



International Federation Libraries Association
Latin America and the Caribbean Section

IFLA LAC WLIC 2017 Satellite Meeting

Libraries & The 2030 UN Agenda: Prospective Information & the Forthcoming Society
15-16 August 2017 West University of Timisoara, Timisoara, Romania

Timișoara. Local informations

Venue

IFLA-LAC 2017 Satellite meeting will take place at the West University of Timișoara.
Address: Blvd. V. Parvan 4, Timisoara 300223 (www.uvt.ro)

Airport

Timisoara Traian Vuia Airport (TSR: RO), is an international airport serving Timișoara, Romania. Located in the historical region of Banat, the airport is named in honour of Traian Vuia, a Romanian flight pioneer and a Timiș County native. It is the third busiest Romanian airport in terms of air traffic. The airport serves as an operating base for Wizz Air and Ryanair. Timisoara Airport connects the city with major European transfer hubs (Barcelona, Berlin, Frankfurt, London, Munich, Paris, Roma) and with many other places in Europe.

For more information please visit: www.aerotim.ro

Airport Transfer

A bus service is available from the airport to the center of town (Route Express No. 4), as well as from the train station to the center of town (Route Express No. 3). You can also take a taxi either from the railway station, or from the airport, to the center of Timisoara.

By Bus

Bus **No. E 4** goes to/from Bastionul Maria Theresia –Traian Vuia Airport/Bus Station and Bus **No E 4B** goes to/from Northern Railway Station – Traian Vuia Airport. The public transportation system runs between 4:45am and 11:15pm.

See the detailed timetable: <http://www.transporturban.ro/ro/timisoara/>

By Taxi

The easiest way to get from the airport to the city center is by taxi. The distance from the airport to the city center is approximately 21 km and takes about 20–30 minutes (depending on the traffic).

Approximate charges: Airport – City Centre – 25 RON, Airport – Main Railway Station – 30 RON. It is advised to always ask the driver in advance about the price.

* Day rate. Prices may slightly vary depending on traffic difficulties (jams, detours, in or outside the city etc.). Night rate according to taximeter.

Taxi numbers for Timisoara:

Tudo Taxi: +40 767 602 206 ; +40 256 945

Euro Taxi +40 256 941

City Taxi +40 256 949

Dacia Taxi +40 256 944

Radio Taxi +40 256 940

Available also apps for downloading: Tudo Taxi, Euro Taxi, Index Taxi etc.

Public transportation in Timisoara

Several bus (*autobuz*), tram (*tramvai*) and trolleybus (*troilebuz*) routes connect Timisoara's main areas and tourist attractions.

The public transportation system runs between 4:45am and 11:15pm. Tickets must be purchased beforehand and validated in the ticket-stamping machine upon boarding. Tickets are interchangeable for all three forms of transport with the exception of express buses.

Car Rental

It is possible to rent a car at the airport. Car rental desks are in the arrival hall, free access area. The companies are: Sixt, Avis, Eurocars.

Banks and Exchange Office

You may change your money in various locations throughout the city. You can also find the exchange office at the airport, in the arrival hall. Most of the banks and hotels usually provide exchange services, but there are a lot of exchange offices in the city center, and it is hard to miss them. Banks and exchange offices are usually open from 08:00 to at least 17:00. Please remember that an ATM is also a good solution to get some Romanian Lei (RON).

Climate

Timisoara has the average temperature in August around 25-30 degrees Celsius, usually with sunny daytime, but nevertheless some rainy days may be expected. August is the middle of the Romanian summer, so some hot days may be expected as well.

Culture and Entertainment

Timisoara is a powerful national and cultural center, ensuring its inhabitants and visitors a cultural offer extremely valuable and diverse. The inhabitants of Timisoara perceive culture as a facet of the social reality, necessary in order to regenerate the spiritual energies of the community, and in the same time, as a factor that changes the urban area into an open intellectual one, with a proclivity to the world.

Culture has an unmistakable and attractive character to the tourists as well as to the natives, who seek for that peculiarity within the cultural manifestations that could transform their visit into a memorable experience. The idea of Open Art City is more and more promoted in Timisoara, as besides the already consecrated events throughout the year, art is also taken to unconventional areas and to the streets, giving a new meaning to these events.

