

SCOR General Meeting
Bremen, Germany
September 14– 18,
2014

Information for participants

Welcome to Bremen! It is an independent city state in Northern Germany and consists of the cities of Bremerhaven and Bremen, with a population of nearly 550,000 inhabitants. Bremen is located 68 km south of the river Weser's mouth on the North Sea, which can be reached within approx. 60 minutes from Bremen. Bremen has an interesting historical background, dating back to the town's foundation around the year 800, important trade and, of course, its University of Excellence! Places of interest are - among others - the town's characteristic 'Roland' (statue built in 1404), a symbol of freedom, the popular 'Bremer Stadtmusikanten' ('The Bremen Town Musicians', popular fairy tale by the Brothers Grimm), the impressive City Hall (built in 1409- UNESCO World Heritage Site) and the Old Town known as 'Schnoor' with its little houses, narrow streets, souvenir shops, restaurants and pubs.



Since 2000, Bremen has been building a new district called 'Überseestadt'. Formerly a basin for vessels discharging goods from overseas, it was filled with over three million cubic meters of sand in 1998. Comprising 300 acres, the area is three times as large as Bremen's Old Town, making it one of the largest urban development projects in Europe.

For further information check: <http://www.bremen-tourism.de/>

Meeting Venue

MARUM-Center for Marine Environmental Sciences
University of Bremen
Leobener Str.
Room 2060 / 2070
28359 Bremen, Germany
Telephone: +49 (0) 421 218 65442 / 65443
Fax: +49 (0) 421 218 65505
<http://www.marum.de>

Climate

Bremen's climate is influenced by its proximity to the coast and a marine climate. Bremen's average temperatures range from 32 to 46 degrees Fahrenheit (0 to 8 degrees Celsius) from November through March, and an average of 69 to 73 degrees Fahrenheit (21 to 23 degrees Celsius) in the summer. Rain and wind are common year-round in Bremen. The humidity can range anywhere from 40 to 95 percent. The minimum temperature in September is around 49 degrees Fahrenheit (9.4°C) and maximum 65.5 degrees Fahrenheit (18.6°C), with an annual average of 4.6 sunshine hours per day. Spring and fall are the most comfortable times of the year.

Visa requirements

A passport valid for at least six months from your date of arrival is required for entering Germany. For citizens of EU countries, a valid identity card is sufficient. You can find out whether you need a visa (for up to 90 days) for visits to Germany and the Schengen states here:

<http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/EinreiseUndAufenthaltNisabestimmungen.html>

As a rule, you should allow up to ten working days for a decision for a short-stay visa. During the peak travel season, there may be a waiting period for making an application to a German mission. Persons requiring a visa to enter Germany should therefore submit their applications as early as possible. Upon request, MARUM can provide letters of invitation for presentation to the local embassy, consulate or visa service. In case you need any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the secretary:

Martina Siemering
MARUM- Zentrum für Marine Umweltwissenschaften
Phone: +49 (0) 421-218 65443
Fax: +49 (0) 421-218 65505
Email: SeKom.Ozean@marum.de

Transportation and accommodation

If you arrive by plane:

Bremen has a small international airport, which is situated close to the city center. You can easily get to the University of Bremen (hotel and meeting venue) by taking either the tram or a taxi. The tram number 6 (price of one-way ticket: 2.50 €) will take you directly from the Bremen Airport to the University of Bremen (final stop: Klagenfurter Strasse). It will take approximately 40 minutes. Leaving the tram stop, cross the street at the traffic lights, turn right and follow the 'Hochschulring'. The next street on the left is Leobener Strasse and the MARUM is the first building on the right hand side. (see University Site Plan attached). Trams depart every ten minutes during peak hours.

A taxi from the Bremen Airport to the University costs around 20 €. It will take approximately 20 minutes, depending on the traffic situation. Taxis wait in front of the airport. Otherwise call Roland Taxi: + 49 421 14 433

If you arrive by train:

Leaving the Central Station (exit City Center), you will find the tram number 6 stopping on the left-hand side, direction 'UNIVERSITÄT'. The route from the final stop 'Klagenfurter Strasse' to the MARUM building is stated above.

