

# GALATAPORT

## İSTANBUL

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## THE NEW GATEWAY TO THE WORLD



- Galataport Istanbul has reopened to the public the historical port area along the 1.2-kilometer Bosphorus coastline, which had been inaccessible since the late 19th century. With its original function restored, this vibrant area now welcomes visitors to explore its cultural wealth and experience its rich historical heritage.
- After 8 years of intensive efforts and a total investment of \$1.7 billion, Galataport Istanbul has become a vibrant neighborhood that integrates gastronomy, shopping, and arts & culture with a horizontal planning approach that is in harmony with the historical texture of the region and is accessible to everyone, including The Peninsula Istanbul hotel, which has become a 24/7 living area.
- Within this framework, a painstaking restoration project was carried out to breathe new life into the historical buildings and structures. One of the standout features is the implementation of a unique hatch system that connects to the world's first underground cruise terminal. This innovative system serves as a temporary customs area, activated exclusively when a ship docks at the port, seamlessly transforming Istanbul's historical port into a vibrant promenade accessible to the public.



One of Istanbul's historically richest areas



World's first underground cruise terminal



Gastronomy, arts & culture and shopping neighborhood



Photographs:  
Archive of  
Cengiz  
Kahraman



Karaköy Pier

Tophane  
Clock  
Tower  
and  
Nusretiye  
Mosque

# The historical port of Istanbul

View of the Post Office from the pier



The Galata coast was known in ancient times as Sykai (Fig City). The Jewish community living in Galata during the Byzantine era are believed to be the Karaite Jews, and the area presently known as Karaköy was originally named Karay Village. Karaköy, a significant part of Galata town, first built in the 12th century by the Genoese, was home throughout history to Jews, the Genoese, Greeks, Romans, the French, and Venetians.

This area, which saw the arrival of the Ottomans as well with the conquest of Istanbul in 1453, transformed almost into a cradle of culture. Karaköy is one of Istanbul's most exquisite areas, where different nationalities, different faiths co-existed peacefully throughout history and understood one another despite speaking different languages. Due to its location, Galataport Istanbul is extremely rich in terms of historical heritage.

Ford  
Factory  
located in  
the port  
area



A regeneration story

# Galataport Istanbul





# A project process that integrates restoration and innovation



2014



2022



Galataport Istanbul, which started following the takeover of the port in 2014, includes many firsts and innovations. Galataport Istanbul is among the most impressive projects from the geotechnical engineering perspective. It could only be realized by the most advanced construction and preservation technologies for the constructions underground, 35 m deep diaphragm walls, restoration applications, strengthening of existing buildings and many different areas. The most challenging aspect of the project was constructing it within the sea rather than beside it. According to the contract with the Privatization Authority, the existing pier had to be strengthened and extended for 10 meters, which required the work to be executed within the sea itself. In order for this to happen to the first step was to create a dry environment in the area.



Based on the requirement of a dry area for the construction excavations, the new quay line was first created with rows of steel piles.







Accordingly, a new coastline was established using steel piles, which were connected by a system called "clutch", which provided a certain amount of impermeability. Following that, the land side of this line was filled and a working platform was created. Special equipment was installed on this platform for cement injection to 35 meters underground up to the floor through DSM (Deep soil mixing) and Jet grouting.

Consequently, a new

area was created to execute the diaphragm wall, which was executed in the land and strengthened by DSM. 35 meters long and penetrated to the main rock, this diaphragm wall related to the reinforced concrete structure which was built and connected to the land side of the new shoreline. Following those applications, the field was then ready for the construction procedures, which took approximately 1.5-2 years to be completed.

This construction increased the stability of the soil conditions not only for Galataport Istanbul but also for the neighborhood. The soil mobility of the neighboring heritage buildings was significantly limited. During the construction process, Galataport Istanbul almost became an engineering laboratory. Students from architecture and engineering faculties had the opportunity to visit the project to study the techniques onsite, observe the experience and hear it from experts firsthand.

In a possible Istanbul earthquake, the ground mobility of the buildings, including the registered structures in the surrounding area, was significantly limited.





# Revitalization of historical heritage

Considering its location, Galataport Istanbul is also very rich in terms of historical heritage. The heritage buildings within the area were restored to return Istanbul's invaluable historical structures back to the city.



