

First Circular

Forum for Future Ocean Floor Mapping *A GEBCO-Nippon Foundation Forum*

15 – 17 June 2016
Principality of Monaco

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15 February 2016

The Forum for Future Ocean Floor Mapping (F-FOFM) will take place in the Principality of Monaco.

The contact for general F-FOFM information is David Clark (address above).

For venue information the contact is Karin van Doorn: Telephone +31 6 55 696 200, Email: ks.vandoorn53@gmail.com.

The local representative is David Wyatt from the International Hydrographic Bureau, Telephone: +377 93 10 81 00, Telefax: + 377 93 10 81 40. Email: adso@ihohq.int

1. Forum Registration

It is critical that you register to attend to the Forum with David Clark at the address above as soon as possible. Since it is a “*by invitation only*” event, we need this information for logistics, program and agenda planning. Attached to this email is the registration form (it is an electronic fillable form).

2. Program

The F-FOFM Programme Committee is developing the details for the Forum. Since this is a “*by invitation only*” Forum, the programme is evolving as we receive the acceptances of the participants. Your invitation contained an overall description of the Forum programmes. As we develop a more detailed programme, we will contact you. To summarize:

Tuesday 14 June, evening. Venue: Novotel Hotel, Monaco

- Ice Breaker

Wednesday 15 June. Venue: Oceanographic Museum of Monaco

- Opening Ceremony and Keynote addresses.
- Poster Session

Wednesday 15 June, evening

- Formal Reception, Venue - Monaco Yacht Club

Thursday 16 June. Venue – Novotel Hotel

- Panel discussions



- Poster Session

Friday 17 June. Venue - Novotel Hotel

- Ocean Floor Mapping Workshop
 - Poster Session

3. Passports and visas

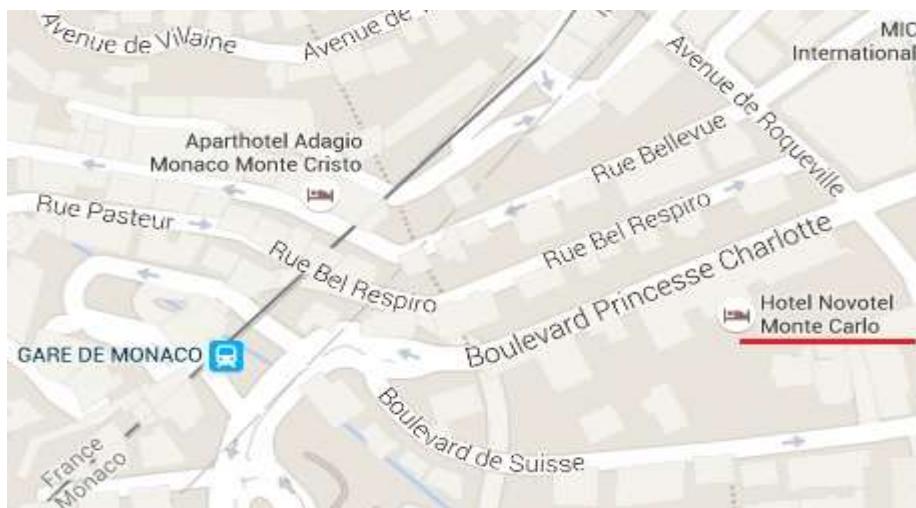
Anyone wishing to enter into Principality of Monaco is required to pass through French territory; therefore a French visa is required. Those wishing to enter into and stay in Principality of Monaco must hold a valid passport, or travel document, bearing the stamps, visas and authorisations enabling them to enter and stay in France, in particular in the department of the Alps Maritime. Visa applications are to be made at the French Consulate or Embassy in their place of residence or any other signatory country of the Schengen agreement. Although the Principality of Monaco is an independent and Sovereign State, the border may be crossed without any formality.

All participants should check, well before they travel, whether they will need a visa to enter Principality of Monaco. **It is strongly recommended that you apply well in advance for your visa.** In principle all visitors must be able to show that they hold a return ticket.

If you need a letter of invitation to support your visa application please contact David Clark, FOFM Organizing Committee, at the address above.

4. Hotel accommodation

The conference hotel is the Novotel Monte Carlo, 16 Bld Princesse Charlotte
98000 MONACO – MONACO, Tel (+377)99998300 - Fax (+377)99998310
<http://www.novotel.com/qb/hotel-5275-novotel-monte-carlo/index.shtml>



The special Forum rate is 270 € /night (single) including taxes and breakfast. Hotel reservations can be made by using the web site or by email. To make a reservation at the hotel using the web site, please use the group ID **GEBCO** in the “preferential code” area on the web site. Reservations by email can be sent to H5275-sb4@accor.com. Be sure to include the group ID **GEBCO**.

To contact the Novotel directly for questions about your accommodation, please call Mrs. Barbara Olivia, Telephone +377 99 99 83 32.