The main institutions and cultural associations that define the cultural life in **Timisoara**, are:

The National Romanian Opera, founded in 1946, shapes a classical lyric repertoire, addressed to an initiated audience. On the tours made abroad, the Opera became the representative prolocutor of Timisoara's culture.

Address: 2, Mărășești St. www.ort.ro

Ticket agency: Tel: 0256 / 201.286

Opening hours: Tuesday — Sunday, 10:00—13:00, 17:00—19:00

The Philharmonic “Banatul”, founded in 1947, a prestigious cultural institution, a carrier of local musical tradition, becomes a messenger of Timisoara's culture, using, in this intercession, the common language of music. Events such as: The Musical Festival of Timisoara, The International Flute Contest, The Week of Sacred Music, are several testimonies of the cultural dimension of this institute.

Address: 2, C.D. Loga Boulevard, Tel: 0256 / 492.521, www.filarmonicabanatul.ro

Ticket agency:

Opening hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:00 – 14:00

Tuesday, Thursday: 14:00 - 19:00

And one hour before every show.

The National Theatre “Mihai Eminescu” Timișoara, built in 1947, became a landmark of the local cultural life, by the rich repertoire and the notorious names that performed on this stage. This institution enjoys a high number of participants at the shows proposed, through the Romanian Dramaturgy Festival, the Theatre hence manages to approach the Romanian dramaturgy values, encouraging the Romanian and international dramaturgy creation.

Address: 2, Mărășești Str. www.tntimisoara.com

Ticket agency 2, Mărășești: Tel: 0256 / 201.117

Opening hours:

Tuesday — Sunday, 11:00—19:00

Ticket agency Sala 2 (Parcul Civic)

Opening hours:

Tuesday — Sunday, 11:00—19:00

The German State Theatre Timișoara, has been functioning as a theatre since 1953, being the carrier of the theatre tradition in the German language. Its cultural offer known locally, regionally and internationally, meets not only the cultural needs of German minorities, but also of the admirers' of German culture and civilization. The plays are translated into Romanian at headphones.

Address: 2, Mărășești St., Tel. 0256 / 201291

www.teatrulgerman.ro ; www.deutschestheater.ro

Ticket agency: 2, Alba Iulia St.

Tel: 0256 / 435743

Opening hours: Tuesday - Friday : 10:00 -15:00, 17:00 - 19:00

Saturday: 10:00 -15:00

And one hour before every show.

The Hungarian State Theatre „Csiky Gergely” Timișoara, founded in 1953, as a way to express the Hungarian minority culture. The Hungarian Theatre becomes a more and more dynamic institution, being

involved, together with The City Hall Timisoara, within ample socio-cultural activities. The plays are translated into Romanian via headphones.

Address: Str. Alba Iulia, nr. 2, www.tm-t.ro

Ticket agency: 2, Alba Iulia St.

Tel: 0356 / 450.606

Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 16:00 -19:00

And one hour before every show. e-mail: ticket@tm-t.ro

The Children and Youth's Theatre "Merlin", the former Puppet Theatre addresses to the young spectators. The theatre enjoys a numerous audience that have to be drawn to the cultural act, raised and educated in the spirit of beauty.

Address:

3, Regele Carol I Boulevard

Tel: 0256 / 493.049

www.teatrul-merlin.ro

The Association "Timisoara - European Capital of Culture"

In 2011 the Association "Timisoara - European Capital of Culture" was founded in Timisoara, in order to aim the preparation and support for the application for the title of European Capital of Culture in 2021. Members of the Association are NGOs, local government and regional cultural institutions, representatives of economic, academic and cultural. Timisoara was awarded with the title **European Capital of Culture in 2021**.

Address: 1, C.D.Loga Boulevard, www.timisoara2021.ro

The French Institute Timisoara

Address: 46, C.D. Loga Boulevard, Tel: 0256 / 490.544, www.institutfrançais-roumanie.com

The German Cultural Centre Timisoara

Address: 1, Liviu Gabor St., Tel: 0256 / 407.058, 0040-785-257521; www.kulturzentrum-temeswar.ro, www.ccgtn.ro

The Cultural Centers of France and Germany in Timisoara reveal a sign of its openness to Europe. The cultural projects that it develops, promotes on the one hand the language and the culture of the countries represented, and on the other hand supports the international cultural cooperation through the events organized (concerts, exhibitions, book releases etc)

The Intercultural Institute Timisoara

Founded in 1992, it is an autonomous institution, expression of the civil society, with a cultural, civic, scientific activity that accepts and promotes the values and the principles of the European Council. By the programs and activities, it aims development, the intercultural dimensions in the education and culture fields. It also emphasizes the promotion of tolerance and interethnic communication.

