



INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

REGULAR 24TH ALADIN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AND

5TH JOINT ALADIN GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND HIRLAM
COUNCIL

ISTANBUL, TURKEY

16-17 DECEMBER 2019



INTRODUCTION

AT THE KIND INVITATION OF TURKISH STATE METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE (TSMS), REGULAR 24TH ALADIN GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND 5TH JOINT ALADIN GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND HIRLAM COUNCIL WILL BE HELD AT THE HILTON ISTANBUL BOSPHORUS, ISTANBUL, TURKEY, BETWEEN 16 AND 17 DECEMBER 2019. THE OPENING SESSION OF THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HOTEL IN THE NOON ON MONDAY 16 DECEMBER 2019.

1. Transfers from Airports

a. Istanbul International Airport (IATA: IST; ICAO: LTFM)

Located on the European side of Istanbul, by the Black Sea shore, Istanbul International Airport is 45 kilometers to Hotel and, it takes approximately 45 to 75 minutes (depending on traffic) by taxi and private car (Figure 1); and 1 hour and 20 minutes to 2 hours and 30 minutes by public transportation (Figure 2).

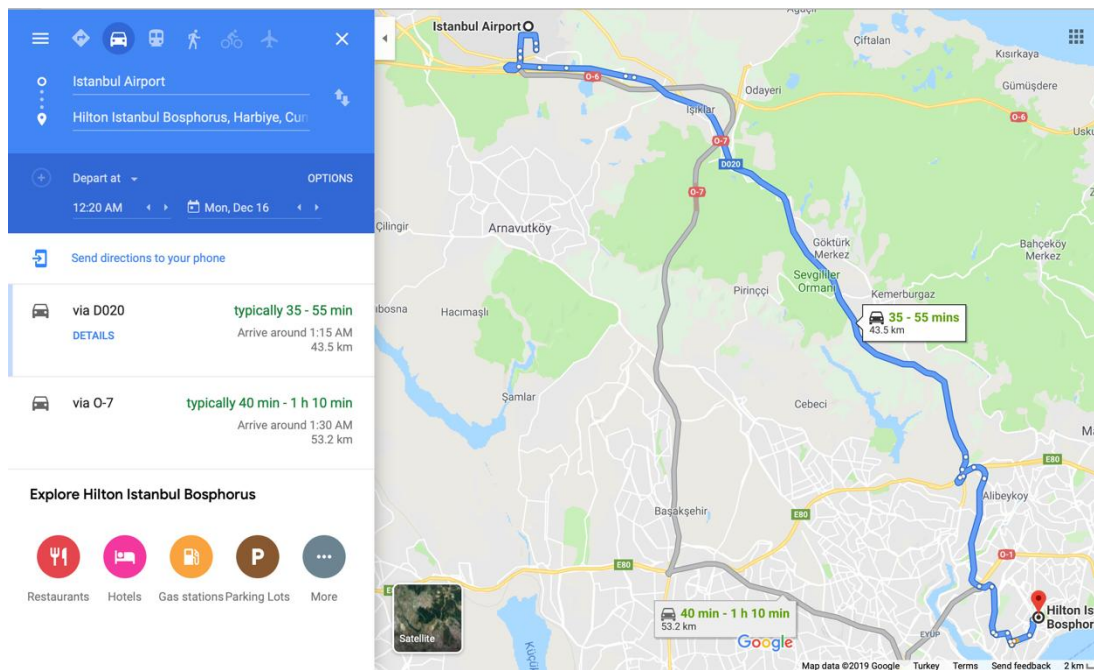


Figure 1. Transfer from Istanbul Airport to Hilton Istanbul Bosphorus Hotel by taxi or private car.

