



# ISTANBUL

## I Love you

ART

ARCHITECTURE

OTHER

This is a personal 15 day trip map to Istanbul by Virginia Duran. It is in conjunction to Google maps directions. Oriented towards architecture, it shows what to visit, why, where and when. Prices and other helpful tips about this city. Importance is marked with (\*) being (\*\*\*\*) the must see. See end for useful links.

	WHAT	Architect	WHERE	Notes
Zone 1: Sultanahmet				
*****	Topkapı Palace	Mehmed II, Alaüddin, Davud Ağa, Mimar Sinan and Sarkis Balyan	Sultanahmet, Eminönü	Built in 1459 as the primary residence of the Ottoman Sultans for approximately 400 years (1465-1856). Libidinoultans, ambitious courtiers, beautiful concubines and scheming eunuchs lived and worked here between the 15th and 19th centuries when it was the court of the Ottoman empire. A visit to the palace's opulent pavilions, jewel-filled Treasury and sprawling Harem gives a fascinating glimpse into their lives. The palace complex consists of four main courtyards and many smaller buildings. Don't miss the Imperial Gate, through which the sultan would enter. Admission ₺72, Harem ₺42. Wed-Mon (9am-6.45pm)
**	Hagia Irene	-	Cankurtaran Mh.	Meaning "Holy Peace", was built in the 4th century as the first church built in Constantinople. It stands on the site of a pre-Christian temple and is part of the Topkapı Palace complex. It was burned down during the Nika revolt in 532. Emperor Justinian I had the church restored in 548 and is the only example of a Byzantine church in the city which retains its original atrium. It is one of the few churches in Istanbul that has not been converted into a mosque. The Hagia Irene today operates as a museum and concert hall. Wed-Mon (9am-5pm)
*	Archaeological Museum	-	Osman Hamdi Bey Yokuşu Sokak, Gülhane	Commissioned by Osman Hamdi Bey in 1883 as a fine arts school. Then it was reorganised as a museum, which opened in 1935. This superb museum showcases archaeological and artistic treasures from the Topkapı collections. Housed in three buildings, its exhibits include ancient artefacts, classical statuary and an exhibition tracing Istanbul's history. There are many highlights, but the sarcophagi from the Royal Necropolis of Sidon are particularly striking. It is formed by 3 museums: The Archaeological Museum, the Ancient Orient Museum (Eski Şark Eserleri Müzesi) and Tiled Kiosk Museum (Çinili Köşk Müzesi). General admission ₺20. Tue-Sun (9am-7pm)
**	Tiled Kiosk	-	Alemdar Cad. Osman Hamdi Bey Yokuşu Sok.	Built in 1472 as a pleasure palace or kiosk. It is one of the oldest structures in Istanbul featuring Ottoman civil architecture, and was a part of the Topkapı Palace outer gardens. The square, axial plan represents the four corners of the world and symbolizes, in architectural terms, the universal authority and sovereignty of the Sultan. As there is no Byzantine influence, the building is ascribed to an unknown Persian architect. It now works as part of the Archaeological Museum (tiles and pottery). Admission included in Hagia Sophia Museum Ticket. Tue-Sun (9am-5pm)
****	Hagia Sophia	Isidore of Miletus Anthemius of Tralles	Ayasofya Meydanı, Sultanahmet Fatih	Built in 532 as a former Greek Orthodox patriarchal basilica (church), later an imperial mosque, and now a museum. It contains two floors centered on a giant nave that has a great dome ceiling, along with smaller domes, towering above. It has served as a cathedral, mosque and now a museum. It was commissioned by the great Byzantine emperor Justinian, consecrated as a church in 537, converted to a mosque by Mehmet the Conqueror in 1453 and declared a museum by Atatürk in 1935 - surpasses the rest due to its innovative architectural form, rich history, religious importance and extraordinary beauty. When it was first constructed, Constantinople was the capital of the Byzantine Empire. General admission ₺72. Mon-Sun (9am-7pm)
**	Basilica Cistern	-	Şeftali Sokak No:6	Built by Justinian in 532 as a cistern. Known in Byzantium as the Basilica Cistern because it lay underneath the Stoa Basilica, one of the great squares on the first hill, it was used to store water for the Great Palace and surrounding buildings. The cistern is 65m wide



