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Alfonso Ianniello/Shutterstock.com



Viacheslav Lopatin/Shutterstock.com

It's easy to lose yourself In Istanbul's grandiose history, but modern Istanbul is a simmering metropolis, well worth a visit in its own right. The shopping is world class and the nightlife pulsates around Taksim Square. Even though Istanbul is no longer the capital, it's still the country's business and cultural centre, still the city where new trends are created.

Go where no one has
VENTURED BEFORE!

5 Off the Beaten Track
Destinations in Asia

ArrivalGuides

Foto: WhitefoxChen / Shutterstock

Top 5



Turkish Baths

It's said that if you've never tried a Turkish bath then you've never been r...



Topkapi Palace

The palace of the sultans with its many courtyards and gates brings on a nos...



Aya Sofya

Aya Sofya is a remarkable mixture of Christianity and Islam, a church with m...



Sultanahmet or The Blue Mosque

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Süleymaniye

Süleymaniye is the largest mosque dating from 1557 and also contains the mau...



THE CITY



TTstudio/Shutterstock.com

Constantinople, the centre of the Byzantine Empire which lasted over a thousand years, later became Istanbul, the capital of the Ottoman Empire for almost 500 years. The city is a mixture of Europe and Asia, a unique urban composition. A stroll around Sultanahmet, inside the city walls, among mosques, museums and the Great Bazaar is a trip through both history and daily life.

Modern Istanbul is on the other side of the Galata Bridge in Beyoglu, around Taksim and the northern suburbs with lots of good restaurants and shopping. Istanbul's Asiatic quarters have avoided much of the tourism and have retained a more humdrum character. Waterways play a central role in the life of the city and boat traffic on the Bosphorus, the Golden Horn and the Sea of Marmara is extremely intensive. Along the banks you can find small cafés where you can enjoy a glass of tea and magnificent views over the town.

DO & SEE



RossHelen/Shutterstock.com

Istanbul is a vibrant city whose grandiose history is utterly fascinating. Take a stroll around the city and admire the amazing mosques, museums and the Great Bazaar, or even visit an authentic Turkish bath.

Turkish Baths

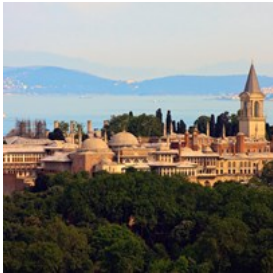


It's said that if you've never tried a Turkish bath then you've never been really clean. The visitor moves through several hot rooms and finally arrives at the massage table for a real going over. Men and women bathe separately, exceptions are made at certain times for tourists. Here is one recommended bathhouse:

Çemberlitas Hamam. Situated near the Bazaar, this is the oldest hamam in town and was reputedly built by the master architect Sinan.

Photo: Sabino Parente/Shutterstock.com
 Address: Vezirhan Cad. 8, Çemberlitaş, Istanbul
 Opening hours: Everyday: 06.00am - 12.00am.
 Phone: +90 212 522 79 74
 Internet: www.cemberlitashamami.com.tr

Topkapi Palace



The palace of the sultans with its many courtyards and gates brings on a nostalgia for times forgone. There are several special museums

in the area; highlights include the Treasure Chamber, where the famous dagger and Spoonmaker's diamond are true stars of the collection, and the harem, where the sultan's wives and children lived (the two are not included in the ticket price to the palace).

Photo: Bertl123/Shutterstock.com

Address: Topkapi Palace, Sultanahmet, Istanbul

Opening hours: Everyday, except Tuesday: 9:00am - 5:00pm.

Phone: +90 212 512 04 80

Internet: www.topkapisarayi.gov.tr

Aya Sofya



Aya Sofya is a remarkable mixture of Christianity and Islam, a church with minarets and a mosque with pictures of the Virgin Mary. The building

is one of the wonders of world architecture which was only surpassed after a thousand years by St. Peter's church in the 16th-century.

Photo: Rui Ornelas (image cropped)

Address: Sultan Ahmet Mah., Yerebatan Cad., Sultanahmet, Istanbul

Opening hours: 15th April - 25th October: 09.00am -

07.00pm. 25th October - 15th April: 09.00am - 05.00pm.

Phone: +90 212 522 17 50

Internet: www.ayasofyamuzesi.gov.tr

Sultanahmet or The Blue Mosque



Built at the beginning of the 16th-century, this is the only mosque in Istanbul with six minarets. The building was given its name by the 20.000 blue Iznik tiles used in its construction.

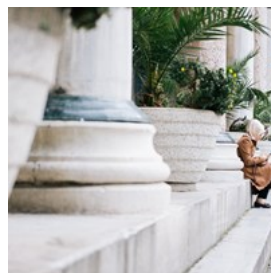
Photo: gags9999 (image cropped)

Address: Hippodromen, Sultanahmet, Istanbul

Phone: +90 212 518 13 19

Internet: www.bluemosque.co

Süleymaniye



Süleymaniye is the largest mosque dating from 1557 and also contains the mausoleum of sultan Süleyman and his wife Roxelane. The master architect Sinan built many of Istanbul's mosques during the 1500s and is buried next to the mosque.

