

Dear ISFG 2015 Delegate,

We are very pleased to welcome you to Krakow for the 26th Congress of the International Society for Forensic Genetics. The congress starts on 31st August and ends on 5th September 2015.

From and to Krakow airport

The most convenient and recommended way to go from and to the airport is by taxi. The trip to Krakow centre, where the conference venue and hotels are located, may take up to 45 minutes if traffic is heavy (approx. 20 km). The expected cost using the Kraków Airport Taxi service is approximately 90-110 PLN (25 Euro). You can book a taxi at: http://www.krktaxi.pl/en/order_a_taxi_online or by phone at: +48 12 258 0 258. The charges within the zones are flat rates regardless of the duration of the ride, the time of day and the day of the week.

You may also choose to use the public transport system. Krakow Airport is served by two regular agglomeration bus lines: 208 and 292, and one nightline: 902 (final stop: Main Railway Station). Bus stops within the airport grounds are located near the T1 terminal. You can find further details at: <http://www.krakowairport.pl/en/>

Krakow airport is currently under reconstruction and international flights may land at domestic terminal T2. Fast transfer between terminal T1, the multi-story car park and terminal T2 is provided by the airport shuttle bus, which is free of charge.

The Auditorium Maximum of the Jagiellonian University

ISFG 2015 will be held at the Auditorium Maximum Conference Centre of the Jagiellonian University, 33 Krupnicza St., close to the historical city centre. Information about the Congress venue is provided at: <http://isfg2015.org/congress-venue/>

Parking in the Auditorium Maximum will not be possible during the conference. Furthermore, please note that the Congress venue is located in a limited parking area. Please contact the Congress office if you need further information on parking opportunities in the Congress venue area.

Public transport

Tickets for buses and trams are available from ticket machines on the buses and trams themselves, but you are advised to buy tickets from stationary ticket machines (English menu available) at bus and tram stops or from kiosks, where there is a broader range of options, such as: single-ride, 20 min, 40 min, 60 min, 90 min, 24 hours, 48 hours, and 72 hours. You may also consider buying a ticket for the whole public transport network in Krakow, which is valid for 7 days – the cost is 48 PLN (12 EURO). More details can be found at: <http://www.mpk.krakow.pl/en/network-maps/>

Accommodation

You are kindly advised to confirm the check-in and check-out time at your hotel. A list of hotels and a map showing their location are available at the following address:

<http://isfg2015.org/accommodation/>

Registration

Please visit the reception desk to collect your name badge and the Congress materials. The reception desk is located on the ground floor next to the stairs in the Auditorium Maximum and will be open at the following times:

Monday 31 August 2015	08:30 – 18:00
Tuesday 1 September 2015	08:30 – 19:00
Wednesday 2 September 2015	08:30 – 18:00
Thursday 3 September 2015	08:30 – 18:00
Friday 4 September 2015	08:30 – 17:00
Saturday 5 September 2015	08:30 – 12:00

If you have not paid your registration fee, it will be possible to pay on site by credit card or cash at the reception desk. Please complete your payment in order to get your badge and Congress materials.

Coffee breaks and lunches

Coffee breaks will be provided to all registered participants during the whole Congress. Lunches will be served from Wednesday to Friday (Monday and Tuesday only for workshop attendees). Catering will be available on the –1 level of the Auditorium Maximum. Please remember to have your badge with you.

	Monday 31.08.2015	Tuesday 01.09.2015	Wednesday 02.09.2015	Thursday 03.09.2015	Friday 04.09.2015	Saturday 05.09.2015
morning coffee	11:00 - 11:30	11:00 - 11:30	11:00 - 11:30	10:30 - 11:30	10:30 - 11:30	10:30 - 10:45 11.30 - 12.00
lunch	13:00 - 14:30	13:00 - 14:30	13:00 - 14:30	13:00 - 14:30	13:00 - 14:30	
afternoon coffee	16:00 - 16:30	16:00 - 16:30	16:00 - 17:00	16:00 - 17:00	16:00 - 16:30	

Photography

A professional photographer has been hired for the duration of the Congress. Photographs may be used for reports, case studies, marketing and supplied to media if requested. If you do not agree to be photographed, please notify the reception desk.

Program

The latest Congress program is available at: <http://isfg2015.org/programme/>

The program is subject to change, so please check this site for updates regularly. The most recent program and abstracts will appear in the Congress book, which will be provided in the Congress materials. All updates and important information will be available to read at the reception desk.

