



## FIRST CALL

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### XI International Dormouse Conference 2022 9 - 13 May 2022, Svilengrad, BULGARIA

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**We would like to invite you to the next International Dormouse Conference – from the 9th until the 13th of May 2022, that will be held in Svilengrad, Bulgaria – a small town in the core of the distribution area of the Mouse-tailed Dormouse.**

The conference will take place at the Cultural Centre in the centre of the town. Svilengrad is a historical city along the river Maritsa at the crossroads of an important motorway linking Sofia (Bulgaria), Istanbul (Turkey) and Alexandroupolis (Greece).

The International Dormouse Conference (IDC) is being organised every three years to gather for four days scientists and conservationists to share findings and ideas on the research and conservation of the dormouse species. A mid-conference field trip, part of the conference programme, provides opportunities to get acquainted with the species ecology and habitats in different areas. Due to the Covid19 pandemic the conference is postponed from 2020 to 2022.

### The welcoming city of Svilengrad

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[Svilengrad](#) is a city with an old history along the river Maritsa at the point where the borders of Bulgaria, Turkey and Greece meet. The town is founded on the ruins of an ancient Thracian settlement. Later the Romans build a settlement serving the road connecting Philippopolis (Plovdiv) and Adrianople (Edirne) in the Roman Empire.

Svilengrad is one of the largest road customs in Europe and an important gate to the EU. Svilengrad is connected with a highway to [Sofia](#) and [Plovdiv](#), which continues to [Edirne](#) and [Istanbul](#) in Turkey, and to [Alexandroupolis](#) in Greece.

[Maritsa](#) river, which flows through the town, crosses a wide valley dividing the two mountain ranges [Sakar](#) and the [Rhodope](#) mountains. Both mountains host a rich biological diversity and are declared as NATURA 2000 areas. Due to the suitable climate the region is famous also for its wines and wine [estates](#).

Svilengrad has a friendly pedestrian zone with small cafes, bars and shops; in the town edges casinos and hotels make the best out of the location of the town.

For more information visit [this link](#).



# THE IDC 2022 CONFERENCE VENUE IS CULTURAL CENTER PROSVETA – 1870 IN SVILENGRAD.

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Address: bul. Bulgariya 71, Svilengrad 6500, Bulgaria



## INITIAL PROGRAMME

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Monday 9 May:	Arrival. Registration. Accommodation.
Tuesday 10 May:	Opening. Presentations. Welcome dinner
Wednesday 11 May:	Presentations
Thursday 12 May:	Field trip* in the areas of the Mouse-tailed Dormouse
Friday 13 May:	Presentations. Closing. Farewell dinner
Saturday 14 May:	Post Conference field trip (optional)

**\*Thursday field trip** will involve a walk of about 5 km in a hilly landscape and on walking paths that can be rough and muddy. If you have difficulties to do this, please indicate this in the registration form (under mid-conference excursion) so we can see if we can arrange transport.

**The detailed programme will be sent additionally.**

## THE REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!

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You are welcome to register at the website of IDC 2022. [www.dormouseconference.net](http://www.dormouseconference.net).

**Closing date for early registration will be 20th December 2021 and late registration 1st February 2022**

Early registration (20th December): Students (Phd student, Master) 150 euros / Non students 250 euros

Late registration (1<sup>st</sup> February): Students (Phd student, Master) 200 euros / Non students 300 euros

**The deadline for abstract submission is February 20-th, 2022.**

You can submit abstracts for oral presentations and poster presentations.

The abstract submission form will be available on the IDC website by the end of 2021. A link on the website will direct you to a platform of Pensoft publishers (<https://aca.pensoft.net>), where you can submit your abstract.

Abstracts on dormice species palaeontology, genetics, physiology, behaviour, morphology, ecology and conservation are welcome.

The abstract should be up to a maximum of 250 words (without title and authors) + 5 keywords.

## How to get there?

**Airports nearby:** Sofia, Istanbul, Plovdiv.

### Busses:

Bus lines Sofia- Svilengrad – every day at 15 15 and 16 15h. Travel time: about 4 hours.

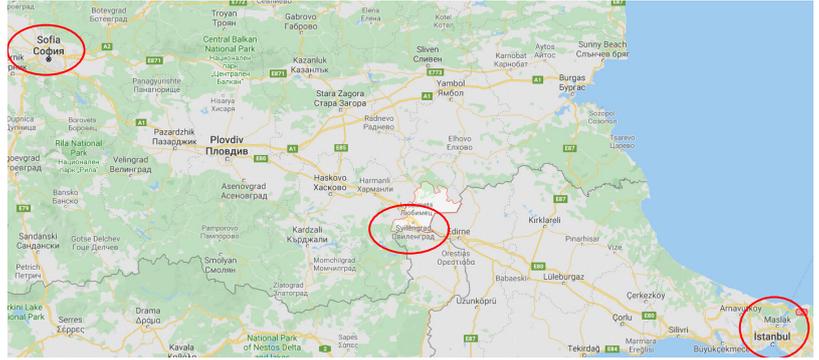
Price one-way ticket: 10-15 €.

Check bus options here:

<https://www.centralnaavtogara.bg/>

**Trains:** Sofia-Svilengrad. Time: 4-6 hours. Price one-way ticket: 8-10 €.

Check the train options here: <http://www.bdz.bg/en/>



## Where to stay?

We are in contact with 3 hotels in Svilengrad, where the participants in IDC2020 will be expected. Please, see on the map below the locations of the hotels, and the Conference venue.

