

A. The Conference Venue

The main building (The Rectorate) of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

15 Tsar Osvoboditel Blvd, 1504 Sofia Centre, Sofia

The halls that will accommodate the conference are comfortable and cosy – study halls of several humanities faculties located in the central building imbued with the traditional academic spirit. The opening of the conference and hybrid events will be in the University's formal Aula.

Enter the building through the main entrance.

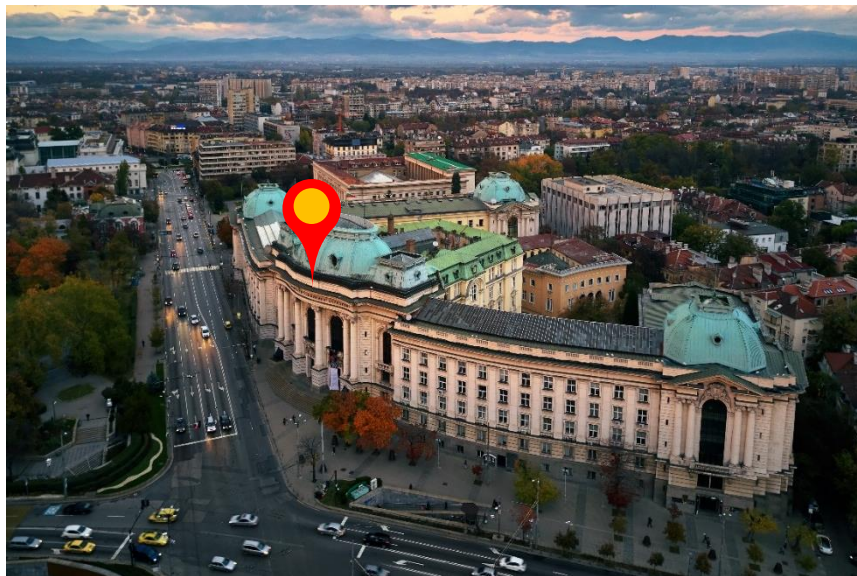
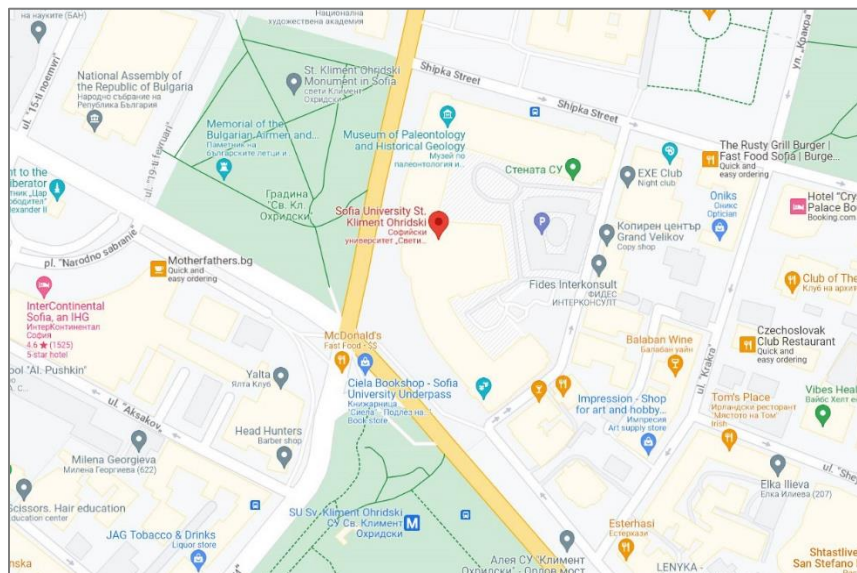


Photo: Deensel on Flickr.com. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/deensel/37536311404>



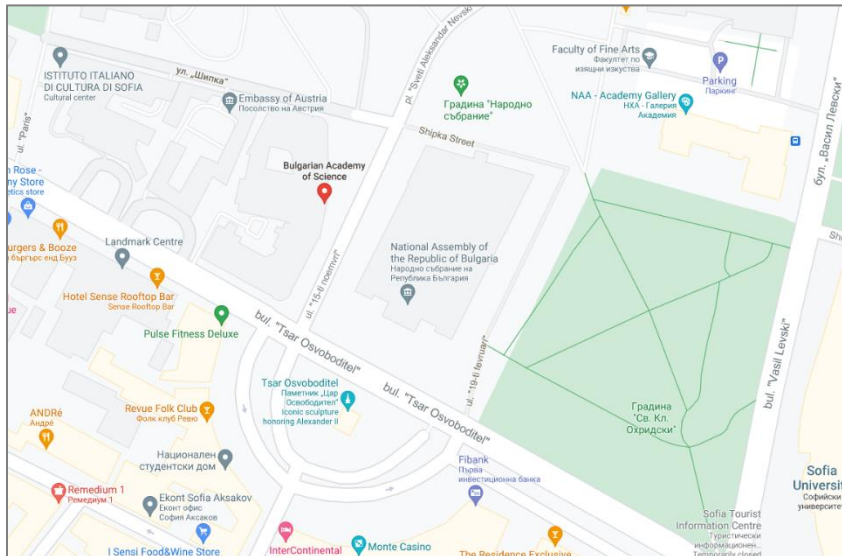
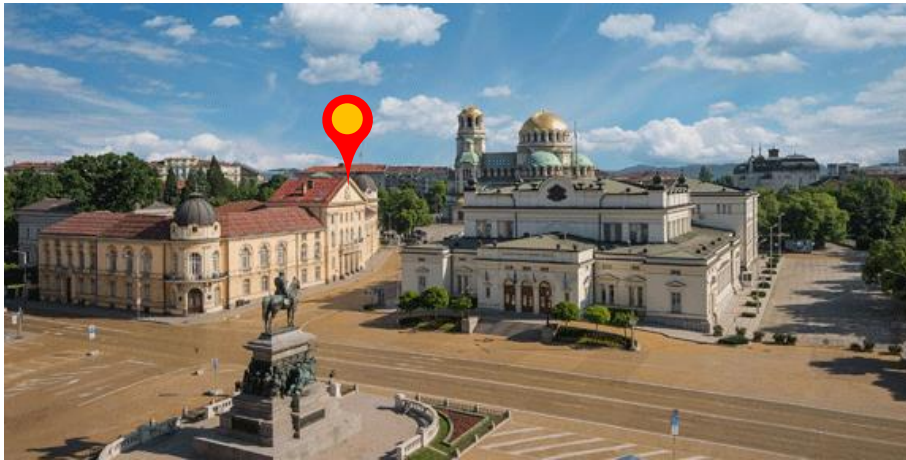
View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/w6zXMS4z7U7nV57w8>

B. Pre-Conference Day Venue

The main building of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

1 "15 Noemvri" Str., 1040 Sofia, BULGARIA (or Narodno Sabranie Square)

Enter the building through the main entrance.



