

Conference venue

The *"Plants, Metals & Environment"*: Spring meeting of the **PLANTMETALS COST Action 19116** will be held during **April 13th – 14th, 2023** in the **Congress Centre of Slovak Academy of Sciences (CC SAS)** in a small town **Smolenice Castle** which is located approx. 50 km away from Bratislava, Slovakia.



Contact information

If you have any questions or if you would like to be in touch with people attending the conference and local organisers, please join our group chat on WhatsApp that will be moderated by two of the local organisers. Feel free to ask us questions any time you want or use it to facilitate conversation among us.

Also, if necessary, here are the phone numbers of the local organisers:

Dr. Marek Vaculík	+421 948 600 783
MSc. Anna Kokavcová	+421 907 286 670
MSc. Adriana Mišúthová	+421 902 258 019
Prof. Alexander Lux	+421 910 570 676

Link and QR code to WhatsApp group chat:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KnyHCPoalGT8WP6UfNCsqM>



Poster Session and Poster Printing

Please, keep in mind that **5 minutes long flash talks are required**. The recommended **size of the poster should not exceed A0 size (841 x 1189 mm)**. Flash talks are going to take place on Thursday with poster session afterwards. Please, prepare short PowerPoint presentations and try to stay within the time limit.

If you don't want to travel with your poster you can print it out in the printing company called **FaxCopy** in **Bratislava Central Bus Station – Nivy**. To meet the requirements, you can print out a poster in the format size A0. You can send the pdf file in advance to their e-mail address: ban@faxcopy.sk with the message where you write down the size of the poster (A0), approximate time when you arrive to the company to pick up your poster, and the type of paper you want it to be printed on – regular paper (80 g) ca 12 €, poster paper (120 g) ca 20 €, or photographic paper (200 g) ca 26 €. If you do not send the pdf file in advance you can still print out your poster there, however you will need to wait approximately 20 – 30 minutes.



