

The Ottomans | The Ottoman Capital: Istanbul

'The Ottomans crowned "the city built on seven hills" with architectural complexes and adorned her streets with fountains.'

Sultan Mehmed II, who earned the title Fatih ('The Conqueror') by winning over Konstantinopolis, powerfully influenced its development. He initiated redevelopment, built up the population, and encouraged trade. The Topkapı Palace, bazaars (hans) and waterways initiated by Mehmed II, were developed still further by later sultans. The Ottomans crowned 'the city built on seven hills' with architectural complexes and adorned her streets with fountains. Many new commercial, civic, and military buildings were built in order to meet the needs of a growing society.

**Name:**

Ibrahim Paşa Palace

Dynasty:

Possibly built during the reign of Bayezid II, (Hegira late 9th–10th / AD 15th–early 16th century); the first document available mentions its restoration in hegira 926–7 / AD 1520–1 by Süleyman the Magnificent Ottoman

Details:

Sultanahmet, Istanbul, Türkiye

Justification:

This palace hosted sultans who came to watch the activities taking place in the hippodrome. It is now the Museum of Turkish-Islamic Arts.

**Name:**

Photograph

Dynasty:

Around hegira 1317 / AD 1900 Ottoman

Details:

Hallwyl Museum
Stockholm, Sweden

Justification:

Süleymaniye Complex, which was built by the Chief Imperial Architect, Sinan, crowns the third hill of Istanbul. It was regarded as the new Wonder of the World by Westerners when it was built.

**Name:**

Süleymaniye waterway map

Dynasty:

Hegira second half of the 12th century / AD 18th century Ottoman

Details:

Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts
Sultanahmet, Istanbul, Türkiye

Justification:

Detail of the water-supply system running to Süleymaniye Complex in Istanbul.



Name:
Kırkçeçme water-supply system

Dynasty:
Hegira 971 / AD 1564 Ottoman

Details:
Kemerburgaz, Istanbul, Türkiye

Justification:
The Kırkçeçme water-supply system commissioned by Sultan Süleyman the Magnificent and built by the Chief Imperial Architect, Sinan, still continues to provide Istanbul with water.
