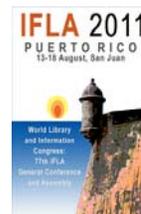




Africa Section pre-conference satellite meeting

GENERAL INFORMATION



Building Cross-Cultural Capacities in LIS: African and Caribbean Reflections

9-10 August 2011

Blue Horizon Hotel

Christ Church, Barbados

Accommodation

Participants will be booked into the Blue Horizon Hotel

Tel: + 246.435.8916

Fax: + 246.435.8153

Accreditation

Delegates will receive name tags on lanyards. These should be available for inspection at all official functions.

Airport Meet and Greet

Once you have provided us with your travel details by August 2, 2011, a representative will be at the GAIA between the hours of 9.00 a.m. and 9.00 p.m. to assist you with getting to the hotel.

Banking

The nearest bank to the Blue Horizon is the Bank of Nova Scotia. It has a red and white sign which can be easily seen just around the corner from the Blue Horizon Hotel.

Banking hours are 8.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m. Mon.-Thurs. and 8.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. on Fri.

Banks are not open on Sundays and Public Holidays. Most places will accept US dollars. Major credit cards are also generally accepted.

Business and Shopping Hours

Business in the city hours are generally from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Mon. to Sat. Sheraton Mall and Mall Internationale are open from 9.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. Mon. to Sat. Most supermarkets close at around 7.00 p.m. although some small shops will open until later. Super Centre at Warrens is open until 10.00 p.m. during the week and 7.00 p.m. on Sundays.

There is a 9-9 delicatessen facility in the Quay Side Centre around the corner and on the same side of the road as the Blue Horizon.

Climate

August is high summer in Barbados. It is also one of the months that comprises the Atlantic hurricane season. The last time that Barbados had a direct hit from a hurricane was in 1955 when Hurricane Janet came a-calling. While hurricane-like conditions have been known since then, the island has been spared from a direct hit by one of these deadly natural phenomena. Temperatures are usually around 90°F (30°C) however with our high humidity it can feel hotter.

Most major venues have central air-conditioning as will your hotel room.

Currency

The official currency for Barbados is the Barbadian dollar. The official exchange rate to the US dollar is US\$1 is equal to Bds\$2. Most places will accept US dollars in exchange for goods and services. Change is always given in Barbadian dollars. Because of the fluctuations in the rates of exchange, Euros, British pounds and Canadian dollars are only accepted by banks and your hotel. As in most countries, the exchange rate is not as favourable in hotels. Most places accept major credit cards.

Information Desk

There will be an information desk at the Blue Horizon to serve all delegates to the meeting.

Internet Services

Internet services will be available in all rooms at the Blue Horizon

Medical Services

Basic medical facilities (doctor on call) are available through the Blue Horizon. The nearest 24 hour clinic is the FMH Emergency Medical Clinic, located at 3rd Ave Belleville tel. no. 228.6120.

The nearest private hospital is the Bayview Hospital, Bayville, St. Michael tel. no. 436.5466.

The nearest pharmacy is Pearson's Pharmacy in Worthing at the foot of Rendezvous Hill inside Trimart Supermarket tel. no. 435.8363.

Meeting Venue

The IFLA satellite meeting will be held in the conference room at the Blue Horizon Hotel.

Museums

There are several museums in Barbados. These include: Arlington House Museum; The Concorde Experience; George Washington House; Museum of Parliament & National Heroes Gallery; and the Nidhe Israel Museum & Jewish Synagogue.

The Barbados Museum and Historical Society (BMHS), Barbados' largest museum celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2009.

Parking

Limited parking will be available at the hotel for delegates attending the meeting.

Places of Worship

Most denominations can be found in Barbados. A list of places of Worship can be obtained from your hotel's reception desk.

Postage

Postage rates depend on the destination of the correspondence. In addition to Post Offices, stamps are available for your convenience at several outlets. Your hotel will be able to assist with this information.

Radio Stations

Barbados has several AM and FM radio channels catering to a variety of listening tastes. Call-in radio programmes provide information about matters of concern from the perspective of the man-in-the-street. These programmes are a good way to get the pulse of the nation.

Recommended Clothing

Casual business attire is recommended for working sessions. For the evening dinner, smart casual will be suitable.

Comfortable clothes and shoes for the bus tour and other tourist activities will be appropriate. As the hotel is next to a very nice beach, a bathing suit would be a good item to bring.

Restaurants

Barbados boasts a variety of restaurants, catering to all tastes and financial dispositions. There are several in the vicinity of the Blue Horizon. Information and suggestions on local restaurants can be obtained from the hotel's reception or tourist information brochures.

Safety and Security precautions

Your safety and the security of your personal property are of utmost concern to us. Good security is available at your hotel and also all the venues that are on your programme. Like in many countries around the world however we encourage you to exercise caution:

- Do not answer the door in your hotel room without verifying who it is.
- Close the door securely whenever you are in your room.
- Do not needlessly display room key cards in public or carelessly leave them on restaurant tables or other places where they can be easily stolen.
- Do not draw attention to yourself by displaying large amounts of cash, expensive jewelry, cameras, etc.
- Place all valuables in your room safe.
- Check to see that any sliding glass doors, windows and any connecting room doors are locked.
- If you see any suspicious activity, please report your observations to the nearest security official.
- Do not walk alone on in dark streets or dimly lit places.

Smoking

Smoking is prohibited in ALL public places in Barbados. Please observe these regulations.

Telephones

Barbados has a good telephone service. Telephone calls from your room will be your personal expense. Many cell phone providers have roaming treaties with Barbados and so most cell phones with roaming features will operate in the island.

TV services

A TV with satellite connections will be found in all rooms. The local TV station is run by the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation. Your hotel will be able to inform of the channel which will provide you with local programming. The local news is presented at 7.00 p.m. nightly.

Transport

Transport will be available for delegates to and from the hotel for the tour. Details will be provided during notices at the meeting. They will also be available from the Information Desk for the meeting.

There are plenty of taxis in Barbados. Your hotel or the establishment you are visiting will be happy to call a cab for you. Although taxis are not metered, rates are fairly standard.

Local transportation is also provided by government buses. These blue and yellow vehicles can be identified by their blue number plates with the letter B. Red and white bus stops are marked either "To City" or "From City" indicating whether the stop is for a bus going to or from Bridgetown.

Privately run public service vehicles (known as ZRs or minibuses) which ply the same routes as the government buses are identifiable by their yellow and blue or red and white colours. Their license plates have the letters BM or ZR.