



MAPPA MERCIA

BIRMINGHAM UK SOTM 2013 BID

SOTM 2013 Birmingham UK Bid Conference Summary

- Bid submitted by [mappamerica](http://mappamerica.org) (UK West Midlands OSM mappers): main contact Brian Prangle brian@mappa-merciam.org
- Venue at Aston University in the heart of the city
- On-site student-standard or hotel-standard accommodation.
- Confirmed Venue which is held for 6th-8th September 2013
- Traditional conference agenda and structure: multi-stream with keynotes, presentations, workshops, panel sessions, lightning talks
- Community building activities with two streams: engaging those not able to attend with online and interactive activities; together with a range of conference fringe events.
- Easy transport access
- High “interestingness” as a destination
- Affordable Delegate Cost –suggested EUR80 max (USD106)
- Strong organising team

How we meet the criteria

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Easy access by public transport (train, bus) | Go to page 14 |
| Preferably within one hour travel of a major airport (also serviced by low-cost airlines) | Go to page 12 and 13 |
| Availability of accommodation close to the venue | Go to page 16 |
| Venue facilities (conference rooms, AV, WiFi, break out areas, right size) | Go to page 3 and 4 |
| Cost of venue and catering | Go to page 17 |
| How well the (local) organizing committee will cope with the organization | Go to page 17 and 18 |
| Interestingness of the city | Go to page 5 |
| Opportunities to promote OSM with commercial organisations within the region/country | Go to page 11 |

The Venue



This is the Conference Centre at Aston University Business School. Aston University is situated in the heart of the City, within 10-15 minutes walking distance of all the main railway stations and coach station. It is at the end of the Aston Expressway, the motorway link to the M6, and is also two streets away from Birmingham's Inner Ring Road. Importantly it is within walking distance of the main centres for shopping, restaurants, bars, clubs and entertainment!

The venue provides a range of accommodation from hotel standard in the Business School itself (160 rooms) to standard accommodation in a brand-new student accommodation block situated 5 minutes walk away.

Plenary sessions and breakout streams will take place in the university's Main Hall and G11/G63 lecture theatres. All the rooms are adjacent and are on the Ground Floor. They are equipped with AV and the university will supply a support technician. Streaming video opportunities will be investigated. Aston Business School is in an adjacent building some two minutes walk away from the lecture halls and will be where lunches are held. There is also a large comfortable lounge which can be used by delegates for "chill-out" or ad-hoc meetings and coding/hacking sessions.

There is WiFi access throughout the University Campus and each delegate will be assigned a unique ID by the University on registration.

We have visited and inspected the facilities which offer scope for further flexibility as plans for the conference become more concrete. The venue and its accommodation are on hold for us for 6th-8th September inclusive.

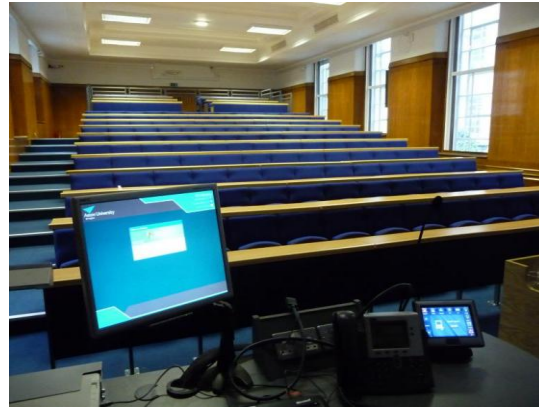
Lowered kerbs, lifts and adapted facilities, along with the compact and flat nature of the 40 acre campus, all help facilitate the mobility and general well-being of those with disabilities. Disabled car parking is available but spaces will need to be booked in advance.



Main Conference Sessions and Breakout Stream 1 – capacity 600



Conference Teas/Coffees and Exhibition Space



Breakout Stream 2



Lunches/breakfasts in Aston Business School Restaurant Ad hoc meeting space (it's actually a lot larger than this picture suggests)

Conference Structure

We propose a traditional conference structure with keynote addresses, plenary sessions for major topics, and two breakout streams (hack and map). Formats will be formal presentation, informal lightning talks, workshops and panel sessions. Ideas which we propose introducing are a poster display (for those who cannot attend in person but wish to present something) and “fringe” areas for the community initiatives (see following section for details). It might also be the year that we allow sponsors to exhibit. Rather than a keynote address from Steve Coast we could have a set on stage with a couple of armchairs and someone with some media experience to interview him, followed by an open Q&A session.

