



IFA2015

BASEL – SWITZERLAND +

INVITATION PROGRAMME

**69TH CONGRESS OF THE
INTERNATIONAL FISCAL ASSOCIATION
FROM 30 AUGUST TO 3 SEPTEMBER 2015
WWW.IFABASEL2015.COM**

+ ORGANISATION

SWISS IFA BRANCH

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WELCOME TO BASEL

+ WILLKOMMEN – BIENVENUE – BENVENUTI – BEINVEGNI

Dear IFA Members

It will be our great pleasure to welcome you to Switzerland in 2015 to the 69th IFA Congress. The city of Basel, located in the heart of Europe, will make this Congress from 30 August to 3 September 2015 a wonderful experience for all of you. The scientific programme has been designed to be of interest to international tax practitioners, academics and government officials.

The 2015 IFA Congress will take place at Congress Center Basel. This superb venue is located right in the heart of the city. Every year it attracts thousands of visitors to events such as Art Basel, the largest art fair in the world, and Baselworld, the leading world trade fair for watches and jewellery. The newly built Event Hall of the Congress Center Basel, designed by the famous Swiss architects Herzog & de Meuron, will be the location for the Opening Ceremony, the Welcome Reception and the Gala Dinner.

The social programme will comprise a wide variety of offers for every taste, including the IFA-exclusive Night at the Museums, with visits to the Vitra Design Museum, the Museum Tinguely or the Fondation Beyeler Museum. A further highlight will be the YIN Party, which will take place at one of the most spectacular buildings in Basel, the Elisabethenkirche, a historic church right in the city centre. The excursions will introduce you and your accompanying persons to the history, culture and character of the city and its surroundings, and will also include several trips to other Swiss cities such as Lucerne, Berne, Montreux on the shores of Lake Geneva and the mountain village of Zermatt at the foot of the Matterhorn.

The Swiss are very friendly people. Wherever you go, you will find yourself surrounded by a cosy and friendly atmosphere. Save the dates and take the opportunity to share and network with leading decision-makers and your peers during your visit to the 69th IFA Congress. The Congress Center Basel will provide the perfect setting for catching up with old friends and for making new ones, as well as meeting our exhibitors and sponsors. We very much look forward to welcoming you to beautiful Switzerland.

*Maurus Winzap
and his colleagues from the local Organising Committee*



+ INTERNATIONAL FISCAL ASSOCIATION (ORGANISATION)

SWISS IFA BRANCH

President: Hubertus Ludwig
Secretary: Daniel Bader
Treasurer: Philip Robinson

ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF THE CONGRESS

President: Maurus Winzap
Secretary/Treasurer: Erich Ettl
Members: Hubertus Ludwig
Daniel Schafer
Pascal Taddei



+ THE CENTRAL ORGANISATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FISCAL ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Porus F. Kaka (India)
Secretary General: Han A. Kogels (Netherlands)
General Treasurer: Jos Beerepoot (Netherlands)
Vice Presidents: Jean-Blaise Eckert (Switzerland)
John F. Nicolai (USA)
Andres Miguel Valle Billingham (Peru)

Members: Murray Clayson (United Kingdom)
Béatrice Deshayes (France)
André Gomes de Oliveira (Brazil)
Hans Severin Hansen (Denmark)
Sushil Lakhani (India)
Antonella Magliocco (Italy)
Victor Matchekhin (Russia)
Yuko Miyazaki (Japan)
José Palacios Pérez (Spain)
Brian Schneiderman (Canada)
Detlev J. Piltz (Germany)
Maarten van der Weijden (Netherlands)
Xiaoyue Wang (PRC)
Bertil Wiman (Sweden)

Also invited: Kristine Ilstad (Norway) – YIN Representative

Honorary Presidents: Sven-Olof Lodin (Sweden)
Jerome B. Libin (USA)
Marcus Desax (Switzerland)
Manuel E. Tron (Mexico)

PERMANENT SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Chair: Stef Van Weeghel (Netherlands)
Vice Chair: Scott Wilkie (Canada)
Members: Krister Andersson (Sweden)
Keiji Aoyama (Japan)
Philip Baker (United Kingdom)
Paolo Valerio Barbantini (Italy)
Gauthier Blanluet (France)
Peter H. Blessing (USA)
Mukesh Butani (India)
Wei Cui (PRC)
Robert J. Danon (Switzerland)
Craig Elliffe (New Zealand)
Ricardo Escobar (Chile)
Daniel Garabedian (Belgium)
Jorge Gebhardt (Argentina)
Ricardo Gomez (Spain)
Marjaana Helminen (Finland)
Philip Kermodé (European Commission)
Armando Lara Yaffar (Chair of the UN Committee of
Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters)
Jürgen Lüdicke (Germany)
Jennifer Roeleveld (South Africa)
Jacques Sasseville (OECD)
Claus Staringer (Austria)
Ana C.A. Utumi (Brazil)
Dariusz Wasylkowski (Poland)
Ji Hyun Yoon (Republic of Korea)

Han Kogels (Netherlands) Secretary General
Pasquale Pistone (Netherlands) Academic Chair of IBFD;
ex officio

Also invited: Michael Kandev (Canada) – YIN Representative

Additionally invited for the preparation of the Annual Congresses in:

2015 Madeleine Simonek (Basel, Switzerland)
2016 Fernando Serrano Antón (Madrid, Spain)
2017 Marcos A. Vinhas de Catao (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)
2018 Kyung Geun Lee (Seoul, Republic of Korea)

PROGRAMME



+ CONGRESS SUBJECTS AND SEMINARS

Apart from paper copies of the volumes of the “Cahiers de Droit Fiscal International” that are sent to all IFA members, the Cahiers for 2015 will be made available in PDF and EPUB format on 15 June 2015 on the secured “Members Only” section of the IFA website which can be accessed by all IFA members using their personal passwords at www.ifa.nl. In the months leading up to the 2015 Basel Congress, documents and materials relating to the subjects and seminars of this Congress will be added to the database of Congress documents, which is also available on the secured section of the IFA website.

SUBJECT 1: TAX INCENTIVES ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R&D)

Research and development (R&D) to encourage “innovation” is generally regarded as a key element of economic growth. Many countries have adopted policies to encourage research and innovation, and as a companion seminar, the “Patent Boxes” discussion will investigate how countries have sought to institutionalize an R&D focus in different ways. Increasingly, countries employ general and targeted R&D tax incentives to encourage R&D expenditure (“input incentives”) or reduce effective taxation on income from R&D activity (“output incentives”). The discussion panel will first explore the policy objectives underlying tax incentives for R&D, with a focus on how R&D is defined for this purpose and the challenges of targeting any such exclusively at R&D which requires an incentive. The panel will compare and contrast the different approaches used by countries to provide incentives, including input and output incentives, their effectiveness in serving the policy objectives and their compatibility with obligations under treaties, other international agreements and emerging standards of harmful or inappropriate tax competition. Attention will also be directed towards constraints under EU law. The panel will use examples from countries’ experiences to determine whether experience to date can offer guidance as to when incentives are successful or unsuccessful in relation to policy objectives and to evaluate which incentives may give rise to action or counter-measures under emerging international standards for harmful tax practices.

*General reporter: Robert Danon (Switzerland)
Chair: Stephen Shay (USA)*

SUBJECT 2: PRACTICAL PROTECTION OF TAXPAYERS’ FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

Being a “taxpayer” – that is, being liable to report income and pay tax to a country – arises from legal conclusions about the taxpayer’s connections to that country enabling it to compel the taxpayer to respond to its tax regulations. In that sense, “taxpayer” is not a status defined by natural selection or personal attributes, nor is it a status that one simply chooses; a taxpayer is “chosen by the law” according to its tests of jurisdiction and connection. Accordingly, once within a legal system, it is crucial that a taxpayer’s rights are protected properly, both as a legal matter and in practice. The panel will therefore discuss important issues in this context, including those associated with confidentiality and tax secrecy, protection of data, and access to information by tax authorities. The goal is to identify global “best practises” and “minimum standards”. Certain features of this discussion, in particular taxpayers’ rights in relation to the exchange of information between tax authorities and to litigation, will be developed in two companion seminars.

*General reporters: Pasquale Pistone (Italy) and Philip Baker (United Kingdom)
Chair: Michael Beusch (Switzerland)*

SEMINAR A: “PATENT BOXES”

An aim pursued by governments that offer support for the development of “intellectual property” through “Patent Boxes”, sometimes also called “IP Boxes” or “Innovation Boxes”, is to make innovation in their countries more attractive and profitable for companies and in doing so to influence location decisions by research-intensive businesses and capture resulting “spillover” effects that enhance economic and business activity more generally. The main challenge of these governments is achieving a fair balance between the public’s interest in promoting innovation and fundamental tax law principles concerning how tax systems are used to direct economic behaviour and whether this kind of support yields commensurate returns for the affected enterprises and the economies that host them. Seminar A – “Patent Boxes” – will provide a general overview of what is meant by this term as well as the key tax issues they present. It will involve a discussion about the most common requirements of this kind of support for innovation and an analysis of the legal constraints of these governments, with special reference to controversial matters such as preferential tax regimes (BEPS Action 5), the EU perspective (“state aid”) and tax treaty issues.

Chair: Maria Teresa Soler Roch (Spain)

SEMINAR B: THE TAXATION OF EXPATRIATES

This seminar will consider the very complicated issues that arise when two countries claim an individual as a resident subject to full residence taxation. This subject is important in two principal contexts that the seminar will consider; namely individuals seeking to adopt a new “permanent” residence elsewhere and others who, in the course of complex working lives, often find themselves moving from country to country as their careers progress. The topics will include an examination of how various types of income are treated and the various mismatches and other tax jurisdiction tensions that arise that can result in double taxation even under income tax treaties. The seminar will also consider how a residence country can identify its expatriates.

Chair: Carol Tello (USA)

SEMINAR C: CROSS-BORDER SUPPLY OF SERVICES AND VAT/GST: DEVELOPMENT OF IFA PROPOSALS

The objective of this seminar is to gather and exchange views on possible ways of avoiding double taxation or double non-taxation for VAT/GST when dealing with cross-border supplies of services, possibly contributing to the ongoing work of the OECD in developing international VAT/GST guidelines. Links will also be made to BEPS Action 1. To this end, the seminar will consider existing international and national legal frameworks concerning the taxation of the cross-border supply of services. Key questions that arise when examining cross-border supplies of services, including the new challenges arising from the increasing importance of electronic services, will be addressed. The main focus will be on what rules could be implemented effectively on an international level and what means would be most suitable, practical and administrable to achieve this goal. The panelists will also discuss whether experience from direct taxes and existing direct double taxation treaties could contribute to resolving difficult questions that arise for discussion in this inquiry.

Chair: Philip Robinson (Switzerland)

SEMINAR D: PRACTICAL PROTECTION OF TAXPAYERS IN THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION PROCESS

The exchange of information between tax authorities is increasingly becoming a norm of international tax compliance, whether in terms of an exchange of information article of a tax treaty reflecting the provisions of Article 26 of the OECD Model, exchange of information agreements (TIEAs) between countries, FATCA-type agreements or multilateral instruments. Conditions, generally concerning confidentiality and the observance of limitations on access to information under the exchanging countries’ laws, must be satisfied before any exchange can take place and also during the exchange process. Generally, taxpayers have no right to be informed of an exchange about their affairs which is to take place. Accordingly, a taxpayer needs to be able to rely on the vigilance of observance by tax authorities regarding proper procedures as well as a requesting country’s entitlement to obtain the information in the first place. It is also essential that taxpayers are able to depend on the confidentiality of their information being maintained not only during but also after an information exchange. This seminar will discuss the practical implementation of the exchange of information process with a focus on the rights protecting the taxpayer, even, and possibly particularly, when taxpayers may not be in a position to look out for their own interests. The panel will address how such exchanges may be problematic for some countries, particularly if they do not have the resources to make valid effective requests despite complying with international law and signed EOI agreements. The panel’s discussion will touch on imbalances that exist between the opportunities for exchanging information between “developed” and “developing”, or capital-exporting and capital-importing countries, including whether any particular practical or procedural limitations apply that tend to favor exchanges in either direction. In this context, the panel expects to debate the following: (1) In the interests of fairness and good governance, should a taxpayer be informed when an exchange of information is requested but before an exchange is initiated, and if so by the country requesting information or the country requested to provide it, or possibly both? (2) How is the balance maintained between effective tax administration (including access to information held abroad) and the taxpayer’s right to confidentiality? (3) What steps, if any, are taken to ensure that the information will be held as confidential in the country to which the information is sent? (4) What guidance exists from recent cases on exchanges of information? (5) If there are practical problems, can they be resolved by adopting practices that would become “best practices”?

