

Turkey at a Glance

State / Republic since October 29, 1923

Capital / Ankara, population 5.045.083

Flag / Red, with white crescent moon and star

National Anthem / İstiklal Marşı, writer Mehmet Akif ERSOY, composed by Ali Rifat ÇAĞATAY and Osman Zeki ÜNGÖR

National Holidays / April 23, National Sovereignty and Children's Holiday, May 19, Remembering Atatürk, Youth and Sports Holiday, October 29, Republic Holiday, August 30, Victory Day, May 1, Labor Day

Official Language / Turkish

Currency / 1 Turkish Lira(TL) = 100 Kuruş

International Telephone Code / 00 90



The map that shows Turkey's location in Europe and the world

Geography

Area / 783.562,38 km²

Border lengths / 2949 km in total, Bulgaria 269 km, Greece 203 km, Syria 911 km, Iraq 384 km, Iran 560 km, Nahcivan (Azerbaijan) 18 km, Armenia 328 km, Georgia 276 km.

Shore lengths / 7816 km in total; Black Sea 1778 km, Marmara Sea 1275 km, Aegean Sea and Mediterranean Sea 4763 km

Neighboring countries / Bulgaria, Greece, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Azerbaijan-Nahcivan, Armenia, Georgia

Five largest provinces / İstanbul (14.160.467), Ankara (5.045.083), İzmir (4.061.074), Bursa (2.740.970), Antalya (2.158.265)

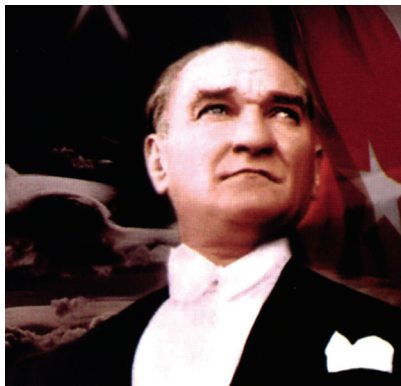
Highest mountain / Mount Ararat 5165 m

Longest river / Kızılırmak 1355 km

Climate / Three different types of climate are visible in Turkey; warm Mediterranean climate in the shores of the Aegean and Mediterranean, terrestrial climate in Inner Anatolia, Southeastern Anatolia, Thrace and East Anatolia and rainy Black Sea climate in the Black Sea region.



Turkey's highest peak is Mount Ararat at 5165 meters.



Mustafa Kemal ATATÜRK
(1881-1938), founder and first
President of the Turkish Republic



Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN
The 12th President of Turkey since
August 28, 2014



Ahmet DAVUTOĞLU
The Prime Minister of Turkey

Population and Demography

Inhabitants / 76.667.864

Population density / 100 people/km²

Population growth rate / 13,7 ‰

Urbanisation rate / 91,3%, the rest live in villages and other rural areas

Labourforce participation rate for the ages of 15-64 / % 67,6

(As of December 31, 2013)

Political Structure

Legislation / The Turkish Grand National Assembly (TBMM) with 550 members; members of the TBMM are elected every four years and the latest election took place on June 12, 2011.

Suffrage / Citizens past the age of 18 are entitled to vote

The Constitution / Recognizes all basic rights and freedoms.

The Constitutional Court / Oversees if the laws passed in the TBMM are in harmony with the constitution.

Founder of the Republic of Turkey / Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the first President of the Turkish Republic between 29 October 1923 and 10 November 1938 has also served as the President of the Provisional Government of Turkey from 1920 until 1921.

President / Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (since August 28, 2014). The President is elected directly by the people for five years. The Elected President can only serve two terms

Government / Consists of the Cabinet and the Prime Minister. 25 ministers serve in the Cabinet.

Turkish Armed Forces / Consists of Land, Air and Marines. Military service is mandatory for male citizens in Turkey.

The Central Bank / The only bank in Turkey that has the right to print money and determine the country's currency policy is the The Central Bank.