				and 143m long, and its roof is supported by 336 columns arranged in 12 rows. Oh and don't miss the miss the two columns in the northwestern corner supported by upside-down Medusa heads. Photographs from here are amazing, bring your tripod. The cistern was used as a location for the 1963 James Bond film From Russia with Love. General admission ₺20. Mon-Sun (9am-5.30pm)
**	Baths of Roxelana	Mimar Sinan	Cankurtaran Mah., Bab-ı Hümayum Cd No:1	The Haseki Hürrem Sultan Hamamı was built in 1556 at the request of Hurrem Sultan (Roxelana), the wife of Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent where the ancient public baths of Zeuxippos. The 75 m (246 ft) long structure is designed in the style of classical Ottoman baths having two symmetrical separate sections for males and females. Both sections, situated in north-south direction, are on the same axis that was a novelty in the Turkish bath architecture. The men's section is in the north while the women's part is in the south. The hamam was operational until 1910 when it closed for many years. It now offers the most luxurious traditional bath experience bath treatments €70-165, massages €40-75. Mon-Sun (8am-10pm)
**	Firuz Ağa Mosque	Firuz Ağa	Binbirdirek Mh.c	The Firuz Ağa Mosque is a 15th-century Ottoman mosque built in 1491. The pre-classical design has a single minaret and triple arched portico similar to those built in Bursa. The tomb of Firuz Ağa, builder of the mosque, was pulled down in the middle of the 19th century. The mosque was featured in the film From Russia With Love 1963.
***	Sultan Ahmed Mosque	Sedefkâr Mehmed Ağa	Sultan Ahmet Mh., Torun Sk No:19	Know as the Blue Mosque for the blue tiles adorning the walls of its interior, it was built in 1616. It has six minarets and this is very unique, as most mosques have four, two, or just one minaret. According to one account, the Sultan directed his architect to make gold (altın) minarets, which was misunderstood as six (altı) minarets. Before step in to Mosque, take off your shoes and put in plastic bags provided at the entrance. If you are a woman you must wear a head covering. On summer evenings at 9pm, there is a historical narrative and a light show. FREE admission.
***	Hippodrome of Constantinople	-	Sultanahmet Meydanı (Sultan Ahmet Square)	Built in AD 324 as a circus and race-track, after the Emperor Constantine the Great decided to move the seat of the government from Rome to Byzantium. Throughout this period, the Hippodrome was the centre of the city's social life. Only a few fragments of the original structure survive. Don't miss the Serpent Column (it celebrates the victory of the Greeks over the Persians), the Obelisk of Thutmose III (brought from Egypt into three pieces), the Column of Constantine (originally covered with gold until 1204, which got removed by the Crusaders), the Walled Obelisk and the Statues of Porphyrios (the bases of two of them have survived and are displayed in the Istanbul Archaeological Museum).
*	Boukoleon Palace		Sultan Ahmet, Kennedy Cd. No:40, 34122 Fatih/İstanbul	The Palace of Boukoleon was one of the Byzantine palaces in Constantinople. The palace is located on the shore of the Sea of Marmara, to the south of the Hippodrome and east of the Little Hagia Sophia. Boukoleon palace was probably built during the reign of Theodosius II in the 5th century. Emperor Theophilos rebuilt and expanded the palace, adding a large façade on top of the seaward walls and in 969 Emperor Nikephoros II built a circuit wall. Boukoleon would remain the main palace for the Byzantine court until the 11th century with the construction of the Palace of Blachernae by the Komnenos dynasty. The ruins of the palace were partially destroyed in 1873 to make way for the railway line to Sirkeci.
*****	Little Hagia Sophia	Isidorus of Miletus and Anthemius of Tralles	Küçük Ayasofya Mh. Demirci Reşit Sk No:28	Justinian and his wife Theodora built this little church sometime between 527 and 536, just before Justinian built Aya Sofya. Named after Sergius and Bacchus, the two patron saints of Christians in the Roman army. The building's dome is architecturally noteworthy and its plan (an irregular octagon) is quite unusual. Like Aya Sofya, its interior was originally decorated with gold mosaics and featured columns made from fine green and red marble. The mosaics are long gone, but the impressive columns remain. Frequently not open to visitors.
Zone 2: Eminoju + Grand Bazaar + Fatih				
*****	Nuruosmaniye Mosque	Mustafa Ağa and Simon Kalfa	Vezir Han Caddesi	Built in 1755 as one of the finest examples of mosques in Ottoman Baroque style. It doesn't have an ablution fountain and the colonnaded portico has a half circle plan, features which are very rare. Though it was meant to exhibit the sultans' 'modern' taste, the baroque building has very strong echoes of Aya Sofya. Open daily except prayer times
**	Grand Bazaar	-	Nuruosmaniye	Built in 1455 as one of the largest and oldest covered markets in the world. Starting as a small vaulted bedesten (warehouse) built by order of Mehmet the Conqueror in 1461, it grew to cover a vast area as lanes between the bedesten, neighbouring shops and hans (caravanserais) were roofed and the market assumed the sprawling,



