



SEB and Swissôtel

Welcome to ETAPS 2012 main conferences

The first weekend of workshops over, we are now to start the main conferences and welcome all our new participants. This is the 15th ETAPS, comprised of 6 main conferences and 21 workshops, of which 9 took place already. The main conference programme features 8 distinguished plenary talks, contributed papers of the 6 individual conferences and a competition on software verification. We are looking forward to exciting five days here at Swissôtel Tallinn.

LEARN ABOUT THIS PLACE

E-stonia, the e-country

They say Estonia is so e and surely it is in some ways. The average resident is incredibly tech savvy and businesses quickly adapt to the next new thing.

We are used to internet banking since the 90s; at this moment 98 pct of the country's bank transactions are done online. In 2011, 93 pct of our people filled their tax return online. We believe that free wifi is a human

right and demand it everywhere. We also have a smart ID-card with many functions, a digital signature infrastructure, e-elections, a digital medical prescriptions infrastructure. At this moment, we are in the end phase of a census where 62 pct of the total estimated number of Estonian residents were counted online. We do not like to advertise our less successful projects.

TREAT YOURSELF TO "KALEV" CHOCOLATE!

How did Toompea come about?

Kalev is a mythical giant man from Tallinn's distant past who is credited with founding the city. As the story goes, Kalev was sailing the seas looking for a spot to land and establish a kingdom. Eventually a prophecy led him to what is now Estonia's capital. Upon Kalev's death, his wife Linda was so stricken with grief that she over-did his burial mound, piling enough stones on his grave to form Toompea hill, which to this day looms over Old Town. Arguably an even more important figure in the Estonian folk tradition is Kalev's son, Kalevipoeg. Tales of Kalevipoeg's adventures were set down in the form of an epic poem of the same name by F. R. Kreutzwald and published in 1857. At the time Estonia was undergoing a literary and cultural awakening, and Kalevipoeg became both a focal point for national identity and a major step in founding an Estonian literary tradition.

Weather forecast

	Today 2 7 °C		Tomorrow 4 10 °C		Wednesday 4 10 °C
Yesterday we had sleet, then sunshine This is four seasons for you. . .					

Stroustrup and more!

The plenary talk today morning is by **Bjarne Stroustrup** of Texas A&M University, the creator of the C++ language. Guess what: he'll tell us how he thinks about this language!

These three ETAPS main conferences start today:

ESOP European Symposium of Programming

FASE Foundational Aspects of Software Engineering

POST Principles of Security and Trust—the new kid on the block!

Papers nominated for the best paper prizes of EAPLS, EASST and EATCS are highlighted in the programme.



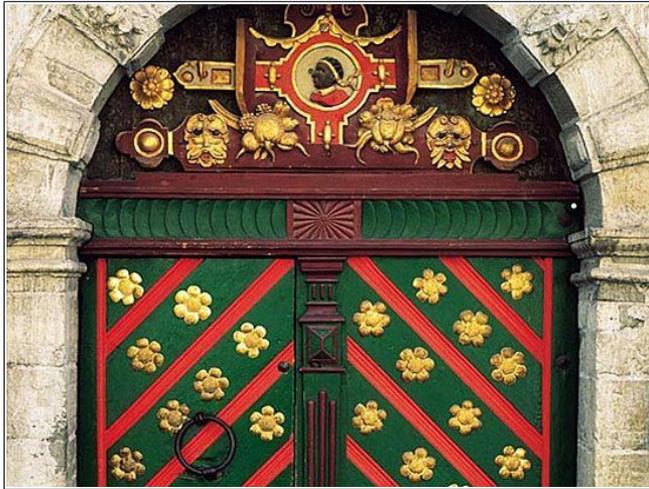
ETAPS
EUROPEAN JOINT CONFERENCES ON
THEORY & PRACTICE OF SOFTWARE

<http://www.etaps.org/2012>

ETAPS 2012 local organizers

A LEGENDARY GUILD

The Brotherhood of the Blackheads



The door of the House of the Brotherhood of the Blackheads

Tonight all of you that have registered for the main conferences (or have signed up separately) are invited to **ETAPS 2012 welcome reception**. This will be in one of the most remarkable buildings of Tallinn's Old Town—the House of the Brotherhood of the Blackheads (*Mustpeade maja*, **Pikk 26**), just a few hundred meters from the Town Hall Square. One look at this beautiful, renaissance-style guild hall with its bright red, green and gold door is enough to explain why it is a regular feature on every Tallinn postcard stand.

This was the historic home of the Brotherhood of Blackheads, a medieval guild made up of young, single merchants and foreigners. The guild's patron saint was the Moorish St. Mauritius—a profile of his head is pictured on the Brotherhood's coat of arms. The origins of the Broth-

erhood have been lost to time; the earliest written proof of the Brotherhood date back to 1400, but it is possible that the Brotherhood was founded in the mid-14th century with the Great Guild. The Brotherhood itself was active only in Estonia and Latvia, and never took hold in the rest of Europe.

A 14th-century residential building probably occupied this site when the Blackheads started renting it in 1406 and finally bought up the property in 1531. They immediately installed a new hall with an archless ceiling, but the serious rebuilding got underway in 1597 when the Dutch renaissance façade, with its profusion of ornaments and carved decorations, was added. The eye-catching front door dates to 1640.

The two-naved vaulted hall was bought from the neighbouring St. Olav's Guild and dates to the 15th century. In the 18th and 19th centuries the property was often used for receptions of foreign dignitaries and other important visitors of Tallinn. Nowadays the site is frequently used for concerts and other gala occasions. It was also the venue for ICFP 2005!

You might also want to know that the Christmas tree on Tallinn's Town Hall Square was erected already in 1441, by the Blackheads, and this was the first public Christmas tree ever put on display in Europe.

The welcome reception will begin at **20.00**, but welcome drink will be served from **19.30**. We are going to be many, so come early rather than late. **Please bring the event ticket with you!**

There should be enough food and drink, so no need to have dinner before (and nearly no possibility to have it after). There should also be surprises. ■

WORTH KNOWING

Registration today and practicalities at Swissôtel

Many of you weren't here yesterday and the day before and will **check in** to ETAPS 2012 today. From our registration desk, you will get an envelope with your badge and receipt of fee payment, a copy of conference programme book, two memory sticks with the LNCS proceedings of the main conferences and the local proceedings of the workshops (or a 2-in-1 stick containing both), your social event tickets.

Further, in the pocket on the *outside* of the envelope there is a **sticker** you must hand in to claim the ETAPS 2012 **giftset** and, if you ordered any printed copies of the **proceedings**, also **further stickers** you need to claim those.

For a hopefully smoother conference start, we will not

start distributing the proceedings and the gifts until the first coffee break. Please be patient, thank you!

Printed proceedings are not included in the fees, with the exception for a few workshops that arranged for printed copies for all of their registrant. It was possible to order printed copies of the LNCS copies separately and we have a few spares left, enquire.

There is a **cloakroom** in the conference centre, please make use of it and leave your coat there (the same applies also to the House of the Brotherhood of the Blackheads).

Coffee breaks and **lunches** (stand-up buffet) will be served in the foyer of the conference centre.

The special **wifi** network set up for us is called ETAPS, password **etaps2012**. ■