



EUROPA FORUM 2007 BUCHAREST, RUMANIA. MD 105 UPDATE No. 1

Stop Press: “Early bird” discount now extended to 31st July 2007.

Place and date.

The 53rd Europa Forum will take place in Bucharest on 18th to 20th October 2007. It will be hosted by our colleagues in D 124 Rumania and will follow the theme *Time to care – Time to share*.

Please bear in mind that Rumania stepped in at short notice to save this years Forum allowing themselves a preparation time of only eighteen months to organise. It is to be expected that detail will arrive a little later than normal as a result. Such detail as is presently available can be viewed on the Forum Website that is now active at

www.europaforum2007.org

The Forum Website will be regularly updated as further information becomes available.

A direct link will shortly be provided from our MD website at www.lions.org.uk where notices such as this and other information relative to the MD105 participation in Europa Forum can be viewed.

Registration is now live by downloading the form from the Forum website. The form can then be completed on the PC or by hand and faxed or e-mailed to the appointed Forum Organiser, Ralcom Exhibitions srl. The e-mail address is not to a secure site and as those paying by Credit Card (probably the majority of our members attending) will need to insert their details on the form I recommend that it be submitted by fax. I personally have reservations about e-mailing such information and consider a fax in this situation to be more secured. There is a substantial “early bird” discount for Registration prior to 15th June 2007 after which it increases by approximately 30% (pre 15th June registration is 130 Euro for Lions & Lioness Members, 100 Euro for Accompanying persons, 70 Euro for Leo Members).

I do have the Registration Form in hard copy that I can forward to those without an Internet facility.

To take advantage of the substantial “early bird” discount you must Register prior to 15th June 2007.

MD 105 Travel & Hotel arrangements.

From my investigations I have concluded that there is no opportunity on this occasion to organise a combined travel/hotel package and using the official Forum hotels with individuals organising their own means of transport represents best value.

Whilst the choice of Hotel remains with you, I suggest that the Ibis Parliament appears to be the most appropriate for the MD 105 Delegation, being reasonably costed and closest to the venue of the Forum. This is an “official” Forum hotel and can be booked through the appointed Professional Congress Organiser (PCO). The PCO has block booked a considerable number of rooms (not the entire hotel) from Wednesday 17th October to Sunday 21st October. If you wish to extend your stay beyond these dates you can do so via the PCO or at a discount online at the Ibis website at

www.ibishotel.com. The Ibis online prices are currently 87 € per room (single or double occupancy) per night with breakfast charged extra at 9 € per person per day. These prices I understand include VAT (currently 19%) but are subject to a local City tax that I understand is currently 3%. The prices shown for this Hotel on the official Forum website include breakfast but do not include VAT or the local City tax.

I have been recommended also to the Hotel Bucharest Comfort Suites, the Hotel Relax Comfort Suites and the Hotel Central (in that order). These three hotels are some distance from the venue of the Forum (shuttle buses are being provided) and the PCO has a preferential rate on all three.

I suggest that you book your hotel accommodation as quickly as possible. As at today the PCO has some rooms still available at the Ibis Parliament but I am aware that other delegations are also interested in using this hotel.

There is a Polish budget airline Wizz Air that flies direct to Bucharest from Luton and Liverpool on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings with return flights on the same days arriving about mid-day. Costs vary dependant on the days chosen to fly out and return with Saturday and Sunday being the dearest. To fly out from Luton on the Monday and return on the Wednesday of the following week I was quoted £84.34 return including taxes, fuel charges, etc. A similar return flight from Liverpool was slightly cheaper. Further details and online booking at www.wizzair.com. The alternative is Scheduled services from Heathrow at more than double the cost.

Specific MD105 arrangements.

To follow the pattern of previous years we will be arranging:

- ❑ A briefing meeting during the evening of Wednesday 17th October where the procedures of the Forum will be explained, information is up-dated and any concerns can be addressed.
- ❑ An MD105 exclusive tour on Sunday 21st October.
- ❑ A post Forum farewell Dinner during the evening of Sunday 21st October.

Further details will follow when arrangements have been finalised.

Additional information.

1. Information is attached concerning the “Multiple Club Twinning” event/seminar that will occur at the Forum. Any Club that is interested please make direct contact as detailed in the information but please keep me informed.
2. A complete social programme is being arranged and outline information is provided on the registration form. Detailed information will be posted on the website as soon as available.
3. Whilst Rumania is now a EU member they are not a party to the Euro Zone and have retained their own currency that is the only legal means of tender whilst in Rumania.

PDG Barrie Richardson – MD Europa Forum Committee Chairman. 4/6/07
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PS. This Update was scheduled to be distributed during the week following MD Convention. Unfortunately the then known information concerning the Hotels changed and I had to redraft when the new information was made available over this weekend.