

Selçuklu - Turkey

129 Member Cities

AFRICA

Alexandria / Algiers / Fès / Giza / Luxor / Tunis

ASIA

Andong / Buyeo / Chengdu / Chiang Mai / Dujiangyan / Gongju / Gyeongju / Hanoi / Harion / Himeji / Hue / Kaesong / Kamakura / Kanazawa / Kathmandu / Kurunegala / Kyoto / Lahore / Masuda / Matsue / Nanjing / Nara / Suwon / Taichung / Tainan / Ulaanbaatar / Varanasi / Vigan / Vyas / Wuxi / Xi'an / Yangon / Yangzhou / Yogyakarta / Zhengzhou

EUROPE

Alba Iulia / Amsterdam / Athens / Bad Ischl / Barcelona / Bordeaux / Bratislava / Brussels / Budapest / Chernivtsi / Cologne / Constanța / Córdoba / Corinth / Dublin / Edinburgh / Florence / Geneva / The Hague / Helsingborg / Iași / Izhevsk / Kazan / Klaipeda / Kraków / Kutaisi / Kyiv / Lisbon / Ljubljana / Lutsk / Lviv / Minsk / Montpellier / Mtskheta / Nicosia / Niš / Norwich / Odesa / Paris / Prague / Riga / Rome / Santiago de Compostela / Sarajevo / Sheki / Shusha / South East Region of Malta / Strasbourg / Tashkent / Termez / Veliko Tarnovo / Venice / Vienna / Vladimir / Zagreb

LATIN AMERICA

Cartagena / Cuenca / Cusco / Guadalajara / Mexico City

MIDDLE EAST

Ankara / Ardabil / Baghdad / Bursa / Hebron / Isfahan / Istanbul / Jerusalem / Kashan / Kong / Konya / Masouleh / Nayshabur / Osmangazi / Şanlıurfa / Selçuklu / Semnan / Shiraz / Tabriz / Tehran / Yazd

NORTH AMERICA

Boston / Montreal / Quebec City

PACIFIC

Ballarat / Melbourne / Norwood Payneham and St Peters / Whanganui

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WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES



Masuda - Japan



01

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Date

November 12 -14
2024

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Venue

Center Rog

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Program (tentative)

Day 1

AM Opening Ceremony &
Keynote Speech

PM Session 1

- Round Table of
Mayors & Representatives
Welcome Dinner

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Day 2

AM Session 2

- Youth Forum

Session 3

- Workshop by Experts

PM Session 1 (cont.)

- Round Table of
Mayors & Representatives
Excursion (Škofja Loka) &
Dinner

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Day 3

AM <Group 1>

Board of Directors
Meeting

<Group 2>

Excursion (City Tour)

PM General Assembly
Closing Ceremony

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Welcome to Ljubljana!

Outline of the 19th World Conference of Historical Cities

Main Theme

“Creating a Vibrant Walkable City Centre
through Sustainable Urban Mobility”

Subthemes

1. Walkability as a factor in the quality and attractiveness of historic urban areas
2. Sustainable mobility as a safeguard against the deterioration of cultural heritage
3. Challenges and ways to implement sustainable mobility in historic cities

Youth Programs

1. Call for entries for Youth Drawing and Painting Contest for works that depict each member city's cultural heritage or the main attraction (1 painting work per city)
2. Exhibition of children literature about local heritage of member cities (1 book per city)

Excursions

1. City tour featuring the walkable city centre & works by architect Jože Plečnik
2. Tour to the medieval old town of Škofja Loka



Exploring Ljubljana

Ljubljana is the capital of Slovenia, located in Central Europe. The city offers a combination of natural beauty and historical charm. One of its most notable areas is the beautiful old town, which was developed by Jože Plečnik, a great European architect and a local of Ljubljana. In the city, you will find a wonderful harmony of medieval buildings, baroque churches, and other stunning historical structures and public facilities. "Works of Jože Plečnik in Ljubljana - Human-Centered Urban Planning" was inscribed as a World Heritage Site in 2021. Ljubljana is also known as an eco-friendly city; in 2016, it was recognized with the European Green Capital Award. Ljubljana shall offer an opportunity to learn about various practices that are beneficial to the environment, and Ljubljana has something for everyone.

02 Greetings from the Heart of Ljubljana

- A Call to Embrace Sustainable Urban Mobility in Historical City Centres -

Dear Esteemed Members of the League of Historical Cities,

Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, has the honour of hosting the 19th World Conference of Historic Cities. It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I extend a heartfelt invitation to each distinguished member of the League to participate in this year's conference, set to unfold against the picturesque backdrop of our beloved city.

As we address the conference's theme, *Creating a Vibrant Walkable City Centre through Sustainable Urban Mobility*, I am filled with a sense of anticipation and shared responsibility. In the heart of Ljubljana, where every cobblestone tells a tale of centuries past, we gather not just to share in the beauty of our historical cities but to collectively explore pathways toward a sustainable and vibrant future.

