



## 19th Joint EIONET & UNECE Task Force on Emission, Inventories and Projections Meeting 25th – 27th APRIL 2018, SOFIA (BULGARIA)

### PRACTICAL INFORMATION

This guide is to help you with your travel to and accommodation in Sofia. There is also some information on the history and weather in the city. Please direct any further questions to Mrs. Tanya Vladimirova ([t.vladimirova@eea.governmentnet.bg](mailto:t.vladimirova@eea.governmentnet.bg)).

### How do I reach Sofia?



Sofia's Airport (SOF), is connected with direct daily flights with several major airports in Europe. There are Terminal 1 (where land mainly Wizz air flights) and Terminal 2 with very comfortable connections to the city center. In case you land on Terminal 1, Sofia Airport provides free-of-charge transportation between Terminal 1 and Terminal 2 at every 30 minutes between 07:00 and 19:00 local time, with no intermediate stops on the route. There is no provision of free-of-charge transportation during the remaining part of the day. The shuttle bus stops in front of both terminals are indicated with signage and marking on the road pavement.

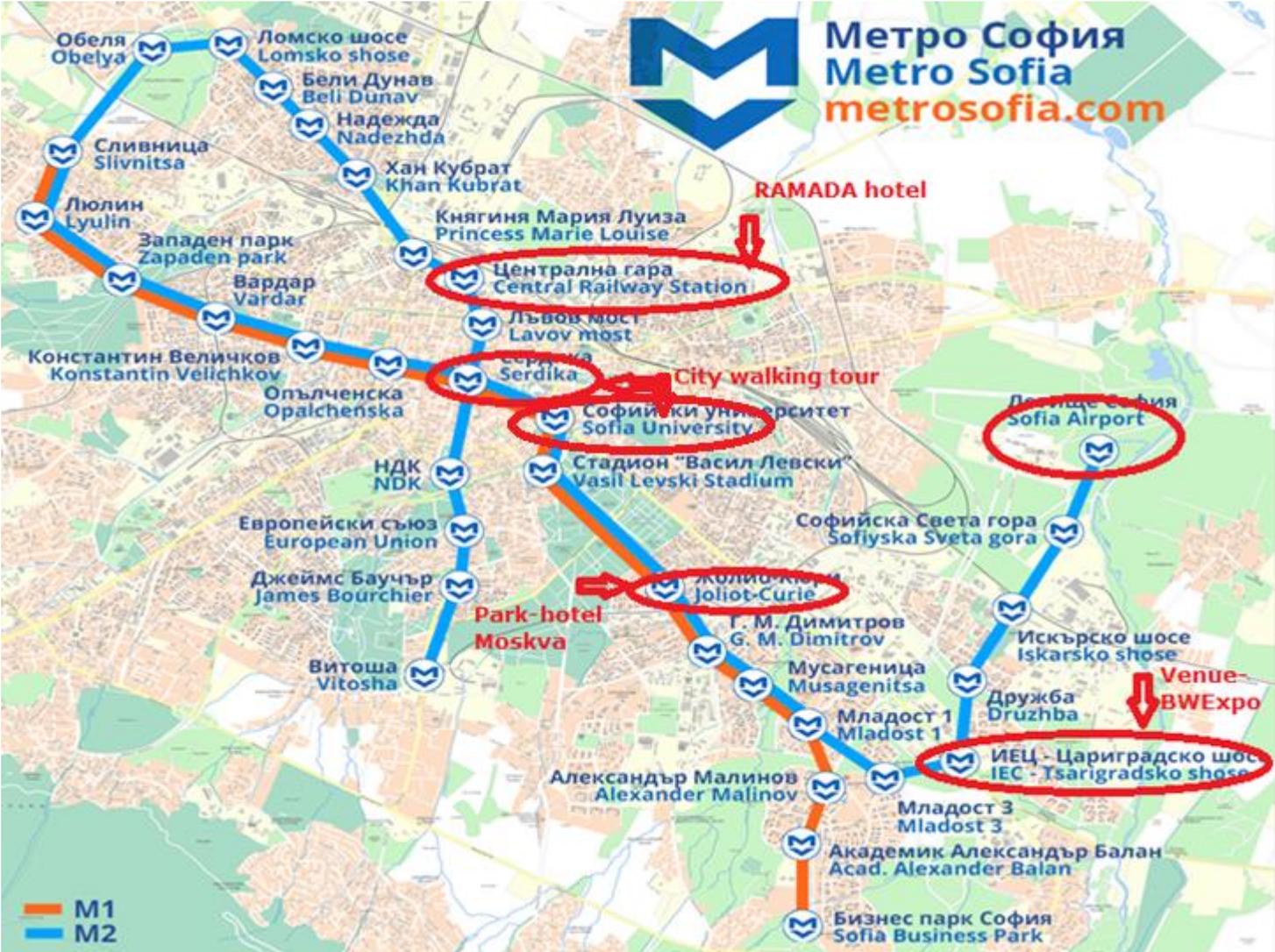


In case you land on Terminal 2, you will exit into the arrival hall and on your right is the taxi station of OK taxi's. **Please avoid taking other taxis!** On your left is the metro station. You have to buy a ticket – 1.60 leva (about 0.80 euro) from machine or from the ticket desk. Please follow the signs on the floor:



**ATM's and BUREAUX DE CHANGE at the airport:** <https://www.sofia-airport.bg/en/passengers/services/other-services>

**THE METRO MAP:**



The metro trains on the route to the airport operate from 5:30 a.m. to midnight on weekdays and weekends/holidays.

