



# the 63rd IAVS symposium: vegetation in the Anthropocene

## The 63rd IAVS Symposium, July 20-24, 2020, Vladivostok, Russia

I invite you to the 63rd IAVS annual symposium in Vladivostok, Russia, the last pristine temperate region in the northern hemisphere. Vladivostok is located within the middle (or cool) temperate zone characterized by temperate deciduous broadleaved and mixed forests; this area may be known to the international public as Ussuri taiga, after the Oscar winning movie 'Dersu Uzala' by Akira Kurosawa.

### Venue

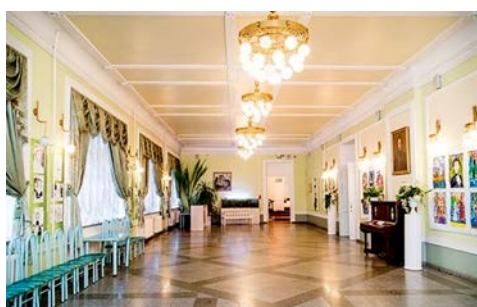
The conference will be hosted by the Botanical Garden-Institute of the Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences and Far Eastern Federal University (FEFU). FEFU comprises nine schools and 18 academic departments and is home to over 40 000 students. As the university is somewhat isolated by its location on Russkii (Russian) Island, the symposium will be held at a university facility located the city center – the Pushkin Theatre.

This facility can easily accommodate 400+ participants, and has space for four parallel sessions. Far Eastern Federal University was established in 1920 from the Eastern Institute, which was created in 1899 to support a variety of types of relationships with Asian countries, including economic, political, military, scientific and educational. The venue is on the doorstep of historical buildings of the Eastern institute.

The university owns student dormitories in the Russkii Island, which can be a good alternative to hotels for budget accommodation. Transportation to the symposium venue will be provided.



*The Pushkin Theatre, venue of symposium*



*Main hall*



*Main hall*



*Venue location*



# Vladivostok

Vladivostok (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vladivostok>) was established in 1860 as the eastern Russian harbor and naval base and remained closed to foreigners until 1991. It has a rich history and its own very special spirit that makes it different from other Russian cities. In the beginning of the 20th century Vladivostok had the world's strongest marine fortifications. It was also the location of the first European business in eastern Russia ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kunst\\_and\\_Albers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kunst_and_Albers)). Overall, it is a place where all nations can find the footprints of their culture.



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## Scientific program

This symposium focuses on understanding the depth of the transformations that have changed the Earth's vegetation, the degree to which the vegetation of novel ecosystems will be able to serve to needs of an increasing human population, and how to best fit vegetation science theory and methodology to this new situation. Specific themes include:

- Diversity and functioning of natural and artificial vegetation
- Traditional and new drivers of ecosystem transformations
- Ecosystems before humans

- Ecosystems under human impact
- The value of relictual vegetation
- Species migrations
- How vegetation science can contribute to sustainable development for humanity
- The effectiveness of existing theory and methods for the future study of the world's flora and vegetation

We anticipate that this symposium will create a common ground not only for vegetation scientists, but also for geophysicists, biochemists, paleobiologists and anthropologists.

## Call for Special Session proposals

The Local Organizing Committee invites proposals for Special Sessions. We specifically encourage proposals linked to the main theme of the symposium with the added benefit that these have the potential to attract the attention of policy makers to rapid, ongoing vegetation changes and the consequences of these to society and economies.

Please submit proposals (half to one page) by email to Pavel Krestov, [pavel.krestov@icloud.com](mailto:pavel.krestov@icloud.com)

Proposals should include the following information:

**Title:** The title should allow conference attendees to understand the focus of the Special Session.

**Abstract:** Provide a brief abstract of no more than 3000 characters in which you explain the rationale of the topic, especially why it is relevant to vegetation science and how it is linked to the main theme.