View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/YutaxCWE9Meaotbba>

Hotel Suggestions

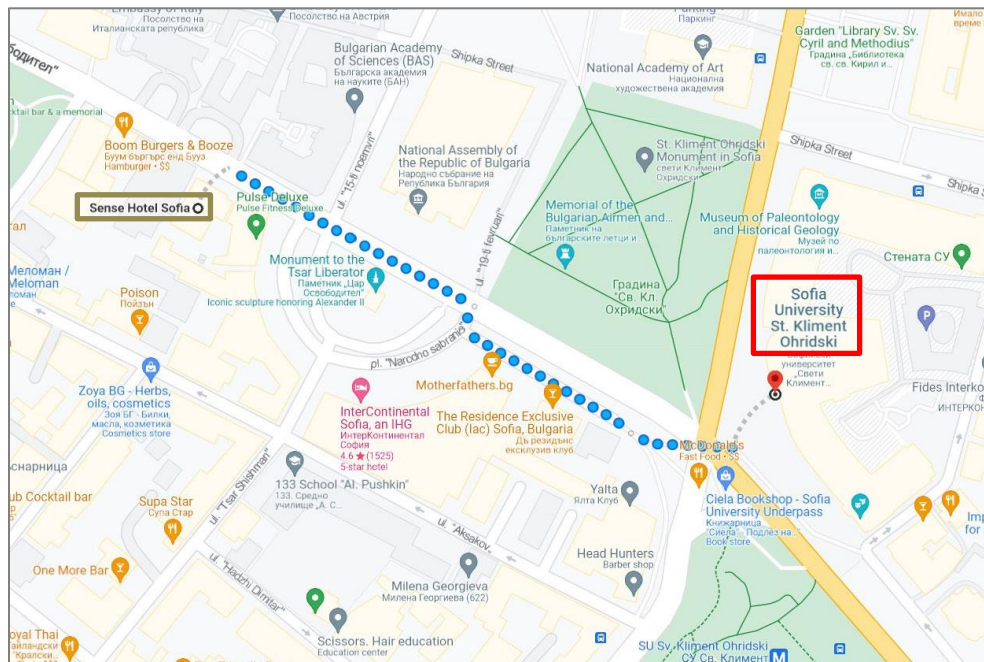
We have negotiated special conference prices with hotels within 3 to 20 minutes away from the Conference venue. Most of them are located in the city centre, on a walking distance. Seven economy hotels are also included in the suggestions list.

C. Premium Hotels

C.1. Sense Hotel.

4 minutes walk to Sofia University

Website: <https://www.sensehotel.com>



View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/YVeQpqFdQ7v3e4Dc9>

How to book

Please book by following this link: [HDCA 2023 Accommodation](https://www.sensehotel.com)

Prices shown include promotional rates. The reservations should be made prior July 30.

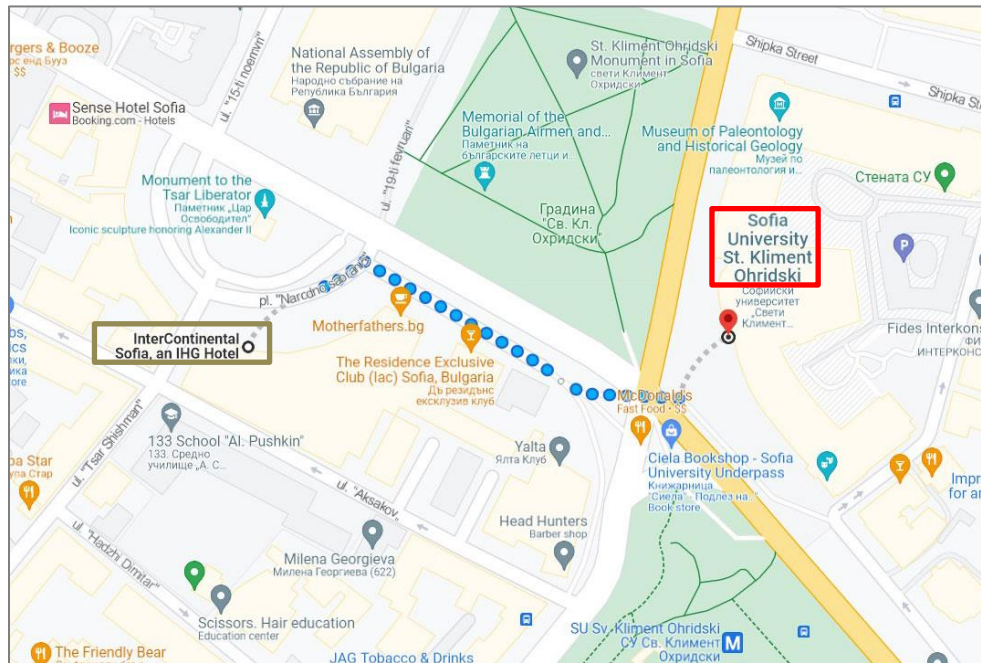
Cancellation and modification free of charge are possible until 2pm local hotel time 5 days prior to arrival.

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/mTGWA3z9gYVjt1n9>

C.2. Hotel Intercontinental Sofia

3 minutes walk to Sofia University

Website: <https://www.ihg.com/intercontinental/hotels/us/en/sofia/sofco/hoteldetail>



View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/Wm2CxNJ3cr5zGxcQ7>

How to book

Please book via the link: [2023 HDCA Conference – Sofia, Bulgaria](#)

Hotel Conditions:

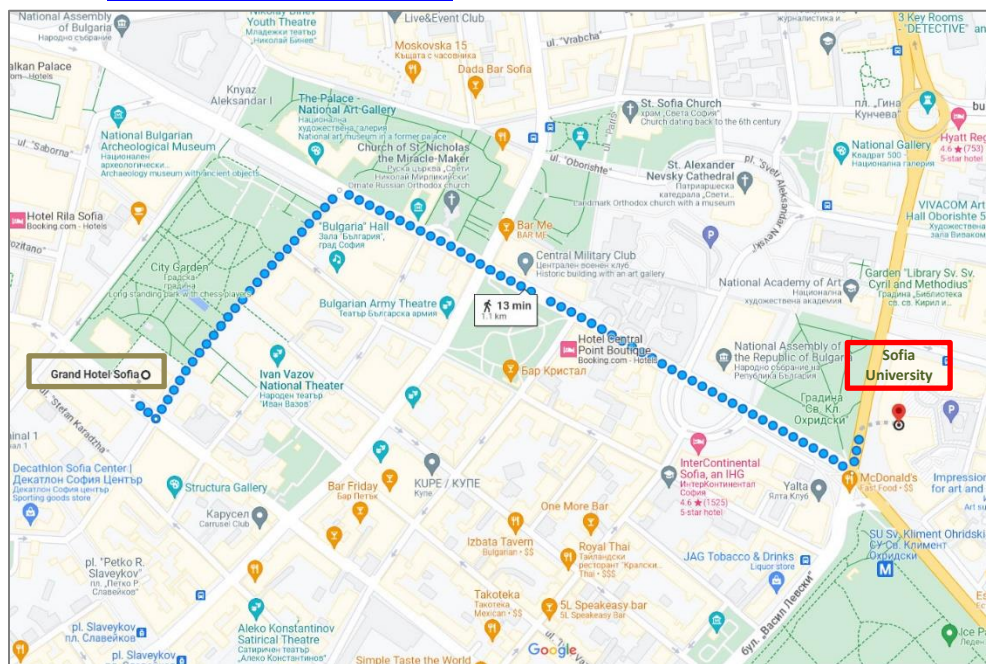
- Rates are valid for reservations made up to 31 August.
- Cancellation free of charge is possible up to 7 days before arrival.
- In case of late cancellation or non-appearance - 100% of the amount is due.
- A guarantee credit card will be required when booking and the card will be charged in case of no-show or late cancellation.