When you enter the metro station, you will be welcomed by the statue of Orpheus.



Orpheus is known as the most talented music player to live in the Classic Era. He had a divinely gifted voice, one that could charm all who heard it. No God or mortal could resist his music; even rocks and trees would move closer to hear him. Orpheus is probably the most famous Thracian, whereas the story of his love for Eurydice is a timeless tragic love story.

Next to the statue of the enchanting Orpheus, you will find ticket vending machines with menu in English. There is a ticket office to find additional information and a person selling tickets. There, you can also purchase a multi-travel electronic card for three days for all public transport or electronic multi-travel card, pre-loaded with ten rides for metro, costs 12 BGN to buy;



## What kind of tickets for public transport?

The price of a ticket is 1,60 lev. A ticket is valid for a single trip. It can be bought from the driver, from a machine inside the vehicle or from kiosks. There are different tickets for buses and for the underground - <https://www.metrosofia.com/en/tickets>

Card / Ticket	Price, BGN	Price, EUR
<b>Single ticket</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>0.82</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tickets can be bought at ticket machines at the entrances of the metro stations or at cashier's desk of Metropolitan EAD.</li> <li>• The ticket should be validated at the barriers at the entrance to the metro stations.</li> <li>• The tickets is valid to travel in the metro within 30 minutes from the issue hour.</li> </ul>		
<b>Card for 10 single trips</b>	<b>12.00</b>	<b>6.14</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The usage of the electronic card is done using the validators located at the barriers at the entrance of the metro stations.</li> <li>• At every usage of the card the number of remaining trips is decreased by one.</li> <li>• The cards are issued for temporary use (without expiration) after paying a deposit of 1 BGN (0.51 EUR) which is reimbursed if the the user decides not to use it any longer.</li> <li>• The card can be topped up at the cashier's desks of the metro.</li> <li>• When defected (except mechanical damage) the card is replaced with new one and the remaining balance is loaded to the newly issued one.</li> <li>• When the card is returned at the cashier's desk of Metropolitan EAD the sum of 1 BGN (0.51 EUR) is reimbursed by issuing a new single ticket.</li> </ul>		
<b>One day card for all Sofia public transportation lines</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>2.05</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The one-day card is valid for all the lines of the metro, trams, trolley-buses, buses of Sofia public transport.</li> <li>• The cards can be purchased from the cashier's desks of the metro or Urban Mobility Centre (the company that operates the public transportation of Sofia ).</li> <li>• The card allows unlimited number of trips within the calendar day printed on it.</li> </ul>		
<b>Three days card for all Sofia public transportation lines</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>5.11</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 3-day card is valid for all the lines of the metro, trams, trolley-buses, buses of Sofia public transport.</li> <li>• The cards can be purchased from the cashier's desks of the metro or Urban Mobility Centre (the company that operates the public transportation of Sofia ).</li> <li>• The card allows unlimited number of trips within 3 calendar days.</li> <li>• One-time fee for the electronic card - 2.00 BGN / 1.02 EUR</li> </ul>		
<b>Fine if ticket or card cannot be presented to controlling staff</b>	<b>40.00</b>	<b>20.45</b>

## Validators:



*For paper tickets  
In buses, trams, trolleys*



*For electronic cards*

Many of the vehicles are now also equipped with ticket-selling machines. They print tickets upon insertion of the correct amount of money (1,60 lev). These and one day cards you do not need to perforate, as they have the date and time of purchase printed on them!

**Time zone**

Eastern European time - GMT+2 with summer time GMT +3. There are no different time zones within the country.

**Phone country code**

For Bulgaria dial 00359 or +359

For Sofia dial 02

**Power**

Voltage: 220V

Frequency: 50Hz

Type F with two round pins

**Emergency numbers**

Number 112 is the universal European phone number for ambulance, police and fire brigade.

**Smoking**

Smoking in public places is allowed only in designated areas.

**Internet**

Many public places in Sofia offer free wireless Internet, almost every restaurant and bar provides free Wi-Fi connection.

