ISSUE: 159

TOURISM BULLETIN

ASSOCIATION OF TURKISH TRAVEL AGENCIES WEEKLY TOURISM BULLETIN 9-15 SEPTEMBER / 2024

"TÜRSAB WHATSAPP LIVE SUPPORT LINE"
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PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

I am extremely saddened that I had to respond to the statements of the Minister of Culture and Tourism against our institution and myself in his own style...
It is not desirable that a sectoral discussion has reached a level that the sector does not deserve. In order to discuss sectoral issues, one needs to be informed. But we understand that Mr. Minister has a long way to go in this regard.

Mr. Minister called TÜRSAB an "NGO"!
Despite being a minister for so many years, the Minister is unable to distinguish between NGOs and professional organizations in the nature of public institutions. TÜRSAB, a professional organization with fifteen thousand members in tourism, is the largest tourism organization known and exemplary worldwide. To equate our professional association, which is a public institution, with associations in an effort to trivialize and trivialize it is ignorance, if it is not intentional.

His statement also shows that the Minister's knowledge of the concept of "public order" is not sufficient. If, as he says, TÜRSAB was an NGO and not a professional association in the nature of a public institution, the Ministry Inspectors who have been working inside the institution for years would not be able to inspect the institution.

Mr. Minister said, "No one would become a member of TÜRSAB if they did not have to"!
Membership to Chambers of Commerce, Bar Associations and similar professional organizations is required by law. Just like tourism facilities are affiliated to our Ministry...
We should ask him; if there was no obligation to obtain a certificate, would a single tourism facility have obtained a certificate from the Ministry?
It is also necessary to ask the Minister why he does not make payments to the TGA, which he runs like a shop, on a voluntary basis!

The Minister said "TÜRSAB stinks"!
Could it be that those "bad smells" that you could not find in us despite all the forced inspections are mainly due to the allocations and advantages you gave to your companies during your term as Minister?
Honestly, we wonder what these outrageous and unkind remarks of yours are preparations for, what they are flares for. It seems that Mr. Minister has not given up his personal obsession of dividing and destroying TÜRSAB and is preparing for a new attack.

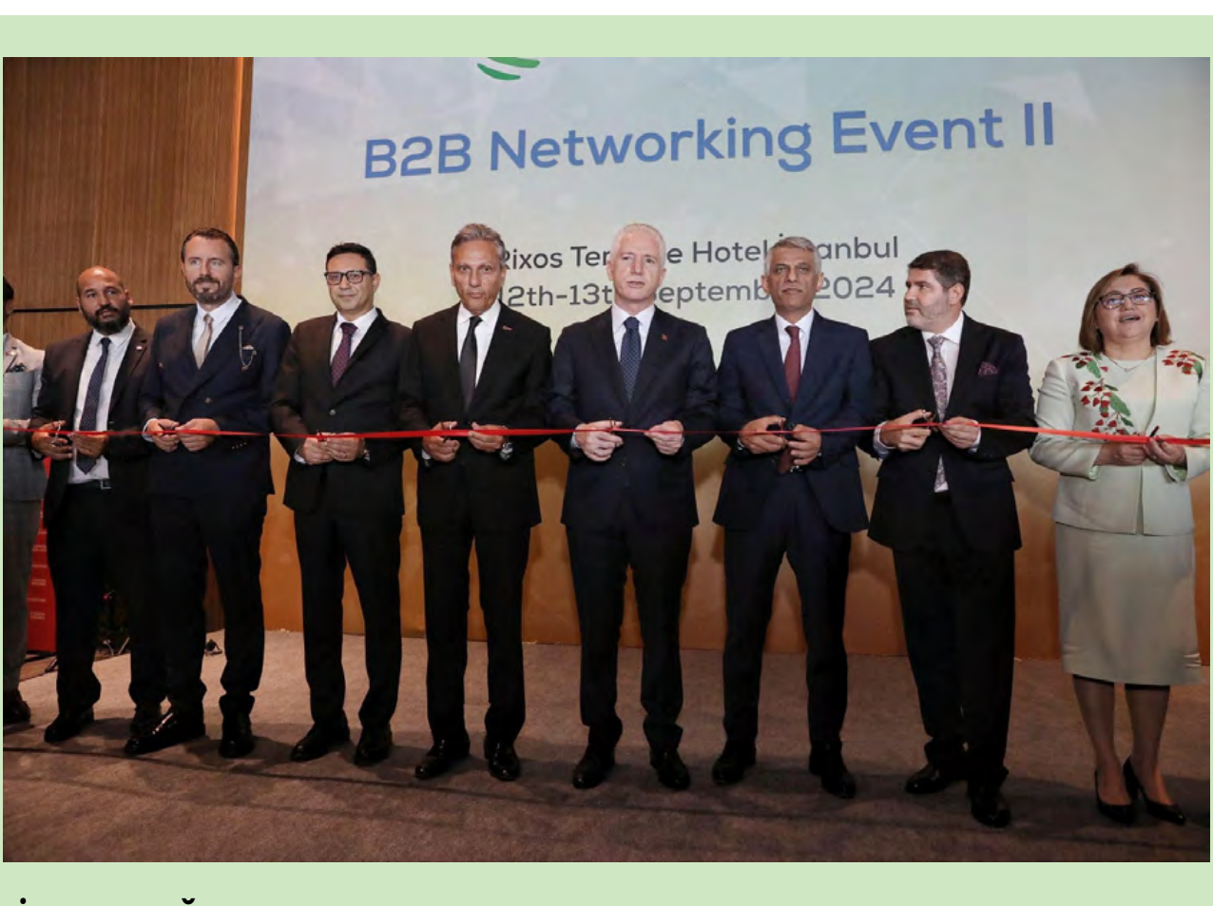
Mr. Minister is persistently trying to present his personal enmity as a state issue.
He continues to insist on bringing our institution and our Ministry against each other due to his personal enmity. Although we have visited many times, he is the only Minister of Tourism in the history of the Republic of Turkey who has not visited TÜRSAB even once.
While the sector has dozens of problems waiting for solutions, especially vision, there is not a single person in the state and the sector who does not know the hostility of Mr. Minister to TÜRSAB and its President!
Since the day he became a minister, he has been hostile to the professional organization established by law for his personal benefit!