The **Conference venue is next Hotel Svilena** (2min walk). They have different types of rooms – renovated (more expensive) and non-renovated (cheaper).

[Hotel Svilena](#) - Email: [reception@hotelsvilena.com](mailto:reception@hotelsvilena.com)

Two other hotels are also ready to accommodate the participants in the IDC2020 and offered special prices for us. They are on about 15 minutes' walk from the Conference venue.

[Hotel Parish](#) - Email: [hotel.parish@gmail.com](mailto:hotel.parish@gmail.com)

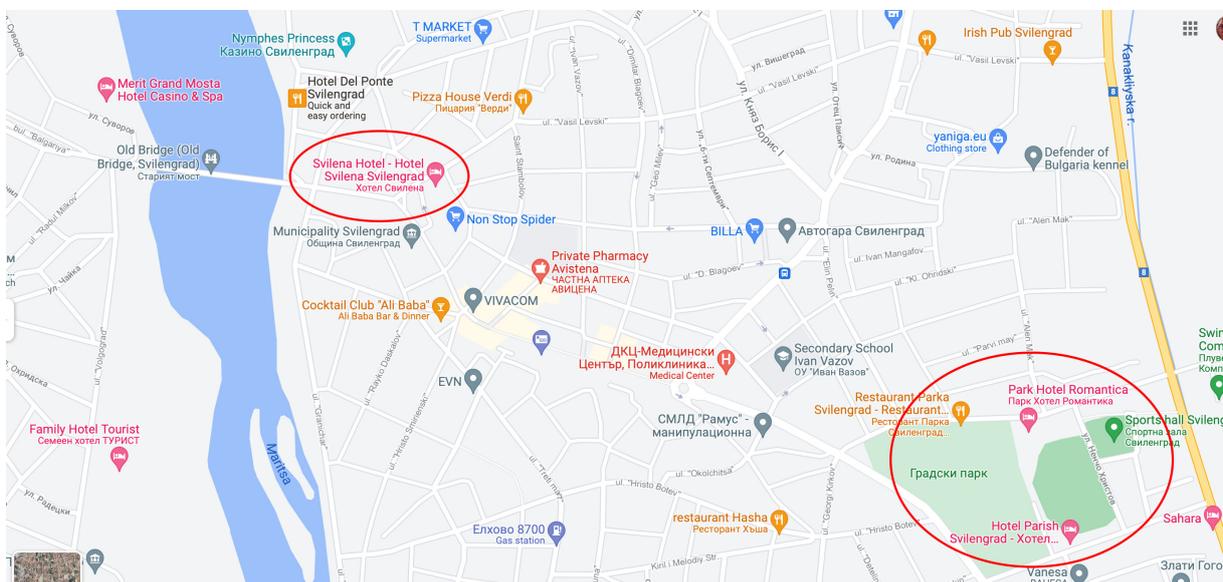
[Hotel Romantika](#) - Email: [reservations@hotelromantika.com](mailto:reservations@hotelromantika.com)

If you decide to stay in Parish or Romantika (15-20 min walk to the Conference venue), please, send an email to the hotels to make your reservation, because then the price for your stay will be lower than the one on the website. Do not make your booking via the website!

**Because the prices of accommodation in Bulgaria are relatively low, you are kindly invited to make a donation, which will be used exclusively for the continuation of the research and conservation work on the Mouse-tailed dormouse (*Myomimus roachi*) in Bulgaria. Make your donation here:**

<https://discovermammals.org/projects/nest-boxes-for-mouse-tailed-dormouse/>

**Your donation will be highly appreciated as there is no secured funding for this work after 2021. Many thanks in advance!**



## TRAVEL GRANT

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We are grateful to Detlev Seibert and Ninette Zullei-Seibert for sponsoring the travel costs of young people that want to attend the conference. The money will go to young people taking their first steps to present their work on an international platform. If possible, not only scientific people but also non-scientists like volunteers and other interested people - with or without giving presentations at the conference.

The travel grant request is included in the registration form:  
<http://dormouseconference.net/registration2022.html>.

## THE ORGANISATION OF IDC 2022

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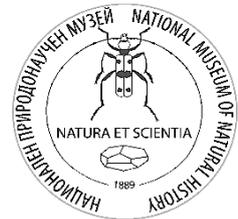


IDC 2022 is organised by:

The Habitat Foundation, The Netherlands

and

The National Museum of Natural History, Bulgaria.



### Organising Committee of IDC 2022

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### Scientific Committee of IDC 2022

Pat Morris (United Kingdom), Rimvydas Juškaitis (Lithuania), Boris Kryštufek (Slovenia), Peter Adamik (Czech Republic), Sandro Bertolino (Italy), Joanna Fietz (Germany), Alice Mouton (Belgium), Sven Büchner (Germany)

**For questions, please, contact us by email: [idc.bulgaria2020@gmail.com](mailto:idc.bulgaria2020@gmail.com)**

Looking forward to meeting you all

and hearing the fascinating stories about the different dormouse species and your findings on their palaeontology, genetics, physiology, behaviour, morphology, ecology and conservation.

Best regards,

The organisation committee