Bratislava, the capital of Slovak Republic is located 60 km east from Vienna, in the southwest part of Slovakia at the crossing of borders with Hungary and Austria.

The place has been of strategic significance as far back as the 9th century, at that time by the castle situated above the Danube that was already a recognized centre. Up today it remains the characteristic feature of the panorama of Bratislava.

The town historical core dates from periods after the year 1291 when Bratislava was granted urban privileges. It went through the greatest fame in the 16th century. Right below the castle there is a gothic St Martin's cathedral from the 14th century. In surrounding streets there are former noblemen's palaces, former royal office buildings, burgher houses, churches. Outstanding Primatial palace is worthy special attention (18th century - classicist style) as well as further baroque and renaissance palaces, many of them connected with the musical history of the town, and these days housing the museums and galleries.

The tradition of education, represented in past by Academia Istropolitana - founded in 1467, has found reflectance in modern educational institutions and attracts more than 30 thousands students nowadays to various studies at the Comenius University and the Slovak University of Technology and further education at re-founded Academia Istropolitana.

Present Bratislava - a capital of Slovak Republic is a dynamic place. Lively cultural life can offer many possibilities of enjoyment to the visitors of the town.

Much of useful and interesting information can be found on official Bratislava site:

www.bratislava.sk

VISA and TRAVEL

All foreign visitors to Slovakia are required to hold a passport, and for some countries, visa is needed to enter Slovak Republic. Please check visa regulations between your country and Slovakia, when making your travel arrangements. All questions concerning entry visa should be directed to your nearest Slovak embassy or consulate. We strongly recommend that all applications for visa be made well in advance before the Symposium. You may also consult the website:

www.foreign.gov.sk

Symposium participants will be responsible for their own flight and travel arrangements to and in Bratislava, Slovak Republic.

Bratislava can be reached:

By Air:

EITHER select your flight to Austria, Vienna International Airport (Wien, Schwechat, Flughafen, Austria), from there the direct bus-line will bring you to Bratislava (Slovak Republic) - main coach-station - AS Mlynske Nivy.

OR select your flight via Prague (Czech Republic) to Bratislava (Slovak Republic) airport.

By Train - to Bratislava-Main station (Bratislava - Hlavna stanica) OR to Bratislava-Petrzalka (from Austria)

By Eurolines - coaches - to Bratislava - main coach-station AS Mlynske Nivy.
The Symposium site at Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology can be reached by means of town transport:

**from coach (bus) station Bratislava** - stop name AS Mlynske Nivy:
- by trolleybus No 208, No 206 to the stop Kollarovo namestie

**from main train station - Bratislava** - stop name Hlavna Stanica:
- by tram No 1 (3 stops), 10-15 minutes by walking.

**from train station Bratislava Petrzalka** - stop name ZST Petrzalka:
- by bus No 180 - direction Kollarovo namestie

**from airport Bratislava:**
- by bus No 61 and transfer to tram No 9 or 6 at the stop Trnavske myto - direction to Centre
  (or transfer to tram No 5 at the stop Racianske myto - direction to Centre) - to the stop Technicka univerzita

Town transport tickets are available at all the places selling newspapers (with transfers bus-tram-trolleybus lines, limited by time - one way, four-ways, 24 hours, 48 hours, week tickets). You may also consult the website for travel-fares and line-numbers

[www.imhd.sk/ba](http://www.imhd.sk/ba)

**OTHER INFORMATION**

**CLIMATE**
End of June is usually warm weather, 25 - 30 °C, sometimes the weather may be rainy. An umbrella is a necessity. The symposium site is however a fairly cold place.

**CURRENCY**
The official currency is Slovak Crown - Sk, the exchange rate is approximately 1 EUR ~ 40-42 Sk. The exchange facilities are at the airport, in most hotels, banks, large city stores, and shopping-malls. Several small exchange offices are located in the centre of town. Please be careful no to exchange the currency with individuals on the streets - it is not safe.

**ELECTRICITY**
- 220V, 50 Hz, 2-pin connection - similar to Belgium-like

and many other useful hints:

[www.inyourpocket.com/Bratislava](http://www.inyourpocket.com/Bratislava)