This is how he goes down in history!
By using public power, he has destroyed the tourism sector,
The media industry using the power of advertising,
A government with statistics that are exaggerated even while reflecting the usual increase, with statistics that do not compare at all with competitors,
He does not stop misleading for his own personal gain.

The truth of the matter is as follows:
Mr. Minister is uncomfortable with the struggle of TÜRSAB for the rights of 15 thousand travel agencies against the monopoly created by its own companies and brands in domestic tourism and the existence of travel agencies.
In the anger of not being able to break our unity despite all these attacks, when all his attempts, including unlawful attacks on our personal commercial affairs, did not yield results, he brought it to the point of calling the 52-year-old professional association "rotten".
I would like to take this opportunity to remind you once again: TÜRSAB will not submit to this domination you have created over the sector and will continue to fight your unfair competition and monopoly.

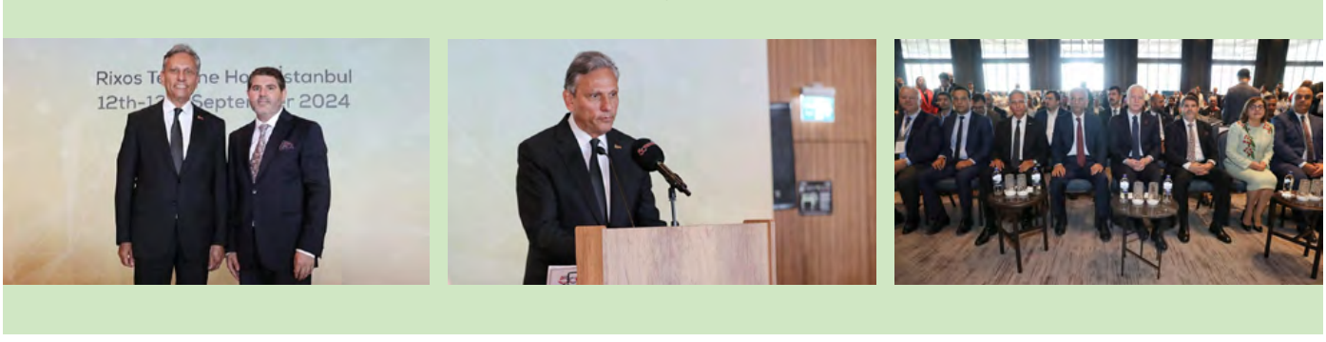
Mr. Minister should know this;
We see tourism as a national issue and direct our criticisms accordingly. This is why we oppose wrongdoings. Mr. Minister likes hotel associations, which are NGOs, and tries to show them as the real representatives of tourism. Because they are unable to voice any truth because of the guillotine hanging over their large investments and facilities, because they are crushed at every negative determination and because they do not have a professional organization to defend them.
We will continue to say what we know, to be the voice of the sector, and to put forward the truth against being misled against an understanding that puts only its own mind instead of the common mind.
You can't cover up the facts that everyone knows about tourism by pointing fingers left and right!
We believe that the state mind, especially Mr. President Erdoğan, will stand by the truth.