Photo: Gabriel Garcia Marengo (image cropped)

Address: Prof Siddik Sami Onar Cad., Sultanahmet, Istanbul

Chora Monastery / Kariye Camii



The Monastery was founded in the 5th century and contains wonderfully beautiful frescos and mosaics dating from 1000-1300 representing the Virgin Mary and the life of Jesus.

Photo: np&djjewell (image cropped)

Address: Kariye Cami Sokak 26, Istanbul

Opening hours: Summer: 09.00am - 07.00pm. Winter: 09.00am - 04.30pm.

Phone: +90 212 631 92 41

Internet: kariye.muze.gov.tr/en

Great Bazaar



The Great bazaar attracts many people - far too many if you come at rush hour. It's a good idea to arrive early in the morning and enjoy a cup of tea in one of the cafés whilst the bazaar comes to life. There are thousands of stalls, selling virtually everything, carpets, gold, cloth, spices. The bazaar is a world of its own and it's easy, but fun, to get lost in the teeming alleyways.

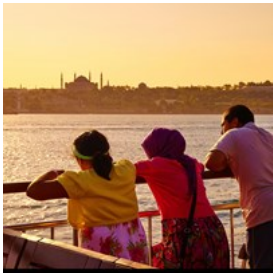
Photo: Dennis Jarvis (image cropped)

Address: Carsikapi Cad., Beyazit, Sultanahmet, Istanbul

Phone: +90 212 519 12 48

Internet: www.grandbazaarshopping.com/

Boat trips



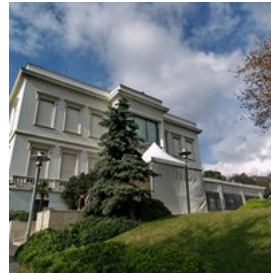
Boats travel along the shores of the Bosphorus from Eminönü, they chug quietly under the bridges that connect Europe and Asia. One hour away is Anadolukavagi, a little Asian fishing village with lots of pleasant restaurants.

You can travel to the largest of the Prince Islands with a Seabus, departing from Kabatas below the Dolmabahçe Palace. If you want to visit more of these islands, you can take the ordinary boat from Eminönü.

Photo: Moyan Brenn (image cropped)

Address: Eminonu, Istanbul

Sakip Sabanci Museum



A private mansion turned into a museum, a place where you can admire works from Turkish artists created between 1850 and 1950. There are also excellent collection of calligraphy and its history, classical Turkish furniture and a nice garden. The museum is beautifully located on a hilltop, overlooking the Bosphorus.

Photo: Edal (image cropped)

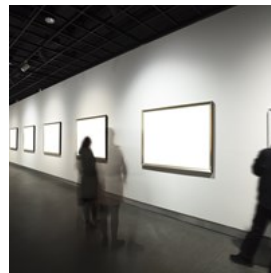
Address: Sakip Sabancı Cad. 42, Istanbul

Opening hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday - Sunday: 10.00am - 06.00pm. Wednesday: 10.00am - 08.00pm.

Phone: +90 212 277 22 00

Internet: www.sakipsabancimuzesi.org/en

Istanbul Modern Museum



This is the first private museum to organize modern and contemporary art exhibitions in the city. It was founded in 2004 and is located in an old warehouse by the harbour.

Istanbul Modern Museum offers two main exhibition halls; the museum's permanent collection is displayed on the upper floor and the temporary exhibition hall and photography gallery on the lower floor.

Photo: zhu difeng/Shutterstock.com

Address: Meclis-i Mebusan Cad., Istanbul

Opening hours: Tuesday - Wednesday, Friday: 10.00am - 06.00pm. Thursday: 10.00am - 08.00pm.

Phone: +90 212 334 7300

Internet: www.istanbulmodern.org/en

Hodjapasha Cultural Centre



For best local authentic events, head over to this Cultural Centre, housed in a old historical Turkish bath (over 500 years). It has two sections, first is an exhibition and foyer area, the other section is the performance area. This is a great place to enjoy belly dancing and other traditional dance performances with live music.

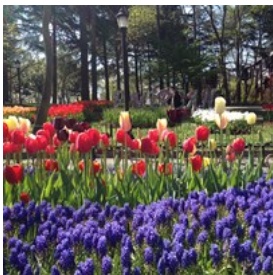
Photo: Kiselev Andrey Valerevich/Shutterstock.com

Address: HocaPaşa Hamamı Sokak 3, Istanbul

Phone: +90 212 511 46 26

Internet: www.hodjapasha.com

Emirgan Park



Emirgan Park is one of the oldest and largest parks in Istanbul. There are several playgrounds for children, trails for hiking and picnic tables.