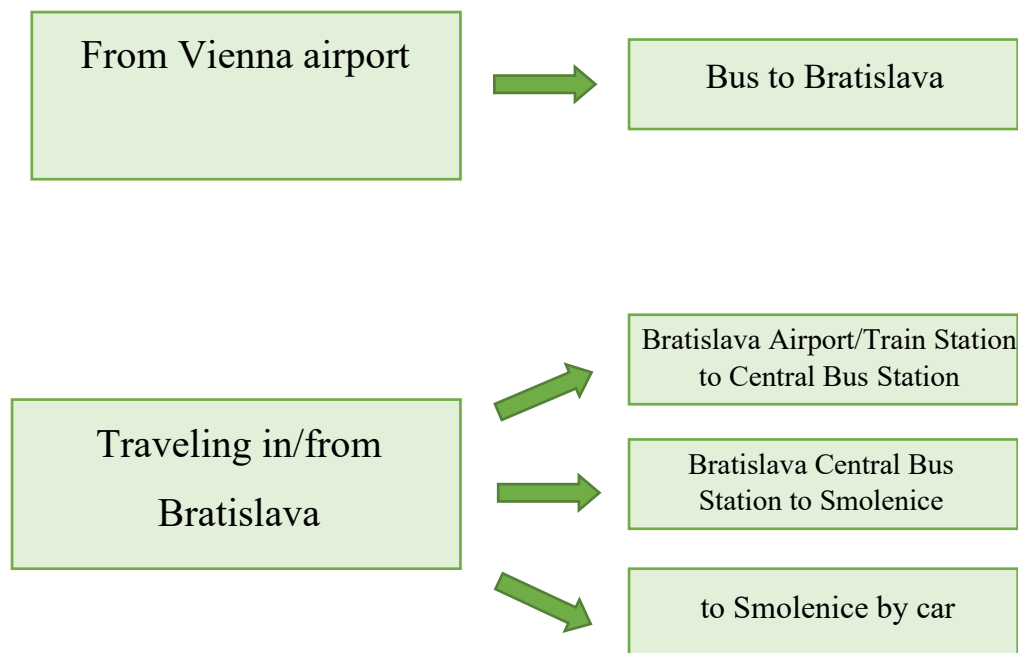
Accommodation

You are strongly recommended to book your accommodation via e-mail address: receptia-zamok@savba.sk. The payment is in **EUR**, you can pay after arrival by **cash or credit card**. Note that there is **no ATM machine at the Castle**. Check in is from 2 PM, check out latest at 10 AM. On Friday April 14, you can keep your luggage at the reception. Please, note that if you would like to have a dinner at the Castle on Wednesday April 12 evening, you need to send your request to the organizers (kokavcova18@uniba.sk, in copy marek.vaculik@uniba.sk) latest on April 10, 2023. The cost for dinner is 13 EUR. We also **recommend leaving the castle on Friday April 14**, and arrive at the end of excursion to Bratislava, where you can easily book a hotel if you continue your travel next day (see later).

Arriving to the venue

There are many possibilities how to get to Bratislava. There is one local airport and another one near Vienna (Schwechat) which is approx. 50 km away. However, the bus connections are very frequent, and it is easy for you to get from Vienna to Bratislava and vice versa for a relatively cheap price. Since there are many ways how to reach Bratislava, but to get to the Congress Centre in Smolenice you need to travel by bus, here is a small plan that may help you get the information necessary for your travel between the cities and inside the Bratislava city. You can simply press the **ctrl** key and **click** on the required option, and it redirects you to the information necessary.

Here is a small guide that may help you get the information about traveling to the Congress Centre of Slovak Academy of Sciences in Smolenice and general information about traveling to/in Bratislava. You can use a shortcut (ctrl + click) and it redirects you to required link.



Transport from Smolenice

Most of you will probably attend the excursion on Friday (14th April 2023). We would like to inform you that people who are attending the excursion are going to leave from the Congress Centre by bus provided by local organisers and final stop will be at Main train station and Main bus station in Bratislava city centre, so there is no need to book your accommodation in Smolenice until 15th of April. Therefore, we strongly recommend you use this form of transport, since the route to Bratislava from Smolenice during the weekend can be complicated. We also recommend rather to book an accommodation in Bratislava if you continue your journey next day than return back to the castle. The expected time to reach Bratislava is at 5.00 pm, however due dense traffic and program at the locality the bus could arrive later. Therefore, please keep in mind this when planning your journey back on Friday.

From Vienna airport (Schwechat) to Bratislava Central Bus Station

The best and the most efficient way how to reach Bratislava you can use bus from one of these 3 companies that can get you directly to the Bratislava Central Bus Station (in Slovak it is called **autobusová stanica – Nivy** – the name Nivy stands for the name of the shopping centre which is located on Mlynské Nivy street). Central Bus Station in Bratislava is located on **-1 floor**. At the Vienna airport, the bus stop from/to Bratislava is right in front of the arrivals/departures entrance, and you don't need to take any cab or city bus to reach it. Therefore, we strongly recommend you to book the bus tickets (to/from the airport) from one of these three companies: **RegioJet**, **Flixbus**, and **Slovak Lines**.

Here you can find links to purchase your bus tickets with the direct route from Vienna airport to Bratislava Central Bus Station.

