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## Practical Information for Symposium Venue

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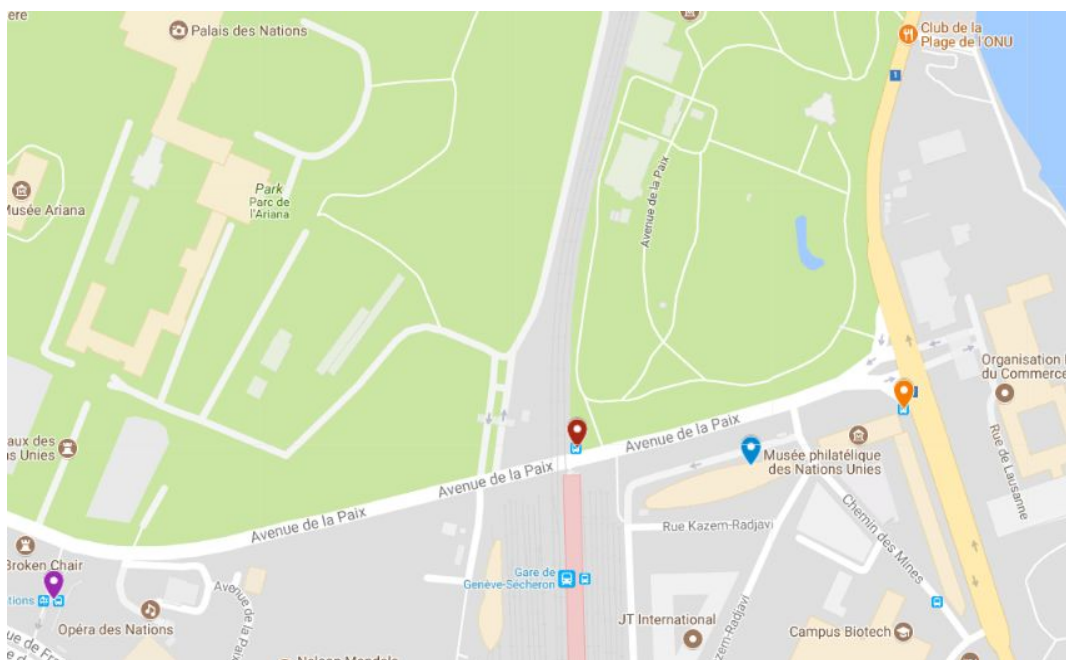
### Meeting Venue:

WMO--1-Lake-Salle C1 Room  
World Meteorological Organization  
7bis, avenue de la Paix,  
Case postale 2300  
CH-1211 Geneva 2  
Switzerland



### Arriving at the venue by bus:

The World Meteorological Organization (blue pin) is located within a ten minute walking distance of three bus stops: Jardin Botanique (orange pin), Sècheron-Gare (red pin), and Nations (purple pin). Jardin Botanique services buses #1, #11, #25, and #28. Sècheron-Gare services buses #11 and #28. Lastly, Nations services buses #5, #8, #11, #15, #22, #28, and letters F, V, and Z. Look to the “In the city” paragraph of the “Transportation” section (later in this document) for prices and links to observe routes and schedules.



Badges/Security:

In order to enter the building on the first day you will be required to show a piece of ID such as your passport. There will be a name badge for you at the reception/security desk. Please arrive at least 30 min before the start of the meeting to obtain your badge.





WiFi Access:

There is free WiFi access at WMO. The name is "wmo-public" and no password is required.

Electrical Outlets:

The electric current used throughout Switzerland is 230 Volts AC, 50 cycles (continental European standard). However, Switzerland has unique wall outlets. **Please make sure to bring the appropriate plug adaptor for your laptop computer and other electronic devices.**

There is limited compatibility with other continental European plugs: the standard continental type hexagonal plugs with two round pins (Euroconnectors, pin distance 19 mm [3/4 inch], pin diameter 4.0 mm [1/6 inch]), applied for many electrical travel products, may be used without problems. Please note that German / French / Austrian plugs with thick pins (diameter 4.8 mm [1/5 inch]) and Italian plugs with three thin pins in a row are not compatible with Swiss wall outlets, despite of the equal distance of their two main pins.

