

SC22/WG14 Strasbourg 2024 Venue

The city



Strasbourg is a vibrant city at the heart of Europe, situated on the border between Germany and France in the upper Rhine valley. With its rich history of over 2000 years, its magnificent cathedral, its European institutions and its university it is a primal magnet for visitors and provides an abundant choice of accommodation facilities and restaurants. If you have not visited Strasbourg before, we strongly suggest to take the time the weekends before and/or after the meeting for side seeing, in Strasbourg itself and also the surrounding regions of Alsace (France) and Baden (Germany).

Strasbourg's city center (basically the whole island in the Ill river) is almost entirely pedestrian, so please don't even try to enter it by car. Local public transport is excellent (with local trains, trams, and busses), but main locomotion inside the center is by foot or by bicycle.

The meeting venue

We will meet in new common offices of Inria and ICube at Strasbourg. They are situated in a freshly renovated building (named *eXplora*) at the historic site of the old *Hôpital Civil*. The site is in walking distance of the city center and has its own tram stop, *Porte de l'hôpital*, for tram lignes A and D. The coordinates are 48.57557° N, 7.74854° E.

As usual for WG14, coffee and some snacks will be provided for the morning and the afternoon breaks. For lunch and dinner participants are referred to the numerous restaurants in the surroundings of the site.



Accommodation

There are plenty of hotels and other forms of accommodation all over town. This ranges from the big hotel chains, over small and cozy family-style hotels, to bed and breakfasts or apartments. In January the big tourist wave around Christmas should be over and you should be able to find suitable accommodation to your taste for a reasonable price. Just make sure that you are located in the city center or the quarter close to the Hôpital Civil, or that you are close to the tramway lines A or D.

Transport

Strasbourg has efficient fast-train connections to most other major cities in France (Bordeaux, Lille, Lyon, Marseilles, Paris, Rennes), to Frankfurt and Stuttgart in Germany, Basel in Switzerland, through Lille to London and Brussels, and through Basel to the rest of Switzerland and the North of Italy. We also recently regained night-train connections from Berlin and Vienna.

To reach Strasbourg from overseas, you have the choice among several airports, but for your comfort you should watch that you receive tickets that are provided by a single issuer and that **run through** to Strasbourg. European laws then warrant the continuation of transport, even if you miss a connection. Here is a collection of airport codes that you might use, depending of the airline alliance your are traveling with.

SXB (Strasbourg airport)

This is the small regional airport outside Strasbourg at Entzheim. For international travelers it is mainly interesting for providing a local connection to and from Amsterdam Schipohl airport. Whenever your company proposes you to go through Schipohl, chose this airport here as final destination.

The Entzheim airport is well connected to Strasbourg Central Station by a local train.

XWG (Gare de Strasbourg)

This is Strasbourg Central Station (*Gare Centrale*) in case you are connecting to or from Paris airport Charles de Gaulle. There are direct fast-trains linking to Strasbourg. You should not buy separate tickets but have this airport destination as a virtual connection flight.

XER (Gare de Strasbourg Bus Station)

This is a bus stop in front of Strasbourg Central Station (*Gare Centrale*) in case you are connecting to or from Frankfurt Airport. There are comfortable shuttle busses linking Strasbourg and Frankfurt Airport that are operated by Lufthansa. You should not buy separate tickets but have this airport destination as a virtual connection flight.

BSL (EuroAirport Basel Mulhouse Freiburg)

This airport is south of Strasbourg at the border to Switzerland, and jointly operated by the two countries. It is most useful for connections within Europe that are a bit far by train. There are good train connections taking a bit more than an hour from the nearest train station *Gare de Saint-Louis* to Strasbourg, they generally run every half hour.

MLH (same as above, French airport code)

EAP (same as above, neutral airport code)