

istanbul insights





Welcome to Istanbul

Welcome to Istanbul, one of the oldest settlements in the World. It is the largest city in Turkey and has 8500 years of history hosting many civilizations. It has always been center of attraction throughout the history and has been the capital of many empires including the 3 great empires Ottoman, Roman and Byzantine.

Today, Istanbul is the capital of art, culture and trade in Turkey. With its cosmopolitan structure, Istanbul has a rare diversity with many different cultures living together. Its unique mosaic captivates all visitors. You can experience mystic Eastern effects while exploring a modern cosmopolite at the same time.

There is a different Istanbul hidden in each and every corner. We hope you get a chance to explore this beautiful city and have great memories. Our wish is to assist you in th is journey. 'Take your time in Istanbul.' Welcome...

Vastas Team

This is a complimentary booklet prepared for you by VASTAS a Global Turkish Valve Company.





Topkapi Palace 🚺

Located right behind Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace was built between 1459-1465 after the conquest of Constantinople by Mehmet II and served as the imperial palace of The Ottoman Empire. Soon after the foundation of the Republic it was renovated in 1924 and turned into a museum. Open to visitors Wednesday to Monday between 9 am-6 pm.



Hagia Sophia (Ayasofya) 2

This ancient building with an impressive mystic aura and enchanting interiors still stands intact today. Served as a church once, then an imperial palace for Byzantines it is now a museum open to all people and also serves as a mosque. Can be visited 24/7.



Yerebatan Basilica Cistern 3

The basilica is the largest of several hundred cisterns that lie beneath the city of Istanbul. Located southwest of Hagia Sophia on the historical peninsula was built in the 6th century during the reign of Byzantine Emperor Justinian I.



Prince Islands (Adalar) 4

Only a short ferry ride from the city the islands are a popular destination for tourists and Istanbulites. Consisting of 9 islands it is an archipelago off the coast of Istanbul in the Sea of Marmara. Ferries depart from Kabatas on The European side and Bostanci on The Asian side to arrive at the four larger islands: Kinaliada, Burgazada, Heybeliada and Buyukada respectively.

Museum Pass: If you are willing to visit many museums, we recommend to purchase this card valid for 15 days and costs 600 TRY. It is more economic and saves time from queues.

4

Kariye Mosaic Museum 5

A remarkable example of Byzantine architecture, the building formerly a medieval Greek-Orthodox Church, was converted into a mosque in Ottoman Period and then became a museum in 1945. The interior is embellished with some of the oldest and finest Byzantine Christian frescoes and mosaics. Open everyday except for Wednesday from 9 am to 4 pm.

Blue Mosque (Sultan Ahmet Camii)

Built between 1609 and 1616 by The Ottoman Empire Sultan Ahmet, as the Imperial Mosque. It has six minarets and great cascade domes, worthy of Hagia Sophia. It is open everyday to visit however it's an active mosque and prayer times should be excluded.

Grand Bazaar (Kapali Carsi) 7

Often regarded as the first shopping mall in history, it is one of the largest and oldest covered markets in the world with 61 streets full of surprises. Shortly after the Ottoman conquest of the city, it was built to stimulate economic prosperity by Sultan Mehmet II. Can be visited on Monday to Saturday between 8:30 am and 7 pm.

Istanbul Archeology Museum 8

Located in Gulhane on the historical peninsula, stands a group of three museums, the Archaeological Museum in the main building; The Museum of the Ancient Orient, and The Museum of Islamic Art in the Tiled Kiosk. They house over one million objects that represent almost all historical eras. Can be visited everyday except Monday from 9 am to 7 pm.

 ${\tt Important}\ {\tt Notice:}$ Please ignore and avoid people who offer you to enter without queue.



Ľ









5





Istanbul, a museum Capital where the cultures meet and mix...

