PVCON2020: 2nd International Conference on Photovoltaic Science and Technologies
1-3 July 2020
ODTÜ/METU, Ankara - TURKEY

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Before Arrival - Info Booklet
TURKEY: QUICK FACTS AND FIGURES

Formal Name: Republic of Turkey

Declaration of the Republic: October 29, 1923

Capital: Ankara

Large Cities: Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir, Bursa (four most populated cities)

Government: Unitary Parliamentary Republic

Official Language: Turkish

Total Area: 814,578 km²

Population: 80,810,525 (2017 census)

Currency: Turkish Lira (TL); 1 Euro= 6.50 TL

Time Zone: EET (UTC+2)

Working Hours: From Monday to Friday, 9.00-17.00 (mostly)

Official Holidays: January 1, April 23, May 1, May 19, August 30, October 29, Kurban/Sacrifice and Ramadan Holidays

Date Format: dd/mm/yyyy

International Phone Code: +90

Internet TLD: .tr

Electricity: 220 volts, 50 Hz, with round-prong European-style plugs

Type F, also works with plug C and E.

Turkey is located between Europe and Asia as a peninsula surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea and Aegean Sea. On the Bosporus bridge, which binds the continents of Europe and Asia, it is possible to see the phrases “Welcome to Asia” on one side and “Welcome to Europe” on the other side. Its diverse nature, history, archaeological treasures, and heritage are worth seeing. It is one of the unique locations around the globe where one can experience four seasons in one day. There are many reputable universities and technology zones as well as amazing beaches, spectacular mountains, skiing resorts, great museums, famous “Turkish Baths” and much more. Turkish people are best known for their hospitality, friendly nature, strong-mindedness and good humor.
ABOUT ANKARA

Ankara has been the capital of Turkey since October 13, 1923. The city center of Ankara is the second most crowded area of Turkey and among the first 40 of the world. It can be considered as the heart of Turkey due to its proximity to Turkey’s geographical center and its function in Turkey’s progress. On the other hand, Ankara is one of the places in Turkey where on which several civilizations in history lived, such as the Hittites, Phrygians, Lydians, and Persians. Ankara is famous with its very own breed of cat (Turkish Angora with one blue and one green eye), angora goat, rabbit, pear, honey, and its grape called “Misket Üzümü”.

Important Notes about Ankara:

Region: Central Anatolia, Upper Sakarya

Official Units: 18 districts within city limits and 25 total in the province

Total Area: 2.516 km²

Elevation: 938 m

Population: 5,445,026 (2017 census)

Time Zone: EET (UTC+2)

Postal Code: 06xxx

Area Code(s): 312

License Plate: 06

Weather Conditions:

Ankara has a continental climate with cold snowy winters due to its altitude and inland location, and hot, dry summers. Spring and autumn are generally mild, but during both seasons sudden hot and cold spells frequently occur in the region. Rainfall occurs mostly during the spring and autumn. Because of Ankara’s high altitude and its dry summers, night temperatures in summer months are not so high. Ankara’s annual average precipitation is fairly low at 415 mm (16 in), nevertheless has rains fall during the whole year. The monthly mean temperature ranges from 23.6 °C in July to 1°C in January, with an annual mean of 11.7 °C. Average highest temperature is measured generally in July and August with 30.3 °C and the average lowest temperature is measured generally in January and February with -3 °C.
ABOUT ODTÜ/METU

Now a leading international research university, Middle East Technical University (METU) (www.metu.edu.tr) was founded under the name of "Orta Doğu İleri Teknoloji Enstitüsü" (Middle East High Technology Institute) on November 15, 1956 to contribute to the development of Turkey and Middle East countries and especially to train people so as to create a skilled workforce in the fields of natural and social sciences. METU’s presence brought about new methods and introduced innovations to the Turkish higher education system manifesting METU as a pioneer of innovative education nationwide.

In 1956, the first academic program to initiate education was the Department of Architecture. Then in the spring semester of 1957, the Department of Mechanical Engineering launched its academic program. At the onset of 1957-1958 Academic Year, the Faculty of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Administrative Sciences were established. In 1959, the tasks undertaken to establish the Faculty of Arts and Sciences were completed. The Faculty of Education launched its academic programs in 1982.

Today, METU has 3 campuses with the Ankara campus covering 45 km² of land. METU has 41 undergraduate programs within 5 faculties. Additionally, there are 5 Graduate Schools with 105 masters and 70 doctorate programs and a "School of Foreign Languages" which includes the English Preparatory Department. 15 undergraduate programs and 5 graduate programs are offered in connection with METU Northern Cyprus Campus. The university currently has about 27,000 students.

