

DEAR COUNTRY PARTNERS:



Greetings from KWC PANAMA TEAM! We are excited to host the 21st version of the Karaoke World Championships 2023 World Finals, and for the first time, in a Latin American country. We trust that it will be a week full of friendship and camaraderie in which we can share our passion for karaoke and music!

The KWC PANAMA TEAM is pleased to receive you in the most important month for our country: November is "Homeland Month," and Panama dresses in its national colors, with many activities related to our country's independence dates and birth as a Republic, commemorating a grand celebration throughout the nation, of which you will now be part of.

We can hardly wait to have you all here!

Hereby is our first communication with relevant information for your week in Panama for the KWC 2023 WORLD FINALS:



1. HOTEL EL PANAMA – OFFICIAL KWC PANAMA 2023 WORLD FINALS HOTEL



HOTEL EL PANAMA by Faranda Grand (a member of Radisson Individuals) is a four-star hotel strategically located in the heart of Panama City near the commercial financial and entertainment area. Considered one of the most avant-garde buildings of the time, the **HOTEL EL PANAMA** is an icon and point of reference in the city. Its construction began in the 40s, and ended with its opening on January 15, 1951: The **HOTEL EL PANAMA** put this small country on the international tourism map and is said to be the second most important engineering work after the construction of the Panama Canal.

The hotel has 3 international restaurants serving buffet breakfast, lunch, and dinner. There is also a Japanese and Barbecue restaurant. During your stay at **HOTEL EL PANAMA**, the KWC Family can enjoy access to amenities and services offered: a casino, fitness center, and restaurants, and enjoy a relaxing time in one of the biggest outdoor pools in the country. Also, you can order your drinks in the pool because it counts with its bar.

The price is affordable and rates have been locked in for KWC delegations.



HOTEL EL PANAMA will offer a special package for the KWC Family (all with breakfast included):

HOTEL :

- **USD 420.00 in double occupancy per person - for 6 nights**
- **USD 695.00 in single occupancy per person - for 6 nights**

CABINS BY THE POOL:

- **USD 485.00 in double occupancy per person - for the 6 nights**
- **USD 895.00 in single occupancy per person - for the 6 nights**

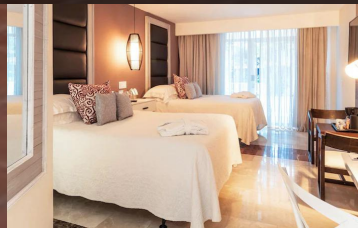
So, for example, the week's cost for 2 persons will be HOTEL - USD 840.00 in double occupancy (two beds USD 420.00 per person) and CABIN - USD 970.00 in double occupancy (two beds USD 485.00 per person).

Price updated 30-07-23



IMPORTANT NOTE:

- The first payment of \$USD 75.00 per person should be done before June 30, 2023, for a valid reservation.
- The second payment of USD 125.00 per person should be done before August 30, 2023.
- The final payment is due October 5, 2023.
- The Price at the HOTEL EL PANAMA (in addition to the rooms and breakfasts) includes for KWC FAMILY:
 1. All entrances for the official events of KWC PANAMA 2023. (USD 25.00 regular price per night)
 2. Three (3) drinks during each KWC PANAMA 2023 World Finals Show (Tuesday to Saturday) / Coffee, tea, soda, juices, beer, or alcoholic drinks.
 3. One (1) drink at the Welcome Party.
 4. Transportation Airport - Hotel - Airport.
 5. Transportation for special KWC PANAMA 2023 events.



Also, there is a special KWC price in an extra night cabin \$95 +10%, hotel \$80 +10%, and the occupancy price is for up to two persons and includes breakfast, for those staying up to three (3) days before and after the week's events!

So, if you want to arrive earlier or to stay longer to enjoy some tourist destinations in Panama, remember the price will be awesome. In addition, our Official Travel Agency will prepare a list of optional tours with great prices to consider that we will later share with you. Panama is a tropical paradise to discover! Please note, Check-in is at 3:00 pm and Check-out is at noon for HOTEL EL PANAMA.

Considering that Check-in is at 3:00 pm, we highly recommend delegations should arrive on Sunday, November 5th, 2023 (only if you can). Staying at the Official Hotel** will allow your team to share an international experience and give your performers the best opportunity to meet the other singers and delegations and to have a more overall experience. After all, one of the primary purposes of the KWC organization is to bring people together from all over the world through a shared love of music. Therefore, your singers can spend time with the other singers and participate in social events. Rooms are on hold for KWC but must be booked by June 30th, 2023. You can pay your reservation <https://kwcpanama.com/reserve-now> and notify payment to productore@kwcpanama.com, reserve your Rooms now! The final payment is due on October 6th, 2023 - Panama time.