Chair: Jennifer Roeleveld (South Africa)

SEMINAR E: CROSS-BORDER MERGERS OF COMPANIES

This seminar will address trends in and drivers of cross-border “business combination” – or merger – activities, including the influence of the OECD/G20 “Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS)” initiative and European Court of Justice jurisprudence. The discussion will focus on particular business sectors closely identified either with income perceived to be highly mobile in the case of businesses dependent on “intellectual property” or with traditional assets naturally connected to a country, as is the case for natural resources businesses. Traditional reasons for business combinations for efficiency, complementarity or market access purposes are sometimes superseded by seemingly tax-driven tendencies which are now attracting considerable attention, such as inversions, repatriation of “offshore” profits and “rule shopping” to alleviate non-tax regulatory limitations as the main drivers of transactions. Still, tax treatment at corporate and shareholder level is critical to effective tax planning. Panellists will discuss insights drawn from a number of major cross-border merger transactions, either recently announced, not completed or closed, and will offer observations on why certain jurisdictions may have been chosen as the new home of a merged entity.

Chair: Pascal Hinny (Switzerland)

SEMINAR F: IFA/EU: “STATE AID REVIEW AS A MEANS TO COMBAT AGGRESSIVE TAX PLANNING”

In light of the ever-increasing significance of EU “state aid” rules and the ongoing investigations into the Advance Pricing Agreements obtained by various multinationals, seminar F will focus on the role of this kind of inquiry as a means of combatting perceived “aggressive tax planning”. In doing so, the Seminar panel will build on the work of previous seminars at the 2010 IFA Congress in Rome and focus on (1) the granting of state aid through “unsound” tax legislation that at least facilitates if not actually encourages such planning (including various manifestations of tax arbitrage or mismatch opportunities) and (2) the granting of state aid – national economic support as a practical matter – through “unsound” tax administration (including how tax authorities administer their tax rules within the context of various tax ruling practices).

Chair: Luc de Broe (Belgium)

Seminar G: IFA/OECD

This seminar comes at a particularly important moment as the last deliverables reporting date for the OECD BEPS Action Plan quickly approaches. By that time, inquiries into a number of key BEPS Actions will be nearing completion and public discussions will also have taken place throughout 2015 on a number of continuing BEPS issues which will be very topical discussion points. The panel will address work on the Action Plan during 2015, focus on Actions and particular issues that the OECD considers by the time of the Congress to be particularly noteworthy in the context of the Action Plan, and look forward to the “post-BEPS world” as all concerned consider how countries, taxpayers and advisors take the work of the OECD and the G20 into account – in formulating tax legislation, adopting new or “best” practices for tax administration and evaluating how international business operations should be organized.

Chair: Wolfgang Schön (Germany)

SEMINAR H: THE TAXATION OF GLOBAL FAMILIES

This seminar will look at the tax issues and challenges faced by families with members and economic interests that cross international borders. The tax issues facing families that “go global” are in many ways more diverse and less easily managed than those faced by corporate multinationals. While the OECD Model Tax Convention sets out a number of ground rules that address basic issues such as residency and the most common areas of potential double taxation, individual circumstances inevitably raise complex and often completely new issues. Non-OECD jurisdictions are frequently involved and mismatches between domestic tax systems are commonplace. We will focus on scenarios that illustrate – and we hope illuminate – the challenges as well as some of the approaches that have been used to resolve the issues faced by global families and their advisors.

Chair: Stephen Bowman (Canada)

SEMINAR I: EFFECTIVENESS OF PARTICIPATION EXEMPTION

There is a resurgent interest in “territorial” taxation, closely identified with “participation exemption” as a means to give effect to a country’s right to tax income that is sourced outside a taxpayer’s home or residence country and earned by a person legally separate from the taxpayer that resides in or is otherwise subject to the tax jurisdiction of the host country. Essentially, participation exemption preserves the “separateness” of domestic and foreign source income as a particular means of integrating the taxation of business earnings between a corporation that earns the income and shareholders who receive distributions of it. As a purely domestic tax law and a means of relating tax systems to each other in a business context, participation exemption is a point of reference for considering various important issues. These include how domestic and foreign income is sourced, measured and calculated, how shareholders’ interests – occasionally held in pools of “exempt” foreign income – should be calculated and reported and whether – taking into account issues associated with BEPS as well as legal considerations that existed before BEPS – “participation exemption” facilitates or at least gives rise to tax planning outcomes raising tax avoidance questions. This panel will explore participation exemption with these and other considerations in mind, with comparative references to similar exemptions under tax systems that do not incorporate a participation exemption as such.

Chair: Georg Kofler (Austria)

SEMINAR J: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL TAXATION

This seminar will look at a number of recent developments which are of significance to the international tax community and are not covered elsewhere in the programme. We will examine these developments with the aid of an expert panel of tax practitioners, government officials and academics. The final selection of topics will not be made until shortly before the Congress to ensure we do not miss any particularly crucial developments.

Chair: Daniel Gutmann (France)

SEMINAR K: PRACTICAL PROTECTION OF TAXPAYERS IN THE TAX LITIGATION PROCESS

The “Judges Seminar” will return to the Congress again this year, with a focus on the challenging and important issues concerning “taxpayers’ rights” for which

Subject 2 provides the starting point. Experienced judges accustomed to dealing with procedural and other issues affecting taxpayers’ encounters with tax authorities – in other words, the “force of the tax law” – will offer their perspectives on the legal settings in which taxpayers’ rights could come to be judged, how an international setting in which these rights apply could affect the nature of those rights or how they would be protected, and the applicable legal forums in which countries’ interests in taxpayers and taxpayers’ responses to those interests would be decided. Subject 2 promises to raise a number of important issues, touching on how taxpayers may be affected by disparate tax and legal systems simultaneously and consequently face complex questions about how to determine – and more importantly, protect – their rights to look for alternative solutions that may be available to them. This seminar will address key issues in the chain of events, beginning with the assertion made by a country of jurisdiction over a taxpayer and how the taxpayer can then respond in an effective manner.

Chair: Justice Tony Pagone (Australia)

SEMINAR L: TIMING ISSUES IN THE APPLICATION OF TAX TREATIES

Timing issues arise in a number of ways in the application of tax treaties. At one end of the spectrum, treaties may impose time limits within which relief must be requested for “taxation not in accordance with a Convention”. This sort of limitation is commonly found in a “mutual agreement procedure” provision of a treaty or the notice aspect of an “associated enterprises” article – according to which, corresponding adjustments brought about by a primary transfer pricing adjustment by one treaty country may be provided by the other. The opposite end of the spectrum concerns whether income that would be relieved by a tax treaty has arisen and, if so, when. Questions may arise not only about how the treaty partners’ tax laws apply to the income but also about its nature and other features determined by the treaty partners’ common law. In addition, it is not uncommon to encounter transitional issues when treaties are modified or amended, in particular as continuing operations or arrangements straddling periods of “different” treaty provisions are concerned. This panel will investigate and catalogue a variety of timing issues such as these as well as other kinds and explore ways in which those issues should not impede the primary objectives of tax treaties: to allocate taxation rights between a treaty’s partners in order to ensure taxation on both sides in accordance with the fundamental “treaty bargain”.

Chair: Josef Schuch (Austria)

+ YOUNG IFA NETWORK (YIN)

The YIN was established in 2005 to attract more members in the early stages of their careers. The YIN Committee was set up by the Executive Committee with the aim of developing, proposing and implementing programmes at IFA branch and global levels to make the IFA appealing to young members. The YIN was officially launched at the Amsterdam Congress in 2006 and, since then, many IFA branches have implemented YIN activities.

This IFA Congress will also host the special YIN events listed below. While these events are primarily intended to attract members aged 40 and under, all IFA members are welcome to attend. Participants interested in the YIN activities are asked to complete the relevant part of the registration form.

YIN MEET-AND-GREET RECEPTION

The meet-and-greet reception will give young IFA members and individuals attending their first IFA Congress a great opportunity to meet on a more informal basis at the beginning of the event. It will help them to make the most out of attending the Congress by building up their own personal networks.

Price: included in fee
Sunday, 30 August 2015 | 16:30–17:30

YIN FUN RUN

In need of some fresh air and exercise? Then join the popular YIN Fun Run! All congress participants are invited to take part in this five-kilometre fun run through Basel city centre, taking you past tiny parks and winding down beautiful streets. The inspiring sight of the Rhine River will recharge your batteries for the day to come. Runners meet between 6:15 and 6:30 for the warm-up. The run begins at 6:30.

Price: included in fee
Monday, 31 August 2015 | 6:00–7:30

YIN BRANCH REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, 31 August 2015 | 14:30–16:00



YIN SEMINAR

The YIN Seminar will feature three sessions. In the first session, the winner of the Mitchell B. Carroll Prize will present his/her winning thesis. The winner of the Maurice Lauré Prize will then present his/her winning thesis in the second session. Both prize winners will also answer questions from the delegates on their thesis. The third session will be a moot court session. Acting Judge Robert Danon (Switzerland) will preside over a hypothetical tax case to be argued by young tax academics or professionals, with one side representing the tax authorities and the other side representing the taxpayer. After the arguments have been put forward, the acting tax judge will render his or her verdict on the tax case. The fact pattern for the case, the legal issues involved and the summary of the parties' arguments will be made available to the delegates before the start of the seminar.

Wednesday, 2 September 2015 | 14:30–16:00

YIN PARTY

Ready to party? The YIN will be hosting the celebrated YIN Party, with an internationally renowned Swiss artist doing his best to make the 2015 YIN Party unforgettable. It will take place at one of the most spectacular buildings in Basel, the Elisabethenkirche.

This church building in the centre of the city, only four tram stops from Congress Center Basel, was built between 1857 and 1864 by the wealthy Basel businessman Christoph Merian and his wife Margarethe. Its 72-metre-high tower is taller than the spires of Basel Cathedral. The Elisabethenkirche was the first church built in Basel after the Reformation and is now home to the Swiss "Open Church", die Offene Kirche Elisabethen. Today, the church caters for the spiritual, cultural and social needs of the city's people of all backgrounds and hosts art exhibitions, dance parties, disco nights and conference dinners.

Let us entertain you at this special event!

Price: included in fee
Wednesday, 2 September 2015 | 20:30–01:00





+ SPECIAL EVENTS (BY INVITATION ONLY)

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS LUNCHEON

Government officials from all over the world are invited to the exclusive Government Officials Luncheon during the IFA Congress in Basel. The International Fiscal Association is committed to upholding this valuable tradition by offering government officials the opportunity to hear an interesting keynote speech and allowing time for informal networking with friends, colleagues and members of the IFA.

***Who can attend?** Individuals whose primary employment is within a public authority working with tax administration and legislation at governmental level.*

CORPORATE TAX OFFICERS LUNCHEON

Don't miss the Corporate Tax Officers Luncheon, at which, as a leader of a large tax department, you will have the unique opportunity to share experiences and exchange ideas with your peers. Talk to others about managing the global tax affairs of your company and about the latest technical tax matters, get new ideas about how to cope with the challenging task of motivating your staff and learn in an inspiring atmosphere how others achieve the goal of bringing their teams together.



***Who can attend?** Individuals whose primary employment is within a corporation, business or non-profit organisation with responsibility for the respective entity's tax position.*

ACADEMICS LUNCHEON

The Academics Luncheon invites all academics to attend. Set to be held for the fourth time at the IFA Congress, the Academics Luncheon will offer attendees an excellent opportunity to network informally with other alumni and colleagues from around the globe. As tax academics play a unique role in every country's tax system, the IFA is committed to the principle of providing the academic tax community with this unique opportunity for international tax networking.

***Who can attend?** Individuals whose primary employment is teaching and researching at a university.*

IMPORTANT

It is important that you declare your status and tick the relevant box on the registration form in order to receive an invitation.

