



International Travel to Venezuela

From international origins, it is recommended that you fly into the Caracas airport, located at Maiquetía and called Aeropuerto Internacional Simon Bolivar (CCS). Upon arrival at the airport, you are required to go through customs. After customs, you will collect your checked baggage. **VERY IMPORTANT** – Do not discard the checked baggage stubs, as you are required to show these to security prior to leaving the baggage area. Once you are through the baggage area, please look for directional signage or WHOC hostess staff. There will also be a WHOC welcome desk in the airport. Subject to hours of arrival, WHOC hostess staff will be available at the Caracas airport to assist you in confirming your connecting flight and checking your baggage.

All flights from Caracas to the Del Caribe General Santiago Mariño airport (PMV), located in Porlamar on Margarita Island, depart from the National Airport, located in an adjoining terminal. **DO NOT WALK OUTSIDE TO THIS TERMINAL; TAKE ONLY THE WHOC-MARKED VEHICLES.** It is worth noting that as soon as you are in the main airport reception area, taxi drivers will pursue your business. Please ignore these people, and **NEVER GET INTO A TAXI OR OTHER VEHICLE WHERE YOU DO NOT ALREADY KNOW THE DRIVER AND/OR IS ENDORSED BY A REPUTABLE KNOWN 3rd PARTY.**

If your flight to Caracas arrives late in the evening with your flight to Margarita Island occurring the following day, you may wish to stay overnight in the hotel adjacent to the Caracas airport. Be sure to ask the hotel to send a car, and do not take taxis to the hotel.

Eurobuilding Express Maiquetia Hotel ([Google Maps link](#))
Av. La Armada, Urb. 10 de Marzo, La Guaira, Venezuela
T: +58 (212) 700.07.00

If you have an existing flight booking to Barcelona/Puerto La Cruz, and your flight does not stop in Caracas, you will need to contact the airline directly and switch your flight destination to the Margarita Island airport. You can contact Conviasa directly at www.conviasa.aero.

Flights to Margarita Island and Airport Departure Fees

Subject to hours of arrival, there will be WHOC representatives at the Caracas airport to assist you in transferring to the national airport terminal and help you check in for your connecting flight to Margarita Island. Air travel between Caracas and Margarita Island will be with Conviasa Airlines, www.conviasa.aero.

Conviasa has been contracted to provide complimentary flights for all official and registered WHOC delegates and exhibitors with pre-existing flights between the Caracas and Margarita Island airports. In order to ensure a flight reservation is made for you, we must have full flight information for your flight arriving to the Caracas airport as well as your flight departing the Caracas airport after the Congress. In this information, we require date and time of arrival and departure and flight numbers. Please click on the following link to provide the flight detail information: [flight schedule information form](#).

There are airport taxes for all departing national and international flights. Before proceeding through security you will be required to pay 27.50 Bolivars at the taxation kiosk which is levied for domestic travel within the country. 27.50 Bolivars is US\$13.90. You must have cash, as credit cards are not accepted. The Departure fee for international flights is currently 137.50 Bolivars and will be levied prior to boarding your flight to leave Venezuela. Again, you must have adequate cash in order to gain your boarding pass and these fees are subject to change.

Travel between Puerto La Cruz and Margarita Island

Local residents of Puerto La Cruz may elect to travel by air between the Barcelona airport (BLA) and the Margarita Island airport at Porlamar (PMV). Contact Conviasa Airlines, or visit www.conviasa.aero for details.

Ferry service operates daily between the mainland at Puerto La Cruz and the Margarita Island port of Punta de Piedras. 'Conventional' ferry service departs daily from Puerto La Cruz, and takes two hours, while 'express' service takes 3-4 hours. Visit www.conferry.com for details.

Ground Transportation and Security on Margarita Island

The safety of all delegates during their visit is a primary focus of the organizers, as well as the government of Venezuela. Security at airports, official hotels and the conference venue will be highly visible. For your personal safety, **DO NOT** take taxis or public transit anywhere. The Congress will supply shuttle transportation between Margarita Island airport and ferry port, the official hotels and the Congress venue.

Also for your personal safety, **DO NOT** walk outside of your hotel complex. It is highly recommended you take shuttle buses, care service or hotel shuttles to your destination. For your personal safety, all hotels and the venue have excellent security.

Time Zones

In the Venezuelan time zone VET, the local time offset from UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) is -4.5 hours. To compare your city's time to the local time in Venezuela, consult the Caracas time listing on the [world clock list](#). Daylight savings is not observed in Venezuela, so please note that as of November 1, the local Venezuelan time will not change, but the hour conversion to your home time zone may change.

Currency in Venezuela

The official currency in Venezuela is the Bolivar. The official exchange rate is 2.15 Bolivars to US \$1. While hotels take major credit cards, you should carry a small amount of US cash. ATMs or automated banking machines are available at the airports and hotels – as with all regions, please be aware of your surroundings when withdrawing cash.

Vaccinations and Medications

Before visiting Venezuela, you may need to get specific vaccinations and medications for vaccine-preventable diseases and other diseases you might be at risk for at your destination. (Note: Your health-care provider will determine what you may need, depending on factors such as your health and immunization history, areas of the country to be visited, and planned activities.) Even if you have less than 4 weeks before you leave, you should still consult a health-care provider or travel medicine specialist for needed vaccines, anti-malaria drugs and other medications and information on how to protect yourself from illness while traveling.

What is a Venezuelan visa?

A Venezuela visa is a stamp or endorsement placed on a passport by Venezuelan officials, which allows the bearer to visit Venezuela. Visas are obtained from the Embassy or consulates of Venezuela for your visit. "Visit" is further defined as the reason for entry, usually business, tourist transitory. Over 270 countries offer visas and literally thousands of different types are available based upon country, type and duration of visit. In contrast, a passport is an official government document that certifies one's identity and citizenship.