Tophane Clock Tower before restoration

## Tophane Clock Tower

The historical Tophane Clock Tower dating back to 1848, one of the symbolic Galataport Istanbul monuments located at the heart of the Historical Tophane Square, now known as the Clock Tower Square, launched with the landscape layout within the scope of the project. It underwent a meticulous restoration process after being delicately extracted using a specialized technique.

The clock tower was commissioned by Sultan Abdulmejid, in the second half of the 19th century and has been recognized as the oldest clock tower of Istanbul. The tughra of Abdulmejid can be seen on the seaside facade of the structure. The tower

was originally located on the seafloor. In time, the tower has been tilted for 1,2 degrees and looked like the Pisa Tower in Italy.

Expert teams of Galataport Istanbul began the arduous work of restoring this important historical building in August 2018 utilizing highly specialized techniques. First, ground improvement phase started, and 12 new bored piles were installed to carry the foundation of the clock tower. The tower had to be raised to the landscape level. But prior to the raising process it was discovered that the structure was buried 140 centimeters under the soil. Thus, the project was renewed.

The tower was initially

raised by 90 cm by the jacks which were placed underneath it and the foundation was casted under the tower. The first stage of the lifting took about three days. With the new foundation the tower was lifted 2 additional meters, and a second foundation was casted. Between those two foundations, 4 earthquake isolators were installed. The entire operation spanned approximately 5.5 months, encompassing the lifting of the tower, the correction of its obliquity, and the implementation of earthquake-proof measures. A particularly thrilling aspect of the process involved the unearthing of an additional storey that had been buried underground.



Tophane Clock Tower, located within Galataport Istanbul premises, was restored.



The large dome of the Paket Postanesi before restoration



With its construction dating back to the early 1900s, the meticulous restoration of Paket Postanesi showcased remarkable craftsmanship. Following the completion of the repair work, the installation of the dome atop the structure was accomplished in just 3 months, aided by the use of cranes.



## Paket Postanesi Post Office

The oldest building on the pier (1911), Paket Postanesi is a landmark of the project with its characteristic slated roofs and exterior facades. After the completion of the pier construction in 1895, the arrival of ships at the port necessitated the establishment of a passenger hall to cater to the growing needs.

As a result, a project for a building was designed by engineer S. Saboureaux in 1905. The construction of the building, which started in 1907 lasted for 4 years and was completed in 1911. Initially conceived as Galata Rüşumât (Customs) Office, the structure is also the first passenger terminal of the Karaköy Port. The structure originally had two passenger lounges, with the main domed area serving first-class passengers, and the

small domed area serving second- and third-class passengers. The ground level of the building was initially used for storage, customs, and passenger halls, and the upper level was used as the administration center and customs center belonging to Der-i Saadet (Istanbul) Rihim-Dok ve Antrepolan Company. The building, which had several different functions over time, served as Maritime Hospital after 1934. When the customs and offloading operations in Karaköy were ceased upon Haydarpaşa Port's expansion after 1957, the building was converted into PTT Parcel Post Office.

The expert team that carried out the building's restoration operations, first prepared detailed sketches of Paket Postanesi, which boasts a 180-meter seaside front. Construction

began with ground reinforcement and continued with the restoration of the roof of the building. The structure's dome and roof were meticulously dismantled and transported to a site in Tuzla. The roof was disassembled again and kept under ideal storage conditions in a warehouse while the concrete base was being constructed. After the repair, the main dome was transported and lifted to place using platform cranes and heavy cranes over the course of three months. Teams of experts restored the historical details of the structure, which was complemented by modern architecture, contemporary sustainable resources, and materials, transforming into an exemplary monument that will stand the test of time for centuries to come.



After undergoing restoration, the remaining three heritage buildings within the site, namely Merkez Han, Karaköy Passenger Hall, and Çini Han, have been transformed into The Peninsula Istanbul hotel. Notably, the restoration of Çini Han involved the meticulous refurbishment of an impressive 54,000 ceramic tiles, surpassing even the renowned Sultanahmet Mosque (Blue Mosque), which boasts a total of approximately 20,000 ceramic tiles.





Distinguished by its array of advanced engineering innovations, Galataport Istanbul sets itself apart from similar projects worldwide through its unique hatch system. This remarkable feature seamlessly transforms the coastal area into a temporary customs zone to accommodate ships, only to effortlessly revert to a charming promenade once the ship departs.