Speaker preparation desk

Speakers' presentations will be uploaded at the Speakers Preparation Desk, which is located next to the reception desk. All speakers are asked to provide their presentations 3-4 hours before their session (or the day before in the case of the first session in a day).

Poster presentations

Posters should be displayed during the whole Congress, and should not be mailed in advance. The poster should be placed in the appropriate presentation room, on the stand marked with the appropriate poster number. Posters will be attached with tape provided in the poster session rooms. Posters can be set up from lunch time on Monday (August 31) and must be removed by Saturday (September 5) noon. The maximum acceptable poster size is L180xW90 (portrait mode).



The presenting authors should be at their poster at the following times and place:

	Poster Theme	Poster Numbers	Day	Room	Time
1	Population genetics	1 – 30			
2	X - Chromosome variation	31 – 44	Wednesday	2 nd floor Exhibition Room – Poster Session	11:00 – 11:30
3	Ethical and legal issues	45 – 50			
4	Lineage markers	51 – 117			
5	Massively Parallel Sequencing	118 – 146	Wednesday	2 nd floor Exhibition Room – Poster Session	16:00 – 17: 00
6	New technologies	147 – 160			
7	Predictive DNA analysis	161 – 181			
8	DNA typing methods	182 – 239	Thursday	2 nd floor Exhibition Room – Poster Session	10:30 – 11:30
9	DNA databases	240 – 246			
10	Body fluid identification	247 – 275	Thursday	2 nd floor Exhibition Room – Poster Session	
11	Touch DNA	276 – 291			16:00 – 17: 00
12	DVI human remains	292 – 327	Thursday	2 nd floor Seminar Room – Poster Session	
13	Biostatistics	328 – 349			
14	Paternity	350 – 363			
15	Forensic Biology	364 – 374			
16	Legal medicine	375 – 386	Friday	2 nd floor Seminar Room – Poster Session	10:30 – 11:30
17	Non-human DNA	387 – 411			
18	Quality control	412 – 423			

The Congress proceedings

Elsevier is the official publisher of the ISFG 2015 congress proceedings, which will be published in Forensic Science International: Genetics Supplements Series (FSIGSS). Presenting authors have been invited by the Elsevier team to submit articles reporting materials presented during the ISFG Congress in Krakow. We strongly advise you to strictly follow the Author’s guidelines and remind you that the deadline for article submission is **4th September 2015**. Please do not hesitate to contact Elsevier via email (fsigss@elsevier.com) should you have any questions regarding the submission of your manuscript.

Program at a glance

Monday, August 31, 2015

09:00 – 17:00	Workshop: Basic STR interpretation (Medium Hall A)
09:00 – 18:30	Workshop: EMPOP advanced practical course (Conference Room)
09:00 – 18:30	Workshop: Next Generation Sequencing (Medium Hall B)
09:00 – 18:30	Workshop: Beyond DNA-profiling: RNA-profiling, transfer and persistence - what is it and how did it get there? (Small Hall)
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break (-1 level)
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch Break (-1 level)
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee break (-1 level)

Tuesday, September 1, 2015

09:00 – 18:30	Workshop: The interpretation of complex DNA profiles using open-source software LRmix Studio and EuroForMix (EFM) (Conference Room)
09:00 – 13:00	Workshop: Kinship analysis (Small Hall)
14:30 – 18:30	Workshop: The new Y Chromosome Haplotype Reference Database and optimized approaches for the forensic Y-STR analysis (Small Hall)
09:00 – 13:00	Workshop: Ethical, legal and social issues in forensic genetics (Medium Hall A)
14:30 – 18:30	Workshop: Forensic DNA Phenotyping: basis, availabilities and expectations (Medium Hall A)
09:00 – 17:00	Workshop: Interpretation of complex DNA profiles using a continuous model – an introduction to STRmix™ (Medium Hall B)
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break (-1 level)
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch Break (-1 level)
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee break (-1 level)
19:00 – 22:00	Opening Ceremony (Large Hall) ISFG Scientific Prize Lecture: Peter Gill (Large Hall) Concert: Marcin Wyrostek & Tango Corazon (Large Hall) Get-Together Party (-1 level)

Wednesday, September 2, 2015

08:45 – 09:00	Opening Welcome (Large Hall)
09:00 – 09:45	Plenary lecture: Bruce Weir (Large Hall)
09:45 – 11:00	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
11:00 – 11:30	Poster viewing (Exhibition Room, Seminar Room), Coffee break (-1 level)
11:30 – 12:15	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
12:15 – 13:00	Panel discussion: Sequencing based STR nomenclature (Large Hall)