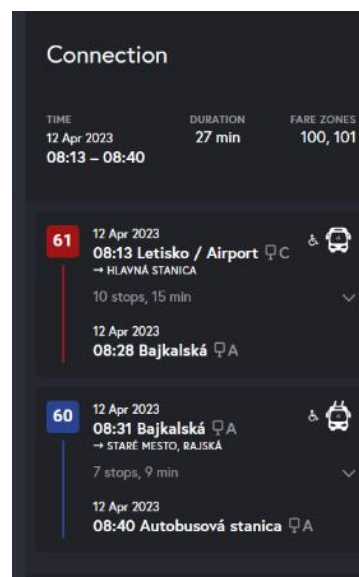
- <https://regiojet.com/?departureDate=2023-04-12&tariffs=REGULAR&fromLocationId=10204055&fromLocationType=STATION&toLocationId=10204001&toLocationType=STATION>
- https://shop.flixbus.com/search?departureCity=40df34e5-8646-11e6-9066-549f350fcb0c&arrivalCity=40de54de-8646-11e6-9066-549f350fcb0c&route=Vienna+Airport-Bratislava&rideDate=12.04.2023&adult=1&_locale=en_US&features%5Bfeature.darken_page%5D=1&features%5Bfeature.enable_distribusion%5D=1&features%5Bfeature.train_cities_only%5D=0&features%5Bfeature.webc_search_persistent_explore_map%5D=0&atb_pdid=0d125bfe-5bff-4183-a9b2-176d31878f99&_sp=65bd5b28-d07b-4d0d-8826-20bf95d9c1cd&_spnuid=03d0ad1a-463c-4819-b368-516c7fc1f9a5
- https://online.slovaklines.sk/search?d=2023-04-12&fcls=BONUS_SCHEME_GROUP.ADULT,1&lang=en&fS=241&tS=235

From Bratislava Airport/Train Station to Central Bus Station and Local Travel

- If you arrive *to Bratislava Main Railway Station*, you will need to get to Central Bus Station to get to Smolenice. Please, use **bus 40** to get to Central Bus Station and leave the bus at the Autobusová stanica stop.
- If you arrive *to Bratislava airport*, you will need to get to Central Bus Station to get to Smolenice. This link redirects you to the official Bratislava public transport webpage (www.imhd.sk/ba) and it shows you the possible route from the airport to the required destination (Central Bus Station).

<https://imhd.sk/ba/journey-planner?v=7&a=g167&b=g4&pd=2023-04-12&pt=8%3A00&pa=0&pl=1.0-4.0&pp=0&pc=0&pv=30.1-11.1-3.1-6.1-2.1-15.1-22.1&pf=2.1-22.1-49.1&po=1.1-80.1-214.1-219.1>

- You will see many options how to get to the Central Bus Station, however the best way is by **bus 61** and then on the **Bajkalská** stop (10 stops, approx. 15 minutes) you have to change the **bus 60** to get to the Bus Station (7 stops, 9 minutes) - you can leave the bus at the stop called **Autobusová stanica** or **Košická**. You can see this option on the picture. On the webpage or in the app (the app is called imhd.sk - but remember that you have to pick the Bratislava city) you can change the time. If you are not sure about the name of the stop, you can find them on Google Maps or you can contact us on the WhatsApp group chat – link is in the **contacts** section.



[Link to the Bratislava public transport website:](http://www.imhd.sk/ba/schedules-timetables)

<https://imhd.sk/ba/schedules-timetables>

You can plan your journeys here, but first you need to know the name of your stop. The public transport in Bratislava is really good, many stops have electric tables that show you how many minutes you have to wait for the next bus and usually the bus of the same line leaves every 5 – 15 minutes, depending on the frequency. The most important for you is to know the direction that the bus goes, which is something you can see on the top of every bus and it is also shown in the journey planner on the **imhd webpage** (link above).

To use the public transport, you need to buy the tickets which can be bought in the specialised shops (there is one in the *Main Railway Station*) or in the **ticket machines**. You can find the ticket machines mainly at busy public transport stops and stations, or where it is inevitable to ensure a nonstop availability of tickets. You can buy 30 min, 60 min, and 90 min single tickets in the small yellow ticket machines that are located almost on every bus stop. All ticket machines give change. Ordinary ticket machines at city public transport stops offer single tickets and day tickets with a 24-hour validity. The payments are possible only with coins. Be careful, because sometimes one stop has multiple different platforms, and the machine is only in one of them. You can avoid this inconvenience by downloading the IDS BK app where you have to create an account. Once you do it you can see that you have 0 € budget on your account. You must top up the credit on your account by simple payment using your credit card (min 5 €) and then you can buy any type of ticket anytime you want.