# A global success story in regeneration

The world's first underground cruise terminal, spanning an impressive 29,000 sqm, serves as the central hub for all cruise operations. Connected to the temporary customs area through well-designed ramps, this state-of-the-art facility boasts a remarkable hatch system comprising 176 independently controlled hydraulic units. This ingenious setup allows for the creation of a secure area exclusively where the ship docks, while ensuring that other sections remain easily accessible to the public.

This innovative design and infrastructure convert the pier into a public waterfront promenade in an area that

has been closed to public access since the 19th century. Galataport Istanbul stands as an example to any new ports to be built worldwide. Commissions from leading cruise cities around the world visit Galataport Istanbul and conduct examinations.

The planning process for Galataport Istanbul's underground terminal alone spanned five years, meticulously addressing every aspect including passenger flow, customs areas, and ship operations, down to the finest details. The construction of the terminal itself spanned 1,356 days, requiring a dedicated workforce who contributed a total of 1,835,490 hours of labor.



The meticulous planning for Galataport Istanbul's underground terminal spanned five years, encompassing various aspects such as passenger flow, customs areas, and ship operations.





Galataport Istanbul, which has served about 350,000 passengers, including 150 cruises and crew, since it first started hosting guests, is aiming to host 200 cruises and 400,000 passengers and crew in 2023.

## 200 ships are expected

Following a near-complete halt in the cruise sector until 2021 due to the pandemic, a swift recovery ensued. In early 2022, the Mediterranean witnessed the operation of 69 ships from 32 renowned brands, reinvigorating the industry. This year, Galataport Istanbul proudly welcomed a total of 23 ship companies affiliated with leading brands in the sector. Since its very first day of welcoming visitors, Galataport Istanbul has accommodated 150 ships and catered to 350,000 passengers, crew members included. Looking ahead to 2023, the objective is to host 200 cruises and accommodate 400,000 passengers and crew, an impressive increase of 35 percent in the number of ship companies served, reaching a total of 31. Beyond 2023, projections indicate that that 1.5 million cruise passengers and crews will be hosted annually.

# Galataport Istanbul as a hub port

Galataport Istanbul's innovative design and the engineering approach taken to realize the underground cruise terminal, changed the sector's dynamics. Additionally, as a hub port, it has triggered great activity in cruise tourism in a vast geography spanning the Mediterranean basin and the Black Sea and contributed greatly to regional and national tourism and economy. Specific to cruise tourism, main ports highly impact business in numerous fields, including accommodation in

the city, and retail. Passengers, who arrive on the ships, require hotels for accommodation until their departure, they tour the city during their stay, starting from the port district, and discover the city's historical sites, go shopping, and dine all day at the restaurants offering local and world cuisine. According to the CLIA's 2018 report, a passenger making a stopover spends \$376 in the main port city, while a passenger who visits for the day spends \$101. Furthermore, the Tourism Ministry's statistics data states

a tourist visiting Türkiye spends an average of \$62. This information holds paramount importance when considering the economic contribution and added value of Galataport Istanbul, particularly in the realm of cruise tourism. Initially, the main port operation accounted for a mere 15 percent in 2014 when the port site was acquired, but now, the percentage of ships designating Galataport Istanbul as their main port has surged to 50 percent. Ongoing endeavors aim to further elevate this figure.



## Awards

- Port of the Year at the Seatrade Cruise Awards
- Galataport Istanbul Cruise Terminal: Red Dot Design Award and The Best of the Year in the Interior Design Mag Transport Category



reddot design award



## The world's first underground cruise terminal

Galataport Istanbul proudly boasts an outstanding accolade as the recipient of the prestigious Red Dot design award. It holds the esteemed title of being the world's first underground cruise ship terminal, drawing inspiration from Istanbul's captivating underground basilicas. This remarkable feature not only sets a benchmark for similar projects globally but also garners significant international recognition, paralleled by its domestic acclaim.



With its prime location in Karaköy, one of Istanbul's oldest neighborhoods, and an enchanting view of the Historical Peninsula, Galataport Istanbul has emerged as a captivating destination for cruise tourists. The port's allure lies in its array of dining options, showcasing both local delicacies and renowned international brands. What sets Galataport apart is the unique opportunity it offers to intimately experience local culture and craftsmanship, leaving cruise passengers and crew with a sense of privilege.

From exploring captivating Turkish art exhibitions to witnessing memorable live performances, guests arriving via cruise ships are treated to a truly immersive and unforgettable experience.

