



8 July 2014

## ISTANBUL TO HOST ATP WORLD TOUR 250 TOURNAMENT FROM 2015

LONDON - The ATP announced on Tuesday that Istanbul will host an ATP World Tour 250 tournament beginning next year. The first ever ATP World Tour event in Turkey will be played on clay from 27 April - 3 May in 2015.

The Garanti Koza Istanbul Open will be held at the spectacular Koza World of Sports facility, which is promoted as the largest tennis academy in the world. The centre court features a retractable roof and will provide seating for 7,500 people. Two other clay show courts raise available seating to 9,500 and the clubhouse features a fitness centre, spa, swimming pool and restaurant.

Chris Kermode, ATP Executive Chairman and President, said: "We are delighted that the ATP World Tour will be taking place in Turkey for the first time from 2015. This incredible new facility in Istanbul will make a wonderful addition to the many remarkable venues that feature on the ATP World Tour throughout the season. As we add an important market such as Turkey to our global footprint, the ATP World Tour will be set to take place across 62 tournaments in 32 countries in 2015."

The tournament venue is part of an overall tennis academy that features 15 outdoor clay courts, 20 outdoor hard courts and 28 indoor hard courts and is located within a sporting complex which also has facilities for swimming, basketball, volleyball, soccer and handball. A five star hotel is nearby.

The tournament has been brought to Istanbul by Istanbul Kupasi Tenis Isletmecilik Turizm A.S., a subsidiary of Garanti Koza, one of Turkey's largest international general contracting companies.

Serhan Baykal, Garanti Koza Board Member, said: "Garanti Koza is thrilled to host an ATP event in Istanbul, giving Turkish tennis fans the opportunity to watch the best players in the world. We look forward to great tennis in Istanbul for many years to come!"

The event will take place in week 17 of the 2015 ATP World Tour, alongside the Portugal Open in Oeiras and the BMW Open by FWU AG in Munich.

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### Media contacts:

ATP: Simon Higson, [shigson@atpworldtour.com](mailto:shigson@atpworldtour.com)

### About the ATP

The ATP is the governing body of the men's professional tennis circuits - the ATP World Tour, the ATP Challenger Tour and the ATP Champions Tour. With 61 tournaments in 31 countries, the ATP World Tour



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showcases the finest male athletes competing in the world's most exciting venues. From Australia to Europe and the Americas to Asia, the stars of the 2014 ATP World Tour battle for prestigious titles and Emirates ATP Rankings points at ATP World Tour Masters 1000, 500 and 250 events, as well as Grand Slams (non ATP events). At the end of the season only the world's top 8 qualified singles players and doubles teams, based on their performance throughout the year, will qualify to compete for the last title of the season at the Barclays ATP World Tour Finals. Held at The O2 in London, the event will officially crown the 2014 ATP World Tour No.1 presented by Emirates. For more information, please visit [www.ATPWorldTour.com](http://www.ATPWorldTour.com).



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