ISSUE: 173

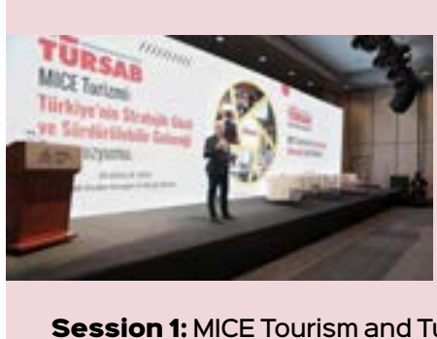
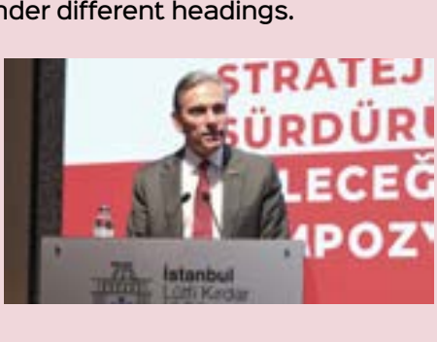
TOURISM BULLETIN

ASSOCIATION OF TURKISH TRAVEL AGENCIES WEEKLY TOURISM BULLETIN 16-22 DECEMBER / 2024

MICE TOURISM: TURKEY'S STRATEGIC STRENGTH AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE SYMPOSIUM WAS HELD AT ISTANBUL LÜTFİ KIRDAR CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION PALACE WITH WIDE PARTICIPATION

MICE Tourism: Turkey's Strategic Strength and Sustainable Future Symposium was hosted by TÜRSAB on Friday, December 20, 2024, at Istanbul Lütfi Kırdar Congress and Exhibition Center with the opening speeches of TÜRSAB President Firuz Bağlıkaya, TÜRSAB Vice President Hasan Eker and TÜRSAB MICE Tourism Specialization President Gurkan Akün.

In addition to TÜRSAB Board Members, TÜRSAB Regional Representation Board Presidents and TÜRSAB Specialization Presidents, MICE sector representatives, leading names of the tourism sector and press members attended the symposium. In the panels organized within the scope of the seminar, Turkey's potential in MICE tourism and the steps to be taken for a sustainable future were discussed. The future of the MICE sector, its strategic importance, and its role in sustainable development were discussed under different headings.

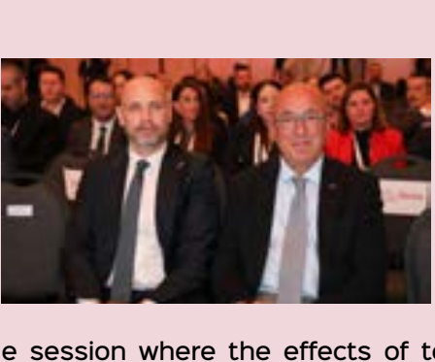



Session 1: MICE Tourism and Turkey In the first session, moderated by Deniz Dikkaya, TÜRSAB Vice President Hasan Eker, Feyhan Kapralı, and Selçuk Meral evaluated the sector's general outlook.

Session 2: The Use of Geopolitical Power and Turkey's Positioning as a MICE Center In this session where academic and sectoral perspectives met, Prof. Dr. Yusuf Aymankuy, Faculty Member of Tourism at Balıkesir University, Adem Kuyumcu, IBB Accessibility Coordinator and Erdal Çeri, Head of Gastronomy Tourism Specialization at TÜRSAB, evaluated Turkey's strategic advantages in MICE tourism.

Session 3: Challenges and Solutions in the MICE Sector In this session, travel agencies and hotel representatives shared their experiences. TÜRSAB MICE Tourism Specialization President Gürkan Akün, Ergun Piji, Gökhan Gümüşdede, and Tuğba Parscan presented their views.

Session 4: Transportation and MICE In this panel, which included representatives of the transportation sector, Cem Türkkan, President of TÜRSAB Road Tourism Specialization Emre Pekesen, and TÜRSAB Airline Specialization Vice President Aziz Ciga discussed innovations and collaborations in the sector.



