

WSEAS Conference Guide

Conference Location:



Hotel Prince****

Nöbethane Cad. Darüssade Sok.

No: 5 Sirkeci – Fatih Istanbul Turkey

Telephone +90 212 513 25 50

Fax +90 212 522 43 59

E-Mail: onlinesales@hotelprince.com

Http: www.hotelprince.com

How to get to Istanbul

By Air:

The easiest way to get in Istanbul is to travel by airplane. Turkish Airlines and many other world airlines have regular daily flights to Istanbul. There are also local airliners that run charter flights to Istanbul especially during the summer months. There are two International Airports, **Ataturk Airport** and **Sabiha Gokcen Airport**.

Ataturk International Airport is located 20km west of the city center.
Address: Istanbul Ataturk Airport International Terminal, 34149 Yesilkoy, Istanbul, Turkey

Sabiha Gokcen Airport is located on the Anatolian shore of Istanbul at Pendik / Kurtkoy, at a distance of 40 km to Kadikoy
Address: Sabiha Gökçen Airport Terminal Building Pendik 34912 Istanbul, Turkey

Ataturk Airport

Tel.: +90 212 463 3000

URL: <http://www.ataturkairport.com>

Sabiha Gokcen International (SAW)

Tel.: +90 216 588 88 88

URL: <http://www.sabihagokcen.aero/>

By Train:

Turkish Railways (TCDD) has regular train schedules from/to Istanbul to Budapest, Bucarest, Kishinev, Thessaloniki, Sofia, Damascus and Tehran. International trains departs/arrives at **Sirkeci Station** on the European side or **Haydarpasa Station** on the Asian side of Istanbul.

To be informed about the **Trians Schedule**, you can visit <http://www.tcdd.gov.tr/tcdding/index.htm> or call at the number +90 (216) 348 80 20.

By Bus:

Some private Turkish companies run scheduled buses to Istanbul from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Greece, Bulgaria, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iran, Jordan, Russia, Georgia, and Romania. You can consult your local travel agency in order to plan your trip. Note that the International Bus Station is located in the Central Bus Station of Istanbul, about 10 km West of Sultanahmet Area.

By Car:

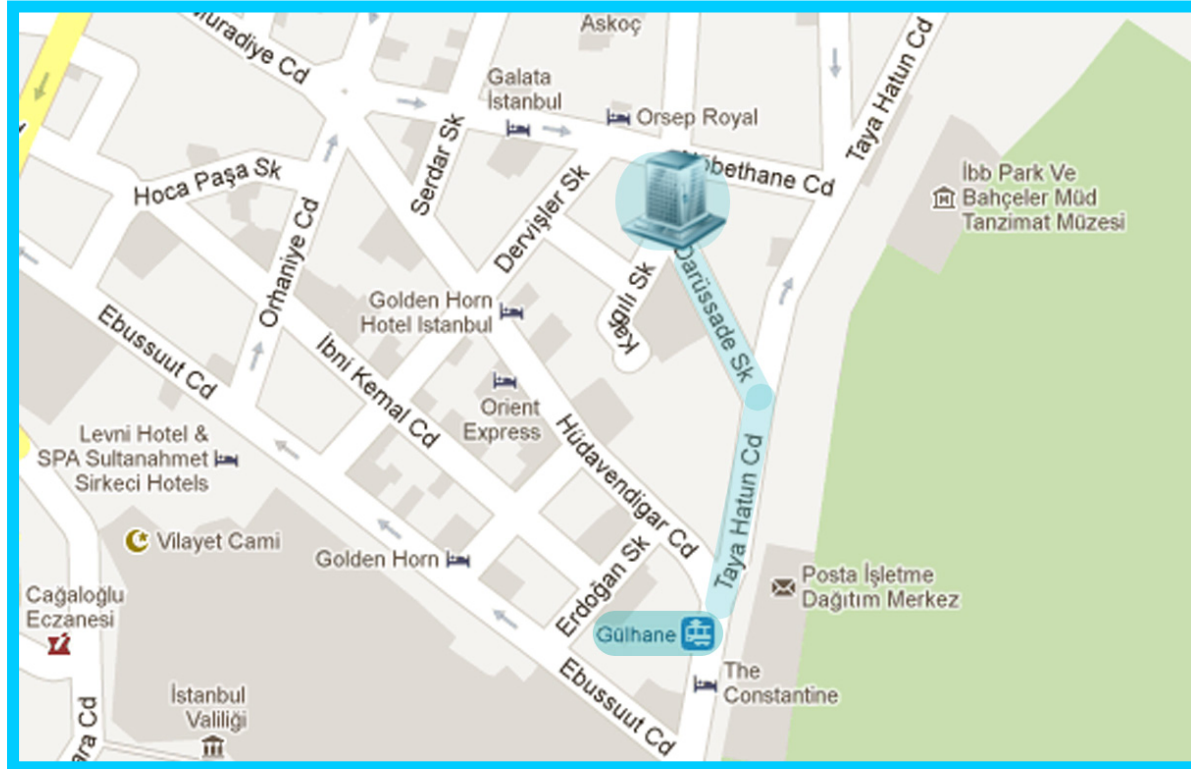
Istanbul is well connected to many European cities through highways. There are two borders to get into Turkey. If you are coming from Bulgaria you have to cross the borders of “**Kapikule**” in Edirne or in Ipsala. If you are coming from Greece, there is a nice highway between Edirne and Istanbul, it's about 225 kilometers (140 miles). Apart from Istanbul, you can drive anywhere in Turkey as there is an extensive road network. However, it's not recommended to drive with your own car in Istanbul due to the heavy traffic, especially in rush hours.

