

# BELARUSIAN STATE ACADEMY OF ARTS:

*Dynamic  
and Creative*



*A GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL  
APPLICANTS AND STUDENTS*





## **Welcome to the Belarusian State Academy of Arts**

### **Why the Academy?**

Faculties and Specialities. Period of Study  
Master's Degree Course  
Postgraduate Study  
Language of Instruction  
Preparatory Department  
Tuition Fees  
Accommodation and Facilities  
Contact Information

### **Information on Admission**

How to Apply  
An Applicant's Portfolio Preparation Tips  
Visas  
How to Get to Belarus  
How to Find us  
Things to Do First upon your Arrival in Minsk  
Where to Stay in Minsk

### **Practical Information**

Belarus: Key Facts  
Student life. After Classes

# WHY THE ACADEMY?

*Faculties and Specialities. Period of Study*

*Master's Degree Course*

*Postgraduate Study*

*Language of Instruction*

*Preparatory Department*

*Tuition Fees*

*Accommodation and Facilities*

*Contact Information*

The Belarusian State Academy of Arts (BSAA) has had a rich and illustrious history since its establishment in 1945 producing outstanding graduates in a vast range of specialities in art and design industries. BSAA is based in Minsk, and it is the only higher education institution of arts in the Republic of Belarus that prepares students for a career of an artist, an actor, a theatre, film and TV director, a designer, an art historian, etc. It aims to provide students with the education that will allow them to meet the challenges of the creative industries now and in the future. The Academy employs unique teaching staff who are acknowledged as experts in their fields and are at the forefront of developments in their subject area. This is demonstrated not only through providing students with solid academic knowledge and skills, but also through helping them develop their talents and getting acquainted with new trends in the fields of art, science and culture.

Our students cannot be lost in large classes. The faculties limit class size up to 5-6 people, making individual attention and interaction among students and lecturers possible. Our students are encouraged to meet their lecturers for one-on-one consultation throughout their course, which creates an environment promoting personal development and learning.

Undergraduate, master's degree and postgraduate students and the teaching staff of the Academy take an active part in national and international scientific and creative events, develop and realise their ideas and concepts as well as create new projects.

Our graduates are in demand and are highly sought after by regional, national and international employers. BSAA's alumni are enterprising, employable and able to make a powerful contribution to the society, culture and economy throughout

the world. A lot of them have achieved significant success and gained recognition in their field both in our country and abroad. So why not add your name by studying at BSAA?

Our students and lecturers benefit from the geographical position of Belarus in the centre of Europe to experience and appreciate the most significant and interesting art exhibitions, theatre performances and film premiéres.

The Academy is an outstanding platform for your future career in the field of fine and decorative and applied arts, design as well as theatre, filmmaking and television. We strive to provide our students with the best academic opportunities and experience for personal development. This attracts young people from different countries. Here you can meet students from Austria, Denmark, China, Estonia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Syria, Turkey, Ukraine, the USA, Venezuela, etc.

BSAA has a lot of partner institutions in different countries of Europe, Asia and Latin America.



# ***Faculties and Specialities. Period of Study***

## ***THEATRE FACULTY***

- Acting (Drama Theatre and Film)
- Acting (Puppet Theatre)
- Acting (Musical Theatre)
- Directing (Drama Theatre)
- Directing (Musical Theatre)
- Directing (Puppet Theatre)
- Directing (Variety Theatre)
- Directing (the Circus)
- Art History (History and Theory of Theatre)
- Art History (Theatrical Activity Organisation)

***Period of study***

***Directing – 5 years***

***Acting – 4 years***

***Art History areas – 4.5 years***

## ***FACULTY OF SCREEN ARTS***

- Cinematography (Film)
- Cinematography (TV)
- Film and TV Directing (Film)
  - Feature film
  - Documentary
  - Animation
- Film and TV Directing (TV)
- Film and TV Directing (Sound Engineering)
- Art History (TV and Film Studies)
- Art History (TV and Film Production Management)
- Art History (Screenwriting)

***Period of study***

***Cinematography (Film), Directing (Film) – 5 years***

***Cinematography (TV), Directing (TV) – 4 years***

***Sound Engineering – 4 years***

***Art History areas – 4.5 years***

Foreign nationals can apply for study in all specialities except for specialities of Film Directing and Film Cinematography in which education is only at the expense of the budget.

