



IAMS 12th Quadrennial International Conference Balatonfüred, Hungary, 16-23 August 2008

HUMAN IDENTITY AND THE GOSPEL OF RECONCILIATION AGENDA FOR MISSION STUDIES AND PRAXIS IN THE 21th CENTURY

Welcome to Hungary! Isten hozott Magyarországon!



Only one more week and we will greet you with these words: *Isten hozott Magyarországon*, which means literally: God has brought you to Hungary, or short: Welcome to Hungary.

This letter is sent by the IAMS local committee to inform the participants of the IAMS Conference in Balatonfüred about important details on conference arrival/departure, conference venue, and other important *logistical* aspects of the conference. More than 250 international participants have registered for the conference. Hungary is waiting for you!! In order to secure smooth logistics we ask you to read this information carefully.

You may even want to print some of these pages and bring them along to the conference.

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PRACTICAL INFORMATION

1. Transportation from the Airport to Hotel Füred

Most participants will arrive at Terminal 1, 2A or 2B of Ferihegy Airport (Budapest) in Hungary (http://www.bud.hu/english) on the 16th of August. The organizers provide shuttle buses (in the morning, at noon, and in the afternoon) to transport all participants to Hotel Füred, Balatonfüred. The last bus will depart to Balatonfüred at **17.00** hrs. Stewards are at all terminals to welcome you and to inform you about the shuttle buses.

Those who arrive later will be informed to stay overnight in the Ecumenical Guest House (EGH) (H- 1117 Budapest, Magyar Tudósok krt. 3. Tel.: (36-1) 371-2690 E-mail: oikumene@meot.hu) in Budapest, to join the conference the next morning on their way to the Church visits (at 9.00 am in front of the EGH). The cheapest way to get to EGH is to take the Airport Minibus.

In case you need any assistance in transportation matters do not hesitate to contact Gábor Draskóczy, our "minister of transportation". You can reach him through the conference SOS cell phone number: +36 70 3036390.

Those who arrive before the departure time of the bus will be requested to wait at the airport and look for our stewards with IAMS 2008 signs.

Late arrivals

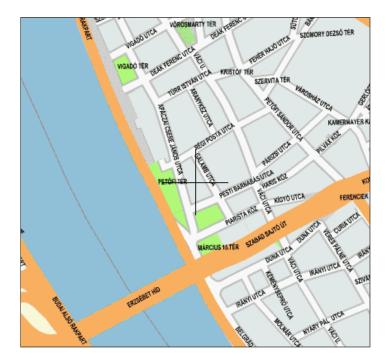
- In case you miss the transfer buses on **August 16th** and you get stuck somewhere at the Airport or at one of the train stations in Budapest please do call the SOS telephone number +36 70 30 36 390.
- For those who plan to arrive **on another day than August 16**th and would like to get to Balatonfüred by train please consult **Hungarian Train Schedules** at:

http://elvira.mav-start.hu/elvira.dll/xslms/index?language=2

- Airport Shuttle Services to Budapest and Balatonfüred at: http://www.justbookit.hu/index.php?id_lang=1&showoffer=airport_shuttle http://www.bud.hu/english/transport
- Airport Taxi to Downtown Budapest at: http://www.zonataxi.eu/en/tartalom/fooldal/
- Hotels around main train stations in Budapest at: http://www.ohb.hu/guide/railway_stations.en.html (Please arrange your own reservation.)

Early arrivals

For those who arrive to Budapest *before* the 16th of August we provide a transfer bus to Balatonfüred departing from the city center near the Pest side of Elisabeth Bridge (Erzsebet Hid) at "Március 15. tér" (bus parking place) at 11.00 a.m., 16th of August. We recommend you to arrive there on time since we might not have all confirmations from participants who are willing to travel with us. The bus will leave at 11.15 a.m. at the latest.



2. Currency and Money

The Hungarian currency is the Forint. Currency rate for US Dollar is 1 USD = 150 Forints and for Euro, 1 Euro = 235 Forints. Major credit card such as VISA and MasterCard are also widely accepted. Banks, ATM machines and Money Exchange offices are within walking distance from the Hotel, but you can exchange money also at the Airport or in Budapest.

3. Introduction to Balatonfüred



Balatonfüred is a small town with a population of 13.500. It is surrounded by gently sloping hills and is situated on the northern shore of Lake Balaton

People arriving in Balatonfüred - either by rail, by road or by water - can feel the well-balanced mixture of past and present at once. First they are attracted by the geographical conditions of the town which has been radiating good Pannonian spirits for centuries: it is surrounded by gentle mountains from the north and Lake Balaton from the south. It is an ancient settlement which was already inhabited during the reign of the Roman Empire. Visitors can come across the relics of the past at every step. Ancient residential districts, old buildings, churches, intimate vineyards, parks and old trees send their message to the people of our present time.



 $http://www.balatonfured.hu/en_index.php?fmenu=balatonfured\&amenu=koszonto.\\$

Here you can find more information on Balatonfüred.



