

TRAVEL INFORMATION

BY AIR:

There are 2 international airports in Istanbul:

- 1) Istanbul Ataturk Airport
- 2) Istanbul Sabiha Gokcen Airport

1. Ataturk Airport is the biggest airport and it is also the closest airport to the university. Most of the international flights use the Ataturk Airport. Therefore we suggest visitors fly to the Ataturk Airport. For airport guide and information on shuttles and transportation, the following is the website of the Ataturk Airport: <http://www.ataturkairport.com/eng/index.php>.

TRANSPORTATION

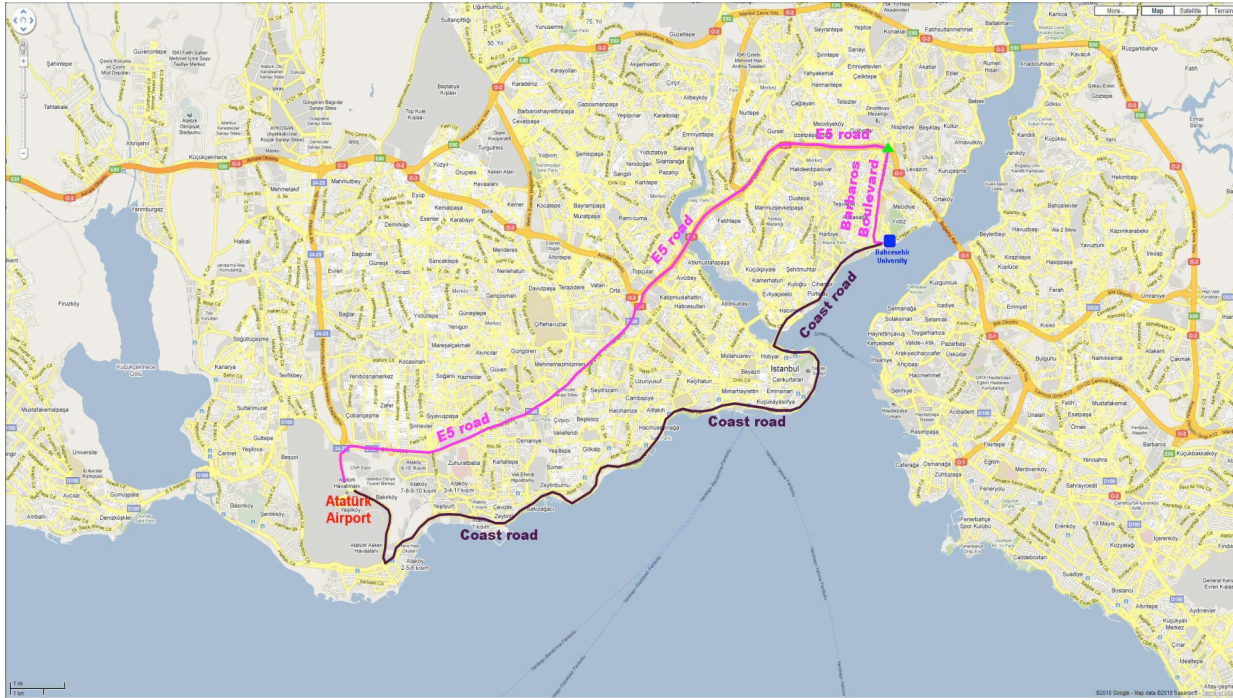
Atatürk Airport is located in Yeşilköy, in the European side of Istanbul. Airport's distance is 28 km to downtown.

Taxis:

From the Ataturk Airport to the venue, the taxi will cost approximately \$40 and arrival time is about 40 minutes, depending on the traffic. The taxi should use either of the two following routes.

- 1) Follow the E5 freeway in direction to Asia. Take the last exit before the Bosphorus bridge to Besiktas. This exit connects to Barbaros Boulevard. Bahcesehir University is located at the end of the Barbaros Boulevard on the left.
- 2) Follow the coast road until Bahcesehir University.

Generally, taximeter opening price: 2.50 TL. Increase per Km: 1,40 TL.



