GIRLS IN ICT DAY 2018 SOFIA

Co-organized by International Telecommunication Union and European Commission

28 April 2018 | Sofia Bulgaria

To attend the event you need to register at

<u>https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-</u> Presence/Europe/Pages/Events/2018/GinICT/Girls in ICT.aspx

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Venue: **University of National and World Economy** *ul. "8-mi dekemvri", 1700 Studentski Kompleks*

http://www.unwe.bg/en/



Accommodation

• Suite Hotel Sofia (BGN 81)

Suite Hotel Sofia is located in Studentski grad /Students city/, across the beautiful University park. Suite Hotel Sofia is 2.5 km /5 min. drive to nearest Metro station, 8 km/ 15 min. drive to Sofia International Airport, 8 km/ 15 min. drive to City centre, 10 km/ 20 min. drive to Central Railway Station. Suite Hotel Sofia is Opposite to the University of National and World Economy /UNWE/ http://www.suitehotelsofia.bg/

• VITOSHA Park Hotel (BGN 77)

VITOSHA Park Hotel **** is a noted highlight of the modern spirit of Southern Sofia. The location complies with the hotel high-class category and its international business and conference center profile. Park Hotel Vitosha is located, surrounded by Dianabad Borough to the North, Darvenitsa Borough to the East, Malinova Dolina Borough – to the South and Simeonovsko Chaussee Boulevard – to the West. Zone 1 also includes the adjacent boroughs of Vitosha, Mladost and Lozenets, Sofia downtown is only 7 km to the South-East. It takes about 10 minutes to reach the Ring Road, which is a direct shortcut to Trakiya Motorway. Tsarigradsko Chaussee Boulevard, the Eastern exit to Trakiya Motorway, is less than 4 km away

http://www.vitoshaparkhotel.com/

- Other hotels nearby UNWE:
 - Vega Hotel Sofia (BGN 125) https://www.hotelvegasofia.bg/
 - Blue Label Apart House (BGN 70) https://www.booking.com/

Transportation

You can make your way from the airport to Studentski grad (Student town) by city bus, metro, bus or taxi.

• Sofia Airport

Sofia Airport is the biggest airport in the country and provides passenger, baggage, aircraft, cargo and mail handling services to more than 65 air companies operating to and from Sofia. Sofia`s International Airport is located at a distance of ten kilometres east of the city centre. For more information, please visit: <u>https://www.sofia-airport.bg/en/passengers</u>

• Sofia Metro

Sofia **Metro Line 1** connects Sofia Airport to the city centre and provides direct connection from the airport to the large Sofia residential districts in close proximity – "Druzhba" and "Mladost", as well as to more distant Sofia districts to the west – "Zapaden Park" and "Lyulin". The journey time from Sofia Airport to the city centre is approximately 18 min.

To get to UNWE you should get off on the station "G.M.Dimitrov" and take the bus line 280. From the bust station "G.M.Dinitrov" you should get off on the bus station "UNWE" – the forth one. Single bus ticket cost 1.60 leva (€0.80).

For more information, please visit: <u>http://www.metropolitan.bg/en/</u>

• Bus (Line 84 and Line 280)

Arriving on Terminal 2 you can take bus 84 (It leaves every 10-15 minutes from 5:00 to 23:00). At station "Pliska" (approximately after 15-20 min) you should get off. Then you should take bus 280 on

the opposite site of the street. At the eight stop -"UNWE" (approx. 15 min) you should get off. The UNWE is visible from the bus station.

Single bus ticket cost 1.60 leva (€0.80).

For more information about Sofia trafic, please visit: <u>https://www.sofiatraffic.bg/</u>

• Taxi

At the Airport, there is an authorized taxi company with name "OK", which taxi station is just at the exit of the Airport. The distance to Park Hotel Vitosha is approximately 10 km and the cost for travelling to the hotel is not more than €10.00 (about 20 leva). The taxi company's telephone number is +359 2 973 2121.

