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In all correspondence,
please refer to:

NAFO/26-170

17 July 2026

TO: All Contracting Parties;
Scientific Council Chairs;
Scientific Council Representatives; and
Designated Experts for Stock Assessments

Dear Colleagues;

Subject: NAFO Scientific Council and STACFIS Shrimp Assessment Meeting Provisional Agendas, 15–17 September 2026 in Vilnius, Lithuania

Pursuant to Rule 4.1 of the *NAFO Rules of Procedure: Scientific Council*, the Provisional Agenda for the NAFO Scientific Council and STACFIS Shrimp Assessment Meeting is hereby dispatched to Contracting Parties.

The *NAFO Scientific Council and STACFIS Shrimp Assessment Meeting* will take place 15–17 September 2026 at the Radisson Collection Astorija Conference Centre in Vilnius, Lithuania. Please find further enclosed general information regarding the meeting venue and recommended hotels.

For those Contracting Parties that are unable to attend the meeting in-person, virtual capabilities will be provided.

Yours sincerely,

Brynhildur Benediktsdóttir
Executive Secretary

BB:dbm

Enclosed: Provisional Agendas (11 pgs.) and General & Travel Information (03 pgs.)

cc: Diana González-Troncoso (Scientific Council Chair) and José De Oliveira (STACFIS Chair)

NAFO SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL AND STACFIS SHRIMP ASSESSMENT MEETING

15–17 September 2026
Vilnius, Lithuania

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Provisional Agenda

The Scientific Council Shrimp Assessment Meeting Provisional Agenda (Appendix I), the STACFIS Agenda (Appendix II), Recommendations pertaining to NAFO stocks (Appendix III), and Designated Experts for NAFO stocks (Appendix IV), are also attached.

2. Venue of the Meeting

The NAFO Scientific Council and STACFIS Shrimp Assessment Meeting will take place, 15-17 September 2026, at:

Vilnius Town Hall and Radisson Collection Astorija Conference Centre
Didžioji g. 31,
01128 Vilniaus m. sav., Lithuania

For those delegates who will be participating virtually, a Webex invitation will be circulated closer to the meeting date.

The registration will start at 0900 hrs on 15 September 2026 followed by the Opening Session at 0930 hrs.

3. Scientific Papers

Scientists submitting Research Documents (SCR Docs) and Summary Documents (SCS Docs) for consideration at the meeting are requested to submit their papers to the Secretariat Inbox on the NAFO SharePoint site prior to the meeting. The Scientific Council prescribed guidelines for the preparation of scientific papers (and assessment papers) are provided on the NAFO website. Please note that Scientific Council recommends that SCR Docs shall have an abstract of approximately 250 words.

4. Data Requirements

Designated Experts are reminded of the 2010 NIPAG **recommendation** that, for shrimp in Division 3M, *biological and CPUE data from all fleets fishing for shrimp in the area should be provided, by 01 September.*

5. Representatives, Alternates, Experts and Advisers

In accordance with Rule 1 of the *NAFO Rules of Procedure: Scientific Council*, each Contracting Party shall notify the Executive Secretary of the names of its representatives, alternates, experts and advisers who will attend the Scientific Council Meeting, before commencement of the meeting. Please also indicate whether attendance will be in-person or virtually.

NAFO SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL AND STACFIS SHRIMP ASSESSMENT MEETING

15–17 September 2026
Vilnius, Lithuania

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA – SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL SHRIMP ASSESSEMENT MEETING

15–17 September 2026
Vilnius, Lithuania

I. Opening (Chair: Diana González-Troncoso)

1. Appointment of Rapporteur
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Attendance of Observers
4. Plan of Work

II. Review of Recommendations in 2025

III. Fisheries Science (STACFIS Chair: José De Oliveira)

IV. Reference Points for stocks with full assessment in 2026

V. Formulation of Advice (see Annexes 1–3)

1. Request for Advice on TACs and Other Management Measures (Item 1, Annex I)
   a) Northern shrimp in Div. 3M
2. Requests from Coastal States (Items 5 and 6 of Annex II, item 2 of Annex III)
   a) Northern shrimp off West Greenland (Subareas 0 and 1)
   b) Northern shrimp in Denmark Strait and off East Greenland (ICES Divisions XIVb and Va)