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/6roM8b5TLawG1N2A8>

C.3. Grand Hotel Sofia

13 minutes walk to Sofia University

Website: <https://www.grandhotelsofia.bg>



View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/WedwWT6DQmG3SoAYA>

How to book

To benefit from the promotional price one should send an email to reservations@grandhotelsofia.bg, and include HDCA 2023 as reservation keyword. Grand Hotel Sofia Reservations tel.: +359 2 811 0 800

Hotel Conditions

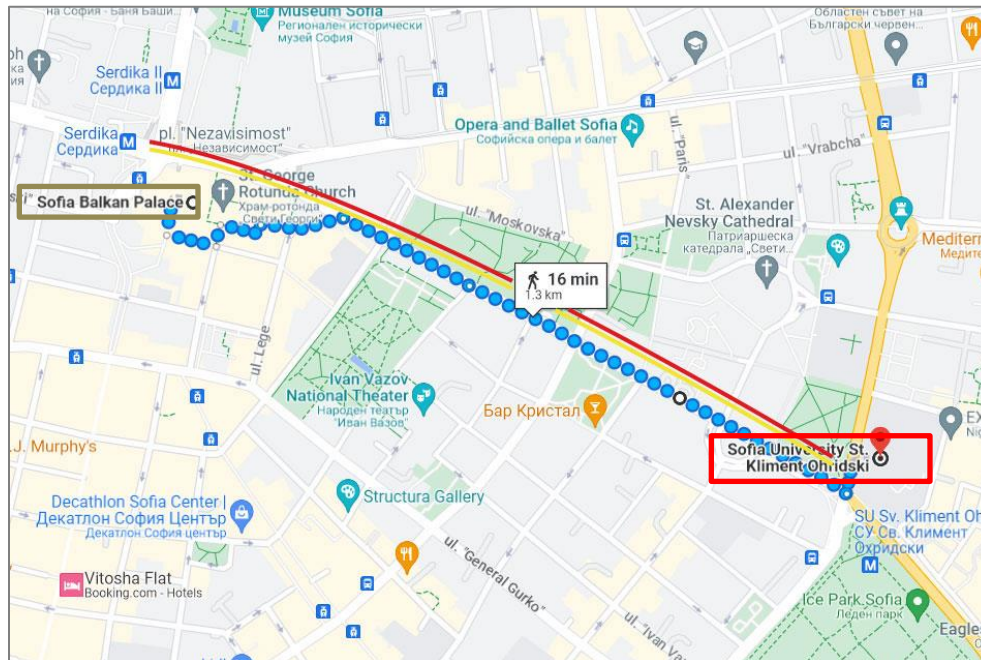
- Promotional rates are valid for reservations made before July 20.
- Cancellation free of charge is possible up to 14 days before arrival.
- In case of late cancellation or non-appearance - 100% of the amount is due.
- A guarantee credit card will be required when booking and the card will be charged in case of no-show or late cancellation.

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/8kugn7Hx4oKG5QJn7>

C.4. Sofia Balkan Palace

16 minutes walk or 2 minutes one stop metro ride from Serdika station to Sofia University

Website: <https://www.sofiabalkanpalace.com>



View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/gfnUkPHVH1EozqHB6>

How to book

[Please download and fill out this form, and send it to the hotel reservations email address. All rates and conditions for HDCA 2023 participants are listed in the document](#)

Hotel Conditions

Promotional rates are valid for reservations made before July 24.

One night's room revenue will be charged for each room cancelled after 01st of August 2023.

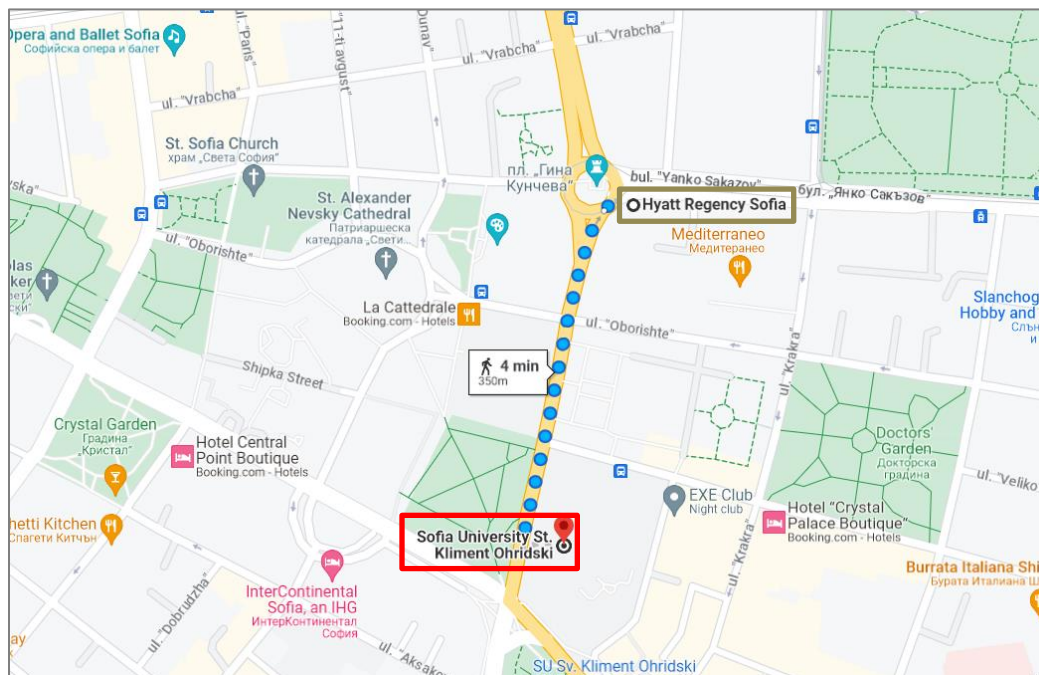
Guestroom Cancellation between 7 to 0 days prior to arrival, no-show or early departure: All cancelled guestrooms will be charged at full amount for the full duration of the agreed stay.

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/2vtgDaYYQMfemiwJ8>

C.5. Hyatt Regency Sofia

4 minutes walk to Sofia University

Website: <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/bulgaria/hyatt-regency-sofia/sofrs>



View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/STsjQF5rVpHzdBT6>

How to book

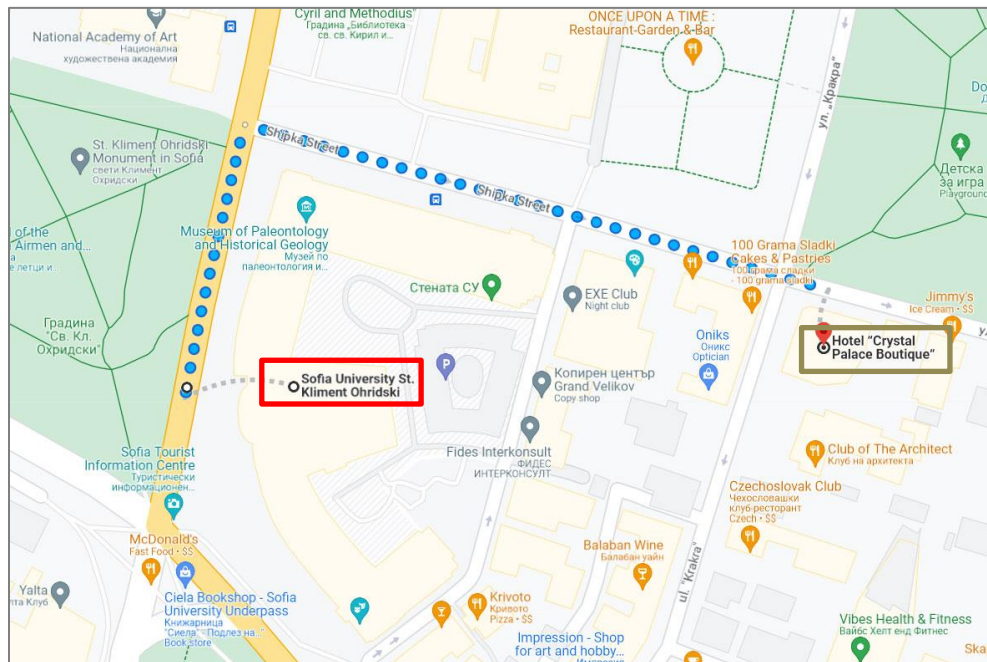
Information will be added shortly due to expected hotel confirmation.

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/rwsCDLxHLfchi7eBA>

C.6. Hotel Crystal Palace

3 minutes walk to Sofia University

Website: <https://www.fpihotels.com/crystal-palace-boutique-hotel-sofia>



How to book

Please use hdca2023 promo code when booking here: <https://www.crystalpalace-sofia.com>

The promo code will be valid until June 15.

The discount is available for the period September 10 – 13, 2023

Hotel Conditions

Promotional rates are valid for reservations made before June 15.

