

Know Before You Go – Important Information for

Bio-Char IV

May 18-23, 2025

May 13, 2025

To: Biochar V Conference
From: Barbara K. Hickernell, ECI Executive Director

On behalf of Engineering Conferences International and the conference co-chairs, **Franco Berruti** (Western University, Canada), **Farid Chejne Janna** (Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Colombia), **David Chiaramonti** (Politecnico di Torino, Italy), and **Johannes Lehmann** (Cornell University, USA), we are looking forward to your participation in this conference. ECI Associate Director **Kevin Korpics** will be the ECI on-site staff.

HOTEL INFORMATION:

[Santa Marta Marriott Resort Playa Dormida](#)

Carrera 3 No 142-60, Bello Horizonte, Santa Marta, Colombia, 470006

Tel: +57 605-4410000

TRANSPORTATION

The hotel is 2.5 km from [Simon Bolivar International Airport](#). Taxis are available at the airport for the short trip to the hotel. The cost is the 30,000 – 40,000 Colombian Pesos (about US \$7- \$10).

The next closest airport is Barranquilla Ernesto Cortissoz International Airport (BAQ), about 90 km away (1 hour and 45-minute drive). To arrange a private transfer (additional cost) from BAQ to the hotel you can contact [Zharick Rojas](#) at Colombia Dream Travel.

CONFERENCE CHECK-IN AND SUNDAY SCHEDULE

ECI conference check-in begins at 16:30 in the Tayrona Ballroom Foyer and will be followed by a reception (with entertainment) and dinner.

Check in for hotel bedrooms is available from 3pm. A special check-in area for participants will be available near the Business Center.

WEATHER

The long-term forecast calls for highs during the week in the upper 80s° F (30°C) and lows around 80 ° F (27 ° C). Check www.weather.com (search Santa Marta) for the latest forecast.

EXCURSION

On Thursday from 1:30pm – 5:45pm we will have an excursion to explore the town of Santa Marta. We will explore the colonial wonders offered by the Pearl of America and the oldest city in Colombia on a guided tour of the most emblematic, religious, and historical sites in Santa Marta (Quinta de San Pedro Alejandrino, Taganga Lookout, Monument to El Pibe, historic center of Santa Marta, Santa Marta Cathedral, Gold Museum).

CONFERENCE BANQUET ON WEDNESDAY

The conference banquet on Wednesday night will be at the Santa Marta Club. Bus transportation from the hotel to the Club and back will be provided. The dress code is business casual.

SPEAKERS:

We expect that all presentations will use PowerPoint and we will have a computer projector as well as a laptop with Microsoft PowerPoint. Please bring your presentation on a memory stick for loading onto the ECI computer. If you plan to use a Mac, please bring the necessary adapters. All presentations should be loaded

the day prior to the session or no later than three hours before the session in which you are speaking begins. The students in charge of helping speakers load presentations on the conference laptop is **Sarah Uribe**.

Be sure that you provide your session chair with a *brief* biography for introductions. It is essential to the conference schedule that you keep to your given time (allowing at least 3 minutes for questions/discussion). Keeping in the tradition of these conferences, please be available during the conference for discussion and questions. Meals and social hours are perfect for discussion and questions.

POSTERS:

As noted on the website, the posters should be no larger than 1 m wide and 1.5 m high (portrait style). Tacks and or tape will be provided. **Each oral presentation and poster preview presentation will also be accompanied by a poster, to be presented normally during the poster session on the day the presentation is made.** The poster session will allow ample time for questions and answers and informal discussion between presenter and interested participants. Additional free-forum poster presentations will also be included.

PRE AND POST CONFERENCE TOURS

Green Travel DMC is offering optional pre and post conference tours for conference attendees. Details are in the links below.

[Day Trips](#)

CURRENCY

The currency in Colombia is the Colombian Peso. Currently US\$1 = 4,250 Pesos, and 1 Euro = 4,860 pesos.

ELECTRICITY / ADAPTERS

Like the United States, Colombia uses Type A and Type B power plug sockets. Electrical sockets in Colombia have a standard of 110 V and a frequency of 60 Hz. The power outlets lay flat against the wall and have two long, thin prong openings. The only difference between Type A and Type B is that Type B has an extra third hole for three-pronged plugs. An important note is that you can use Type A, two-pronged plugs in Type B outlets, but you can't use Type B plugs in a Type A outlet.

Please bring the appropriate converters and adapters for your electronic devices.

MISCELLANEOUS: The following are a few housekeeping items:

- If you have special dietary needs (e.g., vegetarian, allergies, etc.) that you have not already informed us of when you registered, please contact [Renee Smith](#) prior to the start of the conference. The hotel does not guarantee that special dietary needs can be met if they are not informed at least three days prior to the conference.
- Dress: ECI conferences are casual.
- Audio, still photo and video recording by any device (e.g., cameras, cell phones, laptops, PDAs, watches) are prohibited during the technical sessions, unless the author and ECI have granted prior permission. The content is the property of the presenters and their employers.
- ECI will have student volunteers taking photos during the week for a slide show at the banquet. By participating in this conference, you have given your consent to this.
- [ECI Code of Conduct](#). We expect everyone to abide by the ECI Code of Conduct.
- Smoking is not allowed at any conference function.
- ECI will electronically distribute a conference evaluation/questionnaire on Friday. Please complete and return it, as your comments are valuable to the current chairs, the future chairs in the series, and ECI. When you complete the survey, you will have the opportunity to download the final participant list.
- **Internet – There is wireless Internet access throughout the hotel. We have set a faster connection for conference attendees. Please use the following to access:**
 - **User: ECIBIOCHAR Password: ECI2025**

If you are having transportation difficulties and will be a late arrival, please email or text [Kevin](#) (+1-917-756-7513) so we can inform the hotel. Have a safe trip and enjoy the conference!