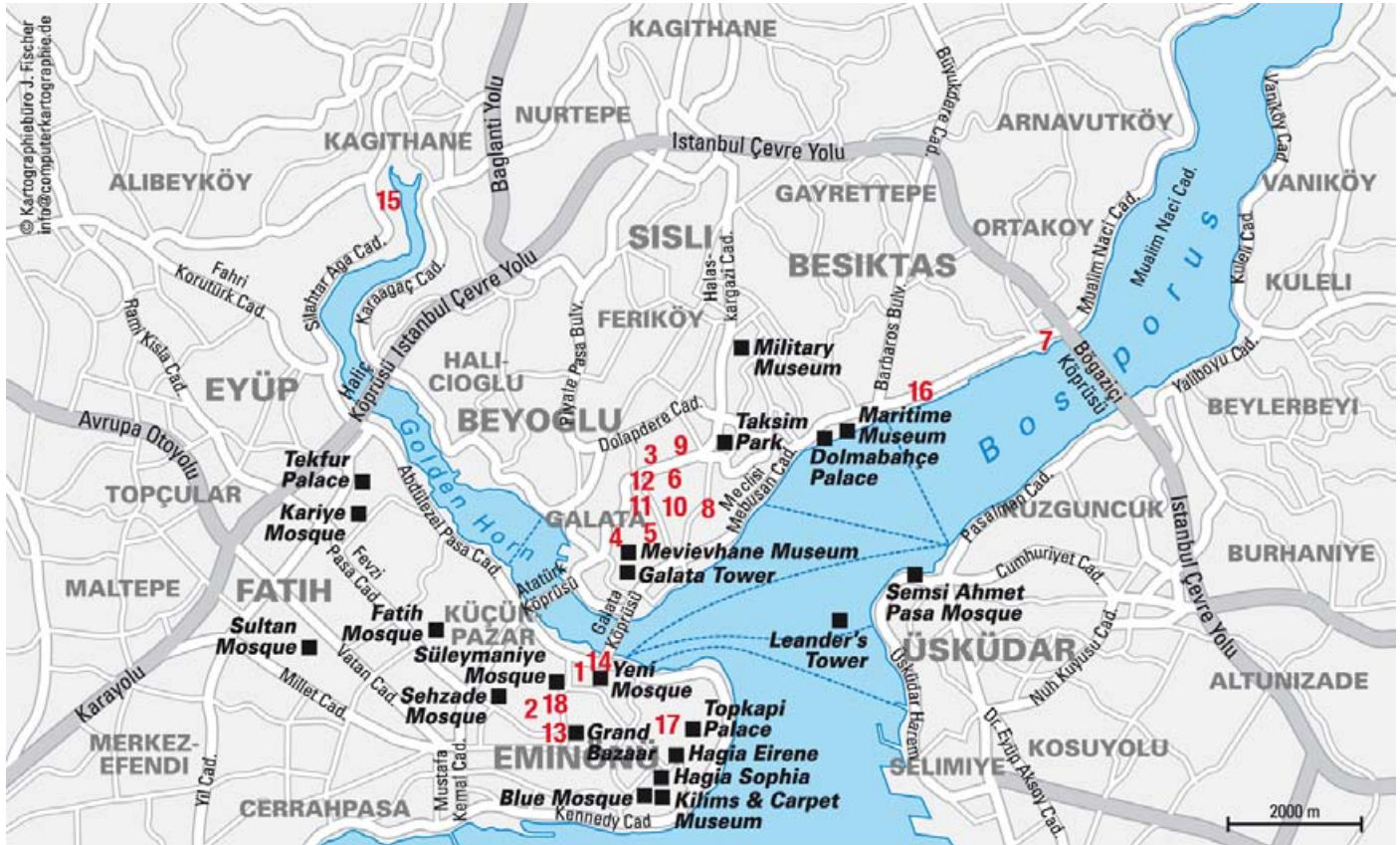


WHERE TO GO IN ISTANBUL



SHOPPING

10 CUKURCUMA-STREET

Once a meeting place for scrap merchants and junk dealers, this is now home to a number of antique shops. Everything from Ottoman marble fountains to Turkish Louis Quatorze chic. The street's reputation recently received a boost with the publication of a novel by Nobel-prizewinning author Orhan Pamuk, who located his "Museum of Innocence" on the corner of Dalgic Street here. An ideal spot for a leisurely stroll through an area where a little of old Istanbul still lives on.



11 ÜMIT ÜNALS SHOP

Ensiz Sokak 1B, Beyoğlu
Tel. +90 (212) 245 7886
www.umitunal.com

Ümit Ünal is one of Turkey's most creative young fashion designers. He has now



garnered just about every prize Turkey has to offer and staunchly refuses to cater to the mass market. It was only in summer 2008 that he transformed his workshop not far from the Galata Tower on Tünel Square into a retail store. Irrespective of whether he draws his inspiration from Karl Valentin or the Greek Argonauts, his clothing is as much art as it is fashion.

