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Hosting Proposal for the 3rd Plone Conference

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Plone Conference 2005, Vienna

1. Motivation

The last year's plone conference was a great success and even turned out to be the biggest Zope event so far. The number of participants doubled to more than 300 people and national as well as international media published several articles about Plone, Zope and the conference. Organizing this huge conference was an honour and also great fun. It gave us the opportunity to gain lots of experience and knowledge of what has to be planned and which points have to be considered. Now we are able to organize an even bigger event and ensure better and efficient workflows which in turn will have an enormous cost-saving effect.

Since the team of BlueDynamics accompanies the development of Zope and Plone right from the beginning, it is primarily our concern to expand the community and to spread the knowledge about these products. The plone conference gives us the best opportunity to do so.

2. Travel opportunities

In the last few years the opportunities for cheap flights, especially within Europe, increased rapidly. The best known affordable airlines are for example [Air Berlin](#), [Sky Europe](#) and [Ryanair](#). But even the [British Airways](#) and [Air France](#), which normally are quite expensive, offer some bargains. As Vienna is right in the middle of Europe and in the centre of the EU, it is easily reachable by plane, train and car. Concerning travel issues like visa and security, most visitors from other continents are not confronted with restrictions and also don't need a visa, as long as the visitors stay no longer than 90 days in the country.

The Austrian airport (Flughafen Schwechat) is located outside the city. There are several transportation possibilities like train and bus, which bring you right to the city centre of Vienna.

City Airport Train: Vienna Centre ⇔ Airport, one-way ticket: € 9,--, 16 min.

Bus Service: Vienna, Schwedenplatz ⇔ Airport, one-way ticket: € 6,-, 20 min trips every 30 minutes or less

Taxi services available

1. Specification of target size

As the last year's plone conference motivated more than 300 attendees from all over the world, which was double as much as the first conference, we would expect for this year about 350 to 400 interested participants. Depending on the location and the interest for the conference, we are flexible and able to increase and decrease the target size.

4. Possible locations

4.1. Volksgarten Discothek

Because of the great feedback of the last year's location, the Volksgarten Discothek, and the perfect relationship to the owners, we have the opportunity to rent the location again.

The most dominant advantage of this location is, that it is already known by the visitors from last year. Everybody knows how to get there and even knows, where they can find an affordable appartement or cheap lodging. Furthermore, the location is in the city-centre and easy reachable by the public transportation from the outskirts of vienna. In addition we know what kind of technical equipment is needed and are able to improve the technical performance.

Some accommodation near by:

- [Best Western, Hotel Reither](#)
- [Hotel Arpi,](#)
- [Jugendgästehaus Wien - Brigittenau](#)
- [Jugendherberge Wien-Myrthengasse](#)

Searchengines:

[tiscover](#)

[Vienna Net Hotels](#)

4.2. Ottakringer Brewery (www.ottakringer.at)

Yes, that's right, a brewery. The Ottakringer brewery is the perfect location for the 3rd plone conference. Though it is an old building from the 19th century, it still produces the best viennese beer and overs regularly new types of it, like for example in winter there is always the "Ottakringer Bock Bier", which has a strong flavour and more alcohol in it, just to ensure that everybody survives the long, cold winter.

The brewery is located in the 16th district of Vienna and has good transport connections to the city centre (mostly via several tram-ways).

In the last years the ottakringer brewery was rebuilt and modernized. Some rooms or premises can now be rented for different events, like presentations, conferences, celebrations, etc. They offer three rooms with different size, of which one is a big old factory hall that was formerly used for barm production.

Pic.



The room "Gerstenboden", which can be translated as "barley basement" has a size of 400m² and is able to keep about 300 people.

Pic.



The second room called "Hopfenboden" - the "hop basement" is much smaller, with a size of 150 m² and is able to take 150 people.

Pic.



Both rooms, the "hop-" and the "barley-basement" have internet access and include technical equipment, like beamer, overhead-projector and microfons. For more information on the available rooms, visit the following adress: http://www.ottakringer.at/index.asp?ph_id=13

The costs for renting the location are calculated per person and per day. They already include expenses like staffing, cleaning and drinks (basically beer, non-alcoholic softdrinks and coffee).

If requested the management of the brewery can organize catering and evening entertainment.

As already mentioned, the brewery is located in the 16th district and is easily reachable with public transportation. Compared to the location of last year, the volksgarten discothek, the most important advantage is the costfactor. Given the fact that the brewery is not in the city centre, there are cheaper opportunities of lodging and also lower cost of living.

Some accommodation near by:

- [Youthhostel Schloßherberge Wilhelminenberg](#)
Costs for 4 days about € 165 (depending of choice of room)
- [Youthhostel Hütteldorf](#)
- [Hotel Lucia \(***\)](#), from € 285
- [Hotel Kavalier](#), from € 261
- [Hotel Fleger](#), from €160
- [Appartements König](#) , from € 160

5. Cost of living in Vienna

Concerning the costs of living, Vienna is ranged in the middle in comparison to other westeuropean capitals.

- Prices of transportation (including tram, bus and metro)
one-way ticket: € 1,5,- to € 2,-
one-day ticket: € 5,-
one-week ticket: € 12,50

a taxi costs between € 20 and € 30

- Prices in restaurants
a warm meal (like schnitzel): € 6,5 - € 11
pint or 0,5l beer: € 3 - € 3,2
softdrinks: € 2,4 - € 2,8
coffee: € 2,2 - € 2,5

6. Rates and sponsoring

Rates for the conference will stay the same as last year. The option of choice for talks and/or tutorial as well as the opportunity for "early bird" reservation will be kept too.

Having already organized the last year's plone conference and due to the fact of BlueDynamics strong relationship to plone and its developers, all the acquired knowledge and experience should help to maintain sufficient sponsors.

7. Organization experience (staff, logistics, technical equipment, marketing)

Concerning the experience of organizing an event, the team of BlueDynamics had the opportunity to demonstrate its skills and its creativity and proved that it is in the position to arrange a conference for more than 300 persons. Taking the advantage of the know-how, we are able to optimize the different schedules, like payment arrangements, catering supply, technical equipment, technical problemsolution on site and the appropriate public appearance in local and national media.

Furthermore there is sufficient qualified and experienced staff, which enables a perfect and satisfying flow of the conference.

8. Conclusion and preference

The team of BlueDynamics would be proud and honoured to be elected as the organizer of the Plone Conference 2005. Within this proposal we presented a new and extraordinary location and proved our experience and professional ability to arrange an event of this dimension.

In case the Plone Foundation decides, that the plone conference should take place in a different location than the year before, we would like to give our preference to Pilotsystems in Paris, with David Sapiro as organizer.

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