

ITC TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION: GETTING TO LA CASA DE MARIA CONFERENCE SITE

Thank you for registering for the International Theosophy Conference, August 11-14, 2016. The ITC Conference site is **La Casa de Maria, 800 El Bosque Road**, in the small town of Montecito on the southern edge of Santa Barbara. It is two (2) miles from U.S. Highway 101 and approximately 90 miles north of Los Angeles. It is accessible in the rolling hills of Montecito by car or taxi—there is no direct bus or regular shuttle service.

Please note:

- La Casa de Maria is not close to downtown Santa Barbara or the Santa Barbara Airport. It is quite a bike ride from downtown.
- Keep La Casa de Maria's address handy (**800 El Bosque Road, Montecito**)—some providers do not know La Casa de Maria's newer specific location by memory.
- **If you desire an ITC volunteer pickup from a transportation hub once you arrive in Santa Barbara, please fill out the attached, two page "International Theosophy Conference Transportation Form" and email it to Carolyn Dorrance at coordinator@theosophysb.org by June 15.**

ITC volunteers will provide transportation from the Santa Barbara Airport, Santa Barbara Air Bus "Santa Barbara/Hyatt Hotel" shuttle stop, or from the Amtrak Santa Barbara train station to La Casa de Maria and back if requested on the accompanying two-page transformation form.

Transportation Options

There are several transportation options. The easiest is to fly into Santa Barbara Airport, and be picked up by an ITC volunteer or take a taxi from the Airport to La Casa (information included on accompanying sheet). Or you can arrive by car with directions below. You can also take a train from the Burbank Airport or areas north of Santa Barbara. Be aware it is very dark after 9:00 p.m. when navigating Montecito roads.

SANTA BARBARA AIRPORT

- Flying in and arriving at the Santa Barbara Airport. For those wishing ITC pickup from the Airport directly to La Casa, please specify your transportation schedule on the enclosed form. Transportation will be provided within 60-minute intervals beginning August 10 (day before the conference) at 8:30 AM through early the next morning at 12:30 AM on August 11 and commencing again at 8:30 AM August 11. Please specify your date of arrival, plane and flight number, and expected time of arrival in Santa Barbara on the enclosed form. We will email you back to confirm receipt of your arrival plans. If you have changes or emergencies arise, please email coordinator@theosophysb.org or call Jonathan Colbert (1-805-701-2006).

DRIVING FROM LOS ANGELES

- Renting a car at LAX and driving the approximately 90 miles from Los Angeles to Santa Barbara. It is a nice ride once out of Los Angeles. Traffic can be intense out of the Los

Angeles area especially in the 3 PM to 7 PM time period. Driving north from Los Angeles, find and take Interstate 405 North and then exit left onto U.S. Highway 101 North. Approximately 90 miles later take the U.S. 101 Exit 93/San Ysidro Road off-ramp in Montecito (do not proceed to downtown Santa Barbara). The drive from Los Angeles takes about two-hours. Driving south from San Francisco, take Highway 101 South, passing through downtown Santa Barbara. Take US 101 Exit 93/San Ysidro Road in Montecito. At the top of the off-ramp turn left and travel toward the mountains.

- Go one mile up San Ysidro Road (toward the mountains) to the second traffic signal light at East Valley Road (Hwy. 192). Turn right. Proceed about 2/10 of a mile to El Bosque Road on your left. Turn left and follow El Bosque Rd. The road ends at the entrance to La Casa de Maria. There are signs just inside the main entrance that direct you to the Registration Office (to the right).

AIRBUS SHUTTLE FROM LAX

- There is a commercial Santa Barbara Air Bus Shuttle from LAX (Los Angeles International Airport) that leaves at *designated* pick up times from LAX and goes to Santa Barbara. The shuttle stop closest to La Casa de Maria is its “Santa Barbara” stop at the Hyatt Hotel (not the final stop). La Casa is about four (4) miles north. Pre-arranged pickup by ITC volunteers or a taxi to La Casa is needed. (See accompanying form for Air Bus Section to be filled and emailed if ITC volunteer pickup is desired).
- For more information, pricing, and reservations from LAX to SB on the Santa Barbara Air Bus go to sbairbus.com or call 1-800-423-1618. It is wise but not necessary to reserve and buy a ticket in the summer months.

AMTRAK TRAIN SERVICE

Note: There is no direct train service from LAX to Santa Barbara. Burbank Airport (BUR), a suburb adjacent to Los Angeles, has train service to Santa Barbara. An Amtrak train can be picked up at the Burbank Airport at certain limited, designated times. The trip has many stops. Allow at least three hours for the trip to Santa Barbara.

The Amtrak station in Santa Barbara is located at 209 State Street, about five (5) miles from La Casa. An ITC volunteer can pick you up at the train station or you may take a taxi. Reservations should be made in advance. Business class is recommended. See www.amtrak.com for schedules and reservations.

Please Note: The volunteers will do their best to pick up and drop off guests in a timely manner. However, at certain times of the day and evening, the main highway through Santa Barbara can be clogged with rush hour traffic or construction work. We will appreciate your patience and will keep in communication with scheduled arrivals if necessary.

Have a good journey, and we look forward to seeing you in Montecito for the ITC Conference!

Warm fraternal regards,
Carolyn Dorrance