Metro:

The completed lines allow you to travel easily and inexpensively between Atatürk Airport (<http://www.ataturkairport.com/eng/index.php>), the

Follow the signs to **Metro** or **Hafif metro/Light rail system**, go down the escalator (or elevator), through the sliding glass doors, turn right and follow the signs along the broad underground concourse to the **Havalimani** (Airport) Metro station on the left at the end. This concourse beneath the **parking garage** connects the **Domestic** and **International** terminals.

Airport - Esenler Terminal
 Week Days 06:00 - 00:15
 Saturdays 06:10 - 00:15
 Sundays 06:25 - 00:15

Ticket Type	Fee
Civil Ticket	1,30 - TRY
Civil Akbil (Smart Ticket)	1,25 - TRY
Reduced Akbil (Smart Ticket)	0,80 - TRY

Click here for more information about Transportation <http://www.iETT.gov.tr/>

Shuttles:

From the Ataturk Airport there are shuttles every half hours (between 4:00 am and 1:00 am) to Taksim Square (down town). The cost of the shuttle is \$8 and arrival time is about 40 minutes. Taksim Square is very close to the university. One can use public transportation or taxi to get to

Besiktas district where the venue is located. From Taksim Square to Besiktas district the public transportation costs about \$1 and travel time is about 10 minutes. By taxi it will take approximately 5-7 minutes and the price will be approximately \$5.

The information on the shuttle from Ataturk Airport to Taksim Square and departure hours can be found in <http://www.havas.net/en/shuttle-parking/istanbul-ataturk-airport/>.

MORE SHUTTLES:

KOZYATAGI SHUTTLE SERVICE INFORMATION

Shuttle Departure Location: Derya Sokak.Mogulkoc Business Center No:7/A Sahrayicedit - Kozyatagi/ISTANBUL

Shuttle Route

Airport - Kozyatagi: Airport, Kavacik Bridge, Havas Kozyatagi Office.

Kozyatagi -Airport : Havas Kozyatagi Office, Airport, Kavacik Bridge.

Drop Off Points: From Airport to Kozyatagi: Kavacik Bridge.

Duration of Trip: Approximately 1 Hour (depends on the traffic)

TAKSIM SHUTTLE SERVICE INFORMATION

Shuttle Departure Location: Taksim, next to Metropolitan Art Gallery (20 mt. from THY office)

Shuttle Route: Ataturk Airport, Bakirkoy SeaBus Pier, Coastal Road, Aksaray, Tepebasi, Taksim.

Drop Off Points: Bakirkoy SeaBus Pier, Aksaray ve Tepebasi.

Duration of Trip: Approximately 40 minutes (depends on the traffic)

BAKIRKOY SHUTTLE SERVICE INFORMATION

Shuttle Departure Location: Bakirkoy SeaBus Pier

Shuttle Departure Times

Airport: Shuttles depart from the Airport 20 minutes before arrival times of SeaBuses in order to meet every SeaBus coming from Bostanci to Bakirkoy.

Bakirkoy : There is a shuttle for each SeaBus coming from Bostanci to Bakirkoy.

Shuttle Route: Ataturk Airport, Yesilyurt Crossroad, Galeria Shopping Mall, Bakirkoy SeaBus Pier.

Drop Off Points: Passengers are dropped off at Galleria Shopping Mall on the way from the Airport to Bakirkoy.

Duration Trip: Approximately 15 minutes (Depends on the traffic)

A faster way to Taksim Square is by express city bus 96T, stopping at Yenikapi, Aksaray and Taksim.

Car Rental:

For those who would like to rent a car from the airport, the following is the list of the car rental companies at the airport.