+ SCIENTIFIC AND GENERAL PROGRAMME

All scientific sessions will take place at

Congress Center Basel

Telephone: +41 (0)58 206 28 28

Fax: +41 (0)58 206 21 86

E-mail: info@congress.ch

Website: www.congress.ch



+ SUNDAY, 30 AUGUST 2015

09:00–13:00	Meeting of the Permanent Scientific Committee
11:00–22:00	Registration and information
10:00–17:00	Meeting of the general reporter, the chair, the members and secretary of the panel on Subject 1
10:00–17:00	Meeting of the general reporters, the chair, the members and secretary of the panel on Subject 2
10:00–17:00	Preparatory meeting of the chair and panelists of Seminar A
10:00–17:00	Preparatory meeting of the chair and panelists of Seminar B
10:00–17:00	Preparatory meeting of the chair and panelists of Seminar C
10:00–17:00	Preparatory meeting of the chair and panelists of Seminar D
10:00–17:00	Preparatory meeting of the chair and panelists of Seminar E
10:00–17:00	Preparatory meeting of the chair and panelists of Seminar F
11.30–13.00	Meeting of the YIN Committee
13:00–15:00	Free Basel city tour for participants and accompanying persons
14:00–22:00	Exhibition
14:00–16:00	Meeting of the Executive Committee
16:30–17:30	Meeting of the Nominations Committee
16:30–17:30	Meeting of the Finance Committee
16:30–17:30	Young IFA Network (YIN) meet-and-greet reception
17:30–18:30	Lecture on Basel
19:00–20:00	Opening Ceremony
20:00–22:00	Welcome Reception

+ MONDAY, 31 AUGUST 2015

06:00–07:30	YIN Fun Run
07:30–16:00	Registration and information
08:00–16:00	Exhibition
08:00–08:30	Morning refreshments
08:30–09:45	Plenary Session Subject 1: Tax incentives on Research and Development (R&D)
09:00–17:00	Preparatory meeting of the chair and panelists of Seminar G
09:00–17:00	Preparatory meeting of the chair and panelists of Seminar H
09:00–17:00	Preparatory meeting of the chair and panelists of Seminar I
09:00–17:00	Preparatory meeting of the chair and panelists of Seminar J
09:00–17:00	Preparatory meeting of the chair and panelists of Seminar K
09:00–17:00	Preparatory meeting of the chair and panelists of Seminar L
09:45–10:15	Coffee break
10:15–11:15	Plenary Session Subject 1: Tax incentives for Research and Development (on R&D) (continued)
11:15–12:30	Refreshment break
11:15–12:30	Government Officials Luncheon (by invitation only)
11:15–12:30	Corporate Tax Officers Luncheon (by invitation only)
11:15–12:30	Academics Luncheon (by invitation only)
12:30–14:30	Seminar A: “Patent Boxes”
12:30–14:30	Seminar B: The taxation of expatriates
12:30–14:30	Seminar C: Cross-border supply of services and VAT/GST: development of IFA proposals
14:30–16:00	Afternoon refreshments
14:30–16:00	Meeting of the Programme Working Group
14:30–16:00	Meeting of the YIN branch representatives
14:30–16:00	Meeting of the representatives of branches in the Latin American region
14:30–16:00	Meeting of the representatives of branches in the Central and Eastern European region
14:30–16:00	Meeting of the representatives of branches in the Asia-Pacific region

+ TUESDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER 2015

07:30–16:00	Registration and information
08:00–16:00	Exhibition
08:00–08:30	Morning refreshments
08:30–09:45	Plenary Session Subject 2: Practical protection of taxpayers’ fundamental rights
09:00–17:00	Preparatory meeting of the chair and panelists of the YIN Seminar
09:45–10:15	Coffee break
10:15–11:15	Plenary Session Subject 2: Practical protection of taxpayers’ fundamental rights (continued)
11:15–12:15	Refreshment break
12:15–14:15	Seminar D: Practical protection of taxpayers in the exchange of information process
12:15–14:15	Seminar E: Cross-border mergers of companies
12:15–14:15	Seminar F: IFA/EU: “State aid review as a means to combat aggressive tax planning”
14:15–16:00	Afternoon refreshments
14:30–16:00	Meeting of general and IFA branch reporters for 2016 Madrid Congress Subject 1
14:30–16:00	Meeting of general and IFA branch reporters for 2016 Madrid Congress Subject 2
14:30–16:00	Meeting of general and IFA branch reporters for 2017 Rio de Janeiro Congress Subject 1
14:30–16:00	Meeting of general and IFA branch reporters for 2017 Rio de Janeiro Congress Subject 2
19:00–22:00	Cultural evening

+ WEDNESDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2015

07:30–17:00	Registration and Information
08:00–16:00	Exhibition
08:00–08:30	Morning refreshments
08:30–11:15	Seminar G: IFA/OECD
09:45–10:15	Coffee break
10:15–11:15	Seminar G: IFA/OECD (continued)
11:15–12:15	Refreshment break
12:00–13:30	Meeting of the Invitation Sub Committee
12:15–14:15	Seminar H: The taxation of global families
12:15–14:15	Seminar I: Effectiveness of participation exemption
14:15–16:00	Afternoon refreshments
14:30–16:00	YIN Seminar
14:30–16:15	Combined meeting of the General Council and the General Assembly
16:15–17:15	President's Reception
20:30–01:00	YIN Party

+ THURSDAY, 3 SEPTEMBER 2015

07:30–16:00	Registration and Information
08:00–16:00	Exhibition
08:00–08:30	Morning refreshments
08:30–09:45	Seminar J: Recent developments in international taxation
09:45–10:15	Coffee break
10:15–11:15	Seminar J: Recent developments in international taxation (continued)
13:00–14:30	Meeting of the YIN Committee
12:15–14:15	Seminar K: Practical protection of taxpayers in the tax litigation process
12:15–14:15	Seminar L: Timing issues in the application of tax treaties
14:15–16:00	Afternoon refreshments
19:00–24:00	Gala Dinner and closing of the Congress

+ FRIDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER 2015

Excursion day For details of the excursion day please refer to the Tours section.

+ SOCIAL PROGRAMME FOR PARTICIPANTS AND ACCOMPANYING PERSONS

LECTURE ON BASEL, SWITZERLAND

Switzerland in general, and the host city of Basel in particular, might be unknown to some of you. In an entertaining presentation, both will be presented to registered participants and their accompanying persons. You will learn about Basel as the “cultural capital of Switzerland”, located in the idyllic border triangle of France, Germany and Switzerland.

Price: included in fee

Sunday, 30 August 2015 | Congress Center Basel | 17:30–18:30

Dress code: business attire



OPENING CEREMONY AND WELCOME RECEPTION

The Opening Ceremony of the 69th Congress of the International Fiscal Association will be held in the new Event Hall on the ground floor of the Congress Center Basel on Sunday, 30 August 2015. All participants, accompanying persons, sponsors and exhibitors are invited to attend a great show as their welcome to Switzerland.

The Congress Center Basel is linked directly via a walkway to the pillar-free Event Hall and the new exhibition hall. The Event Hall not only represents the continuation of the exceedingly successful 85-year history of the big festival hall in the front building of Hall 1, but also marks a completely new chapter in the field of major events in Basel. It is an architectural highlight that will satisfy the most innovative and demanding customer with its state-of-the-art facilities.

Following the Opening Ceremony, a Welcome Reception will be held for all attendees within the premises of the Congress Center in the foyer/exhibit area. Do not miss out on this social part of the 2015 IFA Congress in Basel. Participants, accompanying persons, sponsors and exhibitors are invited to discover Swiss hospitality in a modern building designed by the distinguished architects Herzog & de Meuron.

Price: included in fee

Sunday, 30 August 2015

Opening Ceremony: Congress Center Basel, Event Hall | 19:00–20:00

Welcome Reception: Congress Center Basel, Foyer | 20:00–22:00

Dress code: business attire

CULTURAL EVENING: NIGHT AT THE MUSEUMS

On the occasion of the 69th IFA Congress, three of the best-known museums in the world will open their doors exclusively to you. The Organising Committee invites you to enjoy the Night at the Museums, where you can experience the unequalled pleasure of visiting a museum at night without the usual crowd of visitors. You are offered the opportunity to enjoy a private tour given by professional guides, including a cocktail reception.

At the Vitra Design Museum, home to one of the largest collections of industrial furniture design, you can visit the exhibition "Making Africa. A Continent of Contemporary Design". You can also enjoy a tour of the Vitra Campus, which comprises architectural wonders by Frank Gehry, Zaha Hadid and Tadao Ando, among others. Two further fantastic museums will be open for you: the Museum Tinguely, with the world's largest collection of works by Jean Tinguely (1925–1991), and the Fondation Beyeler museum, which owes its unique appeal to its combination of a superb modern art collection and a fascinating architectural and natural setting, as well as its world-class temporary exhibitions that not only offer visitors new insights into twentieth-century art, but also into the latest developments in contemporary art. Transportation will be provided.

Price: included in fee

Tuesday, 1 September 2015 | 19:00–22:00

Dress code: business attire

FGS Flick Gocke Schaumburg



Fondation Beyeler in autumn 2010, photo: Mark Niedermann



*Vitra Design Museum, Frank Gehry,
Copyright © 1989 Vitra Design Museum, photo: Thomas Dix*



*The Museum Tinguely (view from the south);
Copyright © 2014 Museum Tinguely, photo: Stefan Holenstein*

GIPFELSTÜRMER

GALA EVENING

2015

SWITZERLAND
MEETS THE WORLD



3 SEPTEMBER AT 7 PM



GALA EVENING

Not to be missed: the “Gipfelstürmer” – Switzerland meets the world. Closing ceremony of the IFA 2015, Congress Center Basel, Event Hall.

The final gala evening’s theme will be “Gipfelstürmer” – Switzerland meets the world. The event will be open to all registered participants and their guests. You will experience a one-of-a-kind evening filled with culinary delights that are superbly complemented by a selection of exquisite drinks. But most importantly: an evening of dinner and dancing would not be complete without exciting and interesting music and performances. A white cello, dancers in hiking outfits, a trio and a dulcimer, challenging puzzles and all manner of special moments are just a few of the surprises we have in store for you to round off the wonderful meal.

*Price: CHF 206.00, 8% Swiss VAT is included
Thursday, 3 September 2015 | 19:00–24:00
Dress code: business attire*



TOUR PROGRAMME



+ TOUR PROGRAMME FOR PARTICIPANTS AND ACCOMPANYING PERSONS

Basel, the host city of the 69th IFA Congress, is widely acknowledged as Switzerland's capital of culture. Visitors encounter art at every turn – whether they are wandering through the streets of the Old Town or visiting one of the almost 40 museums the city has to offer. With their themed collections, the museums of Basel feature something for every taste, and many have reputations that reach far beyond the Swiss border.

Basel is lucky to have nice neighbours – not only because of the feeling of affinity that stretches across international borders, but also because of the beautiful countryside and culinary culture this brings to the city.

A specific optional tour programme has been tailor-made for registered participants and their accompanying persons. These tours will provide an excellent opportunity to discover some of the most outstanding artistic and historic highlights that Basel and its surroundings have to offer.

RULES AND CONDITIONS FOR ALL TOURS

- + All tours will depart from and return to the Congress Center Basel. To get to the Congress Center Basel, you can use the Mobility Ticket provided by your hotel.
- + You are kindly asked to register at least 20 minutes prior to departure at the Congress Center hospitality desk.
- + Dress code: casual attire with comfortable shoes.
- + All prices are stated per person in Swiss francs and include VAT, transportation, admission fees and an English-speaking guide. Full-day tours include lunch.
- + You can sign up for the tours either online by completing and returning the attached registration form or on site at Congress Center Basel, if there is still space available.
- + Availability cannot be guaranteed and tour reservations will be processed on a first come, first served basis.
- + The Congress secretariat reserves the right to alter or change the programme as necessary. In order for each tour to run, a minimum of 20 people must have signed up for the respective tour in advance. Should there be insufficient advance reservations, the Congress secretariat reserves the right to cancel the tour in question. In cases where the Congress secretariat cancels a tour, a full reimbursement of costs will be provided.
- + Participants and their accompanying persons are strongly recommended to seek insurance cover for health, travel and private liability before leaving their home countries. The Congress secretariat shall accept no responsibility for personal injury or loss or damage to private or personal property.

CLIMATE

The weather in Switzerland in August and September is normally very pleasant and usually warm and sunny. Due to the close proximity of the Alps, there is often a warm wind and a slight possibility of rain. The average daytime temperature is around 24°C, while the temperature falls to approximately 14°C during the evening.

+ TOUR OVERVIEW

	SAT. 29.08.	SUN. 30.08.	MON. 31.08.	TUES. 01.09.	WED. 02.09.	THURS. 03.09.	FRI. 04.09.	SAT. 05.09.
TWO-DAY	T1						T2 T3 T4 T5	
FULL-DAY			F1	F2	F3	F4	F1 F3	
MORNING			H4	H1	H3 H3a	H7		
AFTERNOON		H0	H1 H7	H4 H5	H2 H6	H1 H6		

	TOUR DESCRIPTION	TIME	CHF incl. VAT
T1	Gruyère and Montreux	Two days (including accommodation in a double room, breakfast, transfers, admittance, two lunches including non-alcoholic beverages)	590.00
T2	Zermatt	Two days (including accommodation in a double room, breakfast, transfers, guided tour, one fondue lunch and one mountain dinner including non-alcoholic beverages)	820.00
T3	La-Chaux-de-Fonds	Two days (including accommodation in a double room, breakfast, transfers, admittance, two lunches including non-alcoholic beverages)	570.00
T4	Lavaux	Two days (including accommodation in a double room, breakfast, transfers, wine tours including wine tasting, two lunches and one dinner incl. non-alcoholic beverages)	730.00
T5	Ticino	Two days (including accommodation in a double room, breakfast, transfers, admittance, bus tour, two lunches including non-alcoholic beverages)	690.00
H0	Basel city tour	Approx. 2 hours	Free
H1	City Tour with aperitifs in the Teufelhof	Approx. 2.5 hours	38.00
H2	Confiserie Beschle – make your own chocolate	Approx. 2 hours	105.00
H3	Rhine cruise and Augusta Raurica	Approx. 3 hours	96.00
H3a	Augusta Raurica without cruise	Approx. 3 hours	52.00
H4	Modern architecture: major buildings for the future	Approx. 2 hours	22.00
H5	Tour of the paper mill	Approx. 2.5 hours	37.00
H6	Basel cruise	Approx. 2 hours	28.00
H7	Bake your own Basler Lækkerli	Approx. 2.5 hours	65.00
F1	Pure Switzerland (3471 m)	Approx. 10 hours	315.00
F2	Excursion to Berne with a visit to the Zentrum Paul Klee	Approx. 8.5 hours	175.00
F3	Excursion to Mount Titlis (3238 m)	Approx. 10 hours	215.00
F4	Excursion to Lucerne	Approx. 9 hours	220.00

+ HALF-DAY TOURS



H0 Basel city tour

Sunday, 30 August 2015 | 13:00–15:00

On this tour, which is specially designed for people who have just moved to the city, you can get to know Basel and at the same time gain some valuable tips for day-to-day life. Guides will lead you through the winding streets of the historic Old Town, you will discover the cathedral (Münster), the city hall and the impressive seat of the Basel government. After the walking tour, you will have a good impression of Basel, this year's host city.

