

A Children's Guide to Turkey



About Turkey

Age 12-14

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There are many interesting things to know about Turkey and the Turkish people.

Did you know that St Nicholas, better known as Santa Claus, was born in Turkey or that the Turks love BBQ's so much that they may have one for breakfast, lunch or dinner?

If you like to see the truly bizarre then watch out for Turkey's equivalent of Spain's bullfighting – camel wrestling! You may also find mountains of nuts for sale as Turkey produces 65% of the world's hazelnuts.

Did you know that Noah's Ark, full of 2 animals of each kind, landed on Mount Ararat in Eastern Turkey? The last meal on Noah's Ark was a sweet and sour pudding called 'asure' and you can still eat this today in Turkey.

If you visit Istanbul you will be able to do something amazing. You can stand in both Europe and Asia as Istanbul is the only city in the world built on 2 continents.



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If you could travel back in time 9,000 years you would find the oldest human settlement in Turkey called Catalhoyuk. If you travelled back between 700 and 100 years you would find the Ottoman Empire. A king of the Ottomans was known as a sultan and these kings would allow you to worship any religion but if you didn't worship Islam you would have been charged an annual tax.

Turkey is a great place to look at flowers with over 9,000 varieties and it was the Turkish who introduced coffee and cherries into Europe.

If you visit a Turkish home it is customary to remove your shoes. Here are some other customary expressions to give a try:

To indicate 'yes' nod your head forward and down. To indicate 'no' tip your head up and back whilst raising your eyebrows. To indicate 'I don't understand' move your head from side to side.



Attractions

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Cappadocia – Central Anatolia

The fairy chimneys of Cappadocia are simply weird producing a moon like landscape that was formed by volcanic eruptions millions of years into the past. There are many interesting underground cities, churches and monasteries carved into the rock as well and this unique landscape can be viewed during a hot air balloon ride. There is also an open-air museum to enjoy at the foot of the valley.



Mount Nemrut – Southeastern Turkey

Mount Nemrut is a 2,134 metre high mountain, which is notable for its large statues that are erected around what is believed to be a royal tomb from the 1st century BC. The huge statues stand up to 9 metres tall and represent the image of King Antiochus as well as two eagles, two lions and Greek gods such as Hercules. The site can be visited from April to October and is buried in snow for the remaining months of the year.



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Troy – Northwest Anatolia

Troy is a 4,000-year-old city and is known as the location of the Trojan War. Following a 10-year siege of the city the Greeks built a large wooden horse in which a select force of men were inside. As the Greeks pretended to sail away the Trojans pulled the horse inside the city and during the night the Greeks crept out of the horse and opened the city gates to the Greek army. A replica of the Trojan Horse can be found near the city ruins and in Istanbul.



Bazaar – Misir Carsisi

A bazaar is an exciting place to be with winding streets of shops that create a huge marketplace of goods and services. The most famous bazaar in Turkey is located in Misir Carsisi where spices, dried fruits and nuts are for sale. A lunch in one of the restaurants is a great way to relax with views of the Golden Horn, the flooded gulf that divides Istanbul, and Galata Bridge.



Phrases

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Basics

Yes	Eh vet
No	Hah yuhr
Hello	Mehr hah bah
Goodbye	Hosh cha kal
Please	Luet fen
Thank you	Teh shek uer eh der eem

My name is	Benn im ad uhm
What's your name?	Ad uhn ne
Hotel	Otel

Numbers

One	Beer
Two	Icki
Three	Uech
Four	Dirt
Five	Besh
Six	Altuh
Seven	Yedi
Eight	Sekiz
Nine	Dokuz
Ten	On
One hundred	Yuez

Colours

Red	Khir mizi
Blue	Mao vee
Green	Yea sheal
Yellow	Saa nh
Black	See yuh
White	Bei azh

Restaurant

I want	Istiyorum
How much is it?	Koch pa rah?
The bill please	He sap luet fen
What is that	Bunun ne oldugunu
Bread	Ehk mehk
Salad	Sah lah tah
Dessert	Tat-li
Meat	Et
Fish	Bah luhk
Fruit	Sehb zeh
Water	Soo

Conversations

Good morning	Guen eye duhn
Good evening	E yee ak sham lar
Good night	E yee ge jay ler
What time is it?	Ne zaman?
Help	Im daht
Do you speak English?	Ingilizce biliyor musunuz?
I don't understand	An-la-muh-yoor-uhm
Excuse me/sorry	Af fair dair sin niz
Toilet	Too va let

The Turkish words are written in phonetics.

Phonetics are written as the words would sound in English, so simply say what you see.

Printable Questionnaire

Q1. Santa Claus was born in Turkey but what was his real name?

- St Christmas St Peter St Nicholas

Q2. What is the name of a Turkish marketplace?

- Bazaar Bizarre Turkish Delight

Q3. Which famous boat landed on Mount Ararat?

- The Titanic Noah's Ark The Black Pearl

Q4. How many continents is Istanbul built on?

- 1 3 2

Q5. What is the name given to a king of the Ottoman Empire?

- Sultan Raisin Sultana