Session 5: Digitalization In the session where the effects of technology on the sector were discussed, Ali Yücel, Talha Sarıaslan and Alparslan Kılıçarslan discussed the opportunities that will arise in the MICE sector with digitalization.

Session 6: Future Expectations from MICE from the Corporate Perspective In the last session, Recep Özdemir shared his predictions on MICE tourism from a corporate perspective.

TÜRSAB SOUTH MARMARA REGIONAL REPRESENTATION BOARD (RRB) ORGANIZED A YEAR-END EVALUATION MEETING

TÜRSAB South Marmara Regional Representative Board organized an End of Year Evaluation Meeting on December 21.

Our President Firuz Bağlıkaya, Vice Presidents Davut Günaydın and Hasan Eker, Board Member Mehmet Akyıl, East Marmara Regional Representation Board President Aytekin Şahinbaş and many travel agencies attended the meeting hosted by our South Marmara RRB President Murat Saraçoğlu and RRB Board of Directors.

Our Vice President Hasan Eker and Murat Saraçoğlu, President of South Marmara Regional Representation Board, made presentations on 2024 activities and Firuz Bağlıkaya, President of the Board of Directors, delivered a speech at the meeting.

TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS INFORMATION TRIP AND PREPARATION MEETING FOR B2B NEGOTIATIONS WAS HELD AT TÜRSAB CENTRAL OFFICE

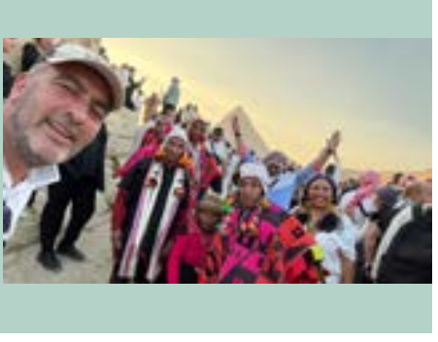
Davut Günaydın, Vice President of the Board of Directors, Elif Ural, Member of the Board of Directors, Kemal Ertem, President of Foreign Tourism Specialization, Mikayil Köroğlu, President of Nature and Adventure Tourism Specialization, Erdal Çeri, President of Gastronomy Tourism Specialization, N. İlham Seyyale, President of Cultural Tourism Specialization, Gürkan Akün, President of MICE Tourism Specialization, Metin Duyar, Vice President of Middle East Tourism Specialization, Yeşim Yeşiltaç, Vice President of Foreign Tourism Specialization. İlham Seyyale, MICE Tourism Specialization President Gürkan Akün, Middle East Tourism Specialization President Metin Duyar, Foreign Tourism Specialization Vice President Yeşim Yeşiltaç and Specialization Presidencies and Corporate Events Director Ceylan Yiğiterhan, the preparatory meeting for the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus Information Trip and B2B Meetings, which is planned to be organized in cooperation with TÜRSAB - KITSAB, was held hybrid on December 19, 2024 at TÜRSAB Central Office. In addition to sharing information about the planning made during the study trip held on August 26-29, 2024 in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus to create products and routes for the relevant trip, evaluations were made regarding the preparations for the route in question and the trip planning for each specialization area. We wish that the activities that will increase the cooperation and tourism movement between the two countries will continue, and we hope that the work done will be beneficial to all our members.

TÜRSAB NORTHEAST ANATOLIA REGIONAL REPRESENTATION BOARD (RRB) ORGANIZED A SIGHTSEEING TRIP TO SHARM EL SHEIKH AND CAIRO

TÜRSAB Northeast Anatolia Regional Representation Board organized a comprehensive sightseeing trip to Sharm El Sheikh and Cairo regions of Egypt between December 8-12 with the participation of our RRB President Nuh Şenol and 25 travel agencies operating in the region.

Our travel agencies had the opportunity to explore the touristic, cultural and historical values of Sharm El Sheikh and Cairo. At the same time, hotel programs were organized to strengthen cooperation with hotels in the region.