Every April there is a Tulip Festival, a period when the park is surrounded by blossomed tulips.

Photo: CKfromtheD (image cropped)

Address: Korusu Emirgan, Sariyer, Istanbul

Phone: +90 212 277 5782

Eminonu Pier

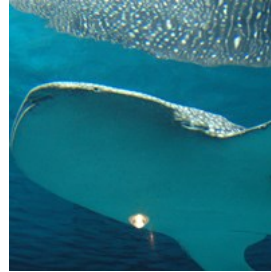


Eminonu Pier is a busy place but reflects the true Istanbul. This is a great place to take a stroll by the sea and see locals fishing every day. There are also plenty of fish restaurants that offers the traditional fish sandwiches. Eminonu Pier has the real Turkish atmosphere and claimed to be the heart of Old Istanbul.

Photo: M. King (image cropped)

Address: Eminonu Pier, Istanbul

Istanbul Aquarium



This is a well organised aquarium with species from all over the world and is a great family attraction as well as a popular tourist sight. It

offers approximately 1.500 species, 15.000 land and sea creatures in total. When you are feeling hungry or thirsty you will find a café inside.

Photo: Jake Mohan (image cropped)

Address: Yeşilköy Halkalı Cad. 93, Istanbul

Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 10.00am - 07.00pm.

Weekend: 10.00am - 08.00pm.

Phone: +90 212 574 2130

Internet: istanbulakvaryum.com/en

Rahmi M. Koc Museum



The first museum in Turkey dedicated to the history of transport. The collection contains of full size ships, aircrafts, trains and cars. This is a

great place to explore and learn something new, both for children and adults.

Photo: Rahil Rupawala (image cropped)

Address: Hasköy Cad. 5, Istanbul

Opening hours: Tuesday - Friday: 10.00am - 05.00pm.

Weekend: 1st October - 31st March: 10.00am - 06.00pm. 1st

April - 30th September: 10.00am - 07.00pm.

Phone: +90 212 369 66 00

Internet: www.rmk-museum.org.tr/en/index.htm

Email: info@rmk-museum.org.tr

DINING



badahos/Shutterstock.com

A meal often begins with meze—a number of small dishes such as aubergine purée, börek, various salads and cheese. Filling vegetables such as tomatoes, paprika, aubergines and zucchini with rice and minced meat is typically Turkish (dolmasi). There are special restaurants that only serve kebab or köfte, meatballs, look for Kebabci or Köfteci. Simpler restaurants are called Lokanta.

Pandeli



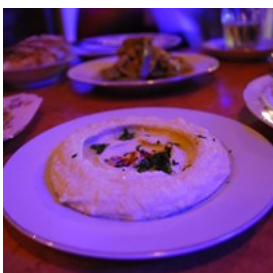
This is a lunch restaurant on the first floor of the Spice Bazaar, decorated with blue Iznik tiles. Serves traditional Turkish food with some Greek dishes.

Photo: Helen Cook (image cropped)

Address: Misir Carsisi 1, Eminönü, Istanbul

Phone: +90 212 527 39 09

Yakup 2



Yakup 2 is situated on a side street to Istiklâl Cad. The owner, Yakup Arslan, serves traditional meze to bohemian regulars and cultural celebrities.

Photo: Alpha (image cropped)

Address: Asmalimescit Sk. 35/37, Istanbul

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday: 05.0pm - 01.00am.

Phone: +90 212 249 29 25

Kumkapi



Kumkapi means "sand gate" in Turkish and is a district near Sultanahmet, located along the Marmara Sea. This is a quarter famous for its many good fish restaurants.

Photo: Alexander Sherstobitov/Shutterstock.com

Address: Sultanahmet, Istanbul

Internet: www.kumkapirestaurants.com

Galatasaray Fish Market and Çiçek Pasajı



Halfway through the market runs the Nevizade, a lane with a string of good value Meyhanes—traditional taverns. The flower thoroughfare next to the market is a reconstructed restaurant street, but it's a little more expensive.

Photo: Linda Hughes/Shutterstock.com

Address: Istiklâl Cad., Istanbul

More Info: Nevizade, Beyoglu

Four Seasons



The luxurious Four Seasons hotel is a converted prison from around year 1800 near the Topkapi Palace. The restaurant is in a round outbuilding on what was once the prison yard, and here you can eat like a prince.

Photo: Andrey Bayda/Shutterstock.com

Address: Tevfikhane Sokak 1, Sultanahmet, Istanbul

Opening hours: Breakfast: every day: 07.00am - 11.00am.

Brunch: Saturday: 11.30am - 03.00pm. Lunch: every day:

12.00am - 03.00pm. Dinner: every day: 07.00pm - 11.00pm.