We recommend that you do not use taxi services offered outside the office of the taxi operator or in front of the terminal to avoid the risk of abuse.

Visa

A valid passport/ID document is required for entry to Bulgaria. Passports of participants should be valid for at least 6 (six) months after leaving Bulgaria for those requiring a visa, and 3 (three) months on entry for visa exempt nationals other than those from EU countries, whose passports must be valid for the period of stay.

A consultation with the Bulgarian Embassy or Consulate in the participants' country is advisable and especially for those participants requiring visas.

For this purpose, you may also visit the website of the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs: http://www.mfa.government.bg

No entry visas are required for citizens of the EU and EFTA member states. They still need a valid passport or ID card (for EU citizens only).

Other General Information

Bulgaria

Bulgaria, officially the **Republic of Bulgaria**, is one of the oldest states in Europe, located in Southeastern Europe, bordering five other countries: Romania to the north (mostly along the Danube), Serbia and the Republic of Macedonia to the west, and Greece and Turkey to the south. The Black Sea defines the extent of the country to the east.

Currently Bulgaria functions as a parliamentary democracy under a unitary constitutional republic. A member of the European Union since 2007 and of NATO since 2004, it has a population of approximately 7.4 million, with Sofia as its capital and largest city.

You can find some information about Bulgaria top tourist sights at iLoveBulgaria platform. iLove mobile app offers citizens and visitors of Bulgaria an experience and provides access to a variety of attractive offers. <u>https://ilovebulgaria.eu/en/</u>

Sofia

Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, lies in the southern part of Sofia Valley, which has an area of 1180 km² and an altitude of 550 m above sea level, just at the foot of Vitosha Mountain. The majestic chain of the Balkan Range surrounds it by the north. Few capital cities in the world can boast such pretty and high mountains in their close proximity. Sofia is the main economic, cultural, scientific and financial

centre of the country and has a population of about 2 million. Founded seven thousand years ago, Sofia is the second oldest city in Europe. It has been given several names in the course of history and remnants of the old cities can steel be seen today. The history of Sofia goes back to the stone age and is strongly influenced by its favourable geographical location, hot mineral springs and fertile soils.

In Sofia there are traces of Thracian, Slav and Roman civilisation. Historic landmarks include the 10thcentury Boyana Church (one of the UNESCO World Heritage protected sites), the Alexander Nevski Cathedral (one of the world's largest Orthodox churches), and the early Byzantine Church of St Sophia, built in the 3th century.

Vaccinations and Medical Insurance

There are no special vaccination requirements for entry into Bulgaria. However, it is highly recommended that participants be covered by medical insurance and carry proof of such cover.

Currency/Exchange/Credit Cards

The national monetary unit in Bulgaria is the Lev (pl. Leva; BGN). One Lev is made up of 100 stotinki. Banknote denominations include 2; 5; 10; 20; 50 and 100 leva, as well as coins of 2,00 and 1,00 lev and smaller denominations.

Visa, MasterCard, Diners Club, Visa, American Express are mostly accepted.

They can be used for the payment of all services in hotels, restaurants, night clubs, tourist agencies and shopping malls. ATM machines are also available. For cash exchange the rate in leva is higher than for credits cards. For information on the exchange rates please visit: <u>http://www.bnb.bg/</u> A number of exchange offices are open every day including week-ends and public holidays. Due to risk of deception, it is advisable to exchange money in the hotels or in official bank and exchange offices rather than making deal with individuals.

Single Emergency Number: 112

- Ambulance
- Fire/Rescue
- Police
- Traffic police

Banks

Banks are open Monday to Friday from 8.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. All banks exchange currency.

Electrical Appliances

Mains electricity in Bulgaria is 220V / 50Hz.

Time

Local time in Bulgaria is EET; (CET +1); (GMT +2).

Shops

Normally shops in Sofia are open from 10 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. on work days and from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturday and occasionally on Sunday. Only local currency is accepted at shops. The large shopping malls are open from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m.