

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

Hotel information

Hotel Botánico *****

The hotel address is:

Hotel Botánico
Avda. Richard J. Yeoward, nº 1, C.P. 38400
PUERTO DE LA CRUZ - TENERIFE - SPAIN
Tel: 34 922 38 14 00 - Fax: 34 922 38 15 04

Getting to Tenerife (flight information)

There are two airports on the island of Tenerife, one on the north side (Tenerife Norte, TFN, also known as "Aeropuerto de Los Rodeos") and the other one on the south of the island (Tenerife Sur, TFS, also known as "Aeropuerto Reina Sofía"). Both airports are at about 2.5 hours flying time from Madrid, and about 3 hours from Barcelona.

Puerto de la Cruz lies 35 Km from TFN, and 100 Km from TFS, with a motorway link covering the full journey in both cases. The easiest access is from the northern airport (TFN) along the TF-5 motorway. This is approximately 20 to 30 minutes journey along the coast. The TFS airport is more than an hour along the TF-1 and TF-5 motorways.

All international flights and some domestic flights go to the TFS airport. On the other hand, most domestic flights go to the TFN airport. Most people traveling on scheduled flights will have to fly via Madrid or Barcelona, and then onto the northern airport.

Please book your flights early!. Scheduled flights, as well as charter flights from some European countries, can be heavily booked at certain times of the year.

On-line information about flights arriving at or departing from the Spanish airports is obtained at:

<http://www.aena.es/>

Getting to your Hotel (local transport)

From Tenerife South Airport (TFS)

- You can either catch a taxi (about 80 €); or
- Bus line 340 (one way ticket 8,10 €); from TFS to Puerto de la Cruz; departure times: 09:45, 14:00, 20:00 and 23:00; or
- Bus line 341 (5,40 €) from TFS to Santa Cruz de Tenerife (main bus terminal) and, from there, Bus line 102 (4,10 €) to Puerto de la Cruz main bus terminal. Departure times: line 341, every 40-60 minutes, and 01:30; line 102, from Santa Cruz to Puerto de la Cruz from 06:00, every 20 minutes, until 21:40, and at 22:15, 23:30, 00:15, 02:00 and 04:30.

From Tenerife North Airport (TFN)

- A taxi will cost about 25 €; or
- Bus line 102, from Santa Cruz to Puerto de la Cruz stopping at the airport, from 06:00, every 20 minutes, until 21:40, and at 22:15, costs 2,90 € from TFN Airport.

The local bus company is called TITSA, buses are painted bright green, and the local name for bus is "guagua" or "autobus". Attached is a map of Tenerife with the bus routes.

Changing Money

The most recommendable way to obtain money is by withdrawal from any of the numerous cash-dispensing machines.

There is a bank within the international arrivals lounge at the TFS Airport that operates daily except Sundays and public holidays. If you are traveling through Madrid or Barcelona, the exchange bureau is open there round the clock; however, **no** currency exchange facilities are available in TFN Airport.

Many banks are available in Puerto de la Cruz, and open Monday to Friday from 9:00 to 13:00. Credit cards are widely accepted in Spain, in restaurants, hotels, etc.

About Puerto de la Cruz

The *NDSC Steering Committee Meeting* will be held in Puerto de la Cruz, a 25,000-pop. seaside resort on the northern coast of the Island of Tenerife, and about 42 km from the capital city, Santa Cruz de Tenerife. Located at latitude +28° and longitude 15° West, the Spanish Islas Canarias consist of a volcanic archipelago in the Atlantic Ocean made up of 7 islands and 6 islets, with 1.605.000 inhabitants. The nearest island is 108 km off the northwest African mainland, the furthest is 485 km. Geographically, the islands are part of the

African continent but from a historical, economical, political and socio-cultural point of view, the Canaries are completely European, although it has had also a historical strong relation with America.

Puerto de la Cruz is the main tourist center of the North of the island, catering for "quality tourism." The mild climate and international nature of the town make it a popular place for foreigners to settle and many people come to the area to retire. This gives Puerto de la Cruz a very international atmosphere with a very active nightlife.

Restaurants can be found that cater for many types of international cuisine and it is easy to find places with their menus in many foreign languages apart from the ubiquitous Spanish, English and German; these include Swedish, Finnish, Danish, French, Dutch, Russian and Italian. A list of recommended restaurants will be provided in your conference folder.

There are facilities of all kinds in the town for visitors and their families, including a small port (used by private vessels). Like in most of Tenerife, sandy beaches are in short supply (the west islands are too young to have much natural sand), but there is a large complex of chlorinated and salt-water pools for swimming, the famous Lago Martiánez.

Like all places in Tenerife, when you move even slightly away from the coast there are many steep slopes. If you have health or mobility problems, you should bear this in mind and be ready to make use of taxis and rent-a-cars where possible.

Attractions in Puerto de la Cruz include the Loro Parque, a fascinating center that combines a park, a zoo, a large bird collection and some spectacular aquaria; the XVIII century Botanic Garden; and the seafront area. Close to Puerto de la Cruz is La Orotova, with its special architecture and famous old Canarian-style houses.

The town is connected to the two main airports by motorways. The easiest access is from the North Airport (TFN, or Los Rodeos) along the TF-5 motorway; an approximately 20-minute journey along the coast. The South Airport (TFS, or Reina Sofía) is more than an hour away along the TF-1 and TF-5 motorways (see '*Getting to your Hotel*' section).

There is good bus transport between Puerto de la Cruz and many other points, especially the main towns of La Laguna and Santa Cruz de Tenerife, the capital of the island.

Weather and Climate

The weather in November is usually comfortably warm. Please make sure that you have some warm clothing, too, as cool evenings and rain are possible at this time of the year, although the climate is usually mild.

Puerto de la Cruz is on the north coast of the island of Tenerife and is dominated by the 3718-m (12198-ft) *Peak of Teide* to the south (<http://www.iac.es/winschool2005/imagenes/teiden.jpg>). There is a maritime climate, which means that the temperature and weather on the coast can be warm and pleasant, even if it is cold and raining hard just a few minutes' drive away.

Snow may come down in exceptional conditions to about the 1500-m level on the hills to the south, allowing spectacular photographs of the mountainside.

If you plan to visit Izaña Observatory and the "Las Cañadas" National Park, expect temperatures there that could be sub-zero. Mountaintop weather is very variable at this time of the year, and rain, snow, fog, and high winds may all occur. The weather can change quickly, so a brilliant sunny day may turn into a foggy and miserable one between the departure from Puerto de la Cruz and arrival to the Izaña Observatory.

Information about Tenerife:

<http://www.puntoinfo.idecnet.com/>

<http://www.canaries-live.com/UK/tenerife-map.html>

Map of Puerto de la Cruz:

<http://www.canaries-live.com/UK/puerto-cruz-map.html>