**What will the weather be like?**

Bulgaria is situated in the temperate-continental climate zone and the weather conditions vary from season to season. A temperature range for 25-27 April would be 13-16°C. So, you can take an umbrella and check current weather conditions in Sofia at <https://www.accuweather.com/en/bg/sofia/51097/april-weather/51097>

**Where can I have lunch?**

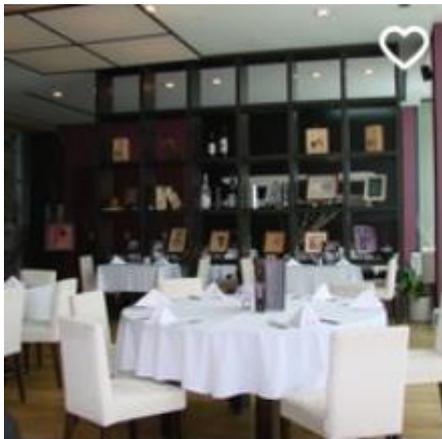
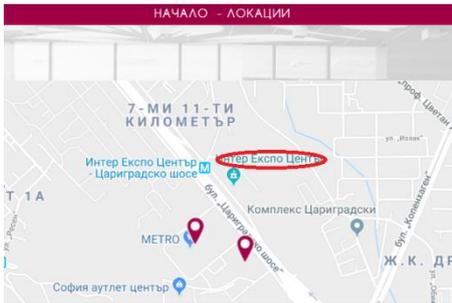
Capital fort Building: Restaurant – PURE

PURE Metro: Metro Cash & Carry, Tsarigradsko shose 7-11 km

Restaurant KRISTAL: Inter Expo Center building: Tsarigradsko shose 147

Restaurant LAURA: Inter Expo Center building: Tsarigradsko shose 147

# PURE



## ForEGO restaurant & garden

#883 of 1,081 Restaurants in Sofia Region

4 reviews

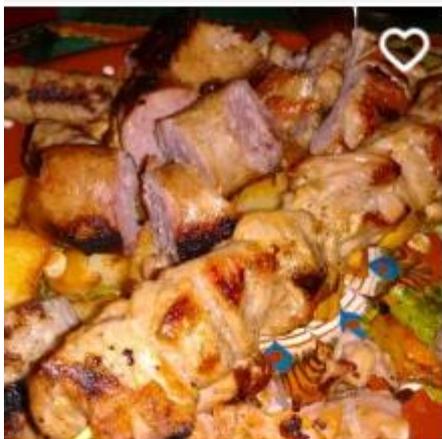
149 Tsarigradsko shosse blvd Best Western Expo Hotel

**0.2 miles** from Inter Expo Center - Tsarigradsko Shosse

"Nice Food" 02/19/2018

"Nice quiet corner" 12/09/2017

Cuisines: European



## Mehana Pri Bratovcheda

#334 of 979 Restaurants in Sofia

8 reviews

Bul. Carigradsko Chaussee 129

**0.6 miles** from Inter Expo Center - Tsarigradsko Shosse

"Excellent" 01/31/2018

"Amazing!" 01/09/2018



## Kete

#226 of 979 Restaurants in Sofia

26 reviews

The Mall, Tsarigradsko Shosse 115 Z, Floor 2

**0.6 miles** from Inter Expo Center - Tsarigradsko Shosse

"Delicious fast food type of pl..." 01/31/2018

"The Best Choice ! :)" 01/23/2018

## What to do in my evenings/spare time?

There are a lot of things to do in the City Centre.

We have organized a two hour walking sightseeing tour of the city center for all the participants. The tour is scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> April and the groups will be formed at 18:00 in the BWExpo Lobby. To the city center we will use the metro. You have to buy tickets. It is a unique opportunity to become acquainted with the authentic character of the city and to have an invaluable introduction to the long history and traditions of Sofia in an enriching and entertaining way.

In addition, we have organized a dinner for 26<sup>th</sup> April at 19:00-23:30, in the venue place restaurant where you would have the opportunity to taste Bulgarian traditional food and enjoy a folklore program.

## Sofia – our capital



The city is at the foot of Vitosha Mountain in the western part of the country. Being in the center of the Balkan peninsula, it is midway between the Black Sea and the Adriatic Sea, and closest to the Aegean Sea.

Serdica and Sredetz are older names of the city.

The Motto is "Grows, but does not age"

Population – about 1 500 000

The city has an extensive green belt. Some of the neighborhoods constructed after 2000 are densely built up and lack green spaces. There are four principal parks – Borisova gradina in the city center and the Southern, Western and Northern parks. Several smaller parks, among which the Zaimov Park, City Garden and the Doctors' Garden, are located in central Sofia. The Vitosha Nature Park (the oldest national park in the Balkans) includes most of Vitosha mountain and covers an area of 266 square kilometers (103 sq mi) with roughly half of it lying within the municipality of Sofia. Vitosha Mountain is a popular hiking destination due to its proximity and ease of access via car and public transport. Two functioning cable cars provide yearlong access from the outskirts of the city. The mountain offers favorable skiing conditions during the winter.