As Galataport Istanbul continues to provide exceptional privileges to cruise ship guests, it has also captured the attention of other visitors who are increasingly drawn to the sector. This growing interest is evident in the multitude of inquiries received by the information points on-site and the call center, indicating a

rising curiosity about cruises. The world-class innovative approach and operational advancements implemented at Galataport Istanbul have garnered prestigious recognition, including the esteemed "Port of the Year" award. This accolade was bestowed upon the port at the renowned Seatrade Cruise Awards, a highly regarded event held during the Seatrade Cruise Med Fair, where leading ports from around the world, including the United States and the United Kingdom, compete for recognition and distinction.



## Europe's second biggest LEED Platinum certified project

To closely monitor the environmental impact of the project, comprehensive assessments are conducted at regular intervals. Every three months, measurements are taken to assess the quality of seawater, monitor particle levels, evaluate dust concentrations, and measure noise levels. Additionally, the sea ecology is observed on an annual basis to ensure the preservation and well-being of the marine ecosystem.



## A reduced carbon footprint

Great attention was dedicated to every facet, from design to construction and implementation, with the aim of minimizing the project's environmental impact and reducing its carbon footprint. A noteworthy innovation in Galataport Istanbul is the utilization of seawater instead of conventional coolants in all buildings. This

approach not only achieves a remarkable 34 percent reduction in energy consumption and carbon emissions but also eliminates the need for unsightly rooftop units that disrupt the architectural aesthetics.

Endemic plants to Istanbul and efficient irrigation systems help save 50% more water and the use of landscaped areas and green roofs are

expected to reduce the heat island effect.

Seawater quality, particles, dust, and noise levels are measured quarterly to monitor the project's environmental impact, and marine ecology monitoring is done annually.

As a result, Galataport Istanbul became Europe's second largest LEED-Platinum certified project.



### Social contribution

Situated in the vibrant Karaköy district, Galataport Istanbul holds a central position in the city, with its roots dating back to the 12th century. Throughout its rich history, this area has been a harmonious melting pot for people of diverse religious backgrounds, nationalities, and languages, fostering a sense of peace and coexistence.

With an impressive price tag of \$1.7 billion, Galataport Istanbul is a monumental mega project seamlessly woven into the fabric of the city. Its urban planning approach, characterized by low-rise buildings and thoughtfully designed squares and streets, ensures a seamless integration with the surrounding urban landscape. As a result, Galataport Istanbul swiftly emerged as the preferred cosmopolitan gathering spot, renowned for its accessibility and appeal to residents and visitors alike.

### Economic contribution

(2022 data)

- Total number of visitors: 13.5 million
- Retail occupancy rate: 90 percent
- Number of cruise ships: 150
- Cruise passengers and crew: 350,000
- Employment: 5,000 direct and 20,000 indirect

### Awards and certificates

(2021- 2022)

- MedCruise Environmental Responsibility Award
- LEED Platinum Certificate





## A vibrant gastronomy, arts and culture, and shopping neighborhood



A \$1.7 billion investment, Galataport Istanbul offers visitors a “breathing,” safe and secure atmosphere with characteristics such as accessibility, low-rise buildings, neighborhood concept design, and architecture that is compatible with the region’s historical texture.

Galataport Istanbul received 13.5 million visitors in the first year. It hosted free festivals, concerts, and exhibitions attended by more than 500,000 people. Galataport Istanbul provides a 72 percent increase in the arts&culture events in the nearby region as well.

## Home to local Turkish cuisine and world flavors

Galataport Istanbul, situated in a location that housed various cultures in history, is also home to local and foreign gastronomy brands, which offer a vast range of tastes from Turkish and world cuisines. Visitors can try local and world tastes prepared by world-leading chefs by the Bosphorus.



# Shopping and Gastronomy

## A shopping experience that caters to all tastes

Galataport Istanbul, which stands out with the neighborhood atmosphere, presents a shopping experience that addresses all tastes with various concept stores.

Situated on a total area of 112,000 square meters, the stores at Galataport Istanbul range in size from 20 square meters to 3,000 square meters. There are currently hundreds of new lease demands. More than 30 big brands have lined up to open a store at Galataport Istanbul. The total leasable area allocated to shopping and dining units is about 52,000 square meters. The occupancy rate at Galataport Istanbul reached 90 percent in the first year, with 230 retail and dining points.

With a 40-percent dining rate, Galataport Istanbul has become the city’s gastronomy center.