(For more information: https://iso.metu.edu.tr/en/brochures-flyers)
TRANSPORTATION

Depending on your flight, you may have to go through PASSPORT CONTROL and CUSTOMS INSPECTION in Istanbul or Ankara. If you go through customs in Istanbul, you will need to transfer from International Flights Terminal to Domestic Flights Terminal. Please ask before you exit. Airport personnel can direct you to the domestic flights terminal when requested. Check the direction signs.

You may need to exchange some of your foreign currency for Turkish Lira as soon as you arrive in Turkey. Bank windows are available in both airports immediately before or after passport control. Exchanging money also can be done at the PTT, open 24 hours, at both airports. METU campus also houses a number of banks where currency exchange might be possible.

1. How to Come to Middle East Technical University (METU) from Ankara Esenboga Airport

Ankara International Airport (Esenboga) is about 40 km away from Middle East Technical University (METU). From Ankara airport to METU, you will need the means of transportation such as those below (e.g. taxi or airport shuttle buses called HAVAS or BELKO).

1.1. Taxi

If you wish to take a taxi the whole way, metered taxis are also available from the airport to the city. In Ankara Esenboga Airport, there is taxi service for passenger transport 24 hours a day.

Contact:
Tel: +90 (312) 398 00 00 – 12 58
Tel: +90 (312) 398 08 97 – 08 98

One-way taxi fares to central locations in the city are approximately 25-35 Euros (e.g. from the airport to METU) and the ride will take around 30-35 minutes. By law, all taxis in Turkey are metered. You pay what is on the meter; tipping is optional. If you use the airport shuttle service, from the drop off location, as drivers usually do not speak English, you should have your destination address on a paper to show the driver.
1.2. Airport Shuttle Buses

If you want to take shuttle buses from the Airport to METU, we suggest you to get off at ASTI Coach Station. If you get off at ASTI Coach Station, you may want to take a taxi to METU, which is about 4 km away from ASTI. Taxi fares from ASTI to METU are approximately 25 - 35 TL.

a. HAVAS Buses (Private Company)

- **Bus Schedules**: Services between airport and the city terminal are scheduled according to the arrival times of domestic and international flights.
- **Route**: Ankara Esenboğa Airport, Çubuk, Pursaklar, Hasköy, Keçiören, Etilik, Havaş City Terminal, ASTI (Ankara Intercity Bus Terminal–Coach Station)
  
  **Note**: Even if there is one passenger going to the coach station, the coaches set off to ASTI just afterwards the other passengers are dropped in HAVAS City Terminal.

- **Passenger Dropping Spots**: HAVAS shuttles drop passengers at Çubuk intersection, Pursaklar, Hasköy, Aydınlıkevler, Keçiören Bridge and Etilik Intersection on the way to city center.

- **Arrival Time**: Approximately 30 minutes to HAVAS City Terminal and 45 minutes to ASTI Coach Station

- **Ticket Fee**: around 11 TL (VAT incl.)

For more information, please visit the website below:
http://www.havas.net/en/OurServices/BusServicesAndCarParkingFacilities/ServicePoints/Pages/Ankara.aspx

b. BelkoAir Buses

- **Bus Schedules**: The buses offer services every 30 minutes from 05:00 a.m to 00:00; and every 60 minutes from 00:00 to 05.00 a.m.
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- **Route**: Ankara Esenboğa Airport, Ülker, Saray, Pursaklar, Hasköy, Aydınlıkevler, Fatih Bridge, Anakamall, Gazi Hospital, ASTI (Ankara Intercity Bus Terminal-Coach Station), Kızılay, Opera, Train Station

- **Passenger Dropping Spots**: There are no passenger loading stops on the route from airport to the city center. The first dropping spot is ASTI.

- **Arrival Time**: Approximately 60 minutes to ASTI Coach Station. (It may change depending the traffic and weather conditions)

- **Ticket Fee**: around 11 TL (VAT incl.)

For more updated information, please visit this website: [http://www.belkoair.com/en](http://www.belkoair.com/en)
On exit, airport shuttle buses are located on the right hand-side of gate F for international arrivals terminal and right hand-side of gate H for domestic arrivals terminal.
2. How to come to METU Campus from Ankara City Center

METU is located about 7 kilometers from the center of the city. Transportation to and from METU campus is frequent and convenient. City buses (EGO buses) and private minibuses (Dolmuş) have regular services from Kızılay (Güvenpark), Ulus (opposite the Radisson SAS Hotel and across from Gençlik Park) and Ayrancı (Portakalçiçeği Sokak) to METU campus. There is also a metro service between METU A1 Gate (ODTÜ Metro Station) and Kızılay (Güvenpark).

“Ankara Card” is required for EGO city buses and metro, and must be purchased before boarding the bus. You can purchase these cards from the ticket-offices in Kızılay Metro Station and load money (https://www.ankarakart.com.tr/).

You have to pay the driver the fare in cash on the “Dolmuş” (minibus transportation).