**Speakers:** Provide a short list of proposed speakers who are willing to contribute to the Special Session.

**Deadline for proposals:** 31 December, 2019, notifications of acceptance/rejection will be provided by the beginning of February.

**DEADLINE FOR SPECIAL SESSION SUBMISSION: 31 DECEMBER, 2019**

# Local Organizing Committee

- Pavel V. Krestov**, Botanical Garden-Institute FEB RAS, Vladivostok, Russia (co-chair),  
pavel.krestov@icloud.com (general inquiries)
- Alexander A. Sergievich**, Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok, Russia (co-chair),  
sergievich.aa@dvfu.ru (general inquiries)
- Alexander I. Vovnenko**, Pushkin Theater of the Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok, Russia  
vovnenkoai@gmail.com (coordination of conference facilities)
- Elena A. Marchuk**, Botanical Garden-Institute FEB RAS, Vladivostok, Russia, pimenova\_garden@mail.ru  
(coordination of scientific program events)
- Olga V. Nesterova**, Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok, Russia, nesterova.ov@dvfu.ru,  
(coordination of scientific program events)
- Valentina A. Kalinkina**, Botanical Garden-Institute FEB RAS, Vladivostok, Russia, conf-1f@yandex.ru  
(housing information inquiries)
- Dmitry E. Kislov**, Botanical Garden-Institute FEB RAS, Vladivostok, Russia, kislov@easydan.com  
(coordination of multimedia installments and presentation downloading)
- Kirill A. Korznikov**, Botanical Garden-Institute FEB RAS, Vladivostok, Russia, korzki@mail.ru  
(coordination of excursions)
- Viktoria A. Semal**, Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok, Russia, semal\_vi@rambler.ru,  
(coordination of excursions)
- Irina N. Krestova**, Botanical Garden-Institute FEB RAS, Vladivostok, Russia, irina.krestova@rambler.ru  
(coordination of registration of participants)
- Alexandra V. Chernovalova**, Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok, Russia,  
chernovalova\_av@students.dvfu.ru, (coordination of registration of participants)
- Ekatherina A. Petrunenko**, Botanical Garden-Institute FEB RAS, Vladivostok, Russia,  
e-petrunenko@yandex.ru (coordination of transportation logistics)
- Larissa V. Lokhova**, Botanical Garden-Institute FEB RAS, Vladivostok, Russia, lorry3791@yandex.ru  
(coordination of catering)
- Sergei V. Romantsov**, Botanical Garden-Institute FEB RAS, Vladivostok, Russia, romantsov@botsad.ru  
(coordination of volunteers)
- Irina A. Osetskaya**, Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok, Russia, osetskaya.ia@dvfu.ru,  
(coordination of volunteers)

# International Scientific Committee

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Milan Chytrý</b> , Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic                        | <b>Yukito Nakamura</b> , Tokyo University of Agriculture, Tokyo, Japan                           |
| <b>Jürgen Dengler</b> , Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Wädenswil, Switzerland | <b>Vladimir G. Onipchenko</b> , Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia                |
| <b>Martin Diekmann</b> , Universität Bremen, Bremen, Germany                          | <b>Meelis Pärtel</b> , University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia                                       |
| <b>Nikolai B. Ermakov</b> , Nikitskii Botanical Garden RAS, Nikita, Russia            | <b>Robert K. Peet</b> , University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, U.S.A.                        |
| <b>Monika Janišová</b> , Institute of Botany, Banská Bystrica, Slovak Republic        | <b>Valério De Patta Pillar</b> , Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil |
| <b>Javier Loidi</b> , University of the Basque Country, Bilbao, Spain                 | <b>Cindy Q. Tang</b> , Institute of Ecology and Geobotany, Yunnan University, Kunming, China     |
| <b>Peter Minchin</b> , Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, U.S.A.             | <b>Susan Wiser</b> , Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research, Lincoln, New Zealand                      |
| <b>Ladislav Mucina</b> , Murdoch University, Perth, Australia                         | <b>David Zelený</b> , National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan                                 |



# Registration and Abstract Submission

Registration and abstract submission will be opened by the end of November 2019 through a link on the symposium website ([http://geobotanica.ru/symposium\\_2020/registration\\_2020.html](http://geobotanica.ru/symposium_2020/registration_2020.html)).