Free cancellation is possible up to 10 days before the arrival.

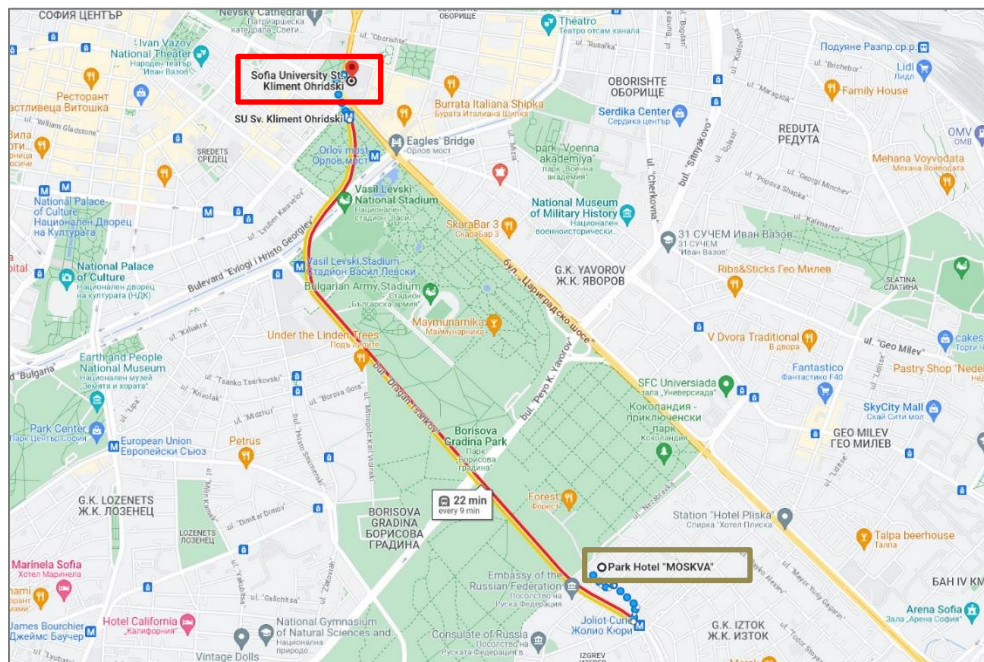
How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/xAH9zn8KCeZSoohK8>

D. Economical Budget Hotel Suggestions.

D.1. Park Hotel Moskva

~15 minutes, two stops metro ride from F. J. Curie station to Sofia University or 35 minutes walk through the park or Great view from the upper floors. Close to a park.

Website: <https://www.parkhotelmoskva.net>



View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/fhVLQiT1Qsbm7Pb9>

How to book

To benefit from the promotional price one should send an email to marketing@parkhotelmoskva.net, and include HDCA 2023 as reservation keyword.

The cost of a single room is 43 Euro, Double – 61 Euro.

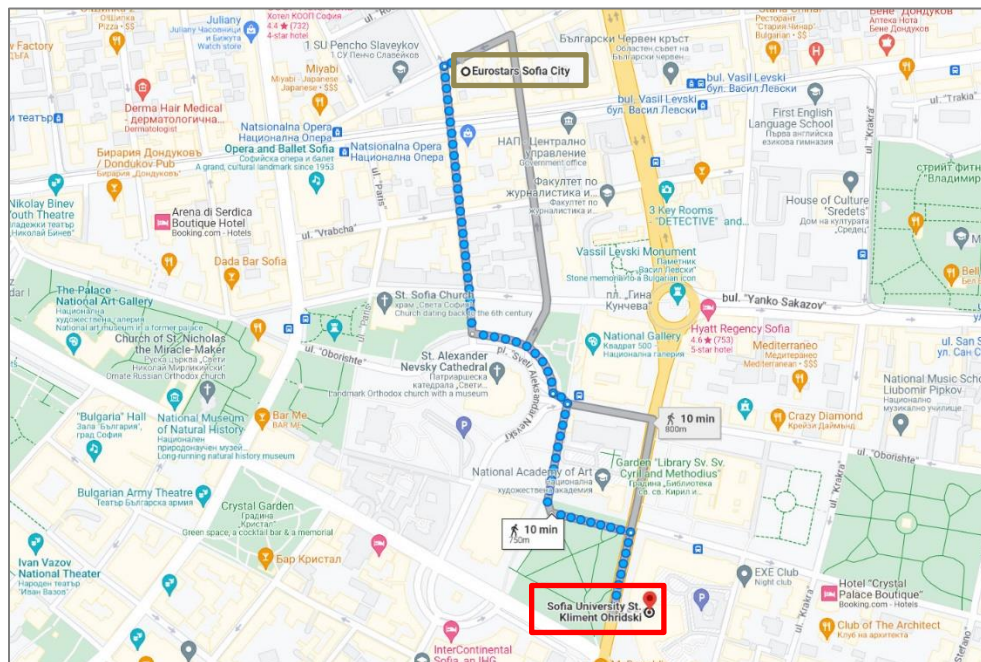
Reservation of the rooms is made only after written confirmation from the client by e-mail.

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/VqX8yGvTtLZKXcFc9>

D.2. EuroStars Sofia City

10 minutes walk to Sofia University

Website: www.eurostarshotels.com



View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/Dej9dWV7htrRhghv5>

How to book

The hotel is part of the Spanish Hotuza Group and do not operate with fixed prices.

The capacity is 61 rooms and therefore the hotel accommodates groups of up to 15 rooms per day.

Offers are individual, for specific request.

Please specify period, number and type of rooms and you will receive an offer as soon as possible.

For the best rate, you can book through the hotel's official website - www.eurostarshotels.com.

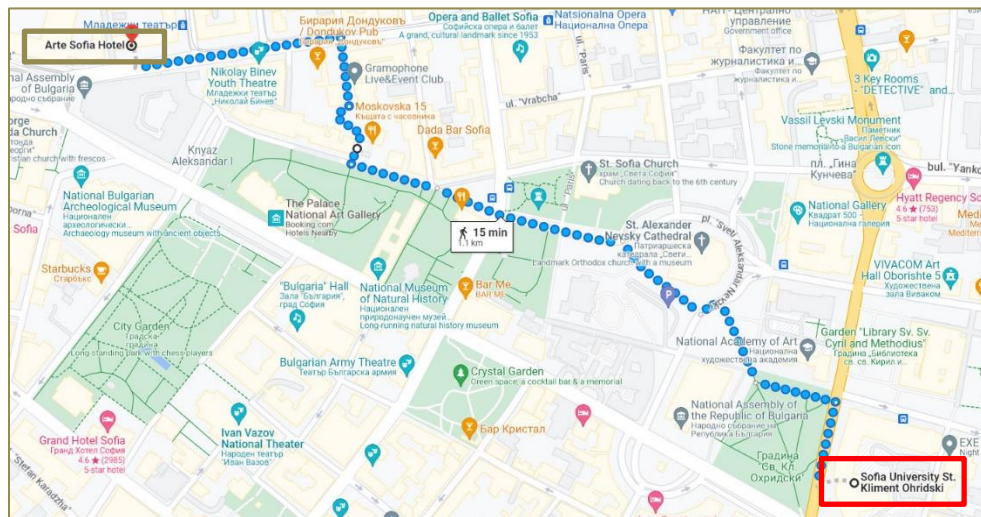
The price includes free breakfast and free water upon check-in.