## **ART FACULTY**

- Painting (Easel Painting)
- Painting (Theatrical Scenic Painting)
- Painting (Film Set Painting/Production Design)
- Monumental and Decorative Art (Mural Painting)
- Monumental and Decorative Art (Restoration)
- Sculpture
- Graphic Arts
- Art History (Fine Arts)

***Period of study***

***6 years***

***Art History – 4.5 years***

## **FACULTY OF DESIGN AND DECORATIVE AND APPLIED ARTS**

- Three-Dimensional Design
  - Means of Production and Vehicle Design
  - Consumer Products Design
  - Furniture Design
- Objects and Spaces Design
  - Exposition Design
  - Interior Design
- Graphic Design
  - Photographics
- Communication Design
  - TV Advertising
- Multimedia Design
- Decorative and Applied Arts (Ceramics)
- Decorative and Applied Arts (Textiles)
- Decorative and Applied Arts (Costume Design)
- Decorative and Applied Arts (Glassware)
- Decorative and Applied Arts (Metalwork)

***Period of study***

***5 years.***

# ***FACULTY OF FURTHER TRAINING AND RE-TRAINING***

This offers individual and group internships, further training and retraining courses in various specialities.

## ***MASTER'S DEGREE COURSE***

A master's degree course is the second stage of higher education aiming at

- in-depth professional training, study of modern scientific achievements in the arts and trends in modern art;
- formation of knowledge and skills of research and educational activities which act as a foundation for undertaking a postgraduate (PhD) programme and/or enhance your employability.

Master's degree programmes are offered in

- Theatre Art
- Fine Art, Decorative and Applied Arts and Architecture
- Film, TV and other Screen Arts
- Industrial Aesthetics and Design.

Master's degrees take one year to complete through full-time study.

All international applicants have to pass an admission interview in their area of speciality.

The academic year begins on 1 September.

Master's degree training programmes focus on a number of areas, including

- the study of general subjects (philosophy and methodology of science, a foreign language, the basics of information technology, pedagogy and psychology of higher school);
- the study of special training courses (special disciplines and professional courses);
- research work (working on and submitting a master's degree thesis).

On completing the programme and submitting their theses graduates get their MA degrees.

Both full-time and part-time forms of education are available in a number of specialities.



## ***POSTGRADUATE STUDY***

To be admitted into a PhD Programme which corresponds to Candidate of Science degree programme in our country applicants should have their master's degree, an inclination for research work confirmed by scientific publications, participation in research projects, scientific conferences, seminars, etc.

PhD programmes are offered in

- Theatre Art
- Fine Art, Decorative and Applied Arts and Architecture
- Film, TV and other Screen Arts
- Industrial Aesthetics and Design.

Both full-time (three years) and part-time (four years) programmes are available.

The academic year runs from 1 November to 31 October.

On completing the programme and submitting their theses graduates get their PhD degrees.

- To be admitted into a Doctoral Programme which corresponds to Doctor of Science degree programme in our country applicants should have their PhD degree, articles published in scientific journals, and other materials making up a theoretical and experimental foundation for the doctoral thesis.

Full-time three-year programmes are offered in

- Theatre Art
- Fine Art, Decorative and Applied Arts and Architecture
- Film, TV and other Screen Arts
- Industrial Aesthetics and Design.

The academic year runs from 1 November to 31 October.

On completing the programme and submitting their theses graduates get their Doctor of Science degrees.

Further information can be obtained from the Postgraduate Study Department.

## ***The beginning of the academic year can vary depending on the faculty:***

Preparatory Department – 10 September

Theatre Faculty – 1 September

Faculty of Screen Arts – 1 September

Art Faculty – 1 October

Faculty of Design and Decorative and Applied Arts – 1 October

Master's Degree Course – 1 September

Postgraduate Study – 1 November.

