



Dear Sir/Madam

First of all, I would like to extend my deepest and warmest greetings to you and to the esteemed citizens of your city.

We are delighted and proud to announce that Kaleiçi Old Town Festival will be held for the fifth time between the dates of 15-18 October 2020.

I would like to invite you and your delegation of 3 people to Kaleiçi Old Town Festival which will bring living old towns together all over the World.

This year's guest of honor of the festival will be Germany, which has many living old towns.

Please allow me to briefly introduce Kaleiçi that is our unique ancient city in Muratpaşa, and the concept and main objectives of the Kaleiçi Old Town Festival, organized by Muratpaşa Municipality.

Antalya: Paradise on Earth, Pearl of the Mediterranean

Antalya is a city on the Mediterranean coast that dates back to ancient times and welcomes more than 15 million tourists every year and stands out with its archaeological and natural beauties.

Antalya is situated in a place where the conventional border runs between the historic lands: Lycia to the east and Pamphilia to the west. To the north of Antalya, in the depths of the Anatolian peninsula, lies a land called Pisidia.

Kaleiçi, Antalya's gate to past

The most interesting settlement in Antalya is Kaleiçi, which is a complete and well-preserved ancient city hosting simultaneously a modern living environment and an internationally significant historical heritage site. Muratpaşa, considered the heart of Antalya, is home to Kaleiçi. Visiting annually by thousands of tourists, Kaleiçi is widely known to be one the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world, with the ruins of ancient settlements dating back to 4th century B.C.



In terms of history and civilization, Kaleiçi is an extremely precious place that has hosted many civilizations. The historic town has a rich history, from the Pergamon Kingdom through the Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman periods.

Many ancient structures and ruins still exist in the city today including the Yivli Minaret, the Kesik Minaret, ramparts, Sufi dervish lodge, old houses and narrow streets.

Kaleiçi, which has a magnificent history, is considered as a unique historical heritage that carries the past to the present day.

Kaleiçi, declared as an archaeological site in 1973, is an ancient city that lives for 7 days 24 hours and attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors with its small shops selling antiques, carpets and rugs as well as restaurants and bars offering unique tastes.

The Name of the Excitement: Kaleiçi Old Town Festival

The living old towns constantly remind us of the importance of culture, art and aesthetic perception on the historical and cultural heritage of humanity. However, the living old towns are under pressure of the modern and commercial life. We want to protect the living old towns from the pressures of modern and commercial life. Therefore, these places should be further protected, and implemented influential policies in solving their common problems by local administrations. Municipalities and other institutions should give priority to the preservation projects of old towns, and provide the funding more for these works. We want clarity in terms of authority and central administration system in all ancient cities.

As Muratpaşa Municipality, it is one of our biggest goals to introduce Kaleiçi to the World and to carry the cultural heritage in Kaleiçi to the future generations. In addition, we aim to bring the living old towns together and raise awareness about them. Furthermore we are aiming at creating lasting ties and a collective mind between the oldest living and continuously inhabited cities in the world such as walled towns, walled cities and fortified historic towns, historic towns dating back to at least 500 years. In line with the common problems and purposes highlighted in the paragraph above, we have been organizing Kaleiçi Old Town Festival since 2016.



With this exclusive festival, it is sought to expand the opportunities for cooperation in the preservation of the cultural and historical heritage of the living old towns, to increase the popularity of them and to promote their use for educational and scientific purposes.

Therefore, we kindly invite the representatives of the living old towns all around the World to the festival and call them to build a permanent bridge of humanity and culture among the living old towns.

Within the scope of the festival, it is featured concerts, dance and street art shows, live sculpture performances, street exhibitions, sufi music and whirling dervish shows, workshops and tours.

In addition, all participants are provided with the opportunity to make a presentation to promote the history, traditions and customs of their ancient cities at the forum, which will be held within the framework of the festival.

Last year 48 old town representatives from 24 countries participated in the festival which aims to raise awareness of living old towns and Kaleiçi. Ukraine with 9 participating cities was the guest of honor of the festival.

Last year we have taken step forward to expand the concept of the festival.