VI. Other Matters

1. Scheduling of Future Meetings
2. Topics for Future Special Sessions
3. Other Business
   a) SSAR shrimp

VI. Adoption of Scientific Council and STACFIS Reports

VII. Adjournment

ANNEX 1. COMMISSION'S REQUEST FOR SCIENTIFIC ADVICE ON MANAGEMENT IN 2027 AND BEYOND OF CERTAIN STOCKS IN SUBAREAS 2, 3 AND 4 AND OTHER MATTERS (NAFO SCS Doc. 26/01)

Following a request from the Scientific Council, the Commission agreed that items 1 and 2 should be the priority for the June 2026 Scientific Council meeting subject to resources.

1. The Commission requests that the Scientific Council provide advice for the management of the fish stocks below according to the assessment frequency presented below. In line with the Revised NAFO Precautionary Approach Framework (COM Doc. 25-16) the Commission should be informed by the range of options and associated risks provided by the Scientific Council. The Commission will decide upon the acceptable risk level in the context of the entirety of the Scientific Council advice for each stock guided and as foreseen by the NAFO Precautionary Approach. The Commission acknowledges that full assessment cannot be run when a DE is not nominated for a stock.

Yearly basis	Two-year basis	Three-year basis	Interim Monitoring Only
Cod in Division 3M	Redfish in Division 3M Thorny skate in Divisions 3LNO Witch flounder in Divisions 3NO Redfish in Divisions 3LN Yellowtail flounder in Divisions 3LNO Northern shrimp in Division 3M White hake in Divisions 3NO American plaice in Divisions 3LNO	American plaice in Division 3M Northern shortfin squid in Subareas 3+4 Redfish in Division 3O Cod in Divisions 3NO	Subarea 6 Alfonsino Subareas 2-3 Roughhead Grenadier Capelin in Divisions 3NO

Advice should be provided using the guidance provided in **Annex A**, or using the predetermined Management Procedure in the cases where they exist (currently Greenland halibut 2+3KLMNO). For Division 3M shrimp supplementary advice in terms of fishing-days could also be considered as appropriate. To implement this schedule of assessments, the Scientific Council is requested to conduct a full assessment of these stocks as follows:

- In 2026, advice should be provided for 2027 for: Cod in Division 3M
- In 2026, advice should be provided for 2027 and 2028 for: Redfish in Division 3M, Thorny skate in Divisions 3LNO, Witch flounder in Divisions 3NO, Redfish in Divisions 3LN, Northern shrimp in Division 3M, American plaice in 3LNO.
    - With respect to Northern shrimp in Division 3M, Scientific Council is requested to provide its advice to the Commission prior to the 2026 Annual Meeting based on the survey data up to and including 2026.
- In 2026, advice should be provided for 2027, 2028 and 2029 for: American plaice in Division 3M

The Commission also requests the Scientific Council to continue to monitor the status of all other stocks annually and, should a significant change be observed in stock status (e.g. from surveys) or in bycatch in other fisheries, provide updated advice as appropriate.

2. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to monitor the status of Greenland halibut in Subarea 2 + Divisions 3KLMNO annually to compute the TAC using the agreed Management Procedure and determine whether exceptional circumstances are occurring. If exceptional circumstances are occurring, the exceptional circumstances protocol will provide guidance on what steps should be taken.

3. The Commission requests that Scientific Council, in addition to the 2026 3LN redfish stock assessment, continue to advance work on the 3LN redfish MSE processes during 2025-2026.

4. As practicable and taking into account Scientific Council capacity constraints, develop stock summary sheets for NAFO managed stocks that are evaluated using MSE processes.

