



**Religious Tourism and Pilgrimage
6th Expert Conference,
20-23 June 2014, Veszprém, Hungary**

**“Promoting and Experiencing Religious Tourism and
Pilgrimage”**

The International Journal of Religious Tourism and Pilgrimage (IJRTP) and the International Religious Tourism and Pilgrimage Research Group in association with the ATLAS Religious Tourism and Pilgrimage Special Interest Group, have been invited by the University of Pannonia, Veszprém, Hungary to organise the above conference. The aim of the meeting is to provide both empirical and personal insights into the changing nature of religion in society and to further the debate for policy-makers, practitioners and academics to consider these evolving challenges within the future development of faith tourism and pilgrimage.



Applying to Attend:

Because attendance is generously supported by the local sponsors and the University of Pannonia, the main criterion for being invited to attend is based on adherence to the theme: **“Promoting and Experiencing Religious Tourism and Pilgrimage”**

Expressions of interest should be made by submitting an Abstract of no more than 300 words (demonstrating your adherence to the conference title) to the Conference Organisers. Abstracts must be received by 31st of January 2014 and should outline the aims of the paper, methods, key findings and a short selection of related readings. If you are interested in being invited to attend, or require any further information please do not hesitate to contact members of the Organising Committee:

- Prof. Alan Clarke alanhungary@hotmail.com
- Dr. Kevin Griffin kevin.griffin@dit.ie
- Dr. Razaq Raj R.Raj@leedsmet.ac.uk
- Prof. Carlos Fernandes cfernandes@estg.ipv.pt

Publication:

Successfully reviewed full papers will be published in the *International Journal of Religious Tourism and Pilgrimage* (IJRTP). Priority will be given to papers received in advance of the conference.

Important Dates:

31.01.14	Abstract Submission Deadline
28.02.14	Notification of Acceptance to Authors
30.04.14	Submit full paper
30.05.14	Payment for Accommodation

Scientific Committee:

- Alan Clarke, University of Pannonia, Hungary
- Jonathan Edwards, Bournemouth University, UK
- Carlos Fernandes, Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestão de Viana do Castelo, Portugal
- Kevin Griffin, Dublin Institute of Technology, Dublin, Ireland
- Maureen Griffiths, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
- Katalin Lőrincz, University of Pannonia, Hungary
- Frances McGettigan, Athlone Institute of Technology, Ireland
- Nigel Morpeth, Leeds Metropolitan University, UK
- Ágnes Raffay, University of Pannonia, Hungary
- Razaq Raj, Leeds Metropolitan University, UK
- Anna Trono, University of Salento, Italy
- Roger Vaughan, Bournemouth University, UK
- Peter Wiltshier, University of Derby, UK
- Vincent Zammit, Institute of Tourism Studies, Malta

Cost:

There is no administration fee for this event. The cost for those who are invited to present a paper will be kept to an absolute minimum - circa €195 to pay for accommodation (3 nights) and food.

Background to Veszprém / location of Conference:

Veszprém is a historic city, close to Lake Balaton, in Hungary and home to the University of Pannonia's Tourism Department (<http://www.veszpreminfo.hu/en/english/english/veszprem>)

According to our ancestors, Veszprém was built on seven hills and archaeological finds prove that this area was inhabited thousands of years ago. The legend passed on through generations that the city was a favourite for the Hungarian Ruler Géza and his son, who became the country's first King István (Stephen) I with his wife Gizella. The city had its heydays around the year 1000, during the reign of the first royal couple. They established the bishopric, supported the building of St Michael's Cathedral and the Veszprém Valley Nunnery, where the robe used for crowning ceremonies is said to have been woven. Gizella donated the embroidered robe to the church of the city which resulted in it being known as the "city of queens". The right of the Veszprém bishops to crown the queens from 1216 onwards was later confirmed by a law. The cult of the beatified queen is still kept alive and strengthened by her relics kept in the Cathedral and the Gizella Days Festival recalling the historic era.

Conference Accommodation

Accommodation will be provided in *The Magister*, the University's own halls of residence. (<http://www.hotelmagister.hu/>) This modern facility lies in the greenbelt of Veszprém near the city centre. Well-equipped apartments with shower and kitchenette (containing microwave oven, refrigerator and sink) are waiting for our guests. The accommodation (single / double rooms) provides a high standard environment and is an ideal place for every kind of meeting such as conferences, banquettes and other events.

Depending on demand, study excursions will be arranged for delegates who wish to remain on after the conference. Destinations may include The ArchAbbey at Pannonhalma – the world heritage listed centre of the Benedictines or Lake Balaton and Tihany, another Abbey on the Lake.

We are happy to note that the event will be in the centre of some interesting wine producing areas.