Firuz BAĞLIKAYA
TÜRSAB PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS



FİRUZ BAĞLIKAYA, PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF TÜRSAB, AND HIS COMMITEE PARTICIPATED IN GLOBEMEETS B2B NETWORKING EVENT

TÜRSAB President Firuz Bağlıkaya and the accompanying TÜRSAB Committee attended the GlobeMeets B2B Networking Event, organized for the second time this year.
Bağlıkaya, who made the opening speech of the event aiming to create new collaborations and prepare the ground for strong partnerships, visited the stands after the program and met with travel agencies.



BUSINESS DIPLOMACY
TURİZM YÜZYILI PROJESİ BURDUR'DA BAŞLADI
SERVICE EXPORT: TÜRKİYE'S RISING POWER IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

FİRUZ BAĞLIKAYA, PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF TÜRSAB, TALKED ABOUT THE TOURISM CENTURY VISION PROJECT TO THE JOURNAL BUSINESS DIPLOMACY PREPARED BY DEİK

TÜRSAB President Firuz Bağlıkaya said, "We aim to spread the developmental power of tourism to Turkey with the 'Tourism Century' project, which we initiated inspired by the vision of the Century of Turkey put forward by our President Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan."

TÜRSAB LAUNCHES TOURISM CENTURY PROJECT FROM BURDUR
TURİZM YÜZYILI PROJESİ BURDUR'DA BAŞLADI

OUR VICE PRESIDENT DAVUT GÜNAYDIN VISITED T. R. C. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY NATURE CONSERVATION AND NATIONAL PARKS 1ST REGIONAL DIRECTOR MR. FAHRETTİN ULU

Our Vice President Davut Günaydın visited Mr. Fahrettin Ulu, 1st Regional Director of Nature Conservation and National Parks, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, in his office.
During the visit, opinions were exchanged regarding the TÜRSAB Memorial Forest Project, which is planned to be realized in November.

OUR TÜRSAB COMMITTEE MET AND HELD A MEETING WITH MR. UĞUR OTO, ISTANBUL PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR OF ISKUR, MINISTRY OF LABOR AND SOCIAL SECURITY

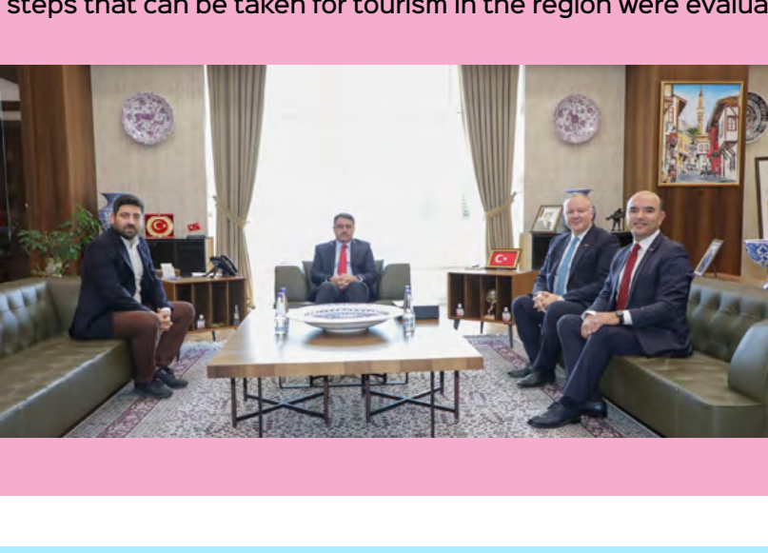
Our Vice President Hasan Eker and Corporate Relations Group President Nergis Büyükkınacı met with Mr. Uğur Oto, Istanbul Provincial Director of İŞKUR, Ministry of Labor and Social Security, at İŞKUR Provincial Directorate and held a meeting.
At the meeting, our TÜRSAB committee wished Mr. Uğur Oto success in his new position and consulted on the incentives that İŞKUR can provide to our travel agencies.
In order to ensure that our travel agencies benefit from these incentives in the best way; it was decided to hold an information meeting in September at our TÜRSAB Central Office with the participation of İŞKUR officials.

