



SAS CITY PORTRAIT

Ankara Istanbul

SAS SCANDINAVIAN AIRLINES



Introduction to Turkey 3

Currency 4
Food and drinks 4
Shopping 5
Tipping 5
Transportation 6
Public holidays and special events 6

Ankara 7

Your arrival in Ankara 7
Hotels 8
Restaurants 8
Sights and excursions 8
City map and useful addresses 10
"One hour's walk" suggestion 12
Entertainment and night life 13
Shopping 14
Transportation 14
Sports 14
Climate and clothing 14

Istanbul 15

Your arrival in Istanbul 16
Hotels 16
Restaurants 17
Sights and excursions 18
City map and useful addresses 20
"One hour's walk" suggestion 22
Entertainment and night life 25
Shopping 26
Transportation 26
Sports 27
Climate and clothing 27
Religious services 27

This is the 9th edition of Ankara, Istanbul City Portrait printed in 30,000 copies – with information based on facts available in April 1977. Main changes from 8th edition: increase in all prices, five new hotels in Istanbul, 3 new nightclubs.



Front cover: Galata Bridge, Istanbul.

Introduction to Turkey

Turkey . . . the very name conjures up exotic scenes of magic. Magnificent Sultan palaces, richly jeweled, ornately tiled and complete with perfumed harem. Multi-minareted mosques where the muezzin calls the faithful to prayer. Creaking bullock carts, veiled women and noisy grand bazaars. The once traditional garb of fez, kaftan and curled slippers. That still used mode of transport – the mule and camel train.

Turkey's past – almost an anthropology of the entire Near East – sounds closer to myth than fact.

The Turks – comparative newcomers when one considers that Turkish soil has known civilizations for more than 7,000 years – came out of Central Asia to settle here. In 800 B.C. Homer was born here. So, too, rumor has it, was the first man, Adam. Noah's Ark is said to have come to rest on Mount Ararat, close to the Soviet border. Mary spent some of her last days at the lovely Aegean port, Ephesus.

The Hittites, Phrygians, Romans, Greeks, Persians, Mongols, Crusaders and all manner of European nations – each has written a colorful chapter in Turkey's tempestuous history.

Yet, while rooted deeply in the past, Turkey is far from being asleep. To great cultures past, such as Byzantine and Islamic, to epic cities gone like Constantinople and Byzantium, to mighty empires faded – the Seljuks and the Ottoman Turks, a dynasty which reached its peak when Sulieman the Magnificent ruled much of the Balkans, the Middle East and North Africa . . . to all this Turkey has added a new episode: a resurrection brought about by Kemal Atatürk in his creation of the modern Republic of Turkey.

You'll see the contrast everywhere – in Istanbul, the ancient capital, in Ankara the new.

Cross a street in Turkey and you could well transgress five centuries. On the ancient shores of the Bosphorus and the Aegean Sea, ultra-modern hotels alternate with what remains of splendid Ottoman palaces and Roman amphitheatres.

Peasant shepherds tend their sheep as they did centuries before. Modern hoteliers and restaurateurs have put away their fezzes and brushed up their English, French and German. Modern Turkey offers, too, the facilities of an excellent air network. You will want, however, to supplement your time-saving hops with a lingering look at Turkey's glorious coastlines and its intriguing interior, by boat and modern train. Yet travel

as you will, Turkey is really everybody's Time Machine. Select the period that fascinates you most and, give or take a decade or two, Turkey will comply.

Currency

The monetary unit in Turkey is the lira. (₺), which is divided into 100 kuruş.

Food and drinks

Although the urban, international-style restaurants tend to concentrate on French cuisine, Turkey enjoys many local culinary specialities. You might care to try any of the following:

Kılıç: swordfish grilled on a spit with bay leaves.

Midye dolması: mussels cooked in the shell with rice, onions, raisins and olive oil.

Döner kebab: meat broiled on a big spit and sliced.

Tavuk-göğsü: breast of chicken prepared as a dessert with milk and sugar.

Rice pilaw: rice with currants, pine nuts and spices, usually accompanying chicken or turkey.

If you decide to select from the Turkish menu, it will help to understand the following:

Pilav: rice cooked with water or broth and butter.

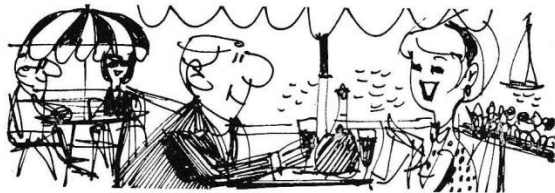
Kebab: lamb, served in countless ways.

Dolma: grape or cabbage leaves filled with ground beef and served with sour cream.

Domates dolması: tomatoes stuffed either with mince-meat and served hot, or with rice and olive and served cold.

DRINKS

There are excellent mineral waters from local springs, and the Turkish beer is very good, as are the local red and white wines. Local brands of vermouth, gin, brandy and liqueurs (flavored with cherry, banana, strawberry and rose-leaf) are all good. Try also, raki, a local drink, distilled from raisins. It is served with meze, a marvelous Turkish food speciality consisting of a variety of sausages and salads, many with eggplants, olives, feta cheese, fried mussels and chicken Cirassian. Between meals the Turks drink tea or coffee. Turkish coffee is thick and sweet, medium or bitter. Should you not care for it, order



French coffee and you will get what is usually served on the European Continent.

MEAL TIMES AND PRICES

Breakfast is served around 8 a.m., lunch from noon, dinner from 8.30 p.m.

Prices vary according to the type of restaurant you choose. In the more fashionable restaurants, expect to pay between ₺75 and 125, but you can also get a meal for ₺25 to 35 in smaller restaurants.

Shopping

The work of Turkish craftsmen is both painstakingly exquisite and gaily colorful.

The carpets and rugs (kilims) of Anatolia – each province has its own characteristic colors and motifs – are world-famous. Prices vary considerably, depending on the type of carpet you choose.

Other attractive buys include new and antique silver, brass and copper, especially in such articles as coffee sets, charcoal pots, shish-kebab and flower pots; meerschaum pipes; bubble-hubble pipes; filigree jewelry, gold and silver; onyx objects; Kutahya ceramics, highly original in design and color; Yıldız porcelain; reasonably-priced leather jackets and coats; alabaster vases, pots and ash trays; dolls in colorful regional costumes; amber beads; Turkish embroideries and handwoven cloth.

Most shops and stores open daily, except Sundays, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. On Saturdays, some shops are open until 8 p.m. – although the Grand Bazaar closes at 7 p.m.

