



GENERAL INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Athens, 23 June 2022

Dear Delegates,

We are delighted to welcome you to Athens for the **8th Balkan Botanical Congress 2022!**
Below, you will find some practical information that will facilitate your stay in Athens.

ABOUT THE CONGRESS

Congress Dates

04 – 08 July 2022

Congress Venue

National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, **The Great Hall – Main Building “Propylaia”**

A: 30 Panepistimiou st. Athens, 10679

T.: + 30 210 72 77 000

Secretariat & Information Desk during the Congress Venue

Monday July 4, 2022: 13:00 - 17:30

Tuesday July 5, 2022: 08:30 - 18:00

Thursday July 7, 2022: 09:00 - 18:00

Friday July 8, 2022: 09:30 - 13:00

Social Events

Welcome Reception --- Tuesday 5 July 2022, 19:00 – 20:00

Venue: Congress venue – Main Hall

Invitation *is included in registration fee*

Congress Dinner --- Thursday 7 July 2022, 20:00 – 23:00

Venue: Musical Tavern “Pame Psirri” – [view on map](#)

Invitation is at 30€ p.p. (can be purchased during registration) and includes a full menu and drinks.

Congress Full-Day Excursion to Parnassos & Delphi ---

Wednesday 6 July 2022, 08:30 – 19:30

Participation fee: 85€ p.p. (*can be purchased till Tuesday 28/06 via the online registration form*)

Includes: transfers, guide, museum ticket, lunch in tavern, coffee or refreshments, and snack.

Congress Half-Day Excursion to the Julia & Alexander N. Diomedes Botanic Garden ---

Wednesday 6 July 2022, 08:30 – 13:30

Participation fee: 15€ p.p. (*can be purchased till Tuesday 28/06 via the online registration form*)

Includes: transfer, Garden visit, and refreshments

Wi-Fi Access

Detailed information will be provided at the Venue.

Information – Congress Secretariat

For any further information onsite please contact:

ARTION Conferences & Events



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How to get to the Congress Venue

The Great Hall – Main building “Propilaia is centrally located, close to Syntagma square. The airport is Athens International Airport “Eleftherios Venizelos” (ATH).

From the Airport

➤ **By METRO**

From the Airport Arrivals follow the signs towards the Blue Metro Line (Line M3). The **Metro Line 3** *[(Blue Line): Nikaia – Airport]* stops at the railway station adjacent to the terminal. You can get there by an elevated walkway when exiting Athens Airport. You will board the Metro from the Airport’s Station and get off at Syntagma Station. The trip is about 40 minutes with a 30 minutes’ frequency. Please bear in mind that the first metro from Athens Airport is at 06:30 and the last one is at 23:30. At Syntagma Station you may either walk to Titania Hotel (1.1 km) or switch lines in the direction of Aghios Antonios (Red Line 2) and get off at “Panepistimiou Station” (Exit National Library). From Panepistimiou Station walk along Venizelou/Panepistimiou Street to Titania Hotel, which will be in your right hand. It is a 2-minute walking distance (100m away). The metro ticket costs 10.00€.

➤ **By BUS (Bus No X95)**

When exiting Athens Airport, you will find the buses stops, outside the Arrivals between Exits 4 and 5. You may issue the bus ticket from the info/ticket kiosk or onboard (ask operator) at no extra cost. There are only one-way tickets and cost 6.00€. You will enter bus X95 to Syntagma (Athens City Center) which departs from Athens Airport every 15-20 minutes. The travel duration is approximately 40 - 50 minutes, it depends on the traffic. You will get off at the final Station, the “Syntagma square station”. From Syntagma square station the hotel is 1100m, waking along Venizelou/Panepistimiou Avenue. The duration of the walking route is 12 – 14 minutes.

➤ **By TAXI**

When exiting Athens Airport, you will find taxis waiting between Exit 2 and Exit 3 at the designated Taxi waiting area, at the arrival area. You should get in the queue and when your turn comes, the policeman in charge will signal you to get into the next available taxi. The fare from Athens airport to Athens city center is fixed:

- Day time (05:00-24:00) Athens Airport to City Center inner ring: 35 - 40 €
- Night-time (24:00-05:00) Athens Airport to City Center inner ring: 45 - 55 €

Important Note: Ask for a Taxi-Receipt

According to the Greek Legislation, taxi drivers should provide, upon request, a receipt for the amount paid for transportation services. The receipt should also indicate the taxi’s registration number and the driver’s full name.

COVID-19 Updates

Important information about your travel plans from/to the Athens International Airport can be found here: <https://www.aia.gr/traveler/travellers-info/faq-for-covid19>.

