

# **Information Note**

# "SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN THE DANUBE REGION - NEW PERSPECTIVES"

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 29 – 30 JUNE, 2017 BELGRADE, REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

# DATES AND VENUE

On the occasion of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017, the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications of the Republic of Serbia in collaboration with the World Tourism Organization *(UNWTO)* is organizing the International Conference on *Sustainable Tourism Development in the Danube region - New Perspectives* to be held in Belgrade, Republic of Serbia, from 29 – 30 June, 2017.

For the Conference Programme and schedule details are enclosed in a separate document.

Venue of the Conference:

# Hyatt Regency Belgrade Hotel

Address: Milentija Popovica 5 Belgrade, Serbia, 11070 Tel: +381 11 301 1234 Fax: +381 11 311 2234 E-mail: <u>belgrade.regency@hyatt.com</u> Website: <u>https://belgrade.regency.hyatt.com</u>

Please note that all transfers in relation to the official program will depart/arrive only to the Hyatt Regency Belgrade Hotel as the official venue.

# **OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES OF THE CONFERENCE**

The objective of the Conference is to showcase the Danube as a potential resource in development of joint tourism products, experiences and promotion platforms. Participants will

get insights to the present state of tourism policies in selected countries, in order to understand the potential gaps and identify cooperation options.

The main goal of the Conference is to exchange experiences involving tourism activities in the Danube region, to introduce implemented and future perspective projects, to discuss questions of tourism policy and to create mutual cooperation platform in field of sustainable tourism.

Getting common understanding on mutual goals and identifying development flagship projects will be one of the results, in addition to considering aspects of joint regional promotion and promotion of regional tourism products.

Topics to be covered during the conference are focused on the educational aspects, since human resource is the main ingredient of raising the quality and profile of tourism in different countries. In addition, new perspectives on communication and promoting tourism experiences, especially in the field of cultural-historical heritage sites will be revealed. The participants of the Conference will have chance to discuss and exchange ideas on said topics.

# WORKING LANGUAGE, DOCUMENTS AND LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The working language of the Conference is English. The simultaneous interpretation will be provided in Serbian and vice-versa.

The participants are advised to bring to the Conference with them all the documents sent in advance, as only a limited number of printed copies will be available on the spot.

#### REGISTRATION

The participants are kindly requested to fill in the online **Registration Form** at the link provided in the Invitation letter, **by June 9, 2017**.

Access to the areas set aside for the Conference will be restricted exclusively to participants wearing identification badges. **Badges will be obtained at the Registration Desk** at the Hyatt Regency Belgrade Hotel, as the official venue of the Conference.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

#### Visa formalities

The Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications of the Republic of Serbia, in accordance with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia (Consular Affairs), will provide the information of visa regime for entering Serbia to all delegates participating in the Conference.

Please note that NO visas-on-arrival can be issued. Participants are kindly requested to make the necessary arrangements to obtain their visas beforehand.

For more information about visa requirements, please visit the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia at: <u>http://www.mfa.gov.rs/en/consular-affairs</u>. The same website features a list of diplomatic and consular missions of Serbia with their corresponding countries of jurisdiction.

For details on visas, please contact: <u>http://www.mfa.gov.rs/en/consular-affairs/entry-serbia/visa-regime</u>.

# Flight information and transfers

The participants are advised to arrange their arrival to Belgrade by regular commercial flights.

Air Serbia is the national carrier of the Republic of Serbia.

Transfers to/from "Nikola Tesla" Belgrade Airport to the Hyatt Regency Hotel is under own organization of participants.

Most effective way of reaching hotel is to use taxi transfer. Official taxi counter is located at the baggage claim area, after the customs. Duration of ride is 12 minutes, and the amount is fixed to 1.400 rsd (12 euros).

The organizers will form groups for transfer of all registered participants in relation to the official program. It includes group transfers only to/from Hyatt Regency Belgrade Hotel to/from social events venues on Thursday evening, and to/from boat conference on Friday, all according to the final Program of the events.

# Accommodation and reservation

Participants are advised to make their bookings directly with the hotels as soon as possible, before June 1, 2017.

Special discounted rates will be provided to the participants who are staying at the **Hyatt Regency Belgrade Hotel - the official venue of the Conference,** 5\*, located in the heart of New Belgrade's business district, 12 minutes away from the Belgrade Airport "Nikola Tesla".

Hotel (breakfast and VAT included)	Special Rate (EUR/night)	
	Single occupancy	Double occupancy
Hotel (the official venue of the Conference) Hyatt Regency Belgrade Hotel ***** reserve.hrbelgrade@hyatt.com	100	115
Crowne Plaza Belgrade **** begcp.frontdesk@ihg.com	90	100

Falkensteiner Hotel Belgrade ****	90	100
reservations.belgrade@falkensteiner.com		

Reservations must be made directly with the hotel, when it is necessary to identify yourself as a participant at the Conference (or to specify "Danube UNWTO" in the subject of the e-mail).

All extra expenses, including tourist tax, mini bar, telephone charges, room service are to be covered by participants of the Conference themselves.

Upon reservation, hotel will issue all necessary documents (such as invoices) for participant's administration purposes. In addition, you will be informed on cancellation policies. In case of cancellations of the hotel reservation, the participants are obliged to personally inform the hotel in order to avoid being charged for no-show by the hotel.

#### **Tourist information**

Tourist information:

National Tourism Organization of Serbia www.serbia.travel

#### Tourist Organization of Belgrade www.tob.rs



# Credit cards, currency and ATMs

The Serbian dinar (RSD) is the official Serbian currency. The applicable exchange rate of Euro (EUR) is  $1 \in = RSD$  123.6 and of United State Dollars (USD) is 1 USD = RSD 110.7 as of April 2017.

For update of exchange rates, please refer the website of the National Bank of Serbia: <u>https://www.nbs.rs/export/sites/default/internet/english/scripts/ondate.html</u>

Please make sure to use one of the ATMs or Exchange Offices located at the Belgrade Airport, main hotels, large shopping centres and banks throughout the city, because all payments on the territory of the Republic of Serbia must be done in local currency (RSD).

Major credit cards are widely accepted at hotels, restaurants, shops, etc. Visa, MasterCard, American Express can be used at establishments, however, some restaurants and small shops accept cash payments only.

#### Weather

Belgrade has a moderate continental climate, with an average temperature between 25 and 29 °C during the day in June/July.

# Official language

The official language of the Republic of Serbia is Serbian, however, English is widely spoken and understood.

#### Time zone

Central European time (CET) GMT +1

# Electricity

The supply voltage in Belgrade is 220 volts, 50 hertz alternating current. The power plugs used in Serbia are of the two – pin type.

# Sanitary requirements

No vaccinations are requirement.

# Safety and Security

The Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications of the Republic of Serbia will ensure the safety and security of all participants and delegates. All necessary precaution will be taken to ensure that the Conference will proceed efficiently.

# **CONFERENCE COORDINATORS**

Host country coordinators	UNWTO coordinator
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