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/4FVBVqGfprYE1ptY8>

D.3. Arte Hotel

15 minutes walk to Sofia University

Website: <https://artehotelbg.com>



View in Google maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/ayUUMfwYNMarKu8z7>

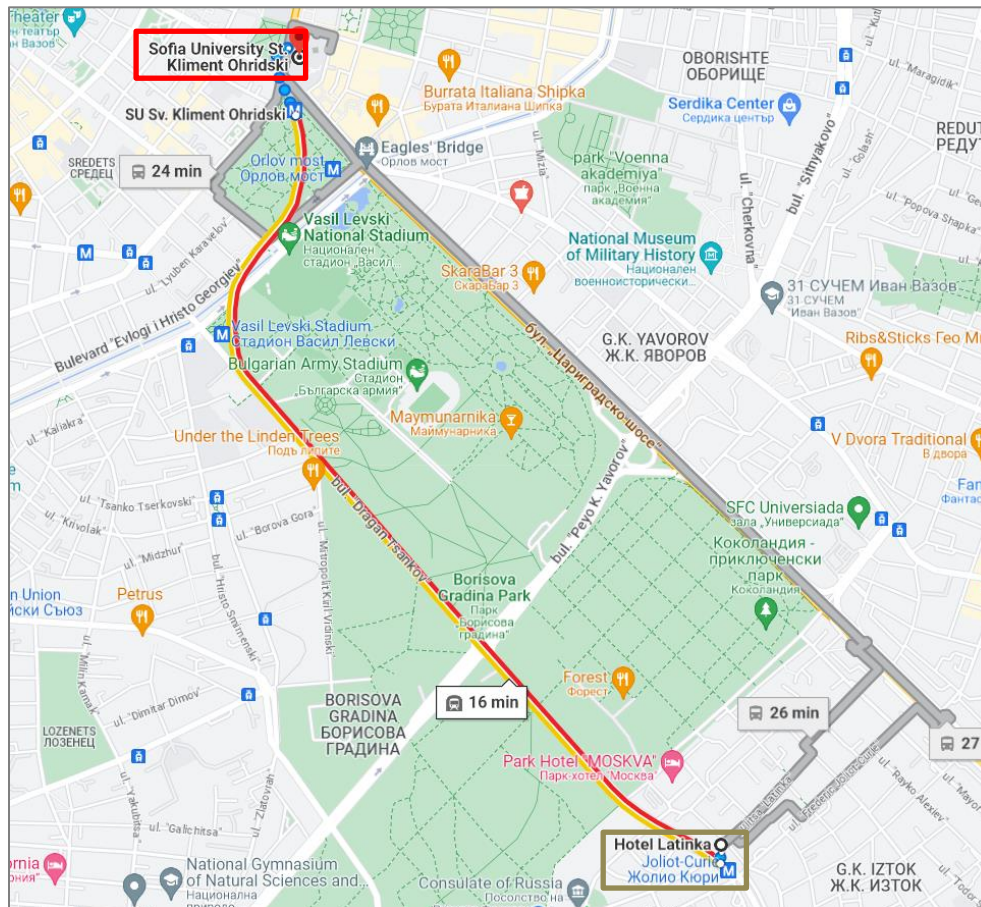
How to book

Via hotel's website: <https://www.reservations.artehotelbg.com/?lng=en-GB¤cy=EUR> or email to reservations@artehotelbg.com.

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/UiMEoap9w54idpbQ8>

D.4. Hotel Latinka

15 minutes, two stops metro ride from F. J. Curie station to Sofia University or 30 minutes walk through the park or



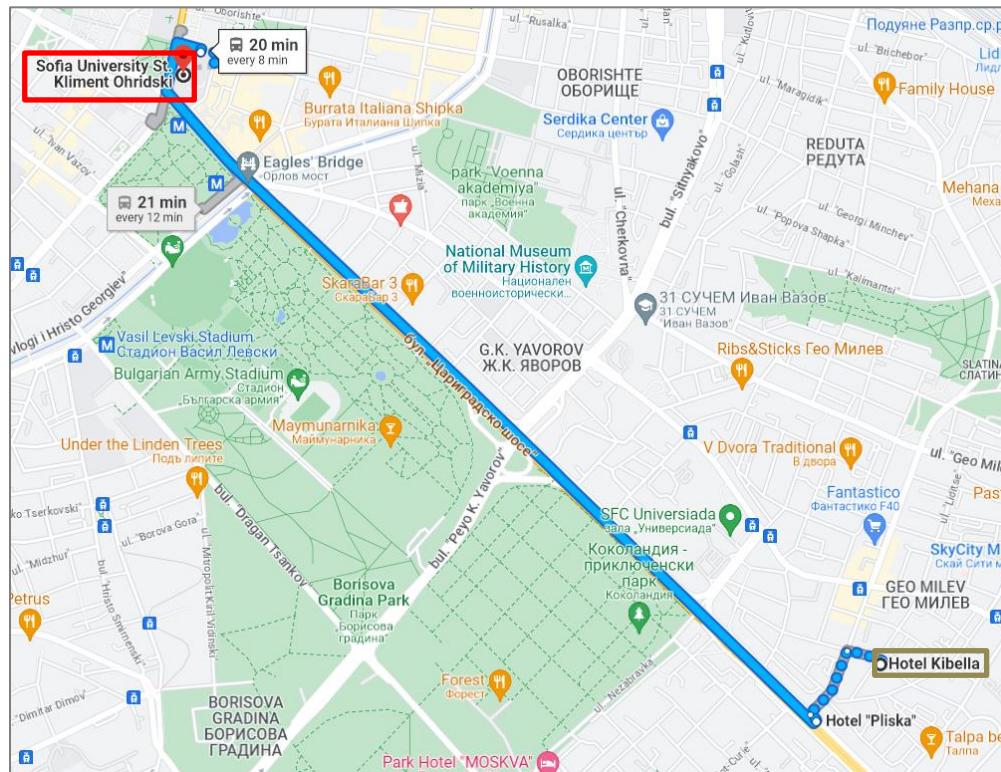
View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/yJ1wFqGJ1pYPF6edA>

How to book: [The hotel's presentation on Booking.com](https://www.booking.com/hotel/latinka)

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/L5jV9CN6w6XyLcGs5>

D.5. Hotel Kibella

20 minutes by bus 280 from Hotel Pliska to Sofia University



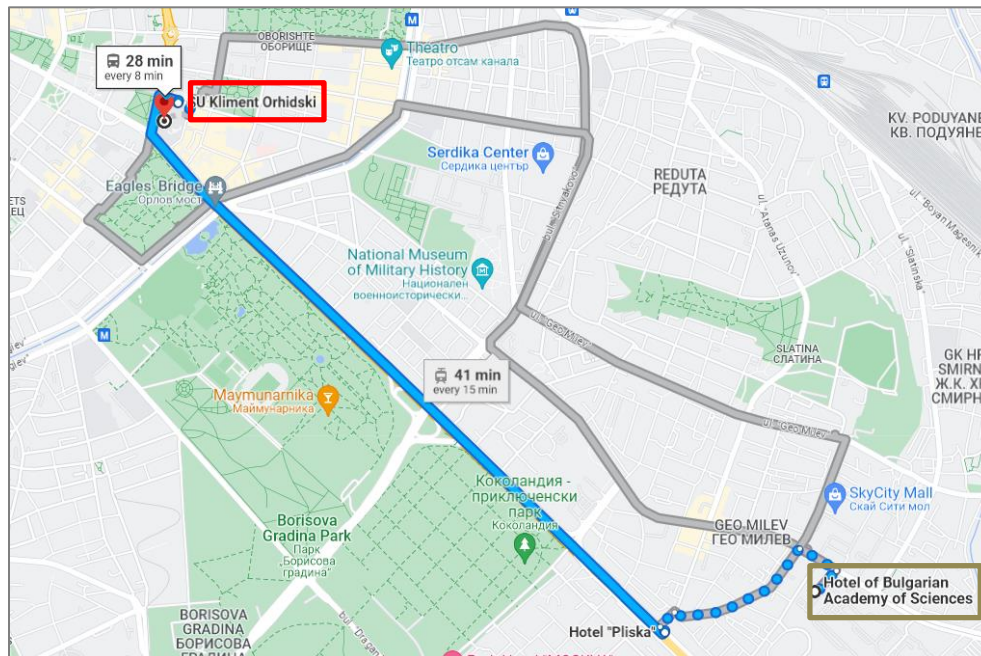
View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/EQRxpyMusY1oKWK6>