OUR VICE PRESIDENT HASAN EKER HELD A MEETING WITH KOSGEB DIRECTOR SELİM SERKAN ERCAN

Our Vice President Hasan Eker held a meeting with KOSGEB Director Mr. Selim Serkan Ercan at KOSGEB Istanbul İkitelli Directorate.
During the meeting, consultations were held on KOSGEB incentives for our travel agencies.

OUR TÜRSAB COMMITTEE VISITED THE GOVERNOR OF KÜTAHYA, MR. MUSA IŞIN HIS OFFICE

Our TÜRSAB Committee consisting of TÜRSAB Vice President Hasan Eker, Eskişehir Regional Representative Board President Özgür Ersoy and TÜRSAB Affiliates Manager Gökhan Kandemir visited Kütahya Governor Mr. Musa Işın in his office and held a meeting.
During the meeting, opinions were exchanged regarding the operation of GDZ Hotels Cavdarhisar.
The steps that can be taken for tourism in the region were evaluated.



WE MET WITH UMRANIYE MUNICIPALITY DELEGATION TO DISCUSS ANIMAL SHELTERS AT OUR CENTRAL OFFICE

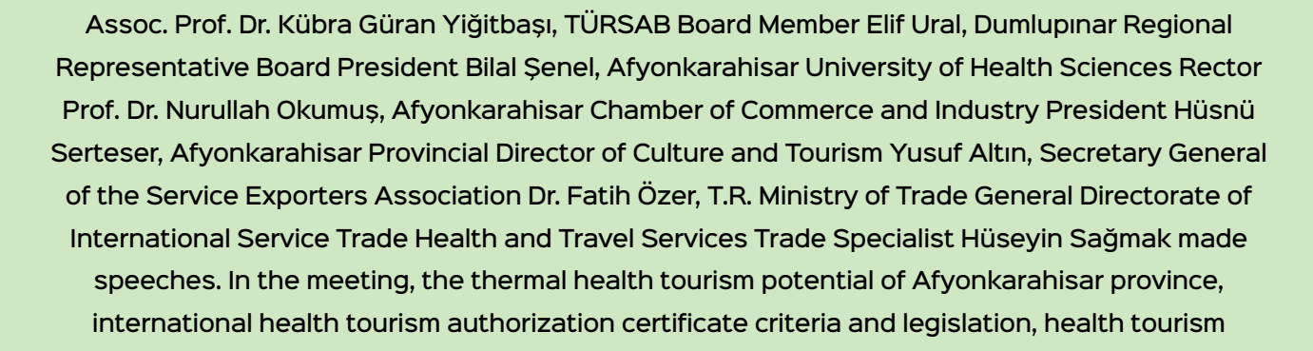
TÜRSAB Vice President Davut Günaydın hosted Mr. Sibel Şenocak and Mr. Ertuğrul Şahin, Vice Presidents of Ümraniye Municipality, at our Central Office and held a meeting on possible cooperation on animal shelters.
During the meeting, information about Ümraniye Municipality's work on animal rights was shared. Ideas were exchanged about the contributions that TÜRSAB can provide to these studies and the support it can provide for the protection of our stray animals.

TÜRSAB COMMITTEE PARTICIPATED IN BULGARIA DESTINATION PROMOTION EVENT

TÜRSAB Vice President Hasan Eker and Director of Specialization Directorates Ceylan Yiğiterhan attended the Bulgaria Destination Promotion Event hosted by Consul General of the Republic of Bulgaria in Istanbul Mr. Vassil Valchev and Minister of Tourism of the Republic of Bulgaria Mr. Evtim Miloshev on Saturday, September 14, 2024 at the Bulgarian Exarchate on behalf of our Association. Before the event, our Vice President Hasan Eker held bilateral meetings with Bulgarian Minister of Tourism Evtim Miloshev and discussed what can be done for the development of tourism mobility between Turkey and Bulgaria. In addition, the difficulties experienced by Turkish citizens regarding the Schengen visa, the joint work that can be done for the treatment of Bulgarian citizens in Turkey, which is among the leaders of health tourism, and the inclusion of meeting and congress specialization areas in Bulgaria's winter tourism were discussed. Following the bilateral meetings, a meeting on Turkey Bulgaria Tourism was held with the participation of Minister of Tourism of the Republic of Bulgaria Mr. Evtim Miloshev, TÜRSAB Vice President Mr. Hasan Eker, THY Sales Manager Mr. Ahmet Harun Baştürk, VFS Global Turkey Azerbaijan President Mr. Sertan Aslantürk and Golden Gateway CEO Mr. Halis Ali Çakmak.
Within the scope of the event, "Colors of the Wind" solo painting exhibition of Bulgarian artist Boris Staykov was also visited.