We propose a general theme of **“Change”**. We feel OSM is maturing both as a platform and as a dataset (albeit at widely divergent rates around the globe). Consequently it faces many changes to address the multiple challenges of dealing with the new problems brought about by its stunning growth and increasing adoption by external data users. With Birmingham still undergoing rapid development change and having such a rich historical heritage we could also extend the theme of change into sub-themes of mapping historical change and development changes.

Community Building Activities

Our ideas for community building activities consist of two streams: the first to engage those (the many) who cannot get to the conference whilst the conference is in progress, and secondly amongst the delegates present

Non-delegates

- Social media walls : Twitter and Facebook
- A Google hangout
- A conference blog
- A conference radio station
- A simultaneous marathon global armchair mapping party – “Long Night of the Extended Conference”
- A world-wide “Most unusual object/sign/situation found whilst surveying” competition – can be run for several weeks in the lead up to the conference
- An online digital art exhibition incorporating maps – this could also involve the presentation of an annual prize. This could be extended with exhibition space for physical artworks.

Delegates

- An optional “buddy” system at online registration for delegates attending their first conference.
- Emulating the Olympics – a brief handover ceremony from Tokyo.
- A local “treasure hunt” competition – identifying the locations of photos around Birmingham and the West Midlands. Team-based with ad-hoc teams formed at physical registration.
- A “fashion parade” competition for those who like to dress zanily in map-themed attire.
- Local Excursion programme.

Why Birmingham?

Birmingham has one of the youngest populations in the world. Yet despite its intellectual and cultural heritage and youthful, innovative spirit, Birmingham remains a city with a self effacing and down-to-earth charm – never boastful, never arrogant but curious, enthusiastic and focused on making things happen. Mirroring the modest nature of its people, it is a city that gets on with it.

The New York Times ranks Birmingham as a great destination: it placed Birmingham at number 19 - above Vienna and the Maldives - in its list of [The 45 Places to Go in 2012](#) thanks to its burgeoning dining scene.

During the London 2012 Olympics the US and Jamaican teams chose Birmingham as their training base.

Birmingham –an Historic City



The power of collaboration is behind some of Birmingham’s biggest achievements. In the 18th century scientists, inventors and natural philosophers Erasmus Darwin, Matthew Boulton, James Watt, Joseph Priestley and Josiah Wedgwood would gather in Birmingham and engage in intellectual debates in The Lunar Society. Their conversations were the brainpower behind the Industrial Revolution, which led to Birmingham becoming known as “the workshop of the world”. Pioneered by this esteemed group of Birmingham industrial glitterati, the Lunar Society still exists today.

Birmingham is reputed to have more canals than Venice. Certainly, in the middle of the 18th Century, there were 174 miles of canal in the area: now only 114 miles of them remain as navigable water. Walking or cycling the towpaths gives you a chance to see the city and its surrounding towns in a new light. In the centre of the city, over 15 miles of canal have been improved to make safe and enjoyable walking and cycling - you don't need a boat! Birmingham and the Black Country developed, at least in part, **because of the canals**. When walking, cycling or boating you can see some of the reasons why the history of the canals is part of the development of the city and its industries.



Birmingham –a Food City

Birmingham is a city fast becoming known as a culinary capital with three Michelin-starred restaurants, more than any other English city outside London. With 200 restaurants serving British and international cuisine, there is something to suit every taste. Birmingham also houses the [Balti Triangle](#), an area of the city that is home to a beloved Pakistani-Kashmiri curry dish invented here.

A huge selection of bars and clubs allows delegates to relax and unwind in whatever atmosphere they desire, from comfortable canal-side bars to dance clubs.

Birmingham - Home of J RR Tolkien



Tolkien, author of *The Hobbit* and *Lord of the Rings* spent most of his childhood in Birmingham from 1895-1911 and a [Tolkien Trail](#) has been established following their life in the city. In 1896 Mabel Tolkien and her two young sons settled at 264 Wake Green Road, a cottage in Sarehole village, 4 miles from the centre of Birmingham. Coming from the hot dry veld of South Africa, the green fields and woods made a deep impression on Tolkien. The most exciting thing for him in the village of Sarehole was Sarehole Mill, which he refers to as 'the great mill' in *The Hobbit*. It stands on the River Cole and it is said that Tolkien based the bad-tempered miller in *The Lord of the Rings* on the miller there. The Mill is now run as a museum by Birmingham City Council. Tolkien fans will be familiar with the Two Towers: it is believed they were inspired by two local Birmingham landmarks –

Perrot's Folly and Edgbaston Waterworks Tower. Tolkien would have seen them regularly as he lived nearby in Stirling Road for a time. Perrot's Folly is a 96 foot tower and was built in 1758.

