

SES 2017-bulteno

2017-07-03



Detailed information for participants of Somera Esperanto-Studado 2017, Banská Štiavnica, Slovakia

Thank you very much for registering – we hope that you will find the time to read the information below to be well-prepared for your arrival and attendance in SES 2017.

Note: If someone registered for this event using your e-mail address, please make sure they receive it, as this information will be important to them.

Important information

Participants must follow the organization (E@I)'s instruction during the entirety of the event. Each and every SES participant has agreed to come to the event on their own responsibility and danger. The participants confirmed this by signing the registration. Participants are personally responsible for any damage to their health or belongings caused by themselves or another person. The organization (E@I) is not responsible for damages to the participant's health and belongings related to their presence at the event, SES 2017, or travel and stay at the event's location.

1. Payment

Please remember that your registration is valid only after you have paid the registration fee for the event. Without this payment fee, we cannot guarantee the reservations of your room, food, and additional services. If you wish, you can pre-pay the entire sum, but this is not required. If you have not yet paid the registration fee, please do so as soon as possible.

2. Money

In Slovakia, the currency used is the euro (abbreviated EUR). During SES, we will accept on-site payment *only* in euros. Please be aware that there is *no* currency exchange office in Banská Štiavnica. However, there are several ATMs, the closest is (according to Google Maps) in the supermarket Billa, 7 minutes away from the SES venue. During the event, it will be possible to buy items from the snack bar or from the book service, but only in euros.

3. Arrival/Departure

The event begins on the afternoon of July 15th (you can arrive at any time starting at 2 PM), and ends on the afternoon of July 23rd, at 1 PM. If you need to arrive one night earlier, or stay for a few days after the end of SES, you can do so for an additional fee. If you would like to stay for additional nights, you must inform us as soon as possible so we can book additional nights for you.

Address of the SES venue

SES 2017 will take place in a school housing whose full address is:

*Školský internát pri SOŠ služieb a lesníctva
Kolpašská 9
969 56 Banská Štiavnica, Slovakia*

Everything but the lessons will take place in the university housing. The lessons will be in a neighbouring school:

*Gymnázium Andreja Kmeťa
Kolpašská 1738/9
969 56 Banská Štiavnica, Slovakia*

(More information in <http://ses.ikso.net/2017/loko.php>)

How to reach the SES venue

Banská Štiavnica is a beautiful and historic town, located about 140 km from the Slovak capital Bratislava.

Banská Štiavnica is not the town with the best connections to Bratislava. There are few direct buses from Bratislava; most of the time it is necessary to change buses in another town (Zvolen or Žiar nad Hronom). It is also possible to go by train, although this always requires at least one change. To find connections, see the website www.cp.sk (you can change the website language to English or German at the bottom). The trip usually takes 3 or 4 hours.

From the airport in Bratislava

Take the bus number 61, which will take you directly to the central train station (Hlavná stanica). The station is the last stop, and the trip takes 25 minutes. From there, you can use the trolley bus number 210 or the bus number 21 to reach the bus station (Autobusová stanica Mlynské Nivy). The trip takes about 8 minutes (3 stops). You can check all schedules and plan your trip in Bratislava at <http://ba.imhd.zoznam.sk>.

You can buy ticket from vending machines at bus stops or in news stands. If you want to go only to the train station, buy a 30 minute ticket for €0.90. Otherwise, you will need a 60 minute ticket for €1.20. The ticket allows you to change vehicles an unlimited number of times.

From the airport in Vienna (Wien)

There is a good direct bus connection between the Vienna airport (Flughafen Schwechat) and the main bus station in Bratislava (bus stop Autobusová stanica or AS Mlynské Nivy). You can check the timetables and buy bus tickets in advance at http://www.slovaklines.sk/index_en.html or <https://cestovnelistky.regiojet.sk/>. The tickets can also be purchased directly on the bus, if there are available seats.

From Bratislava to Banská Štiavnica

On the 15th of July, the last connection will be by train at 4:01 PM with changes in Zvolen and Hronská Dubrava. Check the best connection for your arrival time on www.cp.sk.

You can buy bus tickets directly from the driver. You can buy train tickets in the train station or directly in the train from the conductor, but in this case there is a small additional fee.

Remark: if you have difficulties to reach the SES venue (e.g. because you arrive late or miss your bus), please inform us, preferably in advance so we can help you (e.g. transport you by car from a close town, Žarnovica or Zvolen).

From other cities to Banská Štiavnica

Use the website www.cp.sk to find an appropriate connection. If you are travelling from Hungary or Southern Poland, Flixbus operates bus lines to Zvolen, which is quite close to Banská Štiavnica. More information at <https://www.flixbus.com/bus/zvolen>.

From Banská Štiavnica (bus and train stations) to the dormitory

From the train station

It is possible to reach the dormitory by foot from the train station. By following the itinerary indicated in this [map](#), you can reach the venue in 20 minutes.