				labyrinthine form that it retains today. When here, be sure to peep through doorways to discover hidden hans, veer down narrow lanes to watch artisans at work and wander the main thoroughfares to differentiate treasures from tourist tack. Beautiful marble drinking fountains inside. Mon-Sat (9am-7pm)
*****	Beyazıt State Library	Tabanlıoğlu Architects	Beyazıt, Çadırcılar Cd. No:4, 34126 Fatih/İstanbul	Istanbul's oldest library, the Beyazıt Public Library, was refurbished in 2015. First founded in 1884, the State Library building was originally the soup kitchen and Caravanserai of a complex that included a kitchen, a primary school, a hospital, a madrasah and a hammam. The library is a section of the Kulliyah of the Beyazıt Mosque- the oldest surviving imperial mosque in the city- built by Sultan Beyazıt II and completed in 1506. The complex (Kulliyah) spatially surrounds and defines the historic Beyazıt Square.
*****	Bayezid II Mosque	Yakub Sah bin Sultan Sah	Beyazıt Square	Built in 1506 as an Ottoman imperial mosque. The Beyazidiye Camii was commissioned by Ottoman Sultan Bayezid II, and was the second large imperial mosque complex to be erected in Istanbul after the conquest. As the earliest complex, the Fatih Mosque was subsequently destroyed by earthquakes and completely rebuilt in a different style, the Beyazidiye complex is of considerable historical and architectural significance. The courtyard is a colonnaded peristyle, with twenty ancient columns of porphyry, verd antique and granite salvaged from churches and ancient ruins, roofed with 24 small domes, and with a pavement in polychrome marble. The dome was partially rebuilt after an earthquake in 1509, and Mimar Sinan conducted further repairs in 1573-74. The minarets burned separately in 1683 and 1764. An inscription above the courtyard entrance suggests that repairs were also conducted in 1767.
*****	Istanbul University	-	Beyazıt Square	Originally built by Constantine the Great as the Forum Tauri and was later enlarged by Theodosius the Great in 393 as the Forum of Theodosius during the Roman period. This is the largest of the city's universities. It moved to this location in the late 19th century, taking over a handsome Ministry of War building that had been designed by Auguste Bourgeois in 1866. There is a grandiose entrance arch fronting the square built in 1984. and an 85m-tall stone tower in the grounds. The current form of the square is by Turgut Cansever.
*	Beyazıt Fire Tower	-	Beyazıt Square	Located inside the campus, this tower was used for some time as a weather forecast. Beyazıt Tower was ordered by the Ottoman Sultan Mahmud II (1808-1839), and designed by Senekerim Balyan, who built it of stone in 1828 on the place of the original wooden Beyazıt Tower, which was destroyed in a fire and was constructed earlier by the architect's brother, Krikor Balyan. Its yellow light shows the Istanbul citizens that there will be fog, red light shows snow, green light rain and blue light shows that the weather will be sunny.
***	Laleli Mosque	Mehmet Tahir Ağa	Ordu Cd and Fethi Bey Cd	Built as a burial church in 922 by the Byzantine emperor Romanos Lekapenos, this small brick structure was converted into a mosque following the Ottoman conquest in 1783. Its floor plan is an octagon inscribed within a rectangle, with a gallery on its western end. Wavy domes, many windows, and animated facades were usually used in Ottoman architecture at that time. It is also known as the Tulip Mosque. Mon-Sun except prayer times
***	Pertevniyal Valide Sultan Mosque	Monati Effendi	Ordu Street and Atatürk Boulevard	Built in 1872 as one of the last mosques built in Istanbul during the Ottoman Empire for the Sultana Pertevniyal, wife of Sultan Mahmud II and mother of Sultan Abdülaziz. The complex, which comprises several buildings around a central mosque (külliye), was commissioned by Pertevniyal Valide Sultan and consists of a mosque, a tomb, a sabil, a public fountain, a clock-room where timepieces for calculating prayer times accurately on a daily basis were kept, a library, and a theological school (madrasa).The building is a mixture of Turkish, Gothic, Renaissance, and Empire styles. It is also unique in the details of the rock work.
***	Şehzade Mosque	Mimar Sinan	Kalenderhane Mh	Built in 1548 as an Ottoman imperial mosque to commemorate Sultan Süleyman's son who was killed in 1543 while returning to Istanbul after a victorious military campaign in Hungary at the early age of 22 y/o. The interior is amazingly quiet in comparison to its busy exterior. Suleiman is said to have personally mourned the death of Mehmed for forty days at his temporary tomb in Istanbul, the site upon which the imperial architect Mimar Sinan would construct a lavish mausoleum to Mehmed as one part of a larger mosque complex dedicated to the princely heir. The complex was Sinan's first important imperial commission and one of his most ambitious architectural works, even though it was designed early in his long career.
*	Valens Aqueduct	-	Atatürk Bulvarı	Built in 368 AD as a Roman aqueduct which was the major water-providing system of the Eastern Roman and it linked the third and fourth hills. The surviving section is 921 metres long, about 50 metres



				less than the original length. The Valens aqueduct, which originally got its water from the slopes of the hills between Kağıthane and the Sea of Marmara, was merely one of the terminal points of this new wide system of aqueducts and canals—which eventually reached over 250 kilometres (160 mi) in total length, the longest such system of Antiquity—that stretched throughout the hill-country of Thrace and provided the capital with water. Once in the city, the water was stored in three open reservoirs and over a hundred underground cisterns, such as the Basilica Cistern, with a combined capacity of over one million cubic metres.
**	Fatih Mosque	Atik Sinan and Mimar Mehmet Tahir	Fevzi Paşa Caddes	Built in 1463 as the first great imperial mosque built in İstanbul following the Conquest. Mehmet the Conqueror chose to locate it on the hilltop site of the ruined Church of the Apostles, burial place of Constantine and other Byzantine emperors. Mehmet decided to be buried here as well – his tomb is behind the mosque. It was destroyed during an earthquake in 1766. The current mosque was constructed between 1767 and 1771. Sahn-ı Seman Medrese, a main center for the study of various traditional Islamic sciences such as theology, law, medicine, astronomy, physics and mathematics, was part of the Fatih Mosque and was founded by the Persian astronomer Ali Qushji who was invited by Mehmed to his court in İstanbul.
**	Zeyrek Mosque	-	Fazilet Sokağı	Built in 1124 as a church which was then converted into a mosque. It was formerly the Church of the Monastery of Pantokrator, built in the late-middle Byzantine period. It's made of two former Eastern Orthodox churches and a chapel. Close to the Mosque is placed the small Şeyh Süleyman Mescidi, a small byzantine building belonging also to the Pantokrator Monastery. It's after Hagia Sophia, the second largest religious edifice built by the Byzantines remaining in İstanbul. This area is dangerous at night.
**	Chora Church	-	Kariye Müzesi, Eyüp, Kariye Cami Sk No:26	The Chora Church was originally built as part of a monastery complex outside the walls of Constantinople, to the south of the Golden Horn. The church was destroyed during the Latin invasion (1204-1261) and repaired. In the 16th century, during the Ottoman era, the church was converted into a mosque and, finally, it became a museum in 1948. The mosaics and frescoes in the Chora are the most beautiful examples dating from the last period of the Byzantine painting (14th century). Taxi is the easiest way to get here. General admission ₺30. The museum opens Thu-Tue (9am-7pm)
**	Palace of the Porphyrogenitus		Ayvansaray, 34087 Fatih/İstanbul	Tekfur Palace is the only palace to survive from the Blaherne Palace complex in İstanbul. It is a late 13th-century Byzantine palace in the north-western part of the old city of Constantinople. The Palace was constructed during the late 13th or early 14th centuries as part of the Blachernae palace complex, where the Theodosian Walls join with the later walls of the suburb of Blachernae. General admission ₺20, student ₺5. Mon-Sun (9am-6pm)
**	Pammakaristos Church	-	FethiyeKapisi Sok	Built in 1200 as a church and then in 1591 converted into a mosque and known as Fethiye Mosque ("mosque of the conquest"). Very very beautiful mosaics on its interior. The transformation of the church into a mosque changed the original building greatly. The arcades connecting the main aisle with the deambulatoria were removed and were replaced with broad archways to open up the nave. The three apses were removed too.
****	Phanar Greek Orthodox College		Balat Mahallesi, Sancaktar Ykş. No:36	Located within the historical district of Balat, this area has been the seat of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate and therefore one of the most important Greek neighborhoods in İstanbul since 1600. This school, established in 1454 and still open for the same purpose, is the oldest surviving and most prestigious Greek Orthodox school in İstanbul. The current building dates to 1883.
*****	Süleymaniye Mosque	Mimar Sinan	Süleymaniye Mh.	Built in 1558 as the largest mosque in İstanbul. This "vast religious complex called the Süleymaniye...blended Islamic and Byzantine architectural elements. It combines tall, slender minarets with large domed buildings supported by half domes in the style of the Byzantine church Hagia Sophia. In the garden behind the main mosque there are two mausoleums (türbe) including the tombs of sultan Suleiman I, his wife Roxelana (Haseki Hürrem), his daughter Mihrimah, his mother Dilaşub Saliha and his sister Asiye.
*****	Misir Carsisi- Spice Market	Koca Kasım Ağa	Rüstem Paşa Mahallesi	Opened in 1660 is one of the largest bazaars in the city. The building was endowed to the foundation of the New Mosque, and got its name "Egyptian Bazaar" because it was built with the revenues from the Ottoman eyalet of Egypt in 1660. Vividly coloured spices are displayed alongside jewel-like lokum (Turkish delight) at this Ottoman-era marketplace. Stalls also sell caviar, dried herbs, honey, nuts and dried fruits. Mon-Fri (8am-7pm), Sat (8am-7.30pm), Sun (9.30am-7pm)