THE EIGHTH OF OUR HEALTH TOURISM INFORMATION MEETINGS WAS HELD AT THE AFYONKARAHİSAR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

The eighth of our Health Tourism Information Meetings was held on Friday, September 13, 2024 at Afyonkarahisar Chamber of Commerce and Industry with the theme of 'Afyonkarahisar Thermal Health Tourism'. At the meeting held with the participation of Afyonkarahisar Governor Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kübra Güran Yiğitbaşı, TÜRSAB Board Member Elif Ural, Dumlupınar Regional Representative Board President Bilal Şenel, Afyonkarahisar University of Health Sciences Rector Prof. Dr. Nurullah Okumuş, Afyonkarahisar Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Hüsnü Serteser, Afyonkarahisar Provincial Director of Culture and Tourism Yusuf Altın, Secretary General of the Service Exporters Association Dr. Fatih Özer, T.R. Ministry of Trade General Directorate of International Service Trade Health and Travel Services Trade Specialist Hüseyin Sağmak made speeches. In the meeting, the thermal health tourism potential of Afyonkarahisar province, international health tourism authorization certificate criteria and legislation, health tourism processes, legislation and health tourism potential between provinces in Turkey, the application procedures and principles of state incentives in health tourism, membership to the Service Exporters Association, preparation of incentive files and process management were discussed.
The meeting ended with a question and answer session.



BEYLERBEYI PALACE, BEYKOZ GLASS AND BILUR MUSEUM, BEYKOZ MECİDİYE PAVILION, IHLAMUR PAVILION AND AYNALIKAVAK PAVILION VISIT DAYS AND HOURS HAVE BEEN UPDATED

According to the official letter sent to our Association by the Department of Museology and Promotion of the National Palaces Administration of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey;
The Garden and Dock Section of Beylerbeyi Palace will be open until 21:00 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and until 22:00 on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.
Beykoz Glass and Billur Museum, Beykoz Mecidiye Pavilion, Ihlamur Pavilion, Aynalıkavak Pavilion Gardens and Küçüksu Pavilion Recreation Area will be closed to visitors at 18:00 as of September 16, 2024.

AGENCY CONSULTATION MEETING WITH IDATA OFFICIALS WILL TAKE PLACE ON SEPTEMBER 25TH AT TÜRSAB CENTRAL OFFICE

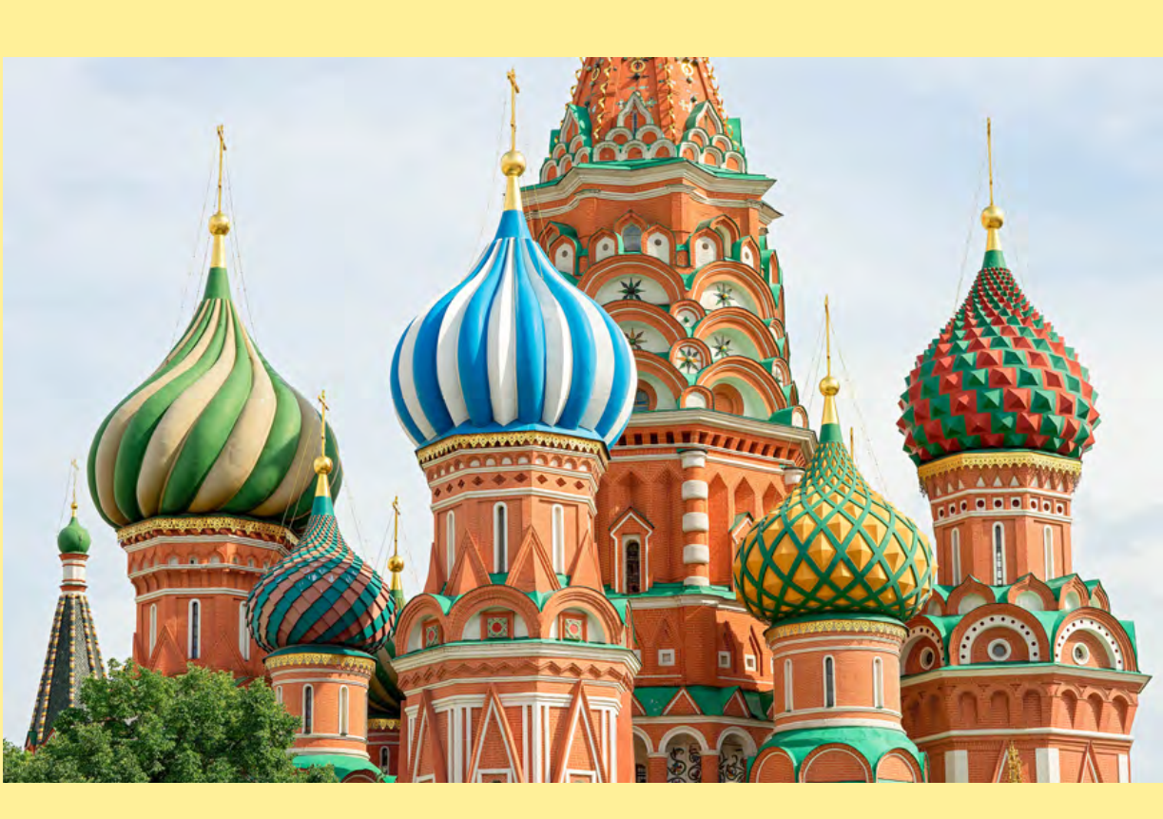
On Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at 14.00, "Agency Consultation Meeting with iData Officials" will be held at TÜRSAB Central Office.
We kindly ask our members who want to attend the meeting where the problems and solutions experienced in visa applications will be discussed to fill out the participation form below.
Participation Form:
https://online.tursab.org.tr/lcv/idatatoplantisi