As in previous years, there will be travel awards for which you can apply. The deadline will be the same as for the abstract submission, which is 30 March, 2020.

**DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION: 30 MARCH, 2020**

## Field Excursions

Russia is rather big. The typically homogenous northern vegetation explodes with a variety of unbelievable colors, plant combinations, adaptations and traits. During this symposium we hope to give you the opportunity to see very different aspects of the vegetation of Russia. The region of the Russian Far East is the best part of Russia to see intact temperate forest ecosystems, vegetation diversity in conditions of continuous permafrost and vegetation in volcanic areas. Our intention is to

offer pre- and post-symposium excursions in four different areas: The North Caucasus (group leader Vladimir Onipchenko), the Altai Mountains (Nikolai Ermakov) and Kamchatka (Pavel Krestov) and the Sikhote-Alin Mountains near Vladivostok. Because of long distances to be covered by all excursions, we will reserve a minimal time period for each excursion of eight days, except for in Sikhote-Alin, where it will be possible to plan 2, 4 and 7-day excursions.

Prices for excursions will be set by the end of November, 2019. Registration for excursions will open on 01 December 2019 through a link on the symposium website ([http://geobotanica.ru/symposium\\_2020/excursion\\_2020.html](http://geobotanica.ru/symposium_2020/excursion_2020.html)). Before 15 November, 2019, we will provide detailed itineraries for each schedule of excursion.

### Pre-Symposium excursion 1 CAUCASUS Leader Prof. Vladimir G. ONIPCHENKO

starting point: Mineralnye Vody (UTS +3) (Минеральные Воды)  
airport: MRV (IATA)  
start date and time: 12 July, 2020, 08:00  
end date and time: 18 July, 2020, 18:00



© Vladimir Onipchenko



The excursion will cover different types of mountain vegetation in two areas: 1) the oceanic west Caucasus with montane dry grasslands, broad-leaved forests, coniferous forests, subalpine shrubs and tall-herb meadows, alpine grasslands and meadows as well as sub-nival rocky vegetation, 2) the central Caucasian continental vegetation near the highest European peak - Elbrus (5642 m) with dry grasslands, petrophytic vegetation in dry valleys, pine and birch forests, subalpine and alpine vegetation. The excursion will include several areas in Kabardino-Balkar Republic (Baksan valley) and Karachai-Cherkessian Republic (Kuban, Teberda, Arkhyz). We also will visit the National Park «Prielbrus'e» and Teberda Biosphere Reserve.

**Flights:** from Moscow (Domodedovo) to Mineralnye Vody; 2 hours 25 minutes; three companies: S7, NordStar and Ural Airlines. It is advisable to take return tickets and continue to Vladivostok from Moscow. Price of return tickets for the fall 2019 is 6 500 roubles.

