

May 1, 2024

Focus on...Turkiye Padel is starting to grow

The **CUPRA FIP Tour** this week moves to **Turkiye**, with the **FIP Promotion** in **Antalya**, a tourist city with more than 2.5 million inhabitants in the south of the country. Padel is a sport that has also arrived in **Turkiye** a few years ago, spreading first in hotels and resorts as a sporting attraction for tourists, but now also played with increasing frequency in clubs. In Turkey, according to estimates by the **FIP Research & Data Analysis Department**, there are around 15 clubs and 30 courts where padel can be played, most of them distributed in the province of Antalya.

Padel in Turkey is governed by the **Turkiye Padel Association** (through the Padel Istanbul Sports Club Association), which was founded in 2019 and became a member of the **International Padel Federation** in 2021. The aim is to develop and spread padel throughout the nation, especially among young people: in April, there was a meeting between the federation and the director general of the **Ministry of Youth and Sports**, a padel coach training was organised, and the first referee meeting is scheduled to take place at the **FIP Promotion** in Antalya.

The one in Antalya is the third CUPRA FIP Tour tournament to be played in Turkey: the first was the FIP Rise Turkey in October 2022, in Manavgat, with the victory of the Italian-Spanish pair formed by **Nicolas Suescun** and **Alvaro Melendez**. In October 2023, on the other hand, it was France's **Thomas Leygue** and Spain's **Ferran Insa** who raised the trophy in Antalya. There are 16 Turkish players in the FIP ranking, all of them over 1,000th, but with a great desire to grow, like the whole local movement.

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