Birmingham – a city of independent culture and fusion

British, West Indian, Irish, Indian, Pakistani, Bangla Deshi, Somali and Eastern European - the diversity of the city's residents brings a rich cultural mix to Birmingham. 30% of Birmingham's residents are of minority ethnic origin and the city is home to Europe's first arts centre dedicated to developing and promoting African, Caribbean and Asian arts and culture.

Birmingham is a city of many languages; the European Cities Monitor 2010, by Cushman & Wakefield, ranked it as the best city in terms of languages spoken, and the best score of all English core cities.

Almost 12,000 international students choose to study in Birmingham, adding to the international and cultural diversity of the city.

This rich ethnic and cultural diversity means delegates who have religious duties to perform will find most of the world's religions present in the City: finding a place of worship should not prove difficult. Indeed, the Martin Luther King Multi Faith Centre is situated on the Aston University campus, two minutes' walk from the conference venue.

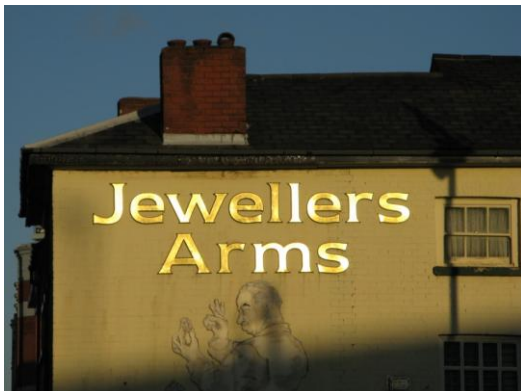
This ethnic diversity could prove to be very useful for any Scholarship programme and a "buddy" system with local organisations will be explored to help make delegates on this programme feel at home.

City Visitor Attractions

Birmingham is the most visited English city outside London for European visitors and with 98% of the UK within a 4 hour journey, the city is a good base from which to explore the rest of the country.

Jewellery Quarter

A visit to the historic [Jewellery Quarter](#) is essential if you're looking for something extra special. With over 100 jewellery outlets you'll discover custom made pieces and antique collections, all at great value. The



Jewellery Quarter is the largest working jewellery centre in Europe (40% of the UK's jewellery is produced here) and even has its own working museum.

The Jewellery Quarter has a high concentration of heritage Georgian and Victorian architecture and is a delight to stroll around, with lots of pubs, clubs, bars and restaurants.

The Bull Ring

The £500m Bullring development has transformed Birmingham into one of Europe's leading shopping destinations. Fronted by the iconic Selfridges, the Bullring has become not only a shopping centre, but an international city attraction. 26 football pitches worth of shops, boutiques and restaurants lie within it, which makes it not only the largest, but one of the most stylish retail developments in Europe.



Cadbury World

Cadbury World is on Cadbury's [Bournville](#) manufacturing site. Whilst not a factory tour, Cadbury World offers its visitors the opportunity to explore and discover chocolate's history, to learn about the origins and story of the Cadbury business - one of the world's largest confectionery manufacturers. Cadbury World is one of Birmingham's largest leisure attractions - welcoming over 500,000 visitors each year.

The only other Cadbury World on the planet is in Dunedin New Zealand.

New Library of Birmingham

This £188m project opens to the public for the first time on September 3rd 2013 and will be the biggest public library in the country. There will undoubtedly be a major programme of launch events and we will work hard to get the Library to provide a special event for SOTM delegates involving the BFI Mediatheque, which will provide free access to thousands of the rarest films and television programmes from the British Film Institute's national Archive; one of the world's most comprehensive archive of Shakespeare collections or the historic map collection held at the Heritage Archive There is also a map collection at the University of Birmingham.

Birmingham, birthplace of heavy metal music

Ozzy and Black Sabbath Roots Tours are available on the Big Brum Buz following in the early footsteps of some of this country's greatest rock bands from the 1960s and 1970s to discover the roots of Black Sabbath, Led Zeppelin, Moody Blues, the Move and many more.

