

THE DÉLICE GAZETTE



DÉLICE NETWORK, THE CITY NETWORK ON FOOD & GASTRONOMY

ACTIVITY REPORT 2021



EDITORIAL

BY OLIVIER MARETTE, PRESIDENT OF DÉLICE NETWORK

2020 was considered an exceptional year. The year when everything changed.

At first, we thought that 2021 would mark a return to our 'old' reality. It was not the case. On the contrary, we looked ahead and gradually built the new work and collaborative environment that we have today. Our professional life has changed in a lasting way and so has Délice's ability to offer relevant and up-to-date added value to its members.

In 2021, we met in person, experienced new ways of collaborating, and continued to witness the rising importance of food-related topics.

More than ever, Délice remains strong. Food & Gastronomy have become a challenge that all cities need to face together: feeding our citizens properly, preserving our restaurants, developing new touristic strategies using our local food culture.

We thank all our members for their loyalty and ongoing commitment to our organization. Together, we grow as cities, and we grow as a network.

DÉLICE

2021 IN A NUTSHELL

31 MEMBER CITIES

10 GLOBAL CITIES GATHERED
IN IZMIR

1 STUDY TOUR IN MALMÖ

9 ONLINE "MONTHLY TREAT"
SESSIONS

5 MEETINGS OF THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

200+ TEAMS MEETINGS





GLOBAL SOLIDARITY

GOVERNANCE

Délice Network takes pride in the diversity of the member organizations representing the cities. While half of the members are Municipalities or Metropolitan Areas, the other half are DMO's, Restaurant Associations, or Chambers of Commerce.

Some of our member organizations were deeply impacted by substantial budget cuts.

Thanks to the Solidarity Fund set-up in 2021 to support the most vulnerable members, the Network kept a stable membership status.

Only one member was forced to end his engagement. 31 global cities remain determined to contribute to the worldwide discussion on Food & Gastronomy through Délice Network.

STUDY TOUR IN MALMÖ

INNOVATING

In September, ten guests from six Délice cities were invited by the Municipality of Malmö for a 48-hour tour of the most innovative and active partners involved in Social Gastronomy & Sustainability.



Through site visits and discussions, guests understood how Malmö uses food to trigger some of their social difficulties, with a strong consideration for local food production and sustainability.

Among others were the visit and a culinary workshop with the workers of Botildenborg. This social enterprise contributes to social, ecological, and economic sustainability through food and farming. They create work opportunities, share knowledge, strengthen links and build communities, not only in Malmö but internationally.

This was the first Study Tour, an add-on to the Network's proposal to members. A success that paves the way to similar initiatives!

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Malmö uses food to trigger some of the local social challenges



DÉLICE NETWORK MEETS IN IZMIR

SHARING

The Délice Network organized an in-person gathering after 18 months of online meetings.

Izmir, member of The Délice network since 2015, was the host of this beautiful get-together in November, proposed in a hybrid format.

Ten global cities made the trip to Izmir, while six more attended the online sessions proposed.

During the 3-day program proposed by the Metropolitan Municipality of Izmir and The Kitchen Project, guests were able to dive into the history of Izmir and its multi-layered food culture. They met with the people who act daily to ensure that Izmir takes the proper steps for more social equity & sustainability in the food system while preserving culture and taste.



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Izmir, a city with a multi-layered food culture



» Focus on Heritage on a Plate

As usual in Délice gatherings, a topic was defined to allow guests to build knowledge and collective intelligence.

- What defines Food Heritage?
- How to protect it while ensuring innovation & creativity?
- How is it compatible with the needs of evolving toward more sustainable eating habits?

Two experts on the topic were invited to share their approaches to these crucial questions:

Maxime Michaud, an expert in Food Culture at the Paul Bocuse Research Institute

Pati Jinich, Chef and TV Host in the USA

Representatives from Brussels, Istanbul, Cali & Stavanger then shared their approach and Best Practices on Food Heritage.

