

WHERE TO GO IN ISTANBUL



RESTAURANTS

1 PANDELI

Mısır Çarşısı 1, Eminönü
Tel. +90 (212) 527 39 09

The Pandeli has been one of the most popular places for fine Turkish and Ottoman cuisine ever since it opened more than 100 years ago. Atatürk himself is supposed to have eaten here long before the Republic was founded in 1923. The restaurant is located on the first floor of the historic Egyptian Bazaar and has a magnificent view over the Golden Horn.



Note: only open on weekdays and then only from 11.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. in the afternoon!

2 DARÜZZIYAFE

Şifahane Sok. 6, Süleymaniye
Tel. +90 (212) 511 84 14
www.daruzziyafe.com.tr

This was formerly the soup kitchen of the Süleymaniye Mosque, where the mosque provided food for its students and the local poor. When it reopened as a restaurant in 1992, the Darüzziyafe was one of the first places in the city to offer sophisticated Ottoman cuisine. In the summer, guests can dine in the attractive surroundings of the peaceful garden.



3 360 ISTANBUL

Istiklal Cadd. 311, Misir App., 8th floor
Tel. +90 (212) 251 10 42
www.360istanbul.com

The 360 has now become more of a sight in its own right than a restaurant: there's scarcely a visitor to Istanbul who fails to take in the spectacular view of the city from the roof of this building in the pedestrian



precinct. Fashionable and by no means cheap, the food fluctuates in quality. On good days, it is an interesting mix of Asian and European cuisine.

4 MIKLA

Mesrutiyet Caddesi 167/185, Beyoglu
Tel. +90 (212) 251 46 46

Since it opened, the Mikla has been trying – not unsuccessfully – to take over the 360's ranking in the chic/expensive/spectacular-view category. Finnish-Turkish proprietor Mehmet Gürs today rates as the best-known modern chef in Turkey and serves an innovative blend of Scandinavian-Turkish dishes. The restaurant is located on the roof of the Marmara Pera Hotel.



5 YAKUP 2

Asmalı Mescit Mahallesi 35/37, Beyoglu
Tel. +90 (212) 249 29 25

A typical meyhane, one of the old raki taverns for which Istanbul is famous: guests eat their way through a vast number of hot and cold dishes from the choice presented by the waiter on a huge tray, then round off the whole thing with grilled and fried fish – not forgetting to keep topping up the raki as they go. The Turks originally copied the idea of this ani seed-flavoured liquor from the Greeks, but have long brewed a product that is equally as good. The Yakup 2 is a classic: simple, cheap and good.



CAFÉS / BARS

6 ARA CAFÉ

Tosbag Sok. 8/A
Tel. +90 (212) 245 41 05



The Ara Café is one of the most agreeable cafés in the pedestrian precinct, just round the corner from Galatasaray Square. The good food and generous portions make it very popular, especially at midday. The café is dedicated to the great Armenian-Turkish photographer Ara Güler, who was born in the building. Although now over 80, Ara Güler still holds court in the afternoon at a table specially reserved for him. The old master eats the same thing every day: half a helping of noodles.

7 HOUSE CAFÉ

At the landing stage, Ortaköy
Tel. +90 (212) 227 26 99



Branches of the House Café chain are now sprouting up like mushrooms all over Istanbul. Probably the most attractively located of them is in Ortaköy, alongside the landing stage. From the terrace, you enjoy a magnificent view of the first Bosphorus bridge and the Ortaköy Mosque, which is built out into the water and a popular subject for so many postcards and tapestries. The café is a meeting place for the city's beautiful people, who indulge in the somewhat overpriced brunch and snacks and the speciality of the house: mint-flavoured lemonade.

8 LEB-I DERYA

Kumbaracı yokuşu 57/6, Beyoglu
Tel. +90 (212) 293 49 89
www.lebiderya.com

Not so easy to find – but all the more rewarding for that. An especially beautiful view from the wealth that Istanbul has to offer. Particularly at night when the Bosphorus and the silhouette of the Old Town sparkle in the floodlights illuminating them. The



Leb-i derya is both restaurant and bar. The food is only average, however, so it's best to come here later on just for a drink. But be careful: there are two Leb-i deryas. The first is on the roof of the Richmond Hotel in the Istiklal pedestrian precinct, but it's the second and more attractive one that we're talking about here. To reach it, walk about 200 metres along the little lane next to the Richmond Hotel and you'll see the sign on your right.

9 SARAY PATISSERIE RESTAURANT

Istiklal Cad. 173
Tel. +90 (212) 292 3434
www.saraymuhallebicisi.com

Something a lot of people don't know is that Turkey is a dream destination if you've got a sweet tooth. You find not just the halva that we have back home and sweet baklava pastry steeped in syrup, but a whole



cornucopia of scrumptious puddings, milk dishes and cream desserts. There are emporiums of sweet delights here that serve nothing but desserts on several floors. One of the oldest, biggest and best of these is the Saray in the pedestrian precinct.