Nearby Visitor Attractions

Delegates are spoilt for choice for potential excursions and we can arrange chargeable trips to any of the following destinations.

Stratford upon Avon, birthplace of William Shakespeare

Stratford upon Avon is the birthplace of playwright William Shakespeare and home to the Royal Shakespeare Company. The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust is the guardian of five houses connected to the playwright's life and family, including the house where he was born. A guided tour is certainly recommended, but it is equally pleasant to simply walk around and enjoy the town. The town is about an hour away by train or bus.

Ironbridge, birthplace of the Industrial Revolution

Awarded World Heritage status by UNESCO for the area's unique contribution to the birth of the Industrial Revolution in the 18th century, Ironbridge Gorge has a cluster of 10 museums and of course the famous Iron Bridge of 1779, the first bridge made of this material anywhere in the world.

300 years ago this was the world's technological hotspot where Abraham Darby first perfected the use of coke to mass-produce iron. Entrepreneurs and Iron masters such as William Reynolds and John Wilkinson made good use of this wonder product. Wilkinson was even buried in an iron coffin!

An hour's journey by road from Birmingham brings you back to the origin of the Industrial Revolution.

Bletchley Park, birthplace of modern computing

[Bletchley Park](#) is the fabled Allied code-breaking centre of WWII where legendary mathematician Alan Turing laid many of the foundations of modern computing. It is situated close to Milton Keynes and is reachable from Birmingham in a little over an hour. There is a wealth of historical material and working exhibits from both the National Codes Centre and the National Museum of Computing which are situated at Bletchley.

Sustainable Birmingham

Birmingham is one of only three places in England to be awarded a Green Flag by the Audit Commission for work on climate change. A new five year partnership has been launched between Birmingham City Council, Cisco and MIT under the Clinton Global Climate Change Initiative and Birmingham will be the lead global city to develop smarter living, smart homes.

Other key projects include:

- Birmingham is a pilot city in the government's new electric car initiative
- The University of Birmingham has recently unveiled England's first hydrogen fuelling station which is part of its research into the hydrogen economy
- Aston University is home to the European Bio Energy Research Institute, a major centre for biomass energy research

Birmingham is one of Britain's greenest cities, with 8,000 acres of parks and open spaces, including Sutton Park – the largest urban nature reserve in Europe. Eastside City Park, completed in autumn 2012, is the first major new city centre park in Birmingham for more than 125 years and is 5 minutes' walk from the venue.

Opportunities for OSM promotion

The wider Birmingham region is home to more than 12,500 digital and technology firms, which employ more than a fifth (21%) of the UK's games workforce. Industry leaders such as Activision, Sega, Microsoft's Rare Game Studio, Maverick TV, Codemasters, Blitz, BBC and Centresoft have made the area their home. Our plan currently is to work with [Digital Birmingham](#) to promote the software development opportunities of geospatial data and our project to the regional software community, and then to seek other opportunities nationally to do the same.

Public Endorsements

Birmingham Convention Bureau have given us tremendous assistance in venue selection, bid preparation and can provide more logistical support for sourcing resources and providing discounts/vouchers for local venues. Many of the services are free and there is further chargeable support available (this latter is more geared to large commercial/political conferences who can afford them). However it indicates the scale of local authority support in attracting convention business to Birmingham.

Marketing Birmingham Lucy Gibbons Business Development Manager

"I am delighted to support your proposal to host the State of the Map Conference in 2013 in Birmingham, UK. Birmingham is a dynamic, confident and expanding city with a proven track record of delivering major events. Our conference and event infrastructure is unrivalled in Europe, with world class conference facilities, an extensive range of accommodation, excellent domestic and international accessibility and a rich lifestyle offering. In addition to this, we recognise that great events require experienced and committed partnerships at a local level to be truly successful and Birmingham has demonstrated its ability to come together and deliver amazing events time and time again.

As a city that celebrates and reflects international culture and diversity like no other, Birmingham is well placed to host such a prestigious international convention. Delegates will find Birmingham a friendly and welcoming city with restaurants, nightlife, arts, culture and attractions to appeal to all interests.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity of providing this proposal and look forward to discussing it in more detail. We would be honoured to have the opportunity to work with you and deliver a truly outstanding State of the Map Conference in 2013."

