

Logistics Information
TIES 2010 - the 21th Annual Conference
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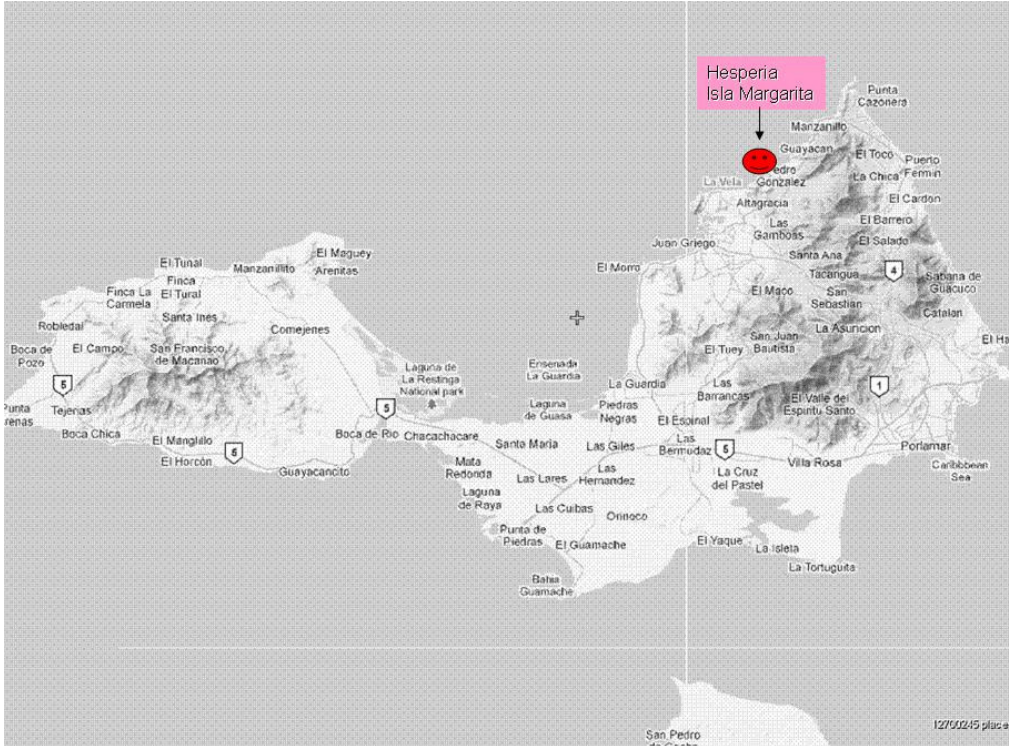
Meeting venue	<p>Hesperia Isla Margarita ***** Tel: (+58) 295 400 71 11 Fax: (+58) 295 400 71 50</p> <p>hotel@hesperia-islamargarita.com</p> <p>http://www.hesperia-islamargarita.com</p>
Accommodation	<p>1) Hesperia Isla Margarita ***** Tel: (+58) 295 400 71 11 Fax: (+58) 295 400 71 50</p> <p>hotel@hesperia-islamargarita.com http://www.hesperia-islamargarita.com</p> <p>2) Hesperia Playa El Agua **** Tel: (+58) 295 400 81 11 Fax: (+58) 295 400 81 51</p> <p>hotel@hesperia-playaelagua.com http://www.hesperia-playaelagua.com</p> <p>3) Posada Ashi *** Telfs: (+58) 295 7728723 Cel (+58) 414 188 5957 Cel (+58) 416 695 2158</p> <p>Please Note: We are sorry to say that the number of stars might not be comparable to the international standards.</p>
Contacts	<p>Local Organizing Committee (Emergency Contacts)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lelys Bravo de Guenni. Tel:+ 58-412-9620508. Email: lbravo@cesma.usb.ve • Isabel Llatas. Tel:+ 58-416-6204256 Email: llatas@cesma.usb.ve • Jesús Yerena. Tel: + 58-414-1097117 Email: jyerena@gmail.com • Pedro Sequera. Tel: + 58-414-2058894 Email: pedrosequera@gmail.com <p>EVIATOUR email: eviatour@gmail.com</p> <p>Jennifer Raga Tel: +58-4248615536</p> <p>CONTURVEN</p> <p>- At the International airport in Maiquetía (Caracas): Mr. Sergei Luque. Tel: +58-414-2601685. Look for Office <i>Viajes Premier</i> after leaving the baggage claim area. In case you get lost at Maiquetía airport go straight to Viajes Premier.</p> <p>- At the International airport in Porlamar (Margarita Island). Mrs. Mary Bravo. Tel: +58-424-8411188; Mr. Alexandro Papa. Tel: +58-414-8191780. Look for the Office ROQUEMAR after leaving the baggage claim area.</p>
Host Island	<p>Margarita Island is the largest island of the Nueva Esparta state in Venezuela, located in the Caribbean Sea, off the northeastern coast of the country. The state also contains two other smaller islands: Coche and Cubagua. The capital is La Asunción, located in a river valley of the same name. Primary industries are tourism, fishing and construction. Its population is about 420,000 inhabitants.</p>
Venezuelan Currency	<p>The Venezuelan Currency in Bolívar Fuerte (Bs.F). Since there is a Foreign Exchange currency control there are two exchange rates:</p>

	<p>1) The official rate: 4.30 Bs.F per USD, which is the one you'll get using your credit cards or at a Currency exchange office or 2) the exchange rate you get at the free market.</p> <p>If you wish to change, your best option is to ask our logistics coordinators or preferred travel agent what will be your next step.</p>
Weather	<p>The climate of the region is arid and semi-arid type, with two rainy and two dry periods distributed in two distinct geographic areas. One is located at the eastern mountain range which corresponds to the main rainy season from November to January quarter, being December the rainiest month. The other area covers the rest of the island which corresponds to the main rainy season from June to August period, being the latest the month of maximum rainfall. The average annual temperature varies between 27° and 28 ° C showing two peaks in May and September and two minima in January and December. For its driest area, the average annual precipitation is 300 to 900 mm. In most of the state, 1,000 mm. In the vicinity of Cerro Copey and in La Asuncion 1,300 mm.</p>
Getting there	<p>Margarita offers many different ways to get to the island. The easiest way is by plane from Caracas, via the Simón Bolívar International Airport in Maiquetía, using any major international airlines to reach Caracas, then taking a local airline to the island itself. This will take no more than 45 minutes flying time arriving at The General Santiago Mariño International Airport, located in El Yaque, some 23 Km. outside Porlamar. Another way to get to Margarita Island is by ferry from Puerto La Cruz or Cumaná. Today the ferry company offers different types of Ferries, some of them will take you in about 4 hours however the ferry express will only take you 2 hours. This last one has a better service. To reach the hotel from the airport the best way is to take a taxi (around 120 daytime to 150 Bs.F in the night). It is recommended to use authorized taxi companies.</p>