The tour is free for all participants and accompanying persons. Please note that the tour cannot be booked on site. Pre-registration is necessary. The cost of the tour is included in the registration fee.

H1 City tour with aperitif in the Teufelhof

Monday, 31 August 2015 | 14:30–17:00

Tuesday, 1 September 2015 | 9:30–12:00

Thursday, 3 September 2015 | 14:30–17:00

On our tour through the winding streets of the historic Old Town, you will discover Basel Cathedral (Münster) and the city hall, the impressive seat of the Basel government. Afterwards, we invite you to enjoy an aperitif in the hotel and cultural venue "Der Teufelhof Basel". This experience is made all the more authentic by the remains of the old city walls from the 11th and 12th centuries, which you will be able to admire at close quarters.

H2 Confiserie Beschle – make your own chocolate

Wednesday, 2 September 2015 | 15:30–17:30

There is no other food more closely associated with Switzerland than chocolate. A visit to the famous Basel chocolatier will give you a valuable insight into how chocolate is made, processed and refined. You will, of course, also get the chance to do some tasting yourself. Afterwards you can put your newly gained knowledge into practice and create your own type of chocolate, assisted by master chocolatier Pascal Beschle.

H3 Rhine cruise and Augusta Raurica

H3a Wednesday, 2 September 2015 | 9:00–12:00 (without cruise, coach transfer)

H3 Wednesday, 2 September 2015 | 11:15–16:30 (with cruise)

The approximately two-hour cruise takes you along the Rhine, past Birsfelden and Grenzach, and on to the site of the former Roman city. A guide will explain the most important sights and take you around the Roman museum, where you can learn more about the Roman emperors Augustus, Tiberius and Valerian.

H4 Modern architecture: major buildings for the future

Monday, 31 August 2015 | 9:30–11:30

Tuesday, 1 September 2015 | 14:30–16:30

Our walking tour will show you how the city's modern buildings are reshaping Basel's skyline and teach you a great deal about the various styles of architecture present in the city. The skywalk at the city's SBB railway station is an experience not to be missed, and has been carefully designed to blend in with the impressive backdrop of the Jura Mountains.

H5 Tour of the paper mill

Tuesday, 1 September 2015 | 14:30–17:00

As one of the few museums in Europe dedicated to the art of making paper, the paper mill preserves historical techniques at an authentic site. These traditional techniques are still applied here today to produce paper. At the end of the tour, participants are given the opportunity to make their own paper and try their hand at printing.

H6 Basel cruise

Wednesday, 2 September 2015 | 13:15–15:30

Thursday, 3 September 2015 | 13:15–15:30

Basel and the Rhine are as inseparable as Paris and the Eiffel Tower. With the wide range of cruises offered by Basler Personenschiffahrt, you can explore this landmark of the city on a route along the river.

H7 Bake your own Basler Lächerli

Monday, 31 August 2015 | 14:30–17:00

Thursday, 3 September 2015 | 9:15–11:45

In the unique hotel and cultural venue “Der Teufelhof Basel”, you get to learn about and explore the secrets of the the delicious Basel gingerbread speciality, Basler Lächerli, as part of an unforgettable workshop and will bake the famous Basler Lächerli yourself in teams.





F1 Pure Switzerland

Monday, 31 August 2015 | 7:45–18:00

Friday, 4 September 2015 | 7:45–18:00

Leaving Basel by coach, the first stop is Lauterbrunnen. From here, the rack-and-pinion railway takes you via Kleine Scheidegg up to the Jungfrauoch mountain. After lunch in the mountain-top restaurant, you will have some time to explore. The descent into the valley ends at Grindelwald, where the coach will be waiting to whisk you back to Basel.

F2 Excursion to Berne with a visit to the Zentrum Paul Klee

Tuesday, 1 September 2015 | 8:30–17:00

The Old Town of Berne has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1983. Visit this cultural gem and discover the charm of its covered arcades, cobbled streets and elegantly decorated facades. The variety and beauty of the Swiss capital will fill you with wonder. The tour also includes a trip to the Zentrum Paul Klee museum and cultural centre on the outskirts of the city. The unique, wave-shaped building designed by star architect Renzo Piano houses a comprehensive collection of works by the German/Swiss artist.

F3 Excursion to Mount Titlis

Wednesday, 2 September 2015 | 7:45–18:00

Friday, 4 September 2015 | 7:45–18:00

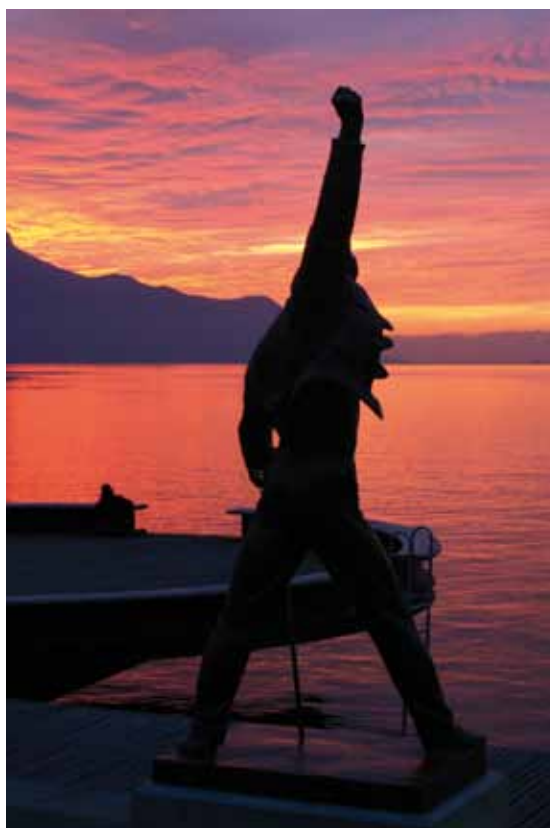
With three cable cars, including the Rotair gondola, the first revolving cable car in the world, a visit to the Titlis glacier is an exhilarating experience. The easy hike to the top offers breathtaking views over the Swiss Alps. There are also a number of restaurants to cater to your every need.

F4 Excursion to Lucerne

Thursday, 3 September 2015 | 8:00–17:00

Travel across the lake by boat to Alpnachstad, where the steepest rack-and-pinion railway in the world awaits you. After a 30-minute trip up to the summit of Mount Pilatus, the most wonderful panorama will open up in front of you. With a little luck, you will also discover wild mountain goats and marmots on the rocky grounds, or eagles and mountain crows in the sky. Upon returning to Lucerne, you will have the opportunity to take a guided tour of the city, visit one of the many fascinating museums or simply wander through the historic streets and alleys, discovering the many wonderful sights of the city.

+ PRE AND POST-CONGRESS TOURS TWO-DAY TOURS



+ T1 GRUYÈRE AND MONTREUX

Saturday, 29 August 2015

Starting time: 8:00 at Basel Congress Centre

We will leave Basel for a one-and-a-half hour drive to the picturesque village of Gruyères and dive into Switzerland's beautiful landscape in the Lake Geneva region and the Alps.

Visit La Maison du Gruyère cheese factory where you will discover the secrets of traditional cheese making. Learn about cheese history and discover how the factory produces up to 48 wheels of Gruyère cheese every day. Afterwards, your guide will take you for a walk through the beautiful village of Gruyères, where you can soak up the enchanting atmosphere, admire the rolling hills and meadows and enjoy time at leisure and lunch in one of the restaurants in Gruyères.

After lunch, a short 40-minute bus ride will take you back to the hotel where you will have time to freshen up before dinner of your choosing in a local restaurant. You will spend the night in a four-star hotel.

Due to its exceptionally mild climate, Montreux is known as the capital of the Vaud Riviera. Plants associated with the Mediterranean, such as pines, cypresses and palm trees, all grow here. Charlie Chaplin, Freddie Mercury and several other international stars have lived on the Vaud Riviera, and many more still do today.

Sunday, 30 August 2015

After a lavish breakfast buffet, we will board a boat for a round-trip cruise on Lake Geneva, allowing you to marvel at the panoramic views of the beautiful Lake Geneva region while enjoying lunch.

Upon returning to shore, you will be taken back to Basel.

Return approx.: 17:00 at Basel Congress Centre.



T2 ZERMATT

Friday, 4 September 2015

Starting time: 7:30 at Basel Congress Centre

The car-free village of Zermatt offers a rich variety of mountain enchantment 365 days a year – and everything is packed into a very small area. Looking forward to taking a walk through a romantic corner of the old village? Strolling down Bahnhofstrasse? Touching the Swiss “Toblerone mountain”?

We will leave Basel escorted by a professional guide. After two hours, a breathtaking alpine panorama awaits you. Afterwards, we will enter a picturesque valley, which will lead us directly to the magnificent village of Zermatt. Upon checking in at the hotel, you will be welcomed by a long-time resident, who will share his very own experiences and some mountain stories with you. You will be able to enjoy lunch of your choosing in one of the countless restaurants along Bahnhofstrasse.

In the evening, Switzerland’s first electric cogwheel railway (built in 1898) will take you up to a popular sightseeing point. The train crosses impressive bridges, galleries and tunnels, taking you on a journey through idyllic forests and alpine meadows, past rocky gorges and tarns – all the time surrounded by majestic mountains: first and foremost, the Matterhorn. On its 9.3-kilometre (5.8-mile) ride up to the summit, the train stops at the Riffelberg and at Rotenboden mountain stations before reaching the Gornergrat with the Kulmhotel – the highest-altitude hotel in the Swiss Alps. We will then spend the night in a luxury four-star hotel.

Saturday, 5 September 2015

Buffet-style breakfast at the hotel. The transfer for today’s excursion takes only 12 minutes from Zermatt up to 2,583 metres (8,472 feet) above sea level. The modern eight-seater gondola of the Matterhorn Express takes you up to the Schwarzsee lake at the foot of the Matterhorn – this is as close as you can get to this famous peak without hiking or climbing. On our way up, you might be able to glimpse wild animals such as marmots, chamois and deer. After a fondue lunch in Zermatt, we will return to Basel.

Approximate return time: 18:30 at Basel Congress Centre

Transfer direct to Zurich or Basel Airport upon request.



+ T3 LA CHAUX-DE-FONDS

Friday, 4 September 2015

Starting time: 9:00 at Basel Congress Centre

We depart from Basel to travel to the French-speaking part of Switzerland, escorted by a professional guide. After two hours, we will arrive in La Chaux-de-Fonds.

After check-in and lunch at the hotel, we will take you on a trip to the famous clock museum.

As you enter the foyer, you will find yourself standing in the very centre of an enormous clock. Screens take you through the mysteries of passing time. Either as an observer or as a participant in surprising experiments, your eyes will be constantly drawn to the beauty or the ingenuity of the movements on display. You will see watches in all their forms, from utility to luxury models, and get to marvel at the big brands and the wonders of the luxurious and prestigious pieces. As you leave the museum, you will have time to unwind and take in some fresh air in the museum's park. The whole visit is an exciting journey through time. You will have time to enjoy the city, have dinner of your choosing and spend the night at a four-star hotel.

Saturday, 5 September 2015

After a filling breakfast, you can hop aboard a comfortable little train and discover the city. Engaging, informative commentaries enable you to appreciate the exceptional harmony between industry and the urban landscape and to understand the major influence of watchmaking in the Neuchâtel mountains. Later on, after lunch, we will head back to Basel.

Approximate return time: 16:00 at Basel Congress Centre

Transfer direct to Zurich or Basel Airport upon request.





+ T4 LAVAUX

Friday, 4 September 2015

Starting time: 9:00 at Basel Congress Centre

Are you a wine lover? Do you dream of hiking through steep vineyards, with views over a lake and the Alps? Then you must visit the Lavaux, the Swiss wine-producing region and UNESCO World Heritage Site on the shores of Lake Geneva. Magnificent vistas, picturesque villages and traditional wine cellars await you there. You may even be able to watch the winegrowers at work, but in any case, you can certainly enjoy the fruits of their labour – with a tasting session at the Lavaux Vinorama.

