

Worldcon 75 Fannish Inquisition

Name of bid/convention

Worldcon in France

For what dates are you bidding?

2-6 August 2023

What is your proposed convention host city? Is your convention site in a central location or a suburb? If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city centre? How far is the site from the city centre?

Nice, France

The convention would be held at the Acropolis, which is in the heart of the city. The old town is just a few minutes away on foot, and downtown about 10 minutes on foot (though you can get there faster with the tram).

Who are the main people on your committee?

At the moment, our team is led by a group of seven individuals who have been active in the French fandom for several decades. Some are editors, writers, translators, many with past or current experience running local conventions and festivals.

These seven persons are: Alex S. Garcia, Alain Jardy, Sybille Marchetto, Arnaud Koëbel, Albert Aribaud, Thomas Menanteau and Patrick Moreau.

Many others are also involved in the project, including René Walling who has greatly helped us move forward.

Travel

What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as Helsinki, London, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Melbourne?

The following rates are for a roundtrip ticket for two passengers. They assume booking the flight a year in advance and are valid as of July 26, 2017. More detailed information will be given at a later time.

Helsinki: from 356€

London: from 354€

Boston: from 1394€

Chicago: from 1640€

Los Angeles: from 3545€

Melbourne: from 3154€

Rates obtained from skyscanner.fr. Better rates may be available from local sources.

Do international flights fly into your local airport? Which airlines? If not, where is the closest international airport? Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport?

Nice has the country's second busiest international airport. It also offers many domestic flights.

Here are some of the airlines with flights to Nice: Aeroflot, Air Berlin, Air France, Alitalia, British Airways, Delta, easyJet, Emirates, Finnair, Flybe, Germanwings, Iberia, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Lufthansa, Monarch Airlines, Ryanair, SAS, Swiss International Airlines, TAP Portugal and Vueling.

See here for a more complete listing:

<http://www.nice-airport.net/airlines.php>

As for the above cities, only Helsinki and London have direct flights into Nice. Over 100 cities, however, have direct flights, including Dublin, New York, Amsterdam, Belfast, Berlin, Kiev, Liverpool, Manchester, Milan, Montreal, Moscow, Munich, Stockholm and Zurich.

A full list is available here:

<http://en.nice.aeroport.fr/Passengers/TRAVELS/More-than-100-destinations-from-Nice>

How far is your convention site from the nearest airport and train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport and taxi from those stations?

From airport to convention (20 to 40 minutes, depending on traffic and type of transport)

1. by taxi: about 40€
2. by bus: 1,50€ for the city bus, or 6€ with the airport shuttle
3. by tram: 1,50€

From train station to convention (10 minutes by tram)

1. by taxi: about 20 €
2. by bus or tram: 1,50 €

Above rates subject to change, but valid as of July 26, 2017.

Please describe public transport options in your city.

Taxi, bus and tram.

There are also blue bicycles and smartcars available for rent through the city.

NOTE: By 2023, there will be a tram line connecting the convention center directly to the airport. This is expected to become the quickest and cheapest way to travel between the two.

Facilities

Please describe your main convention facilities.

The Acropolis has a total surface of 38 000 square meters (409 028 square feet). We will be using 16 rooms with capacities ranging from 30 to 750 people (total capacity: 3686). In addition, there are three auditoriums, one holding 300 persons, another for 740, and the largest 2500.

More information will be available during the Fannish Inquisition as well as at our bid table.

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention? How many rooms of what types do you have in your room blocks?

It is still too early to discuss hotels at this stage. However, Nice does offer a large selection of hotels, with some 10 000 rooms. More specifically, there are 13 hotels within 1 km of the Acropolis, covering some 1300 rooms. Many more are within a few more meters while others can very easily be accessed by public transport.

What are your hotel room rates like?

We do not have any rates available yet for our selected dates. However, to give some idea of what to expect, current rates for early August, in the hotels closest to the convention center, range between 87€ and 200€ for a double room.

What is the distance from the nearest door of your main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site? What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties?

There are many hotels within walking distance from the convention center, the closest being the Relais Acropolis, about 120 meters (400 feet) from the entrance of the Acropolis.

As for accessibility, both tram and bus lines are fully equipped to handle those with mobility difficulties.

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.

There are many restaurants within walking distance of the convention center, including in the old town, covering a wide variety of world cuisine. More information about this will be provided at a later time.

What arrangements will be made for evening socializing and party space? Do you have a corkage waiver?

TBD

Miscellaneous

What type of weather can we expect during your convention? What is the average temperature during that time of year?

Temperatures, in August, can range (on average) from 18°C (64°F) at night to 28°C (82°F) during the day. There is very little rain in this season, typically only 4 days for the whole month. Sky is sunny and water warm and pleasant (23°C/73°F), perfect for swimming.

What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?

Museums (Matisse, Chagall, modern and contemporary art, etc.), beaches, Greek and Roman ruins, an observatory, the famous Promenade des Anglais and, of course, the very typical old town. There is also a Russian Orthodox Cathedral that is a popular place to visit.

Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain groups, such as young adults?

TBD

Should you win, do you plan to charge an additional fee for receiving paper publications?

Quick answer: NO!

Full answer: We have yet to look at postal rates, but we've discussed this and agreed that we'd want to figure out some way to make it work. Members should not have to pay something extra for their copy of the Souvenir Book!

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