Tipping

Although hotel and restaurant bills include 12–15% for service, it is usual to tip hall porters or waiters an additional 10%. Tip cloakroom attendants ₺2.50 to 5; bellboys ₺2.50 to 5; chambermaids ₺2 to 4 a day; barbers and ladies' hairdressers about ₺5; and hotel doormen ₺2.50 for hailing you a taxi. A gratuity of 50–75 kuruş is customary for cinema ushers; ₺10 or so for guides and drivers of hired cars, depending on duration of journey; taxi drivers 10% the metered fare.



Transportation

A special form of transportation in Turkey is the “dolmus” (pronounced “dolphush”), a shared taxi operating over fixed routings, in which each passenger hires one of the five seats in the car and pays one-fifth of the fare, usually a fixed charge for a definite distance. The dolmus is cheap, practical and convenient.

Although most “regular” taxis possess meters . . . they are rarely used: It is nearly always necessary to agree the fare with the driver before setting out. Turkish cab drivers seem to expect you to haggle about the price. Minimum charge is T₺15.

Public holidays and special events

The population being mostly Moslem, partly Christian, visitors will find that in Turkey there are as many, if not more public holidays than they are used to at home. Here is a list of the immovable holidays, when most shops and offices close.

April 23	Children’s Day/Sovereignty Day – commemorating the anniversary of the opening of Turkey’s first Grand National Assembly, 1920.
May 1	Spring Festival.
May 19	Youth and Sports Day – the anniversary of Kemal Atatürk’s arrival at Samsun in 1919, marking the beginning of the revolution which led to the foundation of modern Turkey.
May 27	Reform Day.
August 30	Victory Day , celebrated by military parades in the capital.
October 13	On this day in 1923, Ankara was proclaimed the capital of Turkey. Streets and buildings are decorated with flags and illuminated.
October 29	Republic Day. Parades form part of the overall celebrations.

In addition to the above, there are a number of movable feasts: New Year, Easter and Christmas are celebrated by the Christian portion of the population; Seker Bayram – a time when the mosques and public buildings are splendidly illuminated – and Kurban Bayram by the Moslems.

Ankara

Present-day Ankara – modern and vibrant – is the capital of the Turkish Republic and the symbol of New Turkey.

In less than 50 years it has grown from an insignificant provincial town into a city of approx. 2,000,000 inhabitants: an up-to-date metropolis of large boulevards, lovely parks, fine squares and skyscraper buildings.

Archaeologists believe that Ankara was founded by the Hittites almost 2,000 years before the Christian era. Certainly for two centuries the city was under Persian rule, a rule finally terminated by Alexander the Great. The Romans entered Ankara in 189 B.C. and the city was still dominated by the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire, when it was invaded by the Sassanian kings Shapur and Houserev II in 620 A.D.

During the seventh and eighth centuries, Ankara suffered frequent attacks by Arabs and Persians in turn, until after the epoch of the great Crusades, it was taken by the Turks.

It has remained Turkish in essence ever since.

When the Ottoman Empire disintegrated after the First World War, it was in Ankara that Kemal Atatürk laid the foundation for the new Turkish State, the Turkish Republic being proclaimed in October 1923.

Site of a number of imposing buildings – the National Parliament, Ankara University, the State Opera and the Hittite Museum – Ankara is Turkey’s political and cultural heartbeat. It is also an ideal central base for all visitors to Turkey, constituting as it does, an oasis of modernity in a land as old as Time itself, its surroundings riddled with prehistoric ruins, its center often minutes away from 4,000 years of fascinating history.

Your arrival in Ankara

On arriving at Esenboğa Airport, you will be directed to the Arrival Hall, where there are passport and customs checks. There is a branch office of the national bank at the airport where you may change any traveler’s checks or currency you need. Buses leave regularly from the Airport for the Town Terminals and the fare is T₺10, the distance 20 miles (32 km). The taxi fare, should you prefer this mode of travel, is T₺125.

Hotels

Ankara has several good hotels, classified into four categories. The rates quoted below are for a single or double bedroom with private bath at a few representative hotels:

De luxe

Büyük Ankara Hotel (Grand) (I8), 315 Atatürk Bulvarı. Tel. 17 11 06

First class

Tunalı Hotel (K8), 119 Tunalı Hilmi Cad. Tel. 27 25 05

Dedeman (I7), 1 Büklüm Sokak. Tel. 17 11 00

Kent Hotel (G6), Mithat Paşa Caddesi. Tel. 12 42 20

Second class

Bulvar Palas (H7), Bakanlıklar. Tel. 17 50 20

Hotel Mola (G6), 80 Atatürk Bulvarı. Tel. 18 31 40

In de luxe class hotels expect to pay T₺430 for a single room with bath; double 600. For first class single with bath T₺290-310; double with bath 400-440. For second class, single with bath T₺200-250, double 300-350.

Electricity: Voltage in Ankara is 220 Volts A.C.

Restaurants

Ankara abounds in excellent places to eat, and, as far as space allows, the following is a guide to some of the best:

Altınal Restaurant (K10), Cinnah Caddesi

Barıkan Oteli (G6/7), Uçar Sokak, Yenışehir

Bulvar Palas (H7), Atatürk Bulvarı

Kasan Restaurant (K10), Çankaya

Orman Çiftliği Merkez Lokantasi, Orman Çiftliği

RV Restaurant (K9), Çankaya

Restoran Kristal (G6), Balindir Sokak, Yenışehir

A number of good, economically-priced eating places exist where substantial meals can be bought for as little as T₺20. Three such examples are Cevat Kantin (H7), Restoran Çankaya in Yenışehir and Pizza Pino at Tunalı Hilmi Caddesi.

Sights and excursions

The real points of interest to see and explore in Ankara are in the old district Altındağ (E2) and the many minareted mosques which dot the entire city. Of these, the prime attractions are featured on the map, while details of their history and importance are outlined here:

CITY INTEREST-POINTS

The Citadel (F3). Believed to have been constructed by the Galatians, this old castle, high on a rocky perch, has overlooked the city for centuries. Hittites, Phrygians, Persians, Alexander the Great and Roman Emperor-warriors have all in

turn seen it; it was, in fact, the Roman Emperor Augustus who fortified it, and his walls still surround the site. The fortifications comprise an inner and outer wall, there being twenty towers of the citadel still standing.

The Hittite Museum (F3), Ankara's famous Archaeological Museum. Opened in 1951, it has been converted from a covered bazaar, originally erected in the 15th century. Among the treasures exhibited are objects from the Phrygian, prehistoric and Urartu periods, and the "Hattusas" – baked clay tablets with writing in Akkadian and Hittite, depicting the history of the ancient Hittite people. The Hittite's ancient folklore is also illustrated in low-relief rock carvings which are on display. At the entrance are two large statues of a Hittite king (8th century B.C.) and a sculpture representing the Hittite's War-God.