5. In relation to the Ecosystem Roadmap as a whole, the Commission requests the Scientific Council, with input from the WG-EAFFM, to continue work on the development of a reference document detailing the ecosystem roadmap, for completion by the 2026 Annual Meeting.

6. In relation to the habitat impact assessment component of the Roadmap (VME and SAI analyses), the Commission requests that Scientific Council to:

    a. Continue to progress work on the centralized data repository using ArcGIS online to host the data and data-products for scientific advice, in conjunction with the NAFO Secretariat.

    b. Work towards the reassessment of VMEs and impact of bottom fisheries on VMEs for 2027; including potential management options in the reassessment of bottom fisheries.

    c. Develop materials on the potential of submitting NAFO coral bottom fishing closed areas as OECMs for discussion at the 2026 WG-EAFFM meeting.

7. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to continue to develop reference points to facilitate the implementation of the Revised NAFO Precautionary Approach Framework, for stocks that currently do not have them.

8. In relation to its workload, the Commission requests the Scientific Council to continue to update the 3-5 year work plan, which reflects requests arising from the 2025 Annual Meeting, other multi-year stock assessments and other scientific inquiries already planned for the near future and, as much as possible, monitor and estimate future workload.

9. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to explore the development of a sampling plan to conduct selectivity trials in the cod fishery in 3M. The objective is to collect data to test the effectiveness and impact of using sorting grids to improve the selectivity of cod and other species.

10. The Commission requests the Scientific Council, as workload allows, in consultation with the NAFO Secretariat, to draft a scoping document for a potential in-person meeting to explore approaches for further integrating information related to climate change throughout Scientific Council operations. This scoping document should identify the scientific expertise needed both within and outside Scientific Council and potential financial and workload implications.

11. Considering a new science and management framework for Northern shrimp in Divisions 2J3KLNO (SSAR) developed and peer-reviewed by Canada, which includes NAFO divisions 3LNO, the Commission tasks the Scientific Council to assess and consider the operational model underlining the MSE developed for the SSAR stock of shrimp by Canada. This assessment will be presented to the Commission at the 2026 Annual Meeting to inform management decisions.

12. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to consider a plan for carrying out benchmark assessments and include this in the 3-5 year work plan.

ANNEX A: Guidance for providing advice on Stocks Assessed

The Commission requests the Scientific Council to consider the following in assessing and projecting future stock levels for those stocks listed above. These evaluations should provide the information necessary for the Commission to consider the balance between risks and yield levels, in determining its management of these stocks:

Stochastic short-term projections (3 years) should be performed with the F levels that are included in the risk table from the Revised PA Framework (Table 1 below), based on the point estimate of biomass. The first year of the projection should assume a catch equal to the agreed TAC for that year. In instances where Scientific Council expects catches to be significantly different from the agreed TAC, an additional projection could be provided based on the best available catch estimation.

In relation to Tier 1 of the Roadmap Scientific Council should provide annually catch information in relation to 2TCI, including recent cumulative catch levels and a scoping of expected cumulative catch levels. Ecosystem summary sheets should be monitored annually and updated on a five-year cycle.

For stocks assessed with a production model, the advice should include updated time series or plots of:

- Catch and TAC of recent years
- Catch to relative biomass
- Relative Biomass
- Relative Fishing mortality
- Stock trajectory against precautionary approach reference points

For stock assessed with an age-structured model, information should be provided on stock size, spawning stock sizes, recruitment prospects, historical fishing mortality. Graphs and/or tables should be provided for all of the following for the longest time-period possible:

- historical yield and fishing mortality;
- spawning stock biomass and recruitment levels;
- Stock trajectory against precautionary approach reference points

For stocks for which only general biological and/or catch data are available, few standard criteria exist on which to base advice. The stock status should be evaluated in the context of management requirements for long-term sustainability and the advice provided should be consistent with the precautionary approach.