Phone: +90 (212) 402 30 00

Internet: www.fourseasons.com/istanbul/dining/

Email: conciierge.istanbul@fourseasons.com

Imbat Restaurant



Enjoy Aegean and Mediterranean cuisine and at the same time admire the splendid views of Istanbul from the terrace. The chefs only

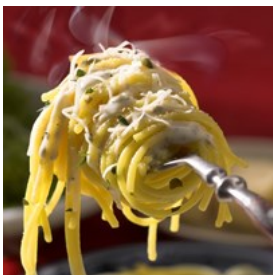
use the finest and daily fresh products to get that perfect taste. Vegetarian and non-allergenic menus are available on request.

Photo: FPWing/Shutterstock.com

Address: Hoca Paşa Mh., Hüdavendigâr Caddesi 36, Istanbul

Phone: +90 212 520 71 91

Ozi Pizza & Pasta



This Italian restaurant opened its doors in 2004 and serves pizza and pasta. Ozi Pizza & Pasta is a small charming restaurant with a friendly

owner. On the menu you will find tasty pizza dishes like barbeque lamb, seafood and Margarita.

Photo: fotohavran.eu/Shutterstock.com

Address: Binbirdirek Mh., Su Terazisi Sokak 9, Istanbul

Phone: +90 212 516 44 47

More Info: Across from Fernan Sultan Hotel

Barbecue House



Barbecue House is a hidden gem, located just minutes from the Blue Mosque. This is the place where you can enjoy quality Turkish food at

affordable prices in a warm and cosy atmosphere. You can also expect excellent service from the welcoming staff.

Photo: Alexander Raths/Shutterstock.com

Address: Yerebatan Cad. Hotel Han 19, Istanbul

Phone: +90 212 511 03 61

Internet: www.barbecuehouse.net

Email: info@barbecuehouse.net

Swaad



For authentic Indian food, head over to restaurant Swaad. Here you can have both lunch and dinner. This three floor restaurant is ideally

located close to tourist attractions.

Photo: Foodio/Shutterstock.com

Address: Fatih, Peykhane Sok. 15, Istanbul

Phone: +90 212 518 71 10

House of Medusa



The restaurant is named after the goddess Medusa and is located in an old building that used to be a mansion before it restored into a

restaurant. This charming restaurant provides a lovely courtyard where you can appreciate delicious Turkish specialties.

Photo: Lesya Dolyuk/Shutterstock.com

Address: Alemdar Mh., Yerebatan Caddesi 19, Fatih, Istanbul

Phone: +90 (212) 511 41 16
Internet: www.medusarestaurant.com
Email: info@medusarestaurant.com

Eleos



Eleos is a warm and welcoming Greek restaurant which can be hard to find but it will be well worth the effort. The small menu changes

daily, depending on the catch of the day. With your fresh food enjoy a glass of excellent wine, the house wine is recommended.

Photo: Bernd Juergens/Shutterstock.com
Address: Yeşilbahçe Sokak 9, Bakırköy
Phone: +90 212 573 6828
Internet: www.eleosrestaurant.com

Nostra Casa



This hidden delight is tucked away in the old town near the Sofia mosque and offers great views over the city from the roof terrace. The

friendly owner serves delicious Italian dishes and fine wines. For dessert, the tiramisu is highly recommended.

Photo: darqdesign/Shutterstock.com
Address: Küçük Ayasofya Mh., Mustafa Paşa Sokak 3, Fatih, Istanbul
Phone: +90 0212 5175819
Internet: www.nostracasaistanbul.com
Email: info@nostracasaistanbul.com

Kayikci Restaurant



Seafood and Turkish food can be enjoyed at restaurant Kayikci, on the menu you will find plenty of delicious mezes as well as fresh fish. The drink menu includes a wide selection of Turkish wines, beers and soft drinks.

Photo: Irina Burakova/Shutterstock.com
Address: Ticarethane Sok. 35, Istanbul
Phone: +90 212 519 12 17
Internet: www.kayikcirestaurant.com
Email: info@kayikcirestaurant.com

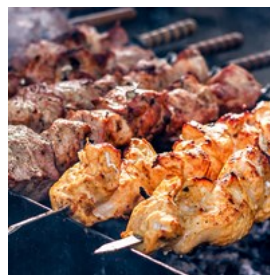
Topaz Restaurant



For fine dining, head over to this award-winning restaurant that boasts a breathtaking view of the Bosphorus. At this restaurant you can enjoy exquisite gourmet cooking in a Mediterranean and Ottoman style.

Photo: Yulia Grigoryeva/Shutterstock.com
Address: Beyoğlu, İnönü Cad. 50, Istanbul
Phone: +90 (0)212 249 1001
Internet: www.topazistanbul.com/index_eng.asp
Email: info@topazistanbul.com

Beyti Restaurant



Beyti Restaurant is a unique Turkish meat restaurant and admired not only in the country but all over the world. The friendly owner Mr. Beyti comes to every table every evening to wish you "bon appetite". The dish called "Beyti Kebab" is highly recommended.

