

## Welcome to Skopje

*Dear visitor,*

*Macedonia has a centuries-long tradition of heart welcoming hospitality. Just like the good old custom when visitors were cordially welcomed at the host's threshold being offered with jam and a glass of cold water laid on a crochet pad tray, a minor tradition among the countless customs in our Macedonian culture, ELTAM continues this habit by welcoming you to our capital city, where the venue of the 8<sup>th</sup> Conference is located. Although we believe that a single weekend is not enough to visit all significant places of interest in our city, we are offering here a list of must-see landmarks. Below is our short list of places worth visiting:*

### Mapping Skopje

#### 1. The Old Railway Station

**Where to find:** In the very heart of the city at the end of the well-known promenade – Macedonia Street, next to the Ramstore Mall.

**Famous for:** being the first railway station that connected Skopje to Thessaloniki in 1873. Built by Velimir N. Gavrilovic in 1938, suffered the fatal 1963 earthquake. The clock over the main entrance is preserved to this day. It stopped working at 05:17 sharp in the morning of 26<sup>th</sup> July, the very moment when the disastrous catastrophe hit Skopje. Since 1970 it has housed the Museum of the City of Skopje. Among the invaluable exhibits, it contains a collection of 300 extremely rare pieces comprised in one of the permanent exhibitions on prehistoric times.



## 2. *The Stone Bridge*

**Where to find:** on the Vardar River, connecting not only the two river banks, yet the two cities, the old Skopje and the modern one, just across the newly modified and reshaped square Macedonia.

**Famous for:** Erected in the of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, believed to have been constructed either during the reign of Sultan Mehmed – the Conqueror or Sultan Murat II several decades earlier, taking the place of an older bridge built by the emperor Justinian.

## 3. *The Old Bazaar*

**Where to find:** Just across the Vardar River, going over the Stone Bridge, it offers a memorable stroll in the old part of the city.

**Famous for:** Abundance of old buildings, with a touch of oriental spirit, consists of amams, two churches, several mosques, art galleries, museums, Turkish inns, a covered market place called Bezisten, narrow cobbled streets and numerous crafts shops. It's one of the most picturesque parts of Skopje. Lately it has seen the renewal of the night life in the capital, so it's a must see in the late hours.

**Places in the Old Bazaar:**

**Landmarks and amenities:** *Daut Pashin Amam, Cifte Amam, Kurshumli An, Kapan An, Suli An, St. Spas Church, Mustafa Pasha Mosque, the Ethnological Museum.*

**Night life:** *Menada, Kaldrma Rakija Bar, Old House Beer House, New Orleans club, Galerija 8*



## 4. *The Fortress Kale*

**Where to find:** Overlooking the city of Skopje, located on the highest hill, with an excellent strategic position.

**Famous for:** Dates back to 536 AD, built just after the disastrous earthquake destroying the ancient settlement of Skupi in 518 AD. Part of the construction material has been taken from this ancient settlement. To this day 120 metres of the original wall have been preserved, while the rest dates back either to Ottoman period or to the reconstruction carried out after 2007.

## 5. *The Museum of Contemporary Art*

**Where to find:** Next to the Fortress Kale, perched on the neighbouring hill overlooking the Vardar River and the newly reconstructed arena Philip II. Address: Samoilova b.b.

**Famous for:** Its invaluable collection of paintings by: Pablo Picasso, Henry Moore, Hans Hartung, Victor Vasarely, Alexander Calder, Pierre Soulages, Henryk Stażewski, Alberto Burri, Christo, Enrico Bay, Robert Jacobs, Divier, and our national artists Lichenoski, Martinoski, Kondovski, Kodjoman, Grabuloski and many others.

Currently the Modern Art – Permanent exhibition (1964-2014) that will last until the end of 2014 is a must see that we warmly recommend.

- <http://www.msuskopje.org.mk/index.php>

#### 4. Macedonia Square

**Where to find:** The very centre of the city. It is part of the Skopje 2014 project, comprising of numerous monuments, sculptures and fountains.

#### 5. Matka

**Where to find:** 21km distance from Skopje, one of the canyons on the Treska River.

**Famous for:** The untouched and pristine beauty of the canyon and Treska's rapids around which both local and foreign tourists flock is a must-see! The view is spectacular! This area includes the artificial lake called Matka as well. The monastery church of St. Andrea is also situated here, a rare church dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> century, which houses several quite old frescoes depicting biblical scenes.



**Other places of interest:** *The Millennium Cross, the Vodno mountain, archaeological locality Skupi, the Feudal tower, the Aqueduct, the Monastery of St. Pantelejmon.*

## Getting to Skopje

### By plane

Via Alexander the Great airport: The airport is outside the city, yet there are taxi services transporting passengers for a previously agreed price of approximately 15 euros one way. There is also a shuttle bus service running from the airport to the city (timetable on the website)

- <http://skp.airports.com.mk/default.aspx?ItemID=345>

### By train

The train station is located in the centre of the city, so you can get there by using the city public transport, taxis or if you are accommodated in the centre, on foot.