Within the scope of the event, we had the opportunity to observe the rich tourism potential of Egypt and open the door to new collaborations between the two regions.



ENGİN CEYLAN, MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF TÜRSAB, PARTICIPATED IN THE HEALTH TOURISM SYMPOSIUM ORGANIZED BY THE IZMIR UNIVERSITIES PLATFORM

TÜRSAB Board Member Engin Ceylan participated in the Health Tourism Symposium organized by the Izmir Universities Platform Health Tourism Project Group.

In the symposium, which continued with 3 different sessions under the names of Important Factors and Incentives in Health Tourism, Problems and Future Trends in Health Tourism, Current Situation and Practices in Health Tourism, experts discussed government supports, the importance of tourism elements and current practices in the sector.

In this important event, TÜRSAB Board Member Engin Ceylan shed light on sectoral dynamics with his evaluations under the title "The Importance of Tourism Elements in Health Tourism". The program, where many issues ranging from the practices of travel agencies in health tourism to the future of medical tourism, from hospital data to international cooperation, reinforced Turkey's goals of creating added value in health tourism.

TÜRSAB EAST MARMARA REGIONAL REPRESENTATION BOARD (RRB) ORGANIZED A TOURISM EVALUATION AND CONSULTATION MEETING FOR 2024

TÜRSAB Eastern Marmara Regional Representation Board organized a 2024 Tourism Evaluation and Consultation Meeting with the participation of travel agencies operating in Kocaeli and Sakarya. At the meeting, TÜRSAB East Marmara RRB President Aytekin Şahinbaş and TÜRSAB RRB Members informed the travel agencies about the current developments in the sector.

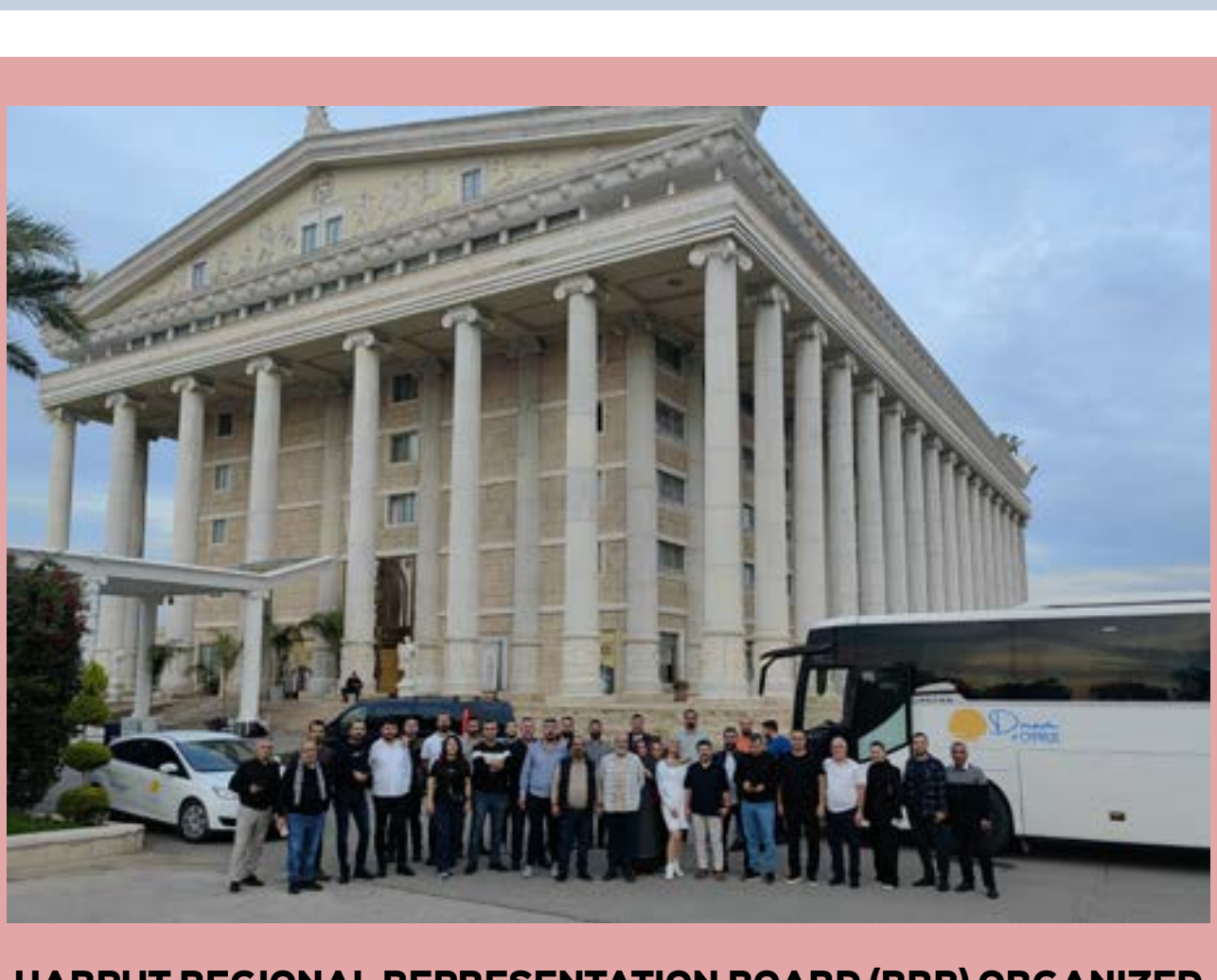
SOUTH MARMARA REGIONAL REPRESENTATION BOARD (RRB) COMMITTEE VISITED THE GOVERNOR OF BURSA, MR. EROL AYYILDIZ, IN HIS OFFICE