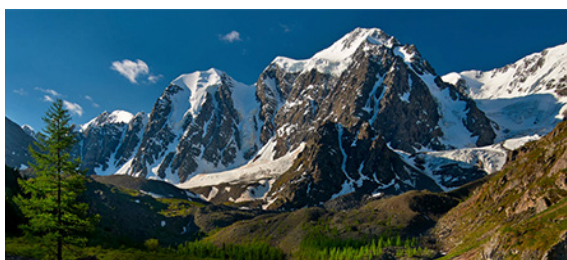
Climate data for Mineralnye Vody													[hide]
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Record high °C (°F)	19.5 (67.1)	21.5 (70.7)	30.3 (86.5)	34.5 (94.1)	34.9 (94.8)	37.5 (99.5)	39.7 (103.5)	41.1 (106.0)	37.4 (99.3)	34.1 (93.4)	25.6 (78.1)	19.4 (66.9)	41.1 (106.0)
Average high °C (°F)	1.7 (35.1)	2.5 (36.5)	8.4 (47.1)	16.8 (62.2)	21.8 (71.2)	25.5 (77.9)	29.6 (85.5)	29.3 (84.7)	23.9 (75.0)	16.4 (61.5)	8.2 (46.8)	2.8 (37.0)	15.7 (60.3)
Daily mean °C (°F)	-2.5 (27.5)	-2.4 (27.7)	2.9 (37.2)	10.1 (50.2)	15.1 (59.2)	19.6 (67.3)	22.7 (72.9)	22.0 (71.6)	16.8 (62.2)	10.2 (50.4)	3.4 (38.1)	-1.3 (29.7)	9.7 (49.5)
Average low °C (°F)	-5.7 (21.7)	-6.1 (21.0)	-1.2 (29.8)	4.6 (40.3)	9.2 (48.6)	13.6 (56.5)	16.2 (61.2)	15.7 (60.3)	11.2 (52.2)	5.8 (42.4)	0.2 (32.4)	-4.6 (23.7)	4.9 (40.8)
Record low °C (°F)	-33.3 (-27.9)	-31.6 (-24.9)	-23.8 (-10.8)	-7.6 (18.3)	-2.9 (26.8)	3.2 (37.8)	7.5 (45.5)	4.2 (39.6)	-4.6 (23.7)	-17.7 (0.1)	-23.6 (-10.5)	-31.5 (-24.7)	-33.3 (-27.9)
Average precipitation mm (inches)	18 (0.7)	18 (0.7)	28 (1.1)	54 (2.1)	66 (2.6)	66 (2.6)	69 (2.7)	48 (1.9)	35 (1.4)	38 (1.5)	31 (1.2)	28 (1.1)	519 (20.4)

Source: Pogoda.ru.net<sup>[12]</sup>



**Pre-Symposium excursion 2**  
**ALTAI**  
**Leader Prof. Nikolai B. ERMAKOV**

starting point: Gorno-Altaysk (UTS +7) (Горно-Алтайск)  
 airport: RGK (Gorno-Altaysk)  
 start day and time: 12 July, 2020, 08:00  
 end day and time: 18 July, 2020, 18:00



© Nikolai Ermakov



Climate data for Gorno-Altaysk (1981-2010)													[hide]
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Average high °C (°F)	-9.2 (15.4)	-7.5 (18.5)	0.0 (32.0)	10.5 (50.9)	19.7 (67.5)	25.2 (77.4)	26.8 (80.2)	24.2 (75.6)	18.6 (65.5)	8.8 (47.8)	-1.4 (29.5)	-8.0 (17.6)	9.0 (48.2)
Daily mean °C (°F)	-14.2 (6.4)	-13.3 (8.1)	-5.8 (21.6)	4.5 (40.1)	12.8 (55.0)	18.5 (65.3)	20.3 (68.5)	17.8 (64.0)	12.2 (54.0)	3.9 (39.0)	-5.7 (21.7)	-12.6 (9.3)	3.2 (37.8)
Average low °C (°F)	-19.1 (-2.4)	-19.1 (-2.4)	-11.5 (11.3)	-1.5 (29.3)	5.9 (42.6)	11.8 (53.2)	13.9 (57.0)	11.4 (52.5)	5.8 (42.4)	-1.0 (30.2)	-10.0 (14.0)	-17.1 (1.2)	-2.5 (27.5)
Average precipitation mm (inches)	16 (0.6)	16 (0.6)	16 (0.6)	29 (1.1)	57 (2.2)	62 (2.4)	73 (2.9)	67 (2.6)	47 (1.9)	41 (1.6)	26 (1.0)	22 (0.9)	472 (18.4)