How to book: [The hotel's presentation on Booking.com](https://www.booking.com/hotel/bg/kibella)

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/NjzHoSVCmpfRgVst5>

D.6. Hotel of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

28 minutes by bus 280 from Hotel Pliska Bus stop to Sofia University



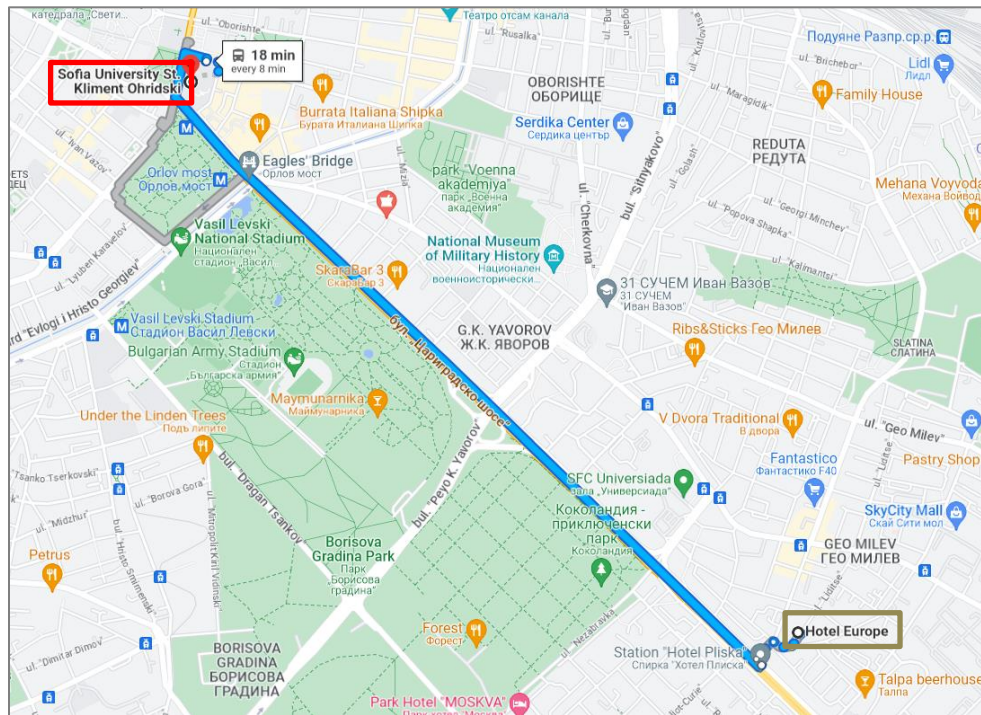
View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/ZmoT8DZoV3xTYxqF6>

How to book: [The hotel's presentation on Booking.com](https://www.booking.com)

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/bHGuw7YxiY7kijwvm8>

D.7. Hotel Europe

20 minutes by bus 280 from Hotel Pliska to Sofia University



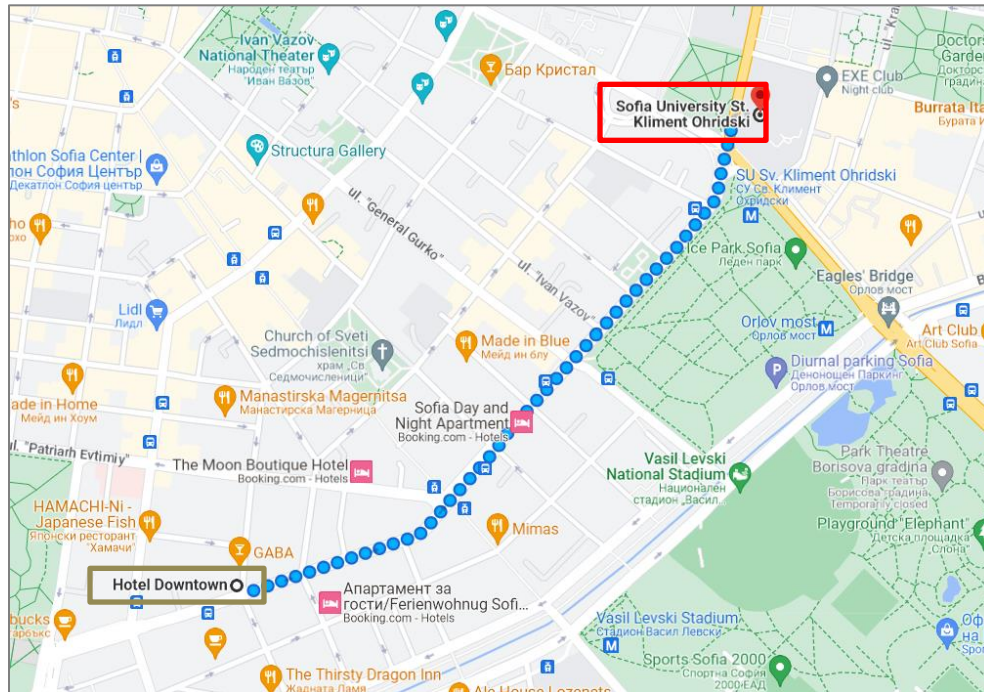
View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/Eb1wxChRsD985YZY8>

How to book: [The hotel's presentation on Booking.com](#)

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/FL15STkmmxzverof9>

D.8. Hotel Downtown

14 minutes walk to Sofia University



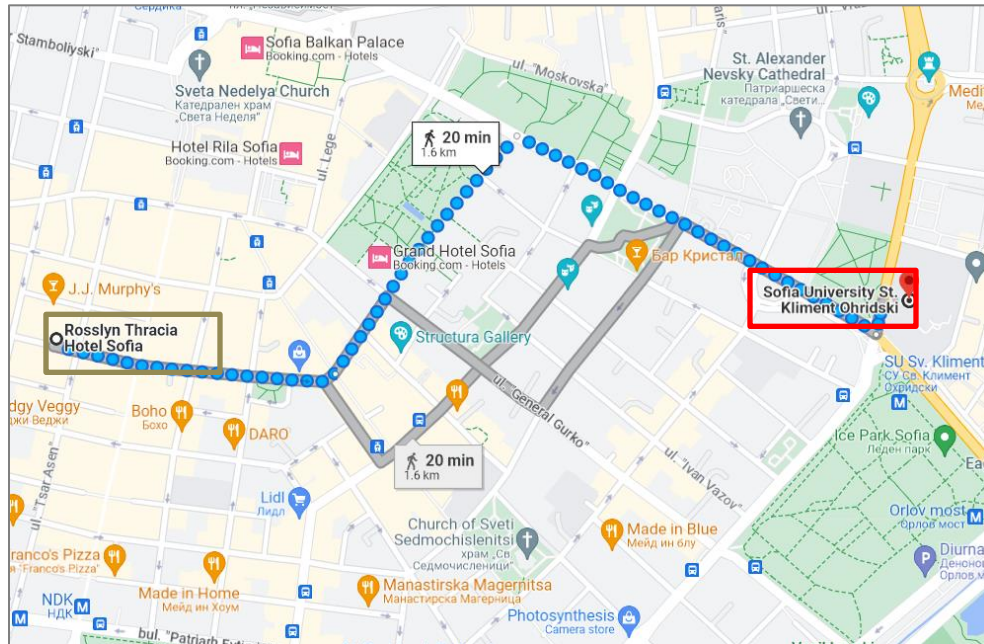
View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/dcgME29NMU2L5tYj6>

How to book: [The hotel's presentation on Booking.com](#)

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/vp53NzL3KrSTQWNg9>

D.9. Rosslyn Thracia Hotel Sofia

20 minutes walk to Sofia University



View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/9UCtwnc1iBh5aepH9>

How to book: [The hotel's presentation on Booking.com](https://www.booking.com/hotel/bg/rosslyn-thracia-hotel-sofia.html)