Temple of Augustus (E3). Situated next to the Mosque of Hacı Bayram, near Ulus Square, this ancient temple is supposed to have been erected about 200 B.C., although some archaeologists believe it was built 300 years later. The inscription hereon dates from the time of Emperor Augustus. Open daily, except Mondays, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 2 to 5 p.m.

Mausoleum of Atatürk (E7/8). The mausoleum – dedicated to the leader, Kemal Atatürk who became Modern Turkey's first President – stands on Rasattepe Hill, and contains the sarcophagus of this great man. Said to be the most imposing monument in the Turkish Republic, this huge temple-like building – constructed between 1944 and 1953 – measures 180 feet (55 meters) by 235 feet (72 meters), rising to a height of 70 feet (21 meters). Its promenade is flanked by twelve statues of Hittite lions with an entrance decorated by towers of Liberty and Independence. The promenade leads to the Ceremonial Court at the corners of which stand towers symbolizing the Republic, Victory, Revolution and Peace. There is a small museum within the precincts of the mausoleum. Open daily from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 2 to 5 p.m.

Atatürk's House (L9/10). Located in the grounds of the Presidential Palace on Çankaya Hill, this is a modest rustic building where Kemal Atatürk dwelt during the War of Independence. It has now been converted into a museum. The hill commands a breathtaking view of Ankara which is particularly striking at night. There are regular bus services from Ulus Square (E4). Admission hours for Atatürk's House: Saturdays and Sundays from 2 to 5 p.m.

OUTLYING INTEREST-POINTS

The surroundings of Ankara are peppered with fascinating ancient remnants and settlements.

Orman Çiftliği. 3 miles (5 km) from Ankara, Orman Çiftliği is an up-to-date model farm, founded in 1925 by Kemal Atatürk, who shortly before his death permitted the Government to take over this and the rest of his property. Although lying in a barren area, it is green and fertile with a dairy, brewery, and flour mill.

(cont'd on page 13)





Code numbers in the Ankara section of this booklet refer to the above map. Thus

(H6) is located where lines drawn from "H" and "6" cross each other.

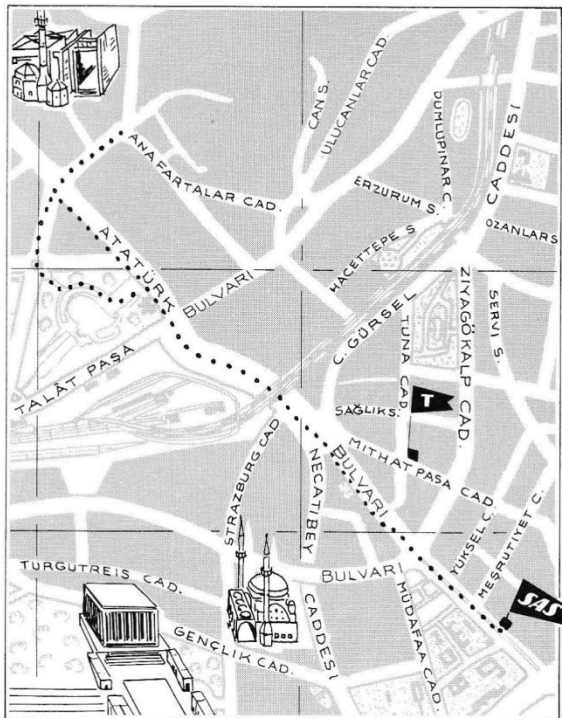
Interesting sights in Ankara

- (F3) The Citadel and the Hittite Museum.
- (E3) Temple of Augustus.
- (E7/8) Mausoleum of Atatürk.
- (L9/10) Atatürk's House.

Useful addresses

-  SAS Ticket Office:
127 Atatürk Bulvarı, 4th floor (H7).
Tel. 17 86 00 and 25 51 90.
-  Turkish Government Tourist Office:
Basın Yayın Turizm Vekaleti,
Gazi Mustafa Kemal Bulvarı (F7).

Distance from city center to airport: 20 miles (32 km).



One hour's walk around Ankara

Make the SAS office your starting-point and walk down the Atatürk Bulvarı. Stroll this main thoroughfare passing as you do the Faculty of History, Geography and Language, the Radio Building and, subsequently, the Opera House. When you reach the Ulus Circle, a street on your right leads you to the city's major shopping center and on to Ankara Castle. Retrace your steps to Ulus Circle continuing up Cumhuriyet Bulvarı towards the Central Station. You will pass the old Turkish Parliament and the Stadium and Race Course on your right; the Park of Youth on your left. Cross the park heading for Opera House Corner. Go right when you arrive at Atatürk Bulvarı and follow it back to the SAS office.

(cont'd from page 9)

Keçiören. One of Ankara's most popular summer resorts, Keçiören is a vine growing area with a wonderful climate, 5 miles (8 km) from the city. There are regular bus services from Ulus Square (E4).

Baraj. Baraj, 8 miles (14 km) north of Ankara, is the city's water reservoir. The dam, built during Kemal Atatürk's office, is 600 feet (200 meters) wide and 204 feet (68 meters) high, holding back the river Çubuk and forming an artificial lake 4 miles (7 km) long. The picturesque landscape surrounding the dam is covered with pine and acacia trees. Regular bus services run here during the summer months.

Göreme Valley (or Cappadocia). Situated in Ürgüp, 14 miles (22 km) from Nevşehir, is the fantastic Göreme valley. Unreal, eerily unique, it comprises 40 square miles of some 300 dwellings, churches, chapels and tombs carved out of soft volcanic rock by Christian monks in the 3rd century A.D.

Konya. 160 miles (260 km) from Ankara, Konya is certainly worth going to the ends of the earth to see. It was St. Paul's Iconium, and the capital of Aladdin. Among its sights are some well-preserved Seljuk walls built in the 12th century, a Museum of Islamic Art and the tomb of the founder of the order of the Whirling Dervishes. The Ince minaret and the entrance are both masterpieces of Oriental carving.

There are a number of rewarding Mediterranean coastal playgrounds and cities of the Aegean and these have been listed on pages 24 and 25 under Istanbul excursions.

Entertainment and night life

The opera season runs from October through mid-May, with performances on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday nights. Standard European operas are the mainstay of the Turkish State Opera's repertoire although sometimes you may see a Turkish work. The orchestra and soloists are good, and some are internationally renowned.

The musical fare of Ankara also includes concerts by the Presidential Philharmonic Orchestra. This symphony orchestra, established over 125 years ago, periodically engages noted guest-conductors from abroad. Free concerts are given every two weeks at Ankara University to promote public interest in Western music and regular concerts are held at the State Opera House (E5) and in the auditorium of the State Conservatory (H2).