***International applicants whose first language is not Russian or who do not meet the Russian language condition can be offered to take a course in the Russian language to achieve an appropriate level, as well as in some special subjects to improve their knowledge and skills in the subjects related to the chosen specialities at the Preparatory Department.***

### **LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION - RUSSIAN**

#### **TUITION FEES**

Foreign nationals can apply for study only on a fee-paying basis in all specialities at all faculties of the Academy (except for specialities of Film and TV Directing (Film) and Cinematography (Film) in which education is only at the expense of the budget.

Tuition fees are charged in Belarusian roubles at the rate of the National Bank of the Republic of Belarus.







# ***Accommodation and Facilities***

## ***HALL OF RESIDENCE***

Now 201 students of the Academy can share 72 study bedrooms in the hall of residence. Every study bedroom block has en-suite facilities as well as a refrigerator and a built-in wardrobe. On every floor there are well-equipped shared kitchen facilities. A laundrette and a common room are also provided for the students.

## ***EXHIBITION HALLS "ACADEMIA" AND "KODEX"***

They include diploma works and the best course as well as creative works of the students of the Art Faculties and the Faculty of Design and Decorative and Applied Arts. Since their establishing, a lot of exhibitions have been held, and performances and happenings, including international ones, have taken place in these exhibition halls.

The exhibition hall "Academy" is a compact and convenient space for the organization of art exhibitions, small master classes, lectures, seminars.

The exhibition hall "KODEX" (formerly the museum of the BGAI) has extensive areas suitable for exhibiting large-scale exhibition projects, large-scale exhibitions, major events of contemporary art.

## ***YE.MIROVICH STUDENT THEATRE STUDIO***

The Ye.Mirovich Student Theatre Studio came into being in 1949 and since then it has become a venue to demonstrate diploma works at the time of final exams. Presentations of course and diploma performances, classes, exams, conferences, concerts, seminars, meetings, masterclasses of Belarusian and international specialists are held at the Student Theatre Studio, too.

## ***CENTRE OF EXPERIMENTAL DIRECTION***

The Centre aims to support young talented directors, actors and set designers at the stage of their training, creative formation and further professional growth.

## ***LIBRARY***

The library provides lending and reference services of the core material to support all the courses and satisfies the information need. The specialist staff will help you find the information you need.

## ***SPORT HALL***

Every student is welcome to participate in numerous sports activities. One can choose between basketball, table tennis, swimming, etc. Academic sports contests are held annually in various sports.

## ***CAFÉ "MÜNCHHAUSEN"***

Close to the main building there is a café of the Academy. The menu is quite varied. You can also just sit down and drink a cup of tea, coffee or other hot or cold beverages.

## ***CONTACT INFORMATION***

Detailed information on each specialty, tuition cost, a list of documents required for admission to a degree, etc. can be found on the website of the Academy: [www.bdam.by](http://www.bdam.by).

For further information on the issues mentioned above or assistance with your application please contact the International Relations Department: [international@bdam.by](mailto:international@bdam.by).









# INFORMATION ON ADMISSION

*How to Apply*

*An Applicant's Portfolio Preparation Tips*

*Visas*

*How to Get to Belarus*

*How to Find us*

*Things to Do First upon your Arrival in Minsk*

*Where to Stay in Minsk*

## ***How to Apply***

An international applicant willing to take the full course is required to have completed his/her secondary education. For MA and PhD studies, the applicant must have Bachelor's and Master's degrees or an equivalent respectively.

International students coming to BSAA are expected to cover tuition costs, which vary depending on the degree of education.

For detailed information on admission please visit our website [www.bdam.by](http://www.bdam.by) .

International applicants are advised to contact the International Relations Department coordinator in order to get more detailed information as well as application assistance.

If you would like to apply, submit the following documents by post, fax or email at [international@bdam.by](mailto:international@bdam.by)

- ***a filled in application form (can be downloaded from the website [www.bdam.by](http://www.bdam.by) or requested by email at [international@bdam.by](mailto:international@bdam.by))***
- ***a copy of the passport and its notarized translation into Russian/Belarusian***
- ***copies of the education certificate and the transcript with their notarized translation into Russian/Belarusian***
- ***your portfolio (examples of your work in digital format).***

**Documents marked "Application for Studies" can also be sent to the Academy by post at the following address:**

Belarusian State Academy of Arts  
81, Nezavisimosti Ave.  
220012 Minsk  
Republic of Belarus

International applicants are advised to submit applications well in advance. Early application would make all the probable problems much smaller.

