

Nice 2026



FANNISH INQUISITION QUESTIONNAIRE

SmofCon 37 1/4

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General

Name of Bid

Nice in 2026

A bid to host the 84th WorldCon in Nice-Côte d'Azur, France

What dates are you bidding for?

12-16 August 2026

What is your proposed convention host city? Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb? If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city centre? How far is the site from the city centre?

Our proposed convention host city is Nice, France.

Capital of the French Riviera, Nice-Côte d'Azur is, after Paris, the leading tourist destination in France and amongst the most popular in the world.

Our convention site will be two steps away from the Nice Côte d'Azur International Airport.

The convention site is 15 mns from the city centre, by tramway.

What are your main facilities? How far are your hotels from your main venue?

Our venue is the new Nice congress and exhibition centre, to be open by the end of 2024.

[Business Tourism - Exhibition park | Eco Vallée - Opération d'intérêt national \(ecovallee-cotedazur.com\)](http://ecovallee-cotedazur.com)

With its adjustable design, our venue is *“destined to host a range of European and international events of all sizes: trade fares and exhibitions, congresses, seminars, professional gatherings...”* and, should we win, a WorldCon!

Total of 75 000 m2: a 25 000 m2 Congress centre, with a 4 000 seats Auditorium, and a 50 000 m2 Exhibition centre.

The area around our venue is Nice business centre, with already quite a lot of hotels (Crowne Plaza, Holiday Inn, Novotel, Ibis...). More will be built over the next six years. We are in conversation with the City and local tourism Bureau regarding those hotels close to the new Nice Congress and Exhibition centre. Furthermore, there are a lot of charming hotels in downtown Nice, only 15mns away from our venue, by tramway.

Who is your bid chair? Who is on your committee? What experience do they have in general? In running Worldcons?

Bid Co-Chairs

Ugo Bellagamba (Chairman of BlueCon2021, National SF Convention, SF writer, academic)

Pascale Chabrilat-Trahin (Committee Member of BlueCon2021, and NiceFictions, senior civil servant)

For the first bid from France, we decided to take a step-by-step validation effort, from legitimation of our project by the World and European fandom, the mobilization of the French fandom, and the building of a team of involved and engaged men and women, who, should we win, will lead to the realization of the 84th WorldCon in Nice.

Among us, there are as much experienced members as young and dynamic ones. We're taking a fresh start, but with the awereness of the important of traditions, and that has been already made. We promise that, should we win, France, and Nice, will host the WorldCon without changing its story, and with keeping the highest ambition for science fiction.

If known, who will be the chair of the convention? What experience do they have?

Same as above.

Have you agreed to participate in Pass-Along Funds? Would you be willing to increase the percentage from 50% to 70% of surplus?

We cannot tell yet whether we will be willing to increase our passalong beyond the 50% of surplus but yes, if possible we will participate in passalong.

Travel

What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as London, Boston, Los Angeles, Tokyo, Melbourne, etc.?

Nice offers flights to many destinations around the world. Here are some sample rates, calculated on the basis of a roundtrip ticket for 2 passengers. These numbers assume booking the flight a year in advance.

Auckland	1992€	\$2229	£1836	3275 AUD
Boston	1304€	\$1459	£1202	2144 AUD
Chicago	1592€	\$1782	£1468	2617 AUD
Dallas	2776€	\$3107	£2559	4564 AUD
Dublin	216€	\$242	£199	355 AUD
Helsinki	308€	\$345	£284	506 AUD
London	198€	\$222	£183	326 AUD
Los Angeles	1642€	\$1838	£1514	2700 AUD
Melbourne	1678€	\$1878	£1547	2759 AUD

Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport? Which airlines? If not, where is the closest international airport? Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport?

Nice Côte d'Azur international airport is France's second international airport.

The airport is located 5 minutes by car from central Nice and has a 15 minutes tramway connection with its 2 terminals.

It offers flights to 114 destinations in over 40 countries, including direct flights from New York, Beijing, Dubai and from Europe's biggest cities.

[Aéroport Nice Côte d'Azur : OFFICIAL WEBSITE Gateway to the mythical French Riviera](#)

How far is your convention site from the nearest airport/train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport and taxi from that airport/train station?

Our venue is in walking distance from Nice International Airport. It's literally the other side of the road!

If staying in the area, hotels will be walking distance from the congress and exhibition centre. If staying in downtown Nice, the cost of the 15mns tramway trip is currently around 1 euro. With a taxi, the average fare going downtown is currently 30 euros.

Facilities

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention? How many rooms, what type, do they accommodate accessibility needs, etc.?

There is plenty of hotels, Nice being a major international tourism destination, close to Italy. We are working with the city and the local tourism bureau to select the best suited hotels for the convention. Details to follow, and to be presented at the next Fannish Inquisition.

What are your hotel room rates? Do these rates include breakfast? Do they include internet access in the room? How firm are these rates? What additional taxes and fees are there?

As mentioned above, our hotels are still being selected. But as a rule, most hotels in Nice propose breakfast. All have internet access in the room. The rates (see links below) are quite firm, but do consider that our event will take place in 6 years' time.

For existing hotels, see:

[Hotels in Nice \(meet-in-nice.com\)](https://en.meet-in-nice.com)

For furnished flats and studio apartments, see:

<https://en.meet-in-nice.com/residential-hotels>

What does parking cost at your main hotels?

As mentioned above, our main hotels are still being selected. Details to follow, including parking cost.

What is the distance from the nearest door of your main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site? What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties?