Modern cinemas show recent American and European films with original sound track and Turkish sub-titles. Performances usually start at 2.30, 4.30, 6.30 and 9.15 p.m. with an extra show on Sundays at 11 a.m. It is advisable to reserve seats ahead of time, preferably through your hotel porter.

Some of the leading hotels and some restaurants such as Gar Gazinosu (D6) have night clubs open to 4 a.m., serving dinner and wine. The aforementioned features a floorshow, as does the Majestik at Gençlik Parki. Other excellent restaurants and clubs include the Ankara-Palace Pavilion, Cumhuriyet Caddesi; Dedeman Roof, Büyük Ankara Roof, Yeni Süreyya and Kent Taverna.

Shopping

The prime shopping spots in Ankara include the shops along Anafartalar Avenue near Ulus Square (E4), Yenişehir (the New Town) and the Association for Introducing Turkish Handicrafts (Turk Elsanatlarini Tanitma) at 6/8 Selanik Caddesi (H6) – virtually, as its name implies, a showcase for Turkish applied arts and crafts.

For advice on What to buy and for information on When to buy, see page 5.

Transportation

Buses and trolleybuses offer a comprehensive central network in Ankara. The fare in either mode of transport is T21.

Taxis, however, are the most popular form of transportation for visitors. For more details, see page 6.

Sports

A number of open-air swimming pools cater most of the year to visitors – the Karadeniz Pool in Atatürk Orman Park for example, and the large pool in Gençlik Park. Tennis, golf, soccer, horse-racing, wrestling and basketball are also popular local activities. You can book a tennis court, or play a round of golf at Ankara Golf Club. There is horse-racing every Sunday at the Hippodrome (A5), and a varied program of team and athletic events staged the year round at the 19th May Stadium (B/C5) next door to the Hippodrome.

Climate and clothing

Ankara's climate provides a marked difference of temperature between summer and winter. Rain is infrequent, coming usually in sudden showers during the autumn. Spring is beautiful but short, with an average temperature of 51° F (10° C). In summer (July–August) the average temperature is 72° F (22° C), while in autumn it is 55° F (13° C). In winter the temperature averages around 30 °F (0° C), the cold, however, causing little discomfort, as the humidity is usually extremely low.

Autumn and spring are the ideal times for touring.

In spring and from September to mid-November light clothing is most suitable, although it is wise to carry a raincoat during the latter period. In July and August light summer suits for men and cotton or silk dresses for ladies are most appropriate. Tourists who wear shorts for sightseeing in the city, incidentally, should note they will not be allowed in tea-rooms and restaurants. In January and February, wear woolen clothes and take a warm topcoat or fur.

Istanbul

"If one had but a single glance to give the world, one should gaze at Istanbul" . . . so praised French poet Lamartine.

You need only one glance to see why. For 3,000 years of checkered history have wrought a city that epitomizes fascination; a city exotic and glamorous, old and new, studded with buildings that tell their story of 30 eventful centuries; a metropolis so westernized that much of its hostelry, cuisine, dress, restaurants, night-clubs, cinemas and films might have been lifted en masse from some central European capital, yet a city evoking still, at the cry of a bazaar street vendor, that undeniable air of mystic and magic.

Over its lifespan – which began as a tiny settlement in the 9th century B.C. – Istanbul has been Constantinople, city of Constantine; Byzantium, capital of the Holy Roman Empire; Asia Minor's European window; the Seat of the great Ottoman Empire; the city of Sulieman the Magnificent.

Yet its former glory past, Istanbul remains Turkey's biggest breadwinner. No longer capital of its country (it relinquished the title to Ankara in 1923 on the creation of the New Republic of Turkey) it is still the nation's first port – handling 30 % of all its exports. A status nature has enhanced by a geographical uniqueness: it is the only city of importance in the world to be situated on two



continents – the Bosphorus, connecting the Sea of Marmara with the Black Sea, separates Europe from Asia and bisects the city as well.

Many ask the inevitable question: "How far has present-day Istanbul encroached on Istanbul past?" For, despite Moslem predominance, the fez has disappeared in this city of 4,000,000 inhabitants. French, English and German are today as commonly heard as Turkish. And the slender minarets and half-moon mosques have given way in many areas to clear-cut fashionable blocks of hotels, offices, and shops. Yet all this taken into account, Lamartine's words are as apt today as they were in the 19th century.

Istanbul still commands everybody's glance.

Your arrival in Istanbul

Your arrival point in Istanbul is Yesilköy Airport, 15 miles (23 km) from the city center. Here you will be directed to the Arrival Hall, where currency and passport control take place, followed by customs inspection in the Customs Hall.

The bus stop and taxi stand are just outside the Exit Hall. Buses depart for the city soon after the completion of the customs examination of arriving SAS passengers. Tell the SAS ground staff whether your baggage should be brought to the bus (fare to Şişhane Town Terminal T₺10) or to a taxi (fare to the city T₺80–100). If you have chosen to go by taxi, establish the price before you start your journey.

There is an airport restaurant, post and telegraph office, with bookshops and souvenir shops both upstairs in the Departure Hall and downstairs in the Transit Hall.

The SAS Town Office (K3) is situated near the entrance of the Istanbul Hilton (L3), near Taksim Square.

One of the first things to do after your arrival in Istanbul is to reconfirm your onward reservation by informing SAS of the reservation you hold and your intention to use the space previously reserved for you. You can do this over the telephone (46 60 75) or by calling at the SAS Town Office.

Hotels

Istanbul hotels are numerous, most of them being of a high standard. It is advisable to reserve accommodation well in advance. In this respect you should contact your travel agent or SAS. Either can offer you – through the SAS Travel Planning Service – detailed information on hotels of different categories with immediate confirmation of accommodation in most. However, if you do arrive in Istanbul without a reservation, then the SAS ground staff at the airport will be pleased to help you to find a place suitable to your particular wishes.