SWITZERLAND DESTINATION PRESENTATION WILL TAKE PLACE ON SEPTEMBER 17TH AT TÜRSAB CENTRAL OFFICE

On Thursday, September 19, 2024, a Switzerland Destination Presentation will be held at TÜRSAB Central Office in cooperation with TÜRSAB, Switzerland Tourism Office and Turkish Airlines Zurich Office. In the presentation, it is aimed to discuss the tourism activities between Turkey and Switzerland and to reach all kinds of information that our outgoing travel agencies operating in Istanbul will need in their tourism movements towards Switzerland, together with video screenings to introduce Swiss touristic regions.
Our members who wish to participate in the event with the draft program should fill out the participation form below until 17 September 2024 at 17.00.
https://online.tursab.org.tr/lcv/isvicredestinasyon
Date: Thursday, September 19 - Time: 14:00
Location: TÜRSAB Central Office
Switzerland Destination Promotion Event Program
13.30 - 14.00 - Registration and Welcome
14.00 - 14.15 - Opening Speeches
14.15 - 15.00 - Presentations
15.00 - 15.30 - Question & Answer
15.30 -16.00 - Closing
Note: The presentation and video screening will be held in English and there will be a simultaneous interpreter translating into Turkish at the event.
Sincerely for your information.

'ALEXANDROUPOLIS, CENTRAL GREECE, WESTERN MACEDONIA, EASTERN MACEDONIA AND THRACE DESTINATION PROMOTION AND B2B MEETING EVENT' WILL BE HELD AT TÜRSAB CENTRAL OFFICE

On Wednesday, October 2, 2024, 'Alexandroupolis, Central Greece, Western Macedonia, Eastern Macedonia and Thrace Destination Promotion and B2B Meeting Event' will be held at TÜRSAB Headquarters in cooperation with the Consulate General of Greece in Istanbul and the Greek Tourism Authority. Greece offers a journey to the past with its fascinating history, impressive nature, hospitable culture and Europe's Blue flag beaches, mountains adorned with olive trees and crystal clear seas, as well as ancient ruins, temples and historical cities.
Greek tour operators and travel agencies will also participate in our event where presentations will be made to promote Greece. At the event, B2B meetings will be held to develop new collaborations regarding travel and accommodation opportunities and tour packages. Gift packages containing local products of Greece will be given to our participating members, and 8 people will be offered free travel to the introduced regions by lottery.
For participation: https://online.tursab.org.tr/lcv/yunandestinasyon



