



İstanbul

**“All you’ve got to do is decide to go
and the hardest part is over.**

So go!”

TONY WHEELER, COFOUNDER – LONELY PLANET

THIS EDITION WRITTEN AND RESEARCHED BY

Virginia Maxwell

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MATT MUJIRO / LONELY PLANET ©



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(left) **Mezes p30**

Traditional small dishes

(above) **Şakirin**

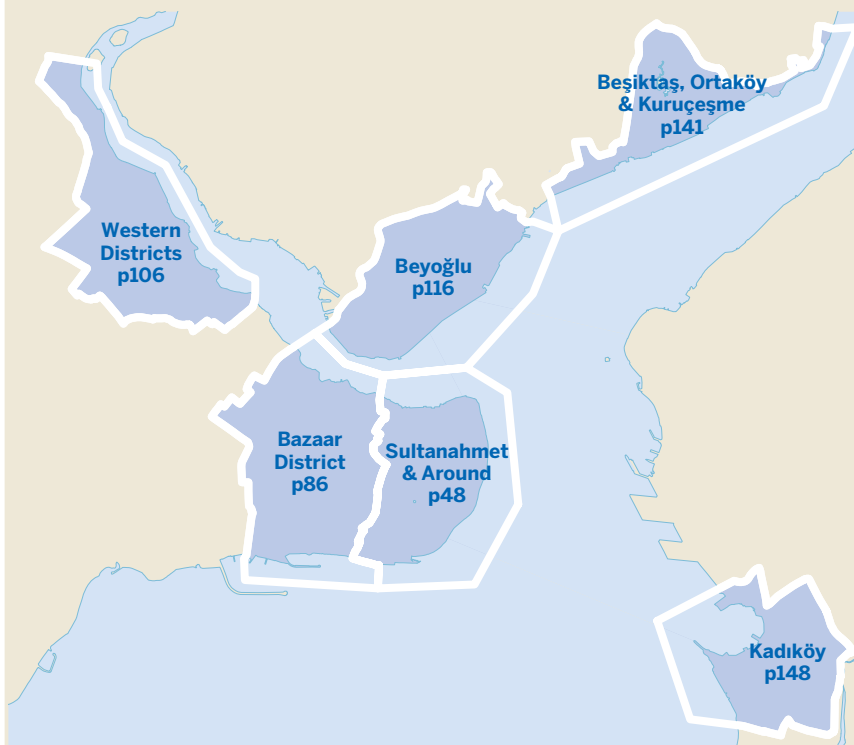
Mosque p151 Modern mosque in Üsküdar

(right) **Topkapı Palace**

p57 Famous palace with a colourful history



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Top Itineraries

Day One

Sultanahmet & Around (p48)

 Head to Aya Sofya Meydanı (Square) and work out which of the museums and mosques in the immediate area will be on your visiting list. Don't miss **Aya Sofya**, the **Blue Mosque** and the **Basilica Cistern**.



Lunch Investigate the cheap eateries on Sirkeci's Hoca Paşa Sokak (p80).

Sultanahmet & Around (p48)

 Diverge from the tourist trail and visit some of Sultanahmet's hidden highlights by following our walking tour (p78). Source some souvenirs in the historic **Arasta Bazaar**.



Dinner Have fish at Balıkçı Sabahattin (p81) or kebabs at Hamdi (p100).

Sultanahmet & Around (p48)

 After enjoying an early dinner, make your way to Sirkeci, where you can watch dervishes whirl at **Hoca Paşa Cultural Centre**, a converted 15th-century hamam. Alternatively, claim a table at **Derviş Aile Çay Bahçesi** or **Cafe Meşale**, where you can enjoy tea, nargile (water pipe) and a free (but very touristy) whirling-dervish performance.

Day Two

Sultanahmet & Around (p48)

 It's time to investigate the lifestyles of the sultans at **Topkapı Palace**. You'll need a half day to explore the palace Harem, marvel at the precious objects in the Treasury and wander through the pavilion-filled grounds.



Lunch Matbah (p82) serves Ottoman food in a pleasant garden setting.

Beyoğlu (p116)

 Explore the streets, cafes and boutiques of Galata and Çukurcuma, perhaps popping into Orhan Pamuk's nostalgic **Museum of Innocence**.



Dinner Karaköy (p128) in Beyoğlu is the city's new eating and drinking hotspot.

Sultanahmet (p48) & the Bazaar District (p86)

 You've spent a full day sightseeing, so why not relax in the steamy surroundings of an Ottoman-era **hamam** after dinner?

Day Three

Bazaar District (p86)

 Get ready to explore the city's famous Bazaar District. After visiting the most magnificent of all Ottoman mosques, the **Süleymaniye**, make your way to the world-famous **Grand Bazaar** to explore its labyrinthine lanes and hidden caravanserais.



Lunch Grab a cheap eat in or around the Grand Bazaar (p98).

Bazaar District (p86)

 After lunch follow the steady stream of local shoppers making their way down the hill to the **Spice Bazaar**. While there, seek out the exquisite **Rüstem Paşa Mosque**, camouflaged in the midst of a busy produce market. As the sun starts to set, walk across the **Galata**



Dinner Asmalımescit (p130) in Beyoğlu has lots of restaurants and taverns.