Political Parties Represented in the Turkish Grand National Assembly and the Number of Seats:

Justice and Development Party: 313 seats (ruling party)

Republican People's Party: 130 seats

Nationalist Movement Party: 52 seats

Peace and Democracy Party: 27 seats

Independent Members of the TBMM: 14 seats

Local Self-Government

Local Self-Government consist of the special provincial administrations, municipalities and villages. But the most prominent local self-governments are municipalities. Mayors and municipal council members are directly elected by constituent body. The Municipality Law dated 1930 was redefined in 2005, providing municipalities with wide degree of administrative and fiscal autonomy. In 2008, municipal amalgamations occurred in Turkey, but the most extensive amalgamations occurred in 2012. There are 30 metropolitan municipalities in Turkey which consists of 81 cities. Special provincial administrations have been dismembered in these cities, making municipalities the only local self-government. After the municipal amalgamations, the number of municipalities has decreased to 1395 from 2950.

Non Governmental Organizations

NGOs in Turkey are organized in five main categories; foundations, associations, unions, chambers and cooperatives. The total number of NGOs are over 150000 in Turkey, about 86000 of them are associations. The strongest and the most widely spread NGOs are chambers and commodity exchanges represented in the General Assembly of TOBB. TOBB is the legal and highest level representative of the Turkish private sector. TOBB has 365 members. 120000 companies from various sectors are registered in the chambers and exchanges all around Turkey.

History

Turkey has been home to the Hittites, Phrygians, Lydians, Ionians, Persians, Macedonians, Romans, Byzantines and Turkish civilizations since 2000 B.C. After the Malazgirt victory in 1071, the doors of Anatolia were permanently opened to Turkish clans and the Ottoman State was established in 1299. The Ottomans widespread their land in the 16th century. In the following centuries the Ottomans lost their power and the country retained its current borders in 1920.

Turkey in the World

Membership to International Institutions

Turkey has closely followed international developments ever since its establishment and has been an active member of United Nations (UN), OECD, NATO, D-8, WHO, The Black Sea Economic Cooperation and the Islamic Conference Organization. Turkey is a founding member of the UN. Turkey has sent soldiers to help the peace process in Korea, Somalia, Bosnia, Palestine and Afghanistan. Turkey, which was elected as a provisional member of the UN Security Council on October 2008 with votes from 151 countries, represented Western Europe for two years with Austria.

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Relationship

Between the EU and Turkey

The Ankara Agreement, which was signed between Turkey and the European Economic Assembly(AET) in 1963 constitutes the legal basis of the relationship between Turkey and the EU. The Customs Union, which was put into effect on January 1, 1996, added another dimension to the relationship between the two parties. The highlight of the relationship was the Helsinki Summit in 1999, where it was decided to prepare a partnership document for Turkey. Turkey has accelerated its efforts in local reforms during its partnership process in the EU. These reforms which ensured and strengthened existing regulations included the widespreading of democracy, rule of law, freedom of speech and thought and basic human rights. On October 3, 2005 in Luxembourg, Turkey has officially entered partnership dialogues with the EU. The process for full partnership still continues.

Environment

The concept of sustainability has entered Turkish political documents with the Rio Summit in 1992 and the concept is being integrated into sector policies ever since that date. The first step in making sustainability operational was the announcement of the 6th Five Year Development Plan and the publishing of the National Environment Strategy and Action Plan. The 9th Development Plan states that “an integrated sustainability in economy, culture and social life is the basis of the strategy” and “promises to protect natural resources, cultural assets and the environment for the use of future generations.”

Economy

Important Macroeconomic Indicators of Turkey

GDP (billion USD)	820
Export volume, (billion USD)	152
Import volume, (billion USD)	252
GDP Annual Growth Rate (1999-2014)	4%
Unemployment Rate	9,7%
Inflation (Consumer Price Index) 2013 data	7,40%



Economy and Workforce

Turkey is one of the countries that has quickly survived the global economic crisis. It is fastest growing economy in Europe. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in Turkey has expanded 4.30% in the first quarter of 2014 over the same quarter of the previous year. GDP Annual Growth Rate in Turkey averaged 4% from 1999 until 2014, reaching an all time high of 12.60% in the first quarter of 2010. GDP per capita has grown by 96,6% between the years 2002 and 2011 and reached 17.038 Dollars according to Purchasing Power Parity. Turkey has decreased its current account deficit by 36,6%, making the number 48,9 billion dollars. This is due to increase in product and service exports throughout 2012. Turkey's public debt is around 39,4%, way below 60%, which is the Maastricht criteria, lower than 21 EU countries.

