

# WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES



The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

No.70: August 2015

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Yogyakarta  
Zagreb  
Zhengzhou



# Greeting from City of Bad Ischl (Austria)



**“Smart, innovative, creative historical cities of the future”**

Dear colleagues and representatives of league member cities,

The city of Bad Ischl is proud and privileged to host the 15th world conference of historical cities. Bad Ischl lies right in the centre of Europe half way between Munich and Vienna and is embedded within the picturesque Austrian Lake District famously called the Salzkammergut.

The region's history is marked by salt mining. The mining and producing of salt in Hallstatt only 25 kilometers from Bad Ischl is known for about 7000 years. The healthy salty water is responsible for the growth of the host city.

At the beginning of the 19th century doctors found out about the healing qualities of salty waters. Soon many famous guests came to the place for wellness. Among the first visitors were English tourists as well as famous Austrians: Emperor Franz Ferdinand, Count Metternich and many others.

The parents of the latter Emperor Franz Josef were not able to have children.



Blick vom Siriuskogel

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A Viennese doctor sent them to Bad Ischl to try the healing power of the salt. Soon afterwards three sons were born. The local people called them "Salt Princes" - one of them became Emperor Franz Josef, and another Emperor Maximilian of Mexico.

Bad Ischl was also the place where Franz Josef met his wife, Empress Elisabeth, for the first time. He saw her, fell in love and got engaged in Bad Ischl. They came to Bad Ischl year after year until their deaths. Their wedding present, the Kaiservilla, is one of the main historic sites and sights of Bad Ischl.

Due to their presence the town became a meeting point for heads of state and statesmen, monarchs and aristocrats, scientists and artists: The list of names is long and includes Alfred Nobel, Johann Strauss, Gladstone, Bismarck, Sigmund Freud, Johannes Brahms, Franz Lehar, Mark Twain, Galsworthy and many others.

In 1914 world history was written in the Kaiservilla when the 84 year old Emperor signed the declaration of War to Serbia, which was the beginning of World War I. This is the reason for many peace initiatives that Bad Ischl supports. The city has always been a place of international encounter and inspiration.

So the City invites you to next year's conference on "Smart, innovative, creative historical cities of the future". Let us discuss in friendly alpine atmosphere the Development of tourism to promote city identity, Creating liveable smart historical cities and Engaging citizens including young people to plan for the future.

You will have the opportunity to visit unique places of historic heritage like Bad Ischl and the Kaiservilla as well as the old salt mining town Hallstatt. Bad Ischl is a lively and clean place surrounded by green hills and the Dachstein Glacier and ready to welcome its guests from the League of Historical Cities.

See you in Bad Ischl in 2016.

Hannes HEIDE  
Mayor of BAD ISCHL



# Join us at the 15th World Conference of Historical Cities!!



Kaiservilla

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Period: June 7 (Tue) - 9 (Thu), 2016

Theme:  
"Smart, innovative, creative historical cities of the future"

Sub themes:  
-Development of tourism to promote city identity  
-Creating liveable smart historical cities  
-Engaging citizens including young people to plan for the future

Conference Venue:  
Kongress & TheaterHaus Bad Ischl  
(Kurhausstrasse 8 A-4820 Bad Ischl, Austria)  
Tel. +43.6132.23420 Fax +43.6132.23420.150  
Email: ebli@kongress.badischl.at  
URL: <http://www.kongresshaus.badischl.at/home.html>



Trinkhalle

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Program (tentative):

Day 1(June 7)	
AM	Opening Ceremony Keynote Speech
PM	Round Table by Mayors and Representatives
Day 2(June 8)	
AM	Youth Forum Workshop by Experts Round Table by Mayors and Representatives
PM	Sessions continued Excursion to Hallstatt Reception & Cultural Program @Hallstatt
Day 3(June 9)	
AM	The Board Meeting of the LHC Directors General Overview of Sessions (Youth Forum)
PM	General Overview of Sessions (Round Table & Workshop) General Assembly of the League of Historical Cities Closing Ceremony Bad Ischl City Tour including Kaiservilla

\*The participation at the conference is not bound to member cities. All staff members involved in the Conference are very much looking forward to seeing you in Bad Ischl!

