

General Information

# 15th IATSO Conference



August 28<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> 2018  
in Vilnius

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## 1) Arriving in Vilnius

You will arrive at **Vilnius International Airport – VNO** (in Lithuania: Vilniaus oro uostas)

### How to get to the conference venue (Crowne Plaza Vilnius)

#### Option A) Taxi

The most convenient way to get to the conference venue is by taking a taxi. The trip takes around 15 minutes and costs approximately 8 EUR. You will typically have to wait between five to thirty minutes for a taxi pick-up.

You can book a taxi online or use drive services (**Uber, Taxify, Etaksi**) by downloading their Apps on your mobile phones. To do so, you may want to use the following links:

<https://taxify.eu/>

<https://www.etaksi.lt/en/book-taxi-online>

<https://www.uber.com/en-LT/#>

Alternatively, you can also call to order a taxi by using one of the following phone numbers:

+370 5 275 7272

+370 5 273 7373

+370 5 200 0820

+370 5 255 5555

It is highly recommended to order a taxi either online or by calling, as other taxi drivers are likely to work for themselves and can be very expensive.

#### Option B) Bus

The alternative option would be to go by bus.

In case you need to get from the airport directly to the conference venue (e.g. when you have booked a room at the Crowne Plaza hotel), use the following description:

- Leave the airport building and head towards the bus stop on your right side (around 20 meters away).

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- Take bus number 3G (Fabijoniškės-Centre-Airport) which departs approximately every 10 minutes.
- Get off at bus stop “Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis”. The ride takes around 15 minutes (Plan your trip: <http://stops.lt/vilnius/#plan/en>).
- The Crowne Plaza is around 12 minutes away from the bus stop (Map 1). Head south on V. Kudirkos street towards Čiurlionio street.
- Turn right onto Čiurlionio street. If you walk straight ahead for approximately 1 km, the hotel will be on your left side.



Map1: Way from the bus stop to the hotel

The best way to plan your route using public transportation is by using *Trafi* (real time route planner). You can even purchase and validate different types of e-tickets (30 minutes, 60 minutes, 1 day, 5 days) using this app. Follow this link to download and install it on your device: <https://www.trafi.com>

If you do not want to use the app, you can purchase a ticket directly from the bus driver. A single ticket (when purchased on the bus) costs EUR 1. Don't forget to validate it!

If you click on this link, you will find more information on public transportation in Vilnius: <http://www.vilniustransport.lt/en/>

## 2) Conference Venue



Name of the hotel:  
**Crowne Plaza Vilnius**

Address:  
**M. K. Čiurlionio g. 84  
Vilnius 03100  
Lithuania**

Link:  
[www.cpvilnius.com/](http://www.cpvilnius.com/)

Picture 1: One of the conference rooms

The conference is at the **Crowne Plaza Vilnius**. In case this is also the hotel you are staying at, this is just perfect: You can drink another cup of coffee (or more) and relax at breakfast as you do not need to hurry to a conference venue that is miles away from where you are.

Please take a look at the program to check the time of the presentations you would like to listen to.

### 3) Welcome Reception



Picture 2: Vilnius University

Name:  
Vilnius University

Address:  
Grand Courtyard/The Church of  
St. Johns  
Old Campus of Vilnius University  
Šv. Jono str. 12, Vilnius

Date: Wednesday, August 29<sup>th</sup>

Time: 6pm

On Wednesday, there will be a Welcome Reception at Vilnius University. Please note that **you can only enter the site with invitation cards**. Otherwise you may be asked to pay for the entrance tickets!

It is our pleasure to give you the opportunity to listen to the music of the Great Organ, played by dr. Vidas Pinkevičius, who is an organist, improviser, pedagogue, composer and the creator of the blog “Secrets of Organ Playing” (more information can be found at: [www.organduo.lt](http://www.organduo.lt)).

After the music, you are invited to join for a glass of wine in the Grand Courtyard of Vilnius University.

#### **How to get there:**

##### **Option A) Walking**

The Old Campus of Vilnius University is located in the Old Town, where traffic is limited. Therefore, the best way to get there is to walk – it will take you approximately 30 minutes from the Conference venue/hotel. Our volunteers will be escorting participants to the venue of the Welcome Reception but feel free to get there on your own if you wish (in case you use Google Maps, enter the address **Universiteto str. 3**).

Just in case: This is the description of the way (also see **Map 2**):

- 1) Leave the hotel and keep right to **Ciurlionio street**. Walk straight on until you

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see a big crossroad with traffic lights on your right

- 2) Cross the street and get to **Jono Basanavičiaus street**, which will lead you down the hill to **Traku street**.
- 3) Walk straight on until you reach the crossroad of **Dominikonų street** and **Universiteto street**.
- 4) Turn left and walk 300 meters until you see the Library Courtyard of Vilnius University on your right. Please note that the building on your left is the Presidential Palace with Daukanto square in front of it.