Hagia Sophia, Istanbul Archaelogy, Kariye Mosaic, Great Palace Mosaic, Topkapi Palace, Turkish and Islamic Arts, Hagia Eirene, Fethive, Adam Mickiewickz, Galata Dervishes House, Yildiz Palace, Istanbul Fortress, Dolmabahce Palace, Bevlerbevi Palace, Istanbul Sea, PTT Istanbul, Turvak Cinema and Theatre, Sakip Sabanci, Florva Ataturk Mansion, Military, Aviation, Florence Nightingale, Turkish Construction and Arts, Turkish Foundation Calligraphy Arts, Carpets, Rug and Weaving, City, Asiyan, Ataturk, Tanzimat, Cartoon and Humar, Kont Szchenyl itafiey, Serpus, Yerebatan Basilica Cistern, Painting and Sculpture, M. Rahmi Koc Industry and Technology, Printing, Sadberk Hanim, The Quincentennial Foundation Museum of Turkish Jews. Istanbul Modern Art, Yapi Kredi Vedat Nedim Tor, Ercument Kalmik, Huseyin Rahmi Gurpinar, Sait Faik, Orhan Kemal, Hilmi Nakipoglu Photographic Machines, Lighting and Heating Device, Istanbul Toy, Pera, Sabri Artani Foundation Automobile, Proje 4L Elgiz Modern Art, Mehmet Naci Akoz Kite Museums.

Discover Istanbul with its museums.





Rahmi Koc Museum 9

The first major museum in Turkey, dedicated to the history of Transport,
Industry and Communications. The building itself is converted from an
old factory located in Haskoy at Golden Horn. Founded by Rahmi Koc,
the museum is hosting his private.



Bosphorus (Bogaz) 10

Bosphorus adds magical moments to your Istanbul experience. It is the intersection point, the strait between two seas and two continents. You can take a Bosphorus tour boat from Besiktas, Eminonu or Ortakoy.



ý.

Pierre Loti 🕕

This is an old cafe offering the best Golden Horn Panorama. On the top of the hill where Eyup Cemetery is placed, 20 minutes walk from the historical Eyup Mosque but also can be reached with a lift system. It gets its name from the French writer Pierre Loti, who used to visit this cafe very often in 1879.



Rumeli Fortress (Rumeli Hisari) 12

Built by Fatih Sultan Mehmet in 1452, for the conquest of Istanbul, to control the sea route. It is built at the narrowest point of the Bosphorus, facing the Anatolian Fortress. It can be visited from 9 am to 4 pm every day except Mondays.

Museum Pass: If you are willing to visit many museums, we recommend to purchase this card valid for 15 days and costs 600 TRY. It is more economic and saves time from queues.

8

Dolmabahce Palace 13

The palace was built by Sultan Abdulmecit in 1856. It's a glorious and glamorous building and has been laid out in great detail, although it was built during the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. Today the building is used as a museum and can be visited from 9 am to 4 pm every day except Mondays.

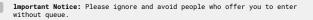
The Maiden's Tower (Kiz Kulesi) 14

Off of the shores of Uskudar, this tower is No.1 symbol of the Bosphorus. Can be reached by boat from Uskudar (Asia) or Kabatas (Europe). A prophecy is told that the Emperors daughter will be killed by a snake bite. The tower is built to keep her safe. The prophecy takes place no matter what, a snake reaches in the fruit basket.

Pera In the Taksim area, Pera reflects the soul of an era. Galata Tower, Pera Museum, Galata Mevlevi Museum, historic Pera Palace Hotel and Fish market are some of the popular places to visit in Pera.



This medieval stone tower from Genoese is one of the signature landmarks of Istanbul skyline. The restaurant and the viewing terrace on top offers a 360 degree view of Istanbul.









9





Simit

Simit, a symbol of Istanbul, is sold in carts on the street. it goes great with feta cheese and tea. During ferry rides, the seagulls you see flying right next to the ferry are actually waiting for you to throw a piece of simit.



Doner Kebab

Doner kebab is one of Turkey's most famous dishes. It may vary in flavor depending on seasoning and the type of meat. It comes in a sandwich, in a lavash or on rice. It is definitely a must try!



Baklava

Baklava is a dessert that is originally from the Antep region of Turkey. This crunchy and delectable dessert consists of pistachios layered between thin dough sheets, but also it has many other varieties.



Black Sea Pide

It's a type of pastry that you can have as a whole meal. It can be with cheese, flaked or roasted meat, or a mix of ingredients. It is an exquisite dish that also varies as open or closed, can be served with an egg on top. Try it, it's a good choice for lunch!