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/QR7dFjbpbAiezdLt6>

14 minutes walk to Sofia University

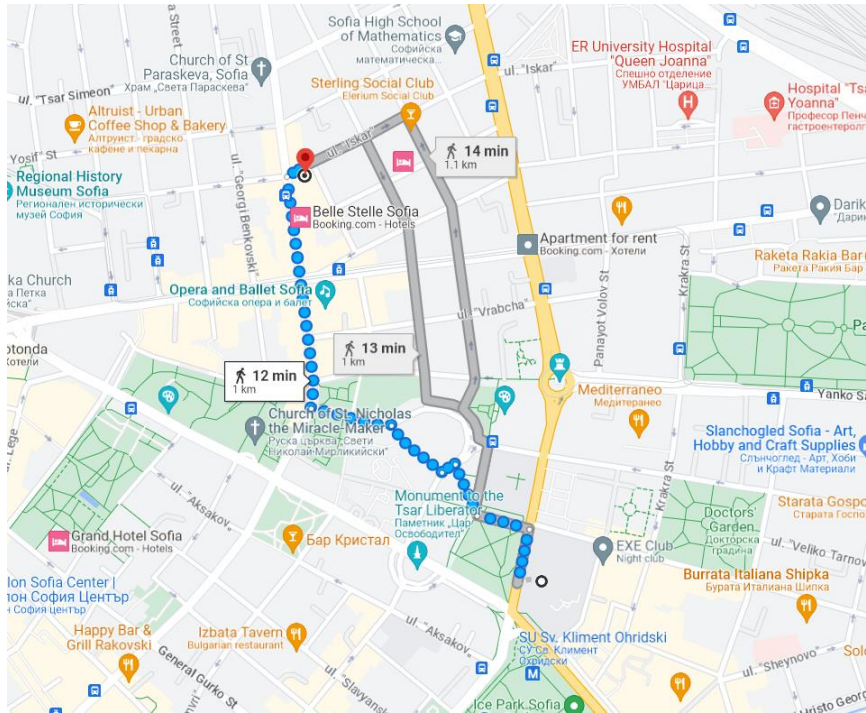
View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/9UCtwnc1iBh5aepH9>

How to book: [The hotel's presentation in Booking.com](https://www.booking.com/hotel/bg/rosslyn-thracia-hotel-sofia.html)

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/QR7dFjbpbAiezdLt6>

D.10. Hotel COOP

12 minutes walk to Sofia University



View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/iGcN6iwB3bdL4Q5N9>

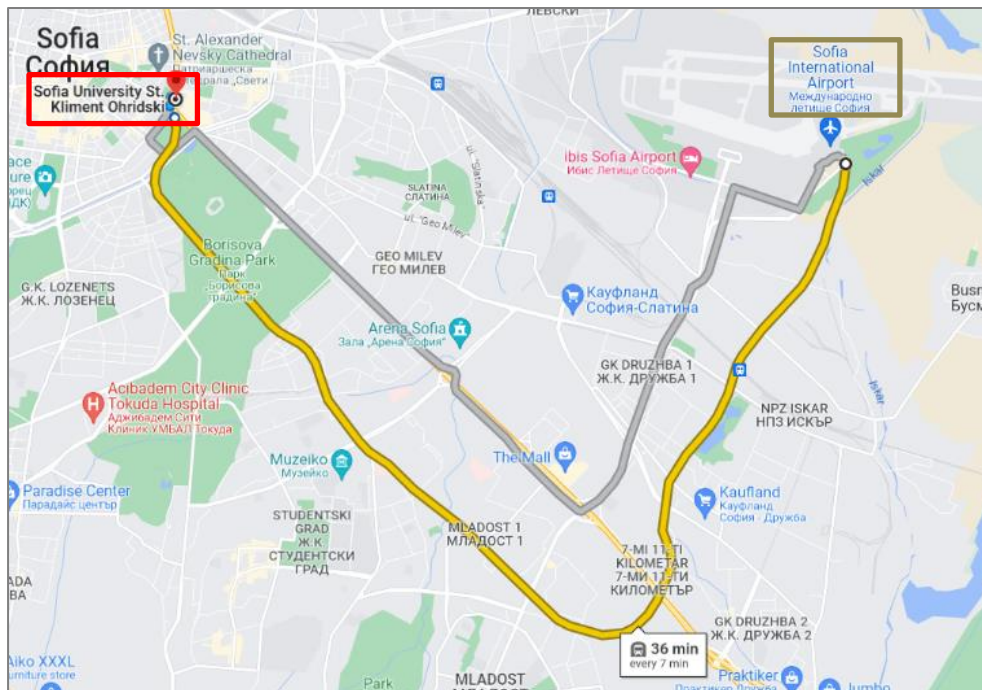
How to book: [The hotel's presentation on Booking.com](#)

How to get there from the airport: <https://goo.gl/maps/wUgmq5xYZ2AVTbnY7>

E. How to Get To the Conference Venue

E.1. By Metro

The metro station at Sofia Airport is located in **Terminal 2** (regular companies and Ryanair). You can reach it by following the floor markings in the public area of Terminal 2. The station is located on your left when you exit the terminal.



View in Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/wCeJLThRePtefw2Q6>

If you arrive on Terminal 1 Sofia Airport provides free-of-charge transportation to Terminal 2 every 30 minutes. The shuttle bus stops are located in front of the terminal buildings, and are designated by signage and pavement markings. The inter-terminal transfer service operates 24/7.

The first metro from the Airport to the **city center** is at 5:26am on working days, and at 5:27am on holidays. The last one is at 22:43 on working days and at 23:04 on holidays.

You **should leave the metro** on the **11th station – SU Sveti Kliment Ohridski**. From there it is a 2 - minute walk to Sofia University (100 m), the metro station is named on the university.

Tickets can be bought at ticket machines at the entrances of the metro stations or at cashier's desk of Metropolitan EAD. The ticket should be validated at the barriers at the entrance to the metro stations. It is valid to travel in the metro within 30 minutes from the issue hour. One way ticket price is **BGN 1.60 (0.8 Euro)** The ticket machines accept Bulgarian banknotes and coins. **The validators at the barriers also accepts credit/debit cards, convenient if you do not have any cash or change.**

Passengers with regular transport documents are allowed to take up to 2 pieces of hand luggage on public transport vehicles free of charge. Any additional pieces of luggage are charged with a separate transport document.

More information on the types of luggage, transport conditions, routes and timetables can be found at: [Sofia Urban Mobility Centre](#) and [Metropolitan Sofia](#).



SHORT-TERM TRANSPORTATION DOCUMENTS IN SOFIA

Ticket 30 Plus (ticket allowing a trip with transfers within the first 30 minutes) - price BGN 1.60 (0.8 Euro) (can be loaded into an electronic card (Sofia City Card or Ultraligh) or to be paid with a bank card at a validator in a vehicle or at metro entry barriers. Allows combined trip by ground vehicle and metro. The 30 minutes start from the first successful validation. Within these 30 minutes, a passenger may use more than two vehicles, but ticket **MUST** be validated in each one! The last validation performed within 30 minutes allows the passenger to complete their validated trip without time limit, until the end of the route.



Vulnerability, human development
and cooperative re-building
in turbulent times
2023 Conference
in Sofia Bulgaria
11-13 September

Ticket 60 Plus (ticket allowing a trip with transfers within the first 60 minutes) - price BGN 2.20 (1.1 Euro) (can be loaded into an electronic card (Sofia City Card or Ultraligh). Allows combined trips with ground vehicle and metro. The 60 minutes start from the first successful validation. Within this 60 min, a passenger may use more than two vehicles, but ticket **MUST** be validated in each one! The last validation performed within 60 minutes allows the passenger to complete their validated trip without time limit, until the end of the route.

