

# 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.

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**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.

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**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.

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**Name:**  
İbrahim 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.

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**Name:**

Beylerbeyi Palace

**Dynasty:**

Hegira 1281 / AD 1865 Ottoman

**Details:**

Beylerbeyi, Istanbul, Türkiye

**Justification:**

The coastal summer palace built for Sultan Abdülaziz.

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