Manti

Manti is made with dough wrapped around minced meat, topped with a special sauce consisting of yoghurt and tomato paste. Compared to similar dishes from the Far East, the dumplings in manti are much smaller. It is said that 40 dumplings must fit on a spoon to show that it's a good manti.

Beans and Rice

This dish, which consists of haricot beans that are slowly cooked with meat and placed on top of buttered rice, is widely consumed in Turkey. There are several "beans & rice shops" in Istanbul. In fact, you'll come across this duo in many restaurants.

Raki & Fish

The Bosphorus is best known for its fish restaurants. And if you like alcoholic drinks. Turks prefer Raki with fish and meze, as an old ritual. Raki is similar to Ouzo but is a harder liquor. Fishmongers in Istanbul sell seasonal fresh fish

Lahmacun

It's a type of pastry called Turkish Pizza. It has minced meat, onions and herbs on a very thin dough, which is cooked in stone oven. You can also order a small one as a starter at a Kehah Restaurant

Kumpir

You can put together your own dish with Kumpir, a street food that consists of large baked potato which is stuffed with a variety of ingredients that you can choose from

"Mezes" Appetizers

Because of the many different cultures that reside within Istanbul, its cuisine is also a cosmopolitan in nature. Its features are especially reflected in the rich variety of appetizers served by fish restaurants. We recommend you not to miss out!















Currency

The currency is The Turkish Lira (TRY). Credit Card usage is common but may not be available everywhere, so it's recommended to exchange some of your money for cash (TRY).

Weather

Istanbul's climate is mild and shows a transition between Mediterranean and The Black Sea climates. The average temperature in winter varies between 2°C and 9°C and it is usually rainy. The coldest months are January and February, it might be snowy and heat can go down to -10°C. In summer, Istanbul's average temperature is between 18°C and 28°C. The hottest months are July and August and the heat can go up to 35 °C.



Тах

The VAT rates changes according to the goods by 18% (for accessories, jewellery & watches, electronics and home accessories) and 8% (for textiles). All prices include a VAT rate. You can get a return at the airport and customs.



Time Zone

Istanbul is at UTC + 03:00 acc to the Eastern European Time Zone. There is no time difference between the regions of Turkey.

Power

Turkey operates on 220 volts, 50 Hz, with round-prong European-style plugs that fit into recessed wall sockets/points.



	Metric Units	Customary Units
Measures Turkey uses meters for length, kilograms for weight and kilometres for distance.	1 centimeter	0.394 inch
	1 meter	3.281 feet or 1.093 yards
	1 kilometer	0.621 mile
	1 gram	0.035 ounce
	1 kilogram	2.2.105 pounds
	1 millimeter	0.034 fluid ounce
	1 liter	1.057 quart or 0.264 gallon
	1 mile	1.6 kilometer

Traffic Jam

Istanbul is a big crowded metropolis. Rush hours are generally 8 to 9 am and 6 to 8 pm in the city center. Bridges may have traffic jams at any time of the day. The metro system is safe and fast, however, during rush hours it might be very crowded too.



Telephone & Internet Service

You can buy pre-paid plans which can be used for 1 month without registering your phone. Almost all hotels, restaurants and cafes offer free wifi. But you can also purchase pocket wi-fi providers from the phone operators. Country code is +90, Istanbul city code is 212 for The European side, 216 for The Asian side. There are 3 mobile phone operators. TURK TELEKOM: 4441444 TURKCELL: 0 532 532 00 00 VODAFONE: 0 542 542 00 00





Water

Tap water is not drinkable in Istanbul. You should only drink bottled water.



Bargain

Being a center of many cultures, Istanbul is a shopping paradise, which still has bargaining culture. Except for the brand shops and malls, bargaining is very common. Especially in Grand Bazaar and touristic shops around, bargaining is a must.

Security

Turkey is generally a safe country. However, as in every country, fraud, pickpocketing and robbery are encountered, especially in crowded touristic sites.

Ambulance	: 112
Police	: 155
Fire	: 110



Religion

Islam is not the only but the largest religion in Turkey. Besides mosques, you can find churches and synagogues. Entering a mosque, the shoes should be taken off and women are welcome with scarves and preferably with conservative clothes (no shorts, minis) for respect. If you are not visiting the mosque for prayer, avoid the prayer times. Especially Friday noon prayers are longer and crowded.