***	Hamdi Restaurant	-	Kalçin Sokak No:17, Fatih	The ah-mazing 180-degree views showcase the Süleymaniye Mosque, Rüstempaşa Mosque, Galata Tower, and the Bosphorus. Not only that, but they make a delicious köfte and roasted eggplant. Mon-Sat (6.55am-11.55pm)
Zone 3: Beyoglu District				
****	Eminönü Pier-Bosphorus Cruise	-	near the Sirkeci Railway Station	They leave every morning from Eminonu and go all the way up to the top of the Bosphorus, near the Black Sea. You can see just how far the city stretches and see the construction on the 3rd Bosphorus Bridge. Prices may vary but it's around ₺25 for a 1h30min ride. Cruises every 45 min.
****	Galata Bridge	GAMB (Göncer Ayalp Engineering Co.)	Galata Bridge	The first Galata Bridge was constructed in 1845 by Valide Sultan and used for 18 years. It was known as the Cisir-i Cedid or New Bridge. This bridge was replaced by a second wooden bridge in 1863, then 3rd, 4th and finally 5th which is the current one since 1994. The Galata Bridge was a symbolic link between the traditional city of Istanbul proper, site of the imperial palace and principal religious and secular institutions of the empire. Come here to enjoy a beer and nargile while watching the ferries making their way to and from the Eminönü and Karaköy ferry docks.
****	Kilic Ali Paşa Hamam	Cafer Bozkurt Architecture	Kemankeş Karamustafa Paşa, Hamam Sk. No:1, 34425 Beyoğlu/Istanbul	The Kılıç Ali Paşa Hamam was constructed in 1580 by Master Architect Sinan, on behalf of Ottoman Admiral Kılıç Ali Paşa as part of a larger 'külliye' complex, in the Tophane district of Istanbul. As the physical manifestation of a unique period in the historical harbor of the Ottoman imperial city, the Kılıç Ali Paşa hamam has become not only part of public space again in the Tophane area, but also part of an overall revitalization of a previously derelict area in the city. 430 years of layered materials and debris, literally 'embalming' the surfaces and 'burying' the structure, had to be removed in order to identify and reconstitute the original Sinan building, thus relinking this 1st degree historical monument back to its origins. Mon-Sun (8am-4pm / 4.30-11.30pm)
****	Galata tower	-	Bereketzade Mh., Galata Kulesi	The Genoese built this cylindric tower in 1348 to have a vast panorama of what their Muslim neighbours were doing along the northern end of the massive sea chain of the Golden Horn. However, from 1717, the Ottomans began to use the tower for a practical purpose: spotting fires in the city. Having lunch in the restaurant is completely worth it. The tower was built in 1348 as Christea Turris (Tower of Christ) and it was the tallest building in Istanbul at 219½ feet (66.9 m). There is a restaurant and café on its upper floors. General admission ₺35 (only cash accepted). Mon-Sun (9am-8.30pm)
*	Şişhane Park	SANALarc	Emekyemez, Yölcüzade İskender Cd. No:48, 34421 Beyoğlu/Istanbul	Şişhane Park, built in 2014, is a bold shift in urban public space in central Istanbul. Located between the southwestern edge of Beyoglu and the highly trafficked Tarlabasi Road, its design intends to re-engage residents and visitors into the natural qualities of the urban environment as an alternative public space for people to enjoy together in the dense city. The design is in a dialogue with the sweeping views and flora of the Halic (Golden Horn), but also creates large public spaces for cultural programming and contrasting intimate spaces for resting, enjoying the shade of trees, playing and passing time with the community.
*****	İstiklal Avenue	-	İstiklal Cd	Named "Independence Avenue" it is one of the most famous avenues in Istanbul, visited by nearly 3 million people in a single day over the course of weekends. It is an elegant pedestrian street, 1.4 kilometers long, which houses boutiques, music stores, bookstores, art galleries, cinemas, theatres, libraries, cafés, pubs, night clubs with live music, historical patisseries, chocolateries and restaurants. There are a few interesting buildings such as foreign consulates. Don't miss the Çiçek Pasajı.
***	Yapi Kredi Cultural Center	TEGET	Tomtom, İstiklal Cd. No:161, 34433 Beyoğlu/Istanbul	The building lot has housed two earlier buildings one after another, first one an apartment (late 19th century) and second an office building by German architect Paul Schmitthenner (1958). Schmitthenner's project created an arcade at the street level wrapping the two facades. It broke the interior - exterior split between the glass storefronts and the street with its void. By ad-hoc piling of programs and transformation in its uses, the arcade space was enclosed to house more interior spaces for bookshops and banks, some of the upper floors were transformed into art galleries in time. Mon-Fri (10am-9pm), Sat (11am-7pm), Sun (1-7pm)
***	St. Anthony Of Padua Church	Giulio Mongeri	Tomtom Mh., İstiklal Cd No:171	St. Anthony of Padua Church was built in 1912 as a red-brick Venetian neo-gothic church. It is the largest Roman Catholic cathedral in Istanbul and one of the most important in the city. The original St. Anthony of Padua Church was built in 1725 by the local Italian community of Istanbul, but was later demolished and replaced with the



