



**International Hydrographic Organization's  
Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC-12)  
Bristol, United Kingdom –11-15 May 2020**

The International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) Hydrographic Services & Standards Committee (HSSC 12 meeting will be hosted by the UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) in Bristol, United Kingdom 11-15 May 2020. As the organisers of the meeting, the UKHO is pleased to welcome you to Bristol and provide the following logistics information.

**Welcome to Bristol**

Located in the South West UK, Bristol is a city steeped in history, best known for its prosperous maritime history, iconic suspension bridge, thriving music scene and arts culture.

The original town was listed in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle of 1051 as a port trading regularly with Ireland. Bristol played an important role in sea trade for hundreds of years following this, but as the scale of business and trade grew in the city, so did the need to develop the narrow and relatively small harbour.

A starting place for early voyages of exploration to the New World, in 1497 Giovanni Caboto became the first European since the Vikings to land on mainland North America and in 1499 William Weston, a Bristol merchant who it is believed accompanied Giovanni Caboto two years prior, was the first Englishman to lead an exploration to North America.



Bristol's modern economy is built on the creative media, electronics and aerospace industries, and the former city-centre port is now a cultural hub called The Harbourside, redeveloped as a centre of heritage and culture.



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**HSSC-12 UKHO organiser:**

For any queries, additional information not supplied herein, special arrangements, letters of invitation etc. please contact

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**Visa requirements:**

Depending on your nationality, and the purpose and duration of your visit, you may need a visa to visit the UK. We strongly recommend that you send in your application as soon as possible.

All relevant information regarding UK visa types and requirements can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa/documents-you-must-provide>.

**How to get to Bristol:**

Many airlines offer direct flights to Bristol International Airport (BRS), from which we recommend that you take a taxi which can be pre-booked via [Bristol Airport Taxis](#). There is also a regular [shuttle bus](#) where a return journey will cost approximately £13.

If your flight lands in London you may transfer via [private car](#), [bus](#) or [train](#). As an approximate guide, Bristol city centre is 2 hours by road or 3 hours by train from London Heathrow (LHR), and 3 hours by road or 3.5 hours by train from London Gatwick (LGW).



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**Meeting venue and accommodation:**

**Future Inn Bristol**

The meeting takes place at this well-appointed, four-star hotel, which is within walking distance of Bristol city centre, directly opposite Cabot Circus shopping centre. Bristol Temple Meads train station is a 16-minute walk away.



The UKHO has negotiated special accommodation rates for the HSSC-12 delegation. The rates quoted below are all for standard double rooms, single occupancy, and include full English/Continental breakfast, Wi-Fi and VAT.

Sunday 10 May	£75.00
Monday 11 May	£105.00
Tuesday 12 May	£105.00
Wednesday 13 May	£105.00
Thursday 14 May	£105.00

Please note:

- the above rates exclude extras such as laundry, external phone calls or room service
- Should you wish to bring your partner/spouse an additional fee of £12 will be added to the special rate for an additional breakfast
- Early check-in and late check-out available on request and may be subject to an additional cost

Please note that whilst you may opt to stay at an alternative hotel, transfers to/from the conference venue will not be provided.



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Future Inn Bristol can cater for dietary requests including halal friendly options. The conference buffets will use only halal meat, have at least 50% vegetarian options and do not contain alcohol. We recommend that you speak to the waiting staff with any specific dietary requests or queries regarding the food throughout your stay.

If you wish to arrive earlier or stay a bit longer to explore Bristol, please feel free to do so. A special rate has been negotiated for 10% off the best available rate the hotel has at time of booking.

**Making your reservation:**

Please book directly with Future Inn Bristol to reserve your accommodation by calling +44 117 3041010 or email: [reservations.bristol@futureinns.co.uk](mailto:reservations.bristol@futureinns.co.uk)

Please quote **HSSC-12** as the booking reference in order to receive the negotiated rate, details will be required in order to confirm each booking.

**These preferential rates will expire on Wednesday 8 April.** Should you book after that date, the hotel will be unable to guarantee that they can offer you the same rate.

**Cancellation**

If you need to cancel for any reason, you may cancel your hotel reservation until 14:00 the day of arrival without penalty.

**Registration form:**

All delegates intending to participate in HSSC-12 are invited to register through the IHO online registration system no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

<http://online.iho-khoa.kr/cbm/conference/conference.asp>

Please ensure you indicate any dietary restrictions for religious or health related reasons (including allergies) so that we can make sure these needs are met.

**Functions:**

**12 May 2020** - The UKHO will be hosting a Reception at their new headquarters in Taunton during the evening. Please note that this is a high security site and we need to submit names, date of birth, nationality and passport details for security clearance no later than 20 April. Unfortunately, we will not be able to include you in the tour and visit if you submit details after this date. Please email [IBTE@UKHO.gov.uk](mailto:IBTE@UKHO.gov.uk) with these details along with any dietary requirements so we can make the necessary arrangements.



UK Hydrographic  
Office



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Provided transport will collect you directly from the conference and return you to the Future Inn after the Reception.



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**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

**What is the weather like?**

Daytime high temperatures average near 60°F (15 – 16°C) early in the month but will warm into the mid-60°F (18 – 19°C) by the end of the month. A few of the warmer days can reach or exceed 75°F (24°C).

**What electricity supply is used in the UK?**

The standard UK voltage is 230v and the frequency is 50Hz.  
All plugs are square pin.



**Is it safe to travel by train and/or Uber? Yes**

**Do I have to tip?**

It is customary to leave 10-15% of the bill when eating out. However, restaurants often add on a service charge (usually 12.5%), especially if you're in a large group, so it's worth checking your bill.

**Can I drink the water?**

All water in the UK can be drunk straight from the tap, unless stated otherwise. However if you prefer bottled water it is readily available from all supermarkets and cafés. To minimise the use of plastic, we would encourage you to bring your own water bottle if you have one.

**Dress code**

Usual business attire for the conference and smart casual for the visit to UKHO.

**Smoking**

It is illegal to smoke indoors in any hotels, restaurants, government or corporate owned buildings.

If you have any specific questions you would like answered please feel free to contact [IBTE@ukho.gov.uk](mailto:IBTE@ukho.gov.uk).

We look forward to seeing you in Bristol.