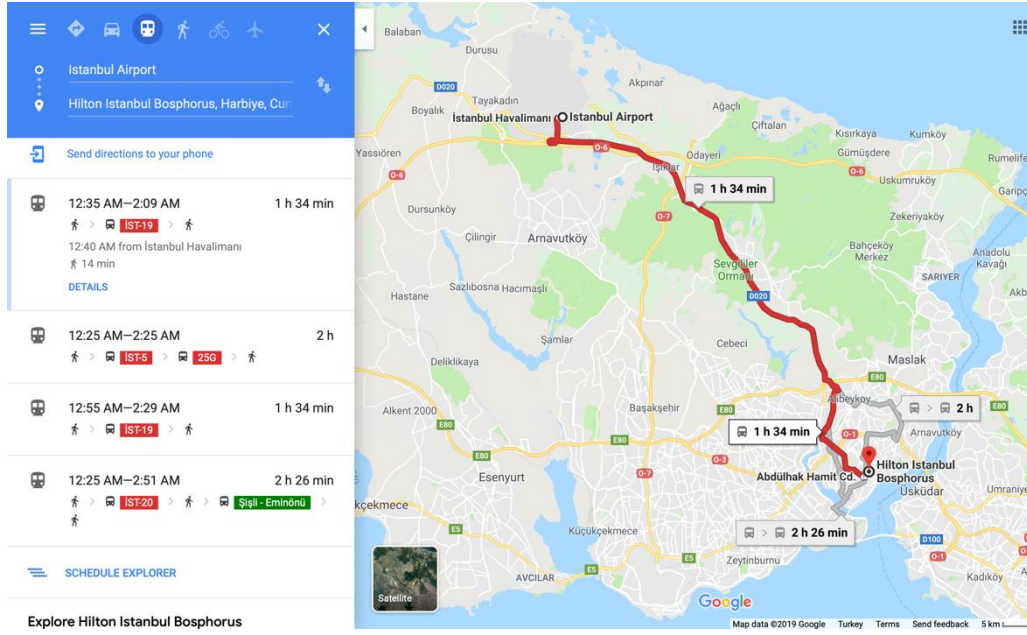


Figure 2. Transfer from Istanbul Airport to Hilton Istanbul Bosphorus Hotel by public transportation.

Participants who want to take a **taxi** to arrive in the hotel will pay approximately **30 €** (depending on the car class, taxis have different color and fare; yellow and red taxicabs apply lower rate and, blue and black colored ones are higher rates). Recommended public transfer option is taking **IST-19** bus, also called **Havaist**, operating every 15 minutes between 05:10 am to 08:00 pm, every 20 minutes between 08:00 pm and 01:00 am and every 30 minutes between 01:00 am and 04:30 am. It costs **18 TRY** and tickets could be bought on the bus with credit cards. Details can be reached via the official web page <https://hava.ist/en/new-timetables>, wherein the destination options Istanbul Airport is written in Turkish, “Istanbul Havalimani”. Participants taking this bus will get off at the last station called Taksim, from here, Hotel is in 700 meters walking distance.

b. Sahiba Gökçen International Airport (IATA: SAW; ICAO: LTFJ)

Sabiha Gökçen International Airport is located on the Anatolian side of Istanbul in Pendik/Kurtköy. It is located 55 kilometers from Meeting Venue (Hilton Bosphorus). It takes approximately 45 to 90 minutes (Depending on traffic) by taxi and private car (Figure 3); and 1 hour and 30 minutes to 2 hours and 30 minutes (Figure 4) by public transportation.