Entertainment

Istanbul is very rich in cultural life and nightlife. You can find various festivals, concerts and shows throughout the year. Major locations with various entertainment venues are Ortakoy, Karakoy, Bomonti, Beyoglu, Bebek and Istinye.

Malls

Shopping malls are open everyday of the week from 10 am to 10 pm. The most popular ones with luxury brands are Istinye Park, Akasya, Emaar Square Mall Kanyon, Galata Port, Zorlu and Akmerkez. If you are with kids Forum Istanbul is a good choice as it has Aquarium, theme park and other attractions for kids as well as adults.

Car Rental

There are branches of multinational rent a car companies in Istanbul, prefer known or recommended companies while renting a car in Turkey. Same with chauffeur service.

AVIS : 444 28 47 HERTZ : 444 02 27 SIXT : 444 00 76

Roads

There are three main arterial roads in Istanbul with bridges connecting Asia and Europe. There is also an underground car tunnel passing Bosphorus. If you are travelling to the other side (continent) the most pleasant way is to use a ferry.





Â.

Turkish Coffee is prepared by brewing finely ground roasted coffee mixed with water on the stove or preferably on a coal fire. You can not add sugar later on so you should request during ordering as plain, little sugar, medium or sweet. The shop "Kuru Kahveci Mehmet Efendi" in Eminonu is famous for its freshly ground coffee; its smell fulfills the air in the small bazaar and invites you.

Turkish Delight

Turkish Coffee



Turkish delight is a sweet made with starch and sugar. it comes in a wide array of flavors and is usually in cube shape. Ali Muhiddin Hacı Bekir is an established brand of Turkish delight in Turkey. Rock candy is also sold in shops. We recommend you try the classic one, 'double roasted with pistachios'. For the children, colorful mini delights are a small treat. It is a traditional taste to be served to your guests at home with Turkish coffee and water.



Porcelain, Ceramic and Glass

In Istanbul, you may come across a variety of local porcelain and ceramic brands. You may find a wide array of gifts, particularly belonging to the brand Pasabahce. Evil eye talismans are a classic gift. Hand-made decorated glass is especially popular, the brand with online shop TurCam Kristal, offers both traditional and modern motifs and send its items worldwide.

https://www.turcam.com.tr/magaza/

GIFT

Rugs & Tapestry

Ever since ancient times, Istanbul has been known for its precious rugs and tapestries. Many shops will try to grab your attention by presenting both contemporary and antique hand-woven and silk products. If you are interested in rugs and tapestries, you may purchase them after checking their originality and don't forget bargaining for the price.

Silk

Silk is a valuable part of Anatolian culture. The Silk Road passed through Anatolian lands, and Anatolia was the center of quality silk for centuries. You may find a variety of shops that sell silk items, and Kapalicarsi has the most variety with many shops.

Almond Paste

Just like Turkish Delight, almond paste is also a traditional Ottoman sweet. You can buy them in gift boxes. It has an intense, bitterish taste. In Ottoman times, gifting a box of almond paste to the host during house visits showed that you respected them. We advise you to try the Bebek Almond Paste shop located in Bebek or Ali Muhiddin Haci Bekir in Taksim & Eminonu.

Turkish Calligraphy

Calligraphy is essentially the art of beautiful writing. In all touristic regions, you may witness live calligraphy or purchase the pricy works of renowned calligraphists. Calligraphy is usually framed with "tezhip" or illuminated manuscripts.

Marbling (Ebru)

Marbling is an art form that, after painting on water, it is transferred on a special paper. You can find very wellcrafted Marbling in Istanbul and buy them as gifts. If interested, you can go to workshops and create your own.











On foot

You can travel around Istanbul's most famous regions on food. The Historical Peninsula, Eminonu, the Blue Mosque, and Beyazit can be explored on foot. We advise you to use the footbridges or underpasses when possible. Be careful when using crosswalks in Istanbul, it is not always pedestrian-friendly.

Тахі

Compared to most of Europe, taxi fees are much cheaper and taxis are more often and easy to find. Taxi stops are available for 24 hours. Cash and credit card is both applicable, however some accepts only cash. So it's useful to carry some cash when using taxis. Most taxi drivers do not speak a foreign language.