Bridge towards the eating and entertainment district of Beyoğlu.

Beyoğlu (p116)

 Enjoy an after-dinner drink and the view at one of Beyoğlu's rooftop bars before winding down at the **Tophane nargile cafes**.

Day Four

The Bosphorus (p155)

 Board the **Long Bosphorus Tour** (Uzun Boğaz Turu) for a one-way trip up the Bosphorus and then make your way back to town by bus, visiting museums and monuments along the way. Alternatively, take the Dentur Avrasya **hop-on/hop-off tour** from Kabataş and visit the Sakıp Sabancı Museum in Emirgan, Küçüksu Kasrı and Beylerbeyi Palace.



Lunch MüzedeChanga (p163) for its terrace and Modern Turkish cuisine.

Beyoğlu (p116)

 If you decided to take a 90-minute cruise on a Bosphorus excursion boat rather than the full-day or hop-on/hop-off trip, you can devote the afternoon to investigating Beyoğlu's exciting contemporary-art scene. Don't miss the **İstanbul**



Dinner Relax in a casual but chic cafe in Cihangir (p133).

Modern museum and the **ARTER** and **SALT** cultural centres.

Beyoğlu (p116)

 Finish your day chilling out to live jazz at longstanding favourite **Nardis Jazz Club** or relative newcomer **Nublu İstanbul**.



Our Story

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Beijing and Delhi, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

Our Writer



Virginia Maxwell

Although based in Australia, Virginia spends much of her year researching guidebooks in the Mediterranean region. Of these countries, Turkey is unquestionably her favourite. As well as working on the previous four editions of the *Istanbul* city guide, she is the author of Lonely Planet's *Pocket Istanbul* and the Istanbul and Thrace & Marmara chapters of Lonely Planet's *Turkey* guidebook. She also writes about the city for a host of international magazines and websites.

Virginia usually travels with partner Peter and son Max, who have grown to love Turkey as much as she does.

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Istanbul Maps

Sights

- Beach
- Bird Sanctuary
- Buddhist
- Castle/Palace
- Christian
- Confucian
- Hindu
- Islamic
- Jain
- Jewish
- Monument
- Museum/Gallery/Historic Building
- Ruin
- Sento Hot Baths/Onsen
- Shinto
- Sikh
- Taoist
- Winery/Vineyard
- Zoo/Wildlife Sanctuary
- Other Sight

Activities, Courses & Tours

- Body surfing
- Diving
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Course/Tour
- Skiing
- Snorkelling
- Surfing
- Swimming/Pool
- Walking
- Windsurfing
- Other Activity

Sleeping

- Sleeping
- Camping

Eating

- Eating

Drinking & Nightlife

- Drinking & Nightlife
- Cafe

Entertainment

- Entertainment

Shopping

- Shopping

Information

- Bank
- Embassy/Consulate
- Hospital/Medical
- Internet
- Police
- Post Office
- Telephone
- Toilet
- Tourist Information
- Other Information

Geographic

- Beach
- Hut/Shelter
- Lighthouse
- Lookout
- Mountain/Volcano
- Oasis
- Park
- Pass
- Picnic Area
- Waterfall

Population

- Capital (National)
- Capital (State/Province)
- City/Large Town
- Town/Village

Transport

- Airport
- Border crossing
- Bus
- Cable car/Funicular
- Cycling
- Ferry
- Metro station
- Monorail
- Parking
- Petrol station
- S-Bahn/Subway station
- Taxi
- T-bane/Tunnelbana station
- Train station/Railway
- Tram
- Tube station
- U-Bahn/Underground station
- Other Transport

Note: Not all symbols displayed above appear on the maps in this book

Routes

- Tollway
- Freeway
- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary
- Lane
- Unsealed road
- Road under construction
- Plaza/Mall
- Steps
- Tunnel
- Pedestrian overpass
- Walking Tour
- Walking Tour detour
- Path/Walking Trail

Boundaries

- International
- State/Province
- Disputed
- Regional/Suburb
- Marine Park
- Cliff
- Wall

Hydrography

- River, Creek
- Intermittent River
- Canal
- Water
- Dry/Salt/Intermittent Lake
- Reef

Areas

- Airport/Runway
- Beach/Desert
- Cemetery (Christian)
- Cemetery (Other)
- Glacier
- Mudflat
- Park/Forest
- Sight (Building)
- Sportsground
- Swamp/Mangrove