Unemployment rate was recorded as 9% in 2013. Turkey has the 5th biggest workforce with 27,3 million in Europe after Russia, Germany, England and France.

Foreign Trade and Foreign Capital

In 2012, Turkey's foreign trade volume has increased by 3,6% compared to 2011 and reached 389 billion dollars. Foreign trade deficit has decreased to 84 billion dollars. In 2012, exports have increased by 13,1% reaching 153 billion dollars while imports have decreased by 1,8%, reaching 237 billion dollars. Foreign currency deficit excluding energy, which was 58 billion dollars in 2011, has decreased by 46% making the number around 32 billion dollars. Turkey's exports have been steadily increasing in the past three years while imports are decreasing. Turkey's export to the countries in Africa has been significantly increasing in past three years. The top five countries that Turkey exports to are Germany, Iraq, Iran, England and the UAE. When it comes to import, the Russian Federation, Germany, China, USA and Italy are the top



five countries. In 2012, Turkey has received 12,4 billion dollars from direct foreign investments and the number of companies with foreign capital have reached 33.081. The service sector is first in foreign investments with 8 billion dollars while the industrial sector is second with 7,8 billion dollars and the agricultural sector is last with 32 million dollars. England, Austria, Luxembourg, Holland and Germany are the countries that heavily invest in Turkey.

Free Zones

The total trade volume of 19 Free Zones where 54.022 people are employed, has increased by 29,8% in 2012 and has surpassed 23,05 billion dollars.

Tourism

Foreign tourists to visit Turkey in 2012 has increased by 1,04% and reached 31,8 million. Turkey's revenues from tourism has increased 5,9 billion dollars compared to 2011 and reached 25,7 billion dollars. The revenue per tourist has increased to 798 dollars. Germany is first in tourist numbers, followed by the Russian Federation, England, Bulgaria, Georgia, Holland, Iran, France, USA and Syria.

Logistics

There are 47 airports and 174 ports-piers in Turkey. 6 of the ports are managed by the Turkish Maritime Association while the rest are managed by the Turkish State Railways. The ports managed by the Turkish State Railways are being privatized to cater to growing demands. Railway transportation in Turkey is being widespread with the fast train system. Fast train voyages are being conducted regularly on the 888 kilometer Ankara-Eskişehir and Ankara-Konya routes. Sea trade forms approximately 88% of Turkey's international trade network and Turkey is 15th in the world in terms of fleet. Turkish Airlines has been named the fifth biggest airline in Europe with 39 million guests in 2012. Turkey has the 25th biggest fleet in the world. Also, Turkey has Europe's biggest ground fleet with 45 thousand trucks and 1420 companies.

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www.ekonomi.gov.tr

Ministry of Economy

www.ubak.gov.tr

Ministry of Transport, Maritime
Affairs and Communications

www.kultur.gov.tr

Ministry of Culture and Tourism

Social Life

Health System

There is a well developed and widespread health system in Turkey. There are 74 medical faculties, 68 education and research hospitals, 31 dental faculties, 19 pharmaceutical faculties, 23 health sciences faculties, 78 health higher education schools, 16 nursing faculties and health vocational high schools in Turkey. All these institutions educate health personel and serve patients. Turkish doctors study for six years and continue their education on their chosen fields after their proficiency exam. The latest development in health has come in the form of family doctors. This practice enables easy follow up on the medical conditions of individuals.

Social Security

The social security system in Turkey has been transforming since 2006 and at the end of this transformation process, SSK (Social Insurance Institution), Bağ-Kur (Social Security Organization for Artisans and the Self-Employed) and Emekli Sandığı (Retirement Fund for Government Employees) amalgamated under the roof of a unique institution called the SGK (Social Security Institution). After this amalgamation all citizens of the Turkish Republic can receive social security. With the new institution, social security in Turkey has become more reliable and an effective system. General Health Insurance has been made mandatory as of January 1, 2012. Those who are not insured by other agencies, children above the age of 18 (above 25, if still in school), those who were uninsured for 30 days have to pay their premiums to the institution every month. Age of retirement in Turkey has been raised



Çıralı, which is located 70 kilometers to the west of Antalya, is a secret heaven nestled inside lemon and orange groves with its crystal clear sea and golden beaches. The never ending fire of Yanartaş, which is situated on the slope of a hill in Çıralı, has been burning for centuries.

by progressive stages to 60 in men and 58 in women based on their initial date of premium payments and days worked.

