



ISER 2026 JOINING INSTRUCTIONS

ISER would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the XXVII Biennial Meeting of the International Society for Eye Research, which will take place from Sunday, 23 August to Thursday, 27 August 2026 at the Palacio de Congresos de Valencia, Spain. The following joining instructions will assist with your planning and arrival.

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ABSTRACT BOOK

If you would like to review the Abstract Book for ISER 2026, please visit the following link:
<https://iserbiennialmeeting2026.org/abstract-book-2/> , password: ISER2026

AIRPORTS & TRANSFERS

Here is our detailed guide on how to get to the Palacio de Congresos de Valencia:

- **By air (Valencia Airport, VLC):** about 55 minutes from the venue by public transport (Metro Line 5, then Line 1 or 2, then Line 4 to Palau de Congressos), or roughly 15 minutes by taxi.
- **From Madrid Airport:** train to Madrid's central station (30 min), then a high-speed train to Valencia (~1h30).
- **From Barcelona Airport:** train to Barcelona's central station (20 min), then a high-speed train to Valencia (~2h45).
- **By train:** Valencia Joaquín Sorolla and Valencia Nord stations are both about 25 minutes from the venue; journey times are ~1h40 from Madrid, ~2h45 from Barcelona, ~1h30 from Alicante, ~9h from Paris. Tickets via the Renfe website.
- **By car:** the venue offers 600 underground parking spaces plus two outdoor car parks of 1,000 m² each.

More information: <https://iserbiennialmeeting2026.org/how-to-get-there/>

AWARD LECTURES

The Endre A. Balazs Prize will be awarded to Dr. Ching-Hwa Sung during the Opening Ceremony on Monday, 24 August, 10:30–12:00, Auditorium 1.

The Ernst H. Bárány Prize will be awarded to Dr. Daniel Stamer during the Prize Ceremony and Lecture on Tuesday, 25 August, 10:30–12:00, Auditorium 1.

The Paul Kayser International Award in Retina Research will be awarded to Dr. Janet Sparrow during the Prize Ceremony and Lecture on Wednesday, 26 August, 10:30–12:00, Auditorium 1.

The Ludwig von Sallmann Prize will be awarded jointly to Lois E. H. Smith and Maria B. Grant during the Prize Ceremony and Lecture on Thursday, 27 August, 10:30–12:00, Auditorium 1.

APP

Check the scientific program and mark your favourite sessions. This and much more with the ISER 2026 App. Available in Google and Apple Stores.

BANKS

Banking hours: banks in Spain are generally open Monday through Friday, approximately 08:30 to 14:00. Foreign currency exchange facilities can be found across Valencia. Please visit www.xe.com for the latest exchange rates.

BEST POSTER COMPETITION



All Early Career Researchers (ECRs) who submit an accepted poster are automatically entered into the ECR Poster Competition (with the option to opt out).

- **Eligibility:** ISER member under the Early Career Researcher category, within 8 years of terminal degree; previous award recipients and Travel Fellowship grant recipients are not eligible.
- **Judging:** based on the scientific merit of the submitted abstract and the oral presentation during the poster sessions.
- **Prizes:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners receive monetary prizes and a certificate of excellence.
- **Recognition:** winners deliver a 3-minute, 1-slide talk before one of the ISER International Prize award lectures, where they are formally announced.

CATERING AT THE MEETING / COFFEE IN THE EXHIBITION

Coffee breaks are scheduled daily from 10:00–10:30 and 15:00–15:30 and are included for all **registered meeting** delegates. For lunch, delegates have a few options:

- At the venue: The Palacio de Congresos de Valencia is a large, modern conference centre and offers an on-site cafeteria
- Partner hotels: Both official ISER 2026 hotels are within a few minutes' walk of the venue and offer restaurant service — Meliá Valencia (300 m) and Sercotel Sorolla Palace (150 m).
- Nearby business district: The venue sits in Valencia's Avenida de las Cortes Valencianas business area, which has a concentration of cafés and restaurants offering the typical Spanish "menú del día" (fixed-price lunch menu), as well as tapas bars and international options — most within a 5–10 minute walk.