Photo: Bozhena Melnyk/Shutterstock.com
 Address: Orman Sok. 8, Bakırköy, Istanbul
 Opening hours: Tuesday - Sunday: 11.30am - 11.00pm.
 Phone: +90 212 663 29 90
 Internet: www.beyti.com

CAFES



Leyla Ismet/Shutterstock.com

Coffee has played an important role in Turkish lifestyle and culture so there is no wonder that Istanbul offers many old and new cafés. Why not try a cup of traditional Turkish coffee or tea which is served in a tiny gracious cup?

Patisseri Pera



Time has stood still here since 1892 and you almost expect Mata Hari to sit down at the next table to enjoy one of the delicious pastries.

Patisseri Pera is located inside Pera Palace Hotel.

Photo: aliasemma/Shutterstock.com
 Address: Meşrutiyet Cad. 52, Tepebaşı Beyoğlu, Istanbul
 Phone: +90 212 377 40 00
 Internet: www.perapalace.com
 More Info: Pera Palace Hotel

Pierre Loti Kahve



This café is rightfully renowned for its fantastic view over the Golden Horn, a great place to enjoy a cup of traditional Turkish Tea on the terrace garden. It is extremely popular with Turkish families and tourists.

Photo: Ali Haydar/Shutterstock.com
 Address: Piyerloti Cd.1, Sultanahmet, Cemberlitas, Istanbul
 Phone: +90 (212)-518-5700
 Internet: www.pierrelotihotel.com
 Email: info@pierrelotihotel.com
 More Info: Pierreloti Hotel

Mesale Restaurant



A local hotspot with great service and a vibrant atmosphere, stop by for some tea and shisha. The café serves cocktails, but nothing with alcohol, although the smoking of hookhas is frequent.

Photo: Tomophafan/Shutterstock.com
 Address: Prof.Bulent Tarcan Sk.6/1 Mecidiyekoy, Istanbul
 Phone: +90 212 272 01 61

Mangerie



This is the perfect place to go for breakfast or brunch. Mangerie offers a nice ambience with a magnificent view of the water and street below. The staff also prepares fresh juices and cocktails.

Photo: Ekaterina Pokrovsky/Shutterstock.com
 Address: Bebek Mh., Cevdet Paşa Cad. 69, Istanbul
 Opening hours: Every day: 08.00am - 12.00am.
 Phone: +90 212 263 5199
 Internet: www.mangeriebek.com

Email: info@mangeriebebek.com

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Tatiana Popova/Shutterstock.com

The really trendy places are outside the city centre, in Etiler, Levent and Ortaköy, but there's also plenty to do around Taksim.

Orient Express Bar



A nostalgic must where kings, spies, writers and film stars have all taken a drink. Don't forget to see Agatha Christie's room 411, which is now a museum.

Photo: alex saberi/Shutterstock.com

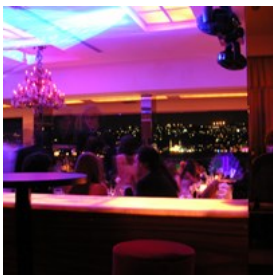
Address: Hüdavendigar Cad. 34, HocaPaşa, Istanbul

Phone: +90 212 520 71 61

Internet: www.orientexpresshotel.com

Email: hello@orientexpresshotel.com

Reina



Reina has become a well known and highly appreciated party venue, for locals as well as tourists. It opened in 2002 and has been seen frequently in the media, thanks to celebrity guests.

Photo: saragoldsmith (image cropped)

Address: Muallim Naci Cad. 44, Istanbul

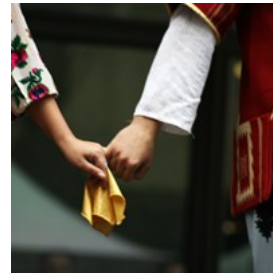
Opening hours: Every day: 11.00pm - 05.00am.

Phone: +90 212 259 5919

Internet: www.reina.com.tr/en/

Email: reina@reina.com.tr

Hodjapasha



Hodjapasha is a Culture Center located in a former Turkish bath. These days you can come here an evening for inspiring music and dance shows. Here you can see solo oriental dances as well as group performances and dances from different regions of Anatolia.