Once the Selection Committee has approved your work, you will be sent an invitation which is necessary for getting a Belarusian visa. The invitation is valid for 3 months.





# **AN APPLICANT'S PORTFOLIO PREPARATION TIPS**

The obligatory set of documents includes the portfolio that makes it possible to assess your suitability for the chosen course.

## **THE PORTFOLIO CONTENT (ACCORDING TO THE AREAS OF SPECIALITY):**

### ***The Art Faculty and the Faculty of Design and Decorative and Applied Arts specialities:***

*between 6 to 8 works in total in:*

- *drawing*
- *painting*
- *composition.*

### ***The Theatre Faculty specialities:***

#### **ACTING TECHNIQUE**

- **videos showing the applicant's makings of an actor and abilities to master the profession of an actor:**
- **stage voice and speech technique (a fable, a poem, a passage of prose no longer than 3 minutes, a monologue from a play)**
- **vocals (a vocal number set to music or without music)**
- **stage movement technique (a dance number or a plastic exercise)**
- **acting technique (a drama sketch).**

#### **THEATRE DIRECTING**

- **videos of a play (concert), clips (no longer than 3 minutes) showing the applicant's abilities for artistic and figurative thinking and for the director's vision of a scenic work, a script (translated into Russian);**
- **videos showing the applicant's makings of an actor:**
- **stage voice and speech technique (a fable, a poem, a passage of prose no longer than 3 minutes, a monologue from a play)**
- **vocals (a vocal number set to music or without music)**
- **stage movement technique (a dance number or a plastic exercise)**
- **videos showing the applicant's creative interests and gifts:**
- **a walk-on drama sketch based on the applicant's experience; involvement of other performers is possible.**

***The Faculty of Screen Arts specialities:***

**DIRECTING (FILM AND TV)**

- videos of a play (concert), clips, films (no longer than 3 minutes), photographs showing the director's vision, a script (translated into Russian).

**CINEMATOGRAPHY (FILM AND TV)**

- photographs (still life, psychological portrait, landscape, reportage and genre photographs), no more than 20 works.

**ART HISTORY AREAS OF SPECIALITY (ART FACULTY, THEATRE FACULTY, AND FACULTY OF SCREEN ARTS):**

- a review of or an essay on films, plays or fine arts works (depending on the area of speciality) translated into Russian.

## VISAS

A student visa is issued by the Consular Department of the Embassy of the Republic of Belarus in your country of residence. Remember that student visas are not issued at the border.

For complete information on visa requirements, cost and obtaining procedure see <http://www.mfa.gov.by/>.

## HOW TO GET TO BELARUS

**You are advised to inform the International Relations Department about the date of your arrival by e-mail: [international@bdam.by](mailto:international@bdam.by) well in advance.**

Early information about your arrival in Minsk would eliminate all possible problems.

**You can get to Belarus**



***by air (<http://www.airport.by/>):***

Minsk 2 National Airport is located 50 kilometres (30 miles) away from the city centre and links Belarus with the largest cities of Europe, North America, Middle East and the CIS by regular flights.



***by rail (<http://www.rw.by/>):***

Direct international express trains operate between Minsk and practically every European capital. The Minsk Central Railway Station is situated in the centre of the city.



***by road (<http://www.minsktrans.by/>):***

You may arrive in Belarus by coach from any point of Europe. The Minsk Central Coach Station is situated in the centre of the city.



## ***How to Find us***

If you arrive by plain, you can take a bus or a taxi and go to the city centre.

The Academy does not arrange any pick-up service from the train station or airport.

The easiest way to get to the Academy is to go by underground to the underground station 'AkademiyaNavuk'.

You will easily find the way, as Building 1, Building 2 and the hall of residence are located next to the underground station.