Our South Marmara Regional Representation Board Chairman Murat Saraçoğlu and the accompanying RRB Committee visited Bursa Governor Mr. Erol Ayyıldız in his office on 11 December 2024. Within the scope of the visit, efforts to develop tourism in Bursa and projects across the region were evaluated. During the meeting, the importance of cooperation and coordination for the development of the region was emphasized and future goals were discussed.

SOUTH MARMARA REGIONAL REPRESENTATION BOARD (RRB) HELD A VISA SERVICE INFORMATION MEETING

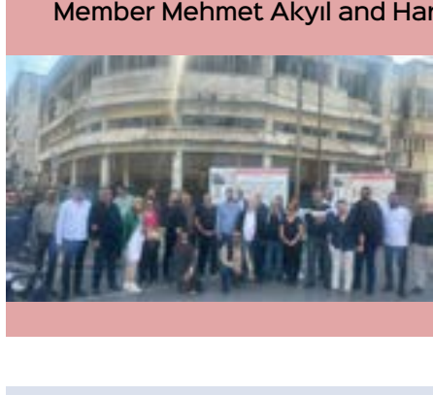
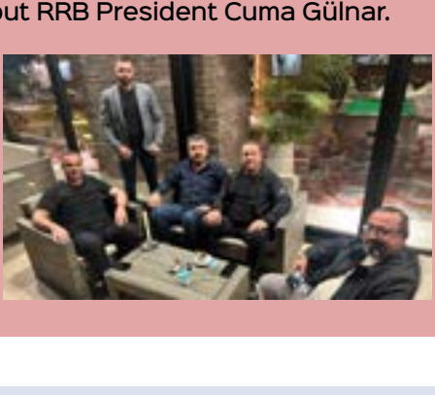
Our South Marmara Regional Representation Board held a Visa Service Information Meeting with our travel agencies operating in the field of visa brokerage services in the region with the participation of TÜRSAB Board Member Engin Ceylan, hosted by our RRB President Murat Saraçoğlu.

At the meeting, the problems experienced in visa issues were discussed and the activities of 2024 were evaluated. 2025 work plans were discussed. The meeting, which was widely attended, ended with a question-and-answer session.