How to get from the Airport to the Hotel

By Metro:

From Ataturk International Airport you can take the Metro with direction to “**Aksaray**” (Red Line). Change at “**Zeytinburnu**” and take the Blue Line with direction to “**Kabatas**”. Get off at the “**Gulhane**” and follow the exit to “**Taya Hatun Road**”. On your left hand is the Darussade Street where the Prince Hotel is located.

See the Map on the next page.



By Taxi:

You can take a Taxi outside of any Terminal. The distance to the hotel is 20km. and approximately cost TL30 - TL40. (13,00 €-20,00 €).

Also, you can book on-line a taxi through the link; <http://www.ataturkairporttaxi.com/> (Tel.: + 90 507 229 61 92, Email: info@ataturkairporttaxi.com)

HAT LİSTESİ / LINES

İŞLETMEMİZDEKİ HATLAR

- M1** AKSARAY-HAVALIMANI (AIRPORT) METRO / METRO
- M2** TAKSİM-4. LEVENT METRO / METRO
- T1** ZEYTİNBURNU-KABATAŞ TRAMVAY / TRAM
- T2** GÜNGÖREN-BAĞCILAR TRAMVAY / TRAM
- T3** KADIKÖY-MODA TRAMVAY / TRAM
- T4** EDİRNEKAPI-SULTANÇİFTLİĞİ TRAMVAY / TRAM
- F1** TAKSİM-KABATAŞ FUNİKÜLER / FUNICULAR
- TELEFERİKLER

DİĞER RAYLI SİSTEMLER

- KARAKÖY-BEYOĞLU TÜNEL / FUNICULAR
- TAKSİM-TÜNEL NOSTALJİK TRAMVAY / TRAM
- SİRKECİ-HALKALI BANLİYÖ / SUBURBAN
- HAYDARPAŞA-GEZBE BANLİYÖ / SUBURBAN

İŞARETLER / SIGNS

- İSTASYON / DURAK
STATION / STOP
- İLK/SON İSTASYON
FIRST/LAST STATION
- AKTARMA İSTASYONU
INTERCHANGE STATION
- AKTARMA İSTASYONU
INTERCHANGE STATION
- HAVALIMANI
AIRPORT
- OTOGAR
COACH STATION
- İDO İSKELESİ
FERRY



City Map



Istanbul

Location: 41.0128° North, 28.9744° East

Population: 13,483,052

Area: 5,343 km²

History:

Istanbul is Turkey's most popular city, and its cultural and financial center. Located on both sides of Bosphorus, the narrow strait between the Black Sea and the Marmara Sea, Istanbul bridges Asia and Europe both physically and culturally.