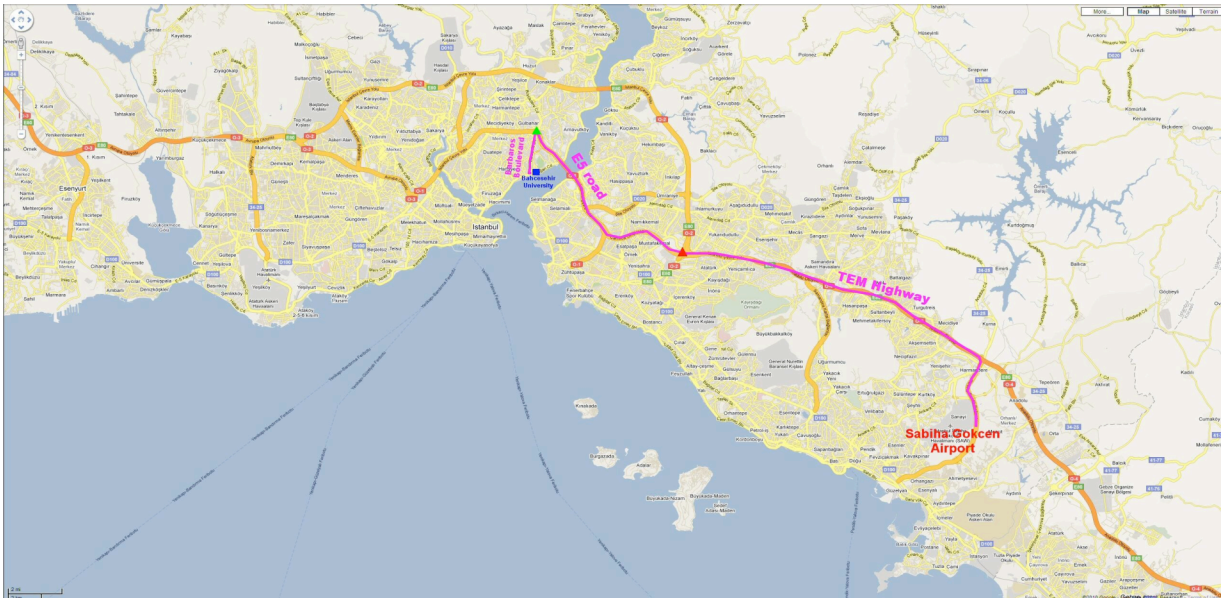
Company	TEL. (+ 90 212)	Ext.
Airport VIP	4654550	-

Alamo-Esengül	4654610	2865
Avias	4654488-4654645	3459
Avis	4653455-4653456	3255
Budget	4655806-4655479	3459
Decar	4654555/4654523-24-25	-
EuroPark	4655354-4653839	1867
Europcar	4653696-4656284	2804-2825
Hertz	4655999	2944
National-Alama	4653546-4653545	2946-2947
Sixt	4653645-4654422	-
Ülger	4653516-17-18	-
World	4655575-4655574	-

2. The **Sabiha Gokcen Airport** is on the other side of the city with respect to the university. Some of the international flights use this airport. From the airport, transportation is available to the area of the university. The following is the web site of Sabiha Gokcen Airport: <http://www.sgairport.com/havaalani/eng/start.asp>.

How to get to the university (Besiktas district) from Istanbul Sabiha Gokcen Airport?

By taxi: From Sabiha Gokcen Airport the taxi will cost approximately \$100 since the airport is on the other side of the city with respect to the university.
The taxi should take the TEM highway first. Then it should take the E5 freeway. After crossing the Bosphorus bridge it should turn to Barbaros Boulevard.



By shuttle: From Sabiha Gokcen Airport shuttle is available to Taksim Square (down town) at certain hours. Shuttle departure hours can be found at

<http://www.havas.net/en/shuttle-parking/istanbul-sabiha-gokcen-airport/>. Taksim Square is very close to the university. One can use public transportation or taxi to get to Besiktas district. From Taksim Square to Besiktas district where the venue is located, the public transportation costs about \$1 and travel time is about 10 minutes. By taxi it will take approximately 5-7 minutes and the price will be approximately \$5.

BY BUS:

Istanbul is well connected to every part of Turkey. It has two intercity bus terminals. Istanbul's large **Main Bus Terminal** (*Büyük Otogar*) serves all of Turkey, plus Greece, Romania, Bulgaria and the Balkans, and central Europe. Thousands of modern, luxurious buses connect Turkish cities and towns daily. This is how most Turks travel. Bus companies have ticket offices at the station and the larger ones have offices around town, especially in areas like Taksim, Sultanahmed and Besiktas. Departures are frequent, and you don't need advance reservations on most routes. Bus Station Tel: (+90-212) 658 05 05, 658 10 10, 333 37 63, 310 63 63. Here are sample routes, fares and travel times from Istanbul to many cities. <http://www.turkeytravelplanner.com/trans/Bus/index.html>.