As mentioned above, our main hotels are still being selected. Distance to the closest entrance of our venue should be minimum. Details to follow regarding transportations options for those with mobility difficulties.

Where will your large events (i.e. Hugo Ceremony and Masquerade) be held?

In the Auditorium (4 000 seats).

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.

Close to the airport area there is a business center with many restaurants, and, by taking tram, every member of the worldcon will reach in 15 minutes the city historical center, with a lot of specialty restaurants with charming dining rooms.

And by 2026, there will most probably be a food court, with several restaurants, within the new Congress and Exhibition.

What arrangements will be made for evening socialising and party space? Do you have a corkage waiver?

Still being developed.

Please describe the policies / laws regarding smoking in your hotel(s), convention centre, and city.

France is party of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Smoking is generally prohibited in indoor public places and workplaces. In hotels, all public areas are non-smoking. They usually set aside a few rooms for smokers. If you don't specify, you will be placed in a non-smoking room.

Restaurants, bars and cafes are non-smoking indoors but smoking is usually allowed on certain designated outdoor area such as a terrace. Smoking is prohibited in most forms of public transport, as well as bus stations, train stations and airports.

On the most part, you are free to smoke outdoors but the law also prohibits smoking in some outdoor areas, specifically those that are regularly frequented by minors, and certain designated non-smoking places and beaches.

Given the current pandemic, have you considered any arrangements have been made for social distancing and the health and safety of members? If you have, can you describe what your current plans are?

Hopefully, by 2026, the pandemic will be behind us. Nevertheless, we will continue to closely monitor the situation, and if need be, reflect it in our plans.

Miscellaneous

What type of weather can we expect during your convention? What is the average temperature during that time of year?

August, is a moderately hot month in Nice, with temperature in the range of an average high of 27.7°C (81.9°F) and an average low of 20.5°C (68.9°F).

During August, the rain falls on average for 2 days and regularly aggregates up to 17.8mm (0.7") of precipitation.

August is the month with the warmest seawater, with an average sea temperature of 23.7°C (74.7°F).

What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?

Nice is the number one tourist destination in France after Paris. Around 5 million visitors per year, it has the highest concentration of museums after Paris, with 19 museums and art galleries.

Amongst, the top tourists' attractions in Nice:

- **Vieille Ville** (Old Town), the picturesque Old Town of Nice, with its maze of narrow alleyways and cobblestone streets,
- **Promenade des Anglais**, a most emblematic street in Nice, the Promenade des Anglais, a pedestrian area that follows the curve of the Baie des Anges beaches.
- **Musée Matisse**, Sitting on the hill of Cimiez, extensive and diverse ensemble of Matisse's works.
- **Monastère Notre-Dame-de-Cimiez**, Near the Matisse Museum, the Monastère Notre-Dame-de-Cimiez lies directly above the ancient ruins of Cemenelum, which has interesting vestiges of the Roman baths and amphitheater.
- **Musée d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain**, a cross section of fine arts from the 1960s and 1970s, including New Realism and Pop Art, American Abstracts, and Minimalists.
- **Musée Chagall**, most important exhibition of Chagall's works in the world
- **Archaeological Museum of Cimiez**, within the Parc des Arenes de Cimiez, garden across from the Cimiez monastery, archaeological remains from the ancient Roman city of Cemenelum.

- **Parc de la Colline du Château** (Castle Hill Park), On a hill overlooking the Nice coastline, the site of Castle Hill was the first area of Nice to be inhabited by the Greeks two millennia ago.

And around Nice:

- **The French Riviera**, French Mediterranean coastline which also includes the state of Monaco is Côte d'Azur. The Riviera extends from the Italian border in the east to Saint-Tropez, Hyères, Toulon, or Cassis in the west.

Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain demographic groups, such as young adults, military, or seniors?

This is definitively under consideration.

What is your vision for your Worldcon? How do you plan to make it happen?

Should we win, our WorldCon has to be, first of all, a genuine WorldCon by all means, linked to traditions of the world SF community, but, our WorldCon will be also a huge step for France, to become, one of the countries which have held a WordCon in its history.

What is a notable aspect of your local fan culture and how do you plan to incorporate it into your Worldcon?

The French fandom is very proud of the European roots of Science Fiction literature, and still praise the names of its founding fathers.

Do you have a code of conduct? If so, is it available online and if so, where?

Our Code of Conduct for the Bid is currently under development, and will be posted on our website.

What do diversity and inclusion mean to you?

It's a very important aspect of our project. Should we win, not only our Convention will be held in a brand new building with all accessibility facilities, but we'll be very attentive to the diversity and inclusion, both regarding guests and panel themes.

How are you working towards your goals in these areas?

Our programme will be built on a rule of equality in gender (parity), LGBTQ representation.

What would concrete achievements look like in these areas?

It will be discussed with the members of our Committee, more details to be presented at the next Fannish Inquisition.

What changes or challenges do you expect the current pandemic to present?

The major impact regarding our project already took place: our bid had to be postponed to 2026 due to the pandemic. Hopefully, by then, the major impacts will be behind us. Nevertheless, we will continue to closely monitor the situation, and if need be, reflect in our plans.

Have you planned for a virtual component to your convention?

Too early to say, but a hybrid content will be available should need be.

Your members vote for Hugo Finalists who are then excited and wish to play a full part in the convention programme. How do you plan to facilitate the Finalists input as recognised by your community?

Obviously, the core of our programme will be built in connection with themes and realizations close to the heart of the Hugo Finalists, in each section.