Leisure and Recreation

Turkey offers infinite possibilities in resort tourism, health and thermal tourism, winter sports, nature tourism, plateau tourism, ecotourism, congress and fair tourism, cruise tourism, golf tourism and religious tourism. The spaces that include all these amenities form attractive and strong routes and alternative connections.

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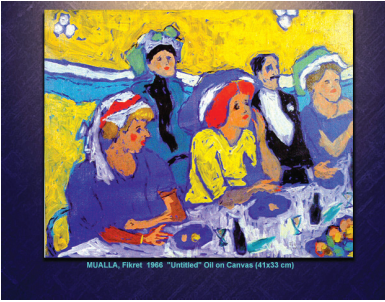
www.sgk.gov.tr
Social Security Institution

www.saglik.gov.tr
Ministry of Health

www.kultur.gov.tr
Ministry of Culture and Tourism



Orhun Epigraphs, the first examples of Turkish texts, (732-735 A.D.) have been placed under protection in the Orhun Museum in Mongolia.



Fikret Mualla's unnamed oil painting on canvas



Mevlânâ Celâlettin-i Rumi has written his thoughts and ideas in Mesnevi, a six volume book, as connected stories. (11th century)

Culture

Natural and Cultural Protected Sites	12272
Organized Excursion sites	132
Immovable Cultural Assets	98228
Official Museums	189
Private Museums	157
Private and Public Theatres	32
Official Orchestra	26
Public Libraries	1118

2012 data

Turkish Language and Literature

Orhun Epigraphs, which are written in the Göktürk alphabet, the first alphabet used by the Turks, are the first Turkish texts. Upon accepting Islam, Turks have merged their old lifestyles with Islam and have written books such as: "Divânü Lûgati't-Türk", "Kutadgu Bilig" and "Atabetü'l-Hakayık", the first examples of Turkish literature in Islam. Scholars such as Mevlânâ Celâleddin-i Rûmî, Hacı Bektaş-ı Velî, Ahî Evrân-ı Velî and Yûnus Emre, have written books about the love of God and ethics, laying the foundations of the Turkish-Islam association. İbn-i Sina, the student of Farabi, is considered one of the cornerstones of philosophy in Europe in the Middle Age and became famous with the name "Avicenna".

Modern Turkish literature includes all examples in the genre such as stories, novels, critics, poems and theatre plays. Orhan Veli Kanık, who was the founder of the "Garip" movement along with Melih Cevdet Anday and Oktay Rifat, aimed to change the basis of Turkish poetry. The internationally famed poet Nazım Hikmet Ran was one of the most important names in modern Turkish poetry. Oğuz Atay is the first person to write post-modern works in Turkish literature. Authors such as Orhan Pamuk and Elif Şafak are also considered in the post modern literature category. Attila İlhan, who

has contributed immensely to Turkish literature, has written poems, books and is also recognized as an important journalist and critic.

Art and Handicrafts

The history of the art of Turkish tiling dates back to the Karahanlılar, one of the first Muslim Turkish states. This proves that this art has more than a 1000 year old history. Another visual art that was developed during the Ottoman period and used in decoration is calligraphy and the art of ebru, which is paper decoration. Archeologist and artist Osman Hamdi Bey, is known as the first Turkish archeologist. Şeker Ahmet Paşa, on the other hand, is regarded as one of the cornerstones of modern Turkish painting. The paintings, articles and poems of famous artists, poet and sculptor Bedri Rahmi Eyüboğlu are filled with themes like Anatolia and the love of humanity. He is mostly known for his 50 square meter mosaic panel inside the NATO building in Paris. Fikret Muallâ, who is famous for his tragic life as well as his paintings, had taken up painting in Germany and his various artworks were published in various German magazines. He has nearly 30 Istanbul portraits that have been exhibited at the Turkish pavillion in the New York World Exhibition.



Orhan Pamuk has received the Nobel Literature Prize in 2006



Mimar Sinan, (1489-1588), his masterpiece is the Selimiye Mosque in Edirne. Breaking free of the handicaps of traditional Ottoman architecture, this mosque marks the climax of Sinan's work and of all classical Ottoman architecture.