## ***Our Location Details***

Building 1 (81, Nezavisimosti Ave.)

Administration

International Relations Department

Art Faculty

Theatre Faculty

Building 2 (14A, Surganova St.)

Faculty of Design and Decorative and Applied Arts

Faculty of Further Training and Retraining

Building 3 (1, Chicherina St.)

Faculty of Screen Arts

Faculty of Design and Decorative and Applied Arts

Building 4 (50A, Kalinovskogo St.)

Faculty of Design and Decorative and Applied Arts

Preparatory Department

Building 5 (6, Budyonnogo St.)

Art Faculty

Faculty of Further Training and Retraining Вам также

необходимо

# Things to Do First upon your Arrival in Minsk

**Upon your arrival in Minsk you are advised to visit the International Relations Department.**

*Working hours:*

*Monday – Thursday: 9.00 – 18.00*

*Friday: 9.00 – 16.45*

*Lunch break: 13.00 – 13.45.*

The International Relations Department is here to assist you through the process of admission, registration, accommodation, obligatory medical insurance and conclusion of a contract for education.

**The required documents for submission to the International Relations Department of the Academy:**

- *your passport with the entry visa to the Republic of Belarus and a copy of it with the notarized translation into Russian*
- *your migration card (issued when crossing the border)*
- *your education certificate with its notarized translation into Russian/Belarusian*
- *your transcript with its notarized translation into Russian/Belarusian*
- *your medical certificate with its notarized translation into Russian/Belarusian*
- *your HIV-negative certificate with its notarized translation into Russian/Belarusian*
- *a copy of your birth certificate with its notarized translation into Russian/Belarusian*
- *8 photos (3x4)*
- *your passport with a Belarusian visa*
- *the Russian language course certificate (except for the Preparatory Department applicants).*



## ***You also have to***

- have an admission interview
- buy an obligatory medical insurance policy
- get the permission for temporary stay and temporary residence in Belarus
- conclude a contract for education
- pay a tuition fee
- pass a medical examination at Students' Polyclinic No33 (45, Surganova Str., Building 4).

**YOU HAVE TO HAND IN THE PASSPORT FOR REGISTRATION FORMALITIES WITHIN 1 – 2 WORKING DAYS FROM THE DATE OF YOUR ARRIVAL IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS.**

**The contract for education and the receipt on the tuition fee payment are a basis for signing the Order of Enrolment by the Rector.**

