



USEFUL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Dialling code for Slovakia: +421 (00421)

General Emergency: 112

Ambulance: 155

Police: 158

Fire Department: 150

Non-stop pharmacies:

Lekáreň Pokrok (address: Račianska 1/A):
+421 2 444 55 291

Univerzitná lekáreň (Ružinovská 12A):
+421 2 482 11 001

Tourist Information Centre:

Address in the city centre: Klobučnická 2

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9-17 / Sun 10-16

Tel.: +421 2 5441 9410 or +421 2 5935 6651

<https://www.visitbratislava.com/>

BTF TEAM:

Lubica Semrincova: +421 918 818 925

Sonja Zivanovic: +381 633 844 65

Zuzana Antolova: +421 903 190 071

Lucia Hazir: +421 907 629 073

Deniz Hazir: +421 915 777 931

2. LOCAL ORIENTATION

Local currency: Euro (€) – **CASH ONLY at all the festival venues.** In general, most shops and restaurants in Slovakia accept credit/debit cards, but we still recommend asking in advance.

Local Time: Time zone – CET (Central European Time) = GMT+1, summer time March-October

Languages: The official language is Slovak. The most common foreign languages are English and German; and Hungarian in the southern regions of Slovakia.

Electricity: 230 V / 50 Hz, standard socket with safety pin

Drinking water: Tap water is potable, so you can drink water from the tap. In exceptional cases, a notification or warning is a must.

Safety & Security: The situation is no different from other European countries. You should pay attention to your personal belongings, especially in places where many tourists pass by such as the Old Town, bus and train stations, shopping malls etc. We recommend using common sense.

Smoking: Smoking is **not allowed** inside any of the festival venues. In general, smoking is prohibited in all roofed public areas such as covered bus stops, closed sports fields, stations, shopping malls, cinemas, theatres etc. In restaurants, pubs, bars etc., you may smoke in areas reserved for smokers. When in doubt, simply ask the staff of the establishment.

Eating Out: Most restaurants stop serving food and close their kitchen after 22:00 (last order 21:30), even earlier than that on Sundays. We recommend asking the waiting staff about this upon your entering the restaurant. Many pubs and bars remain open until late for drinks but food might not be available anymore. It is possible to find pizza slices or baguettes later in the night.

3. ARRIVING IN BRATISLAVA FROM VIENNA AIRPORT

Buses for Bratislava depart from VIE Arrivals every hour to half an hour in peak times. The journey takes 45 minutes up to 1 hour. You can buy a single ticket for app. 10 €.

The route is serviced by 3 bus companies:

RegioJet / FlixBus / Slovak Lines (select English)

Each of the companies sells tickets online on their website as well as in their own smartphone app. They offer different prices, timetables and even different stops within the city. Most of the bus stops are directly in the old town or close, except Bratislava Airport/Letisko – that is far out.

Alternatively, you can grab the earliest available bus connection upon your arrival and buy a ticket from the driver. These airport buses are rarely completely full, but in order to avoid that, you can check the availability online on the spot (Vienna Airport has free Wi-Fi).

As a rule, the tickets are cheaper when purchased online.

Basic orientation upon your arrival at Vienna Airport:

1. TURN RIGHT after exiting through the green nothing-to-declare zone into the arrivals hall.
2. On your left, you will find a small BUS DEPARTURES PANEL on the wall next to the main exit and some fast food restaurant.
3. Check out the next connection for Bratislava – departure time, platform number, bus company – so that you know where to get the earliest bus.
4. Proceed through the main exit.
5. You will see the bus platforms in front of you on the right.

4. TRANSPORT FROM / TO VIENNA CITY

The city centre of Vienna is easily reachable by bus (1,5 hours) or train (1 hour), with hourly departures during daytime.

Both buses and trains arrive at the Vienna Central Train Station (Wien Hauptbahnhof = Hbf). However, the stops in Bratislava may vary; make sure to double check the online time schedule <https://cp.hnonline.sk/en/vlakbusmhd/spojenie/> (From: Bratislava – To: Wien).

Many of the bus lines headed for Vienna Airport (Flughafen Wien) also continue to Vienna: **RegioJet / FlixBus / Slovak Lines** (select English). See the airport transfer information above.

Local Tip: Vienna by Water

During the summer, it is also possible to make a trip to Vienna by boat on the Danube. It is a pleasant experience starting from 25 € for a single journey.

Check out the schedule and tickets here: <https://ticket.twincityliner.com/en>

5. CITY TRANSPORT

Bratislava Airport (Letisko M. R. Štefánika) is reachable by the public bus no. 61. The journey takes about 30 minutes (1,10 €), connecting the airport to Main Train Station.

Public Transport: Bratislava has an extensive public transport network, covering the whole city as well as the airport (zones 100+101). You can buy your ticket from a machine at the bus stop (paper tickets, usually paid cash) or directly on the bus (card payment), or use the **IDS BK mobile app** online. All major credit/debit cards are accepted. The basic 30-minute fare is valid on buses, trams and trolley buses, including night buses. It costs 1,10 EUR in case of a paper ticket or 0,97 EUR if purchased electronically.

Use <https://imhd.sk/ba/journey-planner> for planning your journey from one bus stop to another (provided you know the names) or you can mostly rely on Google Maps as well.

Taxis: Recently, the most common way to get a taxi is using one of the smart phone apps (iPhone, Android):

Hopintaxi is a legitimate taxi company observing all legal requirements with their taxi drivers (higher vehicle standards, psychological tests etc.), thus offering rides that are more comfortable. On the other hand, there might not be as many cars available on a Sunday morning after a busy Saturday night.

Bolt and **Uber** are international taxi apps where anyone can sign up to be a driver. Many of the drivers do not know their way around the city and rely solely on their GPS navigation. However, Bolt is quite widespread and you can usually get a car at all times of day and night. Bolt also offers **scooter rides** (green Bolt scooters) via the app.

As an alternative, it is still possible to **order a taxi by making a phone call**. They usually use short telephone numbers +421-2-16-XXX (e.g. +421216302, +421216777, +421216222, +421216300, +421216321 etc.). English Speaking Taxi Service: Taxi EURO (AA): +421216022

Attention: *We do not recommend hailing a taxi off the street. Taxis waiting at the taxi stand or hailed in the street are rather expensive because they have different price lists according to how you get a ride. Therefore, we strongly urge you to use one of the apps or phone numbers mentioned above. The usual fare from the city centre to the airport is up to 15 EUR, with a minimum fare around 5 EUR (short distances). If you need to get a taxi directly off the street, please make sure to agree with the driver on the price in advance, the driver may charge you very high fares (easily 20-50 EUR, even for short distances). If you need help getting a taxi, please feel free to visit our registration desk in the venue or ask a friend from Bratislava, they will be happy to call a taxi for you.*

6. PARKING

Paid parking: All festival venues are located in the city centre. The available parking spots fall under **Bratislava Parking Assistant: PAAS** (1 € - 2 € per hour from 08:00 till 24:00).

Alternatively, the **Eurovea Shopping Mall** nearby operates an underground garage 24/7 with the first 5 hours free during the weekend (only 3 hours on weekdays!) + 3.50 € for each extra hour.

Free parking: Normally, there are two free parking lots just a 15-minute walk from the venues. Unfortunately, these are currently unavailable after being submerged 1,5 metres under water during recent floods. We recommend using one of the **P+R parking lots all around the city** and changing to city transportation mentioned above – trams, buses, night buses or taking a taxi.



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