

Participant Guideline

Arrival & Transportation

All participants are expected to arrange their own transportation to Istanbul, there are two airports Istanbul Airport and Sabiha Gokcen airport (smaller). There are many frequent flights to Istanbul Airport from all over the world and the public transportation from the airport and the centre city is very fast. Sabiha Gokcen airport is used mostly by low cost airlines, and it is a smaller airport. For both airports, the public transportation links are provided below.

OPTION 1: Metro Line from Istanbul Airport (IST) to the conference venue.

We recommend using the Metro for easy and affordable transportation from Istanbul Airport to the city center. If you plan to use public transportation frequently, we recommend purchasing an Istanbulkart. You can easily buy one at vending machines located outside on the -2 floor of the airport. Please find metro ticket fare (with Anonymous Card) İstanbul Kart) [here](#).

- **Metro Line:** M11 (Airport Metro)

- **Direction:** Take the M11 metro from Istanbul Airport to Gayrettepe. For more details, please see: [Istanbul Airport Metro Guide](#).

-**Connection to the Venue:** At Gayrettepe, transfer to the [M2 Metro](#) Line in the direction of Taksim or Şişhane. [Minerva Han](#) is around 15 minutes walking time from Şişhane. You may also use the [Tünel funicular](#) during working hours.

OPTION 2: Havaist Shuttle from Istanbul Airport to Karaköy.

Take the [Havaist](#) Taksim (HVL-9) line from Istanbul Airport to Beşiktaş Meydan (This shuttle line also stops at Taksim, where you can transfer to the metro and travel to Şişhane station. From Şişhane, it is a short 15 minutes' walk to the venue). The shuttle bus costs about 275 TL one way (Around 8 euros).

Shuttles depart from the Arrival Terminal, -2nd Floor at Istanbul Airport. Buses operate 24/7, with departures every 30 to 60 minutes. It takes approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes, depending on the traffic. From Beşiktaş Meydan, take the 46Ç bus to Karaköy. Buses run around every 20 minutes, and the journey takes about 24 minutes. For more directions from the İstanbul Airport to Minerva Han please click [on the link](#).

From Sabiha Gökçen Airport (SAW) to the Venue.

OPTION 1: Metro + Marmaray (Most Efficient Public Transport)

Board the [M4 Kadıköy-Sabiha Gökçen Metro Line](#) directly from the airport. This line connects the airport to Kadıköy. At the **Ayrılık Çeşmesi** station, transfer to the **Marmaray** line. Take the Marmaray and disembark at **Sirkeci** station. From Sirkeci, Karaköy is a short walk or one stop away via the **T1 Tram Line**.

OPTION 2: Havabus Shuttle + Metro. Board the [Havabus](#) shuttle from Sabiha Gökçen Airport to **Taksim**. The service operates regularly and takes about 1.5 hours, depending on traffic. From Taksim, take the M2 Metro Line to Şişhane station. From Şişhane, Karaköy and Minerva Han is within walking distance or accessible via the [Tünel funicular](#).

Accommodation

You are encouraged to arrange accommodation either near the Old City (Sultanahmet) or around Karaköy/Taksim, both offering easy access to the venue and Istanbul's main attractions.

Some Hotel Options:

- [Richmond Hotel \(Taksim/Istiklal Street\)](#)
- [The Haze Hotel \(Karaköy\)](#)
- [The Marmara Pera](#)
- [KHAL Karaköy](#)
- [The Peninsula](#)
- [Hotel Morione, Karaköy](#)
- [The Manesol, Karaköy](#)
- [The Galata Istanbul Hotel - MGallery](#)

Practical Notes

-T1 Tram system are reliable and cover all central districts. The T1 tram line runs through the entire Old City, making it very convenient to reach the conference venue if you choose accommodation in the Old City area (near Sultanahmet).

Minerva Han also is very close to [Galataport](#) where you can find many restaurants, shopping and cafes with a view of the Bosphorus as well as the renown Modern Art Museum, [Istanbul Modern](#). For easiest access, we recommend staying close to Karaköy, Taksim, and near the Old City.

We look forward to welcoming you to Istanbul.