Local Transportation Arrangements	<p>The public transportation systems in Margarita will take you around the island, but if you are in a hurry it is better to choose another alternative. The quicker alternative is to take a taxi. It is better if you catch a taxi from a registered enterprise. They are usually very visible and well identified. If you decide to ride a bus please be aware that some bus stops are clearly marked but there are some drivers who stop anywhere, causing delays in traffic. The bus stations that cover the routes to Juan Griego, Macanao, the airport, Manzanillo, playa El Agua and Pampatar are located around the Bolívar Square in Porlamar. The fares on average between 3 and 10 BsF. These provides the opportunity to share seats with teachers, grandmothers, students, local fishermen and housekeepers, all conversing with that fast and musical speech that characterize the <i>margariteños</i> (local inhabitants).</p>
Cash	<p>We strongly recommend to exchange Bolívares at the free market upon arrival at the hotel. It is possible to exchange at a Currency Exchange office but the rate will not be favorable.</p> <p>Recommendation: Only exchange a small amount at the airport in Caracas (e.g. US\$50 to UDS100). Use only authorized currency exchange offices at the airport.</p>
Credit Cards	<p>Visa, Master Card and American Express are accepted in most commercial establishments in Margarita Island, as well as Traveler's Checks. However, you'll get the official rate for each transaction. So, we recommend you bring as much cash as possible and exchange at the free market rate at the hotel and use your credit card for emergencies only.</p>
Tips On Arrival	<p>After going through immigration, collecting your bags and going through the customs screening, do NOT enter the main hall unless you are welcomed by Macite's staff and have booked the bilingual assistance in Caracas. Instead go directly to your left, where there is an indoor air-conditioned passage to the national terminal. This helps you avoid going outside in the heat, and being "offered" all kinds of help with carrying the luggage, exchange currency, and getting taxi rides. This passage gets you directly to the gate area of the national terminal. When there, you need to go out into the check-in area of the national terminal to re-check your luggage and pay the departure tax.</p>
Departure Tax	<p>On all departing flights there is a departure tax (10,72 USD on national flights and 53,52 USD on international flights) of the airport not included in your tickets.</p>
Check-In And Reconfirmation	<p>Check In (Domestic):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For domestic flights departing from Venezuelan domestic terminals - make sure you have checked in by the check-in deadline specified in your airline documentation, or if no deadline is specified, then at least 1 hour prior to your scheduled departure time. Failure to do so may result in cancellation of your reservation. <p>Check In (International):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For international flights departing from Venezuela, make sure you have checked in by the check-in deadline specified in your airline documentation, or if no deadline is specified, then at least 3 hours prior to scheduled departure. For American Airlines you must be 4 hour before.

	<p>Failure to do so may result in cancellation of your reservation.</p> <p>Reconfirmation: - We suggest that onward reservations and flight times are reconfirmed 72 hours prior to departure as policies differ between airlines and failure to do so may result in the cancellation of your reservation.</p>