Information on Churches of Balatonfüred: http://www.balatonfured.hu/en_index.php?fmenu=balatonfured&amenu=templ omok

4. Conference Venue details and Hotel Accommodation

The General Assembly will take place at: HOTEL FÜRED, where all participants will be staying:

Hotel Füred

H-8230 Balatonfüred, Széchenyi utca 20. Tel. +36 87 581 260 http://www.hotelfured.hu/

The conference hotel is beautifully located right at Lake Balaton, with a private access to the lake. The hotel has 172 guest rooms – most of them with lake view.



IAMS has arranged **7** nights' hotel accommodations (from 16-23 August). Participants who would like to extend their stay beyond the conference may do so at their own expense.

All other incidental expenses during the stay (additional nights, (overseas) telephone calls, telegrams and faxes, room service and mini-bar charges) will be borne by the participants.

5. General Information

Climate

The average temperature in Hungary in August ranges between daytime highs of approx. 33 Deg. Celsius (92 Fahrenheit) and evening lows of approx 26 Deg. Celsius (79 Fahrenheit). Please note that there is NO air-conditioning in the guestrooms of HOTEL FÜRED. However, occasionally there can be a brief spell of cooler weather.

Clothing

Please note that the dress code for the meeting and the opening/closing ceremony is business attire/batik. For the rest: informal clothes, appropriate for a warm climate. Don't forget to bring your swimming suit! The temperature of Lake Balaton can rise to 26 Deg. Celsius!

• Liability

The organizer and co-organizer shall not be liable for personal accidents and losses, or damage to personal property of the registered participants in the meeting. Participants should make their own arrangements with respect to personal (health and travel) insurances.

Electricity & Water

The standard electricity supply in Hungary is 220-240 Volt, 50 Hz, AC. Tap water is potable. However the hotel provides bottled water.

• E-mail/internet

There are broadband Internet facilities available at the hotel. At the ground floor a free WIFI wireless connection is available. IAMS will set up several computers with internet access. So if you plan to frequently check your email, do bring your own laptop with WIFI access.

Shops

The hotel is placed close to the centre of Balatonfüred. You will find several shops for groceries and other stuff, including souvenirs.

Telephone

Telephone charges per minute from the hotel phone are rather expensive. Local phone card or global calling cards can also be used.

Book Sale

Books can be ordered from major publishing houses like Orbis and Eerdmans at great discount. There are also books available for sale from various parts of the world. Several of you bring publications from your region. Do not miss the opportunity of this worldwide gathering to stack a few copies of your latest publications for display or sale at the Book Sale. In case of any questions do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Gabriella Nagy Maros (maros.gabriella@kre.hu, or at iams@kre.hu). Mr. Zsolt Kárpáti, Director of the CLC Bookshop in Budapest is responsible for administrative procedures of the Book Sale.

6. Registration and Information Desk

Registration will be done at the IAMS Registration Desk in Hotel Füred. Our stewards will help you upon your arrival. Please bring a copy of your passport for the registration process. The Information Desk will be open all days for additional information and questions.

7. Meals

Hotel accommodation will be provided for 7 nights, including breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Other meals sponsored by the organizers include:

- Welcome dinner on 16th of August 2008
- Lakeside dinner on 22nd of August 2008.

8. Lakeside Dinner Celebrating Cultural Diversity

At the Lakeside Dinner, on the last evening of the conference there is an opportunity to informally contribute to the cultural diversity and richness represented at the conference by way of e.g. music or dance. Please be prepared to bring your musical instrument, national dress etc.

9. Worship

There is a piano available in the hotel. We welcome volunteer musicians to contribute to the daily worship program. Please contact Ms. Enikő Hulej (iams@kre.hu).

10. Cultural Event and Religious Exposure Trips

Here in Budapest at the Local Committee Office in the Central and Eastern European Institute for Mission Studies of the Károli University, the countdown for the conference has started. Although many Hungarians are now on holiday, the local committee is working at full speed to prepare the 1001 logistical details for the conference. Central and Eastern Europe and above all Hungary is well known for its hospitality. Even in economic bad circumstances people value very much to welcome guests and offer them all the best things according their ability.

In this famous tradition the Sunday Church visits, the exposure trips and a cultural event are organized.

Sunday Church Visits

On Sunday morning all participants are invited to visit different churches in Budapest. Small groups are invited by several congregations of different denominations. After the services participants will join the congregation for lunch. It is a unique possibility to meet Hungarian people and to learn more about their life.

After many years of isolation under Communist rule local churches are very much looking forward to meeting their brothers and sisters from all over the world and to extend their hospitality to you in their families. Do not miss this opportunity!

After lunch a part of the old city of Budapest will be explored.

Tuesday -- Exposure Trips

Getting acquainted with a part of Hungary and the region by a series of exposure trips. Travelling by bus to different places in the country you will get impressions of the country.

The Hungarian Local Committee of IAMS offers you the following exposure visits:

- Gypsy Mission (in the country side)
- Jewish Diaspora (Budapest)
- Urban Mission (Budapest)
- Christianity under ideologies fascism, communism, secularism (Budapest)
- DABOH (Budapest)

We will provide more information on the exposure visits and details in the conference package and at the venue.