If you are booked at ATLANTIC HOTEL UNIVERSUM:

Leave the tram number 6 at the station 'UNIVERSITÄT NW1'. Straight ahead on the right-hand side you will see the so-called 'silver whale', the famous building of the Universum museum and science center. Leave the Universitätsallee and turn right onto Wiener Straße. The Hotel is behind the museum. Address:

ATLANTIC Hotel Universum
Wiener Strasse 4
28359 Bremen,
Germany
Telephone: +49 (0) 421 / 2467-0
Bookings: +49 (0) 421 / 2461- 555
Fax: +49 (0) 421 / 2461 - 500
E-Mail: universum@atlantic-hotels.de
<http://www.atlantic-hotels.de>

Language

The main language is German. In spite of the many different regional accents and dialects, standard German is understood everywhere. Many Germans speak English well, hence language barriers should not hinder foreign visitors.

Currency

The national currency is EURO (€). 1 EURO is divided into 100 cents. Banknotes are available as 5 EURO, 10 EURO, 20 EURO, 50 EURO, 100 EURO, 200 EURO and 500 EURO. Coins are available as 1 cent, 2 cent, 5 cent, 10 cent, 20 cent, 50 cent, 1 EURO and 2 EURO.

Visa, MasterCard, and American Express credit cards are accepted without any problems. Using a debit card you can withdraw cash from the ATM machines around the clock. The opening hours of banks vary by location, but oftentimes the following will apply: Monday-Friday: 8:30 am to 5 pm.

Note that the exchange rate is subject to daily fluctuations. Current exchange rates are:

1 USD	1 GBP	1 CHF	1 CAD	1 CNY (equal to - as of Feb. 2014)
€0,73	€1,22	€0,82	€0,66	€0,12

Local Time

Germany conforms to Central European Time. Daylight saving time is in effect from the last weekend in March to the last weekend in October.

Tipping

Although there is no obligation, it is customary to give a 5-10% tip. Simply round up while paying the appropriate amount.

Safety

Germany is considered a safe country to visit. For up-to-date safety information, consult <http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de>. However, beware of thieves in cafeterias, the Central Station, touristic spots, etc.

Water

Tap water is safe to drink in all areas of Germany.

Electricity

The voltage in Germany is 230V. Socket and plug used are mainly as shown below.



Smoking

Smoking is prohibited in all public indoor places in Germany. If you want to smoke please remember to frequent the smoking areas provided/indicated.

Here is a list of some restaurants and cafes close to the ATLANTIC HOTEL:

<u>Restaurant Name/Address</u>	<u>Website</u>	<u>Cuisine</u>
HAUS AM WALDE Kuhgrabenweg 2	www.hausamwalde-bremen.de	Tavern, miscellaneous
WALDBUHNE Parkallee (Blirgerpark)	www.waldbiihne.com	Pub, snacks, live music
MEIEREI Blirgerpark 1	www.meierei.de	Regional & Seasonal Gourmet
DEL BOSCO Parkallee 299	www.hotel-munte.de/essen-und-trinken/restaurant-del-bosco	Italian
ZUM PLATZHIRSCH Kuhgrabenweg 30	www.restaurant-zurn-platzhirsch.de	traditional Bavarian cuisine

List of restaurants in the city 'Ander Schlachte' – Promenade next to the Weser River

<u>Restaurant Name</u>	<u>Website</u>	<u>Cuisine</u>
BODEGA DEL PUERTO	http://www.bodega-bremen.de	Spanish, Restaurant and Tapas Bar
BOLERO	http://bremen.bolerobar.de/	Mediterranean, Cocktails
CAMARILLO	www.schlachte.de/de/gastronomie/camarillo-cafe-bar-restaurant.html	Cafe, Bar, Restaurant, Mediterranean
ENCHILADA	www.enchilada.de/bremen	Mexican
FELDMANN'S BIERHAUS	www.feldmanns-bierhaus.de/	Beer Garden, regional cooking
LUV	www.restaurant-luv.de/	Restaurant, Cafe, Bar, Lounge (maritime and exotic)
OSTERIA	www.osteria-bremen.de/	Italian Gourmet Restaurant
PANNEKOEKSCHIP	www.admiral-nelson.de/	wide choice of pancakes
PAULANER'S- Red Rock	www.paulaners.de/paulaners-an-der-schlachte/	Beer Garden, Bavarian and Northern specialties
SCHARFRICHTER-LOUNGE Martinstraf3e 68/70	www.redrock-bremen.de/	Bar
CHILLI CLUB Am Weser-Terminal 8	www.chilliclub.de/	Sausages (Hot and Spicy)
		ASIAN BRASSERIE, Wok, Asian Tapas, Sushi

