

KANYON IS HOME TO 160 BOUTIQUES AND SHOPS STOCKING EVERYTHING FROM HIGH FASHION TO ELECTRONICS, AN ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX COMPLETE WITH A NINE SCREEN CINEMA AND FOOD OUTLETS RANGING FROM THE FAST TO THE GOURMET.

Grand Kanyon.

In Istanbul, too, shopping as a way of satisfying one's elementary needs is being replaced by shopping as an urban experience ... or at least that's what should be happening, if the Kanyon architects had a say in it.

Kanyon isn't so much a shopping mall but an 'experience'. Situated in Levent, the city's central business district, the striking, bold architectural shapes are a 21st century designer's dream come true. The sheer size of the complex is awesome, in the true sense of the word. All 255,000 sq m were designed by the Jerde Partnership to create a unique, open and vibrant hub with multiple 'raisons d'etre': shopping, living, working and entertaining. A masterpiece in 'urban living'. Kanyon is home to 160 boutiques and shops stocking everything from high fashion to electronics, an entertainment complex complete with a nine screen cinema and food outlets ranging from the fast to the gourmet.

There's no doubt that downtown Istanbul has been enhanced by this open air emporium. Already a shopping 'mecca', Istanbul is home to the 'Kapalı Çarşı,' otherwise known as the Grand Bazaar, said to be the world's oldest and largest covered market. There are also 30-odd contem-

porary malls built since 1988. So far, none of them has had the kudos Kanyon has, with its stylish, iconic international brands including Harvey Nichols, Max Mara, Furla, Cacharel, Tiffany & Co and Guess rubbing shoulders with local Turkish retail outlets such as Vakko, funky T-shirt brand Ottoman Empire, and leather gurus Desa and Derimod. Each part of the complex has its own specific identity. Set over four floors, each level has a different vibe and character from the family friendly outdoor areas where 'street artists' perform to the high-end designer type cafes for the fashion savvy. No one has been forgotten in this mini-world. The open-air walkways lined with glitteringly tempting shops look as though a higher hand has carved them out of the buildings. They have given the place its name: reminiscent of natural canyons. There is also the oversized entertainment sphere with its amphitheatre at the base and sleek cinema at its heart, all connected to the walkways with smoked glass bridges. Not for the faint hearted!



ANYTHING I

US-architects Jerde Partnership aspired to create an urban landmark that encompasses shopping, living, working, and entertainment.

As for food, the range is wide. As well as the low-key home grown restaurants like 'good food fast' chain Num Num by renowned chef Mehmet Gürs, there are international players too: London's ultra hip modern Asian Hakkasan restaurant is due to open, and favourite noodle bar Wagamama is already a firm favourite. For the more traditional high-brow Ottoman cuisine Istanbul's famous Konyali is represented too with its cushioned ambiance and elegant take on local dishes. On the ground floor which is actually the level - 2, landscaping and water features add a fresh green touch to the sometimes stark stone, tile and concrete environment. Sunlight filters through to Kitchenette's busy terrace where tables are abuzz with office workers and shoppers dining al fresco. Waiters in tight bright T-shirts

run off their feet distributing the 'brasserie' style dishes. Nearby the city's only Häagen Dazs outlet is doing a roaring trade too. Kanyon is well and truly alive. It may only be a few months old but it has already become a staple. In addition to the retail outlets, a health club is due to open to cater for the residential side as well as the office building residents. The 26-floor office tower also has the trademark curved façade, while the 17-floor residential tower comes complete with pool, gardens, private balconies and terraces. Both blend glass, plaster and stone to fit in perfectly with the bigger picture. The most amazing thing about Kanyon's is its ever changing perspective. Wherever you stand you feel like you are in a whole different place: a new view, a new shape, a new angle.

Kanyon in Figures.

COST: \$200 MILLION **CONSTRUCTION BEGINS:** 2003 **OPENED:** MAY 30, 2006 **PROJECT SIZE:** **SITE AREA:** 7.4 ACRES **TOTAL BUILDING AREA:** 255,000 SQ M **OFFICE TOWER 26 LEVELS:** 36,000 SQ M **RETAIL:** 160 STORES: 37,500 SQ M **CINEMA:** 1,600 SEATS **COMMUNAL GARDEN SPACE:** 3,500 SQ M **PARKING:** 2,300 SPACES

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ISTANBUL HAS ALWAYS BEEN A SHOPPING MECCA BUT NEVER HAS A MALL HAD THE KUDOS OF KANYON WITH ITS STYLISH, ICONIC BRANDS INCLUDING AMONG OTHERS HARVEY NICHOLS, GUESS, AND TIFFANY & CO.

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