After check-in at the hotel, we will stroll among the vines and discover the vineyards, shaped by natural and human stories. Enjoy tales stemming from the region with a glass of excellent wine in your hand. Travel among terraces and “capites”, little huts situated right in the middle of the vines, and be warmly welcomed by a winemaker. Tales and tasting await you at the Daley Estate with a real winegrower. Sampling wine and listening to stories along the way, we will then walk back.

Enjoy dinner at a marvellous restaurant and spend the night at a four-star hotel with a beautiful lake view surrounded by breathtaking mountains.

Saturday, 5 September 2015

In the morning, accompanied by an official World Heritage tour guide from the Lavaux, you will learn about the extraordinary value of this cultural landscape and discover Plant Robert, an ancient grape variety of Gamay saved from extinction at the last moment. At our next stop, you can explore the village of Grandvaux.

After enjoying lunch in this incredible region, we will head back to Basel.

Approximate return time: 17:00 at Basel Congress Centre

Transfer direct to Zurich or Basel Airport upon request.



+ T5 TICINO

Friday, 4 September 2015

Starting time: 8:00 at Basel Congress Centre

Lugano, the largest town in the holiday region of Ticino, is not only Switzerland's third-most important financial centre as well as serving as a conference, banking and business centre, it is also a town of parks and flowers, villas and sacred buildings. With its Mediterranean atmosphere, Lugano offers all the advantages of a world-class city, combined with the cachet of a small town.

We will leave Basel in the morning for this trip to the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland, escorted by a professional guide. On the way to Lugano, we will stop at the Gotthard Cheese Factory. Enjoy a unique activity and experience the production of this typical Ticinese product. The Cheese Factory is located at the foot of the Gotthard Pass. Enjoy a tour of the cheese plant, visiting the factory and observing the production of the cheese, followed by a fondue lunch.

In the afternoon, we will continue to Lugano, where we will check in at a luxury five-star hotel upon arrival.

Saturday, 5 September 2015

After a filling breakfast, we will explore the natural paradise that characterises Lugano. It offers countless corners to be discovered and the most beautiful tours. Historic treasures, architectural masterpieces and unspoilt natural landscapes make a journey of discovery through the city a unique experience. Back on board, you will have the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful landscape around the lake with a stop for lunch in a restaurant along the waterfront. Later on, after lunch, we will head back to Basel.

Approximate return time: 16:30 at Basel Congress Centre

Transfer direct to Zurich or Basel Airport upon request.



+ INFORMATION ON IFA CONGRESS REGISTRATION

CONGRESS SECRETARIAT

For inquiries regarding registration, accommodation, social programmes, tours or individual events, please contact our professional Congress organiser:

MCI Schweiz AG
Flughofstrasse 54
8152 Glattbrugg
Switzerland
Tel.: +41 (0)44 809 42 80 | Fax: +41 (0)44 809 42 01
E-mail: info@ifabasel2015.com

REGISTRATION

We invite you to register online at www.ifabasel2015.com. If registering by post or fax, please complete the enclosed registration form and return it to IFA Basel 2015, as indicated. When registering, please complete one registration form per participant.

Participants are requested to register as early as possible to secure their preferred hotel accommodation. All hotel, tour and social function registrations will be on a first come, first served basis. On-site registrations will be accepted from 29 August 2015 onwards. To enable the IFA to evaluate the target group of participants attending the Congress, participants are kindly requested to indicate on the registration form the capacity in which they will participate in the Congress. This may be relevant in terms of VAT deductions for participants, and will also allow the IFA to generate target groups from the list of participants.

During the Congress, the list of participants, including names, companies, countries and hotel information of the participants and their accompanying persons will be made available to all participants. Sponsors and third parties organising private events may be supplied with the list of participants before the Congress. When registering for the Congress, participants are asked to confirm that they agree to share and/or publish their personal and hotel details in the list of participants.

**TO REGISTER QUICKLY AND EASILY, PLEASE DO SO ONLINE AT
WWW.IFABASEL2015.COM**

IFA MEMBERS

Please state your IFA membership number in the appropriate area during the online registration process or on the registration form. IFA members will receive the 2015 Cahiers covering the general and branch reports on subjects 1 and 2. IFA members will also have access to the Congress documents database on the secured section of the IFA website (www.ifa.nl).

NON-IFA MEMBERS

Non-IFA members are welcome to participate in the 2015 Annual Congress in Basel, and are also welcome to apply for membership prior to registering for the Congress. For additional information, please visit the IFA website at www.ifa.nl. Non-IFA members will not be supplied with the Cahiers, and will also be subject to a higher Congress registration fee.

ACCESS

Only registered participants will be entitled to attend the scientific sessions of the Congress. Only registered participants and registered accompanying persons will be admitted to the social programme events or permitted to book tours available through the Congress tour programme.

SECURITY

For security reasons, participants and their accompanying persons will be required to wear their Congress badges at all times during the Congress, the social events and tours. Children are not permitted to attend Congress scientific sessions, social events or tours unless registered as an accompanying person.

Please note the definition of an accompanying person: "A participant's spouse, partner, child or other personal relation who does not have a business or scientific interest in the Congress".

REGISTRATION FEE

REGISTRATION CATEGORY	EARLY BIRD RATE Before 30 May 2015	REGULAR RATE From 30 May 2015	ON-SITE From 29 August 2015
IFA member	CHF 1,620.00	CHF 1.890.00	CHF 2,050.00
Non-IFA member	CHF 1,890.00	CHF 2,160.00	CHF 2,330.00
Accompanying person	CHF 390.00	CHF 490.00	CHF 590.00

All fees include 8% Swiss VAT. In principle, all Swiss VAT-registered participants will be able to deduct the VAT in their Swiss VAT return. All non-Swiss participants may apply for a VAT refund to the Swiss Tax Authorities subject to certain conditions (namely, minimum amount of CHF 500, reciprocity with country of residence, mandatory Swiss fiscal representative) and restrictions. For further information, non-Swiss participants should refer to <http://www.estv.admin.ch/mwst/themen/00160/00638/index.html?lang=en>.

THE REGISTRATION FEE FOR PARTICIPANTS INCLUDES:

- + Attendance at scientific sessions and exhibitions
- + Printed Congress materials, Congress kit and Congress app
- + Refreshments during the Congress
- + Lecture on Basel on Sunday, 30 August 2015
- + Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception on Sunday, 30 August 2015
- + Cultural evening on Tuesday, 1 September 2015
- + Basel public transportation card
- + All YIN activities
- + Free tour on Sunday, 30 August 2015

THE REGISTRATION FEE FOR ACCOMPANYING PERSONS INCLUDES:

- + Lecture on Basel on Sunday, 30 August 2015
- + Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception on Sunday, 30 August 2015
- + Cultural evening on Tuesday, 1 September 2015
- + Basel public transportation card
- + All YIN activities
- + Free tour on Sunday, 30 August 2015

ADDITIONAL PAYMENTS – PARTICIPANTS AND ACCOMPANYING PERSONS:

- + Gala Dinner at the Event Hall on Thursday, 3 September 2015. Tickets must be purchased prior to the event via the registration form and cost CHF 206.00 per person (8% Swiss VAT included)
- + Fees for optional tours

ON-SITE REGISTRATION

Registration from 29 August 2015 will be considered as on-site registration, and consequently minor delays can be expected at the registration desk when issuing documentation and settling accounts.

FINAL REGISTRATION AT THE CONGRESS CENTER BASEL

Participants must register at the registration desk at the Event Hall upon arrival at the Congress.

Please remember to bring your confirmation of participation.

METHODS OF PAYMENT

- + For online registrations: by credit card – MasterCard, Visa, Amex
- + For fax registrations: by bank transfer
UBS AG, Postfach, CH-4002 Basel, Schweiz
Beneficiary: IFA Kongress 2015 AG, St. Alban-Vorstadt 110, CH-4052 Basel, Switzerland
Payment reference: IFA Kongress 2015 AG
Bank account: No. 292-626442.01F
BIC: UBSWCHZH80A
IBAN: CH45 0029 2292 6264 4201 F

Important:

- + Please indicate "IFA" and participant's name in the payment reference.
- + For payments made after 15 August, please bring a copy of your payment confirmation to the Congress.

CONFIRMATION

As soon as the Congress secretariat receives your registration and payment, you will receive an e-mail and confirmation with all details and payment status.

It is the participants' responsibility to ensure that all details such as the address, tickets, hotel reservation, dates of arrival and departure and so forth are correct.

It is strongly recommended that you read the confirmation e-mail carefully and that you contact the Congress secretariat immediately should you identify any errors or have any questions.

If we have not received your full payment for the Congress fee and/or related events/tours before 28 August 2015, any pre-booked events/tours including free events will be cancelled and you will receive a cancellation notice. The cancelled events/tours can be re-booked and paid for on site if still available.

CANCELLATION OF PARTICIPATION

Should any participant or their accompanying person be unable to attend the Congress, the following cancellation policy shall apply:

- + Cancellation by 15 June 2015: 90% refund (10% cancellation fee)
- + Cancellation between 16 June and 16 July 2015: 80% refund (20% cancellation fee)
- + Cancellation from 17 July 2015: no refund



HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

+ HOTEL ACCOMMODATION AND RESERVATION

Hotel rooms have been reserved by MCI Schweiz AG at special rates for Congress participants and their accompanying persons in various hotels of different categories in the vicinity of the Congress venue. No shuttle service will be provided between the Congress hotels and the Congress Center Basel. Instead, all participants and accompanying persons staying in our congress hotels will receive a free public transportation card (with the exception of participants accommodated in Rheinfelden).

In order to secure accommodation which suits your requirements and wishes, you are advised to book as soon as possible.

- + A map of the official Congress hotels is available on the inside back cover of the programme and on the Congress website www.ifabasel2015.com.
- + All prices are in CHF (Swiss francs), including breakfast and VAT, excluding CHF 3.50 city tax.

GUARANTEE, CANCELLATION AND CHANGES

A one-night deposit will be charged to your credit card and will serve as a guarantee for the hotel.

CANCELLATION

- + Cancellation by 15 June 2015: 90% refund of the deposit (10% cancellation fee)
- + Cancellation between 16 June and 16 July 2015: 50% refund of the deposit (50% cancellation fee)
- + Cancellation from 17 July 2015: no refund of the deposit
- + All refunds will be processed one month after the Congress

Please note that in the case of early departure or no-shows, the organizer or hotel are legally authorised to keep the one-night deposit.

All changes and cancellations must be submitted to MCI Schweiz AG in writing via e-mail or fax and not to the hotel.

All bookings will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

CAR PARKING

Participants travelling by car can reserve parking spaces in their hotel on request. Remember, these are also available on a first-come, first-served basis. Alternatively, there are parking spaces available in the car park at the Congress Center Basel.



HOTEL	CATEGORY	ROOM TYPE	SINGLE OCCUPANCY IN CHF*	DOUBLE OCCUPANCY IN CHF*	DISTANCE TO CONGRESS CENTER IN KM MIN MIN	FREE WIFI
BASEL CITY						
Grand Hotel Les Trois Rois	★★★★★	Deluxe Junior	405.00	n/a	→→→ 1.4 ↷ 12 🚗 7	✓
		Deluxe Junior (River view)	480.00	n/a		
		Deluxe Double Rooms	505.00	580.00		
		Deluxe Double Rooms (River view)	565.00	675.00		
Swissôtel Le Plaza	★★★★★	Classic Room	282.00	314.00	→→→ 0.0 ↷ 1	✓
Basel	★★★★	Single Room	215.00	n/a	→→→ 1.2 ↷ 15 🚗 8	✓
		Double Room	255.00	300.00		
Best Western Hotel Merian am Rhein	★★★★	Single Room	280.00	n/a	→→→ 0.6 ↷ 8 🚗 5	✓
		Double Room	320.00	320.00		
D	★★★★	Standard	286.00	310.00	→→→ 1.1 ↷ 11 🚗 9	✓
Euler	★★★★	Single Deluxe	267.00	n/a	→→→ 1.9 🚗 10	✓
		Double Deluxe	297.00	319.00		
Metropol	★★★★	Double Room	250.00	290.00	→→→ 3.5 🚗 11	✓
Novotel Basel City	★★★★	Standard	280.00	295.00	→→→ 3.0 🚗 20	✓
Palazzo	★★★★	Single Room	225.00	n/a	→→→ 0.5 ↷ 6	✓
		Double Room	245.00	275.00		
Pullman Basel Europe	★★★★	Double Room	320.00	350.00	→→→ 0.0 ↷ 1	✓
Radisson Blu	★★★★	Single Room	295.00	n/a	→→→ 2.1 🚗 10	✓
		Double Room	295.00	315.00		
Ramada Plaza Basel	★★★★	Guest Room	245.00	275.00	→→→ 0.4 ↷ 3	✓
St. Gotthard Basel	★★★★	Comfort Queen	239.00	269.00	→→→ 2.4 🚗 9	✓
		Comfort Twin	239.00	269.00		
		Superior Twin	259.00	289.00		
The Passage	★★★★	Standard	289.50	313.50	→→→ 2.0 🚗 14	✓
Victoria	★★★★	Standard	300.00	n/a	→→→ 2.4 🚗 9	✓
		Comfort	340.00	340.00		
Adagio Basel City	★★★	Studio	200.00	230.00	→→→ 0.1 ↷ 2	✓
Airport Hotel Basel	★★★	Business Room	222.00	264.00	→→→ 4.9 🚗 24	✓
		Executive Room	262.00	304.00		
Alfa	★★★	Single Room	145.00	n/a	→→→ 2.0 🚗 17	✓
		Double Room	165.00	195.00		
		Deluxe Room	185.00	260.00		
Basilisk	★★★	Double Room	160.00	200.00	→→→ 0.6 ↷ 7	CHF 25.00/24 hours
Best Western Hotel Stücki	★★★	Single Room	233.00	n/a	→→→ 1.9 🚗 18	✓
		Double Room	253.00	276.00		

