

# The Ottomans | The Ottoman Capital: Istanbul

'Istanbul is still the biggest and the most magnificent city of the Republic of Turkey.'

Istanbul, which grew dense within the city walls for the first three centuries of Ottoman rule, gained a new look from the early 18th century. Architectural activity along the Golden Horn and the shores of the Bosphorus (Istanbul) expressed the late-Ottoman desire to imitate the West. Istanbul was invaded as a consequence of the Ottoman defeat in World War I, and during the Turkish National War of Independence Ankara became the new capital. Istanbul is still the biggest and the most magnificent city of the Republic of Turkey.



**Name:**  
Fountain and sabil of Ahmed III

**Dynasty:**  
Hegira 1141 / AD 1729 Ottoman

**Details:**  
Sultanahmet, Istanbul, Türkiye

**Justification:**  
During the Westernisation period a number of fountains were erected in the public squares which were important spaces within the city landscape.

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**Name:**  
Nuruosmaniye Mosque

**Dynasty:**  
Hegira 1169 / AD 1755 Ottoman

**Details:**  
Çemberlita#, Istanbul, Türkiye

**Justification:**  
One of the most beautiful examples of the Ottoman Westernisation period, it crowns the second hill of Istanbul next to the Grand Bazaar.

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**Name:**  
Beylerbeyi Palace

**Dynasty:**  
Hegira 1281 / AD 1865 Ottoman

**Details:**  
Beylerbeyi, Istanbul, Türkiye

**Justification:**  
Soon after the Ottoman court and administration had moved to Dolmabahçe Palace on the European side of the Bosphorus, a summer palace was built on the Asian side.

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**Name:**  
Pertevniyal Valide Sultan Mosque Complex

**Dynasty:**  
Hegira 1288 / AD 1871 Ottoman

**Details:**

Aksaray, Istanbul, Türkiye

**Justification:**

Sultans, their mothers, wives and children all commissioned monuments that adorned the city.

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**Name:**

Çakırcı Mansion

**Dynasty:**

Hegira 13th century / AD 19th century Ottoman

**Details:**

Birgi-Ödemiş, İzmir, Türkiye

**Justification:**

The Turkish affection for Istanbul was reflected even in the wall paintings of homes in other towns.

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