- <http://mztransportad.com.mk/index.php?lang=en>

### By bus

It is part of the Transportation Centre, constructed just below the train station.

- <http://www.sas.com.mk/>

## Time zone, weather and climate in October/November

**Timezone:** CET, or UTC/GMT + 2hrs

Humid continental climate. Colder weather in November with expected precipitations, although autumns can be very sunny. Temperature: around 10 °C.

## Shopping

**Ramstore Mall:** if you are looking for an American mall, this is where you'll want to go. It has shops, restaurants, cafés and a cinema. [www.ramstore.com.mk](http://www.ramstore.com.mk)

**City Mall:** one of the new additions to Skopje as a modern city. It features stores such as Zara, Massimo Dutti, Pull and Bear and many more. [www.skopjecitymall.mk](http://www.skopjecitymall.mk)

**Vero Centre:** another shopping mall near the center of the city [vero.com.mk/](http://vero.com.mk/)

**City Shopping Centre (GTC):** the biggest shopping center in the city. It has cafés, restaurants, bars, banks and many shops.

**Capitol Mall:** the latest mall in Skopje. It's located in the Aerodrom Municipality. It has different shops, cafés and restaurants. [www.capitolmall.mk](http://www.capitolmall.mk)

**Shopping Centre Biser:** also located in the Aerodrom Municipality with many shops, boutiques, and cafés.

## Currency

**Macedonian denar – MKD.** 1 Euro is approximately 61.70 MKD, 1 USD – 48.80 MKD and 1 GBP – 78.30 MKD. You can easily exchange your foreign currency in the numerous exchange offices or the banks around the city.

## Food and Drink

Macedonian cuisine has been famous worldwide. It includes delicious pastries (among which the well-known: *burek* and *simit pogacha*), traditional Macedonian meals (*Turlitava*, *musaka*, *tavce gravce*, *sarma*, *ajvar*, *pindzur*, *pastrmajlija*), desserts (like: *baklava*) and many modern types of food. The majority of Macedonian citizens enjoy a cup of warm Turkish also called Macedonian coffee (a blend of several sorts of coffee, prepared in the old Turkish way). *Rakia* is a national drink, although Macedonia is also famous for its quality wines. Another Macedonian delicacy, borrowed from the Turkish menu is *boza*.

Below is a list of restaurants we would like to recommend:

<http://www.restorani.com.mk/?language=2>

- Old House, [www.starakuka.com](http://www.starakuka.com) Tel: +389 2 3131 376, +389 71 263 181
- La Tana, [www.latana.mk](http://www.latana.mk) Tel: +389 77 592 211
- Oreov Lad, [www.oreovlad.com.mk](http://www.oreovlad.com.mk) Tel: +389 2 2057 958
- Restaurant 14, [www.restoran14.com.mk](http://www.restoran14.com.mk) Tel: +389 2 3076 411
- Uranija, [www.uranija.com.mk](http://www.uranija.com.mk) Tel: +389 2 3118 030
- Gino Italian Restaurant, [www.restorankajgino.mk](http://www.restorankajgino.mk) Tel: +389 2 3121 109, +389 2 3233 668
- Pizza Fufo Galija, [www.pizzafufo.mk](http://www.pizzafufo.mk) Tel: +389 2 3112 486, +389 78 700 440
- Restaurant Mecho's, [www.mechos.mk](http://www.mechos.mk) Tel: +389 2 3117 744
- Gostilnica Staro Bure (traditional inn), Tel: +389 2 3071 804
- Restaurant Bravos Club, Tel: +389 2 3212 813

Pizza and snack bars:

- Enriko, [www.enriko.mk](http://www.enriko.mk) Tel: +389 2 3061 273
- Giovanni, [www.caffegiovani.mk](http://www.caffegiovani.mk) Tel: + 389 2 3063 228
- Bella Vista, [www.bellavistaskopje.mk](http://www.bellavistaskopje.mk) Tel: +389 78 255 842
- Plaza de Toros, Tel: +389 2 3228 155
- Veneto, Tel: +389 2 3086 660

... and a number of Mexican, Italian, Indian, Mediterranean, Chinese, fish and other restaurants as well.

## Transportation around the city

[http://www.infotaxi.org/macedonia\\_taxi/skopje\\_taxi.htm](http://www.infotaxi.org/macedonia_taxi/skopje_taxi.htm)

Nase Taxi, Tel: 151 52, +389 70 415 152

Lotus, Tel: 151 57, +389 2 3109 114

City Taxi, Tel: 151 81, +389 2 2661 999

Plava Laguna, Tel: 151 92

Staro Vodno, Tel: 151 88, +389 70 149 188

Vardar, Tel: 151 65

De Luxe: Tel: 151 87, +389 2 2431 500

## The Venue

**The venue for the Pre-conference event** is in the University American Collage Skopje (UACS) building at Blvd. Treta makedonska brigada no.60, in the Aerodrom Municipality, Skopje.

