

GRUAN ICM-6 Local Information

Howard University – Greenbelt, MD

10-14 March 2014

Meeting Location

Hilton Garden Inn Greenbelt, MD
7810 Walker Drive
Greenbelt, Maryland, USA 20770
Tel: +1-301-474-7400
Fax: +1-301-474-7411

Traveling to the US:

Information regarding travel to the US can be found at the US State Department website:

<http://travel.state.gov/visa/> and follow directions. Please send an email to gruanicm6@gmail.com if you need further assistance on travel.

Traveling from the airport to Greenbelt:

Greenbelt is served by three major airports: Dulles International (IAD), Baltimore-Washington Thurgood Marshall International (BWI) and Regan-National Airport in Washington DC. The closest airport to the Hotel is the Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI), in Baltimore, Maryland. However, Dulles International Airport in Dulles, Virginia is the largest and may be served by more airlines.

The best choice of transportation from the airports to the hotel is to use the BlueVan Super Shuttle:

<http://www.supershuttle.com/>. The Super shuttle cost from BWI is \$33 per Adult (and \$12 for additional passenger). Cost from Dulles is \$39 per adult (\$10 additional passenger). Please visit the site to reserve.

Alternative ways of transport

From all airports cabs are available, but these are the most expensive means of travel. The fare will depend to some extent upon traffic conditions. Fares from BWI are typically \$50.00 and from IAD are typically upwards of \$100.00 (~120.00)

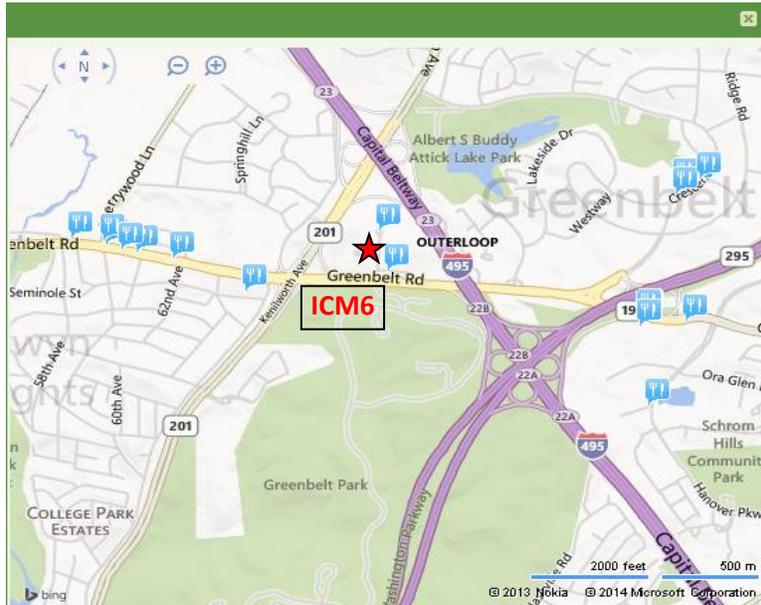
By public transport

For general subway travel visit <http://www.wmata.com/>. You may have to purchase a SmartTrip card (\$3.50) and buses require exact change in cash or SmartTrip card

From BWI: A non-stop metro Bus (# B30) is available from BWI to the Greenbelt Subway Station (which is close to the hotel and is served by hotel shuttle or a taxi). The metro bus fare from BWI is \$6.00 and the taxi ride is about 5minutes estimated at \$5-10). The schedule can be found in the following link:

<http://www.wmata.com/bus/timetables/view.cfm?line=165>

From Dulles (IAD): Take the Washington flyer coach (<http://www.washfly.com/coach.html>) to West Falls Church metro station (cost is \$10 one way). From the West Falls Church metro, take the orange-line towards New-Carrollton station and transfer to the Green line at the L'Enfant Plaza and ride the green line to Greenbelt Station. The station is located close to the Hotel and is served by Hotel shuttle or about 5-minutes taxi ride. A map of the subway in Washington is located here: <http://www.wmata.com/rail/maps/map.cfm>



Local restaurants and park: There are several restaurants within walking distance to the hotel; Some are highlighted in the attached image. Also visit the official Greenbelt City Web: <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/>

Greenbelt is a historic town – and linked to the Roosevelt (New Deal) era. A café called a New Deal Café <http://newdealcafe.com/> and local history can be explored. It is about 1.5 miles away – a nice exercise for those who can. But, there is a metro bus and the Hotel shuttle can be requested. Please explore the events page of the café (<http://newdealcafe.com/events/calendar.php>) for plays, jazz etc.

The Greenbelt regional park is within minutes from the Hotel. The parks website is available here: <http://www.nps.gov/gree/index.htm>.

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is a popular Washington DC tradition. The official days are 20 March to 13 April: <http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/>

Local climate: It has been unusually snowy in the North East of the US this year. This year has been outside the norm. For NWS weekly forecast check out <http://www.weather.gov> or you can try the local NWS station at: <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/lwx/>. Monthly average climate values for March using 1981-2010 data are: Temperature: max: 13.2°C, min: 3.2°C, avg.: 8.2°C; precipitation: 88mm, snow 33mm. <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/climate>

Tipping: About 15-20 % of the price of the meal. Fast food places do not get tip. Trip advisor has a general guideline for tipping etiquette at: <http://www.tripadvisor.com/Travel-g191-s606/United-States:Tipping.And.Etiquette.html>

Dress standards: For the meeting, dinner and site tour, a tidy casual dress standard is quite acceptable. There are no formal occasions planned for the meeting.

Mobile phone service: It may be beneficial to set up your phone with ‘Global Roaming’ prior to travelling. Please check with your carrier. One can use calling cards, etc: Please see trip advisor for a general discussion of telephone in the US: <http://www.tripadvisor.com/Travel-g191-s605/United-States:Telephones.html>