BY TRAIN:

There are trains to Istanbul from the following destinations.

From **Europe**; Kishinev (Mol), Budapest (Hun), Beograd (Ser), Bucharest (Rom), Athens, Thessalonica (Gre) and Sofia (Bul);

From **Middle East**; Tehran, Tebriz (Irn), Aleppo (Syr) and Baghdad (Irq). Baghdad line is temporarily closed.

There are connections from Cologne to Istanbul on the "Istanbul Express", which also carries cars from several other European cities. There is a weekly sleeper from Moscow. InterRail tickets are available in the European part of Turkey as far as Istanbul.

Trains from European destinations arriving **Sirkeci Train Station** on European side. Sirkeci Information Tel: (+90-212) 527 0050/51. Reservations Tel: (+90-212) 520 6575.

Trains from Middle East destinations arriving **Haydarpasa Train Station** on Asian side.

Haydarpasa Information Tel: (+90-216) 336 0475/2063. Reservations Tel: (+90-216) 336 4470, 337 8724.

For more information, see <http://www.letsgoistanbul.com/tren.htm>, <http://www.tcdd.gov.tr/tcdding/index.htm>.



BANKING & CURRENCY

The currency of Turkey is the new Turkish Lira (TL) as of 1 January 2005. 1TL equals to 100 new Kurus (KR). Banknotes come in 1TL, 5TL, 10TL, 20TL, 50TL & 100TL and coins come in 1, 5KR, 10KR, 25KR and 50KR and 1TL.

Currency exchange facilities are available in all banks, hotels and airports. 24 hour cash machines providing banking services by different banks are located at suitable points throughout the airport terminals, bus, train stations, malls, etc.

US dollars and Euro's are also widely accepted. Credit cards are accepted at most restaurants and shops, the most widely used being MasterCard & Visa. Please kindly note that American Express, Diners Club and JCB Cards are not commonly accepted.

BUSINESS HOURS

Banks are generally open from 09:30 – 16:00 hours Monday – Friday. General office hours are 09:00 – 17:00 Monday – Friday. Post offices operate within these hours, however stamps often available from hotels.

ELECTRICITY

Turkey operates on 220 volts, 50 Hz, with round-prong European-style plugs that fit into recessed wall sockets/points. Check your appliances before leaving home to see what you'll need to plug in when you travel in Turkey. Many appliances such as laptop computers and digital cameras with their own power adapters can be plugged into either 120-volt or 220-volt sockets/points and will adapt to the voltage automatically. But you will need a plug adaptor that can fit into the recessed wall socket/point. Read the technical stuff on your power adapter to see "INPUT: A.C. 100-240V". If it reads that way, it can operate on either 120 or 220 voltage. If it says something like "INPUT: 100-125V", then it can't run on Turkey's 220 volts and you'll need to bring a voltage converter.

Usefull Web Sites:

Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality <http://www.ibb.gov.tr/sites/ks/en-us/Pages/Home.aspx>

Turkish Culture and Tourism Office <http://www.tourismturkey.org/>

(<http://www.tourismturkey.org/ShowCities.aspx?ImgSession=y&Citi=Istanbul>)

Governorship of Istanbul <http://english.istanbul.gov.tr/>

Things to do in Istanbul <http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g293974-Activities-Istanbul.html>

Istanbul Photos <http://www.tripadvisor.com/LocationPhotos-g293974-w5-Istanbul.html>

Istanbul in Wikipedia <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Istanbul>

Istanbul in Wikitravel <http://wikitravel.org/en/Istanbul>

Info on Istanbul <http://www.sgairport.com/havaalani/eng/seyahat/sehirB.asp>

Info on Istanbul <http://www.istanbulextralarge.com/>

Info on Istanbul <http://www.visiting-turkey.com/istanbul>

Info on Istanbul <http://www.istanbul.info.tr/>

Info on Istanbul <http://www.istanbulhistoricalplaces.com/>

Info on Istanbul <http://www.enjoyturkey.com/info/sights/istanbul.htm>