Architecture

Turks have put great importance on religious structures after accepting Islam. Important developments occurred in architecture during the reign of the Seljuk State. In this period, Turks have constructed important buildings by merging Central Asian Turkish architecture and Islamic architecture. Mimar Sinan, who is regarded the world's most important architect, has shaped around 360 structures which included 84 mosques. Two of his works, Süleymaniye Mosque in Istanbul and Selimiye Mosque in Edirne have been added to UNESCO's World Heritage List.

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www.kultur.gov.tr
Ministry of Culture and Tourism
www.tdk.gov.tr
Turkish Language Institution

www.devtiyatro.gov.tr
State Theatres
www.cso.gov.tr
The Presidential Symphony Orchestra



Idil Biret,
world famous Turkish pianist



Şefika Kutluer, the flute virtuoso,
also known as the “Magical Flute”



Güher and Süher Pekinel, world famous sister pianists

Theatre

Muhsin Ertuğrul and Necati Cumalı are the two writers who have laid the foundations of modern Turkish theatre. Today, stage arts are performed by State theatres, municipality theatres and private theatres. In addition, world famous plays are performed all over Turkey during theatre festivals.

Music

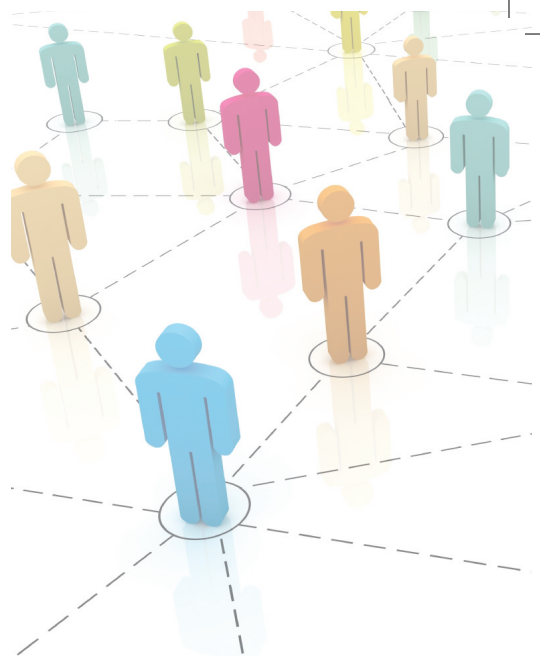
Music in Turkish society was performed accompanied by the rhythmic sound of the shaman drum before the acceptance of Islam. Later on, folk singers have used traditional instruments to play epic songs. The Presidential Symphony Orchestra is one of the oldest orchestras that has introduced polyphonic music in Turkey and music of Turkish artists to the world. During the Republic period, western music was regarded as priority and talented Turkish musicians were sent to European countries for education such as Ahmed Adnan Saygun, Ulvi Cemal Erkin, Cemal Reşit Rey, Hasan Ferit Alnar and Necil Kazım Akses. Saygun is the composer of the first Turkish opera and the first artist to receive the title State artist. “The Yunus Emre Oratorio” is his most famous piece. The first composer to be recognized in the West in polyphonic music is Cemal Reşit Rey. Musicians such as Idil Biret, Suna Kan, Güher and Süher Pekinel, flute virtuoso Şefika Kutluer are both pioneers in Turkey and well known around the world.

Film

The first Turkish feature film is Metin Erksan’s “Susuz Yaz”, which received the Golden Bear Award at the 1964 Berlin Film Festival. “Uzak”, another important film in Turkish cinema, directed by Nuri Bilge Ceylan, received the Grand Jury Award at Cannes Film Festival in 2003. Fatih Akın’s “Gegen die Wand” (Duvara Karşı) also received the big award at the Berlin Film Festival. Ferhan Özpetek, who was a member of the jury at the 65th Venice Film Festival, has received many international awards. Fetih 1453, which is the most expensive film ever made in Turkey with a budget of 17 million dollars, describes the conquest of Istanbul. The wooden horse used in the 2004 movie Troy, is in the city of Çanakkale.

