Turkish Airlines expands lounge at IST

By **Rick Lundstrom** on March, 20 2014 | Airline & Terminal News

Turkish Airlines is now operating an expanded and refurbished lounge at Ataturk Airport, Istanbul.

There are an additional 2,400 square meters to its existing 3,500 square meters. Located in the departure area of Ataturk Airport, Istanbul, the expanded lounge has second floor connected with a spiral staircase.

The new addition increases the capacity of the lounge to more than 1,000 passengers. It has a children's playground, library, billiards area, prayer room and teleconference section. Turkish Airlines has also expanded the rest and shower space and added massage beds.

The lounge is operated by Turkish Airlines' catering partner, TURKISH Do & Co. Meals and snacks are cooked on site. The lounge provides Turkish and international dishes. A few examples include pastries prepared according to the recipes from Vienna's famous pastry shop, Demel. And there is a local corner where chefs prepare regional Turkish delicacies including 'Mantı' and 'Gözleme'. In another corner guests can sample famous specialties such as 'Turkish Pide' and 'Börek' roasted in its special oven. There are offerings of fruit, salads, appetizers and nuts.

The spiral staircase connects the two sections of the lounge and its design represents the connectivity that Turkish Airlines provides to its global customer base. It incorporates a tea garden reminiscent of those found in Istanbul and provides an experience similar to places in the city where both residents and visitors can enjoy a Turkish tea and bagel.

There is a miniature model of Istanbul through which guests may experience a virtual car rally as well as other game consoles and electronic diversions. The lounge also has a golf simulator.

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