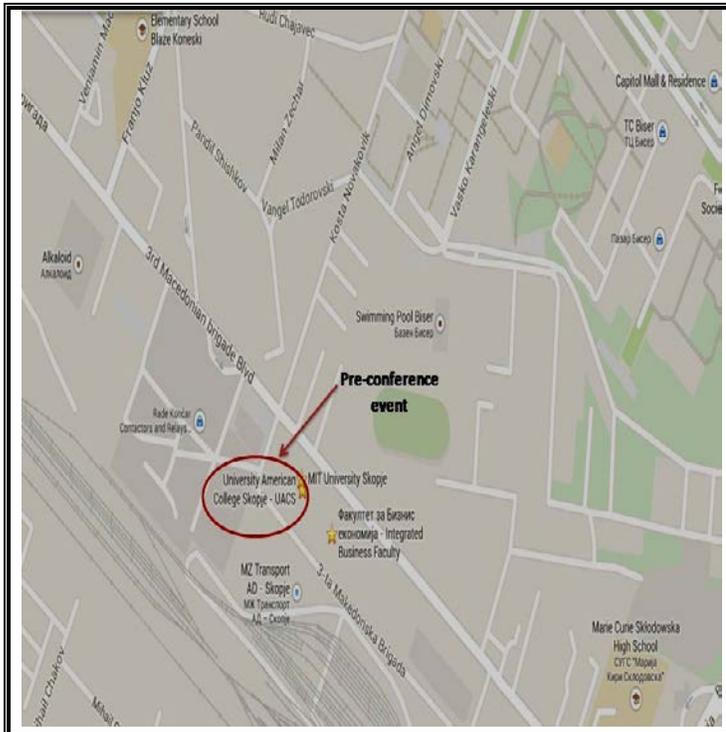
- <http://www.uacs.edu.mk/>

**How to get there:** From the city centre – bus no. 7. It is in the Aerodrom Municipality, around 2 km from the city centre, in the vicinity of MIT University and Integrated Business Faculty.

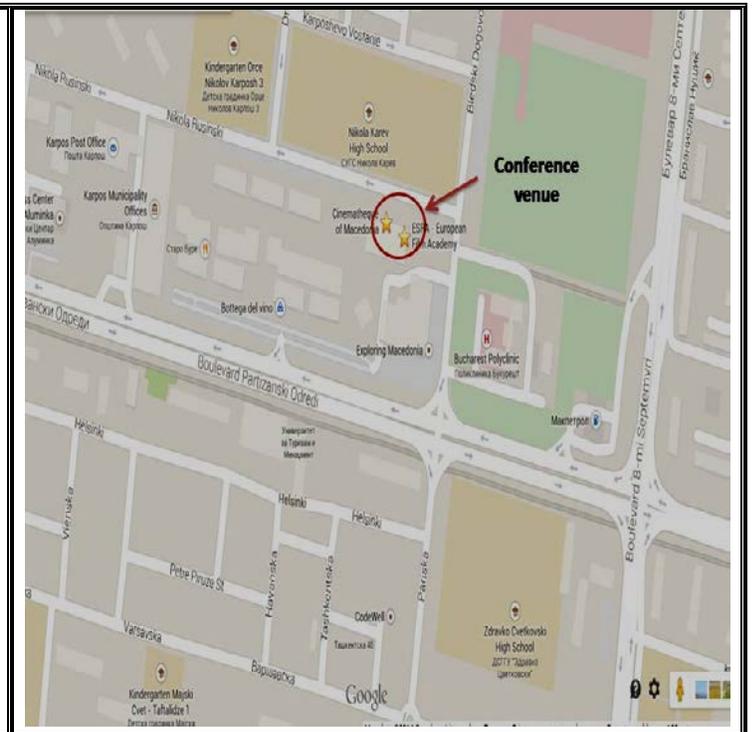
**The venue of the 8<sup>th</sup> ELTAM Conference** is in a building that houses three prominent institutions: the Cinematheque of Macedonia, the University of Audiovisual Arts and the library Drugarche, at Nikola Rusinski 1, in the Karpos Municipality, Skopje.

- <http://www.maccinema.com/Default.aspx>
- <http://www.esra.com.mk/english.html>
- [http://gbsk.mk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=14&Itemid=79&lang=en](http://gbsk.mk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14&Itemid=79&lang=en)

**How to get there:** From the city centre – buses no. 7, 19, 22, 2 and 15. It is in the Karpos Municipality, around 3 km away from the city centre, next to the shopping centra Leptokarija. The city hospital 8<sup>th</sup> September and the Nikola Karev high school are in its vicinity.



<http://goo.gl/RLU99I>



<http://goo.gl/pikX00>