The first inhabitants of Istanbul are dating back to second millennia BC. They were settled on the Asian side of the city. Its first name comes from Megara king Byzas. Byzas established his colony in the 7th century BC thus the location named Byzantium. Byzas chose this spot after consulting an oracle of Delphi who told him to settle across from the "land of the blind". In 193 AD Roman Emperor Septimus Severus conquered the city and it remained under the Roman rule until 4th century AD, when Emperor Constantine the Great made Byzantium the capital of entire Roman Empire and gave it his name **Constantinople** and Eastern Roman Empire was called Byzantine Empire after 5th century. The city was built on seven hills, like Rome. In 532 AC during the reign of Justinian I, the city was destroyed. It was rebuilt and outstanding structures such as Hagia Sophia stand as monuments to the golden age of Byzantines.

Ottoman Turks led by Sultan Mehmet II conquered Constantinople in 1453. Renamed **Islambol**, the city became the capital of the Ottoman Empire. Between 15th and 16th centuries, the sultans built many mosques and public buildings, topping the population again around half million. Istanbul was a major cultural, political, and commercial center by the mid 1500's. The name "**Istanbul**" was derived from a combination of "Islambol" ("city of Islam" in Turkish) and "eis tin Polin" ("to the City" in Greek) throughout the centuries.

Ottoman rule lasted until World War I when Istanbul was occupied by the allied troops. After years of struggle led by Ataturk against the occupying forces, the Republic of Turkey was born in 1923 and the capital was moved to Ankara province. But Istanbul has continued to expand dramatically; today its population is over 13 million and still increases constantly. It continues to be the commercial and cultural center of Turkey.

Official Web Page of Istanbul: <http://english.istanbul.com/>

Istanbul Tourist Information Centre Turizm Danisma Burosu

Address: Sultanahmet Meydani

Telephone: + 90 212 518 8754 / 1802

Web: www.istanbul.gov.tr

Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 0900-1700,
Sat 0900-1300

Source: <http://www.greatistanbul.com/history.htm>

Access to the Gala Dinner

The Conference Banquet will be held on August 22nd 2012 @ the Bilbery Restaurant

Hotel: Hotel Prince****
Address: Nöbethane Cad. Darüssade, Sok. No 5 Sirkeci Fatih, Istanbul (1st Floor)
Ph.: +90 212 513 25 50
Web Page: www.hotelprince.com
Time: 19.30-22.30





Weather

The summer in Istanbul starts from July. The weather is hot and humid. In July and August the temperature reaches the 30°C degrees (86°F).



Time

Istanbul is one hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT+2) - EEST - Eastern European Summer Time.



Banks

Banks in Istanbul are open between 09.00 - 17.00 hrs during working days. Banks located in shopping districts have extended weekday hours, and many are open on Saturday morning.



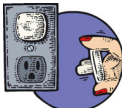
Post Office

The Post Offices are open from 8:00am to 12 am Monday to Saturday and 9:00am to 7:00 pm on Sundays.



Shopping

Usual operating hours for shops in Istanbul are from Monday to Saturday 09:00-18:00.



Electricity

Turkey operates on 220 volts, 50 Hz, with round-prong European-style plugs that fit into recessed wall sockets /points.



Special Needs

Delegates and accompanying persons with disabilities are invited to advise the Congress Secretariat of any special requirements.



Pharmacy

The Pharmacies are open Monday to Saturday 09:00-19:00. There is always one open pharmacy, which is called as “**nobetci eczane**” in Turkish or “**pharmacy on duty**” on Sundays and holidays.



Currency

Istanbul's currency is the Turkish Lira (TL). Turkish liras are divided into 100 kuruş. Coins used frequently are five, ten, 25, and 50 kuruş and one lira. Notes used are 5, 10, 20, and 50 lira bills. 100 and 200 lira notes are uncommon. When traveling to Istanbul, it is advised that you change your money at one of the many exchanges or banks in the city. They typically offer competitive rates and charge no fees.

Place of Interest



Hagia Sophia

Hagia Sophia is a great architectural beauty and an important monument both for Byzantine and for Ottoman Empires. This ancient basilica, now a museum, built by Constantine the Great and reconstructed by Justinian in the 6th century, is one of the architectural marvels of all time. In the 15th century, Mehmet the Conqueror converted it from a Christian church to a mosque, adding the minarets, tombs and fountains. Turkey became a secular republic in 1923 and Hagia Sophia was established as a museum 12 years later, with many of its Byzantine mosaics revealed from underneath layers of Ottoman plaster. Its immense dome rises 55 meters above the ground and is 31 meters in diameter. The beautiful interior decorations include fine Byzantine mosaics.