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

Certificates of Attendance will be sent to all registered participants electronically after the Meeting.

CLIMATE

August is high summer in Valencia, with average daytime temperatures around 30°C (86°F), minimal rainfall, and warm evenings. Coastal breezes provide some relief near the shore. Pack light, breathable clothing and sun protection.

CLOAKROOM

A cloakroom will be available at the Palacio de Congresos de Valencia during the following hours:

Day	Hours
Monday, 24 August	07:30 – 19:30
Tuesday, 25 August	07:30 – 19:30
Wednesday, 26 August	07:30 – 18:00
Thursday, 27 August	07:30 – 18:00



COURTESIES AND CODE OF CONDUCT

In consideration of all meeting participants, mobile phones should be turned off in all session rooms. Meeting participants are expected to refrain from the following:

- Inflicting personal threat or harm to any meeting participant, exhibitor, or staff
- Inflicting damage to any property
- Preventing speakers from giving their speeches

CURRENCY

Spain's national currency is the Euro (€).

DESTINATION

Valencia offers a blend of history and innovation, with Mediterranean beaches and summer weather as the backdrop for the meeting. The city gathers eye and vision researchers from around the world to exchange knowledge and collaborate, while offering plenty to explore beyond the conference halls.

DRESS CODE

The dress code for the Meeting, Opening Ceremony, Welcome Reception and Social Events is business casual.

ELECTRICITY

Voltage used in Spain is 230V / 50Hz. Plugs and outlets used are Type C and Type F.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS, MEDICAL INFORMATION AND FIRST AID

General emergencies (Spain): Tel: 112. In case of an emergency, please also inform a member of the K.I.T. Group (organiser) or the Palacio de Congresos de Valencia staff.

EXHIBITION

Meeting participants are invited to visit the exhibitors in the 1,500 m² exhibition space, which has natural lighting, direct access, and adjoins the gardens.

The exhibition will be open during the following hours:

Day	Hours
Monday, 24 August	09:00 – 19:30
Tuesday, 25 August	09:00 – 19:30
Wednesday, 26 August	09:00 – 16:00
Thursday, 27 August	09:00 – 16:00

INSURANCE & LIABILITY

ISER and the Meeting Secretariat cannot accept liability for personal accidents or loss



of or damage to private property of participants and accompanying persons. Attendees are advised to arrange their own adequate travel and medical insurance against medical treatment, accidents, cancellation of bookings, etc.

ISER WOW COMPETITION

Win a free registration for ISER 2028 with our ISER WOW Competition! We're looking for the most inspiring post on Facebook, Twitter (X), Instagram and bsky highlighting your personal ISER 2026 WOW moment.

Don't forget to add the hashtags #ISER2026 and #ISERWOW2026 — you could be invited to the next ISER Meeting!

MEET AND GREET: EYE 2 EYE

This fun social event for Early Career Researchers will expose you to many new and diverse eye researchers looking to network — a great way to connect in a relaxed way, and the start of many new friendships (and maybe even collaborations). Get to know your fellow Early Career Researchers! This event takes place during the ISER Welcome Reception on Sunday, 23 August, from 18:30 to 20:00, at the Palacio de Congresos de Valencia.

MEETING PROGRAM

A regularly updated Meeting Program is available on the ISER 2026 website: <https://iserbiennialmeeting2026.org/program/online-session-planner/> and is directly linked with the ISER Meeting App

MEET THE EXPERTS

Meet the Experts corners are set up per floor. You are invited to extend your conversations and using the chance to talk with speakers about their topics in an informal setting.