-----Contact-----

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Kaiserpark Brunnen

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# Review of the Board Meeting of the LHC Directors 2015 held in Bad Ischl, Austria in June, 2015



*The Board Meeting of the LHC Directors 2015 was held in Bad Ischl, Austria from 16 to 18 June 2015. Kyoto (Chairperson) and Four out of Seven Director Cities: Vienna (Vice Chairperson), Ballarat, Konya, and Ljubljana attended the meeting. The board members mainly discussed about the 15th World Conferences of Historical Cities to be held next year. The outcome of the meeting is as follows.*

## <New Member Cities>

The board members confirmed that 4 cities; Giza (Egypt), Shiraz (Iran), Cuenca (Ecuador), and Kashan (Iran) had been approved as new members of the League after the 14th Conference held in September 2014. The number of the member cities of the League is 107 cities from 62 countries and regions as of August, 2015.

## <Candidate Cities for hosting the 16th Conference>

It was reported that City of Ljubljana (Slovenia) and City of Lviv (Ukraine) had nominated themselves as candidate cities for hosting the 16th World Conference of Historical Cities which is to be held in 2018.

After the board meeting, we received a letter from Shiraz (Iran) expressing their interest to be a candidate city for hosting the 16th Conference. Therefore, three cities: Ljubljana (Slovenia), Lviv (Ukraine), and Shiraz (Iran) are on the candidate list as of August, 2015. Those cities who would like to be considered as a candidate city are requested to send a letter to the Secretariat of the LHC by the end of March, 2016.

\* The host city of the 16th conference will be officially decided at the LHC Board Meeting 2016 which will be held in Bad Ischl on June 9th, 2016, the last day of the 15th conference. Every candidate host city is requested to make a presentation at the meeting.

## <The 15th World Conference of Historical Cities>

Mr. Hannes Heide, Mayor of Bad Ischl made a presentation about the main theme and general plan of the Conference. After active discussion with the board members, they decided the main theme for the 15th World Conference of Historical Cities as “Smart, innovative, creative historical cities of the future”. The details of the 15th Conference were decided as on the left page. Further information will be given as soon as the details are settled.





# Greetings for the League of Historical Cities

## Marcelo Cabrera Palacios, Mayor of Cuenca - Ecuador



Marcelo Cabrera Palacios -  
Alcalde de Cuenca

The Andean valley where Cuenca is has been shaped by several civilizations. In the 14th century the Cañari city of Guapondelig was founded here. Signifying “a plain as vast as the sky”, this Cañari word was the first name by which the city was known, perhaps transmitting the early residents’ astonishment at the natural, geographical and strategic advantages of the area.

With the arrival of the Incas around 1470, the Cañari city was renamed Tumipampa or Tomebamba, meaning “Tumi Plain” or “Knife Plain” in the Quechua language. The city proved to be of vital importance for the Inca civilization for it

was here that the Inca Huayna Cápac, son of the Su God, was born, turning the place into a major Inca site, second only to Cuzco.

The conquest of America by the Spanish Crown led to the rapid urbanization of the continent through the foundation of towns and cities. Santa Ana de los Ríos de Cuenca was founded on 12 April 1557 by the Spanish general Gil Ramírez Dávalos, acting on orders received from the Viceroy of Peru, Hurtado de Mendoza.

Today, Cuenca is a reference for urban development in Ecuador. We are an excellent example of potable water management and conservation of protected environmental areas. We are changing the concept of urban mobility in our city. The rivers that run through the city are clean and the riversides are preserved and constantly monitored. These are just a few things for which Cuenca is known for.

It is an honor to be part of the League of Historical Cities among such important other heritage cities. We vow to share our experiences and look forward to learning from each and every one of you. Together we shall work to help protect our historical cities and find solutions to the changes in the world that affect the heritage in our care.



Cuenca's New Cathedral  
(Catedral de la Inmaculada Concepción)



Cuenca's Old Cathedral -  
Iglesia del Sagrario

## City of Giza (Egypt)

## Dr. Khalid Zakaria El Adli Imam, Giza Governor



First, I would like to express my deepest appreciation and pleasure on the membership of Giza Governorate in the League of Historical Cities.

On behalf of Giza citizens and as the Governor of Giza, I would like also to take this opportunity to convey my sincere greetings to the member cities.

Giza... This immortal name throughout the periods and generations and throughout its long history of struggle and warfare, it was a base for Egyptian people. On the land of Giza was born the most ancient and the most powerful civilization, it was called in ancient period Memphis, so called currently Met Rahina, and it was the first capital

for ancient Egypt through most of the old Egyptian period.

Giza is the third largest city in Egypt. It is located on the west bank of the Nile, some 20 km southwest of central Cairo. The city of Giza is the capital of the Giza Governorate, and is located near the northeast border of this governorate in coordinates. It is located right on the banks of the river Nile.