			
Flat type wall outlet	Deep type wall outlet, also on WMO power bars	Swiss hexagonal three pin plug	European hexagonal two pin plug

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## Accommodation Information

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Geneva offers many options, from hotels to hostels and Airbnb. The hotels and hostels below are all close to the symposium venue, but any accommodation near the TPG metro lines will quickly bring you to the venue as well. For your convenience in booking accommodation, all of the hotels and hostels listed below have received a rating of 4.0 or higher in both Google reviews and Trip Advisor reviews (the only exception being Geneva Hostel with a 3.8 on Google and a 3.5 on Trip Advisor).

### Hotels:

#### 3 star

- [Ibis Geneve Centre Nations Hotel](#)
- [Hotel Jade Manotel](#)
- [Hotel Kipling Manotel](#)
- [Hotel Eden Geneva](#)
- [Hotel Mon Repos](#)

#### 4 star

- [Hotel Auteuil Manotel](#)
- [Hotel Royal](#)

#### 5 star

- [InterContinental Geneva](#)
- [Hotel President Wilson](#)

### Hostels:

- [Geneva Hostel](#)
- [City Hostel Geneva](#)

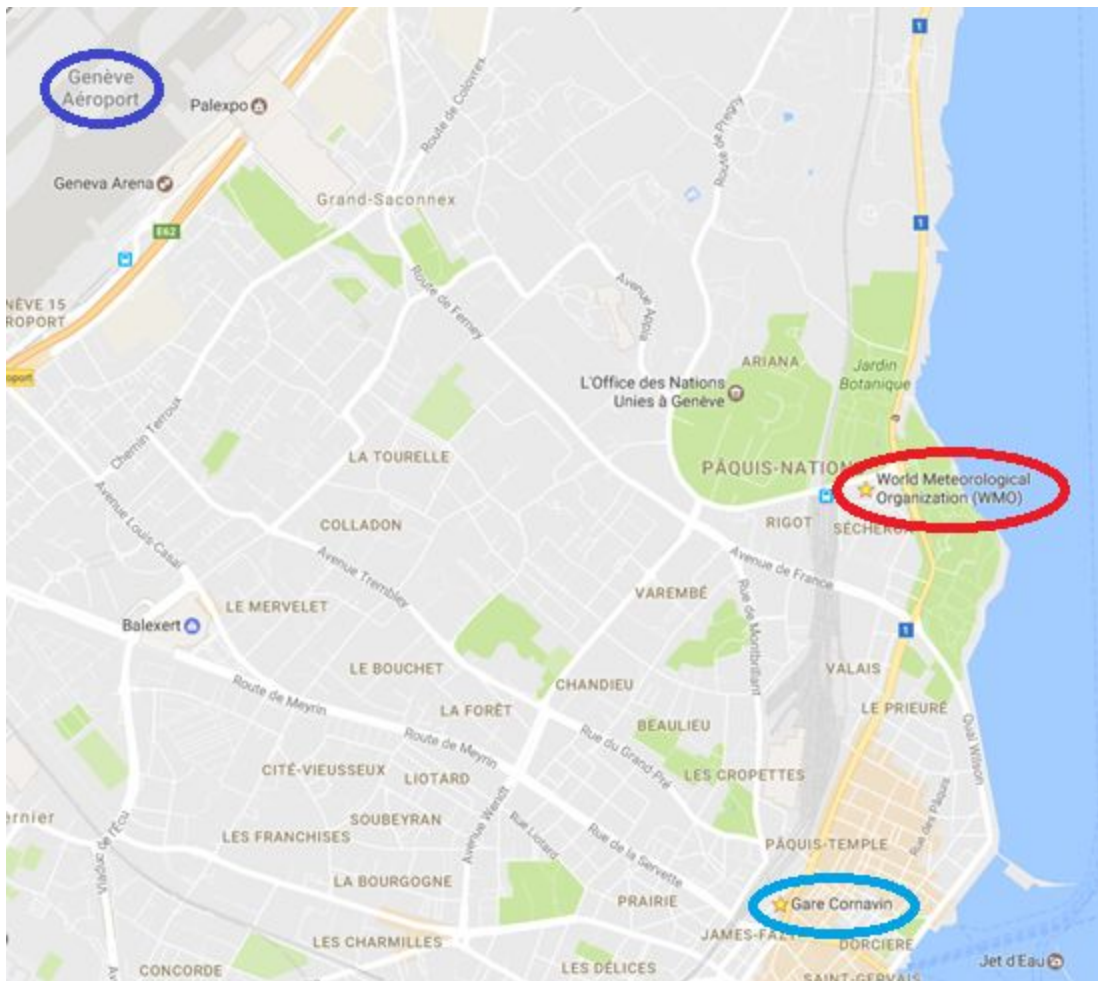
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## Transportation Information

