

# SES-bulletin

beta, 27.6.2008

Detailed information for registrees of **Summer Esperanto Study 2008**, Modra-Harmónia, Slovakia:

Note: if someone registered for this event using your e-mail address, please make sure they receive it, as this information will be important to them.

## **Payment:**

Please remember that your registration is valid only after you have paid the registration fee (as a minimum). Without receipt of that fee, we cannot guarantee reservation of your room, food, and additional services. If you wish, you can pre-pay the entire sum, but this is not required. If you have not yet paid your registration fee, please do it as soon as possible, unless you have been previously notified that you are receiving one of the SES scholarships.

## **Visas:**

Everyone who send pre-payment for a visa was sent an invitation letter for SES. If you haven't received your letter of invitation yet, it may be that you did not pre-pay the necessary sum. If you know you paid, it may be that there was a problem with the delivery. In that case, please contact us at [peter.balaz@ikso.net](mailto:peter.balaz@ikso.net).

## **Money:**

In Slovakia, the currency used is the Slovak koruna, abbreviated as Sk or SKK. It is worth about 1 EUR = 30 SKK, or 1 USD = 20 SKK. In some tourist sites and large stores (such as the Tesco department store), it is possible to pay in Euros as well. On-site at SES, you will be able to pay in either Euros or Slovak koruna, but we do not accept US dollars. During the event, you will also be able to purchase items from the snack bar or from the book service using either Euros or koruna.

## **Arrival/Departure:**

The event begins on August 9th in the afternoon (you can arrive at any time starting at noon), and ends on the 17th of August at 2 PM. If you need to arrive one night earlier, or stay for additional nights following the event, you can do this for 15 Euros per night per person. If you want to arrange this, please inform us before August 1, to reserve a place.

## **SES Site:**

On-site at SES, there is a small snack bar and a book service during the whole week. You can pay using Euros or koruna.

In the entire ground floor, there is a wireless internet connection available free of charge. You can bring your portable computer with you, if you wish.

Smoking is not permitted in the buildings at SES – please respect that, and smoke outdoors.

## **Travel:**

At this website, you can find information about how to reach the site of SES:

[http://www.esperanto.sk/ses2008\\_konektoj/](http://www.esperanto.sk/ses2008_konektoj/)

If you need any additional information or advice, please contact: [peter.balaz@ikso.net](mailto:peter.balaz@ikso.net)

## **Language instruction:**

Esperanto instruction will take place in four groups, organized by language level. Esperanto classes will take place in mornings, and other events in the afternoons. On Saturday afternoon of the arrival day, a short test will be given to all participants to allow instructors to divide you into groups by level. This test is mandatory.

### **Program:**

**In a separate document, you will find a preliminary program of events for SES** – it is not yet complete; several more events will be added to the program over the coming weeks. In addition, times and dates of individual programs may change.

Note: On the days with excursions, a separate program will be prepared for those who are not attending the excursion – lectures, crafts, etc. (information about that will be posted when it is available). In addition, you may pass your free time by participating in other local activities not organized by the SES team, such as swimming in the lake or swimming pool, playing paintball, hiking, etc.

### **lernu.net Program:**

**During the event, several special programs will be held on the topic of [www.lernu.net](http://www.lernu.net). These programs will be led by members of the lernu! team. We warmly welcome everyone to participate. The programs will include workshops on learning how to use the site more effectively, discussion groups on ways to improve the site, etc.**

There will be three categories of lernu! programs:

- for regular users, who want to be able to use the site more effectively, and take advantage of everything the site offers.

- for people already involved in doing work for the site

- for people interested in getting involved with the site, and finding out how they can help

- **Help session: how to registrar, how to use different parts of lernu!, ...**

- **How to translate the site and edit the dictionaries**

- **Language tutoring – tips for current and prospective lernu! tutors and how to guide virtual lessons.**

- **Programming resources and techniques behind the site – a presentation of several of the main modules of lernu!**

- **Workshop on using lernu! more effectively, and brainstorming ways of improving the site (for experienced users)**

- **Workshop about the future of lernu!**

### **Your contribution:**

You can make your own contributions to the SES program – feel free to suggest something that you would be interested in contributing to the official program (singing, giving a talk, teaching the basics of your language...). If you contribute to the program, you can also benefit from a reduced registration fee. The actual amount of the reduction depends on the contribution, how long it lasts, how much work it requires, etc.

Your contribution is also welcome during the international evening. If you are interested in presenting your country, culture, or language by sharing a song, a show, music, etc. – please consider contributing!

### **Additional (or “free”) program:**

In addition to the official program, you are free to choose other ways of spending your free time. There are many choices near the SES site:

- Swimming pool (costs 800 SKK or 27 EUR to rent it for one hour, for any quantity of swimmers)

- Public pool in Modra (3km from the SES site, costs about 2 EUR to get in)

- Paintball (play site located about – 300 meters from the SES site)

- Walks/hikes in the forest (an excursion to “Zochova chata” is recommended)

- Massages (can be requested at the SES site)

- ...

### **Angels:**

During the event, “angels” will help guide newbies (those who have never attended an international Esperanto event). Whoever has signed up to be an angel can help inexperienced attendees navigate the event, suggest useful parts of the program to attend, explain how things work, discuss problems, etc. You will have the chance to meet an angel during the “get to know you evening” on Saturday. Angels are usually experienced Esperanto speakers who are familiar with events like this one, and have a lot of useful advice to give newbies.

### **Excursions:**

Three half-day excursions and one full-day excursion will be offered during SES:

The excursions are:

Sunday: **Visit to Bratislava** – the capital of Slovakia; the excursion includes a visit to the Devín castle ruins, Bratislava Castle, the old city, and free time walking around the city.

Tuesday: **Smolenice Castle, Driny Cave**

Thursday: **Červený Kameň Castle, visit to a ceramics workshop**

Saturday: **Whole-day excursion to Vienna** – “Schloss Schoenbrunn” Castle, the Esperanto museum, the old city, free time walking around the city.

If you have not yet reserved a spot on the excursions that you plan to attend, please do so as soon as possible. After August 1<sup>st</sup>, we can no longer guarantee you a place on these trips. You can reserve for these excursions by e-mailing: [peter.balaz@ikso.net](mailto:peter.balaz@ikso.net)