

Practical Information for the IYDU Freedom Forum 2010 in Batumi, Georgia from 24 to 27 June

The IYDU is pleased to confirm that registrations have now opened for the Georgia Freedom Forum. This event is open to all IYDU members. To register, please complete the registration form and email to Natalia Mchedlishvili at nmchedlishvili@gmail.com or fax (995 32) 923089, (995 32) 923091. **Please cc the form to the Executive Secretary at james.marriott@hoyre.no.**

As it is important to establish correct numbers please only complete the registration if you are sure you will be able to attend. Once you have booked your flight please e-mail a copy of your e-ticket to the Executive Secretary.

Please note that registration can not be confirmed until IYDU have received a copy of your e-ticket.

The Programme

The programme will begin on the evening of Thursday 24 June and conclude on Sunday 27 June with a day sightseeing. The main forum will commence on the morning of Friday 25 June and continue through Saturday 26 June. The programme will consist of presentations, debates and panel discussions from senior government figures, academics and other leading figures from Georgia's political and cultural life. We also hope to be joined by President Saakashvili, if his schedule permits. A full programme will be available nearer the time.

The main venue for the meeting will be the Sheraton Hotel in Batumi though UNM have arranged a choice of accommodation for us in Batumi.

Costs

All internal transport and meal costs will be covered and there is no registration fee for this event.

Delegates need only cover the cost of their accommodation and transport to Georgia.

Location

Participants should plan to arrive on Thursday 24 June and depart on or after Sunday 27 June.

The Freedom Forum will be held in Batumi, a seaside city on the Black Sea.

Where possible, participants should book their flights direct to Batumi. Currently it is only possible to fly from Batumi via Istanbul (everyday except Tuesday and Friday). However, direct flights from the Ukraine (Kyiv, Kharkiv) and Belarus (Minsk) will start from May.

If, however, it's more convenient for you to travel to Tbilisi there will be a transfer bus on 24th June and another one returning on 27th June. The journey will take approximately 4 hours.

Visas

Citizens of most countries do not require a visa to enter Georgia however please check your country's visa requirements with the Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs by visiting the following link: http://mfa.gov.ge/index.php?lang_id=ENG&sec_id=96 or contact the Georgian Embassy in your country.

If you require a visa invitation letter, please e-mail the IYDU Executive Secretariat who will arrange this for you.

Accommodation

We have negotiated a range of discounted hotels options in Batumi. However these must be booked by 5 June. Please download and complete the accommodation form to reserve your accommodation.

The hotel choices are as follows:

1. Sheraton Batumi Hotel (*****) 10 rooms

28 Rustaveli Street
Batumi 6000
Phone: (995)(222) 29000
Fax: (995)(222) 29029
www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton

	Offered rate	Number of rooms
Single Standard room	140 \$ plus VAT	5
Double Standard room	170 \$ plus VAT	5

The special group rate is only available till **5 June**.

2. Hotel Intourist Palace (*****) 10 rooms

11 Ninoshvili Street
Batumi 60100

Phone: (995)(222) 7 55 25
www.intouristpalace.com

	Offered rate	Number of rooms
Single Standard room	113,30\$	5
Double Standard room	132\$	5

Distance to Sheraton Hotel: 3-5 min. walking
The special group rate is only available till **5 June**.

3. Hotel Alik (**) 10 rooms**

2 General Mazniashvili street
12/14 Memed Abashidze street
Batumi 6010
Phone: (995) 77 580808
www.hotelalik.gol.ge

	Offered rate	Number of rooms
Single Standard room	140 GEL	3
Double Standard room	160 GEL	7

Distance to Sheraton Hotel: 10 min. walking
The special group rate is only available till **5 June**.

4. Hotel Chao (**) 16 rooms**

75 Gorgiladze Street
Batumi
Phone: (995) 99 555075, (995) 91 626277
www.hotelchao.ge

	Offered rate	Number of rooms
Single Standard room	85 GEL	16
Double Standard room	105 GEL	16

Distance to Sheraton Hotel: 5-7 min. walking
The special group rate is only available till **5 June**.

5. Hotel Marina (**) 40 rooms**

10 Khimshiashvili Street
Southern beach
Batumi 6010
Phone: (995) (222) 71 848
www.marigroup.ge

	Offered rate	Number of rooms
Single Standard room	60 GEL	6
Double Standard room	90GEL	34

Distance to Sheraton Hotel: 10 min. walking
The special group rate is only available till **5 June**.