**In accordance with this Order you become a student of BSAA.**

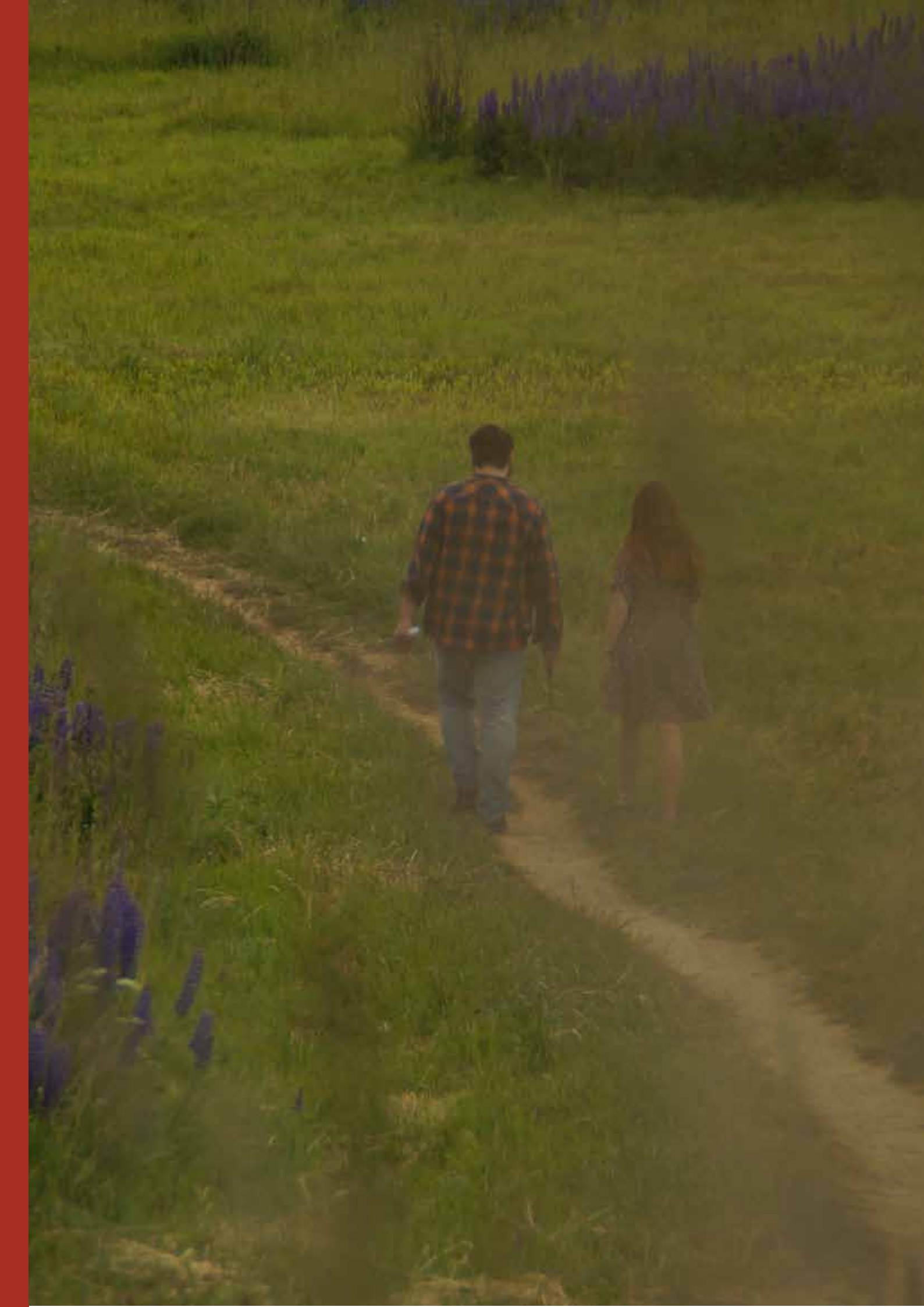
## ***Where to Stay in Minsk?***

The Hall of Residence: (see Facilities)

The Academy is able to provide accommodation for all international students.

The cost of living in the hall of residence is about \$35- 40 a month.

The rent: You can also rent a private flat in the city. The cost of renting a flat in Minsk varies depending on its location and standard of comfort.



# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

*Belarus: Key Facts*

*Student life. After Classes*

## ***Belarus: Key facts***

### **Official name:**

The Republic of Belarus

(9.491.800 people as of 1 January 2018)

### **Capital:**

Minsk

(1,982,444 inhabitants as of 1 January 2018)

### **Official languages:**

Belarusian and Russian (other languages of business communication are Russian, English and German)

### **Currency: Belarusian rouble (BYN)**

- banknotes: 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 roubles;
- coins: 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 kopecks, and 1 and 2 roubles.

### **Currency exchange:**

You can exchange your money at exchange offices that can be found at the airport, at the railway station, at big supermarkets as well as at banks. The most commonly accepted currencies at exchange offices and banks are US dollars, euros and Russian roubles. You cannot pay in stores with euros, dollars or any other foreign currency.

### **Cashpoints (ATMs):**

There are a lot of cashpoints where you can withdraw money and they are easy to find in any bank, supermarket and shopping centre, or in most main streets. All cashpoints have Belarusian, Russian, English and Chinese menus.

### **Bank (Credit) cards:**

You can pay by your credit card in shopping centres, supermarkets and in most shops, as well as in restaurants, cafés and bars.

Online payment systems are also available in Belarus.

### **Measure system:** metric

### **Socket power:**

220 V, 50 Hz alternating current (European 2-pin plug). If you are travelling from the UK or the USA, it is advisable to take an adaptor set with you.

