their legal representatives or by persons expressly authorized to do so.
- Visa applications for underage persons or persons with limited judicial disability shall be submitted by their legal representatives, trustees or by persons expressly authorized to do so.

5. TRANSFERS

The Ministry of Tourism of Bulgaria will provide transfers from Terminal 1 and Terminal 2 of Sofia International Airport to the official event hotels both on arrival and departure. Specific travel details will of each delegate will be needed in advance.

Sofia International Airport is located 10 km (6.2 mi) east from Sofia's city centre. The estimated transfer time from the airport to the main hotel will be between 20 and 30 minutes depending on the traffic.

Further information regarding the airport is available at the official website:

<https://www.sofia-airport.bg/en/passengers>

The Ministry of Tourism of Bulgaria will also provide transfers from the official hotels to the official dinner and technical visits, as well as to Hotel Marinela where the Congress will take place.

6. ACCOMMODATION

Special room rates have been obtained for the delegates of the 2nd International Congress on World Civilizations and Historical Routes - **Sofia Hotel Balkan** and the **Hotel Central Sofia**.

- **Participants are responsible for booking their own accommodations and are advised to do so as soon as possible.**

HOTELS, PRICES AND PROCEDURE FOR RESERVATION

<p style="text-align: center;">Sofia Hotel Balkan ***** Address: Sveta Nedelya Square 5, 1000 Sofia</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Website: https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/sofic-sofia-hotel-balkan-a-luxury-collection-hotel-sofia/</p> <p style="text-align: center;">E-mail: reservation@sofiabalkan.net tel: +359 2 937 87 87</p>
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Room Type	Rates for Bed and Breakfast*
Classic single room	120 EUR
Classic Double Room	135 EUR
Executive Single Room	145 EUR
Executive Double Room	160 EUR

*Rates are quoted per room, per night, inclusive of buffet breakfast and 9 % V.A.T. EUR 0.67 Tourist tax per person per night will be charged additionally as Tourist Tax.

*To complete your reservation, please fill in the reservation form available online and send it to reservation@sofiabalkan.net . Deadline for reservation is **23 October 2018**.

Hotel Central ****
Address: 52, Hristo Botev Blvd, Sofia 1000, Bulgaria

Website:
www.central-hotel.com

E-mail: Central@central-hotel.com
Tel: (+359) 894 590 004

Room Type	Rates for Bed and Breakfast*
Double/ Twin room – single use	95 EUR
Double/ Twin room – double use	105 EUR

Note: This hotel is located 10 minutes walking distance from the venue of the Conference (Sofia Hotel Balkan).

*Rates are quoted per room, per night, inclusive of buffet breakfast and 9 % V.A.T. EUR 0.56 Tourist tax per person per night will be charged additionally as Tourist Tax.

*To complete your reservation, please fill in the reservation form available online and send it to Central@central-hotel.com.

7. PROGRAMME

The provisional Programme is available [online](#).

8. REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION BADGES

Badges will be available for collection prior to the conference in Hotel Marinela, Sofia on 14 and 15 of November 2018. Participants will be required to wear the identification badges in the area reserved for the Conference.

9. WORKING LANGUAGES

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English during the Congress.

10. FURTHER INFORMATION



Climate	The summers are long and hot, while the winters are cold and filled with snow, through slight abnormalities in the seasonal weather have been known to occur in the recent years. In November the temperatures in Sofia vary from 0 to 10 degrees Celsius.
Official time	The Republic of Bulgaria is on Greenwich Mean Time (GMT +2)
Language	The official language is Bulgarian. Some people also speak English and Russian.
Official currency	Bulgarian Lev (BGN) 1 Euro equals 1.95583 BGN

11. TECHNICAL TOURS

Participants will have the opportunity to take part in a half – day tour on 16 of November, as well as an all – day tour on 17 November. Prior registration is required.

Additional information on the technical tours will be available on the official website in the upcoming weeks.

We look forward to welcoming you in Sofia!