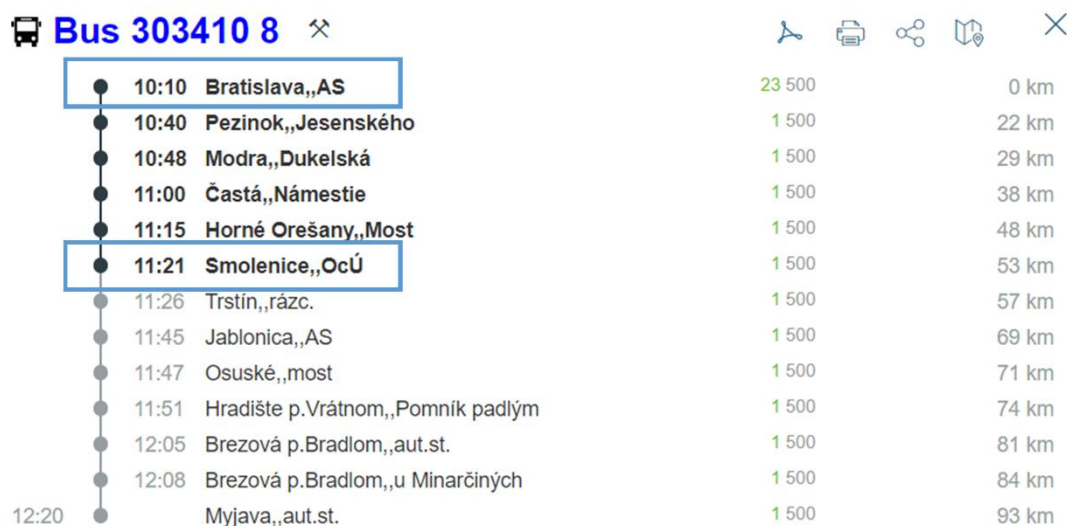
When you enter the bus/tram/trolleybus your ticket must be valid (when you buy the ticket online) or you have to validate it in the vehicle in a machine located next to the entrance. Also, when you are waiting for your bus/trolleybus you must stand visibly at the bus stop so that the driver of the arriving vehicle can see you in time, without giving any sign to the driver. And, before leaving the vehicle, the passengers must always press the button located next to the doors (stop or door release button) well in advance.

Travelling by taxi in Bratislava isn't very common. People use mainly two mobility companies – **Bolt** and **Uber** – primarily because it's cheaper than travelling by taxi. You can download these apps in the AppStore or Google Play Store, it is for free. You have to create an account and then you have to insert the information from your credit card so the payments can be performed. Once you have your account, you just need to put the required address in the search window, then you see how much you must pay to get to the required location and then you can either accept or decline the offer. Only once you reach your destination the driver gets paid.

From Central Bus Station to Smolenice

To reach the Congress Centre of SAS in Smolenice you have to take the bus from Central Bus Station (approx. 1 hour route) which is located on **-1 floor of Nivy centre**. This link redirects you to the webpage where you can see all the buses that can get you to Smolenice (you can pick the time that suits you the best). We strongly recommend you to use bus to get to Smolenice, since it's the easiest and fastest way how to get there. The name of the stop is **Smolenice OcÚ** and from this bus stop it takes approx. 23 minutes by walk to get to the Congress Centre od SAS.

