

## Travel Information

### Visa

Foreign citizens and people without Russian citizenship have the right to enter and leave the Russian Federation with valid documents, proving their identity, and with the Russian Visa if other is not mentioned in international agreements of the Russian Federation. Be sure to leave ample time for the procedure of obtaining a visa, as a rule it takes 2 weeks and more. The cost of the visa depends on processing time and type of visa. For clarification, contact the Russian Consulate in your country.

Please note that official invitations are required for all types of Russian Visas. An official invitation letter can be requested from the conference Secretary General Nadezhda Nikolaeva ([fri2011@krc.karelia.ru](mailto:fri2011@krc.karelia.ru)) for visa purposes.

**Travelling by airplane :** There is no direct international flight to Petrozavodsk so visitors can fly into any of Moscow or St.Petersburg international airports and then take a train. For details see:

Sheremetyevo airport (Moscow) <http://svo.aero/en/>

Vnukovo airport (Moscow) <http://www.vnukovo-airport.ru/>

Domodedovo airport (Moscow) <http://www.domodedovo.ru/en/>

Pulkovo airport (St.Petersburg) <http://www.pulkovoairport.ru/eng/>

**Travelling by train :** Getting to Karelia by train is possible from Moscow (~15 hours ride to Petrozavodsk), St.Petersburg (~7-8 hours), Murmansk (~21 hours).

### Direct trains to PETROZAVODSK (*recommended*)

Train №	Train specific name	Depart from	Time of departure	Arrive to	Time of arrival
18	"Karelia"	MOSCOW Leningradsky railway station	19:55 (daily)	PETROZAVODSK	10:25 (next day)
17	"Karelia"	PETROZAVODSK	19:00 (daily)	MOSCOW Leningradsky railway station	09:06 (next day)
658	"Kalevala"	ST. PETERSBURG Ladozhsky railway station	22:02 (daily)	PETROZAVODSK	06:50 (next day)
657	"Kalevala"	PETROZAVODSK	22:50 (daily)	ST. PETERSBURG Ladozhsky railway station	07:07 (next day)

Please check the timetable and ticket price in <http://eng.rzd.ru>

## **Local Transportation**

Petrozavodsk railway station is situated in the center of the city, and it is possible to use public transport to get to the hotel.

Petrozavodsk possesses a well-developed trolleybus network complemented by private mini-bus services offering fares slightly more than municipal transport. Single trip ticket is available from trolleybus conductors (**10 RUB**) or mini-bus drivers (**12 RUB**). Public transport works from 6:30 till 22:00 daily.

Taxi is preferable to order by phone, the price varies from **90 RUB** to **200 RUB**.

## **General Information**

### **Language**

The official languages of the conference will be Russian and English.

### **Time Zone**

Petrozavodsk is located in the Moscow Time Zone (MSK/MSD). During the summer Moscow Summer Time (MSD) is 4 hours ahead of UTC, or UTC+4.

### **Weather**

Petrozavodsk experiences a subarctic climate that is greatly moderated by the oceanic influence of the Baltic Sea.

As in most countries in Northern Europe, the weather in Karelia can be very changeable from day to day at all times of the year, and the character of each season may vary from one year to another. The average maximum temperature in June is 18.6°C (65.5° F) and the minimum is 9.1°C (48.4° F). It is recommended that you bring **warm clothing and an umbrella**.

### **Banking Facilities**

The official currency in The Russian Federation is the ruble (**RUB**). 1 RUB = 100 kopeks.

The following coins: 1, 2, 5, 10 RUB, and the banknotes: 10, 50, 100, 500, 1000, 5000 RUB are in use.

There are many exchange points in Petrozavodsk but you will need to show your passport. Banks usually charge a commission (**20-100 RUB**, depends on amount of money). When you change money, clerk will give you a green receipt - it is not necessary to keep these and do not worry unduly if you are not given one. Banks are open 11:00-19:00 on working days.

While cash is easier, credit cards are safer and many establishments accept VISA, American

Express, MasterCard. Please contact your bank to know whether you can receive rubles from cash dispensers. Traveller's cheques also can be exchanged in the banks, commission is 2-3%. Banks are generally open weekdays between and are closed over the weekend.

### **Telephone and Postal Facilities**

Most post offices are open from am to pm. At a post office you can send a letter, a package, buy stamps, post cards, send or receive money orders (domestic), use the Internet.

General Post-Office: Dzerzhinskogo st., 5

Working hours: 08:00-22:00, Mon-Fri; 09:00-19:00, Sat-Sun

### **Internet**

Internet is available in the most of Petrozavodsk hotels (wi-fi or wired Internet in the hotel business centres). Wi-fi internet is also available in some cafes. During the Conference participants can enjoy *free wi-fi internet* in conference venue - Karelian Research Center.

### **Eating out in Petrozavodsk**

There are a lot of cafe and restaurants in Petrozavodsk. They are usually open from 10:00 till 22:00, in the center (Lenina st.) you can find 24-hour cafes. Please note that service charges are generally included in the price. However, it is usual to add some tips if you are satisfied with service.

### **Shopping Hours**

The usual shopping hours in Petrozavodsk are from 11:00 am to 19:00 pm during the week. On weekends they are from 11:00 am to 17:00 pm. Supermarkets are open 24 hours a day. When shopping we advise you to carry sufficient amount of cash. Only some shops and restaurants accept credit cards.

### **Smoking Policy**

The conference is officially declared as a «No-smoking-Conference»

### **Electricity**

Voltage is 220-volt, 50-cycle alternating current and European 2 pin sockets are used. Those traveling from overseas with electrical appliances will need an adapter.