The following graphs should be presented for the longest time-period possible:

- catch and TAC of recent years
- length distributions
- time trends of survey abundance estimates
- an age or size range chosen to represent the spawning population
- an age or size-range chosen to represent the exploited population
- recruitment proxy or index for an age or size-range chosen to represent the recruiting population.
- fishing mortality proxy, such as the ratio of reported commercial catches to a measure of the exploited population.
- stock trajectory against precautionary approach reference points

In all cases any additional information the Scientific Council deems appropriate should be provided.

Table 1. The Revised NAFO Precautionary Approach Framework risk table.

y current year (year in which the assessment is made, data until year y-1)

	Yield			$P(F>F_{lim})$			$P(B<B_{lim})$				$P(F>F_{target})$			$P(B<B_{trigger})$				P(By+3 > By)	(By+3-By)/By
F in y+1 and following years	Yield y (50%)	Yield y+1 (50%)	Yield y+2 (50%)	y	y+1	y+2	y	y+1	y+2	y+3	y	y+1	y+2	y	y+1	y+2	y+3		
Critical Zone																			
F=0	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
F=X% current*	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
F current	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cautious Zone																			
F lower edge leaf	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
F midrib leaf	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
F upper edge leaf	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Healthy Zone																			
$F=0.75F_{msy}$	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
$F_{target}=0.85F_{msy}$	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
$F_{lim}=F_{msy}$	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

*X% may vary stock by stock. In the future, this framework may be modified to include F bycatch.
The number of years in the risk projections table will be the same as the years of advice.

ANNEX 2. DENMARK (ON BEHALF OF GREENLAND) COASTAL STATE REQUEST FOR SCIENTIFIC ADVICE- 2027

(from SCS Doc. 26/03)

Denmark (on behalf of Greenland) (hereafter Greenland) hereby request scientific advice on management in 2027 of certain stocks in NAFO Subareas 0 and 1. Greenland requests the Scientific Council for advice on the following species:

1. Golden Redfish and Demersal Deep-Sea Redfish

Advice on Golden redfish (*Sebastes norvegicus*) and demersal deep-sea redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) in Subarea 1 was given in June 2023 for 2024 and beyond. The Scientific Council is requested to provide catch advice for 2027 to 2029.

2. Atlantic Wolffish and Spotted Wolffish

Advice on Atlantic Wolffish (*Anarhichas lupus*) and Spotted Wolffish (*Anarhichas minor*) in Subarea 1 was given in June 2023 for 2024-2026. The Scientific Council is requested to provide catch advice for 2027 to 2029.

3. Greenland Halibut, Offshore

Advice on Greenland Halibut, Offshore in Subareas 0 and 1 was given in 2025 for 2026 and 2027. The Scientific Council is requested to continue its monitoring of the stock and provide updated advice in the event of significant changes in stock levels.

In addition, Greenland specifically requests the catch scenarios for 35.328 tonnes (F_{MSY} 2026) and F_{target} be updated for 2027-2029, with associated probability that biomass in the end of 2027-2029 is lower than 1) $B_{trigger}$ and 2) B_{lim}, i.e. p($B<B_{trigger}$) and p($B<B_{lim}$).

4. Greenland Halibut, Inshore, West Greenland

Advice on the inshore stocks of Greenland Halibut in Subarea 1 was given in 2024 for 2025-2026. The Scientific Council is requested to provide advice on catch levels for Subarea 1 in division 1A, inshore (Disko Bay, Uummannaq and Upernavik) for 2027 and 2028.

5. Northern Shrimp, West Greenland

Greenland requests the Scientific Council to provide, before November 2026, advice on the scientific basis for management of Northern Shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) in Subareas 0 and 1 in 2027. The advice should be in line with Greenland's stated management objective of maintaining a mortality risk of no more than 35% of exceeding Z_{msy} in the first-year prediction, and to provide a catch option table ranging with 5,000 t increments. Future catch options should be provided for as many years as data allows for. Results should include risk analysis of biomass falling below B_{msy}, $B_{trigger}$ and B_{lim}.