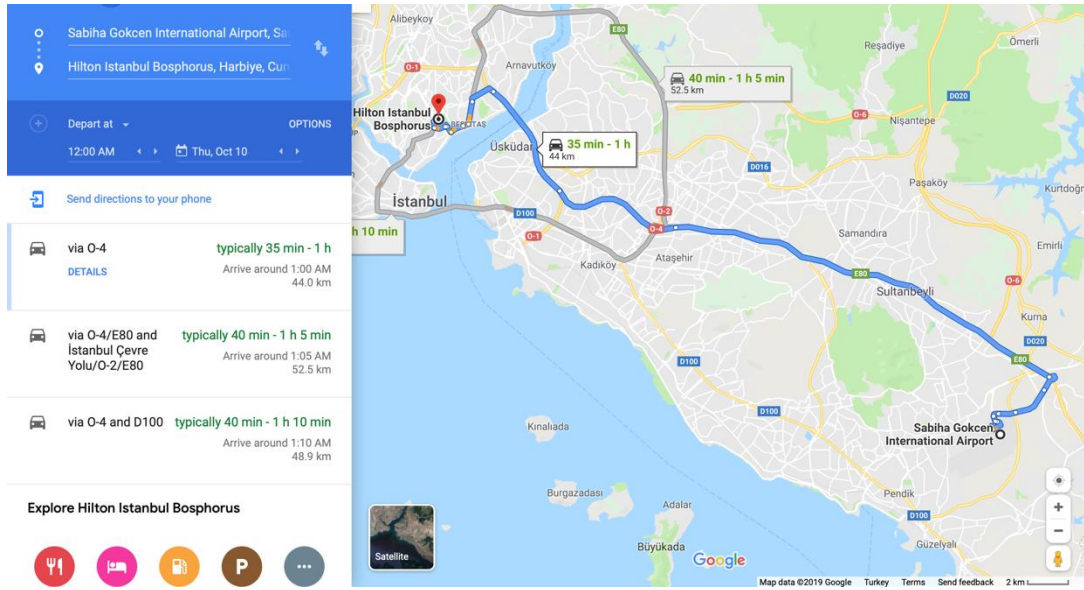


Figure 3. Transfer from Sabiha Gokcen International Airport to Hilton Istanbul Bosphorus Hotel by taxi or private car.

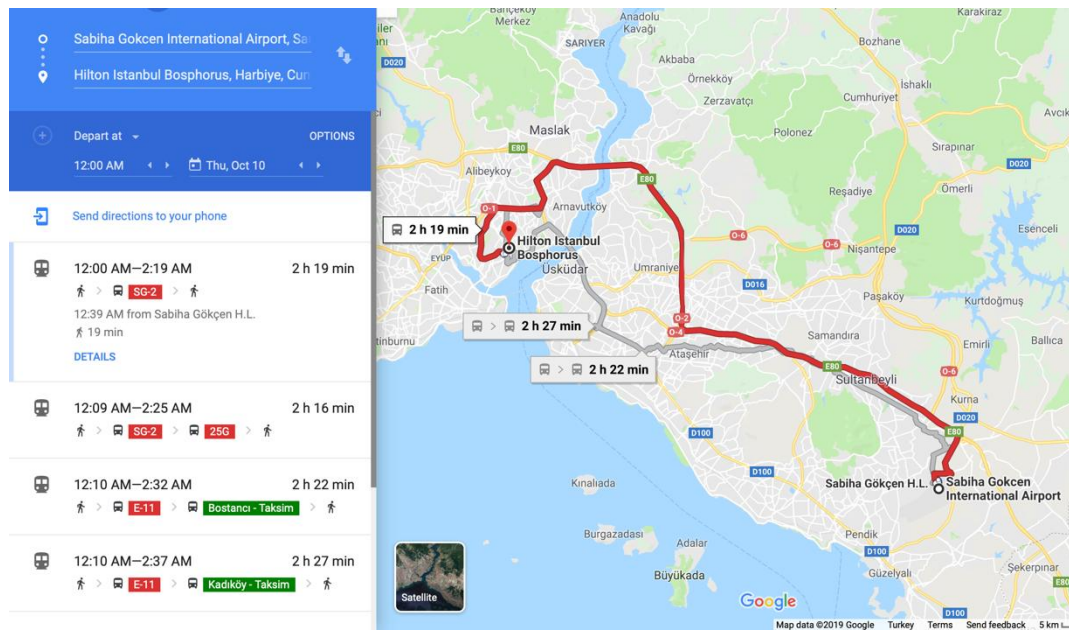


Figure 4. Transfer from Sabiha Gokcen International Airport to Hilton Istanbul Bosphorus Hotel by public transportation.

Participants who want to take a **taxi** to arrive in the hotel will pay approximately **40 €** (depending on the car class, taxis have different color and fare; yellow and red taxicabs apply lower rate and, blue and black colored ones are higher rates). The recommended public transfer option is taking the **SG-2** bus, also called **Havatas/Havabus**, operating every 30 minutes between 04:00 am to 01:00 am. It costs **18 TRY** and tickets could be bought on the bus with cash. Details can be accessed via the official web page <http://www.havabus.com/volcuservisi/taksim-sabihagokcenhavalimani.aspx>. Participants taking this bus will get off at the last station called **Taksim**, from here, Hotel is in 700 meters walking distance.