Visit England James Berresford CEO

"I am delighted to learn that Birmingham is bidding to host the State of the Map in 2013. I fully endorse this bid and I know that our partners Within the UK conference industry will deliver a magnificent and successful event for all of your delegates. England is one of the most dynamic and exciting global destinations and will be a popular choice for your delegates. As the national tourism agency for England, VisitEngland will work closely with our colleagues in Birmingham, and nationwide, to ensure that attendees are given every assistance to make the most of their visit. Naturally, we hope that many will choose to extend their stay to experience our rich history, culture and countryside. I am confident that if you choose Birmingham to become your host destination, not only will you be delighted with the business amenities and conference programme, but also the warm welcome that makes an event in England a wonderful and unforgettable experience."

Getting to Birmingham

Access by air

Birmingham Airport is one of the UK's busiest airports for charter traffic and has the highest proportion of business traffic second only to London Heathrow. In 2009, it handled over nine million passengers and Birmingham Airport acts as the Midlands' premier gateway to Europe, Scandinavia, North America, the Middle East and the Indian sub-continent.

Currently, over 50 airlines operate scheduled and charter services to more than 120 destinations including daily departures to New York and Dubai. Birmingham Airport have a useful [map](#) showing major connections. Please see below for a sample list of destinations outside Europe.

For air travel from European destinations Lufthansa fly from most major German cities. Budget airlines Ryanair fly between Birmingham and Dublin, Girona, Barcelona, Budapest, Katowice, Trieste, Murcia, Montpellier, and Malta; and Flybe operate flights to Birmingham from Vienna, Zagreb, Prague, Lyon, Nice, Munich, Stuttgart, Hannover, Milan, Amsterdam, Madrid, Geneva and Zurich.

Birmingham International rail station, serving Birmingham Airport, connects to Birmingham city centre in just 11 minutes.

Alternatively, for more choice of destinations delegates might like to fly to East Midlands Airport but although it's only an hour by road, public transport is more geared towards getting passengers to Nottingham or Derby, so it's slow and expensive to get to Birmingham, unless delegates share pre-booked taxis.

Delegates choosing to arrive in the UK at London Heathrow or Gatwick can either take advantage of direct coach connections to Birmingham or take the train to central London (from Heathrow you can also take the Tube – what we call the underground Metro rapid transit system - which is slower but cheaper) and then train to Birmingham. Trains to Birmingham depart from both Marylebone and Euston. Fastest trains are from Euston, cheapest trains are from Marylebone. Both services arrive at Birmingham within ten minutes' walk of the venue.

Delegates arriving at Manchester can take advantage of direct coach connections to Birmingham or take a train into Manchester and then transfer to a train for Birmingham

| From | Stops | Via | Airline | Time |
|---------------|-------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Tokyo | 1 | Amsterdam | KLM | 13h 55m |
| | 1 | Paris | Air France | 18h 10m |
| Beijing | 1 | Brussels | Brussels | 14h 45m |
| | 1 | Istanbul | Turkish | 17h 20m |
| | 1 | Amsterdam | China S | 17h 55m |
| Sydney | 2 | Guangzhou & Amsterdam | China S | 31h 50m |
| | 1 | Frankfurt | Qantas & Lufthansa | 25h 50m |
| | 1 | Dubai | Emirates | 26h 50m |
| Toronto | 1 | Newark | United | 12h 50m |
| | 1 | New York | Air Canada | 11h 55m |
| | 2 | Montreal & Brussels | Air Canada & Lufthansa | 13h 25m |
| Vancouver | 2 | Montreal & Brussels | Brussels | 16h 20m |
| | 1 | Munich | Lufthansa | 14h |
| | 1 | Frankfurt | Lufthansa | 12h 50m |
| New York | 1 | Amsterdam | KLM | 9h 40m |
| | 1 | Amsterdam | Delta | 9h 40m |
| | 1 | Paris | Air France | 10h 5m |
| Washington DC | 1 | Amsterdam | Delta | 9h 45m |
| | 1 | Paris | Air France | 12h 40m |
| Nairobi | 1 | Amsterdam | KLM | 12h 15m |
| | 1 | Dubai | Emirates | 15h 45m |
| Johannesburg | 1 | Amsterdam | KLM | 14h 25m |
| | 1 | Paris | Air France | 13h 45m |
| | 1 | Frankfurt | Lufthansa | 14h 45m |

Delegates travelling from destinations requiring them to transfer from one of the European hubs, Paris, Frankfurt or Amsterdam will find convenient and frequent services with flight times of less than 90 minutes. Delegates travelling into London Heathrow or Manchester airports will be able to transfer to Birmingham via train from the city centres (journey times of less than 90 minutes) or National Express coach service directly from the airports.

