

FAN'S GUIDE



IIHF ice hockey world championship will take place in Minsk on **9–25 May 2014**.



Venues

Minsk Arena

111 Pobeditelei Avenue



Capacity – 15,000 spectators.
42 VIP boxes can seat up to 700 spectators, there is also one president's box and two government boxes.
 When a match is over, 15,000 spectators are able to leave the arena within 40 minutes.
Area of the ice rink – 1,600 m².
 A huge 18-tonne media cube with 8 plasma screens hangs under the dome.



Chizhovka Arena

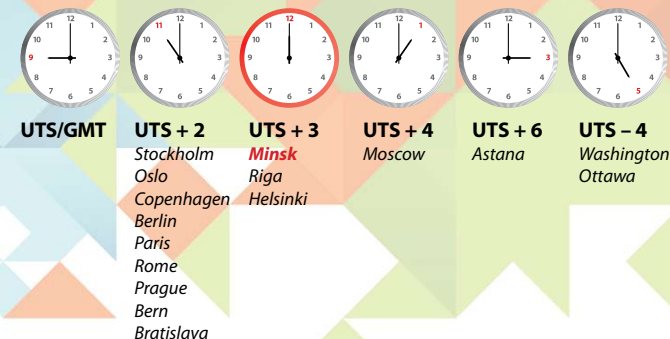
19 Tashkentskaya Street



Capacity – 10,000 spectators.
43 VIP boxes can seat up to 500 spectators.
 The complex features the Big Arena and the Small Arena, as well as the connecting zones with cafés, restaurants, an entertainment complex and a mall.
 The **ice rink** with a portable board system was modeled on the NHL arenas.



Minsk time



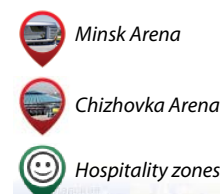
Fan zones and hospitality zones

The fan zones will be located near **Minsk Arena** and **Chizhovka Arena**. Admission will be free.

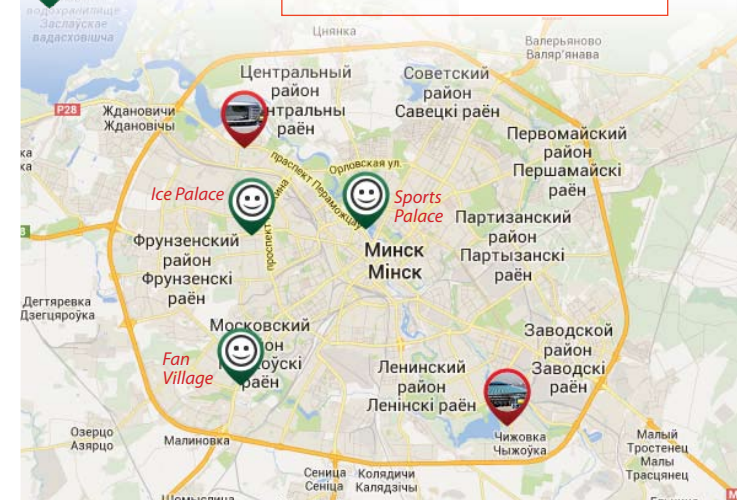
Here ice hockey fans will be offered the broadcasts of **match highlights**. The fan zones will also operate cafes and restaurants, gift shops and retail shops, entertainment facilities...

Hospitality zones:

- Near the Sports Palace (4 Pobeditelei Avenue, Niamiha)
- Fan Village (Dzerzhinskogo Avenue, Piatroŭščyna)
- Near the Ice Palace (27 Pritytskogo Street, Spartyŭnaja)



The detailed map and the working hours of the zones are available here



Match schedule



Transport

You can travel around Minsk on metro, by bus, by trolleybus, by tram and on taxi.

There are three types of tickets: **paper single tickets** (ground transportation), **tokens** (metro) and **stored-value contactless smartcards**. They are sold in ticket offices on bus stops and in the metro. They cost **Br3,700** per travel.

You can punch your paper ticket using an electronic ticket punch and validate your smartcard using a card reader located at entrances.



Additional express bus services will be available during **the ice hockey world championship**:

- **No. 1C** 🚍 Niamiha – Minsk Arena
- **No. 911C** Central Bus Station – Minsk Arena
- **No. 912C** Central Bus Station – Student Village (Fan Village)
- **No. 913C** Central Bus Station – Chizhovka Arena
- **No. 914C** Minsk Arena – Chizhovka Arena
- **No. 916C** National Airport Minsk – Student Village
- **No. 919C** Minsk Arena – Student Village
- **No. 920C** Chizhovka Arena – Student Village
- **No. 951C** Loshitsa train station – Chizhovka Arena
- As well as **trolleybus No. 10D** 🚍 Puškinskaja – Minsk Arena
- **trolleybus No. 926** 🚍 Aŭtazavodskaja – Chizhovka Arena

Click here to learn more about the Minsk metro (fares, map)



You can also take a **city train** to get to the ice arenas. During the 2014 IIHF World Championship the Belarusian Railways will launch an additional train service between the train station **Masyukovshchina** (walking distance to Minsk Arena) and the train station **Loshitsa** (direct bus service to Chizhovka Arena). This train will run through the city center – the railway station **Minsk Passazhirsky**. The timetable is convenient for hockey fans as it takes into consideration the schedule of the matches.