Ljubljana, with its charming blend of medieval architecture and contemporary urban planning, serves as an ideal canvas for this important dialogue. We are not just hosts; we are stewards of a city that has embraced sustainability as a guiding principle. Our commitment to a green and walkable urban environment has transformed Ljubljana into a living testament to the harmonious coexistence of history and progress.

The Theme: A Call for Action

The theme of our conference is not just a title; it is a call for action that resonates with the core values we hold as custodians of historical cities. Our mission is to both preserve the past and to ensure that these historical gems remain dynamic, accessible, and relevant in the 21st century.

Sustainable urban mobility is the key to unlocking the full potential of our historical city centres. By fostering pedestrian-friendly spaces, promoting cycling, and investing in eco-friendly public transportation, we can create city centres that are not only historically rich but also vibrant hubs of sustainable living.

Your Presence Matters: A Shared Vision for the Future

Your presence at the 19th World Conference of Historical Cities is not just a participation; it is a commitment to shaping the future of our urban centres. Together, let us delve into discussions, share experiences, and collaborate on strategies that will empower historical cities around the world to embrace sustainable urban mobility.

As you immerse yourselves in the conference sessions and explore the enchanting streets of Ljubljana, I hope you find inspiration and concrete solutions that you can carry back to your own cities. Our shared vision for the future is one where historical city centres are not relics of the past but thriving and sustainable hubs that serve as beacons for generations to come.

In Conclusion: A Warm Welcome

On behalf of the City of Ljubljana, it is my honour to welcome you to this momentous event. Let our time together be marked by fruitful discussions, meaningful connections, and a shared commitment to creating historical city centres that are not only steeped in history but are also at the forefront of sustainable urban living.

Thank you for being a part of this global movement, and I look forward to personally welcoming each of you to the 19th World Conference of Historical Cities.

Ljubljana: A Living Model

Ljubljana stands as a living model of what can be achieved when a city embraces sustainable urban mobility. Our car-free city centre, extensive network of cycling lanes and efficient public transportation system has reduced our carbon footprint and have also enhanced the quality of life for our residents and visitors alike.

As you walk through our historic streets, bordered by cafes, boutiques, and cultural landmarks, you will witness first-hand the transformative power of sustainable urban mobility. Ljubljana is a testament to the idea that historical cities can evolve and thrive without compromising their unique identity.

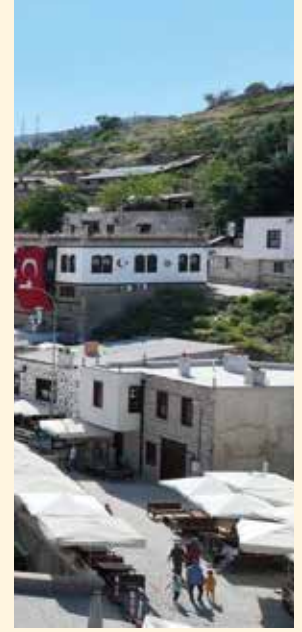
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Zoran Jankovic, Mayor of Ljubljana

03 New Member Cities



Selçuklu - Turkey -

— Selçuklu and Sille —

Selçuklu, named after the Seljuk Civilization, is one of the largest districts of our country with a dynamic and young population of 682,514 people. With the service and investment projects carried out by our municipality, state investments, and the industrial and commercial activities of the private sector, Selçuklu has ranked 21st in the level of development and has entered the “Turkish Century” ground created for a strong entry.

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Selçuklu is in the vision of the "Century of Turkey" with its people who carry the traces of civilizations, preserve historical memory, natural riches, education, culture, social and artistic activities and facilities, transportation and infrastructure services that make life easier, and tourism potential and with its people who make you feel sincerity, tolerance, and warmth and give soul to this city with its values. We believe that we will achieve the stated goals.

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Selçuklu, which has tangible and intangible cultural heritage, has a total of 24 sites and 109 historical monuments, especially Sille. Sille, one of the important cultural and tourism centers of Anatolia, is a settlement whose value increases day by day with its rich cultural and natural assets. Sille is on its way to becoming a popular tourism center with its mosques, churches, baths, fountains, bridges and still living cultural and folklore values. In Sille, Aya Elenia Museum, Sille Museum, Time Museum, Cave Churches and many historical mosques and baths have been restored and brought to tourism. Thanks to the restorations carried out by our municipality since the 2000s, Sille has gained a different appearance. 7 mosques, 1 church and 2 chapels were restored and put into service for the public.

Sille, which is one of the first settlements of Christianity and is also home to the first known church, also has an important place in terms of faith tourism. Aya Elenia Church and Hill Chapel were taken over from the Ministry of Culture, restored with original stone and wooden materials and turned into a museum. In addition, Rock Reclamation works have been completed to protect these structures from landslides.

