



World Biodiversity Forum 2020

23 – 28 February 2020

Davos, Switzerland

Practical information

Traveling to Davos

Travelling to Davos is best done by train, the nearest international airport being Zurich, some well-connected 150km away from Davos. The train ride through the picturesque pre-alpine and alpine environment is a very special experience. Trains usually run every hour, between 6:00 and 21:00; it takes you 2 ½ hours to Davos. A timetable for the Swiss Railways is [here](#).

Please note: You need to buy your tickets at the ticket machines or at the counter at Zürich airport; you cannot buy your tickets on the train.

Traveling within Davos

Davos is a very long town. It has two train stations, which you will notice when you book your train ride up to Davos: “Davos Dorf” is the first one, when coming by train from Zurich, “Davos Platz” is the second one. Depending on where your accommodation is, you choose the nearest train station.

Nothing is far away in Davos – from most places, you can reach the congress centre and one of the two train stations on foot within 10-20 minutes. If you prefer not to walk, buses go frequently. The timetable for the Swiss railways ([here](#)) also shows the public transport within Davos.

Guest card

With the Davos Klosters Card, guests benefit from a wide range of free services and discounts. The local public transport (train and bus) is part of this. You receive the guest card when you check in at your hotel.

Climate and weather

Davos is situated in the heart of the Swiss Alps at an altitude of 1560 m asl. In February, you can expect a daily temperature range from about -9 to 0°C, of course, much lower or slightly above that is also possible. Most precipitation in February will be coming as snow, roads and paths are generally snow- or ice covered throughout town, and good, sturdy shoes are helpful. Remember to bring sufficiently warm clothing.

Language

Davos is the second biggest town in the canton of Grisons (11'000 permanent residents). In Davos, the main language is German (Swiss German dialect), the canton of Grisons uses three languages



(German, Italian, Romansch), but almost everybody speaks several languages (Italian, French, English, Romansch, Spanish), so getting by without knowing German mostly works.

Currency in Switzerland

The currency used in Switzerland is Swiss Francs (CHF, [currency converter](#)). In most shops, you will be able to pay with the European standard currency EURO, but your change will be in Swiss Francs. Hotels and restaurants usually accept Mastercard or Visa; American Express is mostly not accepted.

Voltage, power sockets and adapters



If you want to know a lot, [wiki](#) has the answers. For the short version: the voltage is 220/230 V and the outlet has two or three holes for a two- or three-prong plug (see photo above). Please be sure to bring an adapter for your devices, or remember to buy an adapter at the airport!

Conference reception desk and cloakroom

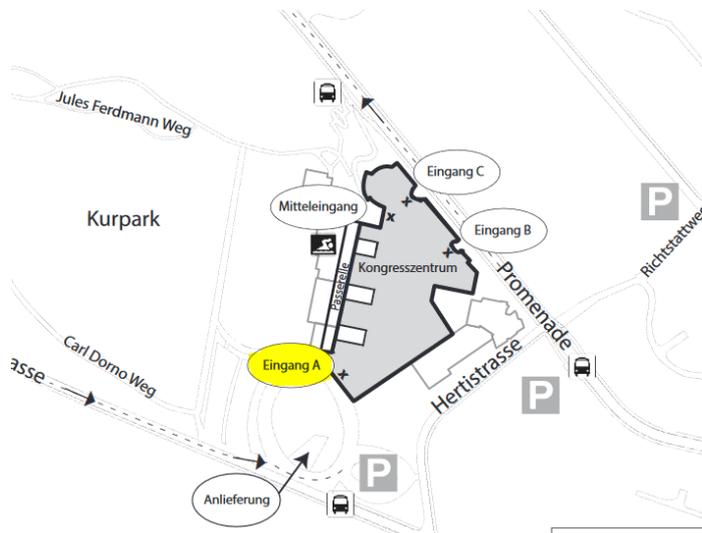
The reception desk in the conference centre will be open and staffed whenever sessions, workshops or evening events are taking place. There is an open cloakroom area in the entry (not guarded), and you can use lockable cubbyholes for valuables or outdoor shoes.