Address: 8, 16 Decembrie 1989 Boulevard, Tel/fax: 0256 498457, 0256 203942

www.intercultural.ro

The information's about cultural institutions in Timisoara are: <http://www.timisoara-info.ro/en/culture/cultural-institutions.html>

Currency

The currency of Romania: Romanian Leu (Lei, RON)

Currency subunit: Ban 1/100 (100 bani = 1 RON)

Approximate exchange rates:

1 EUR = 4.50 RON

1 USD = 4.24 RON

1 CHF = 4.24 RON

1 GBP = 5.40 RON

ATM's are available 24/7 at most banks. Your bank must be part of a worldwide ATM network (ie. BRD, Reiffeisen Bank, Alpha Bank, ING, etc.) to be able to withdraw money. The ATM fees assessed will be correlated to your respective bank policy on foreign exchange and cash advances based upon your bank card agreement. Some bank policies allow reimbursement of ATM fees, so it is best to consult your agreement for fee details.

Electricity

The voltage in Romania is 220-240 Volts. Primary socket type: Europlug, Schuko.

Emergency Numbers and Medical Information

In order to report information regarding an incident, it is necessary to:

Speak English (if possible),

Give your name and surname,

Shortly describe the situation and indicate a place of the incident.

The most important alarm telephone numbers:

112 – General Emergency Service (Ambulance Service, Police, Fire Service, the Municipal Police) – It's a free service, it can be called even if you do not have credit on your phone. Do not call without real reason, abuses are sanctioned.

Food and Drink

Timisoara is one of the most attractive cities in Romania when talking about dining. A variety of restaurants offering Romanian and European cuisine will satisfy the most demanding critics. You will easily find them in the Old Town area where majority of hotels are located. However, all other districts have got a number of restaurants from which to choose. Have a walk around the Market Square and surrounding streets and you will find something suitable for yourself at reasonable prices. Please have a look at the TripAdvisor restaurants section about Timisoara to get some tips.

Health and Medicare

Timisoara has a fine public health system with a number of hospitals located within the city. There is also plenty of pharmacies where delegates can buy medicines which do not require a prescription. Please note that visitors should have their own medical insurance in order to avoid high medical bills after visiting a hospital. Timisoara's tap water is safe to drink, however, most restaurants serve bottled water. All of the catering services, pubs and restaurants are regularly checked by local authorities in order to meet worldwide safety standards.

Insurance

The registration fee does not include the provision of insurance of participants against personal accidents, illness, cancellation, theft, property loss or damage. Participants are advised to have adequate personal travel insurance. No responsibility will be accepted by the Satellite Meeting Organizers.

Internet

Most of the restaurants, hotels and tourist centers have free Wi-Fi for their guests. In the most popular places such as the Market Square, free City Internet is available. Please remember that you might need an adaptor in order to charge your phone or laptop.

Language

The official language is Romanian. Romanian is very similar to Spanish and it may be that you would understand also Romanian. In main tourist attractions you will find you can find English and German guides. Most of the people speak English, so you should not experience too many communication problems.

Lunches and Refreshments

There are plenty of restaurants within walking distance from the venue, especially around pl. Grunwaldzki (Grunwaldzki Square) which is one of the most vibrant academic and business centers of the city, and is only 5 minutes away from the Congress Centre. Please ask our Congress volunteers for directions.

Passports, Visas and Letters of Invitation

Romania is part of the Schengen Area. The unified Schengen visa (C-type visa valid in Schengen states) entitles the holder to stay in the territory of all Schengen states. The Schengen visa with limited territorial validity (C-type visa valid only in Romania or with validity excluded for a specified Schengen state/states) only entitles the holder to stay in the territory of the state/states for which it is valid.