Within the scope of the extended content of the festival, the Forum named after "The Living Old Towns" was held with great contributions of participating cities. Additionally, we prepared a magazine for the Kaleiçi Old Town Festival Forum for the purpose of being our relation network. A web page has been set up associated with the Forum. With all these efforts, we aim to create "collective mind" among the living old towns having such great historical heritages.

To strengthen the relationship among the living old towns, we submitted a declaration to all participating cities. The declaration was signed by 42 cities from 22 countries. By means of this declaration, we want to create permanent ties by bringing old towns together.

In sum up, the declaration includes these matters as follows:

- Setting common goals with the participating old towns,



- Sharing our experience in solving problems,
- Making common activities and cultural exchanges between the living old towns,
- Being in constant communication with the participating cities for the content of a magazine and web page.

This festival, organized to strengthen the feelings of peace and brotherhood, brought together ancient cities living all over the world. Thanks to this festival, we believe that we will further strengthen the relations in the years to come, which we have established.

Let's experience the joy of the festival together!

We are looking forward to our festival for those who are interested in the cultural accumulation of humanity and want to be in solidarity with everyone for the cultural accumulation of humanity.

Wishing to see you at Kaleiçi Old Town Festival which will be held for the fifth time between the dates of 15-18 October 2020.

Yours Sincerely

Ümit UYSAL
Mayor of Muratpaşa





Standard Terms and Conditions of Participation– 5th Kaleiçi Old Town Festival, 15-18 October 2020

IMPORTANT: Please be reminded that the notice of deadline for participation in Kaleiçi Old Town Festival is **15 May, 2020.** Please let us know your participation status before the deadline.

Within the scope of the festival, local accommodation costs of the representatives of all the participating towns will be covered by Muratpaşa Municipality.

To sum up, these will be provided for you:

- Local accommodation for the delegation
- Meals,
- Transportation between Airport and hotel and within the city
- All visitors will be accompanied by the guiders assigned by Muratpaşa Municipality, during the festival.

Each municipality can participate in the festival with **a maximum of 4 representatives.**

The participants shall **cover their flight fees.**

NOTE: The number of participation cities are limited to **40 cities.** General conditions and terms written above are valid for **40 participating cities.** If the demand for participation in the festival is more than 40, applications will be taken into consideration in accordance with the main concept of the festival. Remaining municipalities can take part in the festival provided that they will cover their all costs including local accommodations and so on.

The Living Old Town (Ancient City) Forum will be held within the framework of the festival program with the contributions of representatives from old towns. Therefore, we kindly ask all participants to make a 10 minutes of presentation about their old towns.



Participants of The Living Old Town Forum and Terms of Participation

The participants are suggested to take part in discussions during the forum by introducing presentations of successful regional experience according to the following sample topics:

- Preservation of the Unique Environment of an Ancient City: Issues of Management,
- Enhancing Cultural Heritage and Sustainable tourism,
- Using Historical heritage as a Factor in Tourism Development,
- Importance of Local Administration in Preserving and Promoting of Living Ancient Cities,
- Fields of Activity and Operation of Local and International Associations and Institutions Working for the Promotion of Living Ancient Cities,
- Contemporary Approaches and Successful Applications on Restoration and Renovation of Historic Buildings and Sites,
- Cultural and Educational Tourism in Living Ancient Cities: Issues of Creation of Touristic Infrastructure,
- Cultural Activities, Festivals and Forums on Ancient Cities,
- Marketing Strategies of Living Ancient Cities and Planning of Urban Development,
- Architecture of Ancient Cities: Problems of Historical Centers.
- History of Living Ancient Cities (Participating Cities) All Across The World.

The time limit of the presentations may be **no more than 10 minutes**.

The working language of the forum is **English**.



The presentation format is optional. You can prepare it in MS Powerpoint, Prezi and other formats. Instead of the verbal presentation, you can also introduce your city with

video (e.g. a short film). Presentation or video display should be no more 10 minutes and it should be in English.

Please note that you are not obliged to introduce a presentation in the forum. Making the presentation in the forum is optional. We offer such a proposal to the participating cities in line with the objectives of the festival.

Please feel free to contact us if you need any further information

Sincerely,

Ibrahim Utku NAR

Foreign Affairs Officer

Muratpaşa Municipality Antalya, Turkey

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