Alternatively, according to this [map](#), there is also a path along the railway. It should allow you to reach the venue in 10 minutes by foot.

From the bus stops

The closest bus stop is called *Banská Štiavnica, Technická univerzita*, right in front of the venue. However, few buses stop there and it is much more likely that you will come to the stop named *Banská Štiavnica, križ*. (križ. = križovatka – “intersection”) next to the supermarket Billa. From there, you can reach the SES venue in about 10 minutes [this way](#):

From the roundabout, go east on the Drevená street, then after Lidl, go right on the Kolpašská street up to SES venue.

By taxi

You can also reach the SES venue by taxi, e.g.:

- BS-Taxi: +421 902 276 766
- Maxi-Taxi: +421 800 500 961

The Slovak word for “main railway station” is *hlavná stanica*.

4. SES venue

On site at SES, there is cafeteria, a bar, and an Esperanto book service.

In the SES venue there is no separate computer lab, but free wireless Internet will be available. You can use it with your own laptop or mobile device (so please bring it if you need an internet connection during the event.) There is one computer with an Internet connection anyone can use next to the reception desk.

In the SES building, smoking is not permitted. Please respect this rule, and smoke only outside the area of the building.

Sport equipment (balls, badminton rackets, etc.) is available in SES. There is also a ping pong table and a foosball table.

5. Meals

Meals will take place in the canteen of the SES venue (dormitory building), at the times indicated in

the program.

Anyone who did not order meals must arrange for their own food. There is a small snack bar in the school open from 8:40 AM, where you can buy snacks, sandwiches, candies and drinks. There are several restaurants quite close to the venue. You will also have access to a small kitchen with a microwave and a kettle (but no stove or cookware).

If you want to order meals but you didn't indicate that in your registration form, please write to ses@ikso.net.

Coffee breaks

During the morning classes, there will be a coffee break with free tea, coffee, and water. Please bring your **own cup** for this purpose. To preserve the environment, we want to minimize our use of plastic glasses and cups. If you don't bring your own mug, you can purchase one on-site for 3 euro; you can decorate it and use it throughout the week.

6. Shopping

The SES venue is located quite close to the city center of Banská Štiavnica. The city center has pharmacies, bars, cafes and restaurants. The closest store is Lidl, open every day.

Note: you can take a look at our [Google map](#) of the city with important locations.

7. Rooms, tents, lecture halls

Two- and three-bed rooms are available in the dormitory. It is not possible to combine beds. Every pair of rooms has a common bathroom and shower. You will receive sheets, but please bring your **own bath towel**. The dormitory offers simple living standards, so don't expect any luxuries.

If you book a room with a student discount, please remember to bring your ISIC card or other student ID.

Participants who are camping for the week must bring their own tent, sleeping bag, and mattress. You can set up your tent in the courtyard of the SES venue. Participants who are camping can use a bathroom and shower in the SES venue.

There will be **no** washing machines in SES.

8. Useful links for travelling and staying in Slovakia

Timetables

- <http://cp.atlas.sk/> - trains, busses, flights, city traffic, combined bus/train itineraries [sk, en, de]
- <http://www.imhd.zoznam.sk> – city traffic for various Slovakian cities [sk, en]

Maps

- <http://maps.google.com/> [various languages]
- <http://www.supernavigator.sk/navigator/> [sk, cs, en, de, hu]
- <http://mapy.hiking.sk/> – tourist maps of Slovakia [sk]

Lodging

- <http://www.ubytovanienaslovensku.eu/> [various languages]
- <http://www.limba.com/sk/slovensko/ponuka> [various languages]

- <http://www.prenocuj.sk/> [sk, cs, en, de, pl, hu, es]

Tourist information centres

- <http://www.slovakiatravels.com/en.html> [sk, en, it, fr]

Slovak language

- <http://slovake.eu> – a website for learning Slovak; it also contains a mini-course with useful phrases for tourists! [sk, cs, en, de, pl, lt, fr, eo, es, ru, hu, hr]

If you need any additional information or advice, please write to: ses@ikso.net

Programme

9. Teaching

Esperanto lessons will take place in many groups organized by language level, always in the morning (9 AM – 1 PM). A **short self-test** will be sent to all registered participants to divide you into groups. On the arrival day, Saturday afternoon between 5 PM and 7 PM there will be a short test for those who didn't do the self-test.

Total beginners who have no prior knowledge of Esperanto do not have to take the quiz and can instead attend an introductory class with their teachers. For more details ask during the registration or look up at the programme table in the venue.

10. Additional programs and entertainment

You will find a provisional program in a separate document before the event. It is not yet complete; several more events will be added to the program over the coming weeks. In addition, times and dates of individual programs may change.