MEETING DATES AND VENUE

The XXVII Biennial Meeting of the International Society for Eye Research will take place from Sunday, 23 August to Thursday, 27 August 2026, at the Palacio de Congresos de Valencia, Avda. Cortes Valencianas, nº 60, 46015 València, Spain.

The venue was designed by architect Norman Foster and has twice been named "World's Best Convention Centre" by AIPC (2010, 2018). It features two recently renovated auditoriums (1,481 and 467 seats), a third auditorium (259 seats), eight breakout rooms, and five multi-use rooms.

MOBILE PHONES

It is possible that some foreign mobile phones do not operate normally in Spain without an EU-compatible plan. Local prepaid SIM cards with data, talk time and SMS are widely available and can be inserted into an unlocked device.

NAME BADGE



A badge is expected to be required for admittance to all official meeting sessions and events, the exhibition, and the poster area, with lost badges replaceable at the registration counter for a fee.

OPENING HOURS

REGISTRATION COUNTER

Sunday, 23 August	15:00 - 19:00
Monday, 24 August	07:30 - 18:00
Tuesday, 25 August	07:30 - 18:00
Wednesday, 26 August	07:30 - 17:00
Thursday, 27 August	07:30 - 16:00

SPEAKER PREVIEW ROOM

Sunday, 23 August	15:00 - 19:00
Monday, 24 August	07:30 - 18:00
Tuesday, 25 August	07:30 - 18:00
Wednesday, 26 August	07:30 - 17:00
Thursday, 27 August	07:30 - 16:00

EXHIBITION

Monday, 24 August	09:00 – 19:30
Tuesday, 25 August	09:00 – 19:30
Wednesday, 26 August	09:00 – 16:00
Thursday, 27 August	09:00 – 16:00

POSTER AREA

Monday, 24 August	10:00 - 19:30
Tuesday, 25 August	10:00 - 19:30

CLOAKROOM

Monday, 24 August	07:30 – 19:30
Tuesday, 25 August	07:30 – 19:30
Wednesday, 26 August	07:30 – 18:00
Thursday, 27 August	07:30 – 18:00

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

- **Passport:** an electronic (biometric) passport is required — look for the chip symbol on the cover.
- **Entry/Exit System (EES):** from 10 April 2026 the EU's new digital border system replaces manual passport stamping and records entry/exit electronically for all travellers, including first-time biometric (face + fingerprint) capture.
- **Visas:** the EES is not a visa — travellers whose nationality requires a Schengen short-stay visa must still apply for and carry one as usual.
- **Travel tips:** pre-register up to 72 hours before arrival via the free EU "Travel to Europe" app, use automated e-gates where available, and allow extra time at the border while the new system beds in.

Further information is available from the Spanish Embassy in your country of origin.



POSTER EXHIBITION

The poster area is open during the following hours:

Day	Hours
Monday, 24 August	10:00 – 19:30
Tuesday, 25 August	10:00 – 19:30

Poster Sessions, where authors present their work, are scheduled from 17:30 to 19:00 on Monday, 24 August, and Tuesday, 25 August.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

From Valencia Airport, take Metro Line 5 and transfer to Line 1 or 2, then Line 4, to reach Palau de Congressos station (~55 minutes), or a taxi (~15 minutes).

Getting to the city centre: The venue sits right on the Palau de Congressos metro/tram stop (Lines 4 and 6), which runs directly into the historic old town and city centre (get off around Xàtiva or Ayuntamiento) in about 15–20 minutes. Taxis and ride-hailing apps (Uber, Cabify, FREENOW) are also readily available just outside the venue.

REFUNDS

Please note that no refunds can be made during the Meeting. After the Meeting, refunds will only be made until two weeks after the Meeting. Contact the ISER Registration department at: iser-registration@kit-group.org

REGISTRATION

All Meeting participants are required to register for the Meeting. It is advised to register online prior to the Meeting and then check in at the registration counter on-site. Participants may also register on-site.