HARPUT REGIONAL REPRESENTATION BOARD (RRB) ORGANIZED AN INFORMATION TRIP TO THE TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS

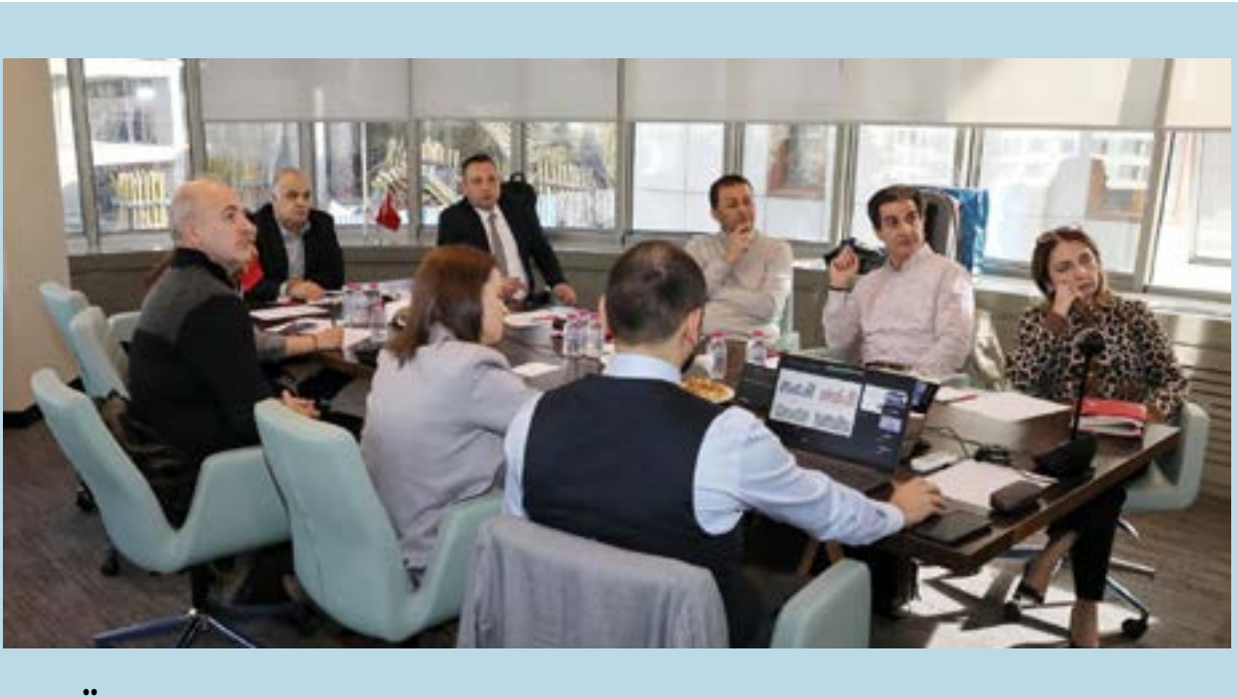
Our Harput Regional Representation Board organized an information trip to the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus on December 8-11. Our travel agencies had the opportunity to see the natural and cultural beauties of the TRNC and develop new collaborations during the trip attended by our Board Member Mehmet Akyıl and Harput RRB President Cuma Gülnar.

TÜRSAB
TÜRKİYE SEYAHAT ACENTALARI BİRLİĞİ
ASSOCIATION OF TURKISH TRAVEL AGENCIES
İSTANBUL / BOĞAZİÇİ
BÖLGE TEMSİL KURULU

TÜRSAB BOĞAZİÇİ REGIONAL REPRESENTATION BOARD (RRB) HELD ITS REGULAR MEETING

Our TÜRSAB Boğaziçi Regional Representation Board held its regular meeting under the leadership of our RRB President Yüksel Türemez in Ayvansaray Panayia Vlaherna Ayazma and Mother Mary Church area, which attracts attention with its historical texture. Within the scope of the meeting, our Board Member and tourist guide Johnny Kurteşoğlu informed the participants about the historical and cultural values of the region. Our meeting, which took place in the rich cultural heritage and historical atmosphere of Ayvansaray, once again emphasized TÜRSAB's commitment to cultural values.