The following list of hotels should prove useful:

De Luxe

Istanbul Hilton (L3), Cumhuriyet Caddesi, Harbiye. Tel. 46 70 50

Sheraton (K3), Taksim Park. Tel. 48 90 00

Büyük Tarabya Hotel (off map), Tarabya (on the Bosphorus). Tel. 62 10 00

Intercontinental (J3/4), Taksim Square. Tel. 44 88 50

First class

Çınar Hotel (off map), Marmara Coast, Yesilyurt (on Marmara Sea, near the airport). Tel. 73 29 10

Divan Hotel (K3), Cumhuriyet Caddesi. Tel. 46 40 20

Carlton Hotel (off map), Yeniköy (on the Bosphorus). Tel. 62 10 20

Park Hotel (J4), Ayazpasa. Tel. 45 07 60

Etap (F3), Tepebaşı. Tel. 44 88 80

Tourist class

Keban (J4), Taksim Square. Tel. 49 90 10

Maçka (off map). Tel. 40 10 53

Ünver Hotel (K3), Cumhuriyet Caddesi. Tel. 46 40 05

Opera Hotel (J4), Ayazpasa. Tel. 45 30 65

Pera Palas (F3), Tepebaşı. Tel. 45 22 30

Economy class

Büyük Keban (A5), Near the Aqueduct of Valens. Tel. 28 35 80

Hotel Gezi (J4), Taksim. Tel. 45 21 67

King Hotel (J4), Mecidiyeköy. Tel. 66 06 50

Rates in the de luxe class hotels range from T₺570 to 700 for a single room with bath; doubles T₺700 to 900. First class hotels from T₺300 single; and from 400 for a double room. The moderately-priced hotels listed charges from T₺175 to 270 and T₺250 to 360 double. Most single rooms in economy class hotels do not have a private bath. All hotels add a service charge of 15 %.

Electricity: The voltage in Istanbul is 110 A.C. in most districts on the European side; and 220 volts A.C. on the Asiatic side.

Restaurants

There are numerous restaurants of a high standard, whether you're searching for Western or Eastern food specialties; places well-known beyond the boundaries of Turkey such as Pandeli (C5/D6) at the Spice Market, to tiny, tucked-away eating spots, so typical and full of atmosphere.

Pandeli (C5/D6), Misir Carsısı (Spice Market), Eminönü

Galata Tower (F4), Tünel, Beyoğlu

Liman Lokantası (E5), Customs House (along the Harbor)

Abdullah Efendi (off map), Emirgan (on Bosphorus)

Hilton Hotel Terrace Restaurant (L3), Cumhuriyet Caddesi

Sheraton Hotel (K3), Taksim Park

Divan Hotel Pub (K3), Cumhuriyet Caddesi

Süreyya Restaurant (off map), Bebek

Swiss Pub (K3), Cumhuriyet Caddesi

Fisher (H3), İstiklâl Caddesi, Galatasaray

Intercontinental Hotel (J3/4), Taksim Square

If you're making a sightseeing tour of the Bosphorus while here, try if the opportunity arises, to eat at Faço, at Mardiros, Garaj or Kuyu at Arnavutköy. The seafood at these places is wonderful, the views superb.

Sights and excursions

A glance at the map (page 20) will quickly help you to get to grips with this fascinating city. But before you start exploring, a word or two about Istanbul's sometimes confusing divisions.

Part of Istanbul stands in Europe; part in Asia. Refer to the map and you will see the European portion (the top half and bottom left section) is divided from the Asiatic section (bottom right) by the Bosphorus. The European half is also divided in two by the historic Golden Horn. Connecting these two European segments of the city – i.e. the modern business center of Galata and Beyoğlu on the right (north), with the picturesque older quarter of Istanbul on the left (south) are Atatürk Bridge and the more famous Galata Bridge, stepping-off point for the various passenger ferries plying between Istanbul Europe and Istanbul Asia.

You will probably sleep in the northerly district of Beyoğlu (where the majority of the hotels are centered) – yet spend the better part of your free time exploring Old Istanbul, the district containing most of the city's ancient monuments, museums, mosques, churches and bazaars. Alternatively, there's the call of the Marmara Sea with its necklace of Turkish coastal resorts – paradisiac spots such as Ataköy Beach, Kadıköy, Moda, Pendik, Yalova, Florya beach, Kumburgaz on the south coast and Kilyos at the Black Sea.

Either a conducted tour of the city or an escorted excursion into the exotic environs is available to you through various travel agencies in Istanbul. And whether you plump for an organized tour or prefer to roam around on your own – you'll find exploring that much more interesting with a little prior knowledge.

CITY INTEREST-POINTS

The Blue Mosque, or the Mosque of Sultan Ahmed (B9), is situated near St. Sophia (C9), and is the only one in the world with six minarets. Constructed between 1609 and 1616, it is a true masterpiece of Turkish architecture. Called the Blue Mosque because of the wonderful blue tilework adorning its interior, the whole imparts an atmosphere of peace and restfulness. The adjoining Hippodrome (A8) was first laid out by the Roman Emperor Septimus Severus as a sports ground for chariot races and other competitions. A number of treasures

have been garnered from many parts of the world. On the square is the Egyptian Obelisk, brought here in 390 by the Emperor Theodosius I. Note the carvings describing the method employed in its erection. Two other columns stand here: The Serpentine Column, which was brought from Delphi (it was originally erected there to commemorate the battle of Platea in 500 B.C.) and the Waller Column, erected by Constantine VI during the 10th century. The Fountain of Wilhelm II was brought here from Germany in 1898.