- **Early registration deadline:** 3 June 2026
- **Standard registration deadline:** 22 July 2026
- **Late registration:** from 23 July 2026
 - online registration closes 21 August 2026
 - onsite registration opens 23 August 2026
- **How to register:** via the official online registration
<https://iserbiennialmeeting2026.org/program/registration/>
 For questions, contact iser-registration@kit-group.org

Registration fees (EUR):

Category	Early	Standard	Late
ISER Member	€450	€530	€620
Non-Member	€670	€750	€840
ECR Member	€330	€390	€480



Category	Early	Standard	Late
ECR Non-Member	€500	€590	€670
Student Member	€180	€220	€260
Student Non-Member	€280	€340	€430
Accompanying Person	€170	€170	€170
Single Day (Member/Non-Member)	€215	€215	€215
Single Day (ECR/Student)	€170	€170	€170

- **Accompanying person entitlement:** entry to the meeting venue and opening ceremony only. Maximum one accompanying person and two single-day tickets per delegate.

SECURITY

As general precautions common to any large city: keep money, ID and important documents safe (send yourself copies by e-mail), only carry the cash you need for the day, stay vigilant in crowds and on public transport, and use official taxis or ride-hailing apps after dark.

The Spanish national police / general emergency number is 112.

SOCIAL EVENTS

ISER has organised social events where delegates can network and get to know colleagues from all over the world:

Event	Venue	Date	Time
Welcome Reception & Eye 2 Eye Meet and Greet (ECRs)	Palacio de Congresos de Valencia (garden)	Sunday, 23 August	18:30 – 20:00
ECR Drinks (Bring your badge!)	Zazu Lounge (near the venue)	Monday, 24 August	19:30 – Open End
WISER Dinner (with ticket only – bring your badge!)	Racó de L'Arnau (7-min walk from venue)	Tuesday, 25 August	19:30 – Open End
Gala Dinner (with ticket only – bring your badge!).	Cartuja de Ara Christi (20-min transfer, transport provided)	Wednesday, 26 August	20:30 – 23:00 Buses depart at 20:00 from Palacio de Congresos

WISER Dinner

WISER stands for Women of the International Society for Eye Research. Originally created to give female early-career researchers networking opportunities and mentorship from senior investigators, WISER now welcomes all attendees. The WISER Dinner takes place Tuesday, 25 August, featuring a Mediterranean gastronomic experience, and is supported by the Bright Focus Foundation. Tickets are subject to availability. Bring your badge for entrance control.



Gala Dinner

Don't miss the fine-dining Gala Dinner at Cartuja de Ara Christi, a restored former Carthusian monastery, on Wednesday, 26 August, 20:30–23:00 (subsidised rate €130), featuring Mediterranean cuisine, wine, round-trip transportation and live entertainment. Tickets are subject to availability. Bring your badge for entrance control.

SPEAKER PREVIEW ROOM

In order to hand over the presentation, all speakers must report to the Speaker Preview Room at least three hours prior to the presentation, or the afternoon before for presentations in the first session.

Opening times:

Day	Hours
Sunday, 23 August	15:00 – 19:00
Monday, 24 August	07:30 – 18:00
Tuesday, 25 August	07:30 – 18:00
Wednesday, 26 August	07:30 – 17:00
Thursday, 27 August	07:30 – 16:00

USEFUL WEBSITES

- **ISER 2026 website:** <https://iserbiennialmeeting2026.org>
- **Palacio de Congresos de Valencia website:** <https://palcongres-vlc.com/es/>

If there is any additional information you require prior to your arrival in Valencia, please do not hesitate to contact the ISER 2026 Meeting Secretariat: iser@kit-group.org

WI-FI

Palacio de Congresos Valencia offers free Wi-Fi to all meeting delegates from on the floors where the meeting takes place. Bandwidth may be reduced due to high number of users.

Network: ISER 2026
Username: ISER2026
Password: iser2026