6. Northern Shrimp, East Greenland

Scientific Council is requested to provide advice on the scientific basis for management of Northern Shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) in Denmark Strait and adjacent waters east of southern Greenland in 2027 for as many years ahead as data allows. Scientific Council is requested to give a catch advice at a level corresponding to $F_{target.}$ Results should include a catch option table ranging with 500 t increments, including risk analysis of fishing mortality falling below F_{msy}, F_{target} and biomass below B_{msy}, $B_{trigger}$ and B_{lim}.

ANNEX 3. CANADA'S COASTAL STATE REQUEST TO NAFO'S SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC ADVICE – 2027

(from SCS Doc. 26/02)

Canada would like to submit its request to NAFO's Scientific Council for advice on the following two species:

1. Greenland halibut (Subarea 0 + 1 (offshore))

Canada requests that the Scientific Council monitor the status of Greenland halibut (Subarea 0 + 1 (offshore), and, should a significant change be observed (e.g., based on results from surveys or commercial catch data), provide updated advice as appropriate, in the same format that was done in 2025 (i.e., updating the risk table in the new NAFO PA framework). A significant change would be considered the realized catch data far exceeding the set TAC level despite normal fishing effort or if the survey index is far below the projected index.

2. Northern shrimp (Subarea 1 and Division 0A)

Canada requests that the Scientific Council consider the following options in assessing and projecting future stock levels for Northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) in Subarea 1 and Division 0A:

The status of the stock should be determined and risk-based advice provided for catch options corresponding to Z_{msy} in 5,000t increments with forecasts for 2027 to 2029 (inclusive). These options should be evaluated in relation to Canada's Harvest Strategy (2022 revised version attached) and NAFO's Revised Precautionary Approach Framework.

Presentation of the results should include graphs and/or tables related to the following:

- Historical and current yield, biomass relative to B_{msy}, total mortality relative to Z_{msy}, and recruitment (or proxy) levels for the longest time period possible;
- Total mortality (Z) and fishable biomass for a range of projected catch options (as noted above) for the years 2027 to 2029. Projections should include both catch options and a range of effective cod predation biomass levels considered appropriate by the Scientific Council. Results should include risk analyses of falling below: B_{msy}, 80% B_{msy} and B_{lim} (30% B_{msy}), and of being above Z_{msy} based on the 3-year projections, consistent with the Harvest Decision Rules in Canada's Harvest Strategy; and
- Total area fished for the longest time period possible.

Please provide the advice relative to Canada's Harvest Strategy as part of the formal advice (i.e., grey box in the advice summary sheet).

APPENDIX II. PROVISIONAL AGENDA – STACFIS

15–17 September 2026

I. Opening (José De Oliveira)

1. Appointment of Rapporteur
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Plan of Work

II. General Review

1. Review of Recommendations in 2025
2. Review of Catches

III. Stock Assessments

1. Northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) on the Flemish Cap (NAFO Division 3M) (Full assessment)
2. Northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) off West Greenland (NAFO Subarea 0 and Subarea 1) (Full assessment)
3. Northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) in the Denmark Strait and off East Greenland (ICES Divisions XIVb and Va) (Full assessment)

IV. Other Business

1. FIRMS Classification for NAFO Shrimp Stocks

V. Adjournment

APPENDIX III. RELEVANT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Northern Shrimp in Division 3M

NIPAG **recommended** in 2016 that *further exploration of the relationship between shrimp, cod and the environment be continued in WGESA and NIPAG encourages the shrimp experts to be involved in this work.*

STATUS: No progress from last year. This recommendation is reiterated.

STACFIS **recommends** *a workshop be scheduled to advance the work being done on aging*.