Photo: Quinn Dombrowski (image cropped)

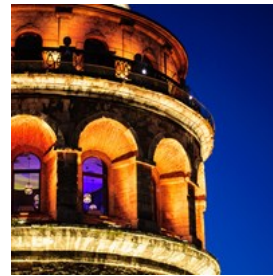
Address: Ankara Cad., HocaPaşa Hamam Sok 3, Istanbul

Phone: +90 212 511 46 26

Internet: www.hodjapasha.com

Email: info@hodjapasha.com

Galata Tower



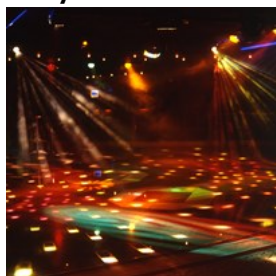
On the upper floors of this nine-story tower is a nightclub which hosts Turkish shows like belly dancing. The medieval stone tower is located just to the north of the Golden Horn and is an important landmark in Istanbul.

Photo: halbag (image cropped)

Address: Bereketzade Mh., Galata Kulesi, Beyoğlu, Istanbul

Phone: +90 212 293 81 80

Roxy



place with a great dance floor.

Photo: buket bariskan/Shutterstock.com

Address: Siraselviler Cad. Aslanyatagi Sok. 1-3 Taksim, Istanbul

Phone: +90 212 249 1283

Internet: www.roxy.com.tr

Email: info@roxy.com.tr

360 Istanbul



Club360.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com

Address: Istiklal Cad., Mısır Apartment 8th Floor 163 Beyoglu, Istanbul

Opening hours: Sunday - Thursday: 12.00pm - 02.00am.

Friday - Sunday: 12.00pm - 04.00am.

Phone: +90 533 691 0 360

Internet: www.360istanbul.com/eng/index.html

Email: 360istanbul@360istanbul.com

Litera Bar



be on the pricey side, which is made up for in quality and bartenders' professionalism.

Roxy is another reliable address that has kept its position over the years with performances by national and international stars. This is a crowded

Photo: 3523studio/Shutterstock.com

Address: Tomtom Mh., Yeni Çarşı Cad. 32, Istanbul

Opening hours: Every day: 11.00am - 02.00am.

Phone: +90 212 292 89 47

Internet: www.literarestaurant.com

Email: litera@literarestaurant.com

Münferit



from house to lounge to soul and hip hop.

Münferit might mostly be known for being a restaurant but if you come a bit later it is turned into a very chic bar. The music varies

Photo: Mateusz Gzik/Shutterstock.com

Address: Yeni Carsi Cad. 19, Galatasaray, Istanbul

Opening hours: Sunday - Thursday: 06.30pm - 01.00am.

Friday - Saturday: 06.30pm - 02.30am.

Phone: +90 212 252 50 67

Internet: www.munferit.com.tr

Smyrna Cafe



evening to just sit, relax and enjoy a cooling drink.

Smyrna Cafe has a laid-back atmosphere over it and is an old fashion styled place to hang out at. It is a perfect place to go to in the

Photo: Alpha (image cropped)

Address: Emniyetevleri Mh., Akarsu Cad. 29, Kağıthane, Istanbul

Opening hours: Every day: 9.00am - 04.00am.

Phone: +90 212 244 2466

You can find Litera Bar at the top of one of the tall Ottoman buildings with an amazing view over Sea of Marmara and the Bosphorus. Drinks tend to

SHOPPING



Wojtek Chmielewski/Shutterstock.com

Formerly, the various guilds had their own special areas in the Great Bazaar, Kapali Çarsi, now it's mostly leather, carpets and gold. The Bazaar has over 5.000 shops and haggling is essential.

Galleria Ataköy



On the way to the airport next to the Sea of Marmara lies Galleria, a large shopping centre - one of the first of its kind at the time of

construction in 1988. The shopping center is hugely popular with visitors, and contains about 140 shops (most of which Turkish), 5 cinemas and a bowling alley.

Photo: gpointstudio/Shutterstock.com

Address: Sahilyolu, Istanbul

Opening hours: Every day: 10.00am - 10.00pm.

Phone: +90 212 559 95 60

Internet: www.galleria.com.tr

Email: galleria@galleria-atakoy.com.tr

Bagdat Caddesi



is the long Bagdat Caddesi on the Asiatic side. There are many trendy brand name shops here and prices are sometimes lower than in town because few tourists find this area.

Photo: blurAZ/Shutterstock.com

Address: Bagdat Cad., Istanbul

The Spice Bazaar



The Spice Bazaar is at the base of the Galata Bridge in Eminönü, and is also called the Egyptian Bazaar because the imported spices originally came from Egypt. In the lanes around the bazaar you can buy cheese, honey, sausages and all sorts of edible delights and knick knacks.

Photo: Kim Ahlström (image cropped)

Address: Galata Bridge, Istanbul

Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 08.00am - 07.30pm.

Saturday: 08.00am - 08.00pm. Sunday: 09.30am - 07.00pm.

Phone: +90 212 513 65 97

Internet: www.misircarsisi.org

Email: info@misircarsisi.org.tr

Istiklâl Caddesi



Istiklâl Caddesi is a fashionable old street in the Pera district, now called Beyoğlu. Much of the better shopping has moved to the suburb of Etiler, but some good shops still remain.