This is one of the most important biodiversity centers in Northern Eurasia. The wide range of altitudes, climate humidity and continentality result in many zonal vegetation types. The excursion route will follow a geographical transect crossing the ultra-humid, humid and arid geographical sectors of the mountain system. Participants will have the opportunity to visit the natural communities of North Asian and European-Siberian dark coniferous and light coniferous forests, the zonal types of West Palaearctic and Central Asian meadow-steppes, typical steppes and desert-steppes, as well as various types of high mountain vegetation. We will see the remarkable landscapes of the Katun river valley, Kuraiskaya and Kosh-Agachskaya intermontane basins and the surrounding high mountain ridges.

**Flights:** from Moscow (Vnukovo and Domodedovo) to Gorno-Altaysk; 4 hours 20 minutes; two companies for direct flight: Pobeda and S7. It is advisable to take oneway ticket from Moscow, after excursion the bus will be provided to Novosibirsk, and continue to

Vladivostok from Novosibirsk (check Aeroflot and S7). Price of oneway S7 ticket from Moscow to Gorno-Altaysk for 11 July, 2020 is 21 200 roubles.

**Post-Symposium excursion 1**  
**KAMCHATKA**  
**Leader Prof. Pavel V. KRESTOV**

starting point: Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky (UTS +12)  
 airport: PKC (IATA)  
 start date and time: 26 July, 2020, 8:00  
 end date and time: 02 August, 2020, 18:00



© Pavel Krestov



Climate data for Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky													[hide]
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Record high °C (°F)	4.4 (39.9)	5.3 (41.5)	6.8 (44.2)	18.1 (64.6)	20.6 (69.1)	27.8 (82.0)	30.0 (86.0)	27.1 (81.0)	24.4 (75.9)	17.8 (64.0)	12.5 (54.5)	7.1 (45.0)	30.0 (86.0)
Average high °C (°F)	-5.1 (22.8)	-4.5 (23.9)	-2.8 (28.8)	2.1 (35.8)	6.6 (43.9)	11.9 (53.4)	15.0 (59.0)	15.9 (60.6)	13.2 (55.8)	7.8 (46.0)	1.0 (33.8)	-3.5 (25.7)	4.9 (40.8)
Daily mean °C (°F)	-7.6 (18.3)	-7.1 (19.2)	-4.6 (23.7)	-0.6 (30.9)	3.4 (38.1)	8.2 (46.8)	11.5 (52.7)	12.6 (54.5)	9.7 (49.5)	4.9 (40.8)	-1.3 (29.7)	-5.8 (21.6)	1.9 (35.4)
Average low °C (°F)	-9.8 (14.4)	-9.4 (15.1)	-7 (19)	-2.6 (27.3)	1.2 (34.2)	5.7 (42.3)	9.3 (48.7)	10.2 (50.4)	7.1 (44.8)	2.6 (36.7)	-3.3 (26.1)	-7.9 (17.8)	-0.3 (31.5)
Record low °C (°F)	-26.6 (-19.9)	-31.7 (-25.1)	-24.8 (-15.6)	-14.8 (5.4)	-7.2 (19.0)	-5.5 (22.1)	2.5 (36.5)	2.6 (36.7)	-1.1 (30.0)	-7.5 (18.5)	-16.8 (7.2)	-26 (-10.8)	-31.7 (-25.1)
Average precipitation mm (inches)	115 (4.5)	80 (3.1)	84 (3.3)	90 (3.5)	64 (2.5)	53 (2.1)	62 (2.4)	91 (3.6)	111 (4.4)	174 (6.9)	130 (5.1)	109 (4.3)	1156 (45.9)
Average precipitation days	18 (4.6)	17 (3.1)	17 (3.3)	16 (3.5)	14 (2.5)	14 (2.1)	16 (2.4)	16 (3.6)	13 (4.4)	16 (5.9)	15 (5.1)	16 (4.3)	188 (45.9)
Average relative humidity (%)	71	68	68	72	75	79	84	83	79	74	70	71	75
Mean monthly sunshine hours	105.4	115.8	176.7	192.0	192.2	192.0	170.5	176.7	177.0	156.1	123.0	93.0	1,672.4