3. METU/ODTÜ Campus Transportation

The main entrance to the METU Campus, 7 km. to the city center, is Gate A1 on the Eskişehir highway. In addition to A1, the gates A4, at the “100. Yıl” District end of campus, and A7, on the Bilkent road, can be used to enter and exit Campus. Access to the city is possible via the Ayrancı-ODTÜ, Ulus-ODTÜ, Kızılay-ODTÜ shuttles and metro (there is a metro stop in front of Gate A1).

Ankara Municipality’s bus services (EGO) and subway (Metro) system can be used for intra-city transportation. Detailed information about the routes and hours of EGO buses is available at the URLs http://www.ego.gov.tr/EN/indexEN.asp and http://www.tim.metu.edu.tr/ego-hat-bilgisi. EGO no. 133 bus can be used for transportation between ODTÜ metro station and campus center.

Campus-City ring bus services are scheduled to run at certain times of the day and frequent in-Campus ring bus services are available for students, staff and visitors.
Campus Ring Bus Services

- Departure times of the ring bus services are listed at the URL: [http://tim.metu.edu.tr/ring-services](http://tim.metu.edu.tr/ring-services).
- Alternatively, may also download a brochure of the ring system at: [http://tim.metu.edu.tr/system/files/ring-brosurA4-02-ing.pdf](http://tim.metu.edu.tr/system/files/ring-brosurA4-02-ing.pdf).
- There is also a real-time interactive METU service which show rings at the time of the query: [www.ring.metu.edu.tr](http://www.ring.metu.edu.tr).
- You can find a printed campus map of METU in the red colored METU bags you have. For electronic version, you may visit: [https://www.metu.edu.tr/system/files/odtu-kampus-haritasi.pdf](https://www.metu.edu.tr/system/files/odtu-kampus-haritasi.pdf).
- For an interactive METU Ankara Campus Map, please check: [http://map.metu.edu.tr/](http://map.metu.edu.tr/).
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PVCON2020 VENUE

- On 1-3 July 2020 (Wednesday-Friday), the sessions will be organized at the halls of METU Culture and Convention Center (METU-CCC). The exact location of METU-CCC can be found in the below METU map:

https://map.metu.edu.tr/place/262/cultural-and-convention-center
USEFUL INFORMATION

a. Embassies

The contact information of the embassies in Turkey can be accessed via:

b. Banks

There are branches of 6 banks, namely İş Bank, Akbank, VakıfBank, Garanti Bank, Ziraat Bank and Yapı Kredi Bank, in the Campus shopping zone. There are also ATMs of these banks at various locations. In addition, there are ATMs of ING Bank, Halkbank and Finansbank. The banks on Campus operate during working hours throughout the week and their phone numbers are as follows:

Bank Phone:
- İş Bank ODTÜ Branch +90 (312) 210 11 94 – 01 22
- Yapı Kredi Bankası ODTÜ Branch +90 (312) 210 14 14
- Akbank ODTÜ Branch +90 (312) 210 10 72 – 10 73
- Vakıfbank ODTÜ Branch +90 (312) 210 10 57 – 10 58
- Ziraat Bank ODTÜ Branch +90 (312) 210 11 72
- Garanti Bank ODTÜ Branch +90 (312) 210 13 69 - 210 18 43

c. Post Office and Cargo

The Post Office is near İş Bank on the campus. Working hours for the post office is 08:30-12.00 and 13:30-17:00. All the telephone booths on ODTÜ Campus are card phones. These cards are available at the ODTÜ Post Office. The card phones can be found at the entrance of all the buildings of the university and at the post office. Students cannot make local, intercity or international calls via the ODTÜ telephone central. When necessary, they can use the ODTÜ telephone central only for in-campus calls.

The telephone number of the post office is +90 (312) 210 27 76. There is one cargo branch in ODTÜ, UPS, which is ready to give service. The address of this cargo branch is; ODTÜ Campus, EBİ Shopping Center, No: 26. The phone number of the branch is +90 (312) 210 13 08.


d. Unit of Currency in Turkey

The currency unit of Turkey is Türk Lirası (Turkish Liras, TL) and its symbol is as in the following:

1 Turkish Lira is subdivided into 100 Kuruş (kr). 1 USD is around 6.1 TL and 1 Euro is around 6.6 TL (these figures may fluctuate daily). Coins and banknotes are demonstrated as follows:

Coins: 5 kr, 10 kr, 25 kr, 50 kr, 1, 100, 200 TL.

Banknotes: 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 TL.

e. Medical Services

METU Medical Center

METU has a fully staffed (https://srm.metu.edu.tr/tr/doktor-listesi) Medical Center on campus that provides medical assistance, lab services and emergency ambulance service.