Photo: Jerzy Kociatkiewicz (image cropped)

Address: Istiklal Cad., Istanbul

Avrupa Pasajı



Avrupa Pasajı is a historic shopping arcade with antique shops and a great array of textile, ceramics and lamps on display.

Photo: B Heliker (image cropped)

Address: Hacimimi Mh., Istanbul

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



Alexandra Lande/Shutterstock.com

Atatürk Hava Limanı - Airport



The international airport, Atatürk Hava Limanı, lies near the Sea of Marmara, around 25 km from the city centre. Buses run to Taksim Square every 30 minutes, journey time 45 min. The simplest and quickest journey is by Metro to Aksaray and takes around 35 minutes.

+90 212 465 55 55
www.ataturkairport.com

Istanbul's other airport, Sabiha Gökçen, is on the Asiatic side and is used mostly by domestic flights and some smaller airlines. There is no

direct transport between the airports - change at Taksim.

+90 216 585 50 00
www.sgairport.com

Photo: Juan Garces

Public Transport



There is one public and one private bus network, IETT and Halk Otobus, respectively. The underground, Tünel, runs from Karaköy till İstiklâl

Cad in Beyoğlu and takes a few minutes. There is also a museum tram up toward Taksim Square.

Another tram route goes from Kabatas via Galata bridge and the Spice Bazaar to the south-western suburbs. The Metro goes from Taksim north to Levent and from Aksaray to Otogar in Esenler, where buses depart for other parts of Turkey and Europe and to the airport.

Dolmuses are minibuses or large taxis that depart when they are full, and stop where you want them to. They are the cheapest form of transport.

Ferries between Europe and Asia leave from Eminönü, Karaköy and Besiktas to Üsküdar, Kadıköy and Harem.

Akbil is a type of payment card that can be loaded with various sums and used on buses, boats and trams. Can be bought at major junctions.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Taxi



Taxis are yellow in the inner city and lilac in the suburbs. There are numerous taxi companies. Different hotels work with different companies and

can book your transport to the airport. It's best to hail a taxi on the street, or go to a taxi rank and ask for a business card.

Istanbul Taxi Service
+90 212 518 1518

City Transfer Istanbul
+90 212 517 0090

Post



The main post office is on Yeni Posthane Cad., near the railway station Sirkeci. Other PTT-offices are on Taksim Square and Istiklâl Cad. Open

09.00-17.00 Closed Sundays.

Photo: Andy Fuchs

Pharmacy



Pharmacy is called Eczane in Turkish. In the window of the pharmacy there is the address and telephone number of the current duty

pharmacy.

Istiklal Pharmacy
Asmalı Mescit, Beyoğlu
+90 212 244 2618

İtr Eczanesi

Next to Taksim Square
+90 212 244 4325

Photo: Gemma Garner

Electricity

220 volt



Photo: Stirling Tschan

Telephone

Country number +90
Area code: 212 and 216



Photo: Jardson Almeida

Population

Approximately 13 million in Greater Istanbul

Currency

Turkish Lira, TL1 = 100 kuruş

Opening hours

The official opening hours for shops are 9.00-18.00. However, some traders and shops stay open until midnight. Most hotels will have at least one 24 hour restaurant.

Newspapers

English language:
- Daily Turkish News
- www.turkishpress.com

Emergency numbers

112

Tourist information

Atatürk Airport (right after customs)
+90 212 465 31 51
Hotel Hilton (entrance)
+90 212 233 05 92
Railway station Sirkeçi
+90 212 511 58 88
Hippodrome

+90 212 518 18 02







Halic
(Golden Horn)

Istanbul Bogazi
(Bosphorus)

Marmara Denizi
(Sea of Marmara)