Birmingham Airport is just 9 miles/13km from the city centre and has a light rail Airlink Shuttle for a 5 minute transit to Birmingham International Railway Station, from where, with up to 9 trains an hour, delegates can be in the city centre in just 11 minutes. Cost for a single rail ticket from Birmingham International Station to Birmingham New Street Station is £3.10/3.72€.

A taxi journey from Birmingham Airport to the city centre will cost approximately £25.00/30.00€ and takes around 25 minutes depending on traffic.

Access by rail

Birmingham New Street Station lies in the heart of the city and is the hub of the UK rail network, providing high-speed trains to London (Virgin Trains) operating three times an hour, with a travel time of just 82 minutes. Alternatively London Midland offer a slower and generally cheaper service to London via Northampton.

Chiltern Railways leave Snow Hill or Moor Street stations in the heart of the city, offering a second mainline service to London with journey times from 90 minutes, which is cheaper, though slower, than the main West Coast Line operated by Virgin Trains.

CrossCountry, the UK's most extensive rail network, adds even more options for Birmingham-bound travellers.

Delegates travelling from Europe may prefer to travel via Eurostar. Eurostar have links with UK national rail operators providing easy connections from continental Europe via St Pancras in London to major UK cities.

- Paris (500km) – 4 hour 27 minutes, up to 16 trains per day
- Brussels (470km) – 4 hours 2 minutes, up to 7 trains per day
- Lyon (895km) – 7 hours 42 minutes, up to 16 trains per day

Delegates will find hotels and the venue within easy reach of all Birmingham City Centre stations: the venue is a 10-15 minute walk.

Access by road

It is equally easy to reach Birmingham by road as the city lies at the heart of the UK motorway network with the M6, M42, M54 and M5 all servicing the city from every direction. For those who would prefer to be driven, the National Express coach service offers a fast and convenient link to most major UK cities and towns from the newly transformed, multi-million pound coach station in Digbeth on the east side of the city centre. The coach station is a 15-20 minute walk to the venue and associated accommodation.

Access by foot

Hardy, energetic delegates with lots of time on their hands can reach Birmingham via the [European long distance route E2](#) from Stranraer in Scotland or from Nice in France and all points in between. The last part of the route is along the [Heart of England Way](#) as it skirts the Eastern edge of the Birmingham conurbation. This would be a great mapping expedition as large parts of the route are neither mapped nor part of the E2 relation. What a way to get to the conference! What a conference paper it would make! **A complimentary delegate pass will be available to anyone making it here via the E2 from Nice or Stranraer.**

Access by bicycle

Birmingham lies on National Route 5 of the National Cycle Network (NCN), a long distance cycle route which connects Reading and Holyhead via Oxford, Banbury, Stratford-upon-Avon, Redditch, Bromsgrove, **Birmingham**, Walsall, Stafford, Stoke-on-Trent, Chester, Colwyn Bay and Bangor. The route, and other regional connections, gives delegates an opportunity to journey through rural and urban landscapes at the heart of England from the spires of Oxford to the birth place of William Shakespeare on through Redditch and the rolling landscape of North Warwickshire into Birmingham, the geographical heart of the NCN. Or from Derby via Walsall and then through Sandwell Country Park, Lichfield and Burton Upon Trent and following the railway path from Etwell.

Access by canal

Birmingham is reputed to have more canals than Venice and lies at the heart of the UK canal network. Within the City Centre canals are a favourite entertainment backdrop and have many new residential developments alongside. They also form the backbone of traffic-free jogging, walking and cycling routes into and out of the city centre.

For delegates coming from London, the [Grand Union Canal](#) leaves the River Thames at Brentford and climbs over fifty locks up into the Chiltern Hills. It descends then climbs again to a new summit in Birmingham, 137 miles and 166 locks later. Boatmen used to claim to do it in five days but allow well over a week if you want to get any sleep!

Those coming from the North would use the Trent & Mersey Canal, the Shropshire Union Canal; those from the West the Worcester & Birmingham Canal; and from the South the Oxford Canal.

For other canal routes consult the map [here](#)

Transport within the city

Birmingham city centre is compact, with much of it pedestrianised so the easiest way to get between the conference, hotels, restaurants and bars is on foot. Delegates should find everything they are looking for within 20 minutes walking distance in the city centre meaning there is little need for public transport.