One-day/day card - price BGN 4 (2 Euro) (can be loaded into Sofia City Card or Ultraligh) and can be combined with a 30 plus or 60 plus ticket.

24 hour card, incl. night transport - price BGN 6 (3 Euro) (can be charged to Sofia City Card or Ultraligh and can be combined with a 30 plus or 60 plus ticket). The validity of the card starts from the corresponding time and day of purchase.

72 hour card, incl. night transport - price BGN 15 (7.5 Euro) (can be charged to Sofia City Card or Ultraligh and can be combined with a 30 plus or 60 plus ticket). The validity of the card starts from the corresponding time and day of purchase.

E.2. By Bus

In case you arrive at Terminal 1 (low-cost companies except Ryanair) you can also take **84** bus route which connects the city centre with Sofia Airport Terminal 2 and Terminal 1. You should buy your ticket from the BUS driver (2.0 BGN, 1 Euro). If you purchase a ticket from the driver it is always 2 BGN, if from a machine or self-check it is 1.6 BGN. **Alternatively, use a debit/credit card on the self-check machines inside the busses.**

E.3. By Taxi

For your comfort and safety, we recommend the services of the taxi operator **Yellow!** as contractual partner of SOF Connect, the concessioner of Sofia Airport.

You can request the service at the offices of Yellow! in the Arrivals of Terminal 1 and Terminal 2.

Phone: +359 2 91 119, website: www.yellow333.com and the floor markings in yellow will lead you to the taxi stand area.

A taxi from the airport to the hotels/conference venue costs approximately 15 - 20 €.

WARNING! We recommend that you do not use taxi services offered outside the office of the taxi operator or in front of the terminal to avoid the risk of abuse.

F. General Information about Bulgaria and Sofia

- **Sofia** is the capital
- The **official language** is Bulgarian
- The **official script** is Cyrillic
- The **official religion** is East Orthodox Christianity
- **Currency:** BGN – pronounced “lev” (plural leva); Exchange rates €1 = *BGN 1.96*
- **Calling code:** 00359
- **Time zone:** EET (UTC+2)
- Traffic is on the **right side**
- **Power plugs** – see more at: <https://world-power-plugs.com/bulgaria>
- **Weather** in Sofia in September: <https://www.weather-atlas.com/en/bulgaria/sofia-weather-september>

The first month of the autumn, September, is still a pleasant month in Sofia, Bulgaria, with average temperature fluctuating between 11°C (51.8°F) and 23°C (73.2°F).

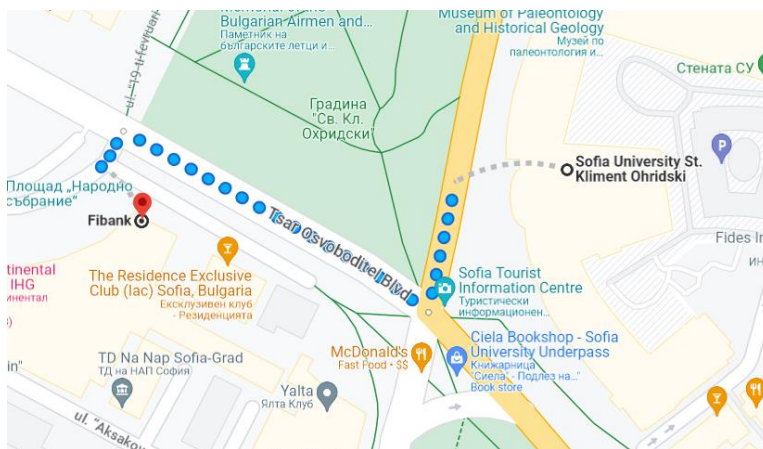
- Info for various **cultural events and museums** in Sofia you will find here: <https://www.visitsofia.bg/en/>
- Welcome to Sofia: https://youtu.be/d3_q3ozJQZ0
- Best **Places to Visit** in Sofia Bulgaria <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7SRHzGfH4as>
- Top **25 Things to Do** and See in Sofia: <https://youtu.be/gliZJnP5ZWs>
- Various **videos** about Sofia: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=sofia+guide
- Sofia free **walking tours** in English: <https://freesofiatour.com>

Currency Exchange

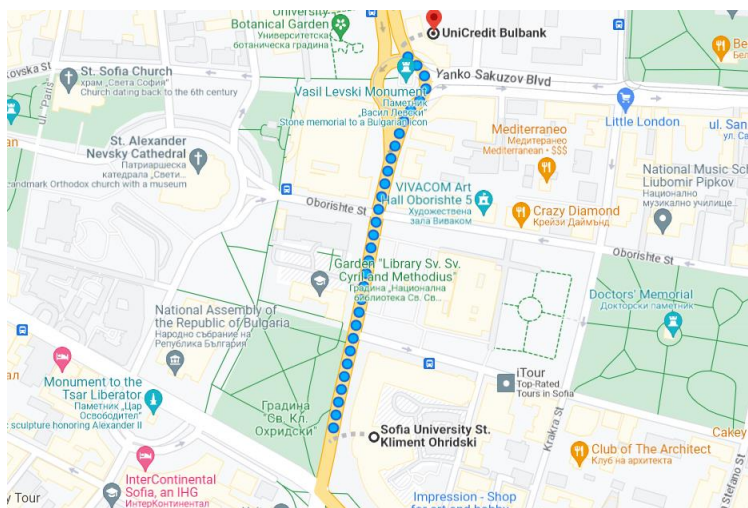
Exchanging your currency to BGN is possible in every bank office. When you arrive at Sofia Airport you can change a small amount at the airport exchange office, just enough to take a taxi and get to the hotel. On the next day walk by a bank office to do the main money exchange. You can also withdraw money from the airport ATM.

The nearest bank offices to Sofia University are:

Fibank – 3 minutes by feet: <https://goo.gl/maps/z36wgHB45sA2VZMf8>



Unicredit Bulbank: <https://goo.gl/maps/Wb3N3vPvwYnvFvM2A>



There are a large number of ATMs are available around the conference venue:

<https://www.google.com/maps/search/ATMs/@42.6930413,23.3356343,17z/data=!4m7!2m6!3m5!2sSofia+Unive+rsity+St.+Kliment+Ohridski!3s0x40aa85742b65a213:0x88e9e4cfcaa2e5b6!4m2!1d23.334946!2d42.6935966?entry=ttu>

List of Countries Whose Citizens, Holders of Ordinary Passports, Require Visas to Enter Bulgaria

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Peoples Republic of (PRC), Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of the, Congo-Brazzaville, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Republic of, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestinian Authority, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russia, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia*, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Surinam, Swaziland, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey**, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine***, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Citizens of the EU, EEC (Norway, Iceland and Lichtenstein) and Switzerland are exempted from the requirement to have a long-term visa and from the requirement to have "work permit" when staying in Bulgaria for the period of more than 90 days.

* Serbia: Only holders of biometric passports are exempt from the visa obligation. Holders of non-biometric passports and holders of passports issued by the Serbian Coordination Directorate (in Serbian: Koordinaciona uprava) still require a visa in which case the visa facilitation agreements apply.

** Turkey: Citizens of the Republic of Turkey holding valid regular passports and visas issued by the Member States of the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement or of the European Union, or residence permits issued by the Member States of the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement or of the European Union, Switzerland or Liechtenstein, may enter the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria and transit there through without visas for up to 5 (five) days, where their transit is from the Republic of Turkey to the state which issued the visa or residence permit, as well as in case of transit from such state to the Republic of Turkey. Nationals of Turkey, holders of special passports are not visa exempt.

*** Ukraine: only holders of biometric passports are exempt from the visa obligation. Holders of non-biometric passports still require a visa in which case the visa facilitation agreements apply.

Last updated by MFA: 05.01.2021. [Click here for more info about Bulgarian visa.](#)

This document was created on April 19, 2023, edited on August 14, 2023.