0 250 m

Aga Cesmesi	A3 A4	Galip Dede	B1	Meydani	B4 C4
Ahir Kapi	C4	Gedik Pasa Cami	A4 B4	Mimar Mehmet Aga	C4
Akbiyik	C4	Gedikpasa Caddesi	A4	Mimar Sinan	A2
Aksakal	B4	Gulhane Parki Yolu	C3	Mithat Pasa	A4
Alemdar Caddesi	C3	Gumruk	C1	Molla Tasi	A4
Alisan	A4	Haci Kadin Caddesi	A2	Mollafenari	B3
Ankara Caddesi	B3 C2	Hamidiye Caddesi	B2 B3	Murat	C3
Asir Efendi Caddesi	B3	Hayriye Hanim	A2	Nakilbent	B4
Asma Kandil	A3	Hisar Dibi	B4	Namahrem	A2
At Meydani	C4	Hoca Hani	B3	Necati Bey Caddesi	C1
Ataturk Koprusu	A1	Hoca Tahsin	C1	Nobethane	C3
Atlama Tasi Caddesi	A2	Hukümet Konagi	B3 C3	Nuruosmaniye	B3
Aynacilar	B3	Ilk Beldiye	B1	Okcu Musa Caddesi	B1
Babatigit	A4	Imran Oktem	B4	Orhaniye	C3
Babi Ali Caddesi	B3	Isik (Sultanahmet)	B4	Oyuncu	C4
Babi Humayun Caddesi	C3 C4	Ismetiye Caddesi	A3 B3	Persmbe Pazari	B1
Bakircilar Caddesi	A3	Istasyon Arkasi	C3	Peykhane	B4
Bali Pasa Yok	A4	K. Hamam	A4	Piyer Loti Caddesi	B4
Batumlu	A4	Kabba Sakal Caddesi	C4	Prof. Cemil Bilsel Caddesi	A2
Besim Omer	A3	Kadirga Hamami	A4 B4	Prof. Siddik Sami Onar Caddesi	A2 A3
Bogaz Kesen Caddesi	C1	Kadirga Limani Caddesi	A4 B4	Prof. Umit Yasar Doganay	A3
Bozdogan Kemerli	A3	Kaleci	B4	Ragip Gumuspala Caddesi	A2
Buyuk Hendek	B1	Kalpalcilarbasi	A3 B3	Refik Saydam Caddesi	B1
Buyuk Postane Caddesi	B2 B3	Karakoy Square	B1 C1	Resadiye	B2
Caferiye	C3	Kart Cinaqr	B1	S. Beyazit	A2
Cakmakcilar Yokusu	A3 B3	Kasnaklar	A2	S. Mektebi	C1 D1
Cankurtaran	C4	Kemankes Caddesi	C1	Sabuncu Han	B2 B3
Carkcilar	B3	Kennedy Caddesi	A4 C2 C4 D3 D4	Sadirvan	C4
Catal Cesme	B3 C3	Kible Cesme Caddesi	A2	Sair Laleli Cesme	B1
Cemal Nadir	B3	Kilicilar	B3	Sair Ziya Pasa	B1
Cifte Gelinler Caddesi	A4	Klodfarer	B4	Sansa	A4
Cinci Meydan	B4	Komurcu Caoraz	A4	Sarapnel	A4
Comertler	B4	Koprucu	B3	Sari Beyazit	A2
Daltaban Yokusu	A3 A4	Kucuk Ayasofya Caddesi	B4 C4	Serdari Ekrem	B1 C1
Darulfunun Caddesi	A3	Kucuk Haydar	A4	Seref Ef	B3
Defterdar Yokusu	C1	Kumbaraci Yokusu	C1	Sishane	B1
Divan Yolu Caddesi	B3 B4	Kumkapi Kurban	A4	Siyavus Pasa	A2 A3
Dizdariye Cesmesi	B4	Kumluk	A4	Soguk Cesme	C3
Dokmeciler Hamai	A2	Kutlugun	C4	Su Terazisi	B4
Ebusuud Caddesi	B3 C3	Kutucular	A2 B2	Suleymaniye Caddesi	A3
Emin Sinan Hamami	A4 B4	Kutucular Caddesi	A2 B2	Sultan Mektebi	B3
Fenerli Kapi	B4 C4	Kuyusu	A4	Tahmis Caddesi	B2
Fetva Kokusu	A2	Leblebici	A2	Tahtakale	B2
Florya - Sirkeci Sahil Yolu	B4	Luleci Hendek	C1	Taracilar	B3
Fuat Pasa Caddesi	A3	Macuncu	B3	Tatar Beyi Dibek	B1 C1
Futuhat	B1	Mahmutpasa	B3	Tavasi Cesme	A4
Galata Koprusu	B2	Meclisi Mebusan Caddesi	C1 D1	Tavsanta	A3 A4
Galata Kulesi	B1	Mengene	B3	Tavuk Pazari	B3
Galata Mumhane	C1	Mesrutiyet Caddesi	B1	Telli Odalr	A4

Tersane Caddesi	B1	Universite Caddesi	A3	Yalcin	B2
Terzihane	B4	Unkapani	A2	Yali Kosku	B2
Tigcilar	A3 B3	Utangac	C4	Yanik	B1
Tiyatro Caddesi	A4	Uzun Carsi Caddesi	A2 B2	Yeni Cami Caddesi	B2
Tophane Iskelesi	C1	Vasif Cinar Caddesi	B3	Yeniciler Caddesi	A3
Torun	C4	Vezirhani	B3	Yogurtcuoglu	A2 A3
Tulumbaci Sitki	C1	Vezneciler Caddesi	A3	Yokusu	B4
Turanli	A3 A4	Voyvoda Caddesi	B1	Yukusu	A4
Turkeli Caddesi	A4	Yaglikcilar Caddesi	A3	Zeynep Sultan	C3 C4
Turkocagi	B3	Yahya Pasa	A4	Zincirlihan	B1
Ucler	B4				