Welcome to Nantes, the audacious Metropolis

- Competitive and Innovative: 2,200 scientists, 200 laboratories, 54,000 students
- 9 clusters: biotechs and health; food and agosciences; composites materials; marines resources; aeronautics, ICT
- European Green Capital 2013
- 1st Port on the Atlantic Coast
- 3rd largest industrial area in France
- One of the most attractive cities in France

How to Travel to Nantes

By Plane
The International Airport is located 20 minutes away from the Convention Center by shuttle bus and serves 65 international destinations by direct flight; most European capitals within two hours.

By High-Speed Train
The station is located in the center of Nantes, in front of the Convention Center. There are 21 daily trains to Paris, a train every hour (2 hours travel time from/to Paris).

40th IABSE Symposium NANTES, September 19-21, 2018
Tomorrow’s Megastructures
First Announcement
Introduction

Nantes, France, will host the 40th IABSE Symposium with the main theme of “Tomorrow’s Megastructures”. Popularized in the 1960s as an architectural concept, a megastructure is referring to a very large manmade object, though the limits of precisely how large this is, may vary considerably. The term could be applied to any especially large or tall building, but also to enormous self-supporting artificial constructions. Megastructures represent the most ambitious and spectacular constructions in the world which are all incredible technological achievements of great human adventures. As the Jules Verne’s birthplace (who wrote many adventure novels, including a premonitory “Paris in the Twentieth Century”), Nantes is definitively the best place to address the following challenges:

- Megastructures: a radical paradigm shift or simply a change of scale?
- Today’s and tomorrow’s megastructures and megaprojects
- New trends for innovations in the construction, the preservation, the exploitation and the upgrading of structures.

About Nantes

Nantes is the largest city in western France, located on the Loire River, 50 km from the Atlantic Coast. The city is the sixth largest in France, with a metropolitan area of about 900,000 inhabitants. It was one of the major cities of the historic province of Brittany and the ancient Duchy of Brittany. In 2004, the magazine “Time” named Nantes as “the most liveable city in Europe”. In 2010, Nantes was named a hub city for innovation in the Innovation Cities Index by innovation agency 2thinknow. In 2013, Nantes held the title of European Green Capital, awarded by the European Commission for its efforts to reduce air pollution and CO2 emissions, for its high-quality and well-managed public transport system, and for its biodiversity with 3,366 hectares of green spaces and several Natura 2000 zones which guarantee protection of nature in the area. Since then, the city of Jules Verne is regularly top ranked among the cities where to live.

Dates and Venue

The Symposium will be held at The Cité Nantes Events Center, from Wednesday, September 19, to Friday, September 21, 2018.

The IABSE Annual Meetings will take place just prior to the Symposium, from Monday, September 17, to Tuesday September 18, 2018, also at The Cité Nantes Events Center. It is the prime conference center of western France and is located in the city center, close to the train station.

Symposium Format

The Scientific Program will include Plenary, Sub-Plenary and Concurrent Sessions over three full days. Panel Discussions and Poster Sessions will also be incorporated into the program. Papers covering different themes and topics of the Symposium will selected from abstracts submitted to the Scientific Committee. They will be presented orally or by poster. A commercial exhibition is planned at the Symposium venue.

Language

The official language of the Symposium is English.

The Symposium IABSE NANTES 2018 is organized by the French Group of the International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE) in cooperation with the French Association of Civil Engineering (AFGC).

Contact

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