Galataport Istanbul, which stands out with the neighborhood atmosphere, offers visitors a refreshing and happy shopping experience that addresses all tastes with various concept stores.

Experience-focused and innovative setups are being formed at Galataport Istanbul, in an environment where visitors can spend time with their family safely and with peace of mind. While the arts&culture and entertainment events, and the

experience tours offered on the mobile application add a different dimension to shopping, as a port, it creates a difference through the opportunities offered to foreign tourists arriving on major cruise ships to closely experience local brands.

Galataport Istanbul is home to a variety of both local and world brands. Not only does it house Türkiye’s most important retail groups and powerful investors, but also major international brands. Local nationals, as well as foreign visitors, are showing great interest in the brands available at Galataport Istanbul. Paket Postanesi, which is one of Galataport Istanbul’s symbolic monuments in this respect, carries to the present Karaköy’s multicultural trade and artisanship customs via fashion, design, gastronomy, and jewelry artisans, who have branched out from Istanbul to the world. Paket Postanesi, spread 180 meters along the coastline, situated right across the Historical Peninsula, offers a magical shopping experience with more than 70 boutique stores in its special courtyards.



Galataport Istanbul was designed to naturally blend and emphasize user experience, from architecture to retail mix, communication and activation, consumer journey analysis and digital information architecture. Galataport Istanbul features a GDPR-compliant data ecosystem where operational, behavioral, and demographic data collected from the website, mobile app, chatbot, navigation, Wi-Fi, information centers, and call center are stored in a data lake.

Value-added services aimed at enhancing user experience (such as Sea Shuttle service, click-and-collect, and hands-free shopping) are created based on guest experience analyses conducted on this data.





# A hub of arts and culture

Galataport Istanbul is designed around the mission of public art in the field of culture and art to revive the historical cultural richness of the region. **Galataport Istanbul creates a culture and art area accessible to everyone, providing benefits to society, supporting young artists and encouraging participation, especially in Karaköy and its surroundings.**

Istanbul Modern, which houses the best examples of art in Türkiye, and Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University (MSFAU) Istanbul Painting and Sculpture Museum, are in the Galataport Istanbul premises. Istanbul Modern, established in Karaköy in 2004 as Türkiye's first modern and contemporary art museum, has a new building designed by the world-renowned Italian architect Renzo Piano.

The building of the MSFAU Istanbul Painting and Sculpture Museum, which has already taken its place among the top places to visit in Karaköy, was designed by Emre Arolat Architects architectural office, which has won many prestigious awards including the Aga Khan Architecture Award in 2010 and the Mies van der Rohe European Union

Contemporary Architecture Award in 2015.

Located in one of Istanbul's historically richest areas, Galataport Istanbul is designed around the mission of public art in the field of culture and art to revive the historical cultural richness of the region. Galataport Istanbul creates a culture and art area accessible to everyone, providing benefits to society, supporting young artists, and encouraging participation, especially in Karaköy and its surroundings.

With its various events and under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Türkiye, the Galataport Istanbul has become one of the important points in the city's cultural and artistic calendar within the framework of the Beyoğlu Cultural Road Festival. In 2021, Galataport Istanbul hosted Monet & Friends Digital Art Exhibition and Ara Güler's "The Road That Leads to the Sea" exhibition, which showcased new photographs from the Ara Güler Archive and Research Center with iconic frames for art enthusiasts. The opening concert of the Akbank Jazz Festival 2021 was also among the important events that took place in Galataport Istanbul.

In 2022, Galataport Istanbul reached numerous art enthusiasts with the Doğuş Children's Symphony Orchestra Special Concerts for April 23 National Sovereignty and Children's Day and October 29 Republic Day. In 2022, Galataport Istanbul also hosted the Beyoğlu Cultural Road Festival between May 28-June 12 and October 1-23.

