



INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER NO. 8

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INTRODUCTION

The planning of the ISCA Conference in Greece and Turkey is well underway, and this Newsletter will serve as the First Circular of the Conference.

Conference 2012 promises to be spectacular, and we can all be grateful for the superb work being undertaken by our Greek and Turkish friends, in organizing this Conference.

With this Conference spanning two countries, there will be the need for attendees themselves to do a little extra planning. I will give everybody an insight of what is being offered by our hosts, and what will need to be thought of by the attendees, in this newsletter.

THE CONCEPT OF THE CONFERENCE

The bold concept of the Conference is that it will take place in two very different countries. The Conference will take place over a nine (9) day period.

The first of these days will be for travelling to, and in, Greece. This will be followed by three (3) full days in Greece. The fifth (5th) day will be spent travelling by bus and air into Turkey. This in turn will be followed by three (3) full days in Turkey. The ninth (9th), and final day, will be for travelling from Turkey.

The programme will enable all attendees to enjoy experiences not usually found in conferences. For example, attendees will be visiting and spending time in two different countries with very different cultures and history.

This experience will be unique and will enable attendees to see much of these two countries and their caves. Our hosts have developed programmes that would take a



multifold amount of time, for individuals to experience on their own, compared to what is offered in this Conference.

THE CONCEPT OF THE CONFERENCE

The organization of the Greek portion of the Conference (Ioannina to Istanbul) is being led by:

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The organization of the Turkish portion of the Conference (Antalya to Alanya) is being led by:

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The communications relating to the Conference is being organized by:

David Summers	dsummers@bcec.bm
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The registration is being organized by:

Renata Marinelli	renatamarinelli@libero.it
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THE PROGRAMME

The latest draft programme follows. It is still being fine tuned but, following the superb work by our Turkish and Greek friends, it is starting to look excellent and pretty final.

Saturday, 3rd November 2012:

Arrival in Ioannina. Hotel accommodation
20:00 Dinner

Sunday, 4th November 2012

Breakfast
09:00 Opening and Welcome
 Conference Hosts
 Conference Programme
 Local Information
10:30 Coffee Break
10:45 ISCA Conference Business Meeting
 ISCA Board of Directors Meeting
 Commission and Study Group Reports
 Any other business
12:30 Visit to Lake of Ioannina and its Island



14:00 Lunch
17:00 Visit to Perama Cave, Ioannina
20:00 Dinner

Monday, 5th November 2012

Breakfast
08:00 Departure to Meteora, visit to two monasteries
12:30 Visit to the prehistoric cave of Theopetra
13:30 Lunch
16:30 Visit and coffee at Metsova, a picturesque village near Ioannina
18:00 Round Table
20:00 Official Dinner

Tuesday, 6th November 2012

Breakfast
08:00 Departure from Ioannina. Visit to the archaeological site of Vergina.
13:30 Lunch
16:00 Arrival at the town of Drama. Hotel accommodation.
17:30 Visit to Alistrati Cave and Aggitis Cave
20:30 Dinner

Wednesday, 7th November 2012

Breakfast
08:00 Departure for Istanbul, Turkey
Flight from Istanbul to Antalya
Transfer to Alanya. Hotel accommodation
19:30 Cocktails and dinner

Thursday, 8th November 2012

07:30 Breakfast
09:00 Opening and Welcome
Conference Hosts
Conference Programme
Local Information
10:30 Coffee Break
10:45 ISCA Conference Business Meeting
ISCA Board of Directors Meeting
Commission and Study Group Reports
Any other business
12:30 Lunch
13:30 Visit to Dim Cave



19:00 Dinner

Friday, 9th November 2012

07:30 Breakfast

09:00 Visit to Damlataş Cave and Kizil Kule (Seljuk Red Tower)

12:30 Lunch

14:00 Visit to Sapadere Canyon and River

20:00 Dinner

Saturday, 10th November 2012

07:30 Breakfast

09:00 Visit to Side, Antic Town and Aspendos Theatre

11:00 Visit to Manavgat River and Waterfall

12:30 Lunch

14:30 Visit to Zeytintaşı Cave

17:00 Transfer to Antalya and free time in the city

20:00 Dinner

Sunday, 11th November 2012

Departures and free time in Turkey

REGISTRATION

Due to the complexities of organizing a conference spread over two different countries, it will be necessary for the number of participants to be determined as soon as possible. This is a critical factor in determining the cost of attending the Conference. For example, the difference between 99 attendees and 101 attendees, is the difference between two buses and three buses.