One of the most extreme corners of the world's boreal zone with a variety of vegetation you would never expect at these latitudes elsewhere in a world. These include beautiful *Betula ermanii* forests that survive what may be the deepest snow in Northeast Asia, endless *Pinus pumila* thickets, tall-herb (really tall!) meadows and a variety of tundra types adapted to continental and oceanic conditions. The major highlights are volcanoes; 300 are dormant and 30 are active. Some of them are very active now. We will visit two major groups of volcanoes: the Klyuchevskaya group (includes Klyuchevskoy Volcano itself, Bezmyanny, Tolbachik) and the Avachinskaya group (home volcanoes for Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky city. These sites provide superb natural laboratories to study plant succession and thus fascinating field excursion destinations.

**Flights:** from Vladivostok to Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky; 3 hours 20 minutes; two companies provide direct flights: Aeroflot and S7. It is advisable to consider two variants of itinerary: take oneway ticket from Vladivostok, and after excursion take oneway ticket to Moscow and continue to home country, or fly back to Vladivostok, and then

to home country. Price of return ticket from Vladivostok to Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky in the fall 2019 is 19 600 roubles.



**Post-Symposium excursion 2**  
**SIKHOTE-ALIN**  
**Leader Dr. Kirill A. KORZNIKOV**

starting point: Vladivostok (UTS +10)  
 airport: VVO (IATA)  
 start date and time: 25 July, 2020, 08:00;  
 end date and time: 01 August, 2020, 18:00



The world's wildest place in the 40–50 degrees latitudinal range with ecosystems whose food chains end with the Amur tiger, the world's biggest cat. This region is home to the indigenous Udege and Nanai people, who try to keep their own culture in this changing world. We will see the legendary nearly intact broadleaved-Korean pine forests, the vertical vegetation zonation ending with *Pinus pumila* thickets and mountain tundra on the tops and a variety of vegetation types characteristic of this beautiful area. We will visit the National park Bikin, Sikhote-Alin Biosphere reserve, Hanka Lake and look at North Korea across the state boundary.

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Record high °C (°F)	5.0 (41.0)	9.9 (49.8)	19.4 (66.9)	27.7 (81.9)	29.5 (85.1)	31.8 (89.2)	33.6 (92.5)	32.6 (90.7)	30.0 (86.0)	23.4 (74.1)	17.5 (63.5)	9.4 (48.9)	33.6 (92.5)
Average high °C (°F)	−8.1 (17.4)	−4.2 (24.4)	2.2 (36.0)	9.9 (49.8)	14.8 (58.6)	17.8 (64.0)	21.1 (70.0)	23.2 (73.8)	19.8 (67.6)	12.9 (55.2)	3.1 (37.6)	−5.1 (22.8)	9.0 (48.2)
Daily mean °C (°F)	−12.3 (9.9)	−8.4 (16.9)	−1.9 (28.6)	5.1 (41.2)	9.8 (49.6)	13.6 (56.5)	17.6 (63.7)	19.8 (67.6)	16.0 (60.8)	8.9 (48.0)	−0.9 (30.4)	−9.0 (15.8)	4.9 (40.8)
Average low °C (°F)	−15.4 (4.3)	−11.7 (10.9)	−4.9 (23.2)	2.0 (35.6)	6.7 (44.1)	11.1 (52.0)	15.6 (60.1)	17.7 (63.9)	13.1 (55.6)	5.9 (42.6)	−3.8 (25.2)	−11.9 (10.6)	2.0 (35.6)
Record low °C (°F)	−31.4 (−24.5)	−28.9 (−20.0)	−21.3 (−6.3)	−7.8 (18.0)	−0.8 (30.6)	3.7 (38.7)	8.7 (47.7)	10.1 (50.2)	1.3 (34.3)	−9.7 (14.5)	−20.0 (−4.0)	−28.1 (−18.6)	−31.4 (−24.5)
Average precipitation mm (inches)	14 (0.6)	15 (0.6)	27 (1.1)	48 (1.9)	81 (3.2)	110 (4.3)	154 (6.1)	156 (6.1)	117 (4.6)	57 (2.2)	28 (1.1)	18 (0.7)	833 (32.8)
Average rainy days	0.3	0.3	4	17	20	22	22	14	14	12	5	1	133
Average snowy days	7	8	11	4	0.3	0	0	0	0	1	7	9	47
Average relative humidity (%)	58	57	60	67	76	87	92	87	77	65	50	60	71
Mean monthly sunshine hours	178	184	216	192	199	130	122	149	197	205	188	156	2,095