STACFIS **recommends** that *an estimation of potential reference points be explored.*

STACFIS **recommends** *exploration of a quantitative model for this stock.*

2. Northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis)* off West Greenland (NAFO SA 0 and SA 1)

SC **recommends** that *the value of F_{msy} be calculated before the September 2026 Scientific Council Shrimp Assessment Meeting. If possible, the F_{msy} value can be examined during the May 2025 PA-WG meeting with the results of the current assessment.*

Scientific Council **recommends** that *the projection table should be given in projected catch increments of no less than 5 Kt due to uncertainty in calculating risk levels.*

STACFIS **recommends** the *continued development of reference points consistent with the NAFO PA Framework, notably F_{msy}.*

STACFIS **recommends** *increasing commercial sampling of catch composition to cover both Canadian and Greenlandic fleets.*

In progress. Sampling has occurred since 2022 in the Greenlandic fleets and the results were presented at the meeting. Whenever catches in Canadian SFA 1 are realized, sampling for size determination is advised.

STACFIS **recommends** *developing a joint Canadian and Greenlandic sampling program to determine predation pressure from various fish species.*

This has been completed

STACFIS **recommends** *exploring the effects of the borrowing and banking system on the sustainability of the stock.*

Results from this analysis were presented at the meeting. Even if there is a borrowing and banking system, the Greenlandic TAC is not exceeded.

STACFIS **recommends** that *a benchmark be undertaken for this stock in the next few years.*

This recommendation is reiterated.

STACFIS **recommends** *the continued development of reference points consistent with the NAFO PA Framework.*

3. Northern shrimp in the Denmark Strait and off East Greenland (ICES Div. 14b and 5a)

STACFIS **recommends** *commercial sampling of catch composition.*

In progress. Sampling has occurred since 2023 from both international and Greenlandic fleets. Results were presented at the meeting.

STACFIS **recommends** *exploration of the use of SPiCT for two and three year projections.*

In progress. Results were presented at the meeting. This recommendation is reiterated.

STACFIS **recommends** *exploration of available historical data from the east Greenland stock.*

This recommendation is reiterated.

STACFIS **recommends** *development of possible harvest control rules for this fishery.*

This recommendation is reiterated.

APPENDIX IV. DESIGNATED EXPERTS FOR PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF CERTAIN NAFO STOCKS

The following is the list of Designated Experts for 2026 assessments:

From the Instituto Español de Oceanografia, Aptdo 1552, E-36200 Vigo (Pontevedra), Spain

Northern shrimp in Division 3M	José Miguel Casas Sánchez	mikel.casas@ieo.csic.es

From the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources, P. O. Box 570, DK-3900 Nuuk, Greenland

Northern shrimp in Subarea 0+1	AnnDorte Burmeister	anndorte@natur.gl
Northern shrimp in Denmark Strait	Tanja B. Buch	TaBb@natur.gl

NAFO SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL AND STACFIS SHRIMP ASSESSMENT MEETING

15–17 September 2026
Vilnius, Lithuania

General Information

Meeting Venue

The **NAFO Scientific Council and STACFIS Shrimp Assessment Meeting** will be held at:

Radisson Collection Astorija Hotel, Vilnius
Didžioji g. 35-2,
Vilnius, 01128
Lithuania

Hotel Accommodations

The following is a list of recommended hotels in walking distance of the meeting venue:

Radisson Collection Astorija – ★★★★★
An elegant five-star hotel located in the heart of Vilnius Old Town, combining historic architecture with modern comfort and offering beautiful rooftop views of the city.
Double room from ~176 EUR/night | Distance ~20 m | ~1 min walk
https://www.radissonhotels.com/lt-lt/hotels/radisson-collection-vilnius-astorija

St. Palace Hotel – ★★★★
A stylish boutique hotel situated in a historic building in the Old Town, offering modern comfort and a convenient location close to major attractions.
Double room from ~135 EUR/night | Distance ~300 m | ~3 min walk
https://stpalace.lt/en/

Narutis Hotel – ★★★★★
A historic luxury hotel located on Pilies Street in the Old Town, known for its classic interior, elegant atmosphere, and long-standing hospitality tradition.
Double room from ~213 EUR/night | Distance ~350 m | ~5 min walk
https://narutis.com/lt/

