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INNOVATIVE CENTERS & UNIQUE VENUES

Istanbul

An ancient city full of modern meeting facilities

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the fifth-most-visited city in the world, an ICCA top 10 destination for congresses since 2010 – when it comes to international meetings and conventions, Istanbul's resume is quite impressive. In fact, in 2015, the destination hosted 148 international congresses, a 14-percent increase compared to 2014. So what is Istanbul's big draw? To start, its rich history dating back 8,500 years, its position as a natural gateway between two continents, and, more recently, its growing modern infrastructure.

For large meetings, congresses, and conventions, Istanbul's seven convention centers and three exhibition centers present a range of options. The city also has four separate meeting clusters for planners to choose from – the Congress Valley, Golden Horn, Airport Area, and Asian Side. The Congress Valley is at the center of the city, with plenty of hotels, restaurants, and attractions within walking distance of Istanbul Congress Center (ICC) and the Istanbul Lütfi Kırdar (ICEC). Opened in 2009, the ICC has 172,222 square feet of exhibition space, including a 3,705-seat auditorium and 115 meeting rooms. The ICEC is Turkey's first convention venue, offering a 2,000-seat auditorium, more than 75,347 square feet of exhibition space, and 27 multi-function rooms. Nearby, Grand Cevahir Hotel and Convention Center offers flexible space for events with up to 2,750 guests.

The Haliç Congress Center sits on the Golden Horn, one of the city's main waterways, and is one of the city's largest venues, with 1,097,919 square feet of meeting space. The area has more than 9,000 beds as well as plenty of opportunities for sightseeing. The Airport Area is home to two of the city's largest venues for trade shows, fairs, and exhibitions: CNR EXPO, with eight exhibition halls totaling close close to 1.6 million square feet, and the 1.7 million-square-foot Istanbul Expo Center, which offers 11 exhibition halls that alone total 1 million square feet. Across the



Bosporus, the Asian Side is home to many new meeting facilities, ranging from auditoriums to convention centers, and a wide range of hotels and things to do.

For more information: Istanbul Convention & Visitors Bureau – Ozgul Ozkan Yavuz, General Manager; +90 (212) 522 55 55; ozgul.yavuz@icvb.org; icvb.org.tr
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Why Istanbul? A leading destination for international meetings and ever has venues both historic and modern with as many as 100,000-plus beds and two airports served by Turkish Airlines, which offers to more than 290 destinations.

Choose the unexpected Ottoman cisterns, mansions – many of Istanbul's beautiful landmarks can be rented for various functions, offering guests an up-close look at Turkey's diverse history and culture.