Effective the time that you receive this newsletter, it will be extremely helpful, if you are intending to attend this Conference, that you advise Renata of this intention. The formal commencement of the registration will take place in the not too distant future.

One important aspect of this Conference is that I regret to have to inform everyone that it will not be possible to attend only one portion of the Conference. So, if you have time constraints over the periods that the Conference is being held, you have advance warning that you need to free up these constraints and plan to attend the full Conference!

Another limitation that we will need to impose is that the deadline for registration will be approximately one month before the commencement of the Conference. This is due to the challenges in organizing a Conference in two countries.



You have the opportunity to attend a fabulous conference, so start letting Renata know that you plan to attend. It will be an experience that you will not regret.

CONFERENCE COST

Unfortunately, the cost of attending the Conference has not been determined at this time. The fact is that we are dealing not only with four countries in the organizing, but also two currencies, just compounds the difficulty of calculating the final cost in these turbulent economic times.

The cost, once it is calculated, will be as inclusive as possible, meaning that all costs, including transportation, admissions, meals and accommodation will be covered by the registration cost.

As previously mentioned, it is important that we know the number of those planning to attend the conference, so please let Renata know as soon as you can.

As the last word on this particular subject, it is important that I confirm that every effort is being made to keep the costs as low as practically possible.

More about this important aspect in due course.

TRAVEL TO THE CONFERENCE (3rd NOVEMBER 2012)

The Conference will begin in Ioannina, a city in the northwest of Greece. Attendees will, in all probability, initially land in Athens, the capital of Greece. The attendees itinerary should include the flight from Athens to Ioannina.

The cost of the flight from Athens to Ioannina is not included in the Conference Registration, and should be part of the attendees travel itinerary.

TRAVEL FROM GREECE TO TURKEY (7th NOVEMBER 2012)

The Greece portion of the Conference will end with the participants being delivered to Istanbul's Atatürk Airport (IST). The cost of this bus journey will be included in the Conference cost.

The second part of this transfer is a flight from Istanbul to Antalya. There are numerous flights between these two cities and more information will be given very soon regarding the time that would be best for participants to take. The cost of this flight is not included in the Conference Registration and should be part of the attendees travel itinerary.



The cost of the transfer from Antalya Airport to Alanya is part of the Conference, and this cost will be covered by the Conference Registration cost.

TRAVEL FROM THE CONFERENCE (11th NOVEMBER 2012)

The Conference will end in Antalya, a city 725 kilometres south of Istanbul. Attendees will probably need to fly out of Turkey through Istanbul. The journey out of Antalya will need to be part of the attendees travel itinerary.

OVERALL ATTENDEES TRAVEL ITINERARY

The initial attendees travel itinerary will be to Ioannina, probably via Athens. The next leg will be Istanbul to Antalya. The subsequent leg should commence at Antalya, and will most probably be via Istanbul.

PRE-CONFERENCE AND POST-CONFERENCE EXCURSIONS

With the Conference extending over a full nine (9) days there will be no formal Pre-Conference or Post-Conference excursions planned. However, there will be superb opportunities for attendees to stopover in Greece before the start of the formal conference and/or in Turkey after the end of the formal conference.

There will be more information on the possibility for attendees to create incredible Pre and Post-Conference excursions of their own in subsequent Newsletters/Circulars.

CONCLUSION

If you plan on attending this Conference please start letting Renata know as soon as possible! If you have not decided to attend, start thinking positively about it, as the Conference is going to be incredible!

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