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### Area Map of Geneva:

The WMO building is located approximately 5km from Geneva International Airport and 2km from Gare Cornavin (main train station and city centre).



From the airport:

The quickest and easiest way to reach your hotel/hostel/Airbnb from the airport is to use the ride sharing app Uber. To give you an idea of the price, the cost of a ride from the airport to the downtown Geneva (further than the distance to the symposium venue or the accommodations listed above) is between 25 to 30 CHF. All pickup from airport will occur on the ground level (where you would exit the building from the arrivals section). After exiting the doors, you will turn right and walk almost all the way down until the end, which should place you in front of the Montreux Jazz Cafe. Then, you will turn left, cross the street, and you will be in the small, two row parking lot (before the elevators) where your Uber will meet you.

You can consider taking a taxi directly to your hotel. To give you an idea of the price, the cost of a ride from the airport to the downtown Geneva (further than the distance to the symposium venue or the accommodations listed above) is between 35 and 45 CHF. This is convenient because you will be able to hail a taxi as soon as you exit the arrivals section of the airport building. However, caution is advised, as some taxi drivers are known to increase the rates on their meters, or pretend they cannot understand you and take longer routes to your accommodation.

You can consider taking one of the many TPG buses to somewhere near your accommodation. This option is **FREE**, because the united network of public transport organization in Geneva, UNIRESO, provides a free 80 minute bus ticket for all arrivals. You can pick up this complimentary ticket from a machine located in the baggage claim area just before the exit doors into the arrivals hall (see photo on the right). The bus routes provided from the airport include the blue #5, the green #10, the yellow #28, the black letter "V+," the black #5+, the purple #23, and the teal #57. A map of these routes and their stops can be viewed [here](#). In order to reach the bus stops for most of these routes, you will need to go up one level, in order to reach the departures section of the airport. A map of the bus stops on the airport grounds can be viewed [here](#).

Lastly, you can consider taking the train for the majority of the way to your accommodation or to the symposium venue. This option is **FREE**, because the united network of public transport organization in Geneva, UNIRESO, provides a free 80 minute bus ticket for all arrivals. You can pick up this complimentary ticket from a machine located in the baggage claim area just



before the exit doors into the arrivals hall (see photo on the right). The train from the airport to Geneva city centre (Gare Cornavin central station) will take only six minutes, and the train should come every 12 minutes during rush hour. If you would like to take the train directly to the symposium center, you would want to take train to the Genève-Sècheron station. This station is also closer to the accommodation recommendations listed above. Keep in mind, most of these options involve a transfer in downtown Geneva Gare Cornavin station. In order to find where to catch the train in the airport, follow the signs from baggage claim, as the airport railway station has direct access to the departure and arrival levels.

