



Practical Information

4-6 October 2024

Sofia, Bulgaria

Visa requirements

If you are an EU citizen, you must either present a passport or an ID card valid for the duration of your stay to enter Bulgaria for tourist visits of up to three months. Citizens of other countries must have valid passports. Some non-EU citizens are required to produce a visa. Please contact your travel agent or the nearest Bulgarian diplomatic post for further information.

For more information, please visit the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Republic of Bulgaria: [MFA :: Visa for Bulgaria](#)

Please note that it can take up to eight weeks to process a Visa Application, and early application is recommended.

Please also note that the Organising Committee, or its agents, cannot accept any responsibility in connection with Visa Applications. The standard cancellation policy for registration fees and hotel deposits will apply if a delegate is unable to attend the conference due to late submission of their visa application and/or rejection of the same.

Please note that the Conference Organisers will provide supporting documentation to apply for a visa once the registration process is completed and the registration fees are received.

Travel

By Plane

Sofia Airport is the main international airport of Bulgaria, located 10 km (6.2 mi) east of the centre of the capital Sofia. The airport serves as the home base for BH Air, Bulgaria Air, European Air Charter and GullivAir, and as a base for both Ryanair and Wizz Air. You can fly to 83 destinations with 25 airlines in scheduled passenger traffic.

By Bus & Train

The **Central Bus Station** in Sofia, Bulgaria, is a busy national and regional road transport hub, with tens of thousands of travellers passing through each week. Bus companies from throughout Europe operate services through the station, reaching destinations in every corner of the continent, from Alicante to Zurich. The station is open seven days a week, 24 hours a day. The bus station offers fast and safe transportation to all destinations in Bulgaria as well as to many bigger European cities.

The **Sofia Central Railway Station** is the main passenger railway station of Sofia, as well as the largest railway station in the country. It is located 1 km north of the city centre after Lavov most, on Marie Louise Boulevard in the immediate proximity of the Central Bus Station Sofia. You can travel to Istanbul, Belgrade, Bucharest, Zagreb, Ljubljana, Budapest, Athens, Thessaloniki, Paris, London, Brussels, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Spain, Portugal and many other destinations.

From Sofia Airport

There are three transport options from Sofia Airport (SOF) to the city centre of Sofia. You can choose between a Sofia airport taxi, metro, or public bus. A taxi ride to the city centre of Sofia is approximately €9 (BGN17.6) and the journey duration is 25 minutes on average. You can also opt for the metro to the city centre of Sofia; just take metro line M2 to Serdika. A single metro ticket costs €0.8 (BGN1.6) and it will take 26 minutes to reach the city centre. If you prefer to travel by bus, there are two buses leaving the airport with direction to Sofia city. Buses 84 and 184 follow the same route and run every 30 minutes on average.

Treatment centres

Rare Hematological Diseases Treatment Center of Expertise

Treatment facility: "Tsaritsa Joanna" UMBAL - ISUL, Sofia

Address: "Byalo More" str. 8 Sofia 1527

can be reached by public transport: Tram lines 20, 22; Trolley bus lines 1, 2, 4

Head of the center: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Banchev

Contacts: phone +359 2 9307 042; e-mail: sbaldohz@sbaldohz.com

3,5 km from the conference venue

Haemophilia Treatment Center of Expertise.

Treatment facility: **SBALHZ, Sofia**

Address: "Plovdivsko Pole" Str. 6,

can be reached by public transport: Metro lines 1, 4; Bus lines 280, 413, 88

Head of the center: Prof. Dr. Toshko Lisichkov

Contacts: phone +359 2 9701 235; e-mail: t.lissitchkov@abv.bg

5,3 km from the conference venue

General information

Please visit this link for some useful information and advice when planning your trip and to help you make the most of your stay in Sofia.

Check out: [Welcome to Sofia - the capital of Bulgaria \(visitsofia.bg\)](http://visitsofia.bg)

Currency

The lev (BGN) is the currency of Bulgaria. You can check the current currency rates on [this website](#).

Foreign currencies can be easily exchanged in banks. ATMs can be found in all parts of the city. Cash withdrawals may be made using your credit/debit card. The logos of accepted cards are shown beside the machine. Most internationally recognised bank credit cards are accepted and widely used in all hotels, restaurants, and shopping malls where such methods of payment are indicated.

Electricity

In Sofia, the power sockets have a standard voltage of 230V with a frequency of 50Hz.

Country Code and important telephone Nnumbers

- **Country Code:** +359
- **Emergency Services:**
 - 112 or 166 Police
 - 112 or 160 Fire department
 - 112 or 150 Medical emergency

Climate

In October, Sofia generally has moderate temperatures and moderate rainfall. Throughout the daytime, temperatures often hover around 17°C. However, as the sun sets and evening approaches, there's a noticeable cool-down, with temperatures gently dropping to a more temperate 6°C. In Sofia in October, there's a 22% chance of rain on an average day. And on the average day it rains or snows, we get 0.42 in (10.7 mm) of precipitation. In more common terms of how much that is, some would describe it as light rain.

Insurance

The Conference Organising Committee, or its agents, will not be responsible for any medical expenses, loss, damages, or accidents during the Event. We would in particular draw your attention to the cancellation policy in respect of registration fees and accommodation. If, for whatever reason, the Conference has to be cancelled or postponed, the Organising Committee, and/or its agents, will be responsible only for the refund of monies received. We recommend that delegates insure themselves for medical and cancellation charges.