Address: Ayasofya Meydani, Sultanahmet, Fatih, Istanbul

Opening hours: Monday to Sunday 09:00-19:00 (Closed on Mondays)

Fees: TL25

URL: <http://www.ayasofyamuzesi.gov.tr/en/>

Topkapi Palace Museum

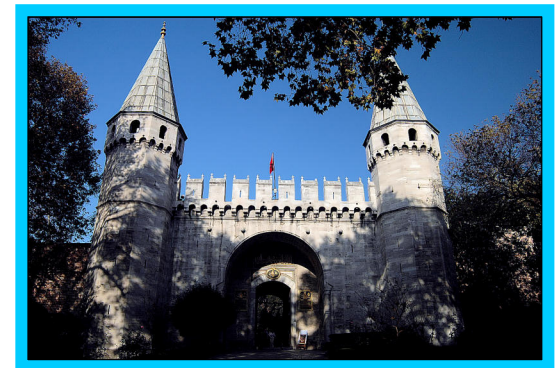
Topkapi Palace was abandoned in the middle of 19th century and lost its significance as the state center. Indeed, part of a railroad was built on the outdoor garden of Topkapı Palace which was in a desolate state in the following years. Most recently in 1924 Topkapi Palace was turned into a museum and opened for exhibition.

Address: Sultanahmet, Eminonu, Istanbul

Opening hours: Monday to Sunday 09:00-19:00

Fees: TL25

URL: <http://www.topkapisarayi.gov.tr/>





Istanbul Museum of Modern Art

Located in a restored old waterfront warehouse and opened in 2004, the huge Istanbul Modern has a fine collection of contemporary arts from Turkey and around the world. Specialising in painting and photography, with a cinema screening world films in the basement, the gallery hosts exhibitions that include 20th-century home-grown talent to try to encourage Turkish art. The entire venue is fresh, spacious and well laid-out, with a fine restaurant/café on the ground floor overlooking the Bosphorus.

Address: Meclis-i Mebusan Caddesi, Karaköy

Opening hours: Tuesday-Sunday 10:00-18:00, Thursdays 10:00-20:00

Fees: TL15

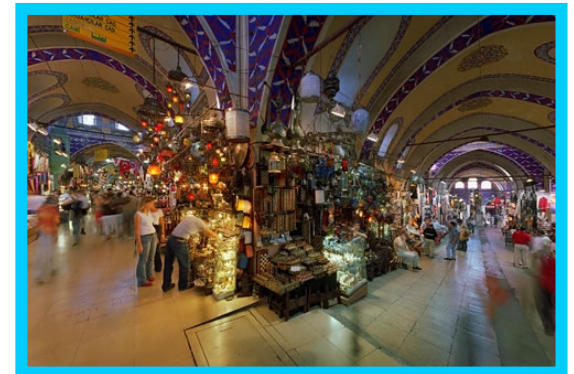
URL: www.istanbulmodern.org

Kapali Carsisi (Grand Bazaar)

The famous and vast bazaar is the best known of Istanbul's markets. It was instated shortly after the 1493 Conquest and contained the slave market, as well as the hans, or caravanserais of old, where Silk Road traders could rest themselves and their camels, as well as sell their goods. While the ornate ceilings and labyrinth-like layout still hark back to the past, these days the vast number of stalls (more than 4,000 of them, in over 60 streets) sell mainly tourist-friendly goods and plasma TV screens belie any sense of a timeless atmosphere. The complex also contains two mosques, money change offices, a police station, cafes and an information point. Haggling is essential at most stalls.

Address: Beyazit, Istanbul, Turkey

Opening hours: Monday-Saturday 09:00-19:00





Sultanahmet Camii (Blue Mosque)

With its cascade of opulent domes and slender, balconied minarets soaring towards the sky, Istanbul's Blue Mosque is one of the city's most striking images. The Blue Mosque was built during the reign of Sultan Ahmet I (1603-1617), as Islam's answer to Hagia Sophia, and remains the symbol and centre of religious demonstrations and Istanbul's only mosque with six minarets. Blue Iznik tiles dominate the interior, and blue light shines through more than 250 windows. The interior is stunning, from the vast central dome designed to lift all eyes heavenward to the latticework-covered Imperial Loge and the mihrab (prayer niche) containing a piece of sacred black stone from Mecca. Hundreds of Muslims still use the mosque for daily prayer and worship. Visitors of all faiths who are modestly dressed may enter the Blue Mosque; special slippers and head and shoulder coverings are distributed at the entrance. After dusk during summer, there is a Son et Lumière (sounds and lights) show with Turkish, English, French and German on different

nights. The Imperial Pavilion also contains the state-run Vakıflar Carpet Museum with Usak, Bergama and Konya samples, dating between the 16th and 19th centuries.