On the days with trips, a separate program will be prepared for those who are not attending the trips – lectures, crafts, etc. (information about that will be posted when it is available). In addition, you may spend your free time by participating in other local activities not organized by the SES team, such as playing games, hiking, visits to the city, etc.

Note: Always check the schedule in the SES venue (it will be posted at the reception desk in the main entrance) to get the most up-to-date information about the program schedule. All other sources of the program schedule may be out-of-date during the event.

11. Your contribution

You can make your own contributions to the SES program – feel free to suggest something that you would like to contribute to the official program (singing, giving a talk, teaching the basics of your language...). If you need some kind of special equipment for your program, please contact the organizers in advance.

Your contribution is also welcome during the *International Evening*. If you are interested in presenting your country, culture, or language by sharing a song, a show, music, etc. – please consider contributing! Feel free to prepare your presentation before the event; bring your music or musical instrument, or traditional clothing from your country or region.

Culinary festival (July 17th, 9:00 PM)

Are you interested in the cultures of the world? You will have a chance to know the flavours of other countries. During the international culinary festival, you will be able to taste specialties from various countries for free. For a successful festival, every participant should bring something from their country (snacks, candies, cakes, biscuits, alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, etc.).

If you have space in your luggage, please bring something from your country! Famous or unusual things (or both) that you cannot find abroad would be ideal. Every country will have a table to present its delicacies and the room will turn into a market of different flavours.

12. Free time

In addition to the official program, you will have free time you can spend as you wish. There are many places to see in Banská Štiavnica, you can find out more about them in the tourism information center.

Event on the first day

On the 15th of July, the arrival day, there will be a big and original event in the city center from 12 PM: **life-size chess**. People will play chess on the main square with real, living Medieval knights. This event is usually attended by thousands of people and is accompanied by a rich program. We definitely recommend to check it out!

More information: <http://vlive4chess.sk/index.php/sk/> and <http://www.folklorfest.sk/5940-stiavnicky-zivy-sach-2017-13-rocnik/>

Video presentation of the event: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjrnnpWH-vnM>

Among the places you can visit, there are:

- the historical center with various beautiful old buildings (churches, castles, etc.),
- an open-air mining museum,
- an exhibition of minerals,
- gorgeous surroundings with mountains and lakes (the highest peak, Sitno, is 1.009 m high),
- galleries and a public swimming pool.

Two places worth mentioning are:

- the exhibition "Banskoštiavnický betlehem": wooden figures that show the history of life in Banská Štiavnica with motifs from the history of Christmas (<http://www.betlehem.sk/fotogaleria/>);
- the Calvary, a set of historical chapels on a hill that show scenes from the crucifixion of Jesus (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalv%C3%A1ria_Bansk%C3%A1_%C5%A0tiavnica).

13. Trips

During SES, there will be 5 half-day and 2 full-day trips (more details: <http://ses.ikso.net/2017/ekskursoj.php>).

Half-day trips:

- *Banská Štiavnica – town, castle*
(price: 9 EUR, Date: 2017-07-16)
- *Banská Štiavnica – mine museum*
(price: 12 EUR, Date: 2017-07-18)
- *Hodruša-Hámre – Starovšechsvätých mine*

(price: 12 EUR, Date: 2017-07-17)

- *Počúvadlo* – lake, swimming, forest walk

(price: 9 EUR, Date: 2017-07-19)

- *Zvolen* – town, castle, *Pustý hrad*

(price: 15 EUR, Date: 2017-07-21)

Full-day trips, Wednesday, July 19th (both occur at the same time, you can only choose one of them):

- *Bojnice* – town, castle, zoo

(Price: 30 EUR, Date: 2017-07-19)

- *Banská Bystrica* – town, *Donovaly* (mount *Zvolen*, fable-town *Habakuky*)

(Price: 30 EUR, Date: 2017-07-19)

If you haven't yet reserved your place on a trip or you want to change your reservation, please do so as soon as possible, because places are limited. You can reserve or make changes by sending an e-mail to: ses@ikso.net.

14. Angels

During the event, so called "angels" will help to guide newbies (those who have never attended an international Esperanto event). Angels will have a name-tag with a different color and will be introduced on the first evening. Angels can help new attendees to navigate through SES: suggest useful parts of the program to attend, explain how things work, discuss problems, etc. Angels are usually experienced Esperanto speakers who are familiar with events like this one. Don't hesitate to talk to an angel if you have a question or a difficulty, because they are there to help you!

15. Contacts

If you have any questions or comments, please write to ses@ikso.net.

In general, we ask you to contact us online, but *in case of emergency* during your trip, you can also contact the main organizers by telephone:

Peter +421902203369

Katka +421 948444380



If you use the Telegram application, you can join the SES group where you can chat with organizers and other participants:

https://t.me/joinchat/EUXK1z_ufRcbF1H_9AF3oQ

See you at SES 2017 in Banská Štiavnica,

The SES team