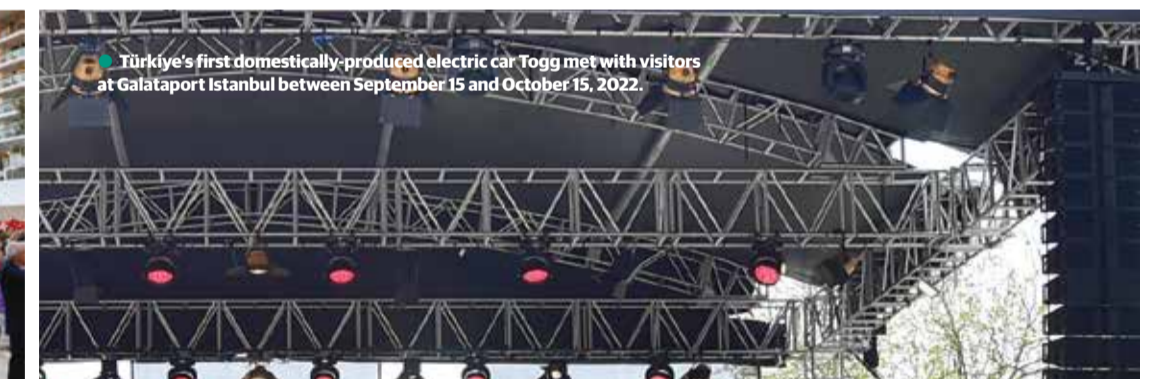
● As part of the parallel events of the 17th Istanbul Biennial, Galataport Istanbul hosted the public work of Japanese artist Tomokazu Matsuyama titled "Nirvana Tropicana" between September 16, 2022, and March 21, 2023.



● The "Nostalji Istanbul" event was held at the Clock Tower Square from April 2 to May 1, 2022, and the event spread throughout Galataport Istanbul. Within the scope of the event, stands, flavors, discussions, workshops, and concerts brought together Istanbul culture and traditions with guests of all ages, both domestic and foreign.



● Visitors had the chance to see Türkiye's first domestically-produced electric car, Togg, up close at Galataport Istanbul from September 15 to October 15, 2022.





# Melting pot of different cultures

In the historical atmosphere of Galataport Istanbul, one of the starting and ending points of the Culture Road, a variety of concerts, special exhibitions, and a gastronomy festival filled with flavors that bring different cultures together met art lovers in 2021 and 2022. In this context:

- The Multicultural Gastronomy Festival, United Cuisines, where the ancient cuisines of Anatolia came together, took place at the dock of the historical **Paket Postanesi** with a view of the Historical Peninsula.

- The works brought from the Turkish Grand National Assembly by Füreya Koral, one of the pioneers of contemporary ceramic art in Türkiye and the first professional female Turkish ceramic artist, met art lovers at G Block in Galataport Istanbul as part of the Beyoğlu Culture Road Festival.

- The exhibition titled Breaking Walls: Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition consisting of works by Turkish contemporary painting and sculpture artists such as Ali Abayöğlü, Ardan Özmenoğlu, Bahadır Çolak, Bilal Hakan Karakaya, Çağdaş Erçelik, Daniele Sigalot, Erdal Duman, Fırat Engin, Gönül Nuhoğlu, Kadriye İnal and Kazım Karakaya was exhibited at the Clock Tower Square.

- Additionally, in Galataport Istanbul, the International Flavors Festival organized by Beyoğlu Municipality took place at the Clock Tower Square between June 15-19, 2022. As part of the event, kitchen, stage, workshop activities, panels, competitions, and various concerts were held.

- Galataport Istanbul hosted the public work named "Nirvana Tropicana" by Japanese artist Tomokazu Matsuyama, as part of the 17th Istanbul Biennial parallel events between September 16, 2022 - March 21, 2023.



• As a unifying and inclusive point for all civilizations, Galataport Istanbul hosted the exhibition "Return to Reality, Göbeklitepe Exhibition" that tells the story of Göbeklitepe, which carries the first traces of settled life and was included in the UNESCO "World Heritage Temporary List" in 2011. The Return to Reality Exhibition is a modern art exhibition that takes guests on a journey to the origins of humanity and civilization, starting from Göbeklitepe, which is a World Cultural Heritage Site. The exhibition brought together the story of Göbeklitepe with live performances by master craftsmen simulating ancient methods, as well as replicas, digital forms, and printed materials.



• Galataport Istanbul's oldest building, Paket Postanesi, dating back to 1911, hosted its guests with two events held during the **Beyoğlu Cultural Road Festival**. The exhibition "The Memory of the Shore" by Ara Güler consisted of 28 color photographs brought together from the artist's archive for the first time. The selection of works sheds light on different moments from everyday life inspired by the Bosphorus and its coasts, which Istanbul is identified with, and bears the distinction of being the first color photo exhibition of the great master Ara Güler in Galataport Istanbul.

