
21st BETA Annual Conference
31 March – 01 April 2012, Ruse, Bulgaria

TRAVEL INFORMATION AND ACCOMMODATION

Conference Venue: UNIVERSITY OF ROUSSE (The New Building)

Address: 8 Studentska Str, 7017 Ruse
www.uni-ruse.bg

Pre-conference Event Venue: UNIVERSITY OF ROUSSE (The New Building)

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The University of Rouse is located near the city centre of Ruse in an area close to the city's park.

A map with key locations is available here:

<http://g.co/maps/3bpg2>

A map of Ruse is available here: <http://www.bgmaps.com/en/map/ruse> (EN)
<http://www.bgmaps.com/bg/map/ruse> (BG)

GENERAL INFO ABOUT RUSE:

<http://www.informationbulgaria.com/ruse.html> (EN)

<http://tic.rousse.bg/> (EN)

http://www.teambulgaria.com/town.php?town_id=27 (EN)

<http://www.investbulgaria.com/Rousse.php> (EN)

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/bulgaria/central-balkans/ruse/sights> - Places for sightseeing in Ruse (EN)

GETTING TO RUSE

PYCE (RUSE, also transliterated ROUSSE or RUSSE) is located in North-East Bulgaria, on the country's northern border and the Danube River. The distance from Ruse to the capital city of Bulgaria – Sofia is 324 km, while the distance to Bucharest, the capital of Romania, is only 72 km.

By air

Ruse is easily reached from the two international airports in **Bucharest** (the capital of Romania). Journey time is approx. 1.30h. There are also regular flights from all over the world to the capital **Sofia** and from there you can use public transport to Ruse (324 km). The distance from **Varna** airport to Ruse is approx. 200 km.

- **Taxi services**

For the participants arriving at the **Bucharest airport**, one option is to take a taxi which can be booked on request in advance by our partners from Diron Travel Agency (<http://www.dironbg.com>). You will be met at the airport by a representative of the travel agency. On request, the company can also offer a mini bus for participants (maximum 8) arriving at the same time at the airport.

The price for the taxi (one way) is approx. 50 Euro.

- **Coach services**

For the participants arriving at Bucharest airport, one option is to take a coach from Bucharest to Ruse.

A Bulgarian Coach Company operating between Bucharest and Ruse is **GRUP PLUS**.

Current timetable: Bucharest – Ruse 16.00; Ruse – Bucharest 05.45

Ticket price: 20 lv (10 Euro) single, 35 lv (22.5 Euro) return.

Please, check timetables and prices before your journey at www.etapgroup.com

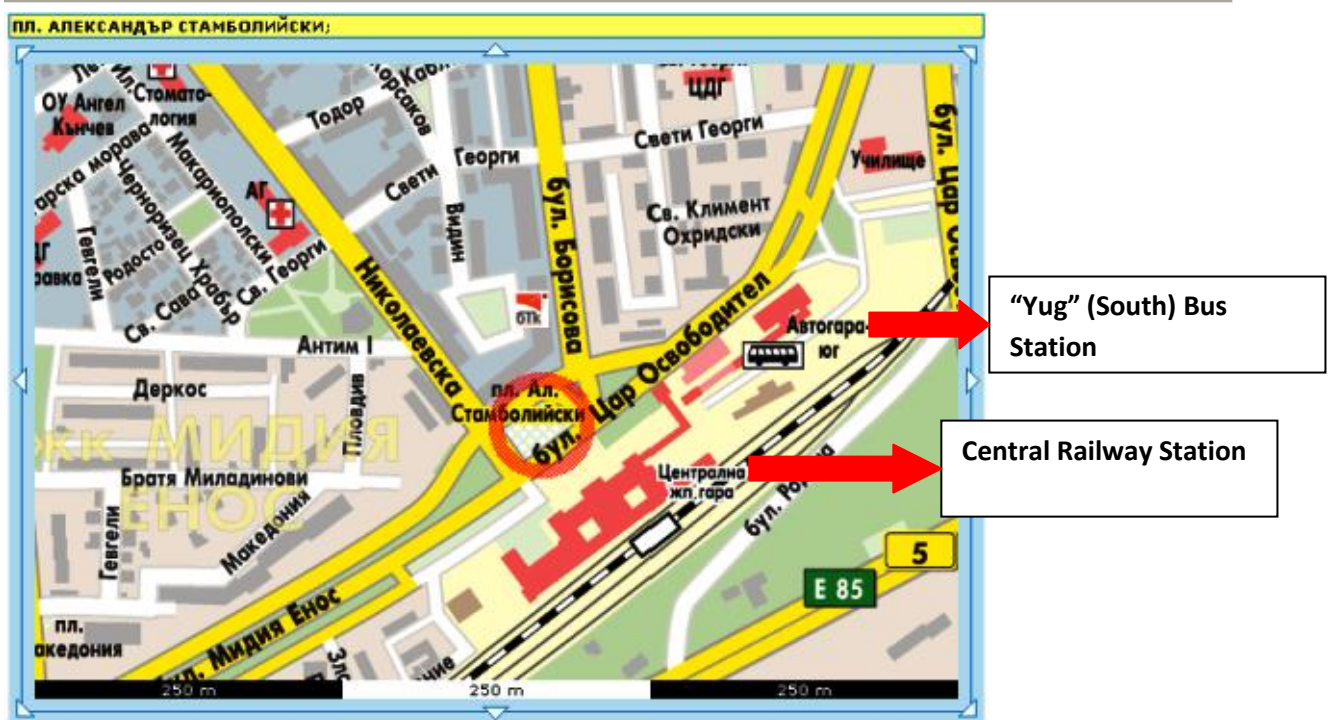
Ruse office: +359 / (0)82 / 83 67 57; Sofia office: + 359 / (02) /8133 200

Bucharest office: + 4021 313 3642



By train

International rail network links Bulgaria with Bucharest. There are international daily trains to/from Bucharest to Ruse. From Bucharest you can get a train to the Central Railway Station in Ruse. From the Railway station you can get to the city centre by taxi or by buses 11, 32 and trolley bus 25.



