



PRESS RELEASE

Galeries Lafayette unveils plans to expand its footprint in the Middle East by opening two flagship stores in Istanbul and Kuwait City in 2019

Paris, November 6th 2017

Galeries Lafayette is stepping up the pace of its expansion in the Middle East, where its brand name has a very high profile, by announcing plans to open two new stores – one on Istanbul’s western bank (Turkey) and the other at the heart of Kuwait City (Kuwait).

Together with the opening of the BHV Dubai last March and the first flagship in Istanbul in May, these two future stores will serve to strengthen the Group’s presence in the region. Galeries Lafayette has been present in Dubai since 2009 when it opened a store in the Dubai Mall. To date, it also has two stores in Beirut (Lebanon) and is preparing to open its first flagship in Doha (Qatar) during 2018.

Galeries Lafayette’s flagship store in Kuwait City will feature over 7,500 sqm of retail space located in the Assima Mall, a high-profile new shopping centre close to the city’s central business district. The store is due to open in 2019 and will be operated under a franchise agreement with Ali Bin Ali, a leading family-owned retail and luxury goods group and already a Galeries Lafayette partner on the Doha flagship store.

The second Galeries Lafayette department store in Istanbul is also due to open its doors for the first time on the Turkish capital’s western bank in 2019. It will be located in the Vadistanbul shopping centre, an ideally-situated lush green retail complex addressing to local and international customers. It will have over 6,000 sqm of retail space and perfectly complements the first store, also operated under a franchise agreement with the DEMSA group, a Turkish retail specialist.

Galeries Lafayette will provide a transformed department store experience at these two large-scale new developments focused on customer service and hospitality to deliver to their customers the very best of its fashion and event shopping know-how.

Commenting on these announcements, Nicolas Houzé, CEO of Galeries Lafayette and BHV MARAIS, said: *“The international expansion of our store chain is a key growth driver for Galeries Lafayette now more than ever. These two projects give further substance to our goals of consolidating our positions in the Middle East where we will now have a network of eight stores and bring us closer to our objective of having around 20 stores in international markets within five years. We can count on the expertise of our local partners to help make these stores a success by meeting the expectations of our customers”.*

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About Galeries Lafayette

The French market leader in Department stores and famous all around the world, for the past 120 years Galeries Lafayette have been the undisputed experts in fashion and event shopping, designing each visit to be a unique experience, offering French and international clients a constantly renewed selection of affordable to premium brands. Present in the fashion, beauty, timepiece, jewellery, accessory, interior decoration, gourmet foods and catering service segments, Galeries Lafayette are celebrated for their network of 62 stores in France and abroad, including the flagship store on the Boulevard Haussmann in Paris, their outlet offering and their online shopping site, galeriesslafayette.com. More information on Galeriesslafayette.com
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