Curious for more? Sessions are available on the Délice Network website.



UNFSS AND THE GLASGOW DECLARATION

ADVOCACY

The global discussion on Food Systems is getting louder. Cities and regions acknowledge the importance of rethinking their approach to food, considering the critical challenges on climate, health & protection of biodiversity.

Advocacy is one of the pillars of action of Délice Network. 2021 led to some significant achievements in terms of awareness-raising on the values defended by the Network;



1.

Délice Network signed the Glasgow Food & Climate Declaration, set up by IPES-Food to prepare the Cop26 in Glasgow. This declaration intends to raise awareness and spread the light on the excellent work already developed within some cities to rethink ways of producing, distributing, transforming, and serving food.

2.

Along with other global networks working on Food & Gastronomy, Délice Network was involved in the working group preparing UN Food System Summit (UNFSS). In July, a pre-summit was organized in Rome before the New York summit in September.



THE DELICE MONTHLY TREATS

LEARNING

The core of Délice Network's DNA is to build collective intelligence from the initiatives developed within each city. The Monthly Treats were set up to offer members the possibility to raise the attention of their peers on specific topics. Initiated as a reply to travel restrictions, this virtual set-up has shown great success.

Nine of these virtual sessions were organized in 2021, giving member cities or partners the floor. This format allowed to keep the members connected regularly. A positive new initiative that will live on in 2022.

All Monthly Treats are available on the Délice Network website.

»» Barcelona World Sustainable Food Capital
Staff Shortage in the Restaurant Industry in Chicago
Stavanger's Gladmat Events Food Trails
Brussels Good Food Strategy

PROJECTS & PARTNERSHIPS AMONG CITIES

CONNECTING

The strength of Délice Network is to allow member cities to support each other and build solid relationships.

A quick peek at a few of the mainly virtual multilateral projects of 2021, facilitated by Délice Network.

Barcelona invited **Lyon, Brussels & Torino** to form a working group on the Revitalization of City Centers through Food.

Gaziantep & Izmir shared their experience on Emergency Food Planning during the Food Cities Forum organized by **Birmingham**.

The Mayor of **Lausanne** and a special food delegation visited **Lyon**, in the frame of the new Touristic strategy of the city.

Brussels shared his expertise on Food Tourism with the students of the Marista University of **Mérida**.

Tucson, Mérida & Puebla launched a working group dedicated to corn, considering implementing a simultaneous event in 2022.

Brussels was the guest destination of the 2020 **Lyon Street Food Festival**, showcasing 4 chefs and 4 craft breweries.



WHAT'S COOKING?

EXPECTING 2022

2022 will be the 15th anniversary of Délice Network! A memorable year that should be a tasty one in terms of projects, gatherings, and collaborations

Cities at the Table: This new video series will show a discussion and shared meal among a chef, a city leader, and a food activist in each member city. They will be presenting their commitment and work around food. What topics will be on the menu?

Gathering in Cali: the first gathering in South America for the network. Members are invited by the Cali Valle Bureau, the Municipality of Cali, and the Valle de Cauca Region for a network reunion dedicated to "Food for Economic Development: the Boost Recipe."

Tribute to Women Chefs: aside the Cali gathering, six women chefs from Délice cities are invited to celebrate transmission and entrepreneurship of women, and to take part in a local culinary contest. A project proposed by ProColombia & the Tourism Secretariat of Cali.

Elections of the Executive Committee: 7 cities will be elected in June to join the running board of the organizations. After 2 successful mandates of Olivier Marette, a new president will be taking over and leading the design of a new Strategic Plan.

Gathering in Gaziantep: Gaziantep is hosting the second gathering of the year, in the frame of the local GastroAntep festival. The members will understand how the city uses its iconic food event to promote the ancient food culture and the area's food production.



DÉLİCE

délice@delice-network.com
www.delice-network.com

Lyon, France
+33 (0)7 84 95 26 24

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