### **Geographical location and territory:**

The Republic of Belarus is a landlocked country in the central part of Europe. It borders on Lithuania and Latvia in the northwest, on Ukraine in the south, on the Russian Federation in the east and on Poland in the west. Its location has made Belarus an important trade and transport route between the West and the East, the North and the South. The total area of Belarus is 207.6 thousand square kilometres. It extends 560 kilometres (350 miles) from north to south and 650 kilometres (460 miles) from west to east. Its total area is larger than that of Austria, Ireland, Portugal, and Greece. Minsk, the capital of Belarus, is situated on the same latitude as Hamburg and Dublin.

### **Population:**

Belarus is a multinational state. The Belarusians in the structure of the population constitute 83.7 %. The remaining are more than 140 nationalities – the Russians, the Polish, the Ukrainians, the Jews, the Armenians, the Tatars to name just a few.

### **Religion:**

Today about 80 % of the population consider themselves Eastern Orthodox, while other religions (Roman Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Muslim, etc.) constitute about 20 %.

### **Local time:**

UTC/GMT+3 hours. There is no daylight saving time in Belarus at the moment.

## **Climate and weather:**

The climate features mild to cold winters with an average January temperature range from  $-4^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $24.8^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) in the southwest (Brest) to  $-8^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $17.6^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) in the northeast (Vitebsk), and cool and moist summers with an average temperature of  $+18^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $64.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). Belarus has an average annual rainfall of 550 to 700 mm (21.7 to 27.6 in). The country is in the transitional zone between a continental and a maritime climate.

## **Cuisine:**

When it comes to Belarusian cuisine, our restaurants, cafes, bars are ready to offer you dishes to any taste: borshch (beetroot and cabbage soup served hot with sour cream), khaladnik (cold beetroot soup served with sour cream), machanka (pancakes served with a sauce that contains pieces of meat and sausage), as well as an incredible number of dishes from potatoes. First of all, of course, it is draniki, i.e. a kind of pancakes made from grated potatoes, which can also be stuffed with mushrooms or meat, and served with sour cream. Potatoes can also be boiled, fried, stewed in a pot with mushrooms, vegetables and bacon, or baked in an oven.

Popular non-alcoholic beverages in Belarus include kvass (a drink made from fermented malted brown bread or rye flour), kissel (a sweet drink resembling thin jelly) and fruit drinks.

## **Public transport:**

The system of urban communication is quite easy and comfortable. In Minsk you can travel by underground, by bus, by tram or by trolleybus depending on your destination. Information about the timetable and route is posted at every public transport stop. Bus, trolleybus and tram routes begin their work at 5.30 a.m. and finish it approximately at 1 a.m.

## **Fares:**

Fares on a bus, tram or trolleybus are the same. Single tickets are available at special ticket kiosks, or you can buy them from the driver or the conductor. Every time you get on a vehicle you have to punch a new ticket.

A season ticket for an individual or all kinds of transport for a period of ten days to a month is a more convenient way to pay fares.

The Minsk Underground is one of the most convenient ways of travelling. The underground runs from 5.30 a.m. till about 1 a.m. Plastic tokens or season tickets (magnetic cards) are sold at the ticket office at every station. There is no control on going out of the underground.

## **Taxi:**

If you travel by taxi, remember that many taxi companies offer different prices. Payment is according to meter readings.

## **Minibuses:**

Minibuses present a faster and more comfortable option of ground transport and they can be picked up at bus stops. Just pick one in the desired direction and let the driver know when you want to get out.

## **Telephone:**

The prefix code to Belarus is +375.

The area code to Minsk and its surroundings is 017.

When you call from abroad, dial +375 17 and then the number you want to reach.

## **Mobile phones: T**

he main mobile phone providers in Belarus are Velcom, MTS and Life. When arriving in Belarus it is worth buying a new SIM card at the operator's shop.

To make international calls (including the CIS) from Belarus, you need to dial 8-10-country code-number.