Passport, Visas / Travel Warnings:	<p>Passport. A valid passport is required for international travel. Immigration authorities may refuse entry if you have less than 6 months validity on your passport. Ensure the name on this itinerary matches the passport name because if it does not, you may be refused travel.</p> <p>Visa. Please ensure you have any applicable Visas for Venezuela and the countries you are visiting or transiting. It is your responsibility to obtain correct Visas documentation. It is also recommended that you check the information below for health and consular travel warnings for all destinations.</p> <p>Contact Details: You could provide organizers with country family phone contact numbers if you wish to be safer.</p> <p>Travel Insurance: It is important to have travel insurance, if you don't have one, you can buy insurance travel on departure at your international airport.</p> <p>Baggage & Quarantine: Please refer to respective airlines and destination airports for further information on baggage allowances and restrictions, security measures and quarantine items, or contact your travel consultant prior to travel.</p> <p>Passenger Security: For security reasons, all knives, sharp objects or cutting implements of any kind and length, whether of metal or other material, knitting needles and sporting goods must be packed in your checked baggage. They cannot be carried in your cabin baggage or on your person. If they are, the articles will be removed and not returned.</p> <p>Also remember that the customs in Venezuela try their best to make it difficult for drug smugglers, which can lead to searches of passengers and their luggage, double/triple checks of passports, and even x-rays of passengers. You should also not have certain food items in your checked luggage as this may cause you to go back and perform a second screening of the luggage. When departing from CCS, be at the gate early and check any messages or name lists – they are all about a second screening of luggage to prevent drug smuggling.</p> <p>Requested: On most of the countries national and international airports introduced enhanced security measures to limit the amount of liquids, aerosols, and gels that can be taken through the screening point. Each container of liquid, aerosol or gel in your carry-on baggage must be no more than 100ml capacity.</p>
Tipping	<p>At the bottom of the restaurant and bar bills you will notice a percentage added for service (normally 10%). Apart from that, and naturally depending on your satisfaction with the service, it is accustomed to leave around an additional 5 %. Tips are also very welcome at tourist excursions, bellboy services at the hotel etc.</p>
Meal Arrangements	<p>If you are staying at Hesperia Isla Margarita all meals and drinks are included. You will get a wrist band to identify yourself. This will allow you to use all hotel facilities freely. If are not staying there, you will need to get a wrist band to have lunch at the hotel. You can ask at the hospitality desk that will be set at the lobby for all conference participants. This will have an extra cost of Bs.F 105 per person per day to have lunch or Bs.F 250 per person per day if you want to use full hotel facilities (drinks included).</p>
Electricity	<p>In Margarita like mainland Venezuela, the electric current is 110 volts AC.</p>
Drinking Water	<p>Our water comes from the main land since the wells on the island are not enough for self supply. From the Turimiquire hydroelectric complex, located in the state of Monagas, runs a big underwater pipe bringing approximately 2 millions liters per minute. The consumption of tap water is not recommended; we recommend to drink mineral or filtered water. The supply of water in the island has improved noticeable, however if you plan to rent an apartment, make sure of how efficient the building is in providing water just in the case there is a flaw in the service provided in the hotel.</p>
Documents	<p>In order to enter in Venezuela it is necessary to have a valid passport, a tourist visa or a tourist</p>

	card that is given in the port of origin. Any one from Center and South America and Europe, with exception of Germany, Spain and England, requires visa to enter this country. To those who carry a United States or Canadian passport only a tourist card will be required. The tourist visa doesn't allow you to carry out commercial activities and it could be subject to cancellation at the discretion of the Dirección de Extranjería (DIEX).