What documents do you need when submitting a C-type Schengen visa application?

Travel document: valid at least three months after your planned departure from Romania/Schengen territory; with at least 2 blank pages; issued within the last ten years

Completed and signed visa application form

Biometric photo

Visa fee

Health insurance of at least EUR 30,000, valid in the entire Schengen territory

Supplementary documents, confirming: the purpose of the visit, possession of accommodation; possession of sufficient funds to cover the cost of entry, stay and departure from the Schengen territory or Romania; willingness to leave Schengen territory after expiry of the visa.

The types and number of supplementary documents may differ depending on the consular office. In this connection we advise you to contact the relevant consulate to obtain full information concerning the documents needed when submitting a visa application.

The consul of which Schengen state is competent to process your Schengen visa application?

The consul of the Schengen state which is the main destination of your visit is always the consul competent to process your visa application.

If you are not planning to visit Romania at all, you cannot submit your Schengen visa application to a Romanian consular office.

If you are going to visit several Schengen states, a Romanian consul will be competent to process your application only if Romania is the main destination of your entry into Schengen territory or if Romania is the state in which you intend to spend most of your time.

If you intend to stay in the territory of Romania and/or any other Schengen states (during one or more visits) for a total of up to 90 days within a half-year period calculated from the date of first entry, or if you plan to pass through Schengen territory (by train, car or plane), you need to apply for a Schengen C-type visa.

For more information visit our MEN's website: <https://www.mae.ro/en/node/2035/>

Shopping and Opening Hours

The opening hours of Timisoara stores are generally 09:00 – 20:00 on weekdays and 09:00 -15:00 on Saturday. The big shopping centers are open from 09:00 – 21:00 from Monday to Saturday and from 09:00 – 20:00 on Sunday.

Simultaneous Interpretation

Simultaneous interpretation services will be available in the languages: English, Spanish. This service will be available for the Opening Ceremony and the Closing Session and other selected sessions.

Taxis

There are plenty of taxi companies within the city, so you will have a variety to choose from. You can't catch a taxi from the street, so it is better to go to a taxi stop or order one by the telephone or application. (tudo, index, fan, etc.)

Euro Taxi +40 256 941

Tudo Taxi +40 256 945

City Taxi +40 256 949

Dacia Taxi +40 256 944

Radio Taxi +40 256 940

Available also apps for downloading: Tudo Taxi, Euro Taxi, Index Taxi etc.

Telephone and Postal Service

The country code for Romania is 0040 or just +40 and then the number. You can choose from a variety of phone cards which will allow you to make international phone calls at a reasonable rate. It is possible to buy a pre-paid sim card in almost every kiosk or a petrol station (sometimes you might need a valid ID or passport to do that). Please note that the GSM frequency in Romania and Europe is 900/1800. Most of the post offices operate daily from 8:00 to 16:00 (Monday to Friday) and are closed at the weekends. The Postal Office no. 1 – the main post office is located on the Bd. Revolutiei, no. 2, so it will be easy for you to find it. The main postal services provider is Posta Romana.

Tipping

Tipping is not mandatory in Romania so the service fee is barely ever part of the bill. However, it is impolite not to give any tip if you have been satisfied with the service. The usual tipping rate is 10% of the bill in restaurants and bars. As to the hotels – it is a matter of your choice.

Tourist Information Office

Tourist Information Centre Timișoara

Timișoara, 2, Alba Iulia Street, Phone: 0040 - (0)256 – 437973,

E-mail: infoturism@primariatm.ro

Summer schedule (May-September):

Monday-Friday 9-19

Saturday 10-16

Winter schedule (October-April): Monday-Friday 9-18 Saturday 10-15

Transportation

Timisoara offers various means of public transportation. The city is well-connected by buses, trams and trains. There is no need to travel around the city using taxis, since the public transport is fast and reliable.

On business days, day buses and trams usually go between 05:00 – 23:00, and on free days between 06:00 – 22:00.

You can download from Google Play: Public Transport-Timisoara app.

Exemplary prices of tickets binding in public transport in Timisoara:

One-way

- Trolleybus, Tram, Buss - Normal lines: 2,50 RON
- Express Buss : 3,50 RON

Animal transport is verboten.

To plan your transport, please visit: www.ratt.ro