12 PASABAHCE GLASS



Pasabahce is a brand produced by the state-owned Sisecam glassworks, one of the first major companies in the Turkish Republic. Today, it is the country's bestknown glass maker and has several elegant stores around the city. The most practical location for visitors is probably in the Istiklal pedestrian precinct near Tünel Square. In addition to copies of Ottoman products, there are also plenty of contemporary designs at attractive prices.

13 ETHNICON CARPETS

In the Grand Bazaar
Tel. +90 (212) 527 6841
www.ethnicon.com



Turkey is carpet country par excellence. And that can quickly get a bit too much for the visitor. Mehmet Güreli, the owner of EthniCon, felt much the same: he grew up in the Grand Bazaar and learnt the carpet business from childhood – and had soon had more than enough of the monotony of carpets. So today his company creates modern new designs and is proud to use only natural dyestuffs in their making. They are still located in the Grand Bazaar.

14 EGYPTIAN BAZAAR

Near Galata Bridge



The Egyptian Bazaar is also known as the Spice Bazaar. It was built in 1663 as part of the Yeni Camii (New Mosque), which was financed from the fees paid to rent the stands. From the very beginning, it sold spices from all over the world: goods that were unloaded from boats on the shore nearby. Today, alongside the huge sacks of spices on display, you will also find dried figs, apricots, pistachios, almonds, honey, air-dried pastirma and the apple tea that is such a hit with tourists. A visit to the bazaar can be ideally combined with lunch at the well-known Pandeli restaurant.

MUSEUMS

SAKIP SABANCI MUSEUM

Tel. +90 (212) 277 2200
<http://muze.sabanciuniv.edu>



The last person to live in this villa overlooking the Bosphorus before it was acquired by businessman Hacı Ömer Sabancı in 1951 was the sister of the Prince of Egypt. In 2004, the Sabancı family turned their home into a museum and director Nazan Ölcer performed the minor miracle of rapidly making it one of the best museums anywhere in Turkey. It alternates exhibitions of classic Western contemporary art (Picasso, Dalí) with the country's Ottoman heritage. On several Sundays of the year, there is also a jazz brunch at the museum's popular Café.

15 SANTRALISTANBUL

Tel. +90 (212) 311 5000
www.santralistanbul.com



The most recent of Istanbul's new museums is housed in an impressive conversion carried out by the private Bilgi University in 2007 of the city's first electricity works on the tip of the Golden Horn. Within the historic walls, there are old Siemens turbines to admire; while the neighbouring new black cube stages temporary exhibitions of modern art. At the Otto café next door, you can sit in a friendly atmosphere with students from the university. There are shuttle buses from the Atatürk Cultural Centre on Taksim Square.

16 ISTANBUL MODERN

Tel. +90 (212) 334 73 00
www.istanbulmodern.org



Like the Sabancı Museum this is also a family foundation; in this case, it is the Eczacıbasi industrialist clan that is behind the museum. In 2004, the Istanbul Modern became the first museum in Istanbul to be devoted entirely to contemporary art. Particularly worth seeing are the revolving exhibitions – and the building itself: a cool, exciting conversion of a warehouse in the old port on the European side. The stylish museum café offers a great view across the water to Hagia Sophia and the Topkapı Palace.

17 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

Tel. +90 (212) 520 77 40

One of the finest and most important museums in Turkey. Situated in the grounds of the Topkapi Palace, it contains 15,000 archaeological exhibits ranging from Hittite cuneiform tablets to the famous Alexander Sarcophagus. The museum is a reminder first that our civilization saw the light of day in this corner of the world and second that many other peoples lived here before the coming of the Turks. After wandering the intriguing pathways of world history, the visitor can recuperate in the idyllic tea garden in the park outside.



18 SÜLEYMANIYE HAMAM

Mimar Sinan Cad. 20, Süleymaniye
Tel. +90 (212) 519 55 69
www.suleymaniyehamami.com

A visit to a hammam, the traditional Turkish bath, is one of the highlights of any trip to Istanbul. This steam bath was once part of the Süleymaniye Mosque complex and is among the most historic in the city, having been built by no lesser person than Sinan, the greatest of all Ottoman architects. Nowadays, the hammam is privately owned. Inside, you lie on huge slabs of hot marble. People who wish can have themselves lathered up by the bath attendant, while the more daring can opt for the ministrations of the masseur. But a word of warning: a Turkish massage is not something for the faint-hearted.



BOOK TIP

ISTANBUL –
METROPOLE ZWISCHEN DEN WELTEN
Knesebeck Verlag
ISBN 978-3-89660-555-9

This is not the first time our Istanbul team has worked together on this primary route. Turkey correspondent Kai Strittmatter and Swiss photographer Reto Guntli published this photo book in May, combining in-depth knowledge with fabulous photographs.