				current building which was constructed on the same location. The church is considered a minor basilica, and is run by Italian priests. Saturday Mass is in Italian and begins at 19:00, Sunday Mass is 9:30 in Polish, 10:00 in English and 17:00 in Turkish, and Tuesday Mass is in Turkish and begins at 11:00. Weekday Masses are in English at 8:00.
****	PİLEVNELİ Dolapdere	Emre Arolat Architecture	Yenişehir, İrmak Cd. No:25, 34435 Beyoğlu/İstanbul	Pilevneli Gallery, built in 2017, is an assertive example of adaptive re-use located in Dolapdere, a district at Taksim. The area is currently undergoing an urban transformation focused on art and culture. The gallery is situated on the main street, its structure demands attention with its characteristic neutral facade of anthracite vertical lamella and neatly composed linear openings. Tue-Sat (10am-6pm)
Zone 4: Beşiktaş				
**	Dolmabahçe Mosque	Nikoğos Balyan	Ömer Avni Mh	The mosque was commissioned by Bezmalem Valide Sultan in 1852, who was the mother of Ottoman sultan Abdülmecid I. Bezmalem Valide Sultan passed away in 1853 and the mosque was finished in 1855 with Abdülmecid I's financial aid. Dolmabahçe Mosque architecture is very different from the classical Ottoman mosque. It resembles a highly decorated palace hall more than a holy place since it was designed as a part of the Dolmabahçe Palace. Between 1948 and 1961 the Dolmabahçe Mosque served as Naval Museum.
*	Dolmabahçe Clock Tower	Sarkis Balyan	Dolmabahçe Caddesi	Dolmabahçe Clock Tower is a clock tower situated outside Dolmabahçe Palace. The tower was constructed by the famous Armenian architect Sarkis Balyan between 1890 and 1895 with the order of Ottoman sultan Abdul Hamid II (1842-1918). Its clock was manufactured by the renowned French clockmaker house of Jean-Paul Garnier. In 1979, the original mechanical clock was converted partly to an electrical one. Tue-Wed, Fri-Sun (9am-6pm)
****	Dolmabahçe Palace	Nikoğos and Garabet Balyan	Dolmabahçe Caddesi	Built in 1856 as the largest palace in Turkey used as the main administrative center of the Ottoman Empire until 1922. Sultan Abdül decided to move from Topkapı to a lavish new palace on the shores of the Bosphorus. There are no pavilions here, and the palace turns its back to the splendid view rather than celebrating it. The designer of the Paris Opera was brought in to do the interiors, which perhaps explains their exaggerated theatricality. The palace, which is set in well-tended gardens and entered via its ornate imperial gate, is divided into two sections, the Selamlık (Ceremonial Suites) and the Harem-Cariyeler (Harem and Concubines' Quarters). The full tour of the palace takes two hours. Be warned that queues at the ticket office can be very long (waits of up to two hours) and there is no shade. Don't set your watch by any of the palace clocks, all of which are stopped at 9.05am, the moment at which Kemal Atatürk died in Dolmabahçe on 10 November 1938. Unfortunately, you are not allowed to take pictures inside the palace. Admission Selamlık ₺40, Harem ₺30, joint ticket ₺60. Tue-Wed, Fri-Sun (9am-6pm)
**	Maritime Museum	TEGET	Sinanpaşa, Beşiktaş Cd. 6/1, 34353 Beşiktaş/İstanbul	The new refurbished museum opened in 2010 and featured the boat gallery as the climax of the entire complex, opening it up to the Bosphorus through a fractal interface. Given the fact that the collection is permanent and unchangeable, the design resembles a 'glove' perfectly fitting. Alluding to certain qualities of arsenal hangars, the space proposed is typologically a hybrid one. General admission ₺10, ₺20 with photography fee. Tue-Fri (9am-5pm), Sat-Sun (10am-6pm)
***	Besiktas Fishmarket	GAD Architecture	Sinanpaşa Mh., Mumcu Bakka Sk	Built in 2009 as an iconic venue where many locals and visitors buy fresh fish daily. The construction of the old fish market was in very poor shape and needed to be replaced. Located in one of Istanbul's most populated and diverse neighborhoods, Besiktas is an eclectic area with a village-like atmosphere that is in the process of urban renewal. The concrete shell provides a column-free interior space, optimizing the project's programmatic needs.
****	Yapı Kredi bomontiada		Merkez Mah., Silahşör Cad., Birahane Sok. Tarihi Bomonti Bira Fabrikası No:1, 34384 Şişli/İstanbul	A historic beer factory in the Bomonti neighborhood of Istanbul has undergone a complete renovation and repurposing to become Bomontiada, a large complex full of restaurants, shops, an art gallery, and a concert hall. Repurposed from the historic Bomonti beer factory, the public and commercial social space is located next to the modern peaks of apartment buildings and the Mimar Sinan University Bomonti campus.
***	Trump Cadde	GAD	Mecidiyeköy, Mecidiyeköy Yolu Cd. No:12, 34400 Şişli/İstanbul	Cadde opens in Mecidiyeköy, Istanbul, bringing more than 25 carefully chosen fashion and lifestyle retailers and of course restaurants on Trump Towers' roof terrace and turns it in to much more than what you might expect from any other mall. In using the container - as an every architects dream, breaking the boundaries of modularity, uniformity and ubiquity - the project combines the individual units into