2. Accommodation

The price for single rooms per night based on half-board (including breakfast and lunch) is **120 €** and, **170 € for double rooms**. All reservations and any additional requests need to be addressed through Representative of the Local Organizing Committee.

Hilton Istanbul Bosphorus

Hilton Istanbul Bosphorus is located on the European side of the city; very close to Taksim Square, with its shops, restaurants, nightspots, and cafes (Figure 5).

To view the complete amenities of the hotel, please visit its website: <https://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/turkey/hilton-istanbul-bosphorus-ISTHITW/index.html>

Address: CUMHURIYET CADDESİ NO: 50 HARBIYE, SISLI, ISTANBUL, 34367, TURKEY



Figure 5. Hilton Istanbul Bosphorus' outlook and location.

3. Visas for travel to Turkey

Citizens of a number of countries need to have a visa before arriving in Turkey. Most visitors with confirmed round-tickets can obtain their entry visas at the airports, although this does not apply to certain nationalities. Information and relevant procedures on this matter can be obtained at <http://www.mfa.gov.tr/visa-information-for-foreigners.en.mfa>. On-line system for visa application is available, also this does not apply to certain nationalities: <https://www.evisa.gov.tr/en/>. The Government of Turkey has advised that applications for visas may be submitted to the nearest Turkish embassy or consulate. In those countries that do not have a Turkish embassy or consulate, participants may submit their application to a Turkish embassy or consulate in another country which covers the participant's country of origin. Participants are advised to contact an embassy or consulate as early as possible to obtain precise information on regulations and deadlines for submission of applications. A complete list of Turkish embassies and consulates can be found at <http://www.mfa.gov.tr/turkish-representations.en.mfa>. If an invitation letter is necessary for your visa application, please directly contact the Local Organizing Committee at the following address: Ms. Sezel Karayusufoglu Uysal (skarayusufoglu@mgm.gov.tr)

4. Local organizing committee addresses:

Name: Ms. Sezel Karayusufoğlu Uysal

E-mail: skarayusufoglu@mgm.gov.tr

Phone:00 90 312 302 2795

Mobile:00 90 530 523 8237

Name: Ms. Yelis Cengiz

E-mail: ycengiz@mgm.gov.tr

Phone:00 90 312 302 2571

Mobile: 00 90 532 641 1953

5. Weather

The Turkish State Meteorological Service provides regular weather updates through its website at the following addresses:

Website: <https://mgm.gov.tr/eng/forecast-cities.aspx?m=ISTANBUL>

6. Health requirements/medical services

Up-to-date information on international travel and health requirements are provided by the World Health Organization (WHO) at the following websites:

<http://www.who.int/ith/en/>

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/turkey>

TSMS could not be held responsible for accidents or damage to private property of participants. Participants shall make their own arrangements for health insurance and any other necessary insurance.

7. Currency

The currency in Turkey is the Turkish Lira (TRY). Check www.xe.com for the most up-to-date exchange rates. ATMs are widely available in major cities and tourist areas. You can get local currency from banks and exchange bureau, known as DOVIZ in Turkish.

8. Electricity

In Turkey the power plugs and sockets are of type F. The standard voltage is 220 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz. An adaptor may be necessary.

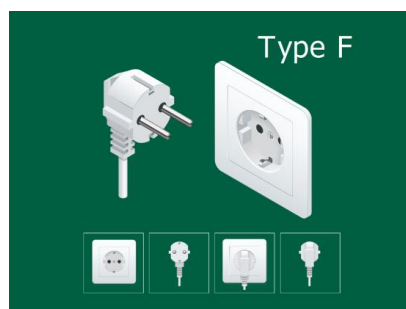


Figure 6. Turkey's plug type.

Participants are advised to bring their own plug adapters to plug into Turkish power sockets. Information on the appropriate plugs may be found on the Internet (<https://www.iec.ch/worldplugs/typeF.htm>).

9. Internet services

Wireless Internet connection (Wi-Fi) will be available. The password will be provided to the participants.

10. Time Zone

Istanbul is in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) +03:00.

11. Calls

International code for Turkey: **+90**

Ambulance: 112

Police: 155

Fire Brigade: 110