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While you are in Turkey

Visa

Welcoming millions of visitors from around world every year, Turkey aims to ensure with its advanced visa system that visitors have a pleasant holiday experience.

Visitors can easily apply for a tourist visa in just a few steps at www.evisa.gov.tr and start to explore the unique nature of Turkey the minute they arrive in Turkey.

Tourists can obtain an electronic visa (e-Viza) via online application provided that they have a minimum 6- months- valid passport by the date of application. Tourists can explore Turkey and its wealth of culture, history and scenic beauty as they like unless their visit exceeds 90 days.

Currency

The official currency of the Republic of Turkey is Turkish lira. The Turkish Lira is divided into subunits called kuruş. Paper currency comes in 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 and 200 TL money notes and metal currency comes in 5, 10, 25, and 50 kuruş and 1Lira coin money.

Images of the founding father of the Turkish Republic, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk take place on the front face of money notes while the back sides depict prominent names and places of Turkish culture.

Currencies of foreign countries can be converted into Turkish Lira at exchange offices and banks in accordance with the daily exchange rate determined by the Turkish Central Bank.

Apart from Turkish Lira, strong currencies such as U.S. Dollar and Euro are widely accepted by large shopping centers, hotels and restaurants.

It is advisable, however, that you carry some Turkish Lira with you at all times for your own convenience.

F.A.Q.

-Can I withdraw money from ATMs?

Visitors may withdraw money in Turkish Lira as well as Euro and U.S. Dollar with their debit cards from the ATMs in Turkey. The majority of ATMs offer English language or other language options for the convenience of foreigners.

-Can I use my credit cards for shopping?

Visitors may use their credit cards and debit cards for all kinds of purchases. It is advisable, however, to carry some cash with you in case you take trips away from the city center or travel to smaller towns or villages.

-What is the local currency in Turkey?

Turkish Lira is the local currency of the Republic of Turkey. Visitors can exchange their cash money for Turkish Lira at exchange offices and banks.

-Can I drive in Turkey with my driver's license?

Foreigners may drive in Turkey provided that they keep their passport, international driver's license and the vehicle license with them all the time. Turkey drives on the right side of the road and the advanced highway network allows easy access to different corners of the land.

-What kind of sockets are used in Turkey?

European two-pin sockets are widely used in Turkey as everywhere in continental Europe.

-Do I have to speak Turkish to interact with people during my visit?

English is the most spoken foreign language everywhere in Turkey. You should have no problem meeting people who can speak English and help you get around in all the big cities, shopping malls, restaurants and holiday resorts.

-Can I use my mobile phone in Turkey?

Many international GSM operators provide coverage in Turkey in addition to local GSM operators such as Turkcell, Avea and Vodafone. You may ask your GSM operator to activate the international roaming function of your mobile phone before travelling to Turkey or just obtain a new SIM (Subscriber Identity Module) card from local operators in Turkey.

- What are the opening and closing times of museums in Turkey?

All of the museums in Turkey are closed on Monday and are open to visitation from 9:00 to 17.00 on the other days.



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-What are the opening hours of pharmacies in Turkey?

Pharmacies are open across the country every day from 09.00 – 19.00 except for Sunday. One pharmacy, however, is open 24/7 in each neighborhood by the time the others are closed.

-What are the opening hours of shopping centers in turkey?

In Turkey, shopping centers are open every day offering a variety of trademarks and services from usually from 10.00 am until 22.00 pm.

-What are the opening hours of banks in Turkey?

In Turkey, banks are in service of their customers from 09.00 to 17.00 on weekdays but are closed on weekends.

- What is the time zone in Turkey?

The time zone in Turkey situated at the connecting point of Asia and Europe is GMT +2.

-Do I need any vaccinations before going to Turkey?

There are no mandatory vaccinations before traveling to Turkey.

Road safety in Turkey

Visitors who are dreaming of an extraordinary vacation by making use of the advanced highway network in Turkey should get informed about certain rules and regulations for their own convenience.

The unique and magnificent landscape of Turkey is waiting to be explored by vacationers who are ready to hit the road!

Emergency Numbers

Turkey keeps evolving every day for the convenience of vacationers who want to spend a relaxing and pleasant holiday. The following is a list of emergency numbers that are available 24/7 in case of an emergency.

The major emergency numbers are:

- 112 Medical emergency/ Ambulance
- 110 Fire
- 155 Police
- 154 Traffic
- 156 Gendarmerie
- 159 Highway Department
- 158 Coast Security
- 113 Medical care
- 114 Poison Emergency
- 177 Forest Fire

Public Holidays in Turkey

Official and religious holidays are celebrated with great enthusiasm in Turkey which is a vast and culturally diverse country. The public holidays are listed as follows:

- January 1 - New Year's Day
- April 23 - National Sovereignty and Children's Day
- May 1 - Labor and Solidarity Day
- May 19 - Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day
- August 30 - Victory Day
- October 29 - Republic Day
- It is advisable to complete any bookings in advance in case your vacation coincides with these dates so that you can enjoy your vacation without any inconveniences.

Travel Tips

- Tourists should carry their ID and passport with them at all time for their own safety.
- Even if a small amount of cash, it is advisable to keep some Turkish Lira with you.



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- Printed or digital travel guides and maps informing about the location you are visiting will help you get around and save valuable time so that you can focus on things worth seeing and doing.
- Visitors who are planning to join the culture tours in İstanbul, or Turkey in general, will be granted faster and cheaper admission to museums in case they obtain a Museum Pass.
- Travelers who anticipate any possible traffic congestions can use the online check –in system before arriving at the airport and avoid running the risk of missing their flight.
- Tourists may benefit from tax-free shopping in Turkey by applying at the tax refund offices at the airports with their purchase receipts.
- Tourists in Turkey may prefer to purchase prepaid sim cards from the stores of local GSM operators to make cheap local and international calls and avoid any connection problems.
- Wearing comfortable clothes and sports shoes will make you feel more comfortable if you are planning to participate in cultural tours during your stay in Turkey.
- Obtaining a public transportation card and making use of public transportation facilities is more practical and cheaper if you intend to spend your holiday in one of Turkey’s metropolitan areas.
- It is advisable to keep a Turkish dictionary with you at all times. Finding people who speak foreign languages may not be possible at all times.
- Turkish people are well known for their hospitality and friendliness. If you need help, you may ask the people around you, they will not turn you down.



We wish you a pleasant trip!!!