## **Domain name:** by

## **Public holidays (when all offices are closed):**

1 January – New Year

7 January – Orthodox Christmas

8 March – International Women's Day

15 March – Day of Constitution

Easter (celebrated on a Sunday in March, April, or sometimes in May according to the Eastern Orthodox and the Roman Catholic Calendars)

Radunitsa (Remembrance Day of the Dead; on the 9th day after Eastern Orthodox Easter)

1 May – Labour Day

9 May – Victory Day

3 July – Independence Day

7 November – October Revolution Day

25 December – Christmas Day.

## **Folk festivities:**

Apart from public holidays people in Belarus celebrate various ancient folk festivities. One of them is Kupalle which is celebrated on the night of 6 to 7 July. This holiday is accompanied by folk ceremonies, songs, round dances. Ritual jumping over the fire and night bathing, floating wreaths on the water and looking for a fern flower are the required attributes of the holiday.

## **Medical care:**

In accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Belarus, all foreign nationals temporarily residing on the territory of the Republic of Belarus, are required to have medical insurance policy.

The health insurance system allows foreigners to receive any medical care except for dental services. Foreign nationals must obtain health insurance policy for the entire period of stay in Belarus.

## **What to do in an emergency and how to avoid it: In case of emergency call toll-free:**

**EMERGENCY SERVICE – 101**  
**MILITIA (POLICE) – 102**  
**AMBULANCE – 103.**

*Stay of foreign nationals in the Republic of Belarus is governed by special rules. In case of their violation a foreign national may be subjected to administrative punishment or deportation.*

*You are advised to always carry identification documents (e.g. your passport copy).*

*You can get more information about the rules of stay of foreign nationals in the Republic of Belarus at the International Relations Department of the Academy.*

**Tipping:** There is no service charge and tipping is at your discretion. If you want to tip in a restaurant or café, leave about 10% of the total amount.

# ***Student Life. After Classes***

At the Belarusian State Academy of Arts there is so much to get involved in, but you will find that Minsk is full of exciting things to do and beautiful places to explore.

## **Cultural life in Minsk**

When it's time to relax away from your studies, Minsk offers something for everyone. The city revels in its cultural diversity. The capital of Belarus leads bright, rich cultural life. It has a lot of interesting and remarkable places of cultural relaxation. There is an interesting pastime for anyone, even the most sophisticated visitor. Numerous art exhibitions, musicals, theatrical performances and film festivals – all of which are easily accessible to the Belarusians and visitors alike – are worth visiting by a true art connoisseur. One should undoubtedly start learning Belarusian culture in Minsk because it is the recognized cultural centre of the country.

Fine arts in Belarus are presented by various styles and trends. Numerous galleries, exhibition halls and museums of Minsk regularly host exhibitions of traditional and modern art. By visiting them, you can discover both young talents and get acquainted with the works of famous authors.

Theatrical life in Minsk features a rich diversity: on the stages of drama and musical theatres, concert halls you can see both classical plays and modern works. Well-known performers constantly play on tour and numerous international theatrical and musical festivals are held in Minsk.

Belarusian modern cinematography, carrying on traditions of the previous generations, is looking for new ways. Many films shot in Belarus are prize-winners of prestigious world film festivals. In the city's cinemas you can see not only the latest foreign premières of but also works of Belarusian famous and young film directors.

## **Recreation, Entertainment and Sporting Opportunities**

Few people can resist the temptation of Minsk's attractions. The centre is the most attractive part of the city where you can enjoy its most exciting and dynamic views, where the most interesting architectural ensembles, shady parks and green boulevards, sculptures and fountains, museums and theatres, concert halls and cinemas, cosy cafes and bars can be found.



To those who would love a bit of retail therapy, the city can offer some modern shopping arcades to stroll.

If you enjoy sport then Minsk is a great place for you. Opportunities to participate on a regular basis and try out new activities are vast. Modern sports centres, gyms and swimming pools welcome you all year round. Sports enthusiasts are also offered ample opportunities ranging from an extensive network of cycle lanes to roller ski routes, from modern aquaparks to golf and sporting clubs, from alpine skiing tracks to parks of active recreation.

In today's world there is a great demand for well-educated professionals in all art forms and in other kinds of activity, for researchers whose scientific developments reflect the state of contemporary art and the classical heritage. Education at the Belarusian State Academy of Arts will help you be one of them.

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