

3 Day Itinerary to Istanbul

WITH KIDS



Sultanahmet



Taksim



Galata



Karikoy



Besiktas



Kadikoy

Istanbul Tips & Things to Know

Istanbul is hilly and the pavements are not pram friendly. Consider using a baby carrier or hiking pack.

Public transport is your friend

The trams, metro, buses and ferries are safe, and affordable. There is usually a security guard at station who can help you buy tickets.

Mosques

Mosques are closed for tourists during prayer times. You will need to cover up for Mosques.

Don't rush the morning

The city starts to come alive around 9–10am and stays lively well into the evening.

Travelling with kids

Playgrounds are everywhere to give the kids a break.

What to wear

Dress as you normally would, with the exception of Mosques.

Eat the street food

Try the bakeries/ firins and local eaterys not just the restaurants. They have great cheap eats.

Carry some cash

Cash is king in Turkiye. Always carry some.

Sultanahmet

DAY 1

**Blue Mosque****Hagia Sophia****Basilica Cistern****Topkapi Palace****Gilhane Park****Grand Bazar****Süleymaniye Mosque**

Blue Mosque

- Check prayer times as this will determine when the mosque is closed to tourists. You will have to wait in line.

Hagia Sophia

- Now ticketed, and you will have to wait in line with no shade. It is being renovated. However, it's one of the things you have to see.

Basilica Cistern

- If you are going to pay for 1 site, make it this one. Beautiful inside after extensive restorations. And cool out of the heat.

Topkapi Palace

- Beautiful grounds, but can be long and boring for kids. If you are going to skip one, make it this one.

Gülhane Park

- Next to the palaces, this shaded park sits. There is a playground for kids to run around. And a much smaller free cistern.

Grand Bazaar

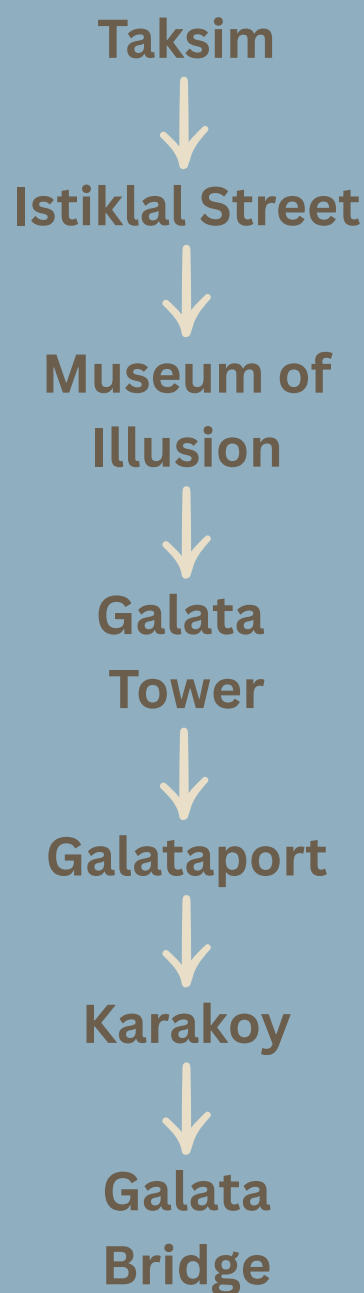
- You could spend an entire day at the Grand Bazaar, Egyptian Bazaar and surrounding streets, but a walk through is enough.

Süleymaniye Mosque

- Free entry and sits atop of a hill with one of the best views in Istanbul. If you don't do Hagia Sophia, do this one.

Taksim / Galata / Karakoy

DAY 2



Taksim Square

- Right behind Taksim Square is a park. Men walk around selling cay from carts. Best way to start the day.

Istiklal Street

- This street is long but slopes down toward Sishane. There is a red tram which kids love. Cost is local transport fee

Museum Of Illusion

- You'll only need an hour at most here but great fun for the kids and keeps them entertained

Galata Tower

- Usually a line here, but fantastic views across Istanbul. This area is surrounded by cafes so you can get a coffee whilst you wait.

Galataport

- Modern Cruise terminal with restaurants and cafes. Often things are happening down here. If a ship is in the view is blocked.

Karakoy

- Karaköy is a lively waterfront area with a mix of old and new - think cafés, street food (including fish sandwiches)

Galata Bridge

- Fisherman up top and fish restaurants below. If you have the energy walk across.

Beskitas / Kadikoy

DAY 3



Breakfast street



Beskitas



Local Ferry



Moda park



Kadikoy



Local Ferry

Breakfast Street

- Beşiktaş Breakfast Street (Kahvaltıcılar Sokağı / Çelebioğlu Sokak) Located in Besiktas.this street is breakfast restaurants. Cafes start getting busy around 9.30/10am

Besiktas

- Wander Besiktas street for a local vibe although still a little quiet at this hour.

Local Ferry

- Catch the local ferry to Kadikoy. Tickets are sold at the machines. It's a couple of \$\$ a ride. Its approx 30-45 min

Moda Park

- If you are still full from breakfast walk 1.5km to Moda Park. Lovely grassy park next to the water and the kids will love the playground

Kadikoy

- Bars, restaurants, cafes. It has a different feel to the European side. Loads of cakes restaurants

Local ferry

- Ferries from Kadikoy go to Eminönü, Beşiktaş Karaköy plus more