HOTEL	CATEGORY	ROOM TYPE	SINGLE OCCUPANCY IN CHF*	DOUBLE OCCUPANCY IN CHF*	DISTANCE TO CONGRESS CENTER IN KM MIN MIN	FREE WIFI
Birsighof	★★★	Single Room	200.00	n/a	→→→ 2.1 🚗 14	✓
		Double Room	240.00	240.00		
City Inn	★★★	Double Economy	190.00	210.00	→→→ 2.9 🚗 10	✓
		Double Deluxe	260.00	280.00		
Das Breite Hotel	★★★	Twin Room/Grandlit	163.50	210.00	→→→ 1.7 🚗 15	✓
Der Teufelhof Basel	★★★	Double Room	270.00	300.00	→→→ 1.5 🚗 11	✓
Dorint "An der Messe"	★★★	Standard	220.00	250.00	→→→ 0.6 ↷ 8	✓
Du Commerce	★★★	Standard	170.00	220.00	→→→ 0,2 ↷ 3	✓
Im Schlosspark	★★★	Business Room	150.00	170.00	→→→ 4.4 🚗 20	✓
		Double Room	180.00	200.00		
		Executive Room	200.00	220.00		
Resslirytti	★★★	Single Room	160.00	n/a	→→→ 0.5 ↷ 6	✓
		Double Room	180.00	200.00		
Schweizerhof Basel	★★★	Standard	235.00	300.00	→→→ 2.2 🚗 10	✓
		Ambiente	295.00	360.00		
Spalantor	★★★	Double Room	238.00	265.00	→→→ 1.8 🚗 12	✓
Steinenschanze Stadthotel	★★★	Single Room	240.00	n/a	→→→ 2.0 🚗 12	✓
		Double Room	240.00	290.00		
		Twin Room	290.00	290.00		
Ibis Basel Bahnhof	★★	Double Room	204.00	219.00	→→→ 3,8 🚗 12	✓
Ibis budget Basel City	★	Standard	146.00	157.00	→→→ 4.4 🚗 20	✓
BASEL AREA						
Courtyard by Marriott, Pratteln	★★★★	Double Room	327.00	355.00	→→→ 10.4 🚗 45	CHF 28.00/24 hours
Park-Hotel am Rhein, Rheinfelden	★★★★	Single Room	215.00	n/a	→→→ 21.0 🚗 38	✓
		Double Room Deluxe	275.00	355.00		
Baslertor, MuttENZ	★★★	Comfort Room	265.00	280.00	→→→ 6.8 🚗 31	✓
Schiff am Rhein, Rheinfelden	★★★	Single Room	160.00	n/a	→→→ 18.8 🚗 25	✓
		Single Superior	160.00	n/a		
		Triple Room	180.00	220.00		
		Suite	255.00	260.00		
		Grand Lit Room	160.00	185.00		
		Double Room	180.00	220.00		
		Junior Suites	205.00	260.00		
Schützen, Rheinfelden	★★★	Small Single	165.00	n/a	→→→ 19.0 🚗 28	✓
		Single Room	175.00	n/a		
		Grand Lit Room	175.00	n/a		
		Double Room	195.00	245.00		
		Junior Suite	235.00	285.00		

* City tax is excluded | VAT is included | breakfast is included (except Grand Hotel Les Trois Rois).



Grand Hotel Les Trois Rois *****

The Grand Hotel Les Trois Rois offers timeless elegance and charm. It is one of Europe's oldest city hotels, offering five-star luxury and all the modern conveniences to meet and exceed even the highest expectations of the discerning modern traveller. This hotel with a history boasts 101 exquisitely furnished rooms and suites, which are a perfect blend of elegance, luxury and comfort. The hotel restaurants offer exquisite cuisine, complemented by an outstanding selection of wines from their famed wine cellar.



Swissôtel Le Plaza *****

Swissôtel Le Plaza is located directly at the Congress Center Basel and only a few minutes' walk from the Rhine and Basel's Old Town. The 238 bright and stylishly furnished rooms feature contemporary technology and exclusive amenities that will make your stay as comfortable and convenient as possible: windows that open, a large working desk, a coffee maker, a safe and much more.



Basel *****

The Hotel Basel is perfectly situated in the middle of Basel's picturesque Old Town. It features 72 comfortable guest rooms on five floors. Each room is equipped with everything required for a pleasant stay: the minibar may be used free of charge, free wireless Internet is available for all guests and the entire hotel is non-smoking. Hotel Basel has two restaurants and a wonderful terrace.



Best Western Hotel Merian *****

The Best Western Hotel Merian is situated right on the Rhine in the heart of Basel and features charming rooms, a number of them overlooking the Rhine, providing marvellous views of one of Europe's largest and most important rivers. After a day in the city, the hotel also offers tasty food served in its restaurant, which is considered to be one of the best fish restaurants in Basel. It also boasts a terrace with superb views of Basel Cathedral.



D *****

This eco-friendly four-star boutique and design hotel is located in the heart of Basel. The stylish rooms all feature modern amenities such as iPod docking stations and free wireless Internet. The hotel offers panoramic views of the Old Town and the Rhine.

Hotel D also includes a sauna and a modern gym with Technogym equipment. The Congress Center Basel convention centre is a five-minute walk away, and Basel SBB main railway station can be reached by tram in 10 minutes.



Euler *****

Right at the Centralbahnplatz square in the centre of Basel, the Hotel Euler features 66 spacious rooms and junior suites with double-glazed windows, individually adjustable air conditioning and extra-comfort mattresses. It is further equipped with

unique works of art and a state-of-the-art lighting system. The hotel's restaurant, Caspar's, and the stylish lobby bar complete the amenities offered.



Metropol *****

Enjoy the charming and personal atmosphere in the modern, centrally located city hotel – only a few steps away from the SBB main railway station and the airport shuttle bus stop, with a magnificent view across Basel from the elegant breakfast room.

The Congress Center Basel, shopping centre, Old Town and cultural attractions are all only a short distance away. All rooms are soundproof and state of the art (free wireless Internet, satellite TV, minibar, kettle for complimentary tea and coffee).



Novotel Basel City *****

This business and lifestyle hotel is located in the lively city of Basel, three minutes from the railway station and 15 minutes from Basel's EuroAirport. The Congress Center Basel, the zoo, the Museum für Gegenwartskunst featuring contemporary art

and the Rhine are all within walking distance. You can sample culinary specialities from the tri-national region at the hotel's GourmetBar.



Palazzo ****

The non-smoking Hotel Palazzo can be found in a residential area of Basel, close to the Rhine and the city centre. The Hotel Palazzo is only a short drive from motorway exit 3 "Basel Wettstein". The SBB main railway station and the Congress Center Basel convention centre can be reached via a direct tram line.

convention centre can be reached via a direct tram line.



Pullmann Basel Europe ****

The Pullmann Basel Europe is a modern, business-orientated hotel. It is situated near the Congress Center Basel. The rooms are clean and elegantly designed in a modern style. For recreation, there is a well-equipped fitness lounge, while the culinary

arts are celebrated in the two in-house restaurants as well as in the Vinoteca wine bar.



Radisson Blu ****

The Radisson Blu hotel is a prime accommodation choice in the city of Basel. The airport is only eight kilometres from the hotel and the SBB main railway station is within walking distance. Its 206 rooms and suites in a contemporary design are equipped

with free high-speed wireless Internet, individually adjustable air conditioning, a laptop-sized safe and coffee and tea-making facilities. The on-site restaurants offer Italian and American food.



Ramada Plaza Basel Hotel ****

Located in Basel's tallest habitable building, the Ramada Plaza Basel Hotel & Conference Center is situated next to the Congress Center Basel and just a short walk from the Old Town. It features a sauna, steam bath and a gym. Free Internet access is available.

The Filou restaurant serves Swiss and international cuisine. There are three bars in the building, including the Sky Lounge on the 30th floor with panoramic views of the city.



St. Gotthard Basel ****

The Hotel St. Gotthard Basel has been run by the Geyer family since 1929 and is a 10-minute walk from the historic city centre. The four-star hotel offers its guests more than just contemporary comfort, providing art, wireless Internet throughout the

property, satellite TV and HD screens in all rooms. It combines style, atmosphere and modern infrastructure within the setting of a hospitable family business.



The Passage ****

Newly built in 2014, The Passage in Basel is a centrally located design hotel featuring a sauna, a gym, free wireless Internet access and air-conditioned rooms. Guests can enjoy drinks at The Passage's café and bar with a seating area in the courtyard. Restaurants and the Old Town are located just 200 metres from the hotel. The Congress Center Basel at the Messe Basel trade fair grounds is two kilometres away.

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Victoria ****

The Hotel Victoria combines traditional hospitality with state-of-the-art comfort – directly by the SBB main railway station in the heart of the city. The 107 rooms and suites of the city centre hotel combine a truly Victorian feel with all the comforts of

modern life, including underground parking in the hotel's own car park. The Hotel Victoria offers an exclusive ambience and stylish design, and its guests can enjoy a full range of culinary delights at the bistro and restaurant Le Train Bleu, where Swiss and regional dishes are served.



Adagio Basel City ***

The Adagio Basel City apartment hotel is located in the heart of Basel, a 10-minute walk from the banks of the Rhine and the Old Town, and close to the Congress Center Basel. It offers a 24-hour reception, a breakfast buffet, private underground parking and a

fitness room. Certified as a low-energy building, the Adagio offers apartments and studios with a fully equipped kitchen, a bathroom with bathtub, satellite TV with over 100 international channels and free wireless Internet.



Airport Hotel Basel ***

The location near Basel's EuroAirport and the the easy access to almost all local offices, the fair and the city centre with its various spectacular cultural attractions make the Airport Hotel Basel the perfect base for business and leisure tourists alike. It offers

167 brand new rooms, a free shuttle service and free wireless Internet.



Alfa ***

The 52 fully equipped rooms of the Hotel Alfa offer modern comfort with a shower/toilet or bathtub/toilet, flat-screen TV, seating area and free wireless Internet. The Hotel Alfa is situated just three minutes from the city motorway, yet still finds itself in the heart of Basel. The restaurant offers a culinary melting pot of selected specialties from the worlds of Swiss, Italian and French cuisine. The Alfa kitchen uses only high-quality products without any artificial colours, flavours or preservatives.



Basilisk ***

The Hotel Basilisk is a three-star city hotel within walking distance of the Congress Center Basel. The central location, the friendly atmosphere, the great selection available at the breakfast buffet, the lovingly furnished rooms and a 24-hour reception offer all the comfort required by business customers or exhibition and Congress visitors.



Best Western Hotel Stücki ***

The three-star superior Best Western Hotel Stücki is centrally located in the border triangle of Switzerland, Germany and France. The Congress Center Basel, the "Lange Erlen" local recreation area and Basel's EuroAirport can all be reached in a short time. All rooms and suites are bright and beautifully decorated. The modern interior design offers all amenities for business and individual travellers.



Birsignhof ***

This well-kept, charming hotel is in a central location with friendly and efficient service that is suitable for business travellers and tourists alike. It is also the ideal place for small business, family or group stays. The hotel features 24 beautifully decorated rooms with views of our courtyard garden or the city park. Wireless Internet and LAN is available free of charge throughout the hotel. The Congress Center Basel is easily accessible using tram number 6.



City Inn ***

The Hotel City Inn is one of the most stylish hotels in Basel, with 30 rooms in an original, fresh design. The three-star hotel is located in the same building as the four-star Hotel Euler, and overlooks the Centralbahnplatz square. Guests benefit from all the amenities of Hotel Euler, such as the extensive choice offered by its restaurant and the sunny terrace overlooking the main square. They further enjoy free wireless Internet throughout the building.



Das Breite Hotel ***

Das Breite Hotel is officially classified as a design and lifestyle hotel by hotellerieuisse. It provides employment to adults with disabilities. Their participation as employees in the productive workforce contributes to their integration. The atmosphere here is open and friendly and Das Breite Hotel surprises its guests with a particularly attentive service together with committed and warm hospitality.