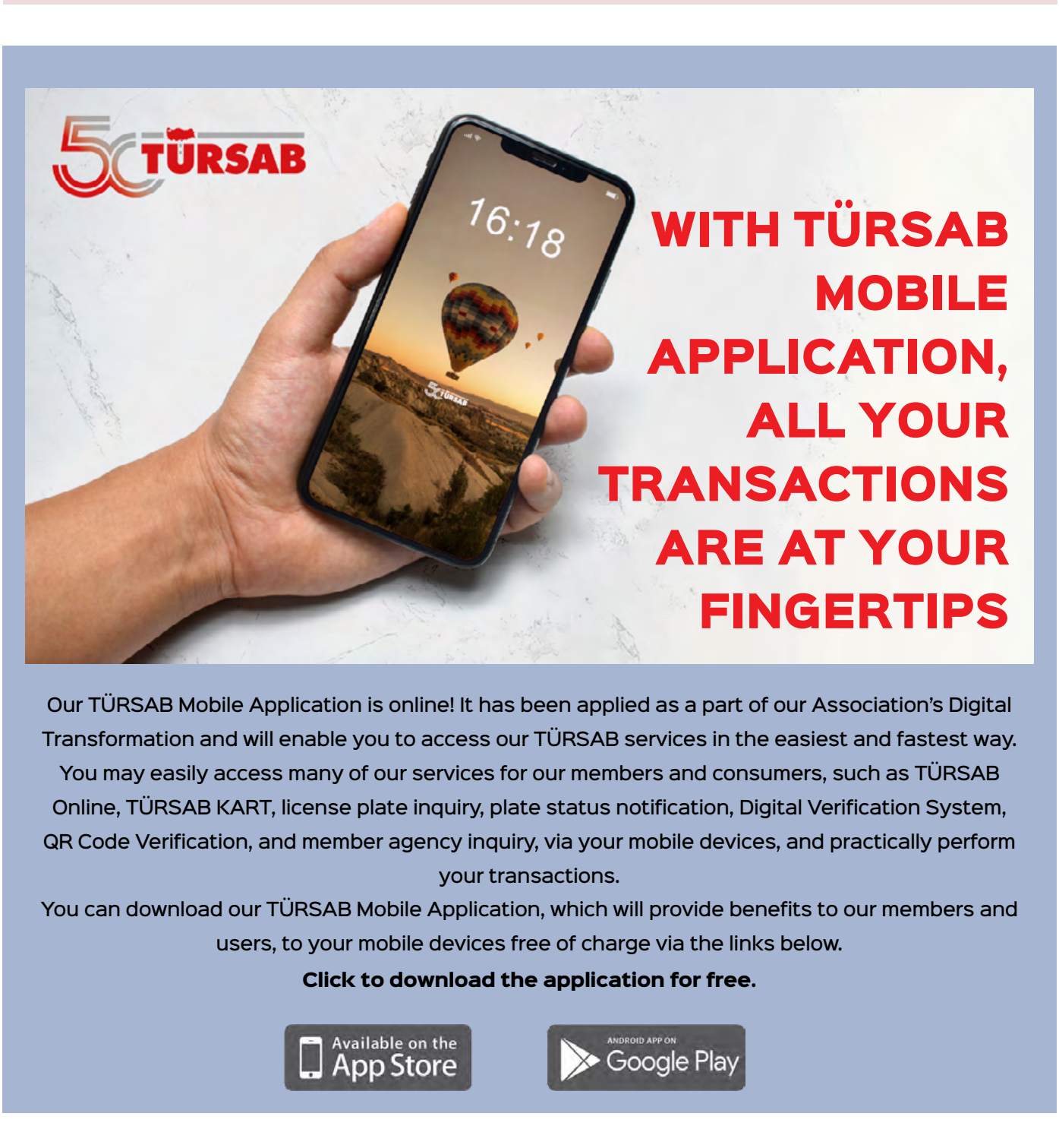
HEALTH TOURISM EXPO MOSCOW, RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL HEALTH TOURISM EXHIBITION, CONFERENCE AND B2B SEMINAR WILL TAKE PLACE ON OCTOBER 4-5, 2024

Association of Turkish Travel Agencies (TÜRSAB) will participate in Health Tourism Expo Moscow, Russia International Health Tourism Fair, Conference and B2B Seminar, which will be held in Moscow on October 4-5, 2024. The facilities to be provided free of charge by TÜRSAB for 20 travel agencies operating in the field of health tourism, who want to take place at the TÜRSAB stand at the fair and whose participation is approved after the application, are stated below.
- Providing a place to communicate with visitors at the TÜRSAB stand in the fair area (table, chair and table top plexi company logo),
- 5 B2B meeting appointments for approved members,
- 1 lunch during the event

