



SPA 2011

Software Practice Advancement Conference

JOINING INSTRUCTIONS

VENUE

SPA2011 will take place at The BCS's London Offices (see <http://www.bcs.org/maps> for maps)

The full address of the venue is

BCS London Office
First Floor
The Davidson Building
5 Southampton Street
London
WC2E 7HA

Telephone: 01793 417 666
Email admin@spaconference.org

TRAVEL TO THE VENUE

Please see third page for full details of how to reach the venue by public transport.

We would not advise driving to the venue as parking is very expensive in central London and most journeys would be far quicker by public transport.

Overseas visitors:

As the venue is in Central London, overseas visitors have a wide range of travel options.

For those travelling from Europe, the Eurostar service arrives at St Pancras International station in North London. A short journey on the underground (Piccadilly line) will bring you to Covent Garden station, which is a few minutes walk from BCS London.

Good public transport links exist from all the London Airports, with London Heathrow airport probably presenting the most straightforward journey to the venue. Train/Underground travel is by far the most cost effective means of getting around. London taxis ("black cabs") offer comfort and reasonable value over short distances, but a journey from Heathrow is likely to be around £50 possibly more if traffic is bad.

REGISTRATION

Upon arrival at The Davidson Building each day, you will need tick your name off on the list held at the security desk – before then proceeding to the first floor where you can register for the conference. At registration, you will be given your copy of the event documentation and administrative information.

Registration on Sunday 16th is from 12.00 and from 8:30am on each of Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for participants arriving for the first time on those days. Participants who have registered on previous days need not register again (although they will still need to "sign in") – but please do remember to bring your conference badge each day.

ACCOMMODATION

As SPA2011 is NOT a residential conference, participants will need to either make a hotel booking or travel to the event each day. While we are not able to make any specific hotel recommendations, participants may wish to note that our evening activities are taking place at The Strand Palace Hotel (<http://www.strandpalacehotel.co.uk>). Alternatively the Imperial, President and Bedford hotels (see <http://www.imperialhotels.co.uk/>) are reasonable compared to the Strand Palace (£135) and only 5 minutes away (visiting BCS staff often stay at the President - £77 - which is cheap and clean).

MEALS AND REFRESHMENTS

Lunch is provided on each of the days, including Sunday for those arriving for the 1pm sessions. If you have any special dietary requirements that you did not indicate at the time of booking, please let us know asap. Tea, Coffee and water will be available throughout the day.

A Hot buffet will be available on Monday and Tuesday evenings as part of the evening conference activities.

On Sunday evening no food is being laid on, but we are planning to have a number of groups organised each of which will visit a local restaurant thus giving chance for participants to purchase an evening meal and to meet each other.

INSURANCE

The BCS, SPA Specialist Group nor the conference administrators can accept any responsibility for the loss of, or damage to participants' personal possessions while attending the event. We therefore recommend that you make your own insurance arrangements.

BCS London has a cloakroom which is unmanned – coats & bags left there are at the delegates own risk.

DRESS CODE, DIVERSIONS ETC

The dress code at SPA is casual and the centre is a warm venue. Our evening social activities are taking place in The Strand Palace hotel which is just a few seconds walk from BCS London. There is a treasure hunt organised for the Monday evening and delegates wishing to take part in that are advised to ensure they have suitable clothing.

We hope you will enjoy SPA2011 and look forward to meeting you at the conference. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries relating to your participation.

London office guide

How to get to the BCS London office

First Floor
The Davidson Building
5 Southampton Street
London WC2E 7HA

Telephone 01793 417666

These area and inset maps have been simplified in the interests of ease of understanding. Not all roads are shown. The inset map below is more accurate.

Access by car is very difficult due to the local one-way system. There are no car parking facilities at BCS London. The nearest car park is located on Drury lane, Parker Street, Parker Mews, London, WC2B 5NT.

The rear door in Exeter Street is to be used for deliveries only and is normally locked.

The main entrance is fully accessible to wheelchair users and should be used by all staff and visitors.

On arrival, report to the Davidson Building Reception who will direct you to the first floor.

Travel tips from major London stations

Charing Cross – 6 minutes walk

Waterloo – 12 minutes walk across Waterloo Bridge, or buses 139 or 176 to Stop C

London Bridge – onward rail link to Charing Cross

Kings Cross or St Pancras – Piccadilly Line to Covent Garden tube, or bus 91 to Stop B

Euston – West End Branch of Northern Line to Charing Cross, or bus 91 to Stop B

Victoria (rail and coach stations) – Circle Line to Embankment, but the most direct journey is via bus 11 to Stop A

Paddington – Circle Line to Embankment or Temple, or buses 15 or 23 to Stop A

Liverpool St – Circle Line to Embankment or Temple, or buses 11 or 23 westbound

Fenchurch St – Walk to Tower Hill, then District or Circle to Embankment

