ISBEE 2026 Congress – Travel to Cameroon Options Plan Memo

Conference Location: Yaoundé, Cameroon - Second half of July 2026

To make travel planning easier, participants are encouraged to follow the guidance below when booking flights to Cameroon for the conference.

1. Preferred Arrival Option: Yaoundé (NSI)

The conference takes place in **Yaoundé**, so the **best and most convenient arrival airport** is:

Yaoundé–Nsimalen International Airport (NSI)

Arriving directly in Yaoundé is the simplest option because it avoids an additional domestic transfer and brings participants straight to the conference city.

Recommended rule:

- **First choice:** book directly to **Yaoundé (NSI)**
- **Second choice:** if Yaoundé is too expensive or not well connected from your departure city, book to **Douala (DLA)** and continue to Yaoundé. In that case, we will explore arranging shuttles between Douala and Yaoundé for those who do not choose flight or train options.

2. Best Direct Flight Options to Yaoundé (NSI)

From Africa

These are among the most practical direct regional gateways into Yaoundé:

Addis Ababa → Yaoundé

- **Airline:** Ethiopian Airlines
- **Flight time:** approximately **4 hours**
- **Best for:** East Africa, Horn of Africa, and many Asia/Africa connections

Abidjan → Yaoundé

- **Airline:** Air Côte d'Ivoire
- **Flight time:** approximately **2 hours 40 minutes**
- **Best for:** West Africa connections

Lomé → Yaoundé

- **Airline:** ASKY Airlines
- **Flight time:** approximately **2 hours**
- **Best for:** West and Central Africa regional connections

Casablanca → Yaoundé

- **Airline:** Royal Air Maroc
- **Flight time:** approximately **5 hours 30 minutes**
- **Best for:** North Africa and connections from Europe / North America

From Europe

These are the strongest direct long-haul options into Yaoundé:

Paris → Yaoundé

- **Airline:** Air France
- **Flight time:** approximately **7 hours 50 minutes**

Brussels → Yaoundé

- **Airline:** Brussels Airlines
- **Flight time:** approximately **6 hours 40 minutes**

Istanbul → Yaoundé

- **Airline:** Turkish Airlines
- **Flight time:** approximately **7 hours 15 minutes**

3. Important Note for Participants Traveling from the Americas or Asia

For most participants coming from the **United States, Canada, Latin America, Asia, or the Gulf**, there are generally **no direct flights** to Yaoundé from their departure cities.

This means that travelers from these regions should expect:

- **1 stop** in many cases
- Sometimes **2 stops**, depending on departure city and fare choice

Most common connection hubs

Participants often reach Yaoundé through one of the following:

- **Paris**
- **Brussels**
- **Istanbul**
- **Addis Ababa**
- **Casablanca**
- **Lomé**
- **Abidjan**

Practical advice

When booking from the Americas or Asia, the most efficient strategy is usually:

1. Find the best route to one of the major connection hubs above
2. Continue from that hub directly to **Yaoundé (NSI)**

4. Alternative Option: Arrive in Douala (DLA) First, Then Continue to Yaoundé

If flights to Yaoundé are limited, too expensive, or not available from your city, participants may instead fly into:

Douala International Airport (DLA)

Douala is Cameroon's largest international gateway and is often easier to reach on some international routes.

This is a perfectly workable alternative, provided that participants plan an onward transfer to Yaoundé.

Reasons to choose Douala

- Better fare availability
- More frequent options on some international routes

- Easier access from certain African and intercontinental cities

5. How to Travel from Douala to Yaoundé

Once in Douala, participants can continue to Yaoundé in one of three ways:

Option A — Domestic flight (fastest) – Depending on the number of people who choose this option, we could negotiate an attractive fare with the local airline company (Camair-Co)

- **Travel time:** about **45–50 minutes**
- **Best for:** participants who want the fastest transfer
- **Typical operator: Camair-Co**

Option B — Train (comfortable non-air option)

- **Travel time:** about **4 hours 45 minutes**
- **Best for:** participants who prefer not to take a second flight

Option C — Road transfer / private car (We would arrange a shuttle)

- **Travel time:** about **3 to 4 hours**, depending on traffic
- **Best for:** flexible arrivals, private pickups, or coordinated group transport

Recommendation

For those arriving in Douala:

- **Best transfer option:** domestic flight to Yaoundé
- **Best backup option:** train
- **Most flexible option:** private road transfer

6. African Airline Options to Know

For participants traveling from within Africa, the following airlines are especially relevant for reaching Cameroon:

Airlines with strong Yaoundé access

- **Ethiopian Airlines**
- **Air Côte d'Ivoire**
- **ASKY Airlines**
- **Royal Air Maroc**
- **Camair-Co**
- **Afrijet**

Airlines that may be useful via Douala first

- **Kenya Airways**
- **RwandAir**
- **Ethiopian Airlines**
- **Turkish Airlines** (for some broader connections into Cameroon)
- **Air France / Brussels Airlines** (for Europe-origin or Europe-connecting passengers)

Special note on Camair-Co

Camair-Co is especially important for:

- **Domestic transfers**
- **Douala → Yaoundé connections**
- Short regional travel within Cameroon and nearby countries (Camair-co is exploring new destinations in Africa. Consult their website)

7. Indicative Budget Guide (Round-Trip Economy)

For Travel in the Second Half of July 2026

July is a busy travel period, so fares may be higher than average. Participants are strongly encouraged to book early.

From Africa

Typical planning range: **€650 – €950**

- Some shorter regional routes may be lower
- Late booking can push prices higher

From Europe

Typical planning range: **€650 – €1,100+**

- Direct flights may be more convenient but can cost more
- One-stop options may reduce cost

From the Americas

Typical planning range: **€950 – €1,600+**

- Usually requires at least one connection
- Prices vary significantly by city of departure

From Asia / Gulf

Typical planning range: **€900 – €1,500+**

- Usually requires one or two connections
- Addis Ababa, Istanbul, and Casablanca are common routing points

8. Best Booking Strategy for Participants

To simplify travel planning, participants should use the following decision path:

Recommended booking sequence

Step 1 — Check flights directly to **Yaoundé (NSI)**
Step 2 — If Yaoundé is not practical, check flights to **Douala (DLA)**
Step 3 — If arriving in Douala, pre-arrange onward travel to Yaoundé
Step 4 — Book early, as July is a high-demand travel period

9. Simple Guidance by Region

If you are traveling from Africa

Prioritize:

- Addis Ababa
- Abidjan
- Lomé

- Casablanca
  These are among the most practical gateways into Yaoundé.

If you are traveling from Europe

Prioritize:

- Paris
- Brussels
- Istanbul
  These are among the most convenient direct long-haul options.

If you are traveling from the Americas

Expect to connect through:

- Paris
- Brussels
- Casablanca
- Istanbul
- Addis Ababa

If you are traveling from Asia / Gulf

Expect to connect through:

- Addis Ababa
- Istanbul
- Casablanca
- Sometimes Paris or Brussels