**Mid-Symposium excursions**

starting point: Vladivostok (UTS +10)  
 starting time: 22 July, 2020, 08:00; end time: 22 July, 2020, 20:00

For the mid-symposium excursions on July 22 we will offer various field trips to areas and habitat types typical for the lowlands, mountains and coasts in southernmost of the Russian Far East, including:

- **Hanka lake lowlands**, with a variety of landscapes dominated by wet meadows, eutrophic ponds, relic Scots pine forests on the ancient lake terraces [key species are *Quercus mongolica*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Juniperus rigida*, *Calamagrostis langsdorffii*, *Carex laxa*, *Euryale ferrox*, *Iris ensata*]; (easy).
- **Islands of the Peter The Great Bay**, with typical island vegetation at different stages of succession after anthropogenic degradation (burning) and comparison with intact island forests [key species are *Quercus mongolica*, *Leymus mollis*, *Lathyrus maritimus*, *Dracocephalum charkevichii*, *Carex kobomugi*, *Ixeris repens*, *Trifolium pacificum*]; (easy).
- **Limestone rock outcrops on the Lozovy Mt. Range**, with typical vegetation of calcareus

rocks [key species are *Dasiphora davurica*, *Sanguisorba magnifica*, *Physocarpus amurensis*, *Sedum maximowiczii*, *Carex duriuscula*, *Cleistogenes kitagawae*]; (moderate).

- **Old-growth mixed broadleaved-conifer forests of Ussuri nature reserve** [key species are *Pinus koraiensis*, *Abies holophylla*, *Tilia amurensis*, *Kalopanax septemlobus*, *Carpinus cordata*, *Taxus cuspidata*, *Actinidia arguta*, *Schisanrda chinensis*]; (easy).
- **Vertical vegetation zonation in the Livadiiskaya Mountain**: mixed broadleaved-conifer forests (*Pinus koraiensis*, *Quercus mongolica*, *Tilia amurensis*) – dark conifer spruce-fir forests (*Picea jezoensis*, *Abies nephrolepis*) – *Betula ermanii* forests – *Microbiota decussata* scrub; (hard).
- **Dry grasslands in the southernmost Primorye Region** [key species are *Quercus dentata*, *Pinus densiflora*, *Arundinella anomala*, *Miscanthus purpurascens*, *Chrysanthemum zawadskii*, *Iris uniflora*, *Hemerocallis lilioasphodelus*]; (easy).

All mid-symposium excursions will be included in registration fees and can be selected during the registration process on the symposium website ([http://geobotanica.ru/symposium\\_2020/registration\\_2020.html](http://geobotanica.ru/symposium_2020/registration_2020.html)).