For any general information on hotel reservations or Forum logistics, please contact Karin van Doorn, Telephone +31 6 55 696 200, Email: ks.vandoorn53@gmail.com

The Novotel hotel is the Forum hotel and the venue for most of the Forum. Therefore, participants are encouraged to stay at the Novotel. However, there are many other hotels in the vicinity, details can be found on the IHO web site at:

http://www.ihonet.org/srv1/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=386&Itemid=304

Additional hotels may be available through the various online hotel booking web sites.

Please note: The 55ème Festival de Télévision de Monte-Carlo 2016 is being held 12-16 June. Hotels in Monaco are already in great demand, so booking as early as possible is strongly advised. (See below for details on the Festival de Télévision)

5. Local Travel Information

A shuttle bus will provide transportation from the Novotel hotel to the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco and to the Monaco Yacht Club on June 15.

Travelling from Nice Airport to Monaco.

Prices given below are approximate and may be subject to change.

Bus service

The following regular NICE AIRPORT Express (Aeroport de Nice COTE D'AZUR) N° 110 , bus service between Nice Airport and Monaco, departs from Nice Airport (Terminal 1 + 2) every 1/2 hour between 8.45 and 22.00. This service, which travels to Monaco via the motorway (autoroute), takes approximately 45 minutes and costs 20 Euros per one way ticket. The service from Monaco to Nice Airport starts with the first bus departing at 06:45 then runs every 1/2 hour until 19:50. There are several pick-up/drop-off points in Monaco, which include: Allées Lumière (in front of the Park Palace), Place Sainte Dévote, Place d'Armes, Fontvieille (outside the Marriott Hotel) (ex-Ramada) and Monte-Carlo (Casino), the drop-off and pick-up nearest the Novotel. Participants should tell the driver at which hotel they are staying and he will confirm the name of the drop-off point.



For further information [http://en.nice.aeroport.fr/Passengers/Directions-and-parking/Getting-to-the-airport/Buses-Shuttles/Search-for-a-service/\(ville\)/48056#result-tarif](http://en.nice.aeroport.fr/Passengers/Directions-and-parking/Getting-to-the-airport/Buses-Shuttles/Search-for-a-service/(ville)/48056#result-tarif)

Taxi service

An all hours taxis service is available at Nice Airport. The journey between Nice Airport and Monaco takes approximately 1 hour, and costs approximately 95 Euros.

Taxi + Train

A slightly less costly option is to take a taxi to the main Nice train station (in French "La gare Nice-Ville"), where there is a regular train service to Monaco and beyond. Trains 'run' regularly between Nice and Menton. All stop at Nice-Riquier, Villefranche, Beaulieu, Monaco and Carnolés; stops at Eze, Cap d'Ail and Roquebrune are less frequent. As strikes, delays and cancellation are not unusual, it is recommended downloading the SNCF TER app, which will provide up to date train times, note the app is in French. Turning left out of the Monte-Carlo exit of the train station, it is a short walk, 5 minutes, along Boulevard Princesse Charlotte to the Novotel.

Regular Helicopter Service from Nice Airport to Monaco

There is a regular helicopter service, run by MONACAIR, between Nice Airport and Monaco. The journey takes 6 minutes and costs 135 euros one way. This price includes minibus transfer between the Monaco Heli Airport, and your hotel (in the Monaco area). Tickets can be bought upon arrival at Nice Airport from the Monacair desk, which is situated in the arrivals hall of the airport.

6. Local information

The 55ème Festival de Télévision de Monte-Carlo 2016 is being held 12-16 June. Created in 1961 by Prince Rainier III of Monaco, who wished to "encourage a new art form, in the service of peace and understanding between men." Monaco's international status ideally suited the Prince's ambition: to recognize television as an exceptional means of bringing cultures together and enhancing their respective knowledge. H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco has been the Honorary President of the Festival since 1988. <http://www.tvfestival.com/>

Participants should also be aware that this event takes place just over two weeks after the Monaco Formula 1 Grand Prix and therefore the process of disassembling the circuit will be about half completed, making walking routes less direct in some of the affected areas, although all roads will be open as normal

Principality of Monaco is a sovereign city state, located on the French Riviera in Western Europe. Located on the Mediterranean Sea, Monaco is surrounded by France on three sides. Nice, France, is the nearest large city at a distance of 11 miles (18 kilometers) and is the normal airport entry point for Monaco. Monaco is rocky and situated on steep hills that drop off into the Mediterranean. Part of the Côte d'Azur, Monaco's terrain and geography are typical of the north-western area of the Mediterranean. It has an area of 2.2 km² (0.85 sq. mi), and a population of 35,986, making Monaco the second smallest and the most densely populated country in the world. The official language is French, although Italian and English are widely spoken.

Monaco has a warm-summer Mediterranean climate which is influenced by the oceanic climate and the humid subtropical climate. Situated in the heart of



Mediterranean Europe, the Principality of Monaco enjoys a particularly mild climate, with more than 300 days of sunshine per year. In June, one can expect temperatures from 20° - 30° C with only occasional rain showers.

I look forward to seeing you in Monaco!

Best regards,

Dave

David Clark
F-FOFM Organizing Committee