Further advice for travellers is available here: <https://eody.gov.gr/en/>.
Specifically for travellers visiting Athens, useful additional information can be found here: <https://www.thisisathens.org/whats-new/coronavirus-update>.

Moving Around in Athens

Bus, Tram & Metro Tickets, city transportation

The **Ath.ena Ticket** is a paper ticket that can be used for anything from a 90-minute ticket to a 5-day ticket and is rechargeable. You can buy it at any metro station or ticket office as well as in the automatic ticket machines.

A 90-minute single ticket costs 1,20€. You can use and re-use without any limit on all city transport (except for the airport express buses and metro destinations towards the airport after the Doukissis Plakentias metro station) **for 90 minutes after its first validation**.

Yet the daily ticket (4,10€) will let you use and re-use all trolleybuses, trams, and metro lines 1, 2, and 3 (to Koropi Station), the Suburban Railway (TRAINOSE) (route part including Magoula – Piraeus – Koropi), for X80 bus line (not the airport express buses nor the metro), **for 24 hours after its first validation**.

You can also buy a **3-day Tourist Ticket for 20,00€** valid for all Athens Urban Transport Organization (OASA) means: buses, trolley-buses, trams and metro lines 1, 2 and 3 (to Koropi Station) networks and for the Suburban Railway (TRAINOSE) (route part including Magoula – Piraeus – Koropi). It also includes a 2-way travel from and to the Athens International Airport by the Metro or the respective EXPRESS bus lines. **It is valid for 3 x 24 hours from its first validation**.

A 5-day ticket is also available for 8,20€. The airport express bus tickets cost 5,50€ each. The metro airport tickets cost 9,00€.

The Program at a Glance

Please find below the brief Congress Program:

Monday 4 July 2022

14.30–15.40: Opening Session

15.30–16.15: Invited Lecture

16.30–17.00: Coffee Break

17.00–17.40: Congress Session

Tuesday 5 July 2022

09.30–10.05: Invited Lecture

10.05–11.25: Congress Session

11.25–12.00: Coffee Break

12.00–13.05: Congress Session

13.05–14.30: Light Lunch

14.30–18.00: Poster Presentations

16.00–16.30: Coffee Break

Wednesday 6 July 2022

08:30 – 13:30: Half-Day Excursion to Botanic Garden (*optional*)

08:30 – 19:30: Full-Day Excursion to Parnassos & Delphi (*optional*)

Thursday 7 July 2022

09.30–10.05: Invited Lecture

10.05–11.05: Congress Session

11.05–11.45: Coffee Break

11.45–12.25: Congress Session

12.30–14.00: Light Lunch

14.00–18.00: Poster Presentations

16.00–16.30: Coffee Break

20.00–23.00: Congress Dinner

Friday 8 July 2022

10.00–11.20: Congress Session

11.20–11.50: Coffee Break

11.50–12.50: Congress Session

13.00–13.30: Awards & Closing Ceremony

Accommodation at the Titania Hotel

➤ LOCATION

Titania Hotel is a charismatic 4-star hotel with classic style and a feel-good atmosphere. It has a unique setting for business or leisure, is situated in the heart of Athens, in between Syntagma & Omonia squares and located only 400 meters from the Congress Venue! It is located right in the heart of Athens, between Syntagma and Omonia squares!

It is 25 minutes driving from Athens International Airport "Eleftherios Venizelos" and Piraeus port. Important monuments, ancient sites such as the Acropolis Hill, old town "Plaka", the New Museum of the Acropolis and fashion districts are at walking distance. Public transportation facilities are available at the doorstep. It offers amiable & cozy rooms with city or In-House.

➤ **AMENITIES**

Ultra-high-speed Wi Fi is offered complimentary throughout the hotel as well as 24-hour room service. It also features a fitness center.

➤ **TAXES**

As from 01.01.2018 a new accommodation tax of 4€ per room per night applies and according to the law must be paid directly at the hotel upon checking out.

➤ **CHECK-IN POLICY**

Check-in time: 15:00

Check-out time: 11:00

➤ **PARKING STATION**

Titania Hotel has an underground parking facility (space up to 250 cars) at preferred prices for hotel guests for 24hours. Further information at the Hotel Reception upon your arrival.

Banks and Currency

Regular banking hours in Greece are 08:00 a.m. to 02:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except on public holidays. You can find ATMs all around the city that can disperse cash from your accounts at home, but they will charge you €2-3 per transaction.

Foreign currency can be exchanged at most Greek and foreign banks and at exchange bureaus located at [Athens International Airport](#), [Piraeus port](#), and around the city centre. You will need your passport to exchange money. Travelers checks and credit cards are also widely accepted.