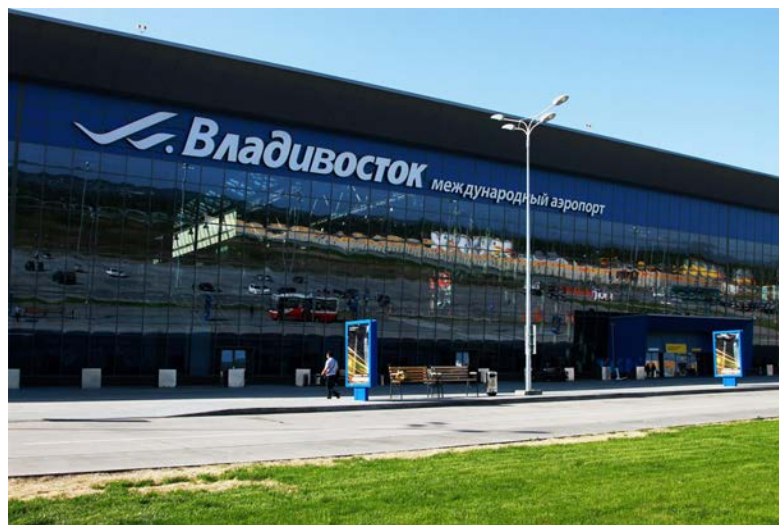
# Getting there

Vladivostok has an international airport located about 30 km from the city center.

The international airport code is VVO.

The three major airport hubs connected with Vladivostok by direct flights are Moscow (8–9 hour flight), Seoul (1.5 or 2.5 hour flights depending on airline company), and Beijing (1.5 hour flight). You also may find it convenient to travel via Hong Kong, Tokyo, Shanghai, Bangkok; all these hubs intend to increase the number of direct flights in 2020.

When you seek convenient flights, please check Aeroflot, Korean Air and S7 companies first. They provide very attractive links, especially if you fly with stops for excursions.



Maybe someone will want to try the Trans-Siberian train. Although we don't want to discourage you, please try, but be advised it is very, very boring, and not as cheap as you may think planning the trip.



## Visa

All symposium participants must have a valid Passport to enter in Russia. Please contact the nearest Russian Consulate (<http://www.mid.ru/en/maps>) to learn about the visa policy of Russia in relation to your country and to obtain visa, if you need it.

### A. For citizens of non EU countries who need the visa to enter Russia

At the Russian Consulate, everyone will be asked for an official invitation from the Russian Immigration Office and an invitation letter from the Organizing Committee of the Symposium. The symposium organizers will provide the letter from the Russian Immigration Office. This will take about 20 days, and in order to prepare it, we need to obtain from you the following information:

1. Passport data (all information on the first page of your passport including passport number);
2. Length of your stay in Russia;
3. Photocopy of the first page (with photo) of your passport, scanned and sent by e-mail;
4. Exact route of your travel within Russia (based on the itinerary);
5. Affiliation and organization-employer of participants with full mailing address, telephone and fax;

6. The city with Russian Consulate, where you intend to apply for Russian visa.

### B. For citizens of EU countries, except Great Britain, who need the visa to enter Russia

At the Russian Consulate, everyone who intends to visit Russia for academic purposes, will be asked for an official invitation from the Organizing Committee of the Symposium. Again, we need to obtain from you the information, listed in part A above.

### C. For citizens of countries eligible to obtain the electronic visa to enter the Far Eastern Federal District

Please find very useful information on the site of MoFA: <https://evisa.kdmid.ru/> and fill the application form following to instructions.

### D. For citizens of countries, who do not need visa to enter Russia

Please keep in mind, that immigration control may require the explanation about the purpose of your visit, and we, the Organizing Committee will provide as much detail as possible in a pack of documents for you to avoid problems at the border. We suggest you submit all the information listed above in part A.

Earlier submission of required documents will guarantee the timely prepared official invitation letter. As such, our deadline for SUBMISSION DOCUMENTS FOR INVITATION: 15 May, 2020.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION DOCUMENTS FOR INVITATION: 15 MAY, 2020**





We look forward to seeing you in Vladivostok!

*Pavel Krestov & Local Organizing Committee*



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