TÜRSAB INCOMING TOURISM SPECIALIZATION PRESIDENCY MEETING WAS HELD

With the participation of Orhan Sancar, President of Incoming Tourism Specialization, Ahmet Balyemezler, Vice President of Specialization and members of the specialization, the meeting of TÜRSAB Incoming Tourism Specialization took place in hybrid form on December 19, 2024 at our TÜRSAB Central Office Building. At the meeting, which was opened by Orhan Sancar, President of the Specialization, Ahmet Balyemezler, Vice President of the Specialization, made a presentation including the summary of 2024 and statistical information on Incoming Tourism.

During the meeting, evaluations were made on the problems experienced by agencies engaged in Incoming Tourism, high museum entrance fees, fairs that are effective in the international arena and the disruptions experienced at airports. It was decided to initiate studies in this regard by proposing solutions to the problems experienced.

The meeting ended with the questions, suggestions and evaluations of our members.

ANNOUNCEMENT ON NEW YEAR'S EVE WORKING HOURS OF IBB CULTURE AND CULTURE MUSEUMS

Regarding the letter sent to TÜRSAB from IBB Kültür AŞ;
The working hours of the museums affiliated to IBB Kültür AŞ for December 31, 2024 and January 1, 2025 have been updated as shared below.
Basilica Cistern
December 31, 2024: 09.00-18.30, 19.30-22.00*
January 1, 2025: 12.00-18.30, 19.30-22.00*
Goodwill Cistern
December 31, 2024: 09.00-19.00
January 1, 2025: 12.00-19.00
Miniaturk
December 31, 2024: 09.00-18.00
January 1, 2025: 12.00-18.00
Panorama 1453 History Museum:
December 31, 2024: 08.00-18.30
January 1, 2025: 12.00-18.30
Digital Experience Museum:
December 31, 2024: 09.00-18.00
January 1, 2025: 12.00-18.00
Turkish World Culture Neighborhood:
December 31, 2024: 08.00-16.30
January 1, 2025: 12.00-16.30
* The Night Shift session at the Basilica Cistern will be held between 19.30-22.00 starting from Thursday, December 19, 2024.
Basilica Cistern will continue to be open every day of the week between 09.00 - 18.30. Night Shift session ticket prices are different.
Click here for detailed information.
https://yerebatan.com/yerebatan/ziyaret-bilgileri/

OPPORTUNITY TO PAY YOUR ANNUAL FEES IN INSTALLMENTS VALID FOR ALL BANK CARDS!

You can now pay your annual fees and other payments with any bank credit card, with a term of up to 9 installments.

You can view your fees instantly on the online.tursab.org.tr website and pay your dues from the same page by selecting the number of installments you want from 1 to 9.

If you do not prefer to pay by credit card, you can also send your payments by bank transfer to the Association of Turkish Travel Agencies Economic Enterprise Vakıfbank Fulya Branch TR36 0001 5001 5800 7306 9827 16 account number via wire transfer/EFT.

ANNOUNCEMENT ON TUREB DISCIPLINARY BOARD DECISIONS

In the letter sent to our Association from the Association of Tourist Guides;

In accordance with the Law on the Profession of Tourist Guides, TUREB Disciplinary Board convened on November 11-15, 2024 to discuss the audit reports and complaints received by the Association,

It was stated that the Disciplinary Board examined and discussed the files and sentenced the guides to temporary ban from the profession in accordance with subparagraph (c) of Article 5 of the Professional Law on Tourist Guiding.

The list of those who have been sentenced to temporary disqualification is attached.