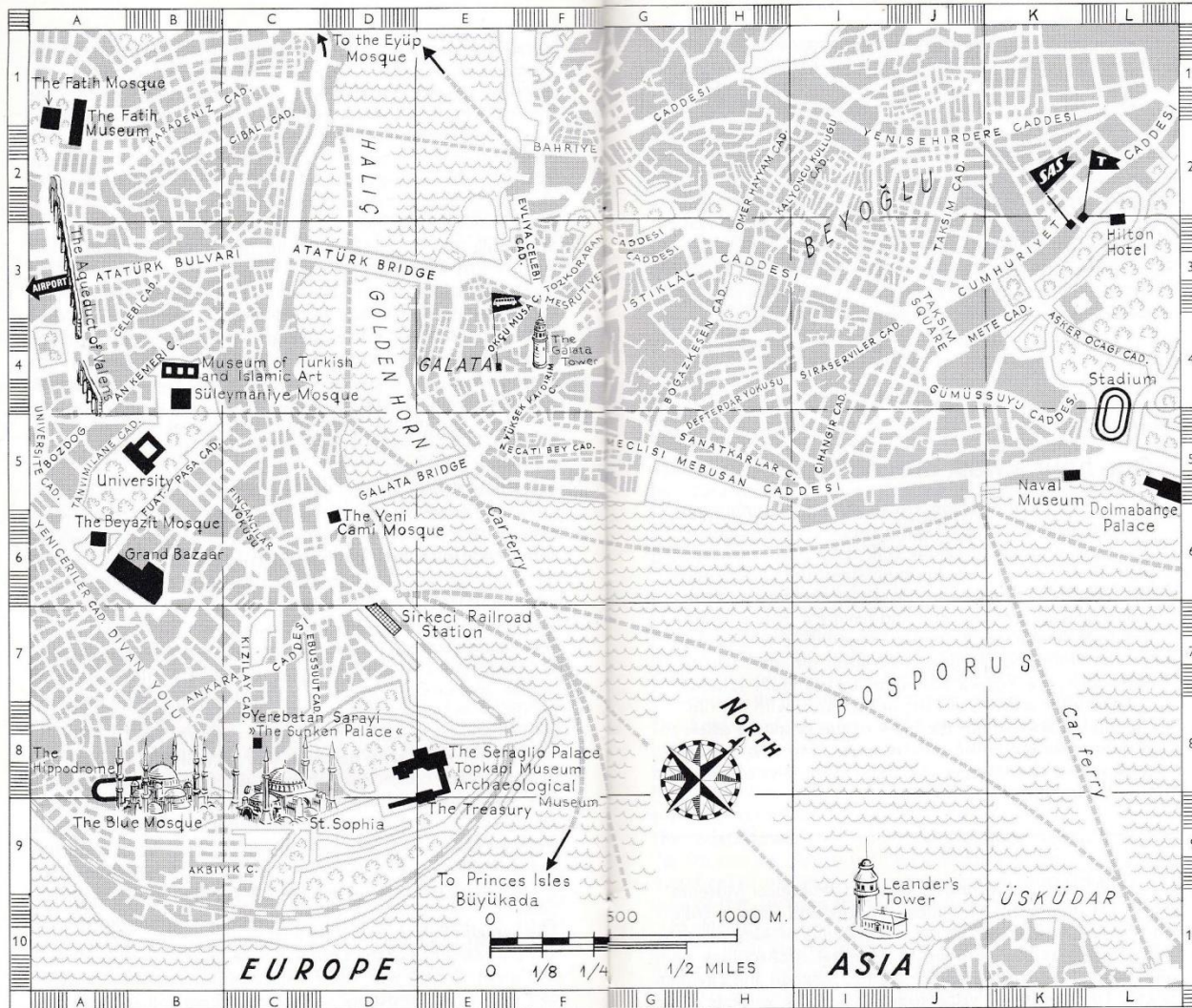
St. Sophia (C9). Originally constructed in 347 by Constantine, Rome's first Christian Emperor, St. Sophia was devastated by fire 50 years later and rebuilt by the Emperor Justinianus. After the conquest of Istanbul by Mehmed II, the Moslems converted the Basilica into a mosque with four minarets, and finally, since the creation of the Republic of Turkey, it has been turned into a museum. The interior is decorated with beautiful 14th-century mosaics, representing Christ, the Virgin Mary, Justinianus, Constantine the Great and other momentous figures. Admission: daily from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Closed on Mondays.

Yerebatan Sarayı, or the Sunken Palace (C8), is an original Byzantine cistern, situated near St. Sophia and the Constantine Column (B9). It was constructed under the reign of Justinianus some 1,400 years ago, and has 336 columns still intact. Istanbul has a number of cisterns from the Byzantine period, but this is one of the largest and the only one which still contains water. Admission: daily from 1 to 5 p.m. Closed on Sundays.

The Grand Bazaar (B6). This huge Near Eastern emporium is a "must" for everyone. It is an authentic covered Oriental bazaar, and although it has on several occasions been damaged by fire – most recently in 1954 – it still retains the pattern of the original layout. It is doubtful you will see its like anywhere else. The Grand Bazaar is like a small city, divided into districts, with crossroads, open squares and streets teeming with craftsmen and merchants of diverse trades. Especially worth visiting is the Bedesten and the weapon and antique markets, open from 8.30 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays. While the Grand Bazaar is no longer as commercially important as it once was, it will stimulate your imagination and help to recreate the days of mystic Eastern yore.

The Seraglio Palace (E8). Also near to St. Sophia is the Seraglio, ancient residence of the Ottoman Sultans, the spot from which this great Empire was ruled for centuries. Spread through a vast garden, it consists of several structures and sections. The Pavilion of the Treasury contains a collection of jewelry unmatched anywhere in the world. The Chinese porcelain section is also immensely interesting. Here are gathered rich collections originating from the Sung and the Yun dynasties of the 9th to the 14th century. The so-called "Bagdat Köşkü" was built by Murat IV to celebrate his capture of Baghdad in 1638. Close by is the Tulip Garden and the old Harem quarters. It is no overstatement to say that the Seraglio Palace (the Topkapı Museum) is a temple of art and history, spotlighting nearly five centuries of Turkish culture.

(cont'd on page 22)






Code numbers in the Istanbul section of this booklet refer to the above map. Thus

(K3) is located where lines drawn from "K" and "3" cross each other.

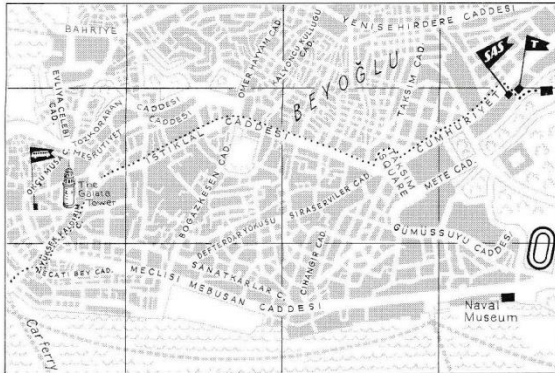
Interesting sights in Istanbul

- | | |
|---|---|
| (A2/3/4) The Aqueduct of Valens. Nearby are the Fatih Mosque, the Fatih Museum, and the Municipal Museum. | (C8) The Sunken Palace. |
| (A6) The Beyazit Mosque. | (E8) The Seraglio Palace: Topkapı Museum, Treasury, Archaeological Museums, and the Seraglio Gardens. |
| (B6) The Grand Bazaar. | (F4) St. Sophia. |
| (B4) The Süleymaniye Mosque, and the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Art. | (D6) The Yeni Cami Mosque. |
| (B7) The Constantine Column. | (F3) The Galata Tower. |
| (B9) The Blue Mosque (Sultan Ahmed), and the Hippodrome. | (J3) Taksim Square. |
| (C1) The Eyüp Mosque. | (L5) The Dolmabahçe Palace. |
| | (K5) The Naval Museum. |
| | (J4) Istanbul Opera House. |

Useful addresses

-  **SAS Ticket Office:**
Cumhuriyet Caddesi, Altınbakkal (K3).
Tel. 46 60 75 (Office hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.).
-  **Turkish Government Tourist Office:**
Hilton Arcade, Altınbakkal (L3) (near the SAS office).
Tel. 48 63 00, 48 68 64. (Office hours: 9 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.).
-  **Siğhane Air Terminal (E4).**

Distance from city center to airport: 15 miles (23 km).