You can take a **taxi** near hotels, bus and railway stations, in the street. Taxi drivers accept only cash. You can order a taxi by calling the following numbers: **135, 107, 152, 157, 161, 181, 184 and 7788**



Accommodation

Accommodation options include hotels, the Fan Village, dormitories and hostels.

Five-star hotels (President Hotel, Hotel Europe, Crowne Plaza Minsk, Beijing Hotel): \$200–\$2,200 per night

Four-star hotels (Victoria Hotel, Minsk Hotel, Victoria Olympus Hotel, Monastyrskaya Hotel, Na Zamkovoy Hotel, Renaissance Minsk Hotel): \$100–\$900

Economy-class hotels: \$35–\$120

Hostels: \$30–\$100

Fan Village (5,000 guests): €24 per night (20–40€)



Click here to learn more about Minsk hotels and booking

Dining

During the championship, **cafés and restaurants of Minsk** will be open **till the last customer** leaves. The menu will be available in Russian, Belarusian and English. Cash and bank cards are accepted. Tips are welcome.

You will be able to try traditional Belarusian dishes in all the restaurants. To learn more about the most interesting cooking traditions, recipes and ancient beverages, click here (QR Code)...



Shopping

- **GUM** – 21 Nezavisimosti Avenue, 📍 Kastryčnickaja
- **TSUM** – 54 Nezavisimosti Avenue, 📍 Plošča Jakuba Kolasa
- **Stolitsa** – under Nezavisimosti Square, 📍 Plošča Lenina
- **Na Nemige** – 8 Nemiga Street, 📍 Niamiha
- **Kirmash** – 100 Dzerzhinskogo Avenue, 📍 Piatroŭščyna
- **Belarus** – 4 Zhilunovicha Street, 📍 Partyzanskaja
- **Arena City** – 84 Pobeditelei Avenue (opposite Minsk Arena)

In order to apply for the **tax free** program, you need to make purchases worth **at least Br800,000** (about \$80) **at the same store** (taking part in the **tax free** program) **within one day**. When you leave the country, you will need to present the check on the border to refund the VAT (except for dutiable goods or non-VAT goods).



The **tax free** program is not available for citizens of the Customs Union member states – Belarus, Russia, and Kazakhstan – as there is no customs border between them.



Minsk landmarks

Check out this link to learn about the most interesting local landmarks – Upper Town, Trinity Suburb, Nezavisimosti (Independence) Avenue and the National Library...



During the championship the museums will work till late at night.



Money and payment systems

The national currency in Belarus is Belarusian **ruble** (Br). **There are banknotes from Br50 to Br200,000**. Only Belarusian rubles are accepted in hotels, restaurants, taxes, and stores.

The most common foreign currencies accepted by banks and exchange booths (in hotels, retail facilities, bus stations, railway stations, in the streets) are US dollars, euro, and Russian rubles.

The following payment systems are accepted in Belarus: **Master-Card** and **Visa** (all banks), **Union Pay** (Belgazprombank), **American Express** (BPS-Sberbank), **Zolotaya Korona** (Belinvestbank).

In retail outlets information about available payment options is placed near cash registers.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES



Communication and Internet

Mobile service providers in Belarus – **Velcom, MTS, life:** – support roaming services and offer special plans for foreigners (you need to present your passport to conclude a service contract).

You can use payphones available in the streets and major retail outlets. Pre-paid phone cards are sold in **Beltelecom** service centers and **Belsoyuzpechat** kiosks.

The international phone code of Belarus is **+375**, that of Minsk is **+37517**. If you want to make an international call from Belarus, you need to dial **8 – 10 – country code – phone number**.

Wi-Fi is available in hotels, restaurants, and sports facilities.



Emergency contact numbers

- 101** – Fire and rescue service
- 102** – Police
- 103** – Ambulance
- 114** – Information office of bus stations
- 105** – Information office of railway stations
- 106, 186** – Information office of airports



Country profile

There are two official languages in Belarus – Belarusian and Russian. English-speaking volunteers will work at the ice arenas, fan zones and other venues during the world championship. Feel free to approach them if you need any help.



More about Belarus

Visas

If you buy a ticket for any match of the IIHF world championship in Minsk, you will be able to enter Belarus visa-free one time during the championship, **from 25 April to 31 May 2014**. You will only have to present your passport and a ticket (copy of an electronic ticket or a certificate for matches) while entering the country. **One ticket** (please, keep it until you leave the country) gives you the right to enter Belarus **one time**.

Upon arriving in Belarus, you need to get registered:

- if you stay at a hotel, the hotel staff will do the registration for you;
- if you stay at a private apartment, you will have to get registered with the local citizenship and migration office within five working days after arrival (citizens of Russia, Ukraine, Lithuania, and Latvia can stay in Belarus without registration for up to 30 days).

The ticket and the registration stamp will be checked upon departing from the country.

Embassies and consulates

Addresses of embassies and consular offices located in Minsk are available here (pdf)