Der Teufelhof Basel ***

Der Teufelhof Basel is a unique hotel with 33 rooms. They are situated either in the historical building – the Art Hotel – or in the more modern part of the building – the Gallery Hotel. The nine rooms in the Art Hotel were created as works of art to live in. Rolling, thematically arranged exhibitions are held in the 24 rooms of the Gallery Hotel. Der Teufelhof Basel features two restaurants: the fine dining Bel Etage and the Atelier restaurant.



Dorint “An der Messe” ***

The three-star Dorint “An der Messe” conference hotel is the ideal starting point for business trips to the city of Basel. The service-oriented team ensures that all guests at the Dorint feel completely at home. The bright, cheery hotel rooms are well equipped for the business traveller, while the beautiful gardens and the delicacies served in the hotel’s restaurant Côté Jardin help to ensure that the visit to Basel is a truly sensory experience.



Du Commerce ***

Located only a short walk from the Congress Center Basel, the Hotel du Commerce offers the peace and tranquillity you need to recover from a strenuous day’s work. Another advantage of the hotel’s ideal location is that you can enjoy the full range of cultural activities Basel has to offer. The hotel team looks forward to making your stay an enjoyable one.



Im Schlosspark ***

Enjoy the wonderful romantic hotel and ambiance in the canton of Basel-Landschaft. The design hotel and restaurant Im Schlosspark is located near Basel in Castle Binningen’s park. The castle is filled with inspiring silence, and age-old, gnarled chestnut trees can be found in the park, where the irresistibly fragrant herb garden and the rivulet’s gentle ripple create an amazingly idyllic environment.



Resslirytti ***

The Resslerlytti hotel is located in the centre of Basel, only a five-minute walk from the Congress Center Basel. Newly renovated in 2013, it offers fast and free wireless Internet access, a friendly and welcoming atmosphere, the best Italian restaurant in town and a central location. The public transport station is right in front of the hotel, and connects you to the trade-fair grounds, the SBB main railway station, Basel’s EuroAirport or any other place in Basel.



Schweizerhof Basel ***

In 1864, the Hotel Schweizerhof Basel was the first hotel to open at Basel’s SBB main railway station, and has been under the ownership of the same family since 1896. It underwent a total renovation in 2006 and 2009. The result is a unique, harmonious symbiosis of the historical and the modern in a perfect location. It offers spacious and bright rooms with high ceilings, wide staircases and artistically crafted banisters, surrounded by pleasant, warm colours.



Spalentor Basel ***

The Hotel Spalentor Basel is located opposite the botanical garden, very close to the Basel’s Old Town and the university. The airport, the SBB main railway station and the Congress Center Basel can be reached quickly and easily by public transport. Each spacious room features air conditioning, free wireless Internet, a coffee maker, a large flat-screen TV, a DVD player and a minibar. Relaxation is ensured in the hotel bar or in the beautiful garden under a big chestnut tree.



Steinenschanze Stadthotel ***

The Steinenschanze Stadthotel is less than a five-minute walk from central Basel and the university and is situated close to Basel’s historic buildings and the historic quarter. The hotel combines fresh and friendly colours with comfort and functionality. Reception is open 24 hours a day. The Congress Center Basel is just a 10-minute tram ride away. Guests can take bus number 50 from the airport to the SBB main railway station and bus number 30 from the railway station to the hotel.



ibis Basel Bahnhof **

The Hotel ibis Basel Bahnhof is located right next to the SBB main railway station in Basel, just 15 minutes from Basel’s EuroAirport. The 112 rooms in the fully non-smoking hotel are inviting, modern and cosy, with comfortable beds and functional bathrooms. The hotel also offers a 24-hour bar service, free wireless Internet access and an indoor car park (12 spaces at extra charge).



ibis budget Basel City *

Newly opened in 2014, the Hotel ibis budget Basel City offers a 24-hour reception. Thanks to the central location of the hotel, just a few minutes' walk away from the SBB main railway station, many attractions, including the St. Jakob-Park sports stadium and the Congress Center Basel can easily be reached on foot or by public transport.



Courtyard by Marriott ****

The Courtyard by Marriott Basel hotel is ideally located, just a 15-minute drive away from the Congress Center Basel. Business travellers can look forward to fully equipped modern rooms and a business area in the public space, allowing them to work productively and make efficient use of their time. The Max Restaurant, Bar & Lounge serves international dishes, snacks and drinks for every taste.



Park-Hotel am Rhein ****

The four-star Park-Hotel am Rhein stands impressively on the banks of the Rhine and is surrounded by a beautiful park on the other side. The traditional hotel offers creative cuisine and has an underground connection to the hotel's "sole uno" spa.



Baslertor ***

The family-style Hotel Baslertor is situated in the picturesque and historical quarter of MuttENZ, yet still close to the bustling city centre of Basel. The Congress Center Basel is easily accessible by tram number 6. The 40 bright, spacious rooms are quiet and equipped with the latest facilities. A sumptuous breakfast buffet and the cosy hotel bar complete your stay. An integrated gym, a shopping centre including a pharmacy and the hotel's own underground car park provide additional comfort.



Schiff am Rhein ***

The Hotel Schiff am Rhein is a three-star hotel in the heart of Switzerland's oldest Zähringen quarter, and is located directly on the river Rhine. It offers its guests a broad yet tailored range of services with a fantastic view of the water flowing by. The Hotel Schiff am Rhein features 48 comfortable and airy rooms, including three generous junior suites and one suite on the fourth floor with the best view of the Rhine. Some rooms even have a balcony.



Schützen Rheinfelden ***

Situated on the edge of the Old Town, the three-star Hotel Schützen Rheinfelden features 26 rooms. Amenities fully match the hotel's three-star standard: the rooms are equipped with a telephone, radio, flat-screen TV, safe, toilet, shower or bath, hairdryer and free wireless Internet. Refreshing mineral water is also provided. The hotel restaurant Schützen perfectly combines the contemporary with the traditional. Its menu is geared to guests who enjoy regional cuisine and appreciate freshness and quality.



GENERAL INFORMATION

+ BASEL – SWITZERLAND’S CAPITAL OF ART AND CULTURE

Nestled in the heart of Europe, Basel is a pocket-sized metropolis that combines proverbial Swiss quality with a multicultural population. This makes the city unmistakably open-minded, happy and innovative.

Basel’s Old Town is one of the prettiest and most intact in all of Europe. There are very few cityscapes in the world where historical buildings from the 15th century blend so harmoniously with modern buildings designed by internationally renowned contemporary architects, taking you on a trip through the ages! However, the city is also open to the new. In recent decades, Basel has grown into a veritable mecca for architecture lovers. Local architects such as Herzog & de Meuron, Morger & Degelo and Diener & Diener thrill the world with buildings that delight the senses and are particularly committed to improving and developing their native region. However, award-winning foreign architects such as Richard Meier and Frank O. Gehry have also left their mark on the city. Today, the Basel region contains buildings designed by no fewer than nine Pritzker Architecture Prize-winning architects.

Basel is also a cultural city for lovers of fine wining and dining. The city’s unique location on the border of three neighbouring countries has had a profound influence on its cuisine. For gourmets and wine connoisseurs, the city has long since lost its status as a hidden gem. Basel features more than 20 restaurants with entries in either the Gault Millau or Michelin guides. No less astonishing is the fact that there is so much variety – a fact that is not widely advertised. Experience “culture unlimited” and an unrivalled savoir-vivre: the sunny banks of the Rhine, the romantic streets of the excellently preserved Old Town and countless boulevard cafés invite you to take a stroll and enjoy the surroundings. In trendy bars or historical taverns – every taste is catered to.

ACCESS/SECURITY

Badges will be provided to participants and their accompanying persons during registration and will be required for admission to all Congress events.

AIRPORT

Only a 15-minute drive from the city centre, Basel's EuroAirport – incidentally the only bi-national airport in the world – is served by a number of international airlines, including low-cost carriers. Together with the neighbouring Zurich Airport, it enjoys connections to all European airports and to more than 200 intercontinental destinations.

EuroAirport Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg (BSL) www.euroairport.com/en/
Zurich Airport (ZRH) www.zurich-airport.com/

A shuttle bus runs between Basel's EuroAirport and the city centre (bus number 50, final stop "Bahnhof Basel SBB" (Basel SBB main railway station, journey time: 13 minutes). On the day of your arrival, your reservation confirmation from the hotel guarantees a free transfer by public transport from the EuroAirport to your accommodation. For further information and a detailed departure timetable, visit www.bvb-basel.ch. A taxi to the city centre costs approximately CHF 40.00 and to the Congress Center Basel approximately CHF 45.00.

From Zurich Airport to Basel: From the SBB railway station inside Zurich Airport, you have several train connections to Basel SBB main railway station. At four minutes past the hour, every hour (6:04, 7:04, 8.04, ..., 20.04, 21.04), a direct train departs from Zurich Airport ("Zürich Flughafen") to Basel SBB main railway station (journey time: 1 hour 20 minutes), and there are also several other connections involving one change at Zurich main railway station ("Zürich Hauptbahnhof").

Manned assistance desks will be arranged by the organisers to provide you with any assistance that you may require. These desks will be operational from Saturday, 29 August 2015 till Monday, 31 August 2015 / 10:00-19:00.

BANKS

Banks are generally open from Monday to Friday between 9:00 and 12:00, and between 14:00 and 17:00. They are closed on Saturdays and Sundays. In the same building as the Congress Center Basel, you will find a branch of the Basler Kantonalbank (BKB). It is open from Monday to Friday between 8:30 and 12:00 and between 13.30 and 17:00. It is closed at weekends. All banks offer an ATM service to withdraw Swiss francs (CHF) and euros (EUR) by credit or debit card.

CAR PARKING

Basel is the point where the Swiss, French and German motorway networks meet. Messe Basel, where the Congress Center Basel is located, and the trade-fair grounds have their own motorway exit. The "Messe" exit from the A2 motorway leads directly to the trade-fair and congress grounds. There is a multi-storey car park providing space for 1,300 vehicles at Exhibition Square ("Messeplatz"). Prior reservation is unfortunately not possible.

CITY GUIDE BASEL APP

The City Guide Basel app in multiple languages is available for the iPhone and Android smartphones. The app features an integrated map and shows you the best route to your hotel, pinpoints interesting museums, theatres and cinemas, tells you what events are on while you are in town and much more.

The app is also packed with practical tips and features interesting city tours, including marked routes, descriptive texts and brief audio commentaries. What's more, no active Internet connection is required to use the app, meaning there are no roaming charges to pay – a real bonus!

Download the app now free at www.basel.com/cityguide.

CLIMATE

The weather in Switzerland in August and September is normally very pleasant and usually warm and sunny. Surrounded by the Alps, there is often a warm wind and a slight possibility of rain. The average daytime temperature is around 24°C, while the temperature falls to approximately 14°C during the evening.

CONGRESS VENUE

Congress Center Basel
MCH Messe Schweiz (Basel) AG
4005 Basel
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 (0)58 206 28 28

Fax: +41 (0)58 206 21 86

E-mail: info@congress.ch

www.congress.ch

All Congress scientific sessions will be held at the Congress Center Basel. Plenary and parallel sessions will start at 8.30. Congress catering and refreshment services will be available daily in the exhibition area.

CONGRESS SECRETARIAT

Before, during and after the Congress

MCI Schweiz AG
Flughofstrasse 54
8152 Glattbrugg
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 (0)44 809 42 80
Fax: +41 (0)44 809 42 01
E-mail : info@ifabasel2015.com
www.ifabasel2015.com

Congress registration, hotel accommodation, tour registration, exhibition information and Basel information desks will be located on the ground floor of the Congress Center Basel Event Hall. On-site opening hours for registration and information are:

Sunday, 30 August 2015	11:00–22:00
Monday, 31 August 2015	07:30–16:00
Tuesday, 1 September 2015	07:30–16:00
Wednesday, 2 September 2015	07:30–17:00
Thursday, 3 September 2015	07:30–16:00

CONGRESS WEBSITE

For detailed and up-to-date Congress information, we invite you to visit the Congress website at www.ifabasel2015.com. Documents pertaining to the scientific programme are available on the IFA website at www.ifa.nl and on the Congress app during the Congress.

CURRENCY/CREDIT CARDS

The Swiss franc (CHF) is the currency and legal tender of Switzerland. Most shops and restaurants accept euros (EUR) but at a different exchange rate to the banks. Credit cards are widely accepted, including in taxis.

DRESS CODE

Business attire is requested for all Congress functions and social events.

EDUCATIONAL CREDITS

Attending the IFA Congress sessions qualifies some participants for continuing education credits. Please check with your professional organisation. A certificate of attendance will be available in your Congress kit.

ELECTRICITY

The voltage in Switzerland, as in most of Europe, is 230 V/50 Hz. Switzerland uses type C (2-pin) and type J (3-pin) plugs. Type C 2-pin plugs also fit type J sockets. Most power sockets are designed for three-pin round plugs. The standard continental type plug with two round pins, used in many electrical travel products, may be used without problem. Adaptors are available in most hotels.

EMERGENCIES

Police	Dial 117
Ambulance	Dial 144
Fire brigade	Dial 118
International emergency	Dial 112

A first-aid officer will be present at the Congress Center Basel during the Congress.

