



The new old

The city of Istanbul has a history that stretches back through the Persian, Greek, Roman and Ottoman Empires. Now at the heart of modern day Turkey, it remains a symbol of change and transformation, bridging east and west

Istanbul, formerly known as Constantinople, is a city with a deep, long and diverse past. The Roman Emperor, Constantine the Great, founded the city, Constantinople "New Rome", in 330 AD becoming the centre of the Empire. The city flourished for a thousand years before Mehmed II and the Ottoman Empire seized control in 1453.

Istanbul lies on the edge of two continents bridging a wealth of trade, culture, and history across a millennium of exchange connecting Anatolia (Western Asia) to Europe. It's a bustling modern city that's been carved out of a melting pot of

cultural exchange, language, and religion. Its modernity has been and continues to be built upon the back of its ancient past and ancestors while it continues to grow and adapt the old with the new. Modern architecture weaves seamlessly through and around ancient ruins that serves as both a reminder of its past and a sign of its modern evolution.

From modern architecture to a mash up of Istanbul's old and new shopping destinations. Experience the hustle and bustle of the bazaars and old market places such as the Arasta Bazaar or the Grand Bazaar, one the oldest markets in the world, to

Istinye Park, one of Istanbul's premier shopping districts. Agia Sofia is at the center of Istanbul's religious and historical past. Istanbul also has a thriving art scene, with numerous galleries and museums showcasing both traditional and contemporary art. Most notably the famous Yapi Kredi Kazim Tashkent Art Gallery, SALT, and Galeri NON.

Istanbul is also known for its delicious cuisine. The city's food scene is a reflection of its diverse history, with influences from the Ottoman Empire, the Balkans, and the Middle East. Sample the flavours of Turkey at Turk Fatih Tutak who offer a selection

of modern and sophisticated dishes or Mikla's award-winning contemporary style.

Istanbul is a vibrant city that has been at the crossroads of civilizations for centuries. From the city's unique and diverse history and culture to its stunning architecture and artistic flare, Istanbul is a city that invites its visitors to explore and immerse themselves in the fragments of history and time.

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Above: The Ortaköy Mosque on the European shoreline of the Bosphorus strait and the Bosphorus Bridge