For detailed information.

https://www.tursab.org.tr/announcements/announcement-on-tureb-disciplinary-board-decisions-8

ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE " NOTIFICATION ON THE INCREASE OF THE MONETARY LIMITS" IN THE LAW ON CONSUMER PROTECTION

According to the Notification on the Increase of the Monetary Limits in Article 68 of the Law No. 6502 on the Protection of Consumers and Article 6 of the Regulation on Consumer Arbitration Committees published in the Official Gazette dated 20.12.2024, the monetary limits specified in the first paragraph of Article 68 of the Law No. 6502 on the Protection of Consumers and the second paragraph of Article 6 of the Regulation on Consumer Arbitration Committees were increased by 43.93%, which was determined as the revaluation rate for the year 2024.

In this respect,

Provided that the rights in the Execution and Bankruptcy Law are reserved, Provincial or District Consumer Arbitration Committees are authorized in disputes with a value of less than 149,000 (one hundred forty-nine thousand) Turkish Liras in the applications to be made for 2025 in disputes arising from consumer law.

TÜRSAB E-SIM SERVICE IS NOW AVAILABLE

Ensure Uninterrupted Connection Abroad with TÜRSAB e-SIM!

Our TÜRSAB e-SIM service, which will make your travels abroad even easier, has been launched for our valued members. TÜRSAB e-SIM offers a mobile internet service specially designed for our travel agencies and their guests. With this service covering more than 200 countries and networks, you can easily purchase and activate mobile plans for yourself and your guests while abroad.

Connect Now with TÜRSAB e-SIM!

TÜRSAB e-SIM, which provides internet access to your mobile device without the need for a physical SIM card, makes it possible to connect instantly by protecting your existing phone number. Choose the e-SIM plan you want through our application, follow the easy activation steps and enjoy a smooth internet connection.

What is e-SIM?

TÜRSAB e-SIM allows you to provide a mobile connection via a programmable chip embedded in your device without using a physical SIM card. This technology, which offers flexibility especially for traveling users, eliminates the hassle of buying new SIM cards in different countries.

How to Buy e-SIM Packages?

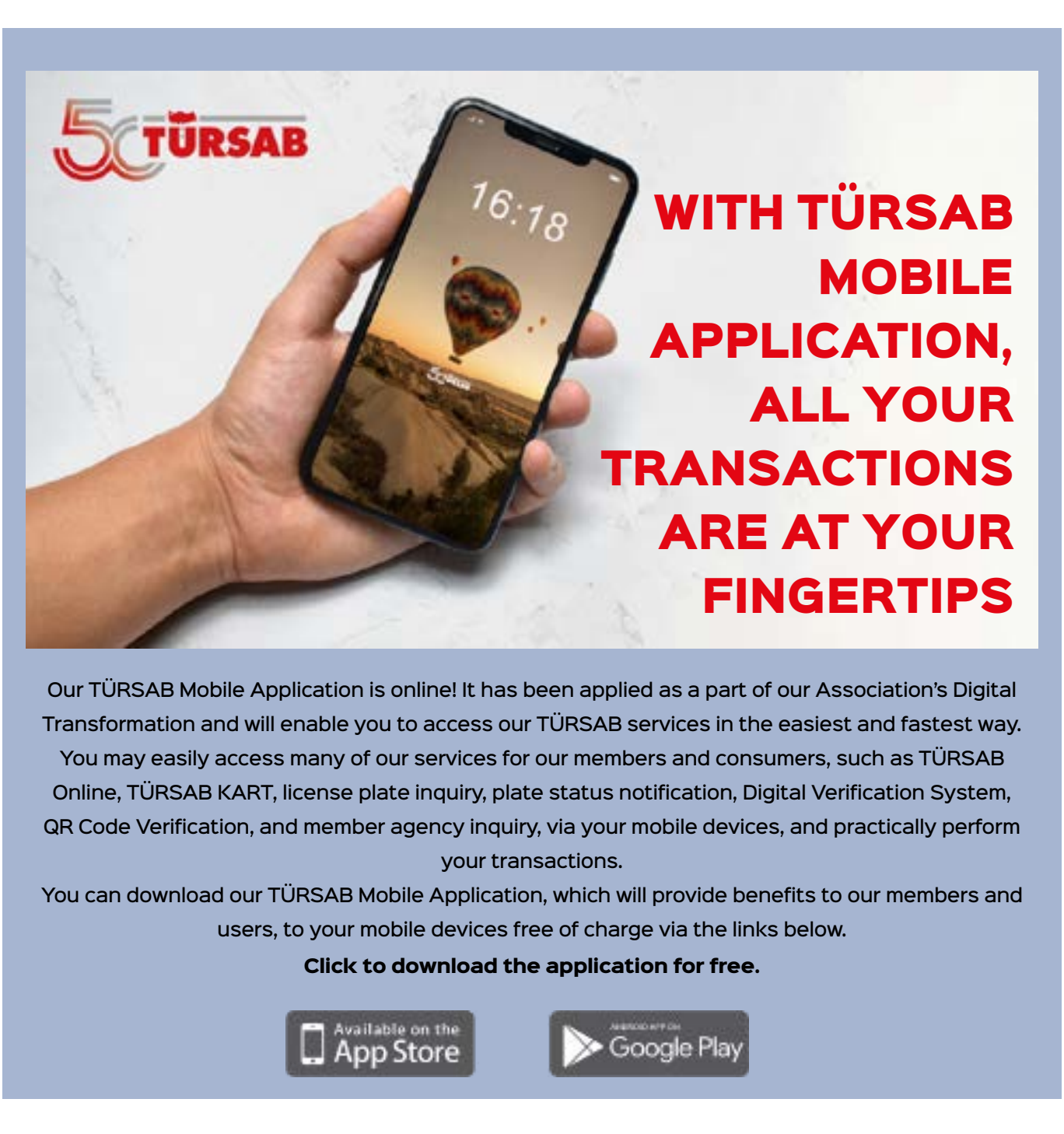
By entering the "Plans & Sales" menu of the TÜRSAB e-SIM application, which you can access through your TÜRSAB Online account, you can easily select and purchase the plan you want at advantageous prices.

