

ISTANBUL, A WORK IN PROGRESS

Parquet made in Italy is being used in a new, prestigious residential complex in most populous city in Turkey

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Turkey has shown itself to be a country undergoing extraordinary development in the last 15 years. Istanbul itself seems to be in the middle of a building boom. Its expansion can be explained by its geographical position as it lies on the natural border between Europe and Asia. This city faces the Bosphorus and numerous building sites are visible where housing, glass structures, large department stores and luxury hotels are under construction. Signs on the sites clearly show that the construction market is dominated by large local companies. But when we speak about quality materials, fixtures and internal furnishings, there is also room for products made in Italy.

THE 42 MASLAK TOWERS
Friulparchet, which has been producing wood floors in Friuli for nearly 90 years, has been chosen as the supplier for one of the most important and prestigious constructions under way in Istanbul. The 42 Maslak tower complex is a series of imposing, sinuous, elegant buildings facing directly onto the Bosphorus straits and offering a panorama of



unique and rare beauty. Friulparchet has been given the task of providing wood floors for about 650 apartments, 18 luxury apartments and a 5-star hotel for a total of about 45,000 sq. m. of wood.

These living spaces are destined for wealthy local and foreign families who want to have a breathtaking view in a city which is becoming more and more westernized.

The choice of materials has therefore been made with meticulous attention to the needs. The request showed right from the start that the desired approach was for flooring which displayed the concept of “made in Italy” at its best with finishes of made-to-measure quality. After a series of meetings, when different types of format were considered to match with the other materials used for the interiors, it was decided to use a pre-finished double layer floor with the top layer in Slavonian oak in two different formats: 14 x 90 mm and 14 x 120 mm. Four different colourings were selected: Neutral, Light Grey, Milk and Barley with a brushed finish and opaque, non-reflecting varnish to take account of the large windows and quantity of diffused light.

Finding the material was one of the most difficult tasks as the buyer wanted wood that did not have even a small knot in it, with regular grain and uniform colour. Thanks to its international experience (acquired through many years of work), Friulparchet has a strong relationship, which it has built up over years of collaboration, with the best timber yards in Slavonia and it managed to satisfy the demanding needs of the buyer, respecting both the quality standards required and the agreed delivery times.

Wood flooring

The story of Friulparchet starts in 1927 (this year they are celebrating their 89th anniversary) and it is the story of a family who, for four generations have dedicated their lives to discovering all the secrets of working with wood and manufacturing parquet.

Friulparchet was not afraid of the challenge posed by the 42 Maslak. The company is highly specialized in the parquet sector and has international experience built up through years of working with important contacts.

The pre-finished double-layer parquet for the 42 Maslak towers was designed specifically to meet the needs of the client, using solid pine measuring 14 x 90 x 1,000 mm and 14 x 120 x 1,200 mm as a support, with male-female joints on 4 sides and sharp edge flooring with a brushed finish and tinted with opaque 5 medium gloss varnish. Slavonian Oak was chosen for the top layer with a mixed straight-curved grain. It has a particularly uniform colour with only a slightly contrasting vein and is more hard-wearing than other types of oak.

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