Map 2: Way from the hotel to Vilnius University

- 5) When you are at the university, walk through the arch-shaped gates on the left corner of the building. Turn right, walk up the stairs and you will get to the Grand Courtyard where the Church of St. Johns is on your left. Please look at Picture 3 and 4 to check where the entrance is.

### Option B) Taxi

A taxi from the hotel to the Welcome Reception will take you around 15 minutes and cost up to 5 EUR. Tell the driver to drop you off at **Universiteto street 3**. Please see section 1 (Arriving in Vilnius) for the phone numbers of various taxi or other drive services!



Picture 3 & 4: Entrance





#### 4) Conference Dinner



Name:  
Entertainment and Leisure centre  
“Belmontas”

Address:  
Grand Hall,  
Belmonto street 17, Vilnius

Link: <http://www.belmontas.lt>

Date: Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup>

Time: at 7pm.

Grand Hall of “Belmontas” is about 10 km away from the hotel/conference venue. It is located in the Pavilniai Regional Park.

There will be a shuttle service from the hotel/conference venue to the restaurant at around 6:00pm. The first shuttle back will leave the restaurant at 10:30pm, the last shuttle at 11:45pm. There will be one additional stop at Vilnius Cathedral.



Picture 5 & 6: Restaurant Belmontas

**If you would like to use the shuttle service, please register as soon as possible to reserve a seat!!!** You can register at the conference registration desk, or online at the IATSO webpage (Conferences - Vilnius2018 - Registration Vilnius 2018)

Alternatively, you can also use a taxi or other drive services (such as Uber, Taxify, Etaksi). Taxis cost up to 10 EUR and will bring you to the venue in around 20 to 30 minutes. Please see section 1 (Arriving in Vilnius) for the phone numbers of various taxi or other drive services!

Using public transportation to get to the venue is complicated and will take you around two hours. Therefore, it is not recommended!

## 5) Leisure Activities - Vilnius (Places to Visit)

Vilnius offers plenty of places worth visiting. Here are some **examples**<sup>1,2</sup>:

- **Three Crosses:** a monument set atop the Bleak Hill (Picture 13) from where you get the best panorama in the city (particularly at sunset)
- **Užupis:** It means “the other side of the river” and is a neighborhood physically and politically set apart from the rest of Vilnius. It declared itself an independent republic in 1997 and has its own flag, anthem and president. It’s a bohemian district with riverside pubs and cafes as well as alternative artists’ workshops (Picture14).
- **Presidential Palace:** In the warmer months, the beautiful gardens at the palace are open to



Picture 7: Three Crosses



Picture 8: Užupis

the public. However, the palace itself is also worth visiting. Its history dates back to 1387. Tours of the palace are free, but only take place on Fridays at 4.30pm and Saturdays from 9am-2.30pm.

- **Check out the museums:** There are various museums in Vilnius. One of them is the **Museum of Occupations and Freedom Fights**, which is housed in the former headquarters of the communist-era KGB and details the crimes of the previous regime. Alternatively, you may also want to visit **Titanikas** at the Vilnius Academy of Art, a free exhibition of contemporary art.

<sup>1</sup> For more information please also visit <https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/48-hours-in/vilnius-lithuania-best-restaurants-hotels-bars-things-to-do-city-guide-a8444581.html>

<sup>2</sup> For more information please also visit <https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/europe/vilnius-things-to-do-see-best-lithuania-fun-night-dumplings-craft-beer-street-art-a8258996.html>

- **Cathedral Basilica of St. Stanislaus and St. Ladislaus of Vilnius (Vilnius Cathedral):** The cathedral is an architectural highlight with historic frescos and elegant facades.



Picture 9: Vilnius Cathedral

### Other Must-Do's in Vilnius<sup>3,4</sup>:

- **Try traditional dishes (& drinks):**
  - **Cepelani:** filling, zeppelin-shaped dumpling of grated potato, stuffed with mince or curd, slathered in sour cream and served on huge plates
  - **Kibinai:** traditional pastries typically filled with mutton and onion
  - The stallholders in **Hales Market** (opened in 1906) also sell all kinds of food (and lots of other stuff) you could possibly wish for.
  - **Craft Beer:** Vilnius has a proud farmhouse brewing tradition. Popular brewpubs include Alaus Namai, home of Širvenos ale – brewed using peas – and Šnekutis, known for its cloudy amber Jovaru Alus. Many pubs also serve surprisingly tasty non-alcoholic wheat beers and stouts brewed by Švyturys.



Picture 10: Cepelani



Picture 11: Kibinai

<sup>3</sup> For more information please also visit <https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/48-hours-in/vilnius-lithuania-best-restaurants-hotels-bars-things-to-do-city-guide-a8444581.html>

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- **See the city's street art** all across Vilnius
- **Make a wish:** In August 1989, two million people formed a human chain stretching 420 miles from Tallinn to Vilnius, in protest of Soviet occupation. Lithuania was independent within seven months. To commemorate this event, a stone tile marked *stebuklas* (miracle) was laid in Vilnius' main Cathedral Square. Today, it's a lucky charm, so stand on the tile, spin clockwise and make a wish.

We look forward to seeing you  
in  
Vilnius!