Media

Internet Subscribers	16,6 million
Mobile Phone Subscribers	65,8 million
3G Subscribers	34,9 million
Total Yearly Circulation of Newspapers and Magazines	2,3 million
Number of Magazines in Circulation	3873
Number of Newspapers in Circulation	2905
Television Channels	1490
Radio Stations	1078
2012 data	



Print Media

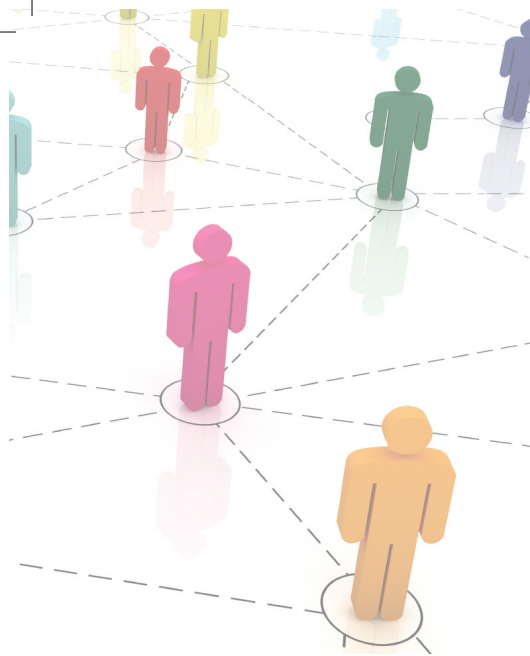
Journalism in Turkey began in 1860 with the newspaper called Tercüman-ı Ahvâl. This was followed by other newspapers which began to be published during the Turkish War of Independence. Today, the Turkish press continues its activities with daily newspapers and magazines which are distributed all over the country. The first radio in Turkey started broadcasting regularly in 1927. Television broadcasts began with the Turkish Radio and Television Institution, known as TRT. TRT, which began broadcasts nationally in 1952, are now followed by almost 1500 national, regional and local television stations. 2905 newspapers and 3873 magazines are currently being published in Turkey. Turkish radio and televisions continue their operations in harmony with the notion of free press. Private stations began broadcasting in 1990. There are nearly 20 news agencies in Turkey. The first agency is Anadolu Agency, which was established during the Turkish War of Independence. The most popular agencies are Doğan, İhlas Cihan, TGRT Haber, and Anka news agencies.



There are 248 television stations in Turkey today



The front page of the Official Gazette, April 20, 1945



Digital Broadcasts, Communication and Information Services

Turkish users have access to cable, mobile internet, satellite, xDSL and audio and video services over the web. In Turkey, mobile broadband penetration is 12%, while this ratio is 47,5% in OECD countries. What is interesting in the broadband sector is that while xDSL subscribers are decreasing, mobile internet, fiber and cable internet subscribers are increasing. The three most popular mobile service providers in Turkey are Turkcell, Vodafone and Avea. Satellite broadcasts are relayed through a satellite dish and a receiver. There are two active satellite broadcast operators in Turkey; Digitürk (Digital Platform) and D-Smart (Doğan TV). Both are encoded and paid channels. TÜRKSAT is the only active participant in cable broadcast.

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Support for the Media in the Turkish Constitution

According to the Turkish Constitution "The press is free and cannot be censored. The government takes all precautions to ensure freedom of press and for the people to receive news ."

Average print run of some of the most popular newspapers in Turkey

1-Zaman	1.029.879
2-Posta	420.996
3-Hurriyet	392.083
4-Sözcü	328.412
5-Sabah	320.780



Nearly 3000 newspapers are being published in Turkey

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<http://www.tk.gov.tr>
Information Technologies and
Communication Institute

www.trt.net.tr
Turkish Radio and
Television Institution

des.byegm.gov.tr
Directorate General of
Press and Information

The Diversity of Turkey

18

UNESCO has named 2013 the Year of Piri Reis, to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the World Map drawn by Piri Reis, which also included the Atlantic Ocean and American shores. There are nearly 1000 cultural and natural assets in Turkey. 11 of them are already on UNESCO's World Heritage List while 37 of them are on the candidate list. The list includes Istanbul, a bridge that connects Europe and Asia, the archeological park that includes hippodrome, Ayasofya (Hagia Sofia), Aya İrini, Küçük Ayasofya Mosque and Topkapı Palace, Süleymaniye Preservation Site consisting of Süleymaniye Mosque and its vicinity and the Zeyrek Preservation Site that includes Zeyrek Mosque and its vicinity. The Zeugma archeological site in Gaziantep, Ephesus antique city in Izmir, Sümela Monastery in Trabzon, İshak Paşa Palace in Ağrı, Perge antique city in Antalya, Alanya, Kekova, Termessos National Parks, Aphrodisias antique city in Aydın, St. Pierre Church in Hatay, Bergama in Izmir, Gordion in Ankara, the Mausoleum of Hacı Bektaş-ı Veli in Nevşehir, and Mamure Castle, Alahan Monastery and St. Paul Church in Mersin are on the candidate list.