Thursday -- Cultural Evening

When staying on the border of the biggest lake of the region we don't withhold from you a trip on this lake. During the boat trip on Thursday evening you will hear, feel, and taste important aspects of Hungarian culture. We raise a corner of the veil: Hungarian wine will be one of the ingredients of the evening.

Wines of Balatonfüred

Of the grape varieties whites cover 90% of the plantations. Amongst them Olaszrizling (Welsh Riesling) is grown on the largest area, then comes Chardonnay, Mueller Turgau, Tramini, Pinot Gris, Sauvignon Blanc and Muscatel.

Among the red varieties the traditional ones are popular, mainly Kékoportó (Blue Portugese), Kékfrankos (Blue Francs) and Zweigelt, however, you can find Merlot and two Cabernet varieties in some areas as well.





For more information on viticulture please see:

http://www.balatonfured.hu/en_index.php?fmenu=boraszat&amenu=borvidek

11. Departure information

On Saturday 23rd August buses will be available for transportation to the airport of Budapest. The schedule will be published at the conference. Most of you have submitted departure information. Those who have not yet done so are requested to do so. In any issues with regard to your departure the Information Desk will be happy to assist you.

12. Some Hungarian: Most important words

For many of you the Hungarian may sound like "Chinese". In order to help you we list some basic words. The stewards are very willing to help you with the pronunciation!

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Hungary – Magyarország
                                           [ m p d l p r o r s a: g ]
                                                                        [ mad jarorsa:g ]
help – segítség
                                           [\int \epsilon g i: f \epsilon: g]
Good day! – Jó napot!
                                           [jo: nppot]
Bye! – Viszlát!
                                           [visla:t]
Thanks! – Köszönöm!
                                           [kœsœnœm]
Sorry! – Elnézést! / Bocsánat!
                                           [ εln ε: z ε: ∫t
                                                                /
                                                                        bot[a:npt]
Please! – Kérem!
                                           [ k &: r & m ]
How are you? – Hogy van?
                                           [hodj vpn]
                                           [ merre von ]
Where can I find? – Merre van?
How much is that? – Mennyibe kerül? [ m \epsilon \eta \eta i b \epsilon k \epsilon \iota u: l ]
doctor - orvos
                                           [ orvo[ ]
medicine – gyógyszer
                                           [dfo:dfser]
museum – múzeum
                                           [ mu:z &u m ]
                                           [utstsp]
street - utca
                                           [ t &: r ]
square – tér
shop-bolt \\
                                           [bolt]
Madame / Sir – Hölgyem / Uram
                                           [hœldıɛm / uɾɒm]
man / woman – férfi / nő
                                           [f &: rf | / nø: ]
hotel – hotel / szálloda
                                           [sp:llodp]
room – szoba
                                           [sobp]
restaurant – étterem
                                           [ E:ttEfEm ]
food / drink – étel / ital
                                           [ε:tεl / Itpl]
breakfast - reggeli
                                           [reggeli]
lunch – ebéd
                                           [ & b &: d ]
dinner – vacsora
                                           [v ptsorp]
water – víz
                                           [ v l: z ]
bread – kenyér
                                           [ kεη ε: r ]
                                           [zœltsɛ:g]
vegatable – zöldség
fruit - gyümölcs
                                           [du:mœlts]
nice – szép
                                           [ s &: p]
good – jó
                                           [ j o: ]
phone – telefon
cell-phone – mobiltelefon
computer – komputer
television – televízió
                                           [ t & l & v | : z | o: ]
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God - Isten
                                         [ i[tɛn]
Bible - Biblia
                                         [biblijp]
devotion – áhítat
                                         [ a: h i t D t ]
church (as building) – templom
                                        [templom]
church (as institution) – egyház
                                        [ istentistelet]
church service – istentisztelet
                                        [ l & l k &: s ]
pastor (protestant) – lelkész
priest (Roman Catholic/orthodox) – pap
                                        [qqq]
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13. Contact Details

Please do not hesitate to contact us at the Local Committee Office at iams@kre.hu - Phone +3612162054/101 in case you have any unanswered questions.

Mobile number for SOS calls: +36 70 3036390

IAMS LOCAL COMMITTEE:

Prof. Dr. Anne-Marie Kool, Chair, Member of IAMS Executive Committee, Director of Central and Eastern European Institute for Mission Studies of the Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church

Ms. Niké Szkárosi – Conference Director, Chief Coordinator of International Affairs Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church, Rectorate, International Department

Mr. Gábor Draskóczy - Coordinator Transportation, Mission Worker

Mr. Krisztián Fazekas – Assistant Coordinator Church Visits, Participant Database Administration, Student Assistant KRE-CIMS

Drs. László Gonda – Coordinator Exposure Visits, Assistant Professor Debrecen Reformed University

Mrs. Mineke Hardeman – Local Committee Treasurer, Organizational Development Consultant Rev. Enikő Hulej –Logistical Coordinator Plenary Sessions, Technical Equipment Coordinator and Photocopying Coordinator, Lutheran Pastor

Ms. Gabriella Maros – Coordinator Book Sale, Librarian KRE-CIMS

Ms. Margit Szirmai – Logistical Coordinator Parallel Groups