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With the completion of the projects currently being carried out by our municipality, Sille will become one of the most important tourism destinations of our country.

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Sille, Tropical Butterfly Garden, Adventure Tower, Selçuklu Flower Garden, Sille Dam Park, Selçuklu Observation Hill, Kultur Park and Alaaddin Hill, Karatay Madrasa, Ince Minareli Madrasa, Seljuk Mountains with over 100 hiking routes, swimming pools and social facilities; welcomes its domestic and international guests and provides added value to Konya. With the new projects we are implementing, we will entrust the Culture Valley project, which will be visited by millions of tourists, to Turkey's next century, to our children.

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After your visit where you will feel the spirit of this city, we offer our greetings with the belief that you will return with unforgettable memories.

Masuda

- Japan -

— A City Where People Can Grow and Shine with Its Glorious History—

Located in the west end of Shimane Prefecture, Masuda City faces the Sea of Japan to the north and the Chugoku Mountains to the south. Two rivers originated in the Mountains flow through the city; the Takatsu River, which is recognized for its best water quality in Japan, and the Masuda River. A plain spread in a delta in the lower reaches, around which the urban area is formed.

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Masuda, the place name, is found in the document compiled in the 10th century, which shows that the name has long been a designation for the area. During the medieval period from the end of the 12th to the end of 16th century, maritime trade flourished under the rule of lords of Masuda, utilizing the rich local resources such as timber and minerals. The trade was not limited to the domestic market but also extended to East and Southeast Asia.

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The Masuda clan is also said to have invited Sesshu, one of the ten world cultural figures selected in later times. While he stayed in Masuda, he designed gardens for Manpuku-ji Temple and Sukan-ji Temple (current Iko-ji Temple) and drew a portrait of the lord of Masuda. Sesshu is reported to have died in Masuda, which indicates his deep connection to the area.

Since the modern period, Masuda has ceased to be a castle town. Thanks to the fact, a large-scale development was not conducted in the area and there remain ruins of old castles and an old harbor, temples, shrines, streetscapes, and art works, that remind us of the medieval times. In addition, there exists the “Documents of the Masuda Family,” comprising a total of approximately 18,000 items left by the family, and it is expected to provide a wide variety of research approaches to the state of local cities at the time. In consideration of being a rare region in Japan retaining rich medieval relics, Masuda City was recognized as a “Japan Heritage” in 2020.

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In Masuda City, there are enthusiastic citizens’ drive and their activities to not only preserve but also make use of the local history and culture. In response to the willingness, the City set the “Community Development Plan through Utilization of Regional History for the City of Masuda” in 1994. Based on the philosophy and the principles set forth in the plan, the City further formulated the “Masuda City Basic Scheme for Historic and Cultural Properties”(2018) and the “Regional Plan for the Protection and Utilization of Cultural Properties for the City of Masuda”(2019) to work on the community development making the most of the historic and cultural property in the city. The “Local Revitalization Plan through Japan Heritage,” which was drawn up in conjunction with the Japan Heritage recognition, sets its basic policy not only to revitalize economy by attracting domestic and international visitors but also to foster citizens’ pride and affection to the region as well as to develop human resources for securely passing down the property.

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Thus, with the future vision for Masuda, where people can grow and shine, the City works on preserving and utilizing its historic and cultural property to bring the glory of the medieval times back to the present.



04

Date and Time

Wed., November 8, 2023
11:00-12:30

Venue

Ljubljana City Council Hall

Participating Cities

Chair: Kyoto

Vice Chairs: Xi'an and Konya

Directors: Gyeongju, Ljubljana,
Shiraz, and Kraków

*Bad Ischl, Director was absent
(its proxy was submitted.)

Summary of the FY2023 Board of Directors Meeting

Deliberations

A new membership for the City of **Corinth** (Greece) was approved, and now **129** member cities in 65 countries and regions belong to the League.

Report and Discussion

The Secretariat reported on the status of candidacy for host cities of the 20th and the 21st World Conferences; no cities had formally announced their candidacies, but several cities have expressed their interests.



The Secretariat also reported on the financial status and presented two proposals to utilize the surplus, such as to support host cities of the World Conferences, and to organize commemorative events of the League. Both proposals were approved. The City of Ljubljana presented the outline of the 19th World Conference and their proposals were basically accepted.

05

Call for Candidacy: Host Cities for the 20th and the 21st World Conferences of Historical Cities

The 20th World Conference in 2026

The 21st World Conference in 2027

How to Apply

Any city interested in hosting either one of the conferences should send an official letter declaring candidacy under the name of the Mayor addressed to the Chairperson of the League.

Note: Please indicate which conference your city shall stand for in the letter.

Deadline

The End of May 2024

Note: Unless any applications are received by the deadline, it may be extended.

For more information, please visit the official [website](#).



The League of Historical Cities Secretariat

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