Dolmush

Dolmushes in Istanbul generally operate until 8 p.m. and are fast and economical ways to get around. Their routes are written on the windshield. In order to get off, all you have to do is to loudly announce that you would like to get off and they will drop you off at the closest available spot.

Bus 🗳



There are two inner-city buses: Municipality buses IETT and privately owned buses. Both use the same stops, safe but may be crowded to use depending on time. You can use an "Istanbul Card" as a boarding pass on all public transport.



Ferry 🗳

Ferries are used as a means of transport along the Bosphorus and Halic. Most frequently used route is Eminonu, Haydarpasa, Uskudar and Kadikoy, ferries set off every 15 minutes. The ferries operate between 6 am to 11 pm.

Metro 🗳

Metros, Trams and Light-Rail Systems are used in Istanbul. Istanbul Airport is not connected to the city yet.

Metrobus

The Metrobus line runs along main arterial roads and stretches from Beylikduzu on the European side to Sogutlucesme on the Anatolian side. Many of its halts (stops) connect to the underground metro.

Funicular

The Funicular line that runs through Taksim Tunnel is the oldest metro in Istanbul and the second oldest in the world. It connects Beyoglu to Karakoy.

Tram

The nostalgic tram, which covers a distance of 1,8 km, winds through every corner of Beyoglu. A similar tram can be found on the Anatolian side that operates between Kadikoy and Moda along Bahariye Street.

Sea Bus & Motor Boats 🗳

Sea buses are a quick alternative to travel by sea. For routes and timetables, visit ido.com.tr. Many private motorboats that set off from various docks along the Bosphorus and Halic. Both ticket & Istanbul Card is applicable.











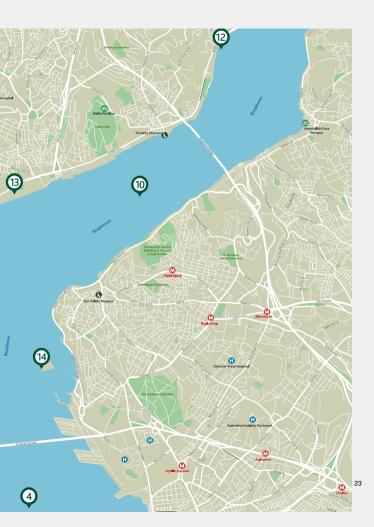














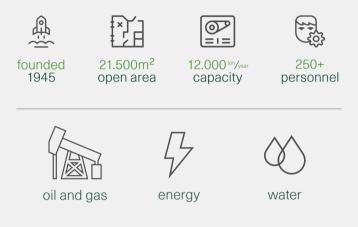


Year 1945, location Karakoy / established Istanbul, so called "Yagkapani".

Two masters established a workshop there, on a space of 12 sq.meter. That small workshop once established in Karakoy is the beginning of today's VASTAS, a Global Turkish Valve Company, operating at 21000 sq. meter production facility, here in Turkey and exporting to 75 countries worldwide.

who we are...

We are a Global Turkish Valve manufacturing company. Established in 1945 in Karakoy Istanbul, we are in the business for 7 decades. Our expertise is in valves and actuators for oil and gas projects. Specialized in pipeline and storage valves, we also serve the energy and water market.



what we do is valves...

design



produce



service





our products...

ball valves

- Full Welded Ball Valves
- Split Body Ball Valves
- Top Entry Ball Valves

gate valves

- Wedge Gate Valves
- Conduit Gate Valves
- Through Conduit Slab Gate Valves
- Through Conduit Double Expanding Gate Valves
- Through Conduit Gate Valves





plug valves

- Pressure Balance Plug Valves
- Wedge Plug Valves

check valves

- Swing Check Valves
- Dual Disc Check Valves
- Nozzle Check Valves



api 6a valves

 Expanding or Slab Gate Valves



tailor made valves



- Goggle Valves
- Strainer

globe valves

- Globe Valves
- Globe Type Control Valves



compact forged valves

- Compact Forged Ball Valves
- Compact Forged Gate Valves
- Compact Forged Check Valves
- Compact Forged Plug Valves
- Compact Forged Glob Valves



actuators

- · Hydraulic Actuators
- Pneumatic Actuators
- Motor Operated
- Manual Operated Systems