Flyers and information pamphlets

If you wish to bring flyers or leaflets about your organisation to set them out within the congress centre, this is feasible; you can display them on one of the tables used for coffee breaks. Please keep the stacks of flyers tidy and make sure to take leftover flyers home with you to re-use them. This prevents them from being thrown out after the conference.

Congress centre, entry for the World Biodiversity Forum

The Davos Congress Centre is located in the centre of Davos, next to the “Kurpark”. The congress centre is rather large and has several entrances. The one for the World Biodiversity Forum is entrance A, as marked in the sketch below, the nearest main road with bus stop is on Talstrasse, it is called “Davos Platz, Hertistrasse”. The other main road is above; it is called Promenade, with the nearest bus stop called “Davos Platz, Horlauben”:



Coffee breaks

There will be twice daily coffee breaks from Monday to Thursday, on Sunday and Friday, there will be only a morning coffee break. For the times, please consult the conference schedule. There will be tea, coffee, juice, water, buns, croissants and apples; gluten-free options are available.

Water

Tap water in Switzerland is of very high quality. Bring your own bottle and fill it up at any bathroom tap – it is of better quality than most bottled water that you can buy in a shop. Moreover, it did not need to be transported to Davos.

Lunch

A simple lunch will be served in the congress centre daily from Sunday to Thursday (no lunch on Friday), the exact times can be found in the daily conference programme and are adapted to session times. The meals are vegetarian with vegan and gluten-free options, there will be sandwiches and soup.

Dinner

Davos has a large variety of restaurants; you can have a look at the list or search for particular food types on <https://www.davos.ch/en/davos-klosters/restaurants/>. Wherever you plan to eat: please be sure to book a table, as February is a busy time in Davos.

Doing stuff that isn't work

If you want to go (cross-country) skiing, walking, hiking, swimming, to a museum or a bar, please have a look at the many possibilities linked on <https://www.worldbiodiversityforum.org/en/what-to-do-in-davos> or come and ask us at the reception desk.



Grocery shops

There are many food shops and supermarkets in Davos, the three biggest ones are Migros, Coop and Spar. They are generally open from

- 8am to 6.30pm on week days
- 8am - 5pm or 6pm on Saturdays
- closed on Sundays (with some exceptions during main season)

There are also a few smaller food shops ("24hr shops") that are open until 10pm every day.

Emergency numbers

The general physicians in Davos and Klosters offer a 24-hour on-call service for emergencies and medical consultations. The doctors' practices have set up the number 0844 003 003 for Davos and 081 410 25 22 for Klosters, which is available around the clock for home visits, practice appointments and hotel visits. See also www.doctorfmh.ch

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Emergencies, always when injured are present

1414



In the case of seriously injured persons, in mountain accidents, in hard-to-reach accident sites

145



In case of poisoning emergencies without disturbances of consciousness

117



Traffic accident, crime

118



Trapped injuries, fire, danger of explosion, danger of poisoning in the area

112



Accessible throughout Europe. Even without a SIM card in the mobile phone

Precautions to prevent the spread of seasonal flu

Please follow the general recommendations for prevention of the seasonal flu:

- **Wash your hands:** Wash your hands properly several times a day with water and soap.
- **Sneeze or cough into a handkerchief:** Cover your mouth and nose with a paper handkerchief when you sneeze or cough. Put the paper handkerchief in the bin after use and wash your hands carefully with water and soap.
- **Sneeze or cough into your arm:** If you don't have a tissue, please sneeze or cough into your elbow, not your hands. This is more hygienic. If you do sneeze or cough into your hands, you should wash them straight afterwards using water and soap, if possible.
- **Stay at home when feeling sick:** If you are feeling sick, it is recommended that you stay at home. This will prevent the disease from spreading to others.