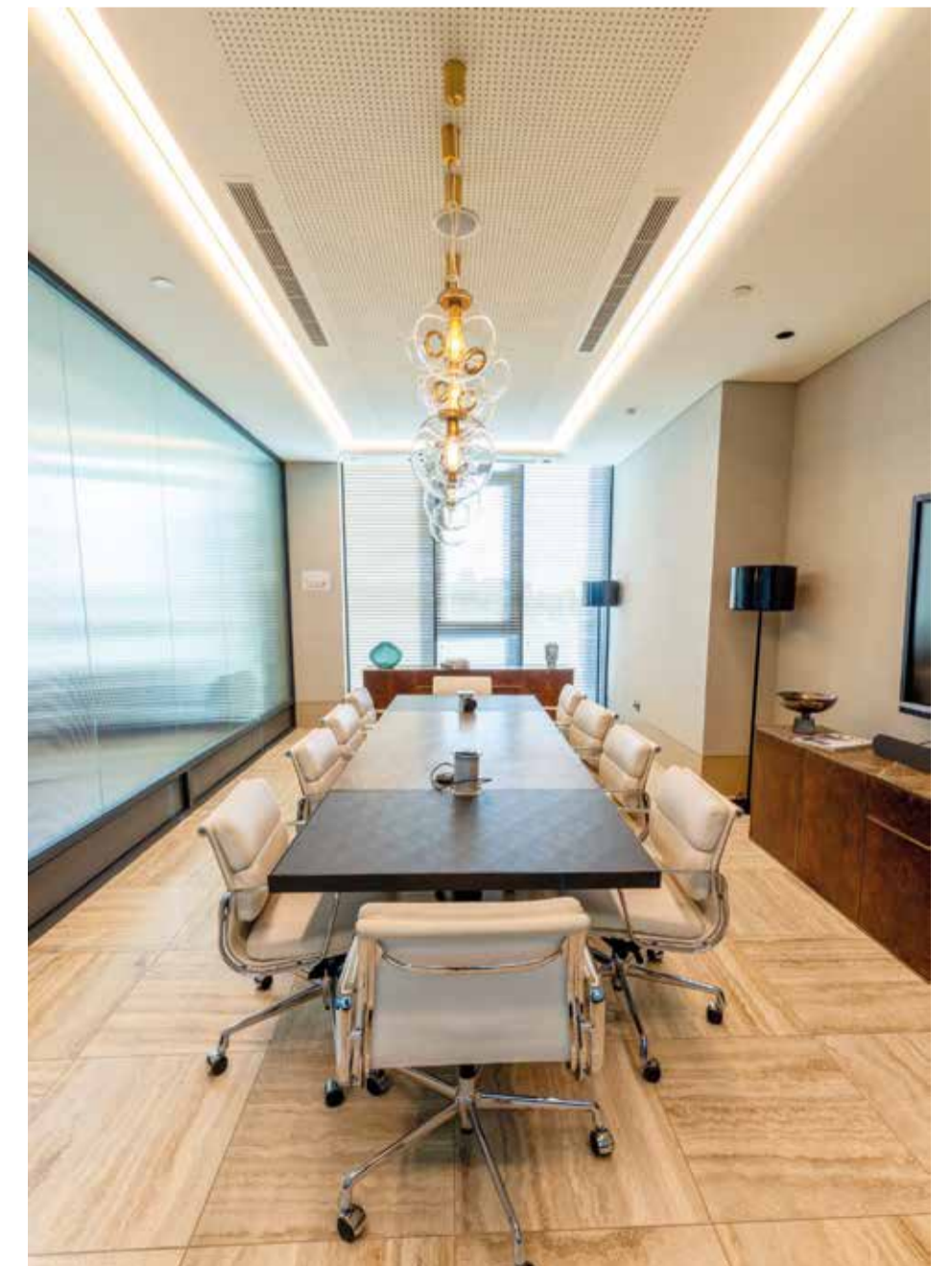


# Socially oriented office spaces

Flexible offices that span a total of 41,000 square meters were built in Galataport Istanbul. The office spaces bring in sunlight thanks to their glass facades, providing a bright and spacious environment that contributes to the motivation of employees. In addition, the terrace areas in the buildings allow employees to access fresh air through opening windows. The office areas in Galataport Istanbul were designed with an innovative approach, with smart building automation and state-of-the-art engineering practices, as well as isolated

system rooms specially designated for each office. Energy efficiency achieved through the seawater cooling system brings lower operating costs.