Travel agencies wishing to participate in the event are required to fill out the application form via the link below.
For participation;
https://online.tursab.org.tr/lcv/moscowexpo
For detailed information
https://www.tursab.org.tr/announcements/announcement-on-health-tourism-expo-moscow-russia-international-health-tourism-fair-conference-and-b2b-seminar

2ND ISPARTA TOURISM AND GASTRONOMY FAIR OPENS ITS DOORS TO VISITORS ON OCTOBER 3-6

It is stated that the 2nd Isparta Tourism and Gastronomy Fair will be organized between 3-6 October 2024 at Isparta Gökkubbe Fairground with the cooperation of Isparta Governorship and Isparta Municipality and the organization of ASKO Fair Organization and Promotion Services.
For detailed information;
https://www.tursab.org.tr/announcements/announcement-on-the-2nd-isparta-tourism-and-gastronomy-fair



WITH TÜRSAB MOBILE APPLICATION, ALL YOUR TRANSACTIONS ARE AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Our TÜRSAB Mobile Application is online! It has been applied as a part of our Association's Digital Transformation and will enable you to access our TÜRSAB services in the easiest and fastest way. You may easily access many of our services for our members and consumers, such as TÜRSAB Online, TÜRSAB KART, license plate inquiry, plate status notification, Digital Verification System, QR Code Verification, and member agency inquiry, via your mobile devices, and practically perform your transactions.
You can download our TÜRSAB Mobile Application, which will provide benefits to our members and users, to your mobile devices free of charge via the links below.
Click to download the application for free.

Available on the App Store
ANDROID APP ON Google Play

TÜRSAB AGENCY SOFTWARE

The "TÜRSAB Agency Software" continues to be used to enable our travel agencies to easily carry out their business, maintain customer inventories, and quickly organize tour programs. Our agencies can now easily access the reservation, reporting, and customer information program via the internet through mobile devices and computers, free of charge.

The TÜRSAB Agency Software can be used by obtaining an agency code through TÜRSAB Online from the website www.tursabyazilim.org.

For more detailed information, please visit: https://www.tursab.org.tr/.../uyelerimiz-50-yilimiza-ozel

THE WORLD FULL OF ADVANTAGES OF TÜRSAB CARD IS WAITING FOR YOU!

You are invited to the advantageous world of TÜRSAB CARD, with increasing opportunities every day, ranging from fuel to clothing, food and beverage to vehicle services, white goods to foreign language courses. You can visit our website to take advantage of the privileges of TÜRSAB CARD, apply for TÜRSAB CARD, and get detailed information about discounts. After your application, you can start using your virtual card immediately without waiting for your physical card to be delivered.

For detailed information on campaign terms and free TÜRSAB CARD application, please visit www.tursab.org.tr/tursab-card.

TÜRSAB TV LAST WEEK

VİDEOYU İZLEMEK İÇİN TIKLAYINIZ
7 Ağustos 2024
KOSMOS HEYETİ, TÜRSAB YÖNETİM KURULU BAŞKANI FİRUZ BAĞLIKAYA VE BAŞKAN YARDIMCISI DAVUT GÜNAYDIN İLE BİR ARAYA GELDİ

TÜRSAB | AUGUST 2024 ACTIVITIES SHARED

We have compiled the activities carried out by TÜRSAB in the travel agencies and the sector during the 25th activity period in August 2024. You can access all of the activities of TÜRSAB in August on our website and TÜRSAB TV Youtube account.

VİDEOYU İZLEMEK İÇİN TIKLAYINIZ
2. GLOBEMEETS B2B NETWORKING ETKİNLİĞİ

GLOBEMEETS B2B NETWORKING EVENT

TÜRSAB President Firuz Bağlıkaya and the accompanying TÜRSAB Committee attended the GlobeMeets B2B Networking Event organized for the second time this year.

VİDEOYU İZLEMEK İÇİN TIKLAYINIZ
YEREBATAN SARNICI MÜZESİ

TÜRSAB TV AT YERBATAN CISTERN

The Yerebatan Cistern Museum, located in Istanbul's favorite Sultan Ahmet Square, built by the Byzantine emperor Justinian I and meeting the water needs of the people during the Ottoman period, opened its doors to its visitors after the restoration.
As TÜRSAB TV team, we visited the Yerebatan Cistern and got information about the museum for you and conducted colorful interviews with visitors. You can visit the Yerebatan Cistern every day of the week between 09.00 - 23.50.

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