Most major credit cards are accepted, but visitors are always advised to check with the vendor before a purchase is made. The most commonly accepted cards are Visa, MasterCard, an American Express.

Weather in July & Clothing Recommendations

July is one of the most spectacular times to visit Athens. The climate is the typical Mediterranean, hot and dry, the skies are blue, the water is warm, and the city is crowded. The weather in July is bright and sunny. This month is actually the hottest month of the year. Daily temperatures range from 23 – 33°C.

What to bring: to pack for the weather in the summer, you need to be sure to bring items to protect yourself from the sun and heat.

- Sunglasses, a hat, or cap, and plenty of sunscreen are essential.
- Bring a small water bottle you can carry around to keep hydrated.
- Pack light, breathable clothing that is comfortable in the hot summer heat.
- Bring sandals or shoes that are comfortable for walking. Some parts of Athens can be quite steep, and since many of the sidewalks are marble, and sometimes uneven. Make sure you don't slip.

Time difference in Athens, Greece

Poland -1

France/Austria/Italy/Spain/Switzerland -1

United Kingdom -2

United States / Canada -7 (depends on the State)

China / South Korea +6

Power supply

In Greece, the power plugs and sockets are of type C. The Frequency is 50 Hz and the Standard Voltage is 230V.

Shopping in Athens

Most street shops in Athens open at 9 o'clock in the morning, and often close at around 21.00 o'clock in the evening. Supermarkets are open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Monday- Friday) and 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Saturday). Retail establishments are closed on Sundays although exceptions exist, primarily in tourist areas. Online Shopping guides:

<https://thetravelporter.com/blog/2016/8/12/shopping-therapy-explore-the-best-shopping-spots-in-athens>

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g189400-Activities-c26-Athens_Attica.html

<https://www.athensguide.com/shopping/>

<https://www.discovergreece.com/en/mainland/attica/athens/shopping-in-athens>

Pickpocketing and advices about it

Pickpocketing is an elusive crime that can take place wherever in the world tourists flock.

- Don't carry more than you can afford to lose.
- Prefer a mix of cash, credit card and debit.
- Write down your passport number and credit card details / visa numbers and keep the copies / notes on you.
- Register your trip with authorities where you live and have a photocopy of your passport.
- Secure your wallet: Don't put it in the back pocket of the pants.
- Secure your handbag: Don't hang it in the back side of the chair in restaurants.

Further information and tips: <https://www.tripadvisor.com/Travel-g189400-c178697/Athens:Greece:Pickpocketing.And.Advice.About.It.html>

Useful Internet Sites

Balkan Botanical Congress 2022

<https://bbc2022.org/>

Professional Congress Organizer

<http://www.artion.com.gr>

Athens

Visitors Guide: <https://www.thisisathens.org/>

Pharmacies, ferries, hospitals, listings: <https://www.vrisko.gr/>

Athens public transport: <http://www.oasa.gr/>

Taxis: [Beat](#), Uber

Athens International Airport: <https://www.aia.gr/traveler/>

Luggage storage: <https://www.thisisathens.org/useful-tips/luggage-storage>

Emergency Phones

Below there is a list of Athens phone numbers:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| ➤ Tourist Police: 171 | ➤ Pharmacies: 107 |
| ➤ Emergency: 112 | ➤ Hospitals: 106 |
| ➤ Ambulance: 166 | ➤ Weather service: 148 |
| ➤ Fire Department: 199 | ➤ International Phone Assistance: 139 |
| ➤ Police: 100 | ➤ General Telephone Information: 11888 |

Tourist Police Department of Athens

Police for Tourists in Athens

4 Dragatsaniou Str,

Athens, 10559

Greece

T. +30 2103222230

Health, Hospitals, and Ambulances

Please find below some information about the hospitals around Athens:

Evangelismos Hospital	tel. +30-210-720-1000
Alexandras Hospital	tel. +30-210-338-1100
Ippokratio Hospital	tel. +30-210-748-3770
KAT Hospital	tel. +30-210-628-0000
Laiko Hospital	tel. +30-210-745-6000
Areteon Hospital	tel. +30-210-728-6000
Eginitio Hospital	tel. +30-210-728-9500
Geniko Kratiko Hospital	tel. +30-210-770-1211
Thrasio General Hospital	tel. +30-210-553-4200
Sismanoglio General Hospital	tel. +30-210-803-9001
Sotiria Hospital	tel. +30-210-777-8611

Where to eat in Athens

For ideas on where to dine, while you're in Athens, you can click [here](#).

We hope that you will have a pleasant stay in Athens and an interesting and fruitful Congress.

We remain at your disposal.

We look forward to welcoming you to Athens!!

The **ARTION** team