For delegates who prefer to take taxis for short journeys there are major taxi ranks at New Street Station, Broad Street (outside the International Convention Centre) and The Mailbox. Delegates should expect most journeys within the city centre to cost approximately £5.00 - £7.00//6.00€ – 8.40€).



Delegate Cost Considerations

Conference Registration

Maximum of EUR80 (to be agreed with OSMF Board); with level of Early Bird discounts to be decided.

Accommodation

162 bedrooms onsite in Aston Business School with the following single B&B rates:

- Classic Rooms - £46 including VAT
- Standard Rooms - £58 including VAT
- Superior Rooms - £69 including VAT

Double or Twin occupancy - £15 supplement in Standard & Superior Rooms

Student accommodation in adjacent building (newly built – opened last year) -£36 including VAT

Additionally there are 2 backpackers hostels in Birmingham:

[Birmingham Central Backpackers Hostel](#) which is the closer - £17per night

[Hatters Birmingham](#) which is the larger hostel - it is slightly further away but still central – close to the Jewellery Quarter - £14.50 per night for dorm room

Draft Budget

TOTAL £47,950 ex VAT based on an estimated attendance of 300 delegates

| Item | Unit | Total | Basis |
|---------------------|------|---------|--|
| Room Hire | - | £1,950 | Quotation |
| Day Delegate Rate | £30 | £27,000 | Quotation for estimate of 300 delegates for 3 days |
| Conference Dinner | £25 | £7,500 | Rate card for 300 delegates |
| Streaming video | | £4,000 | Estimate only |
| Conference ephemera | | £1,500 | Estimate only |
| Insurance | | £1,000 | Estimate only |
| Contingency | | £5,000 | |

Notes:

1. Room hire includes AV and support technician (excludes streaming video)
2. Daily Delegate Rate includes:
 - Unlimited beverages including tea/coffee/pastries on arrival, biscuits mid-morning and afternoon tea with minicakes
 - A three course buffet lunch
 - Mineral water, delegate name cards, paper, pens, stationery box
3. Conference ephemera includes items such as volunteer T shirts, signage, banners etc.

The Organising Team

The West Midlands has an active OSM community which meets monthly and organises mapping parties during the summer months. It has its own [website](#) and blog

The Project Team Leader is available full time for at least 6 weeks prior to the conference.

- The project team has already met 3 times and has a separate mappamerica mailing list for conference discussion and organisation.
- Board-level experience with OSMF.
- The project team is assisted by excellent local Convention Bureau support.



- The project team has wide range of commercial, academic and public sector experience and the local members are used to working together
- All project team members, except two, live within 30 minutes of the Conference Venue

| Name | OSM username | Conference Role | Experience |
|---|---------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Brian Prangle brian@mappa-merciam.org | brianboru | Project Lead | OSM mapper for 5 years. ex-CTO of a Systems Integrator with many years commercial IT project experience |
| Andy Robinson | blackadder | TBA | Ex-OSMF Secretary & Treasurer. Previous SOTM delivery experience. |
| Andrew McKenzie | | AV: streaming video and radio | Cabinet Office Open Data User Group member. Video and audio interviews with people at open data hack days and Open Knowledge Foundation events. Assistance at OpenTech events in previous years |
| Andy Mabbett | pigsonthewing | TBA | Active local mapper; Wikipedia ambassador |
| Mike Duffy | miked29 | TBA | Active local mapper |
| Matt Williams | milliams | TBA | Active local mapper and developer |
| Jonathan Harley | spiffy | Conference Web site & social media | Active local mapper; geo-software entrepreneur www.spiffy.com |
| Stuart Lester | stu_lester | Sponsorship programme | Active local mapper; local authority GIS manager; opensource and open data advocate; geo-networker |
| Rob Nickerson | RobJN | TBA | Contributor to OSM for nearly 2 years. Also worked on improving wiki documentation to help newcomers involved in "Open Data" groups that have successfully obtained public sector data as an additional source of information for mappers. |
| Shaun McDonald | smsm1 | TBA | ITWorld developer. Maintains http://blogs.openstreetmap.org/ and http://taginfo.openstreetmap.org.uk/ . |
| Nick Whitelegg | nickw | TBA | Creator of Freemap |
| Florian Lainez | overflorian | TBA | Member of OSM-France, involved in all the topics related to disabilities; mapping parties organizer; now resident in West Midlands. |

And finally – a few Birmingham pubs!

