

ISTANBUL GUIDE 2010



OLD CITY (Sultanahmet – Çemberlitaş - Eminönü) / HISTORY 😊

- Hagia Sophia
 - As we called "Ayasofya" Hagia Sophia is the fourth biggest Cathedral in the world
- Blue Mosque (Sultan Ahmet Mosque)
- Topkapı Palace
 - The most important Ottoman Palace / Topkapı is definitely the best looking palace in Turkey.
- Yerebatan Sarayı (Underground Palace)
- Gülhane Park – Ottoman Empire's park.
 - Archeological Museum in the park / If you like archeology, you must see it!
- Istanbul University Gate
 - The oldest university in Turkey...
- Grand Bazaar (Kapalı Çarşı)
- Egyptian Bazaar (Mısır Çarşısı)
- Yeni Camii
 - It's popular with birds. You can feed them 😊

- Dinner Alternatives
 - Konyalı Rest@Topkapı Palace

- Hamdi Rest @Eminonu
- Café Levanten @ Rahmi Koc Museum Café

BEYOĞLU – KARAKÖY- KABATAŞ / ENTERTAINMENT LIFE >> Life there ☺

Bars, cafes, dinner places, wine & dinner, shopping >> everything at there. If you like real lively culture, you must see!!! ☺

- Istiklal Street (Taksim Area)
- Saint Antuan Kathedral (on the Istiklal Street)
- Asmalimescit / Tünel (Nice local restaurants)
- Tünel Metro / It's 3rd oldest metro of the world.
- Galata Tower
 - 360 Panorama Istanbul
- Istanbul Modern Museum
 - Happy Hour
- "Nargile" Waterpipe Experience / Tophane Cafes
- Dinner Alternatives
 - Galata Tower Restaurant
 - KV Café @Tünel / Live Jazz Music
 - Big Chef's @Tünel , House Café etc.
 - Liman Restaurant
 - Anemon Hotel Roof Rest.
 - Leb-i Derya
 - 360
- Other
 - "Mevlevi" Ceremony@Tünel

NİŞANTAŞI / DINNER

- Nice town with luxury Shopping / very chic & expensive restaurants

BOSPHORUS SIDE / PANOROMA ☺ If the weather is ok, you can take a public tour. It's also for tourists. It's in NOT very high standarts but it would be nice to see Bosphorus from sea ☺

- Kabataş
- Beşiktaş
 - Very local town ☺ You can take a Bosphorus tour from there.
- Ortaköy
 - The town under Fatih Sultan Mehmet Bridge – Very nice Bosphorus panoramic view (cafes, restaurants, women's market which they sell accessories, hand-made stuff etc.)
 - You can take a Bosphorus tour from there as well
- Bebek
 - Very nice Bosphorus town. (Not very very important but it's local. Nice to have.)
- Tarabya

Pelin's Recommendations

- **1 Day**
 - Day time @ OLD CITY! ☺
 - Dinner
 - @ Bosphorus
 - Boat Tour
 - or
 - Ortaköy House Café
 - Night @ Bosphorus Night Clubs! (Suada, Reina, Sortie)

- **1 Day ☺**
 - Walk on the İstiklal Street.
 - Shopping
 - Nice cafes, bars
 - Crowd ☺

 - Lunch @ Asmalımescit / Tünel area.
 - Otto , KV Café, House Café , Sofyalı (more traditional Turkish tastes)

 - Istanbul Overview from Galata Tower – I hope the weather will be clear ☺
 - Take photos of Istanbul ☺
 - Walk to Karaköy from Galata Tower. / Nice old Beyoğlu streets or take a taxi to Karaköy which is very close ☺

 - Walk to from Karaköy to Salı Pazarı and see Modern Museum
 - Modern Museum: <http://www.istanbulmodern.org/>
 - Modern Museum Café / Have a drink with very nice Marmara view (Old City and Bridges, Asian side panorama ☺)

 - Water Pipe Smoking Cafes are very close to Modern Museum.
If you like, you can have a aromatic water pipe experience & Turkish coffee which we called "Nargile" and enjoy ☺

 - Dinner @ Karaköy Liman Lokantası
 - <http://www.capacapa.com/ll/>

 - Turn back to Beyoğlu / Tünel * Night Clubs.
 - Babylon >>> live concerts
 - Novo >> jazz alternative sounds! good music! ☺
 - Cuba Bar
 - Public
 - 360

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS !

- Nice to have if you want to have a real Turkish experience as taste. You can find all of them @Beyoğlu ☺
 - Hacıbekir Sugars & Turkish Delights
 - Raki
 - (Tradional Turkish Drink (Alcohol % 45 percent of it))
 - Bebek Marzipans
 - Turkish Kebaps
 - Iskender Kebap!
 - Koska Helva
 - Turkish sweet like Turkish delight! ☺
 - Turkish Coffee
 - Kokoreç
 - Bambi Hamburger
 - Mado Ice-cream
 - Ver y good Turkish ice-cream
 - Turkish Hammam and Massage
 - <http://www.galatasarayhamami.com/>

HOTEL Recommendations

- **The Sofa Hotel** / @Nişantaşı new and very boutique hotel (One of my favorites /120-150 Euro)
 - <http://www.thesofahotelsandresidences.com/>
- **W Hotel** / New and very fancy, stylish hotel @ Nişantaşı (one of the most expensive)
 - <http://www.wistanbul.com.tr/>
- **The Marmara Pera** / Business Hotel with very nice location (100 - 120 Euro / Good and new hotel and location is very nice . Very close to Tunel area)
 - <http://www.themarmarahotels.com/The-Marmara-Pera/tr/index.asp>
- **The Marmara Taksim** / at the main center! The most central one! J
 - <http://www.themarmarahotels.com/The-Marmara-Taksim/tr/index.asp>
- **Conrad Hotel** / Business Hotel with Bosphorus view (nice but may be expensive ! The rooms with no view / cheaper)
 - <http://conradhotels1.hilton.com/en/ch/hotels/index.do?ctyhocn=ISTHCCI>
- **Ansen Suits** / Very close to Tunel area which has stylish and modern suits (65 m2) (probably one of the cheapest and good ones . 119 Euro for 2 / but it may change according to the season)
 - <http://www.ansensuites.com/>
- **The Marmara Şişli** / Good prices, new and business hotel! Not fancy location but very central as well

- <http://www.themarmarahotels.com/The-Marmara-Sisli/index.asp>

USEFUL LINKS

- <http://english.istanbul.com/?Vst=2> / General city guide
- <http://www.letsgoistanbul.com/attraction.htm> / General city guide info
- <http://www.galatatower.net/eng/index.php> / Galata Tower
- <http://www.topkapisarayi.gov.tr/eng/indexalt.html> / Topkapi Palace
- <http://english.istanbul.gov.tr/> Government of Istanbul
 - You can find about Lots of attractions information there.
- <http://www.planetware.com/tourist-attractions-/istanbul-tr-is-i.htm> / Attractions.