A balloon ride in Göreme National Park which includes amazing rock formations and spaces carved into rocks



Laodicea was built by Seleucid King II. Antiochus, around 3rd century B.C.

General view from Boshorus





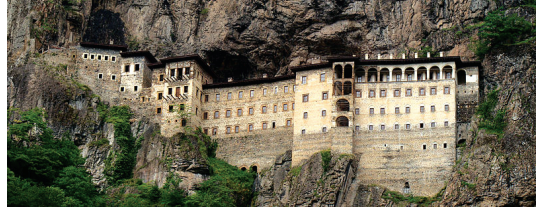
The Celsus Library, built in 7th century B.C., is one of the symbols of Ephesus.



The thermal waters that flow from the travertines in Hierapolis, built by King Eumenes II, has healing qualities.



Amazing mosaics on display at Gaziantep Archeology Museum unearthed at Zeugma antique city



Sümela Monastery, built on steep cliffs around 395-365 A.D., is 1150 meters above sea level.

UNESCO World Heritage List

Nemrut Mountain within the borders of the city of Adiyaman's Kâhta country was built during the reign of Antiochus I. The Hierapolis (Pamukkale) antique city, which was built by Bergama king Eumenes II in 2nd century B.C., was famous for its metal and stone workmanship and cloths. It was an episcopacy center during the Byzantine period. Kastamonu, which is one of the best preserved cities in Turkey since 14th century, has been named a protected site with its traditional urban structure, wooden houses and monumental structure.

Ayasofya Museum, which was commissioned by Byzantine Emperor Justinian I between 532 and 537, was turned into a mosque by Fatih Sultan Mehmed. In terms of architecture, it is a dome basilica and is considered an important turning point in architectural history with its dome transition and support systems. Divriği Ulu Mosque, which harbors exceptional architectural characteristics as well as rich Anatolian style stone workmanship, was



The famous map of Piri Reis, known for his contributions to naval research, life and tragic death, is being preserved at Topkapı Museum

commissioned by Ahmet Şah and his wife Turan Melek along with the mosque between 1228 and 1229. This Islamic architecture masterpiece consists of a mosque that includes a double domed mausoleum and a hospital. Selimiye Mosque and Complex, which is Edirne's most important monumental structure, was dedicated to Sultan Selim II and built in the 16th century. The mosque and complex, which is an amazing structure with its technical perfection, size and aesthetic characteristics, is the masterpiece of Mimar Sinan and is considered one of the most magnificent structures in the world.

Selimiye Mosque and complex, considered the most magnificent structure of its period, is the masterpiece of Mimar Sinan



Hattusha (Çorum, Boğazköy), which was added to UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1986, was an important center in Anatolia for centuries as the capital of the Hittite Empire. Xanthos antique city in Fethiye was the management center of Lycia in the antique age. The city, which was independent before it was invaded by Persians in 545 B.C., was completely burnt down nearly a century later. Letoon, which is four kilometers from Xanthos, was Lycia's religious center in the antique age. There are temples dedicated to Leto, Apollo and Artemis, a monastery, a fountain and a Roman theatre in this area. The 9 layers that can be observed in Troy antique city dates back 3000 years and the earliest settlement is dated back to the early Bronze Age.



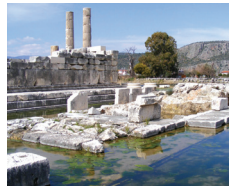
Divriği Ulu Mosque was commissioned by Ahmet Şah and his wife Turan Melek and built between 1228 and 1229.



Troy dated back to 3000 B.C.



Hattusha, the capital of the Hittite Empire was burnt down by King Anitta around 1700 B.C.



Xanthos and Letoon, which were built in 7th century B.C., were added to the UNESCO's world heritage list in 1988.