How to Activate e-SIM?

Scan the QR code by selecting the e-SIM package you purchased from the "My Packages" menu and start using it immediately by manually entering the installation information on your device. If you have purchased your e-SIM package for your guests, you can send their QR codes to their email addresses via the TÜRSAB e-SIM application.

For e-SIM compatible devices and detailed activation steps:

https://online.tursab.org.tr/tursab-esim/tr/


TÜRSAB
16:18
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   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.

AGENCY REGISTRATION INFORMATION NOTES

The status of travel agency and membership to our Association is finalized with the issuance of the business certificate, and the date of issuance of the business certificate on behalf of the member is taken as the basis in determining the registration fee of the member. If the business certificate is issued on behalf of the applicant after January 1, the amount of the Association registration fee and annual dues will be applied over the amounts valid for the current year.

Within the scope of Article 35 of the Law No. 1618, the registration fees to the Association are increased by the revaluation rate determined and announced in accordance with the repeated Article 298 of the Tax Procedure Law No. 213, effective from the beginning of each calendar year.

For detailed information, please see the links below.
https://www.tursab.org.tr/yeni-isletme-belgesi-basvurusu

TÜRSAB TV LAST WEEK

KÜLTÜR KEŞİFLERİ
VİDEOYU İZLEMEK İÇİN TIKLAYINIZ

ANKARA KIZILCAHAMAM MAYOR SULEYMAN ACAR WAS THE GUEST OF THE 73RD EPISODE OF KÜLTÜR KEŞİFLERI

Last week in our " Kültür Keşifleri" program, which was broadcast with the presentations of Özgür Ildır Öksüz and İlham Seyyale;

We explored Kızılcahamam, an important district of Ankara, whose archaeological finds date back to the early ages, which has hosted many civilizations from the Hittites to the Ottomans, attracts attention with its natural beauties, magnificent forests, rich flora and fauna, famous for its healing thermal waters and hot springs, enriched with Anatolian cuisine and local flavors, with Kızılcahamam Mayor Süleyman Acar.

VİDEOYU İZLEMEK İÇİN TIKLAYINIZ
1 Kasım
2024

NOVEMBER ACTIVITY FILM RELEASED

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