

Handbook of the 3rd Early Career Researchers' Conference (ECRC)

- **Conference locations**
 - [Monastery of Steinfeld](#)
 - [Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research \(MPIPZ\)](#)
- **Preliminary agenda**
 - September 17th: attendees from JIC and CRAG are encouraged to arrive on this day and take the shuttle to the conference venue in the evening.
 - September 18-19th: Conference at Monastery of Steinfeld
 - September 20th: Bus shuttle to MPIPZ; conference ends in the afternoon
 - September 20th: attendees from JIC and CRAG are encouraged to book a room in Cologne and departure for September 21st
- **Registration fee: €50, including**
 - Two nights' accommodation at the conference venue Monastery of Steinfeld (From September 18th to 19th and 19th to 20th)
 - All meals during the conference
 - Transportation to the venue (detailed schedule available under "Shuttle bus to the conference venue")

- **Recommended accommodation for September 17th to 18th**

Due to a large fair taking place in Cologne during the conference period, securing accommodation in the city centre become both challenging and costly. As an alternative, we **recommend lodging at the conference venue, Kloster Steinfeld, on September 17th**. The rate for a double room, inclusive of breakfast, is 122 Euros per night. Additionally, a shuttle bus to the venue will be arranged for the evening of September 17th. Please be aware that this night has to be SELF-PAID.

- **Recommended accommodation for September 20th to 21st**

If you are considering exploring Cologne city over the weekend or planning to take a flight on Saturday, here are some accommodation suggestions for your stay on September 20th:

- [Dorint Essentials Hotel](#) – located close to MPIPZ, we can assist in arranging a SELF-PAID night with a favourable rate (double room 104 euros incl. breakfast). Please indicate "YES" in the Lime Survey if you would like to take this option

Other Hotels Near Cologne Centre Station (up to 10min walking)

- Station Backpacker's Hostel – can be booked via Booking/Hostelworld or other websites
- [Ibis Hotel am Dom](#) – very central, good business price
- [Hotel Arde Cologne Center](#)
- [Merian Hotel Köln](#)

Not Near Cologne Centre Station, but with Convenient Public Transport Access

- [Hotel Flandrischer Hof](#) – in the heart of Cologne, good business price
- [Motel One Köln-Neumarkt](#) – central, good price, high standard

- **Transport from and to Cologne Centre Station**

Transportation from Cologne Bonn Airport (CGN) or Dusseldorf Airport (DUS) to the city centre of Cologne is convenient and readily available. You can either take a taxi directly from the airport or use the public transport.

If you opt for public transport, trains operate 24 hours a day. You can buy tickets online (<https://int.bahn.de/en>) or at the ticket machines at the airport station. The machines support English and 5 other languages. When purchasing your ticket, you will need to specify your final destination, i.e., Köln Hbf (Cologne Central Station). You can pay with coins, credit cards (VISA and Mastercard), and debit cards (Maestro). Please note that ticket machines do NOT accept notes. Here are some public transport options available for your journey:

Travel between Cologne Bonn Airport (Köln/Bonn Flughafen) and Cologne Central Station (Köln Hbf)

- **S19**, departing every 20 min. Takes about 15 min. <https://int.bahn.de/en>
- **RE6/27**, departing every 60 min. Takes about 13 min. <https://nationalexpress.de/de/>

Travel between Dusseldorf Airport (Düsseldorf Flughafen) and Cologne Central Station (Köln Hbf)

- **RE1/5/6**, departing every 60 min. Takes about 40 min.

For a more detailed map of public transport in Cologne, please refer to:

- <https://www.kvb.koeln/fahrtinfo/liniennetzplaene.html>

- **Shuttle bus to the conference venue**

We will offer shuttles to the Monastery of Steinfeld on September 17th (for JIC and CRAG participants only) and 18th (for everyone) and back for everyone to MPIPZ on September 20th. Please note that the conference venue is located in a remote suburb with limited public transportation options. Two shuttle bus rides, each approximately 1.5 hours long will be provided. We kindly request that you arrive on time as we are unable to offer alternative pick-up services.

Shuttle Bus Schedule:

-September 17th (only for JIC and CRAG attendees)

- Departure time and meeting point will be notified later

- September 18th:

- Departure from Cologne Centre Station: 9:00 AM and 10:00 AM (CET)
- Departure from MPIPZ: 9:20 AM and 10:20 AM (CET)

- September 20th:

- Departure from the Monastery of Steinfeld to MPIPZ: 11:00 AM (CET)

- **Accommodation at Monastery of Steinfeld**

On the evenings of September 18th and 19th, PhDs and Postdocs will be accommodated in double rooms with two single beds, while PIs will have single rooms.

- **Contact information:** ecrc@lists.mpg.de.

If you require additional conference information or have any related inquiries, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

We are happy to assist you with for example questions related to

- Shuttle
- Visa documents
- Food restrictions
- Accessibility requirements at the venue
- Registration
- Scientific program

- **Scientific program (poster and screen size)**

TBA

- **Keynote speakers**

We will have keynote speakers from JIC, CRAG, and MPIPZ. A list of keynote speakers will be provided as soon as possible.

- **Wi-Fi**

MPIPZ and Monastery of Steinfeld have free Wi-Fi access throughout the stay. Login details will be provided upon arrival.