Imperial Hotel – ★★★★★
A refined boutique hotel in the Old Town featuring elegant rooms, classic décor, and high-quality service in a quiet yet central location.
Double room from ~216 EUR/night | Distance ~120 m | ~2 min walk
https://imperialvilnius.lt/

Amberton Cathedral Square – ★★★★
A centrally located hotel overlooking Cathedral Square, offering comfortable accommodation and easy access to the main historical landmarks of Vilnius.
Double room from ~75 EUR/night | Distance ~600 m | ~8 min walk
https://ambertonhotels.com/vilnius/

Stikliai Hotel – ★★★★★
A charming luxury hotel located in a historic building in the Old Town, known for its romantic atmosphere, individually designed rooms, and cozy courtyard.
Double room from ~290 EUR/night | Distance ~300 m | ~4 min walk
https://www.stikliai.com/lt/

Artis Centrum Hotel – ★★★★
A comfortable hotel located in a renovated 19th-century building in the Old Town, offering spacious rooms and convenient access to the city's main sights.
Double room from ~106 EUR/night | Distance ~750 m | ~10 min walk
https://artis.centrumhotels.com/

Artagonist Art Hotel – ★★★★
A unique boutique hotel combining contemporary art and historic architecture, located in a quiet street in the Old Town.
Double room from ~140 EUR/night | Distance ~300 m | ~4 min walk
https://www.artagonist.lt/en/

Pacai Hotel – ★★★★★
A luxurious boutique hotel located in a restored 17th-century mansion in the heart of the Old Town, known for its elegant design and top-tier service.
Double room from ~282 EUR/night | Distance ~450 m | ~6 min walk
https://www.hotelpacai.com/lt

Hotel Congress – ★★★★
A modern hotel located near the Neris River and Gediminas Avenue, within walking distance of the Old Town and many cultural attractions.
Double room from ~140 EUR/night | Distance ~1.1 km | ~15 min walk
https://www.congress.lt/

Hotel Novotel Vilnius Centre – ★★★★
A contemporary hotel situated on Gediminas Avenue, offering comfortable accommodation and convenient access to shops, restaurants, and the Old Town.
Double room from ~130 EUR/night | Distance ~900 m | ~12 min walk
https://all.accor.com/hotel/5209/index.en.shtml

Travel Information

Visa Information

Lithuania is part of the **Schengen Area**, which applies a common visa policy for short-term travel. Participants from some countries may need a **Schengen short-stay visa (Type C)** to enter Lithuania.

A Schengen visa allows stays of **up to 90 days within a 180-day period** within the Schengen Area.

Participants who require a visa are advised to apply well in advance through the **Lithuanian embassy or consulate** in their country of residence.

Further information on visa requirements and application procedures is available on the European Commission website:

https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/schengen/visa-policy_en

https://in.mfa.lt/en/coming-to-lithuania/visas/documents-to-be-submitted-by-all-applicants-for-short-stay-visa-c-schengen-visa/116

Getting to the City Centre from Vilnius Airport

Vilnius International Airport (VNO) is located approximately **6 km from the city centre**. The journey to the Old Town typically takes **15–25 minutes**.

Taxi, Ride-hailing services

Taxis and ride-hailing services such as **Bolt** or **Uber** are available outside the airport terminal. The trip to the Old Town usually takes about **15 minutes**, depending on traffic, and typically costs around **15 EUR**.

Public bus

Several public bus routes connect the airport with the city centre. **Bus routes 1, 2, and 88** run regularly and stop near the Old Town. The journey usually takes **20–25 minutes**.

As the **event venue and most recommended hotels are located in the very centre of the Old Town**, it is generally more convenient to stay **without a car**, as most locations can easily be reached **on foot within a few minutes**.

Tourist Information

Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, is a vibrant European city known for its charming Old Town – one of the largest and best-preserved medieval old towns in Northern Europe and a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. The historic centre is characterized by picturesque streets, baroque architecture, and a welcoming atmosphere. The Old Town is compact and highly walkable, making it easy to reach most important locations within a short distance.