Recommendations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Do not accept help from strangers at the airport or other public places. 2) Always be aware of your belongings and surroundings. 3) Be discrete at exposing your valuables in public places 4) If you're scheduled an overnight stop at Maiquetía International Airport in Caracas and need some Bolívares we recommend to withdraw the equivalent of 50 to 100 USD from the cash point machines at the airport. The rest you can exchange upon arrival at the hotel. 5) We highly recommend bringing bug and mosquito repellent, especially for the sunset hours. 6) Do not forget your sun cream with enough UV protection.
Healthcare	<p>Venezuela has both public and private healthcare services. The public health service is run by the government and offers free treatment but charges for prescriptions. Conditions, however, are often different to what tourists may be used to. Private hospitals offer a higher standard of treatment but these require large deposits or a credit card, even for emergencies, and can be very expensive. The private ambulance service in Venezuela will also cost a lot to use. Public ambulances can be found at Police and National Guard checkpoints (alcabala) all over the country or called from the nearest hospital or the Defensa Civil in the case of an emergency.</p> <p>For minor illnesses or health problems, Venezuela has many good pharmacies which stock almost all brand medicines, and you can buy most brands sold at home, often at a cheaper price. Pharmacists will give you free advice, and you can purchase most medication without a prescription.</p> <p>No vaccinations are mandatory for Venezuela unless you are travelling from an infected country, in which case officials may ask to see a vaccination certificate.</p> <p>Many diseases can be easily avoided if the right precautions are taken. Always drink bottled water and check that ice in drinks is made from purified water, which is usually the case. Generally, you should not have any problems with Venezuelan food, even from street vendors, but do give your stomach enough time to adjust and be careful in the first few days.</p> <p>Care also needs to be taken when out in the sun. The sun in Venezuela is very direct and extremely strong, so be sure to wear a hat and use a high protector sunscreen to avoid sunburn and sunstroke.</p> <p>If you do tours remember to have vaccinations or prescribed pills and precautions as some diseases can be found in remote wild areas, in particular: Malaria · Dengue. Hepatitis A · Hepatitis B · and with very low incidence Tetanus & Diphtheria · Yellow Fever ·</p>
Internet Access	There's a free wi-fi network at the lobby and the conference rooms of the hotel Hesperia Isla Margarita. Please note that there is NO INTERNET access in the hotel rooms. If you stay at posada Ashi, there will be free wi-fi access available.
HALF DAY TOURS TUESDAY June 22	Macite will pick the groups up at Hotel Hesperia after lunch 1:30 PM and arrive at Hesperia around 7 PM. Bring soft clothes, sunblock, hats, sport shoes. For the Restinga is needed to use mosquitoes repellent and waterproof camera.
More Information	Information about lodging, transport, transfers, local tourism, shopping, etc. can be found at the hospitality desk that will be located at the hotel lobby for all conference participants.

Maps



31/05/2010 03:06 p.m.