### In the city:

The easiest, quickest, and cheapest way to move throughout the city will be to use a TPG bus. A map of all of the routes within Geneva can be viewed [here](#). The times for each bus stop can be viewed on the posting at the bus stop, online [here](#), or, on the orange “TPG” app downloaded from the App Store or Google Play Store which shows bus arrivals in real time. If you decide to stay in a hotel or hostel, you should receive upon arrival a “Geneva Transport Card” free of charge. If you decide to stay in another type of accommodation, such as an Airbnb, this free transport card will not be provided. In that case, the prices for a bus ticket are as follows: for only three stops, the ticket costs 2 CHF or 2 €; for a 1 hour ticket, it is 3 CHF or 3 €; and for a day pass, it is 10 CHF or 10 €. Lastly, though TPG officers will not be checking for your bus ticket each time you are on a bus, it is highly recommended that you always purchase a ticket (or have the free transport card on you at all times), as the fine if caught without a ticket is 100 CHF.

Other transportation includes taxi services and Uber, but prices will depend on your destination and time of day. One thing to note: all taxis should have a meter.

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## In-Country Information

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### Money:

Swiss francs (CHF) are the currency in Switzerland and other currencies are not accepted (aside from euros which are accepted on the buses). Most shops and restaurants accept foreign credit cards (possibly with a fee), but smaller shops and cafes may not. It is therefore advisable to carry some cash in Swiss francs. You can withdraw cash from ATM machines all around the city center or in the airport. Additionally, banks are open from 8 am to 5 pm on weekdays, and there are a number of currency exchange shops at the airport and in the city centre with longer opening hours. More specifically, the nearest bank to WMO is UBS Bank located inside the World Trade Organization just steps from WMO. This is open Monday through Friday from 9 am - 12:15 pm and 1:30 - 3:30 pm. You will need to show your passport in order to enter the building.

### Tourism:

Information on tourist sights and attractions can be found [here](#). Keep in mind, depending on the responses received in the registration form, we may have planned social events to hike Mount Salève and for trying authentic fondue.

### Weather:

The average temperature for Geneva in November is 5°C (41°F), so come prepared with layers and an appropriate jacket. Geneva is notorious for surprise rain showers, so it is advisable to bring an umbrella, rain jacket, and appropriate shoes. For real time weather forecasts in the area, try [this link](#).

### Shops:

Normal opening hours for shops are Monday to Saturday from 8 am to 6 pm. As for Sunday, most shops are closed.

### Restaurants and Cafes:

Most restaurants are open daily until 10 pm or even later. If they are closed on any day(s), it would be Sunday or Monday. Look below for several budget and mid-range



restaurant and café recommendations in or near the WMO building. For other inspiration, try [here](#).

- **WMO Attic Restaurant:** Located on the top floor of the WMO building. Offers a good selection of daily features, as well as coffee/tea, sandwiches and snacks.
- **WMO Ground Floor:** you can purchase coffee/tea, other drinks or snacks from the vending machines across from Salle Obassi.
- **[Le Pyramus](#):** Located inside the Botanical Garden. Self-service section offers paninis, quiche and salads. There is also a sit-down restaurant.
- **[MOKAFE - coffee & sandwiches](#):** A 4 min walk from WMO on Avenue Blanc 51.
- **[“Le Fix” Coffee Bar](#):** An 8 min walk from WMO on Avenue de France 17.
- **Lanna Thai Restaurant:** A sit-down Thai restaurant. A 4 min walk from WMO on Avenue Blanc 42.
- **[Hotel Eden Restaurant](#):** Offers daily menus. A 4 min walk from WMO on Rue de Lausanne 135.

Useful Phone Numbers:

- **Emily Upton (IG<sup>3</sup>IS):** 076 447 1059 (if calling from outside Switzerland dial +41 76 447 1059), Email: [eaupon@wmo.int](mailto:eaupon@wmo.int)
- **WMO Reception Desk:** 022 730 5520
- **Emergency Rescue Service (Ambulance):** 144
- **Police:** 117
- **Hôpital Cantonal:** 022 372 3311 or 022 382 3311; rue Micheli-du-Crest 24, 1205 Geneva

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## Interactive Map

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An interactive Google map containing all above mentioned accommodations, venues, etc. can be accessed [here](#).