The rich dining and cultural events center feature of Galataport Istanbul makes office workers privileged, providing a social work environment, and contributing to work productivity. With Galataport Istanbul Sea Shuttle services, office workers and all guests can access to not only Kabataş and Karaköy by sea but also directly to the Galataport Istanbul pier area.





# The Peninsula Istanbul



## EUR 300 million investment for its Galataport Istanbul location

The Peninsula Istanbul, the 11th hotel of the award-winning Peninsula Hotels brand located in only 10 select locations worldwide, is located across from the Historic Peninsula with its 177 rooms.

As part of the project, The Peninsula Istanbul brings to the city a large ballroom that can accommodate 820 guests for a seated arrangement and 1,300 guests for a standing cocktail reception, with

its new specially designed guillotine façade that can be opened in 90 seconds, in addition to the three heritage buildings restored within the project scope, namely, Merkez Han, Karaköy Passenger Hall, and Çinili Han.

The Peninsula Istanbul, which started welcoming its guests on February 14, 2023, contributes to the country's economy with EUR 150 million of direct foreign investment from a total investment of EUR 300 million.



**The works and curation of The Peninsula Istanbul's business partners ensured the hotel is flawless in every respect, including the garden, kitchen, special fragrance, interior decorations and arrangements of each area, and rooms.**

- The Peninsula Istanbul's esteemed partners include architect and interior designer Zeynep Fadilloğlu, who has designed numerous unique public and private spaces in the Middle East, Asia, and Europe, including the Istanbul Şakirin Mosque. In The Peninsula Istanbul's elegant interior spaces, Fadilloğlu's signature style blends modern design elements with traditional Turkish motifs, carefully transforming them into stunning creations by combining modern design elements with regional craftsmanship details.
- Award-winning international landscape architect Enzo Enea brought his expertise in creating outdoor spaces and gardens in various climate zones around the world (including the unique Enea Tree Museum, which blends contemporary sculptures with old trees rescued from being felled, and which has been commissioned by royalty and celebrities) to the hotel. He applied his specialized knowledge of natural vegetation and his expert eye to the spacious, iconic location overlooking the Bosphorus in Istanbul's Historic Peninsula.
- Çağla Saraç, the Academic and Art Advisor at Doğu Group, worked closely with the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism to preserve and promote the country's artistic treasures. Her deep expertise in modern and classical Turkish art was used to curate a collection of various original artworks showcased in public areas and guest rooms at The Peninsula Istanbul.
- The meticulous craftsmanship of famous fashion designer Arzu Kaprol's uniform designs for The Peninsula Istanbul staff reflects her modern sensibility, unusual fabric preferences, and attention

to detail. Her collections have been featured at Paris Fashion Week and are sold at exclusive retail locations such as Harrods in London, Bergdorf Goodman in New York, and Montaigne Market in Paris.

- Nishane, a fragrance brand founded by Mert Güzel and Murat Katran, who are both passionately in love with the mysterious scents and rich heritage of their hometown Istanbul, created a unique scent named "Citrus Fig & Bosphorus Breeze" for The Peninsula Istanbul's in-room bathroom collection. Nishane focused on Istanbul's ancient fig trees while creating the scent. To complete the fig's freshness and allure, they added notes of lemon, tangerine, lavender, valley lily, and jasmine, which evoke the city's complexity and beauty. The products do not contain any harmful chemicals such as parabens and silicones, and their packaging, which is 99.9% free of single-use plastic, is in line with The Peninsula Hotels' sustainable luxury approach.
- Turkish chef Fatih Tutak, the only two-Michelin-starred chef in Türkiye, has a prestigious career in gastronomy. After previously working at two of the world's most renowned restaurants, NOMA in Copenhagen and Nihonryori Ryugin in Tokyo, he spent many years in China and Hong Kong, where his passion for Asian and Silk Road cuisine began to develop. After 16 years abroad, he returned to Türkiye and opened Turk, Fatih Tutak, where he now serves as the Executive Chef of Gallada, The Peninsula Istanbul's signature restaurant, creating a delicious and innovative Turkish-Asian cuisine.
- With its menu and interior design, Gallada will offer a unique dining experience with a main dining room generously adorned with Turkish fabrics, fixtures, and tile mosaics, and a magnificent terrace framed by pomegranate trees and a stepped fountain overlooking the unique view of the Bosphorus and the Historic Peninsula.