13:00 – 14:30	Lunch Break (-1 level), ThermoFisher Symposium (Medium Hall A&B)
14:30 – 15:15	Plenary lecture: Chris Tyler-Smith (Large Hall)
15:15 – 16:00	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
16:00 – 17:00	Poster viewing (Exhibition Room, Seminar Room), Coffee break (-1 level)
17:00 – 18:00	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
18:00 – 19:00	ISFG Working Group Meetings (see page 18)
20:00 – 23:00	Gala Dinner (Gallery of the 19th Century Polish Art in Sukiennice)

Thursday, September 3, 2015

09:00 – 09:45	Plenary lecture: Manel Esteller (Large Hall)
09:45 – 10:30	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
10:30 – 11:30	Poster viewing (Exhibition Room, Seminar Room), Coffee break (-1 level), Silicon Biosystems presentation (Medium Hall A&B)
11:30 – 13:00	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch Break (-1 level), Promega Symposium (Medium Hall A&B)
14:30 – 15:15	Plenary lecture: Robin Williams (Large Hall)
15:15 – 16:00	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
16:00 – 17:00	Poster viewing (Exhibition Room, Seminar Room), Coffee break (-1 level)
17:00 – 18:00	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
18:00 – 19:00	ISFG General Assembly (Large Hall)

Friday, September 4, 2015

09:00 – 09:45	Plenary lecture: Tomasz Grzybowski (Large Hall)
09:45 – 10:30	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
10:30 – 11:30	Poster viewing (Exhibition Room, Seminar Room), Coffee break (-1 level)
11:30 – 13:00	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch Break (-1 level), Qiagen Symposium (Medium Hall A&B)
14:30 – 16:00	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee break (-1 level)
16:30 – 17:30	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
19:00 – 00:00	Congress Dinner (Zalesie Manor Complex)

Saturday, September 5, 2015

09:00 – 10:30	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee break (-1 level)
10:45 – 11:30	ISFG General Session Talks (Large Hall)
11:30 – 12:00	Closing Ceremony (Large Hall)

Lunch symposia

All ISFG 2015 delegates are invited to attend Company Symposia, which will take place at lunch time on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Please visit the website below to process your registration. The symposia listed at <http://isfg2015.org/lunch-symposia/> are optional and there is no additional cost to attend.

Emergencies and Insurance

The emergency phone number in Poland is 112. This will connect you to an operator, who will put you through to the police, ambulance service, or fire brigade. The ISFG2015 organizing committee or its agents will not be responsible for any medical expenses, loss or accidents incurred during the conference. Delegates are strongly advised to arrange their own personal insurance to cover medical and other expenses, including accident or loss. Having an EHIC card is recommended for citizens from EU countries.

Banking facilities and currency

Bank hours are: Monday – Friday 8:00 – 18:00. The Polish currency is the Polish złoty (abbreviation – zł). Its international code is PLN. 1 złoty = 100 groszy (abbreviation – gr).

There are the following denominations: 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 50 gr and 1, 2, and 5 zł (coins), and 10, 20, 50, 100 and 200 zł (notes). Foreign currency can be exchanged at airports, hotel receptions, banks, and in small exchange offices called “kantor”. The present approximate exchange rate is available at <http://www.nbp.pl/homen.aspx?f=/kursy/ratesa.html>.

International credit cards (VISA, Mastercard, Eurocard) are accepted in most hotels, and in many shops and restaurants. They can be also used in most ATMs, called “bankomat” in Polish.

Weather

The climate in Poland is temperate. September can be sunny and dry, with average temperatures of 15-20⁰C during the day and 8-12⁰C at night. Nevertheless, it can rain.

Eateries

Krakow is not only famous for its scenery and history, but also for its numerous restaurants and eateries dotted around the city. All kinds of diners can be found in the historical Old Town, as well as in Kazimierz (the former Jewish quarter), and Podgórze across the Vistula (*Wisła*) river. Tipping is expected for good service: the norm is to tip around 10% of the bill.

The most traditional polish dishes are: *bigos* (seasoned stew made from sauerkraut with various meats and sausages), *pierogi* (dumplings, with various fillings: sauerkraut with mushrooms, cheese and potatoes, fruits, and meat), *gołąbki* (cabbage parcels stuffed with meat or meat and rice) and *barszcz czerwony* (beetroot soup with vegetables and sour cream or served clear with dumplings).

Electricity

The mains electricity in Poland is 230 volts, 50 Hz. Socket outlets are for plugs with two round pins (plug types C and E), which are common in Europe, South America and Asia.