Address: Meydani 21, Istanbul, Turkey

Opening hours: Daily 24 hours, except during some prayer times.

Fees: YES

Website: www.sultanahmetcami.com

Boat Tour

The Bosphorus or *Bosphorus*, also known as the Istanbul Strait, divides the European part (Rumelia) of Turkey with its Asian part (Anatolia).

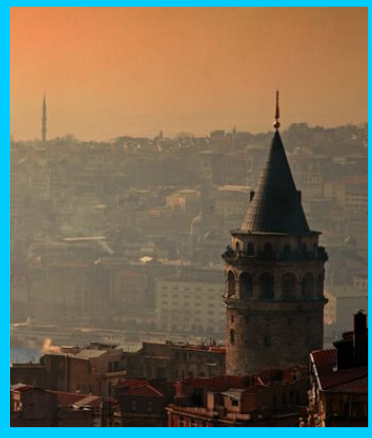
The Princes Islands

There are nine islands in the Princes' Islands group and the ferry stops at four of these. Year-round there are 15,000 permanent residents scattered across the six islands that are populated, but numbers swell to 100,000 or so during summer when Istanbulites - many of whom have holiday homes on the islands - escape the city heat. The small islands of Kinaliada and Burgazada are the ferry's first stops.



You can easily find around travel agencies that offers guided tours such as the Classical Old City Tour (Half / Full Day), the Byzantine and Ottoman Relics Tour, the Princess Island Tour, the Bosphorus Tour (Half / Full / Dinner Cruise), the Whirling Dervishes Performance Tour and Istanbul by Night Tour.

Dinning in Istanbul



Galata Kulesi (Galata Tower)

The balcony at the top of Galata Tower has an unforgettable view of the city. Built in 1348 by the Genoese as part of their fortifications, this distinctive 62m (205ft) tower with conical roof is visible from most of Istanbul. It was converted to cater for tourism and has a lift, a nightclub and restaurant on the top floors with a tourist-oriented cabaret that includes belly dancing. On a clear day, the view is spectacular and it is possible to see the main monuments of Istanbul and even the Princes' Islands. It's a good way for visitors to get a feel of the surroundings and there are several charming tea gardens at the foot.

Address: Buyuk Hendek Sokak, Istanbul, Turkey

Opening hours: Daily 09:00-20:00

URL: www.galatatower.net

Feriye Karakolu Restaurant

Feriye Karakolu stands at the final extremity of a series of imperial palace complexes, which stretches along the Bosphorus shore from Dolmabahce to Ortakoy in Istanbul. In Feriye, the menu is selected from the thousands of traditional Ottoman dishes inspired by the cuisines of the Middle East all the way through to the Adriatic.

Address: Ciragan Cad. No: 40 Ortakoy - 34347, Istanbul

Opening hours: Daily (Lunch: 12:00-15:00, Dinner: 19:00-00:00)

URL: <http://www.feriye.com/english/index.asp>





Sunset Grill and Bar

The indoor and outdoor dining areas have comfortable and casual seating, yet with a classic décor, offering wonderful views of Bosphorus Strait and Asian Shoreline.

Address: Adnan Saygun Caddesi Yol Sokak No. 2 Ulus Parki

Opening hours: Daily (Lunch: 12:00-15:00, Dinner: 19:00-00:00)

URL: <http://www.sunsetgrillbar.com>

Vogue Restaurant

Offers panoramic view on Bosphorus. You can choose from a variety of plates such as sushi, Mediterranean cuisine etc.

Address: Akaretler Spor cad. No. 92 BJK Plaza, A Blok K.13, Besiktas, Istanbul

Opening hours: Daily 10:00-02:00

URL: www.voguerestaurant.com/