				a redundant system to transform and change its character from there. Mon-Sun (10am-10pm)
***	Teşvikiye Mosque	-	Teşvikiye Mh., 34365 Şişli	Built in 1794 but most of the current mosque that stands today was completed in 1854. It is the front of the mosque, constructed during a renovation in the late 19th century, that gives it a unique appearance, with huge white columns. It has become a sort of stand-out symbol in the upscale, bustling quarter of Nişantaşı. Permanently closed
*	Yıldız Hamidiye Mosque	Sarkis Balyan	Cihannüma Mh	Built in 1886 as a mosque commissioned by the Ottoman sultan Abdul Hamid II. The architecture of the mosque is a combination of Neo-Gothic style and classical Ottoman motifs. Unfortunately, this mosque is known because On 21 July 1905, members of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation attempted to assassinate Abdul Hamid II by placing a horse carriage bomb in front of the mosque.
*	Yıldız Clock Tower	-	Yıldız Cd	Built in 1890 as three-story structure in Ottoman and neo-Gothic style and ordered by the Ottoman Sultan Abdülhamid II (1842-1918). The three-story structure in Ottoman and neo-Gothic style has an octagonal plan. Outside the first floor, there are four inscriptions, the second floor contains a thermometer and a barometer, and the top floor is the clock room. The clock was repaired in 1993. Atop the decorative roof, a compass rose is found.
**	Yıldız Palace Museum	Raimondo D'Aronco	Yıldız Mah. Barbaros Bulv. Hamam Sok. No:62	Originally built in 1880 as a vast complex of former imperial Ottoman pavilions and villas. The building, which was opened as a museum on April 8th 1994, consists of a large gallery in 90 meters length. Art works included belongings of Sultan Abdulhamid II, his carpenter tools, gifts given to him and the products of Yıldız Porcelain Factory then. Coming here by public transport is quite difficult, you'll have to walk 45min from the train station- probably not worth it. General admission ₺20. Wed-Mon (9am-7pm)
****	Ciragan Palace Kempinski		Yıldız, Çırağan Cd. No:32, 34349 Beşiktaş/İstanbul	Situated in a 19th-century Ottoman palace, this 5-star hotel features an infinity pool with views of the Bosphorus. Nursing a mega-pricey çay (₺18), coffee (₺20) or beer (₺20) at one of the Çırağan's terrace tables and watching the scene around İstanbul's best swimming pool, which is right on the Bosphorus, lets you sample the lifestyle of the city's rich and famous.
**	Malta Kiosk	Sarkis Balyan	Yıldız Mah. Yıldız Korusu Çiragan Cad.	Built in 1870 as a hunting lodge and part imperial Ottoman residence: the Yıldız Palace. The two-storey pavilion was commissioned by Sultan Abdülaziz (reigned 1861-1876). European architecture and motifs of nature, flowers, fruits and hunting animal figures have been widely used on the walls. Now a cafeteria. Beautiful views from here.
****	Zorlu Center	Tabanlıoğlu Architects + Emre Arolat Architects	Levazım, Zorlu Center, Kuru Sokağı No:2, 34340 Beşiktaş/İstanbul	The Zorlu Center was built in 2013 as a shopping and cultural centre. The ground is reconstructed by a topographical interpretation, with a kind of shell that is transformed into an in-between layer for the different functions combined in the complex. The inner route, the Public Topography reaches to the 28m. higher Urban Balcony with the marvellous Bosphorus view. The outer ring ends up with a height of 32m creating the Private Topography of the residential units. Mon-Sun (10am-10pm)
****	Apple store	Foster + Partners	Kuru Sok. No:2 Beşiktaş İstanbul 34340	The first Foster-designed Apple store has opened in İstanbul, Turkey. The British firm was commissioned in 2013 to design retail spaces for the computer technology, electronics, and digital distribution company, extending a collaboration begun with the ongoing project for Apple Campus 2, the Silicon Valley giant's new headquarters in Cupertino. A glazed box on the main plaza of the Zorlu shopping center announces the presence of, and gives a view into, the two-level establishment tucked underground. Accessible from the Gayrettepe Metro stop via some very long underground walkways. Just follow the signs. It's in a VERY upscale shopping center that forms the bottom levels of a luxury apartment development. Mon-Sun (10am-10pm)
*	Ulus Savoy Sitesi	AUTOBAN	Ortaköy, Ahmet Adnan Saygun Cd. No:66	Savoy Ulus is a residential complex built in 2014 that consists of various types of apartments all designed to satisfy different types of living. At the centre of the residential complex is the Savoy Ulus Club House - a joint-use sports and entertainment complex. The interior of the Club House - consisting of a lounge area, café and multimedia room, swimming pool, spa rooms, fitness and cardio areas.
****	Ortaköy Mosque	Garabet Balyan and Nigoğayos Balyan	Ortaköy Meydanı	Built in 1856 as a mosque on the order of Abdulmecid (1839-1861), the ruler of the Ottoman Empire. Previously, there was a little mosque built by Mahmut Ağa, the son-in law of the Vizier Ibrahim Paşa, on the former site of the mosque. The little mosque built in 1721 but was destroyed during the revolt of Patrona Halil in 1730. The current mosque, which was erected in its place, was greatly damaged during the earthquake of 1894, and the spire of the minaret needed to be rearranged. When it was understood that the building was in danger of collapsing in 1960, ground reinforcement efforts were carried out.



