

The Ottomans | Court Life

'The Bosphorus palaces became the new dynastic residences.'

In the middle of the 19th century, under Western influence, the Ottoman sultans moved to Dolmabahçe Palace, then to Yıldız Palace, and spent their summers in Beylerbeyi Palace. All were built along the Bosphorus in the Western style. The Bosphorus palaces became the new dynastic residences and centres for official ceremonies and receptions.



Name:
Footed bowl

Dynasty:
About hegira 951–956 / AD 1545–50 Ottoman

Details:
The British Museum
London, England, United Kingdom

Justification:
A splendid bowl with a bold, painted design that was probably made for the imperial court, perhaps for washing the feet of the sultan himself.



Name:
Table

Dynasty:
Probably around hegira 966 / AD 1560 Ottoman

Details:
Victoria and Albert Museum
London, England, United Kingdom

Justification:
A rare example of furniture from the Ottoman court; this table makes the most unusual use of Iznik tile-work.



Name:
Surname-i Hümayun ('Book of the Imperial Circumcision Festival')

Dynasty:
Hegira 991–7 / AD 1583–8 Ottoman

Details:
Topkapı Palace Museum
Sultanahmet, Istanbul, Türkiye

Justification:
Celebrations held for the circumcision festival of Prince Mehmed, son of Sultan Murad III, lasted for 52 days and 52 nights.



Name:
Brahim 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:

The only palace of a vizier to have survived to modern times now serves as the Museum of Turkish-Islamic Arts.



Name:

Beylerbeyi Palace

Dynasty:

Hegira 1281 / AD 1865 Ottoman

Details:

Beylerbeyi, Istanbul, Türkiye

Justification:

The coastal summer palace built for Sultan Abdülaziz.