<https://cp.hnonline.sk/en/vlakbusmhd/spojenie/vysledky/?date=12.04.2023&time=10:00&f=Bratislava,,AS&fc=200003&t=Smolenice,,Oc%C3%9A&tc=200003&direct=true>



Time	Stop	Ticket Price	Distance
10:10	Bratislava,,AS	23 500	0 km
10:40	Pezinok,,Jesenského	1 500	22 km
10:48	Modra,,Dukelská	1 500	29 km
11:00	Častá,,Námestie	1 500	38 km
11:15	Horné Orešany,,Most	1 500	48 km
11:21	Smolenice,,OcÚ	1 500	53 km
11:26	Trstín,,rázc.	1 500	57 km
11:45	Jablonica,,AS	1 500	69 km
11:47	Osuské,,most	1 500	71 km
11:51	Hradište p.Vrátnom,,Pomník padlým	1 500	74 km
12:05	Brezová p.Bradlom,,aut.st.	1 500	81 km
12:08	Brezová p.Bradlom,,u Minarčiných	1 500	84 km
12:20	Myjava,,aut.st.	1 500	93 km

You can find the exact route from the bus stop to the Smolenice castle here:

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Smolenice,,Oc%C3%9A,+919+04+Smolenice/Kongresov%C3%A9+centrum+SAV+Smolenice,+Z%C3%A1mock%C3%A1,+Smolenice/@48.5100001,17.4260702,16z/data=!4m14!4m13!1m5!1m1!1s0x476cbab426c273bd:0x4ebb50cde9e1e0e9!2m2!1d17.429772!2d48.505541!1m5!1m1!1s0x476cbab43c23a321:0xd72ae1e45c895abf!2m2!1d17.432726!2d48.5139067!3e2>

To Smolenice by Car

If you want to travel to Smolenice by car you need to be aware that in Slovakia, as in other countries, you must pay the toll to drive on the highway. Therefore, there are two alternatives how you can get to Smolenice:

- From Bratislava to Congress Centre of SAS via highway:

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Bratislava/Kongresov%C3%A9+centrum+SAV+Smolenice,+Z%C3%A1mcke%C3%A1,+Smolenice/@48.2817096,17.0066651,10.58z/data=!4m14!4m13!1m5!1m1!1s0x476c89360aca6197:0x631f9b82fd884368!2m2!1d17.1077478!2d48.1485965!1m5!1m1!1s0x476cbab43c23a321:0xd72ae1e45c895abf!2m2!1d17.4327261!2d48.5139067!3e0>

- You can purchase the **vignette** here (lowest fare is 10 days/12 €)

<https://eznamka.sk/selfcare/purchase>

The screenshot shows the EZNAMKA website interface for purchasing an electronic vignette. The navigation bar includes links for 'ELECTRONIC VIGNETTE PURCHASE', 'CHECK ELECTRONIC VIGNETTE VALIDITY', 'ELECTRONIC VIGNETTE DATA CORRECTION OR ADJUSTMENT', 'REQUESTS, SUGGESTIONS, CLAIMS', and 'HELP'. Below the navigation bar, there are six numbered steps: 1. Payment method, 2. Vignette type, 3. Vignette validity, 4. Vehicle data, 5. Payment, and 6. Confirmation. The 'Vignette validity' step is selected, and the user is prompted to 'SELECT ELECTRONIC VIGNETTE VALIDITY'. Four options are displayed:

Validity	Price (incl. VAT)
365-DAYS 2023	60.00 EUR
YEAR 2023	60.00 EUR
30-DAYS 2023	17.00 EUR
10-DAYS 2023	12.00 EUR

- To avoid highway, you can use alternative route from Bratislava to Congress Centre of SAS:

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Bratislava/Kongresov%C3%A9+centrum+SAV+Smolenice,+Z%C3%A1mcke%C3%A1,+Smolenice/@48.331254,17.2072197,11z/data=!4m16!4m15!1m5!1m1!1s0x476c89360aca6197:0x631f9b82fd884368!2m2!1d17.1077478!2d48.1485965!1m5!1m1!1s0x476cbab43c23a321:0xd72ae1e45c895abf!2m2!1d17.4327261!2d48.5139067!2m1!1b1!3e0>

Accommodation in Bratislava

For those they need to search for an accommodation from Friday April 14, to Saturday April 15 in Bratislava, here we included some hotels in case you want to spend your night here. You can always use booking.com to find a hotel that suits your needs, because some of the recommended hotels could be booked already.