				After the conflagration in 1984, it was completely restored and reattained its previous magnificence.
***	Bosphorus Bridge	Gilbert Roberts and William Brown	Ortaköy (on the European side) and Beylerbeyi (on the Asian side)	Built in 1973 as one of two suspension bridges spanning the Bosphorus strait. † connects Europe and Asia. The other bridge across the Bosphorus Straight is the Second Bosphorus Bridge, more formally known as the Fatih Sultan Mehmet Bridge. A passing from the European side to the Asian side has a toll but not the other way around.
Zone 5: Üsküdar- Asian Part				
**	Beylerbeyi Palace	Sarkis Balyan and Hagop Balyan	Abdullah Aga Caddesi	Built in 1861 as an Imperial Ottoman summer residence and a place to entertain visiting heads of state. Empress Eugénie of France visited Beylerbeyi on her way to the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869 and had her face slapped by the sultan's mother for daring to enter the palace on the arm of Abdülaziz. Despite her initial reception, Empress Eugénie of France was so delighted by the elegance of the palace that she had a copy of the window in the guest room made for her bedroom in Tuileries. Best views from the Bosphorus. General admission 20TL. Tue-Wed, Fri-Sun (8.30am-4.30pm)
*****	Çamlıca Mosque	Bahar Mızrak and Hayriye Gül Totu	Ferah, Ferah Yolu Sk. No:87, 34692 Üsküdar/İstanbul	Çamlıca Mosque, completed in 2019, is the largest mosque in Turkey. The mosque can hold 63,000 people and includes a museum, art gallery, library, conference hall, and underground parking lot for 3,500 vehicles. Çamlıca Mosque was designed by two female architects, Bahar Mızrak and Hayriye Gül Totu, at a cost of around TL 150 million (\$66.5 million).
*	Sur Yapi Offices	Tago Architects	Burhaniye Mahallesi Abdullahaga Caddesi No.21 34676 Altunizade	Built in 2010, this office building sits on a hillside in a way people can perceive the façade of the building. This office is primarily design as a sales office of the high-rise residential complex which is located next to it. Building is designed as a prismatic mass which is ranging to a gap by the help of the cantilevers that lie on the south and west façades.
***	Vakko Headquarters and Power Media Center	REX	Altunizade, Kuşbakışı Cd. No:35, 34662 Üsküdar/İstanbul	New York firm REX have completed two office buildings in İstanbul, Turkey, where one is built inside the other. The design was created for two Turkish sister companies: fashion house Vakko, and television and radio company Power Media. The outer building is adapted from the concrete structure of an abandoned hotel project on the site and surrounds the second structure on all sides. The original concrete structure couldn't be hidden so it was clad in glass to permit views through to the inner building, made up of stacked mirrored boxes. The outer building contains standard offices, while the inner structure houses an auditorium, showrooms, meeting rooms and executive offices, as well as vertical circulation. Mon-Fri (9am-6pm)
*	Mihrimah Sultan Mosque	Koca Mîmar Sinan Aga	Sultantepe Mh., 34664 Üsküdar	Built in 1548 as an Ottoman mosque and is one of Üsküdar's best-known landmarks. Mihr-î-Mah means Sun and Moon. It is the first of two mosques built by Mihrimah Sultana. It is a massive structure on a raised platform and already shows several hallmarks of Sinan's mature style: a spacious, high-vaulted basement, slender minarets, a single-domed baldacchino flanked by three semi-domes ending in three exedrae and a broad double portico.
*	Ayazma Mosque	Mehmed Agha Tahir	Ressam Ali Rıza Bey Sok. No.10	Built in 1761 as an Ottoman mosque. The name of the mosque comes from the Ayazma Palace which had once been located on the site. The minaret of the mosque was destroyed by a lightning in 1872 and was rebuilt in 1881. The Hünkâr Köşk (Royal residence) of the building, built next to the mosque, is situated on the left hand side of the site.
*****	Maiden's Tower	-	Üsküdar Salacak Mevkii	Built in 1110 as a tower. Local tale says that the tower was built by a wealthy man who was trying to protect his daughter from a prophecy spoken by an oracle – a prophecy foretelling the death of the man's daughter by a snake bite. To prevent these words from coming true, the father built a tower to keep his daughter safe in the water. Of course a snake would eventually find its way to the tower when the father came to visit with a basket full of fruit. The tower was featured in the James Bond film The World Is Not Enough. Amazing views of Hagia Sofia from here. If you are not going to the restaurant, general admission is ₺30. Wed-Mon (9am-4.45pm)
Zone 6: Kağıthane and Gaziosmanpaşa				
*****	Pier Loti Cafe		Gumussuyu Balmumcu Sık 1 Eyüp	Amazing view of İstanbul and the Golden Horn. It takes a while to get here but views are breathtaking, especially at sunset. Credit cards are NOT accepted. Mon-Sun (7.30am-12am)
***	Miniaturk Park	-	Sütlüce Mahallesi, İmrahor Caddesi 34445 Sütlüce	Built in 2003 as one of the world's largest miniature parks. The park contains 122 models done in 1/25th scale. 58 of the structures are from İstanbul, 52 are from Anatolia, and 12 are from the Ottoman territories that today lie outside of Turkey. Don't go if the weather is bad as all the models are outdoors. There are restaurants on site





