



## Antony Doucet

### KERTEN HOSPITALITY - BRAND & MARKETING DIRECTOR

“TAKE CAIRO AND NEW YORK, PUT THEM TOGETHER AND YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PAINT THE PICTURE OF ISTANBUL. IT’S A GREAT COMBINATION OF THE ORIENT AND THE OCCIDENT.”



#### What brought you here?

In my previous role with Park Hyatt Paris Vendome, as VIPs & Celebrities Guest Relations Manager, I was given the opportunity to be part of the opening of Park Hyatt Istanbul in 2008. My role then was to stay for a period of 2 years before returning to Paris in 2010. My affair with Istanbul was more of a love of first sight. I was not ready to leave after commuting to work on a boat, walking the streets in the Old City or sipping tea by the Bosphorus. So after 2 years I wanted to explore more and more. This is when Kerten Hospitality opened its first hotel and I was hired as the Hotel Manager. Today I am the Brand & Marketing Director for all entities of Kerten Hospitality.

What makes Istanbul so special? Istanbul has so multiple layers, colors, flavors and sights. This city has gone through 3 different empires and you can feel the rich history in everyday life. I like the diversity of the city. I like its energy. When people ask me to describe Istanbul in a couple of words I always say: “take Cairo

and New York, put them together and you will be able to paint the picture of Istanbul. It’s a great combination of the Orient and the Occident. I also like Istanbul aspect – a city feature which is obsolete nowadays in megapolis and modern capitals. There is no more “mahalle” feeling.

#### Favorite spots in the city...

I love Karaköy area, Bebek, Kadıköy, Moda.

Favourite “old school” restaurants: Asmalı Cavit, Zubeyir

Favourite modern meyhane: Karakoy Lokantasi, Duple Meze

Favourite modern Turkish cuisine: Yeni Lokanta and Neolokal

Favourite rooftop: Kasa Lokanta & Bar

Favourite breakfast place: Kuravasan Nisantasi & Ask Khave Kurucesme

Favourite bar: Soho House

Favourite hamam: Kilic Ali Pasa Hamam

Favourite shopping brands: Beymen Club, Bey Karakoy

Favourite market: Bomonti organic market

#### As a global city...

With Turkish Airlines flying to 240 destinations in the world and with the new airport we are definitely connected to the world. The evolution has turned Istanbul into the center of the world. It’s not a cliché to say that Istanbul is at the crossroads of the East & the West. It’s a fact.

#### After work and on the weekends...

I live in Tophane and have the most amazing view. So, being at home on my balcony overlooking the old city, the Marmara Sea and the Bosphorus is already a treat. On Saturday morning, I like to go to Ferikoy Pazari to buy all my fruits and vegetables for the whole week. My afternoon is spent cooking and hosting friends for dinner. On a Sunday I usually have early breakfast (before all places get too crowded) and if I’m in the mood, my Sunday evening is with Rakı Balik at Asmalı Cavit. In the summer time I love renting a boat with friends and we go swimming in Beykoz or around Buyukada Island.