Note: Trains in Bulgaria are cheap but train journey times are much longer than those of coaches.

Find information about train timetables at <http://bdz.bg/index-en.php> (BG, EN) (Bulgarian Railway Company)

By coach

There are many coach services to Ruse, running from almost every part of Bulgaria.

A good coach service is available **from Sofia to Ruse**, with buses running approximately every hour from the Sofia Central Bus Station. The coach journey takes 4 hours and costs 26 leva (13 Euro). For more information on bus schedules from Sofia and prices:

- <http://www.centralnaavtogara.bg/index.php> - Central Bus Station in Sofia;

The distance from Ruse to Bulgaria's major sea port of **Varna** is about 200 km. Journey time is 3,5 hours and the price is 22 leva.

For more information on bus schedules and prices:

- http://www.avtogari.info/index_en.php (BG, EN)
- <http://avtogararuse.org/index.php?p=normal&id=1> – Ruse "Yug" Bus Station (BG)

There are 2 bus stations in Ruse. The buses from **Sofia, Varna, Burgas, Plovdiv, Stara Zagora** arrive at the “Yug” (South) bus station which is close to the Central Railway Station in Ruse.

From the “Yug” (South) bus station take a taxi to the centre or to your hotel. Taxis in Ruse are generally cheap and reliable. You can find taxis at all of the stations. Make sure the taxi meter is running and that there is a sticker on the window with the price per kilometer.

Phone numbers of taxi companies in Ruse:

8108 Taxi - http://www.taxi8108.com/index_en.php; Tel: + 359 82 / 8108;
+ 359 89 888 8108 (mobile)

Milanov Taxi: Tel: +359 82 / 8111

Union Taxi: + 359 82 / 8800

Ekspres Taxi: +359 82 / 8141

HOTEL INFORMATION

The Diron Travel Agency has arranged specially discounted rates for the delegates at the 21st BETA Annual Conference. The proposed hotels are situated in the central area of the city. The hotel price includes transfers (by bus) to the conference venue and back to the hotel.

To make a room reservation please, follow the steps below:

1. Check the **Diron Travel Agency** website <http://www.dironbg.com> for the type of accommodation available;
2. Download and complete the **Accommodation Booking Form:**
 - Booking Form in English - http://www.beta-iatefl.org/cogitoergosum/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Hotels_21st-BETA-Conference_En2.doc
 - Booking Form in Bulgarian – http://www.beta-iatefl.org/cogitoergosum/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Hotels_21st-BETA-Conference_BG2.doc
3. Send the **Accommodation Booking Form** by e-mail to diron@abv.bg and mention the booking keyword “**BETA CONFERENCE**”/“**БАПА КОНФЕРЕНЦИЯ**” as the e-mail subject

✓ *Receive a booking confirmation e-mail from the Diron travel agency.*

Participants are responsible for making their own reservations for a hotel of their choice. Please contact the Diron Travel Agency **directly** and make sure to specify that you are attending the BETA-IATEFL Conference by mentioning the booking keyword “**BETA CONFERENCE**”/“**БАПА КОНФЕРЕНЦИЯ**” as the e-mail subject. Contact details: Diron Travel

Agency, <http://www.dironbg.com>; Tel: +359 82 837 767 | Fax: +359 82 837 767 | E-mail: diron@abv.bg.

Because of the March Music Days International Festival (16 March – 02 April 2012), we strongly advise the participants to book their accommodation as soon as possible.

From the Danube Plaza Hotel, the Vega Hotel or the Cosmopolitan Hotel you can also take a taxi to the University (which is about 3 – 4 levs; about 2 Euros). The taxi company that we recommend is “Taxi 8108” – http://www.taxi8108.com/index_en.php; Tel: + 359 82 / 8108; +359 89 888 8108.

You can also go to the University of Ruse by bus lines 11, 32, 28 and trolley buses 25, 27 and 29 (tickets are sold in the vehicle – 1 lev). If you are staying in the *Danube Plaza Hotel* or the *Vega Hotel*, you can go to the bus station on “Tsar Osvoboditel” Street (near the Pantheon).

If you decide to walk, take the main street (Alexandrovskia Street) in the direction to the town’s park. When you reach the park (Alei Vazrazdane Street), cross the park and take the first crossing on your right (in the distance down the street you will see the main building of the University). Walk down the street, crossing “Pliska” street and you will be at the University of Ruse.

Bulgarian Currency: the basic unit of the Bulgarian currency is the lev, divided into 100 stotinki. The current exchange rate is 1.95 levs (BGN) to 1.00 Euro.

By car

If you are travelling by car, Ruse lies on route E70 (from Burgas) or E85 (from Sofia). Most parking spaces in the city centre are paid. Buy a ticket at a kiosk or from the parking attendant.