EXHIBITION

The Congress exhibition will be open daily. The exhibition area will include exhibits by sponsors and information on future Congresses. All food and beverages will be served in the exhibition area.

Exhibition opening hours

Sunday, 30 August 2015	14:00–22:00
Monday, 31 August to Thursday, 3 September 2015	08:00–16:00

INSURANCE

Neither the Congress organiser nor the Congress secretariat will assume any responsibility for injury to persons or damage to or loss of property during the Congress. Participants are strongly recommended to seek insurance coverage for health and accident, lost luggage and trip cancellation.

INTERNET CAFÉ AND WIRELESS INTERNET

The Congress Center Basel has wireless Internet connection in all areas. An Internet café will be located in the exhibition area.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost or unattended items will be held at the IFA Congress registration desk, where participants can enquire about their property. Should a participant spot any unattended or lost items, we kindly ask that they report this immediately to the Congress staff.

MOBILE PHONES

Please contact your mobile phone service provider to confirm that your electronic devices are compatible with the European standard. The country code for Switzerland is +41. To make an international call from Basel, dial 00 followed by the code for the country you wish to call and the subscriber number. Basel's area code (for landline numbers) is 061. When calling from outside the country, drop the leading 0 and use the Swiss international dial code +41.

OFFICIAL AIRLINE

The Star Alliance member airlines are pleased to have been appointed as the official airline network for the 2015 IFA Congress. To obtain the Star Alliance Conventions Plus discounts, please consult the Congress website at www.ifabasel2015.com for more information.

OFFICIAL CONGRESS LANGUAGE

The Congress language is English. All sessions will be conducted in English.

PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

The formalities to enter Switzerland from your country of origin can vary greatly. Congress participants are asked to direct inquiries about entry and vaccination requirements to their travel agent or to the local Royal Swiss Embassy/Consulate/representative in their home country.

The corresponding visa application form can be obtained from the Swiss diplomatic/consular mission in your country. Please submit your visa application early as it can take between six and eight weeks to process, or in exceptional cases even longer, depending on the season.

Further information can be obtained at <https://www.ch.ch/en/swiss-missions-abroad/>.

The Congress organisers would be pleased to send a formal letter of invitation to delegates who require an invitation letter for visa purposes. It is understood that such an invitation is intended to help potential delegates to raise funds or to obtain a visa. This does not imply a commitment from the Congress to provide any financial support. Letters of invitation may be requested from the Congress secretariat. The letters will be sent by regular air mail. If an express delivery is needed, the delegate must order a courier at their own expense.

PHOTOGRAPHER

A professional photographer will cover the various events during the Congress. Photographs will be uploaded after the Congress at www.ifabasel2015.com.

POSTER PROGRAMME

A maximum of 10 candidates will be selected for the 2015 poster programme. Posters will be available for viewing in the exhibition area.

PREVIEW ROOM

A preview room (speaker preparation room) will be available for chairs, panelists and secretaries of all panels to check or finalise their audio-visual presentations for the respective sessions. The rooms will be equipped with computers and printers.

QUESTIONNAIRE AND GIFT

Every participant of the IFA Congress 2015 is kindly requested to give feedback on the Congress by completing the official questionnaire. The form will be collected by the hostesses at the registration desks and in the exhibition area. In exchange for every completed questionnaire, we will be giving away a free gift.

REFRESHMENT BREAKS

Food and beverages (including vegetarian food) will be served from Monday onwards in the foyer of the Congress Center Basel:

31 August to 3 September 2015 Coffee and tea: 08:00–08:30
09:45–10:15
14:15–16:00



Lunch: 11:15–12:30 (Monday)
11:15–12:15 (Tuesday,
Wednesday and Thursday)

RESTAURANTS

After a busy day at the Congress Center Basel, you will be spoilt for choice with the city's eclectic selection of bars and restaurants. From traditional Swiss fare to Indian food, sushi to tapas and local wines to cocktails: every taste is catered for. Around the Congress Center Basel, there is a wide selection of restaurants and bars. And if after all that you still have the energy to party, you can check out the city's buzzing nightlife. Clubbing, comedy, music, theatre or film – the choice is yours. For further information, visit the gastronomy section at www.basel.com.

SHOPPING

Shops in the city centre are generally open from Monday to Friday between 9:00 and 18:30 (until 20:00 on Thursdays) and on Saturdays from 9:00 to 17:00. Shops are closed on Sundays. When shopping in Switzerland, we recommend you to look for watches, crystal, embroidered items, clocks, pottery, Swiss army knives, lace, cowbells, antiques, cutlery, ski clothing and equipment, shoes, chocolate, cheese and spirits.

The shopping street Clarastrasse starts around the corner from the Congress Center Basel and offers numerous shopping and dining options. A two-minute walk from the Congress Center Basel, you will find the Coop supermarket with food and non-food segments, which is open from Monday to Friday between 7:30 and 20:00, and on Saturdays from 7:30 to 18:00 (closed on Sundays). Other main shopping streets are Freie Strasse and Spalenberg (take tram number 6 to the stop "Marktplatz").

SMOKING POLICY

Smoking is banned in all indoor public places and restaurants in Basel. The Congress Center Basel is a smoke-free event and smoking is not permitted.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

For exhibit or sponsorship opportunities, please contact:

Michael Davis
michaeld@linksgroup.ca
Tel.: +1 (0)604 739 4653

TAXES

Normally, value added tax (VAT) amounts to 8% of the taxable turnover. This also applies to the consumption of food and beverages in restaurants and hotels. In contrast, overnight stays in hotels (including breakfast) are taxed at a special rate of 3.8%.

Certain everyday goods are taxed at a reduced rate of 2.5%. These include food, non-alcoholic drinks, books, newspapers, magazines, medication and voluntarily taxed tickets to sporting and cultural events.

TAXIS

You can recognise a taxi by the sign "TAXI" on a car. As a rough guide, from the city centre to selected destinations a taxi will cost approximately the following amounts:

EuroAirport	CHF 40.00
Basel SBB main railway station (Bahnhof Basel SBB)	CHF 20.00
German railway (DB) station (Badischer Bahnhof DB)	CHF 20.00
Congress Center Basel	CHF 15.00
Fondation Beyeler museum, Riehen	CHF 40.00
Border triangle	CHF 25.00

There may be surcharges for trips in the evening or on Sundays. Contact details for Basel's taxi firms can be found in the final programme.

TIME

Basel is one hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

TIPPING

There are no hard and fast rules for tipping in Switzerland. If you are happy with the service, round up for good service, if you like, but remember the bill already includes a service charge and VAT.

TRANSPORTATION (PUBLIC)

Basel's green and yellow trams have become an inseparable part of the cityscape. Together with the bus network, these ensure that the city's inhabitants and visitors alike can move quickly and comfortably around the city and even across the border into the neighbouring countries of France and Germany.

Each guest staying in Basel receives a free Mobility Ticket when checking in at their hotel. This allows free use of public transport in the city of Basel and its surroundings (zones 10, 11, 13 and 15, including EuroAirport) for the entire duration of your stay (maximum 30 days).

On the day of your arrival, your reservation confirmation from the hotel guarantees a free transfer by public transport from the railway station or the EuroAir-

port to your accommodation. For timetables and details of the public transport system network, please visit www.bvb-basel.ch.

DISCLAIMER

All reasonable endeavours will be made to hold the 69th IFA Congress and to present the printed programme as scheduled so as to assure the comfort and safety of the Congress participants. However, neither the International Fiscal Association nor any of its branches, nor their officers, employees, representatives or agents, shall have any liability to any person as a result of any cancellation of the Congress or any of the arrangements, programmes or plans connected therewith or any loss, injury, damage or inconvenience which may be suffered by any person while travelling to or from, or during such person's presence in, Switzerland in connection with the Congress. Participants are advised to consider procuring their own insurance against any such occurrences.



IFA 2015 DIAMOND SPONSOR



IFA 2015 GOLD SPONSORS



IFA 2015 SILVER SPONSORS



IFA 2015 BRONZE SPONSORS



IFA 2015 FRIENDS

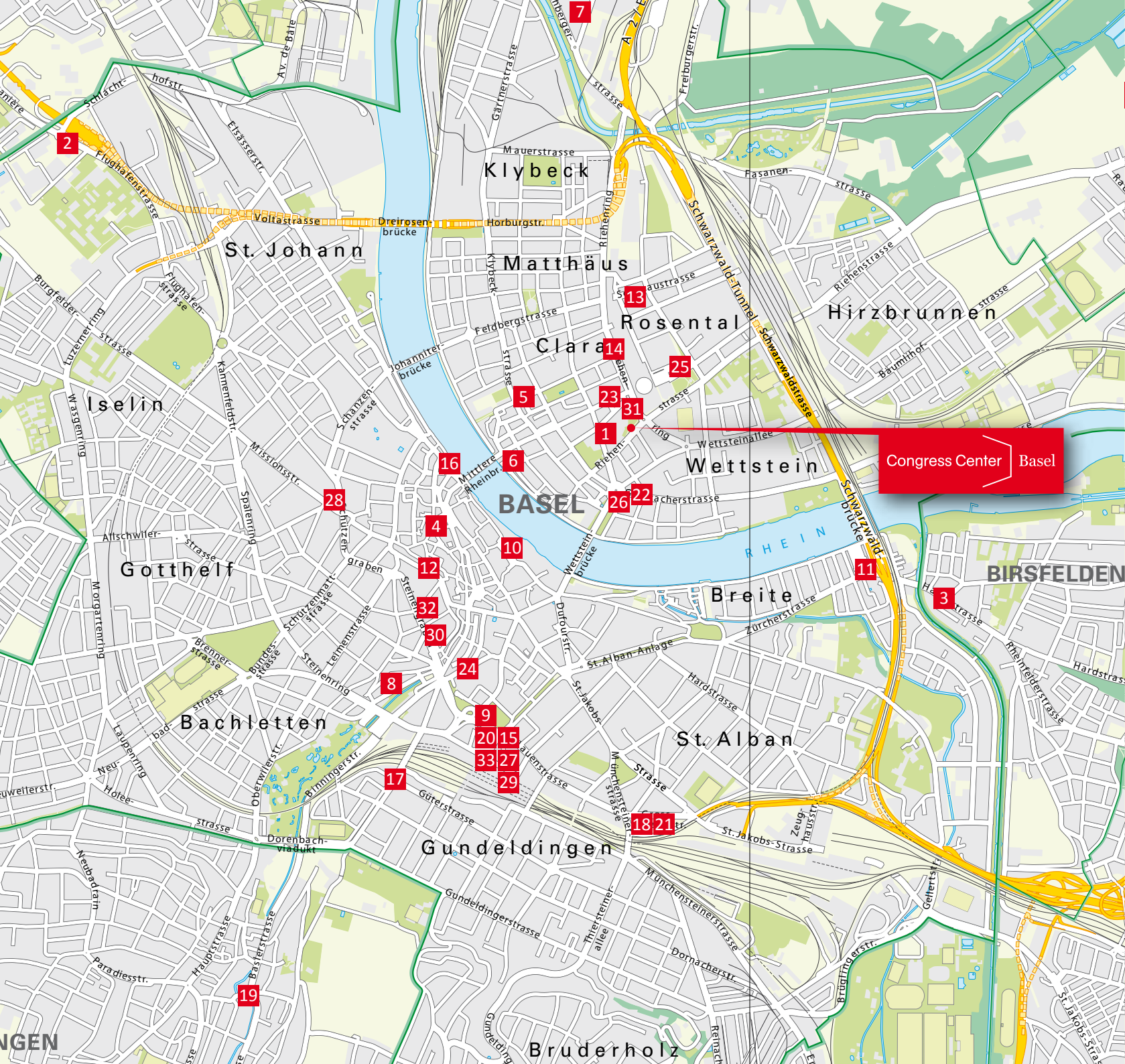


IFA 2015 EXHIBITORS





MAP OF BASEL



- 1 Adagio Basel City
- 2 Airport Hotel Basel
- 3 Alfa
- 4 Basel
- 5 Basilisk
- 6 Best Western Hotel Merian
- 7 Best Western Hotel Stücki
- 8 Birsighof
- 9 City Inn
- 10 D
- 11 Das Breite Hotel
- 12 Der Teufelhof Basel
- 13 Dorint „An der Messe“
- 14 Du Commerce
- 15 Euler
- 16 Grand Hotel Les Trois Rois
- 17 ibis Basel Bahnhof
- 18 ibis budget Basel City
- 19 Im Schlosspark
- 20 Metropol
- 21 Novotel Basel City
- 22 Palazzo
- 23 Pullman Basel Europe
- 24 Radisson Blu
- 25 Ramada Plaza Basel Hotel & Conference Center
- 26 Ressleriytti
- 27 Schweizerhof Basel
- 28 Spalntor
- 29 St. Gotthard Basel
- 30 Steinenschanze Stadthotel
- 31 Swissôtel Le Plaza
- 32 The Passage
- 33 Victoria

SEE YOU IN BASEL



WWW.IFABASEL2015.COM