Medical Center Contact Info:

Tel: + (90) (312)210 49 68
Emergency Hotline: + (90) (312) 210 49 60
Ambulance Call Center: + (90) (312) 210 41 42
http://srm.metu.edu.tr/en

In situations requiring further examination and treatment, patients may be directed to another hospital. There are many hospitals around METU.
SOCIAL LIFE

a. Where to Eat?

1. Eating Places on Campus
The Shopping Mall in the campus-shopping district (called as “Çarşı) has a wide variety of eating-places, open from 8:30 to 22:00, to suit everyone’s taste and pocketbook. For those who can spend a day at METU’s lake, Eymir Lake, there are also restaurants and fast-food kiosks.

2. Eating Places in the City

- **Kentpark and Cepa Shopping Centers.**
  These two shopping centers are very close to METU Campus - Gate A1 within walking distance (500 - 600 meters) and have a variety of eating-places (fast-food and restaurants). They are open from 10:00 to 22:00.

- **Kavaklıdere District**
  Tunus Caddesi (Street) is another inexpensive, convenient district for eating. Near the ODTÜ Bus Stop on Tunus Caddesi there are small kebab restaurants, cafes and sandwich shops. Prices here are moderate to moderately expensive. Arjantin Caddesi (Street) houses a number of good coffee shops that are worth stopping by.

- **Bahçelievler District**
  7. Cadde (7th Street) is the major shopping street in Bahçelievler and has a wide variety of inexpensive to moderate restaurants and sidewalk cafes and pastry shops. One should also look on the side streets of 7. Cadde, especially for small home-style restaurants that serve inexpensive and tasty Turkish dishes.

- **Kızılay District**
  Sakarya Caddesi (Street) between Selanik Caddesi and Atatürk Blvd. is famous for its “Döner” (Meat roasted on a revolving vertical spit). This meat, or chicken, fish or meat balls if preferred, is put in a half loaf of bread with onions. There are eating places in this district with other types of food, also inexpensive and to be recommended. Yüksel Caddesi (Street) is a street with many inexpensive and good restaurants, cafeterias and pastry shops. On Kumrular Sokak (Street) near the ODTÜ Dolmuş stop (close to Güvenpark), there are small eateries. On Olgunlar Sokak (Street), running from Atatürk Blvd. to Kocatepe Cami (Mosque), there are also several restaurants, kebab restaurants, and sandwich and snack bars. Nearby on Konur Sokak, there are inexpensive restaurants frequented by students. Some of them are not open on Sundays.
b. Where to Shop?

1. Shopping Centers on Campus

The Shopping Mall across from the Tennis Courts has a number of shops, including a variety of clothing shops, stationary shops, bookstores and pharmacy as well as a variety of fast-food eateries. Next to this mall is a Super Market where participants can buy a variety of personal needs and a small selection of groceries. In this general business area, there are hairdressers for men and women, a tailor and a shoe repairman.

2. Shopping Centers in the City

Some of the centers listed below are arcades (pasaj or çarşısı) which are located on the ground and basement floors of buildings. These collections of shops are convenient and often inexpensive places to buy clothing, personal needs and household goods. Additionally, some of the major inexpensive and moderately priced department stores and malls are listed below:

- Tunalı Hilmi Çarşısı (Kavaklıdere): Clothing, personal and household needs
- Armada AVM (Eskişehir Highway, Söğütözü): Shoes, bags, underclothing, clothing, cosmetics.
- Next Level AVM (Eskişehir Highway, Söğütözü): Shoes, bags, underclothing, clothing, cosmetics.
- Bilkent Center (Bilkent): Home equipment, clothing, shoes, restaurants, movie theatres, dry cleaning, grocery.
- CEPA AVM (Eskişehir Highway): Clothing, cosmetics, grocery, electronic equipment, movie theatre, restaurants, dry cleaning.
- Panora AVM (Oran): Clothing, cosmetics, grocery, electronic equipment, movie theatre, restaurants, dry cleaning.
- Taurus AVM (Konya Highway): Clothing, cosmetics, grocery, electronic equipment, movie theatre, restaurants, dry cleaning.
- Kızılay (Soysal, Kocabeyoğlu, Ülküalan Pasaji, etc.): Clothing and shoes.
CONTACT DETAILS

Contact Persons

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  Office Phone: +90 312 210 50 69 / +90 312 210 76 51
  Cell Phone: +90 532 776 96 41
  E-mail: turanr@metu.edu.tr

• Emre Demirezen (Conference Secretary)
  Cell Phone: +90 506 327 36 99
  E-mail: demre@metu.edu.tr

• Serhat Sarıoğlu (Conference Organizer)
  Office Phone: +90 312 427 11 14
  Cell Phone: +90 532 253 80 05
  E-mail: serhat@akademikongre.com

Emergency Contact Numbers

In case of an emergency, you may use the relevant phone number from the following list:

• Police 155
• Ambulance 112
• Fire Station 110