Expert Group on Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism (MST):
4th Meeting

Andalusia Lab, Marbella, Spain
19-20 September 2023
(As of 15/09/2023)

INFORMATION NOTE

1. **Registration**
   
The registration for the meeting has been already closed.

2. **Venue and dates**
   
The fourth meeting of the Expert Group on Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism will be held, on hybrid format at the Andalucia Lab, Marbella, Spain, from 19 to 20 September 2023.

3. **How to get to Marbella**
   
The Andalucia Lab is in the outskirts of Marbella center, if you stay in Marbella center, please, find as follow the options how to get to Marbella center:
From Malaga Airport to Marbella center:

a. By taxi:
   - Taxi fare from the Malaga airport to Marbella: between 65-80 Euros (depending on your destination and on traffic).

b. By bus:
   - Direct Bus Malaga Airport to Marbella: Portillo bus from Avanza Group linking Malaga airport with Marbella without stops. It is a direct bus and the trip takes approximately 45 minutes.
     - **Itinerary:** Direct from the airport
     - **Journey time:** 45 minutes approximately
     - **Price:** 7€ - 10€ (depending on the selected timetable)
     - **Online booking:** [https://www.avanzabus.com](https://www.avanzabus.com) (Can be purchased at the desk).

From Malaga Train Station to Marbella center:

a. By taxi:
   - Taxi fare from the Malaga train station to Marbella: between 65-80 Euros (depending on your destination and on traffic).

b. By bus:
   - Bus Malaga Train Station to Marbella: The train station in Malaga has connections with Marbella and many other destinations from the close by Bus Station. Portillo bus from Avanza Group linking Malaga with Marbella without stops. It is a direct bus and the trip takes approximately 45 minutes.
     - **Journey time:** 45 minutes approximately
     - **Price:** 7€ - 10€ (depending on the selected timetable)
     - **Online booking:** [https://www.avanzabus.com](https://www.avanzabus.com) (Can be purchased at the desk).

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- Malaga Bus Station to Marbella: Malaga Bus Station has connections with Marbella and many other destinations. Portillo bus from Avanza Group linking Malaga with Marbella without stops. It is a direct bus, and the trip takes approximately 45 minutes.
  - **Journey time:** 45 minutes approximately
  - **Price:** 7€ - 10€ (depending on the selected timetable)
  - **Online booking:** [https://www.avanzabus.com](https://www.avanzabus.com) (Can be purchased at the desk).
4. **How to get from Marbella center to Andalucia Lab**

A free shuttle transfer Service will be provided for attendees during the two days of the event, running from Parque de la Alameda to the Andalucia Lab.

**Time Scheduled:**

**Tuesday, 19 September:**

- **Morning:** BUS from Parque de la Alameda-Marbella to ANDALUCÍA LAB - 08:30 am
- **Afternoon:** BUS from ANDALUCÍA LAB to Parque de la Alameda-Marbella - 18:15 pm

**Wednesday, 20 September**

- **Morning:** BUS from Parque de la Alameda-Marbella to ANDALUCÍA LAB - 09:15 am
- **Afternoon:** BUS from ANDALUCIA LAB to Parque de la Alameda-Marbella - 15:30 pm

5. **Welcome diner**

The Welcome diner will be on Tuesday, 19 September at 20h30 in Marbella at the Hotel el Fuerte

*Please, we recommend that those with any allergy or food intolerance consult the catering managers or staff over any doubt they might have. Additionally, there is a set of x5 vegetarian menus available

6. **Technical/Touristic visit information**

A technical visit will be offered by the Regional Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sports of Andalusia, on the 20 September at 17h00 local time.

**Schedule of the tour guided (in English):**

- 17.00 Starting point. - Parque de la Alameda. (**). Cultural visit to the city center of Marbella
7. **Travel arrangements**

Each participant/entity is responsible for their own travel arrangements, including booking international flights, arranging local transportation, and securing accommodation. To find a reasonably priced, we suggest that you start as early as possible with the travel arrangements. A credit card will normally be required for reservations.

There are numerous accommodation options in Marbella center. Considering the proximity to the meeting point for the shuttle transfer service and venue, the following list could be considered as a reference:

- NH Marbella ****
- Barceló Marbella ****
- Bluebay Banus ****
- Senator Marbella ****
- Monarque Marbella ****

8. **Working languages**

The working language of the meeting will be English.

9. **Working documents**

In light of the United Nations mandate to promote sustainability, UNWTO is strengthening its efforts towards environmental sustainability by implementing paperless events and conferences.

Participants are kindly requested to take note that the working documents will not be distributed on paper at the venue of the event.

Participants are encouraged to bring their own electronic devices to access the working documents during the session. All the documents will be posted online at the event website: [https://www.unwto.org/events/4th-meeting-eg-mst](https://www.unwto.org/events/4th-meeting-eg-mst)

(You will be notified by email of the posting of the documents)

10. **Practical information**

- **Local currency and rate of exchange:** Spain’s official currency is the Euro (€). The rate of exchange applicable as of July 2023 is 0.902€ to 1 US dollar.
- **Climate:** The average temperature in Marbella in September is 22.2°C (Max 25.5°C, Min 18.9 °C)
- **Local time:** GMT +1 +DST
- **Electricity:** The electric current in Spain is 220 volts.
- **Emergency number:** 112
11. **Tourism information**

Andalusia tourism websites:

- Marbella city: [https://turismo.marbella.es/en/](https://turismo.marbella.es/en/)
- Málaga city: [https://visita.malaga.eu/es/](https://visita.malaga.eu/es/)