Giza is the destination of tourists. God endowed it as a unique archeological treasure.

It has the Giza pyramids, one of the seven wonders of the world. The pyramids are the symbol of the greatness of the ancient Egyptian artist, with the Sphinx is the guardian. The Sakkara monuments are



The Three Pyramids



Abo Seir



Sakkara



Sphinx



Dahshour



Solar Boat

the oldest stone buildings in the world. "Abo Seir", "Met Rahina", "Dahshour" reflect the creativity of the Ancient Egyptian.

On the land of Giza, the symbols of Ancient Egyptian civilization interact with the symbols of modern civilization represented in Cairo University, several parks, museums and galleries.

Giza is best known as the part of Cairo closest to the world-famous Pyramids of Giza, situated high on the desert plateau immediately to the west of the urban district, itself located in the valley and centered around the Pyramids Road, linking central Cairo with the ancient wonders. One of the premier attractions of Egypt, if not the world, the Pyramids of Giza represent the archetypal pyramid structures of ancient Egyptian civilization and - together with the Sphinx at the base of the Giza plateau - are the iconic image of Egypt.

The name Giza was given to the place in which Arabs crossed the Nile upon their conquest of Egypt in 642 A.D 23 A.H when they have crossed from Alfustat to the western bank of the Nile.

### The Giza Plateau

The Giza plateau consists of lime stone layers which are a part of the Mokkatam plateau. During the era of the fourth dynasty three pyramids groups were built on the plateau for "Cheops", "Chephrin" and "Mysiremus". King Cheops who established the fourth dynasty, built the greatest pyramid of the 108 pyramids in Egypt. To its East there are four small pyramids. Three were for the queens. The fourth pyramid was used for the creed of the king. There is a huge graveyard for the members of the royal family. There is another graveyard for the important officials.

### The pyramid Group of King "Cheops"

The great pyramid is now 137 meters high. But its original height was 146 meters. Each of the four sides of its base is 230 meters, 2,300,000 blocks of lime stone were used to build the pyramid.

### The Funeral Temple

It was used to perform the funeral rituals. It is to the east of the great pyramid and is followed by the road that links the funeral temple to the temple of the valley.

In the southern side of the great pyramid there are two holes for the boats of King Cheops.

### The pyramid Group of King "Chephrin"

It is 143 meters high. Each side of its square base is 215 meters. The pyramid of "Chephrin" still keeps part of its outer layer near the top. It was built on higher grounds

which makes it seem as if is bigger than the pyramid of "Cheops". There is a funeral temple to its east.

### The pyramid Group of King "Mysiremus"

It is 73 meters high. Each base is about 108 meters. It is said that the outer layer of the pyramid was made of granite stone.

### The statue of the Sphinx

This statue was made out of one stone. The sphinx is considered to be a guard of the Giza plateau. It is the body of a lion with a human head (King "Chephrin") its body is 73.5 meters. Its height is 20 meters. The sphinx is an embodiment of the God of the sun. There is a granite plate known as (The dream) put between the front paws of the sphinx.

### The temple of the sphinx

It is found in front of the statue of the sphinx. It has two entrances, one of the northern side and the other is in the southern side, in the eastern wall there are hollow cavities used for the rituals of the rise of the sun, while the hollow cavities in the western wall were used for the rituals of the sunset. In the middle of that temple there is a square yard open to the sky. Each side has six pillars. The 24 pillars are believed to represent the hours of the day and night.

### Solar Boat Museum

Solar Boat Museum is constructed over the pit where solar boats were discovered only in 1954. These boats were constructed probably to carry the body of Khufu across the river Nile to the Funerary Temple for funerary ceremonies. Five such Solar Boats were found around the Pyramid of Khufu. The Solar Boat Museum has a climate control to preserve the boats and walkways are provided around the boats to get a good view of the boat.

The Grand Egyptian museum is one of the largest Museum development projects in the world. Given the global interest in the pharaonic history, Egypt and in particular the resident of Cairo are eagerly anticipating the arrival of this new cultural destination. With its unique position on the cusp between the past and the present, the grand Egyptian museum will lie at the repository for ancient artifacts and creates an interactive experience for the visitor; it will build a bridge between the past and the future.

The Museum will upgrade and enhance of Cairo and Giza services and increase the number of tourists visiting these cities. The museum would act as an interactive to extend tourists' stay in both Cairo and Giza area. The museum would be a cultural attraction capable of attracting up to 4 million visitors per year.