- https://www.booking.com/hotel/sk/elisabeth-old-town.en-gb.html?aid=304142&label=gen173nr-1FCAEogg146AdIM1gEaM0BiAEBmAEJuAEXyAEP2AEB6AEB-AEMiAIBqAIDuAKd092gBsACAdICJGY4YjZjMmY5LWJkZGItNDNkZi04ZDYzLWM2MTNmMTFmZDU5YdgCBuACAQ&sid=0bcfa091b90484b918f49c29040885f4&atlas_src=sr_iw_btn;checkin=2023-04-11;checkout=2023-04-12;dest_id=-840999;dest_type=city;dist=0;group_adults=1;group_children=0;highlighted_blocks=208353208_96856724_1_2_0;nflt=pri%3D1%3Bpri%3D2;no_rooms=1;room1=A;sb_price_type=total;type=total;ucfs=1&
- https://www.booking.com/hotel/sk/ibis-bratislava-centrum.en-gb.html?aid=304142&label=gen173nr-1FCAEogg146AdIM1gEaM0BiAEBmAEJuAEXyAEP2AEB6AEB-AEMiAIBqAIDuAKd092gBsACAdICJGY4YjZjMmY5LWJkZGItNDNkZi04ZDYzLWM2MTNmMTFmZDU5YdgCBuACAQ&sid=0bcfa091b90484b918f49c29040885f4&atlas_src=sr_iw_btn;checkin=2023-04-11;checkout=2023-04-12;dest_id=-840999;dest_type=city;dist=0;group_adults=1;group_children=0;highlighted_blocks=4158104_94257711_2_2_0;nflt=pri%3D1%3Bpri%3D2%3Bht_id%3D204;no_rooms=1;room1=A;sb_price_type=total;type=total;ucfs=1&
- https://www.booking.com/hotel/sk/garni-dock-bratislava-ii.en-gb.html?aid=304142&label=gen173nr-1FCAEogg146AdIM1gEaM0BiAEBmAEJuAEXyAEP2AEB6AEB-AEMiAIBqAIDuAKd092gBsACAdICJGY4YjZjMmY5LWJkZGItNDNkZi04ZDYzLWM2MTNmMTFmZDU5YdgCBuACAQ&sid=0bcfa091b90484b918f49c29040885f4&atlas_src=sr_iw_btn;checkin=2023-04-11;checkout=2023-04-12;dest_id=-840999;dest_type=city;dist=0;group_adults=1;group_children=0;highlighted_blocks=666480503_364626025_1_1_0;nflt=pri%3D1%3Bpri%3D2%3Breview_score%3D90%3Breview_score%3D80;no_rooms=1;room1=A;sb_price_type=total;type=total;ucfs=1&
- https://www.booking.com/hotel/sk/bluebell-b-amp-b.en-gb.html?aid=304142&label=gen173nr-1FCAEogg146AdIM1gEaM0BiAEBmAEJuAEXyAEP2AEB6AEB-AEMiAIBqAIDuAKd092gBsACAdICJGY4YjZjMmY5LWJkZGItNDNkZi04ZDYzLWM2MTNmMTFmZDU5YdgCBuACAQ&sid=0bcfa091b90484b918f49c29040885f4&atlas_src=sr_iw_btn;checkin=2023-04-11;checkout=2023-04-12;dest_id=-840999;dest_type=city;dist=0;group_adults=1;group_children=0;highlighted_blocks=549399402_199499346_1_2_0;nflt=pri%3D1%3Bpri%3D2%3Breview_score%3D90%3Breview_score%3D80;no_rooms=1;room1=A;sb_price_type=total;type=total;ucfs=1&#map_closed