One hour's walk around Istanbul

Start out from the Hilton Hotel, strolling Cumhuriyet Caddesi, past the lovely Taksim Park to Taksim Square. Bear right at the square along İstiklâl Avenue – the city's main thoroughfare and shopping street until you reach Tünel district. From here you can take the side street to Galata Tower, now restored and having a restaurant on top, from where you'll enjoy a magnificent vista of the Golden Horn and the Bosphorus. Stroll on, after you've descended, via Yüksek Kaldırım, to Istanbul's famous Galata Bridge which joins the new quarter with the old. An amble back around the bank of the Bosphorus offers you interesting viewing. Alternatively, if time is not on your side, a taxi will get you back to the SAS office in 10 to 20 minutes.

(cont'd from page 19)

The old Seraglio also houses the Archaeological Museum – famous for its ancient Phoenician, Greek and Roman collections. One of its contents is the sarcophagus of Alexander the Great. Nearby is the Museum of Oriental Archaeology with collections of treasures from the Hittite, Assyrian and Egyptian epochs. The wonderful vista from the Seraglio gardens alone is worth your visit. All the pavilions of the Seraglio Palace are open from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Closed Tuesdays. The Treasury is open between 9.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturdays, while other pavilions open from 1 to 4.30 p.m. On Sundays only the Treasury is open, 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Admission to the Archaeological Museum daily (except Mondays) 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Constantine Column (B7), on the avenue leading from St. Sophia to Beyazit Square, was brought from Rome by Constantine. It consists of nine cylindrical blocks of porphyry.

The Beyazit Mosque (A6), on the Beyazit Square, near the Fire Tower, is one of the most beautiful mosques of Istanbul, and the first to be built in 16th-century Turkish style.

The Süleymaniye Mosque (B4), is famed as one of the world's finest and noblest religious edifices. Built in the 16th century by the great Turkish architect Sinan, it is characterized by the symmetrical style of both its façade and its interior. The height of its great dome measures 174 feet (54 meters), diameter 105 feet (32 meters).

The Museum of Turkish and Islamic Art (B4). Here you'll browse collections of Seljuk carpets, gold Korans and beautiful miniatures, besides old manuscripts and books.

The Aqueduct of Valens (A2/4). The Aqueduct was constructed about 1,700 years ago during the reign of the Emperor Valens to carry water between two of the Istanbul hills. The district in which the Aqueduct stands is named Fatih (Conqueror) after the famous Sultan Mehmed the Conqueror and here you will also find the Fatih Mosque (1771) and the Fatih Museum, which exhibits interesting historic collections depicting Istanbul and the Bosphorus through the ages. Admission: daily (except Thursdays) from 10 to 12 noon and 1 to 3 p.m.

The Kariye Mosque (off B1) – originally a Byzantine Church – is open daily except Tuesdays from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. and is well worth a visit, particularly for its beautiful mosaics.

The Eyüp Mosque (off C1), reached by boat from the Galata Bridge. In the courtyard, thousands of pigeons are fed by the faithful, and salesmen display their sacred books, framed papers with verses from the Koran, prayer-beads and little flacons of perfume. From the small Pierre Loti Café behind the mosque there is an excellent view of the Golden Horn.

The Yeni Cami Mosque (or the **New Mosque**), is situated at the head of the Galata Bridge (D6). A fine specimen of Turkish Art with harmonious proportions, it was built during the first half of the 17th century and is renowned for the beautiful tiles adorning its interior.

The Galata Tower (F4). An ancient building, said to date from the 5th century. When Istanbul was captured by the Genoese, it was called the Jesus Tower and used as an observatory. The view of the city from the top (244 feet – 65 meters) is magnificent. Nearby is the "Tunnel", a short underground railway, leading from Galata to Beyoğlu, a trip of only two minutes. At the upper end is the beginning of the local "Broadway", İstiklâl Caddesi, lined with theaters, cinemas, shops, restaurants and hotels. (The Tourist Information Office will advise you of the times the Tower is open for viewing.)

Taksim Square (J3/4). The Memorial to the War of Independence, erected in 1928, stands in the center.

The Dolmabahçe Palace (L5) is one of numerous royal palaces which dot the shores of the Bosphorus. Constructed in 1853 by Sultan Abdülmecid, its architecture is varied in style, created partly by European architects, partly by Turkish designers. The interior is decorated in porphyry, crystal and other precious materials, and it was in this palace that Kemal

Atatürk died. At present it is closed to visitors while renovations are taking place.

The Naval Museum (K5) is situated at Beşiktaş near the Dolmabahçe Palace. Interesting collections outline Turkish naval history from the times of the great Ottoman Empire to that of modern Turkey. Open daily except Mondays and Tuesdays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

OUTLYING INTEREST-POINTS

The Bosphorus – This scenic, 18-mile-long strait separating European Turkey from Asian Turkey offers a delightful number of sightseeing possibilities. For a typical half-day sample catch the motorboat or ferry leaving Galata Bridge at 9 a.m. Either will take you along a coast embellished with wondrous old palaces, charming villages, summer villas and beaches. Crowned gem among these coastal jewels is the 15th-century Turkish Castle, Rumelihisar, situated at the narrowest point of the Bosphorus. (Note: the use of cameras and field glasses is prohibited beyond Yeniköy – a military zone.) To give variation to your tour, leave the boat at Sariyer, from where, in 45 minutes, you can return by bus to Taksim Square.

The Princes Isles. A number of all-day excursions operate by boat from Galata Bridge to this idyllic group of islands. Take the ferry to Buyukada (Prinkipo), the largest of the nine isles which lie in the sea of Marmara.

It's a trip that starts with a magnificent deckside view of the Blue Mosque, St. Sophia and the Barracks of Selim (where during the Crimean War, 1854–57, Florence Nightingale started her nursing career); which calls en route at Haydarpasa, terminal for the Ankara and Tarsus Express, Kinali, Brugaz and Heybeliada; and which climaxes at Buyukada, where you can variegate between the pleasures of a horse-drawn carriage tour of the peaceful, wooded island, to a delectable seafood lunch at Çayyo or Akasya.

EXCURSIONS IN THE AEGEAN

Izmir. The city of Izmir (or Smyrna) was founded in 3000 B.C. by the Lelegi. Colonized by the ancient Aeolians, it is the spot where Homer the poet once lived. The Citadel, Agora and the Museum of Antiquities are well worth exploring. Izmir possesses a number of de luxe and first class hotels – The Ephesus and Taner Hotels, for example – all overlooking the Aegean Sea, and can be reached in an hour from Istanbul by Turkish domestic flights.

Ephesus. One hour's drive from Izmir, Ephesus featured in many scenes of Biblical history. Here St. Paul preached and St. John wrote his gospel. It is purported to be, moreover, the last earthly abode of Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

Troy. Situated in the Dardanelles region where the ferocious 10-year Trojan War was fought for the lovely Helen is the little that remains of the legendary city of Troy.

