

TRAVELING INSTRUCTIONS & GETTING TO THE CONFERENCE CENTER

Here are some directions that may help you with your trip to Patras. In any case please try to print the maps of the Rion and University Campus area, available from the conference's web page.

A. FOR THOSE TRAVELING BY PLANE:

There is a shuttle bus connecting the Athens International Airport with the Bus Station for the buses to Patras. As you come out of the arrivals terminal just turn at your right hand. You will see the bus stop. Buy the ticket from the stand that you will see right there. Ask for KTEL station at Kifissos; That's the terminal station of the route. When you get off the bus go to the tickets counter. It is in the building to the left of the taxi's queue. Buy a ticket to Patras. You have two options (same cost, approximately 12 Euros, one way):

1. Either you ask for an express bus, which brings you to the Patras main station (no intermediate stops) in an expected time of 2 hours and a half. They run almost every hour.

Those following this option will have to take a taxi to their hotel (usually there are several waiting at the station). Before 11:00 pm there is an option for a city bus, but it is not easy to give you directions for that. The taxi taking you to either hotel (Rion Beach or Kalliroe Apartments) or the University Dormitory (ask for: Foititike Estia) should not cost more than 7 Euros.

2. Or you take a common bus which, after a few stops along the way, brings you to Patras in an expected time of 3 hours. They run every hour too.

Those following the second option have the further option to ask the driver (it is not guaranteed that he can understand you but the other passengers may help!) to let them get off the bus at the stop after the tall station (NOT AT the tall station). Then at their own risk they may cross the highway (Greeks do it, on occasion!) and, if they are traveling light, take a short walk to either Kalliroe apartments or to the Dormitory (it is not advisable to go all the way to Rion Beach, it's rather too long to walk carrying any kind of luggage). Else, go all the way to Patras and follow the first option.

B. FOR THOSE TRAVELING BY TRAIN

Although the trip from Athens to Patras by train is substantially longer

than by bus, it is advisable to keep traveling by train. Getting off the train in Athens and having to reach the Bus Terminal for Patras is too complicated an enterprise. No buses associated to the Railways Organization cover the route from Athens to Patras (it used to be so in the past). Make sure though that you get on a (so called) Intercity train. Else you may have to keep traveling until the end of the Conference! The intercity train stops at Rion (after approximately 3 and a half hours). Those heading to Rion Beach hotel have the option to get off the train there. If they are not carrying very heavy luggage then it is possible to walk to Rion Beach hotel. Just get off the station, follow the road towards the sea and when you reach the seashore turn to the left. Rion Beach is a few meters away. If your luggage is too heavy to walk, go all the way to the Patras station and get a taxi from there. Case A1., above, applies. It's not easy to get transportation from the Rion railway station to any of the hotels.

C. FOR THOSE TRAVELING BY FERRY;

and arriving at the Patras harbor. There will be taxis available at the harbor's gate. Case A1. applies as well!

D. GETTING TO THE CONFERENCE VENUE

People staying at the Dormitory or at Kalliroe Apartments can just walk to the venue. The map of the area will be helpful. Those staying at Rion Beach will have to either take the local bus or call for taxis in groups of four people and share the expenses (it's cheap, anyway). The local organizers will be at either hotel or the dormitory the first morning in order to guide you.