****We want to mention that according to the recent KWC Proceeding changes, it is mandatory for Country Partners and contestants, to stay at the Official Hotel during the competition's week. Other country's delegations members are free to stay somewhere else, but we hope that all of us (Country Partners, singers, and competition support teams), can enjoy together the activities and relationships we build, as well as the time we spend together when we stay in the same place.**

***People staying in other accommodations different from the official hotel must pay USD\$25.00 each night of the competition at the entrance of the Competition.**



2. SALON BELLA VISTA AT HOTEL EL PANAMA – OFFICIAL KWC PANAMA 2023 WORLD FINALS VENUE

For the week of the KWC PANAMA 2023 WORLD FINALS, we will hold the competition at SALON BELLA VISTA at HOTEL EL PANAMA. We will have a green room: two (2) rooms for hair & make-up for the singers with a comfortable waiting space until it's time for the presentation.



3. TOCUMEN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The airport for international flights in Panama City is **TOCUMEN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**: The distance from the airport to the center of Panama City is approximately 15 to 20 minutes, depending on traffic hours. The distance from **TOCUMEN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT** to **HOTEL EL PANAMA** can be approximately 35 minutes, depending on traffic. It may be less time on days with less traffic, such as holidays or weekends. Also, there is a smaller international airport in the canal area: **Panama Pacifico International Airport** which operates for flights to and from Latin America, with travel to our neighboring country, Colombia, being the most popular. The distance from this airport to the **HOTEL EL PANAMA** can be approximately 35 to 40 minutes. We appreciate you forwarding your flight itineraries and estimated time of arrival, as soon as you have them to the following email: productorekwcpanama.com.



4. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS TO THE COUNTRY

Most countries do not need a special visa to enter our national territory. However, we always suggest checking with your corresponding airlines or our Official Travel Agency and validating the information. In addition, KWC PANAMA Team will extend all invitation letters to member countries to participate in the competition. We also suggest checking your airline's COVID-19 entry regulations that could still be valid on the travel date.



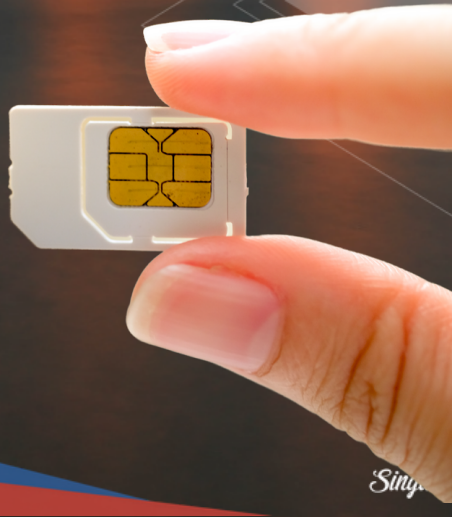
5. TRANSFERS AND MOBILIZATION

We highly recommend that you always use the shuttles to the Official Hotel, buses for competition events and/or tours, private transportation services, UBER, and DIDI. If you prefer to rent a car, let us insist that you should consider a designated driver: there are occasional checkpoints to verify people driving is not under the influence of alcohol or other substances.

We do not recommend the use of a taxi to get around (nor public transport): We recommend safe transport platforms such as UBER and DIDI, which are available at very affordable prices. We do not recommend using other transport platforms (such as In-Driver) since many require payment in cash. For example, suppose you take a taxi from the street. In that case, you should bear in mind that you can only pay in cash (American dollars), that most taxi drivers only speak Spanish, and if you do not know the prices of that route and distances, you run the risk of being charged double or triple the real value of the transfer.

6. CHIPS/LOCAL SIM CARDS FOR MOBILE PHONES.

Although in Panama there are many places that have free Wi-Fi available, we recommend that you have your local cell/mobile phone chip/SIM card for greater comfort and mobility in free moments. We are working on a special deal for KWC visitors, soon to be announced.



7. CURRENCY

The US dollar is the legal currency in Panama. Most stores and shops accept the use of Visa or Master cards, but we also recommend carrying dollars in cash, for minor purchases in small stores such as those that sell handicrafts and souvenirs on the street, which do not have points of sale for cards.