Pamukkale. For a time called Hierapolis after Hiera, wife of King Telefos of Mycia, Pamukkale is blessed with health-re-

storing spa-waters, a fact that popularized this resort among Roman kings and queens. Pamukkale lies 14 miles (22 km) from Denizli or two hours' drive from Izmir.

EXCURSIONS ALONG THE MEDITERRANEAN

Turkey's Riviera offers, as one would imagine, its own necklace of exotic sun-sand spots, each enhanced for the visitor with remnants of great history. Antalya, Aspendos, Side, Alanya and Myra are perfect examples.

Antalya. A renowned summer resort even in the days of the Seljuk Turks, 800 years ago, Antalya – queen city of this Turkish coast – caters to both the explorers of the ancient and the littoral-lovers. For all, the fascination of a 200-year-old bridge, a Grooved Minaret dating back to 1230 and the Karatay Mosque of 1250, complement the sheer joy of miles of white sand beaches set tropically amidst banana plantations and orange groves. Best reached by air for those in a hurry (and who wouldn't be?) – 1¾ hours away!

Aspendos (Belkis). Aspendos, 32 miles (50 km) east of Antalya, is the site of the best-preserved Roman amphitheater in the world. It seats 15,000, and is still used for open-air performances today.

Side. Twenty miles (32 km) further east along the coast from Aspendos, Side provides a rare and splendid sight for the visitor arriving by sea: a beautiful ancient amphitheater stands at its very shore.

Entertainment and night life

The State Opera in Ankara and the Istanbul Opera House (J4) offer local and foreign performances (October to May). Excellent theaters stage dramas ranging from Shakespeare to Sherwood, in Turkish. The Philharmonic Orchestra gives symphonic concerts at the San Theater (K3) with visiting soloists of international standing.

In addition, there are numerous instrumental recitals and chamber-music concerts at various venues throughout the city. Check the Weekly Tourist Information Bulletin for all current events.

Modern cinemas show American and European films with an English sound track and Turkish subtitles. Movie theaters situated centrally include the Emek, Konak, Site, As, Kent and Gazi. Performances usually start at 2.30, 4.30, 6.30 and 9.15 p.m. with an extra show on Sundays at 11 a.m. It is advisable to reserve seats beforehand; let your hotel porter arrange these for you.

For dinner, dancing and floorshows, Kervansaray (K3), Parisien (K3), Module (K3), Regine (K3), Hilton Hotel (K3), Sheraton Hotel (K3), Club 12 (J4), Lâlezar (K4), and Tiffany (K3), rank among the best places to go. If you're here during the summer, try the Lido, Çınar at Yesilköy and Boğaziçi Gazinosu at Yeniköy, Büyük Tarabya, Bosphorus – all outside the city.



Nightclubs are usually open late, often from about 10.30 p.m. until dawn. They're good – with excellent orchestras and usually featuring international floorshows. Aside from the establishments listed above, you'll like Taksim Pavillon, and Cumhuriyet. Should you prefer nightclubs with a real local atmosphere, take in the Tepesbaşı or Casablanca casino.

For gamblers, Casino d'Istanbul, located at the Hilton Hotel, is open daily from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m.

Shopping

The major shopping districts comprise the Grand Bazaar (B6) and Beyoğlu, with an emphasis on the main thoroughfare İstiklâl Caddesi.

Besides the typical souvenirs listed on page 5, which you will find all around you in the shops and stores of Istanbul the following could prove useful if you have specific items in mind.

If Yildiz porcelain – hand-painted by selected Turkish artists – takes your fancy, you can best secure this from the principal shop of the factory at Cumhuriyet Caddesi, (L1/2). For those particularly interested in elaborate hand-embroideries, with old, traditional motifs, there's a wide selection in Olgunlasma Institute on İstiklâl Caddesi.

Transportation

Buses cover the entire city area, and the Tunnel – a short-distance subway constructed in 1880 – provides the fastest connection between Galata and Beyoğlu. You pay according to the length of the ride. In addition to these traditional means of transport there are in Istanbul both taxis and "dolmuş" taxis – see "Transportation", page 6.

In addition to the new Bosphorus Bridge (off map) numerous ferry boats link the European and Asian shores. Departure points are the Galata Bridge on the European side and Üsküdar on the Asiatic side.

The principal suburban and long-distance bus lines depart from Taksim Square (J3/4).

For those who care to take advantages of them, there are also a good many chauffeur-driven cars in Istanbul – and special day-taxi hire concessions. If you're interested, ask at the SAS Office.

Sports

The waters around Istanbul provide fine facilities for swimming, boating and fishing. On the Asiatic side there are excellent facilities for swimming and sailing at Kadıköy (the Yacht Club of the Moda Bay, the Sailing Club at Fenerbahçe). From here the wonderful bathing beaches of Süadiye and Küçük Yalı are easily reached. A little further on is the lovely Kilyos Beach at the Black Sea. Take the bus from Taksim Square or the boat from the Galata Bridge to Sarıyer (see Excursions), and from there the bus to Kilyos. The Kumburgaz beaches on the South Coast on the Marmara Sea are excellent, too.

Hunters will be delighted at the variety of game. Near the city there are grouse, pheasant, quail and different kinds of wild duck and wild geese, as well as hare. Let the Government Tourist Office or the Municipal Tourist Information Office advise you.

Horse-racing, soccer, wrestling, basketball and tennis are popular sports. If you want to see a game, you will find a list of the sporting events in the "Weekly Tourist Information Bulletin".

Climate and clothing

Istanbul enjoys an ideal climate in spring, summer and autumn, with long periods of warm, dry, pleasant weather, cool evenings, and occasional rain. In July and August the average temperature is 72°F (22.5°C). Winter is not severe although there is a little snow from time to time. Coldest and most rainy months are February and March, with an average temperature of 40°F (4.5°C), so dress accordingly.

A raincoat will be useful at all times, while in winter, woolen clothing and warm topcoat are indispensable.

Formal dress is only necessary when visiting the most distinguished night clubs. Your hotel will take care of laundry and dry cleaning – prices are reasonable, and the job is done satisfactorily.

Religious services

Protestant churches: Union Church (Dutch Chapel), Postacılar Sokak (G4); Crimean Memorial Church, Yazıcı Sokak (G4); German Church, Aynalıçeşme (G3).

Roman Catholic churches: The Holy Spirit Cathedral, Altınbakkal (L3); St. Antonio di Padova, İstiklâl Cad. (H3).

Synagogue: Neve Schalom, Küçük Hendeke (F4).

Greek Orthodox: Aghia Triada (St. Trinity), Taksim (J4).

Edited by Mike Simon

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