				and a souvenir shop however some people may consider the prices a bit steep. General admission ₺10. Mon-Sun (9am-6pm)
***	Santralistanbul Museum of Contemporary Art	Emre Arolat Architects	Emniyetstepe Mh., Kazım Karabekir Cd No:2	Built in 2007 as a museum. The renovation and transformation of the Silaharağa Power Plant into a museum and recreation and educational center changes this typical modern industrial installation constructed between the 1910s and 1950s. It occupies a 107,000-m2 lot forming a sort of peninsula between the Alibeyköy and Kağıthane creeks right where the Golden Horn ends. Collection includes art works from illustration to digital arts. Energy Museum visits are free of charge except for guided tours. Private guided tours of the Museum of Energy can also be arranged. Tours start at ₺25 per person. Mon-Sun (9am-6pm)
Zone 7: Levent				
****	Istanbul Sapphire	Tabanlıoğlu Architects	Emniyetevleri Mah. Eski Büyükdere Cd No:1 D:1	Built in 2011 as a residential, leisure and shopping center project located in the "business administration" center of the city. The building façade consists of two independent shells. The interiors are protected from adverse weather conditions and noise on account of the outer shell. Amazing skyline views from the top floor on the skydeck. General admission ₺28. Mon-Sun (10am-10pm)
***	Kanyon Mall	The Jerde Partnership and Tabanlıoğlu Architects	Büyükdere Cad. No: 171 / BB1/8	Built in 2006 as one of Europe's largest mixed-use districts. The design is envisioned as a family of bold architectural shapes, each housing a different use, that come together to form a dynamic and iconic composition. Between the architectural shapes, the perspectives and views through the project constantly change, resulting in a vibrant and energetic space that engages users. Kanyon's uses are connected by a central, open-air walkway that carves soft curves in the buildings' forms, creating a dramatic "canyon" effect. Mon-Sun (10am-10pm)
Zone 8: Suburbs				
***	Yedikule Zindanları Castle	-	Kule Meydanı 4	Built in 532 as a fortress. In the late 4th century Theodosius the Great built a triumphal arch here. When the next Theodosius built his massive land walls, he incorporated the arch in the structure. Four of the fortress' seven towers were built as part of Theodosius II's walls; the other three, which are inside the walls, were added by Mehmet the Conqueror. Under the Byzantines, the great arch became known as the Porta Aurea (Golden Gate) and was used for triumphal state processions into and out of the city. General admission ₺6 + fee if you take pictures. Mon-Sun (9am-6.30)
*	Atatürk Olympic Stadium	Aymeric Zublena	Ziyagökalp Mh.	Built in 2001 as the largest-capacity stadium of Turkey. The stadium is named after Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder and first President of the Republic of Turkey. With its 134 entrances and 148 exit gates, the Olympic Stadium allows 80,000 spectators to evacuate within 7.5 minutes, in case of an emergency.
*	Tema İstanbul Showroom	Yazgan Design Architecture	Halkalı, 34200 Küçükçekmece	Built in 2013 as a showroom space for Tema İstanbul, a multi-purpose project containing 4000 residential units, a luxury hotel, a family entertainment complex and a shopping center. The showroom contains mock-up apartment flats of the Tema İstanbul Residential Complex and a central gallery. The functional portion of the building is covered with a reflective glass curtain wall. The structure sits on a black pool that reflects the under portion of the building, creating an elevated effect. The white elliptical steel ribs surround the building; unify the building as a whole.
****	Yeşilvadi Camii		Fatih Sultan Mehmet, Fatih Sultan Mehmet Cd., 34771 Ümraniye/İstanbul	Yeşilvadi Camii was built in 2004 as a mosque. In the Ottoman urban texture, a typical European city square is rarely seen.. Instead, the Mosque and mosque courtyard relatively serves as the city square. Mosques with their social complexes are the center of social life. The mosque's schedule is formed in the context of "social gathering." It consists of a 350 person prayer area, 250 person meeting hall, library, social activity units, courtyard and square. All of these components combined together to form a social complex.
***	Haydarpaşa Train Station	Otto Ritter and Helmut Conu	Rasimpaşa, 34716 Kadıköy/İstanbul	Haydarpaşa station, built in 1909 by the Anatolian Railway, was a major intercity, regional and commuter rail hub as well as the busiest railway station in Turkey until 2012. German and Italian stonemasons crafted the facade embellishments of the terminal. The German engineers and craftsmen who worked at the construction site of the building established a small German neighbourhood in the quarter of Kadıköy. In 2018, remains of a Byzantine coastal town have been found during the restoration works of the Haydarpaşa railway station.
***	Apartman18	Aytac Architects	Erenköy, Ömer Paşa Sk. No:18, 34730 Kadıköy/İstanbul	A 10 story luxury residential building in Erenköy, built in 2014, pays homage to Erenköy's completely destroyed vineyards due to densification of the city with concrete cookie-cutter apartment blocks after 1970's. The "vine" like texture emerges at the ground level



				functioning as a landscape element, creating a meditative garden. The continuous surface treatment moves upward to become the intertwining building facade, finishing at the roof garden where the residents can enjoy tranquillity away from the noise of the street.
***	Sancaklar Mosque	Emre Arolat Architects	Karağaç Mah., Sırtköy Çiftliği Mevkii G 84 Bulvarı	Located in Buyuk Cekmece, a suburban neighborhood in the outskirts of Istanbul, the high walls surrounding the park on the upper courtyard of the mosque depict a clear boundary between the chaotic outer world and the serene atmosphere of the public park. The building blends in completely with the topography and the outside world is left behind as one moves through the landscape, down the hill and in between the walls to enter the mosque.
**	Beylikdüzü Atatürk Kültür ve Sanat Merkezi	SO? Architecture and Ideas	Cumhuriyet Mahallesi Çandarlı Sokak, Cumhuriyet, Atatürk Blv. No:28, 34520 Beylikdüzü/İstanbul	SO? has redesigned an existing 20000 m2 public cultural center by a major renovation project for Beylikduzu Municipality in Istanbul. Located in a district with 317.000 population, the project serves as a major public spot with its vibrant facilities such as library, children library, multi-purpose hall, playground area, workshops and studios and cinema halls. The building has gone under both structural and architectural renovation that require the redesigning of the entire interior and the façade. Mon-Sun (8.30am-8.30pm)

- ULR map: <http://qoo.gl/maps/uxL5o>
- Subway map: <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/modalpages/2625.aspx>
- Note: Directions are given following this diagram.



1. Sultanahmet
2. Eminönü + Grand Bazaar + Fatih
3. Beyoğlu District
4. Beşiktaş
5. Üsküdar- Asian Part
6. Kağıthane and Gaziosmanpaşa
7. Levent
8. Suburbs