The painting depicting the Bodrum mausoleum



The remains of the mausoleum are exhibited at the Bodrum Museum



Column base with bas relief and carvings on display at the British Museum

The most important artifacts displayed at the İzmir Efes Museum are the Artemis cult statues and valuable gifts left at the temple.

Seven Wonders of the World

Two of the seven wonders in the world are in Turkey: "The Bodrum Mausoleum" and "The Ephesus Artemis Temple."

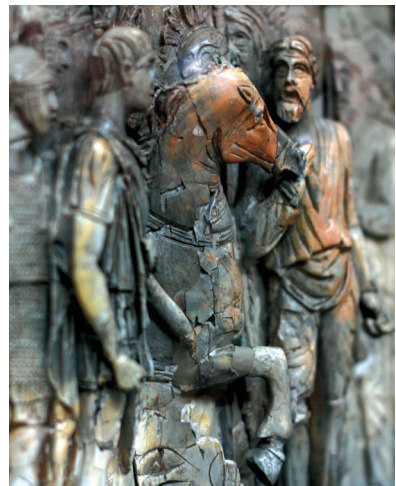
Bodrum Mausoleum

When Halicarnassos, Bodrum today, became the capital of the Caria region in 353 B.C., the Bodrum mausoleum was built to honor King Mausollos by his sister and wife.

The Temple of Artemis in Ephesus

The Temple of Artemis in Ephesus was built in 550 B.C. by the order of Lydian King Croesus and dedicated to Artemis. It is believed that the temple, which includes bronze and marble statues created by famous artists, consisted of 100 columns which were 90 meters high and 45 meters wide. Only a single column has survived to this date. Valuable artifacts unearthed during excavations at the temple in the 19th century are displayed at the British Museum.

The Temple of Artemis, one of the seven wonders of the world, was built in 7th century B.C. The temple, made with marble blocks was used as a marketplace and a religious site. Only a single column remains from the temple today.



Thermal Centers and Spas

Turkey, which is located on an important thermal zone, is first in Europe and seventh in the world in terms of thermal resources. Sandıklı in Afyonkarahisar, Kızılcahamam in Ankara, Karamustafa Paşa and Oylat in Bursa, Gönen in Balıkesir, Balçova in İzmir, Balıklı Çermik in Sivas, Diyadin in Ağrı, Ziga in Aksaray, Çiftehan in Niğde and Ezine Kestanbol hot springs in Çanakkale are popular thermal centers. Hot springs and thermal waters are used in alternative treatments. Each year, thousands of local and foreign tourists visit these spas and stay at nearby hotels. There are different thermal centers with different characteristics and the waters in these centers are used in the treatment of skin conditions, rheumatism, gastrointestinal diseases and urinary tract infections.



Sivas Kangal Balıklı Çermik Hot Springs are located 1425 meters above sea level.



Bursa Oylat Thermal spa



The temperature of the water at **Yalova Hot Springs** is between 57 and 73 degrees centigrade.

The temperature of the **Yozgat Sarıkaya Hot Spring**, 1115 meters above sea level, is between 44 and 47 degrees centigrade.



Ezine Kestanbol Hot Springs in Çanakkale. Water temperature is 78 °C at the source



Hüdai Hot Springs in the country of Sandıklı in Afyonkarahisar are famous for their mud baths. Treatment continues in these hot springs since early Christianity.



The most important settlements of the Olympus-Beydağları National Park are Phaselis (Tekirova) and Olympus, which were built in 7th century B.C. as part of the Rhodes Colony.



Termessos National Park was built on Güllük Mountain. Termessos first came on the historical scene after Alexander the Great passed by the region in 334 B.C.

Natural Parks

There are many endemic plants and animals in Turkey, a country which experiences all four seasons. Greenery which is preserved to protect nature and lakes that are located on migration paths of birds increase this diversity. There are 40 natural and historical national parks in Turkey. Some of these parks have been named national parks because of their historical importance and some because of their geological structure and flora and fauna. National parks are constantly being monitored by the General Directorate of Nature Conservation and National Parks.

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The Artvin Hatila Valley is a unique place with its interesting geological and geomorphic structure and unique plant groups.



Saklıkent Canyon in Muğla, Antalya has steep slopes and is 1100 meters above sea level



You can watch the growing bird population in April, May and June in one of the observation towers at Balıkesir Manyas Bird Paradise.