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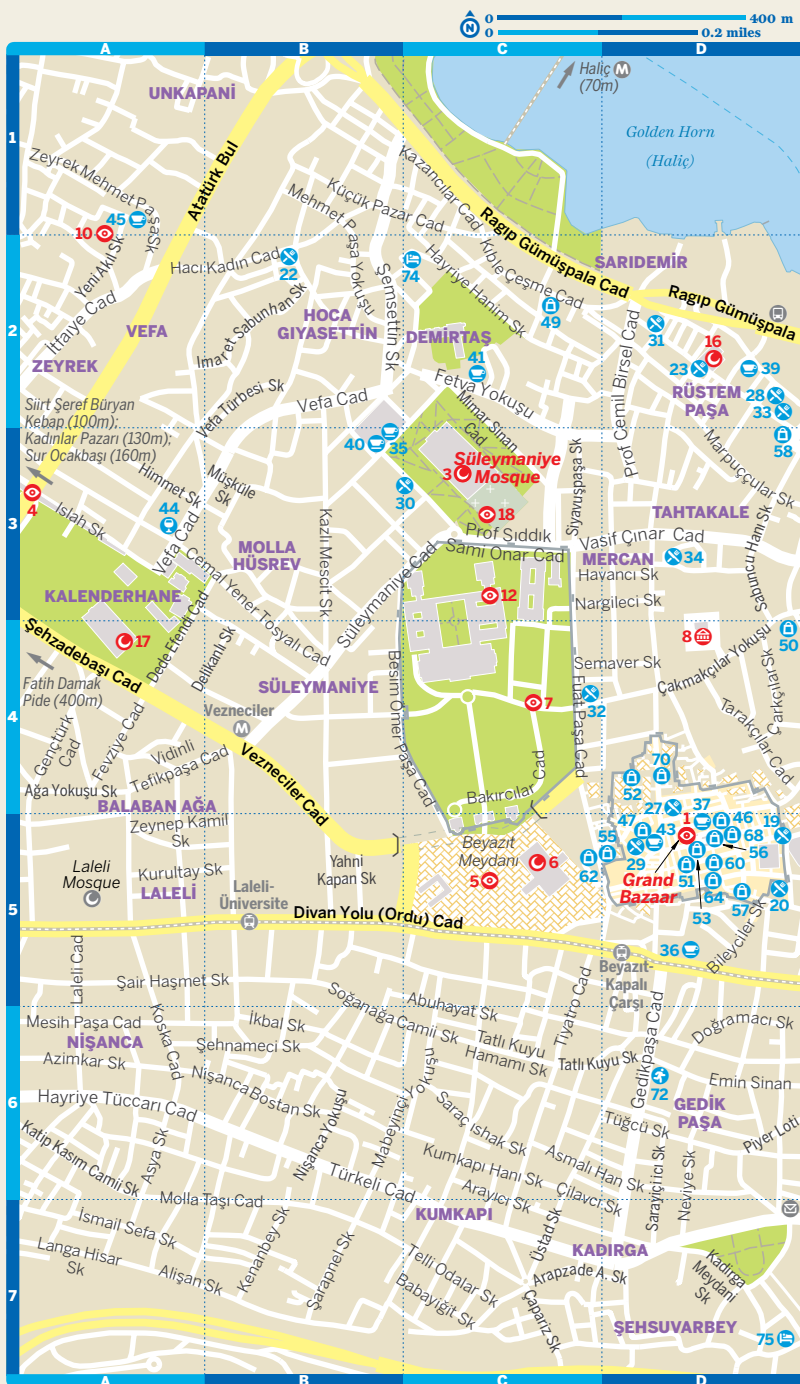
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8 Great Palace Mosaic Museum	E5	40 Iznik Classics.....E4
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Kennedy Cad (Sahil Yolu)







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- 75 Saruhan Hotel.....D7



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BEYOĞLU - NORTHEAST *Map on p244*

📍 Top Sights

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- 1 İstiklal CaddesiC5

📍 Sights

(p120)

- 2 Akbank Art CentreD4
 3 Atatürk Cultural CentreF4
 4 Avrupa PasajıB5
 5 Balık PazarıB5
 6 Çiçek PasajıB5
 7 Galeri ApelC6
 8 Galeri NevB6
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 11 Taksim MeydanıE3
 12 Üç Horan Ermeni KilisesiB5

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 15 EnstitüA6
 16 Hacı AbdullahC4
 17 İnci PastanesiD4
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 20 KlemuriD5
 21 SocialD6
 22 Zübeyir OcakbaşıD4

🍷 Drinking & Nightlife

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- 25 BigudiD4
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 30 LiteraB6
 31 Manda BatmazB6
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🎭 Entertainment

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 40 Beyoğlu Olgunlaşma EnstitüsüD4
 41 Leyla Eski Eşya PazarlamaD6
 42 MephistoC5
 43 NahılD4
 44 Petek TurşularıB5
 45 Reşat Balık MarketB5
 46 Sütte ŞarküteriB5
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📍 Sights

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 4 Christ Church D3
 5 Depo E3
 6 Elipsis Gallery E4
 7 Galata Mevlevi Museum C2
 8 Galata Tower C4
 9 Galeri Manâ E4
 10 Galerist C1
 11 Jewish Museum of Turkey C5
 12 Kasa Galeri C4
 13 Museum of Innocence E1
 14 Patisserie Lebon C2
 15 Pera Palace Hotel C1
 16 SALT Galata C5
 17 Schneidertempel Art Center C4

🍴 Eating

- 18 Aheste D3
 19 Antiochia C2
 20 Asmalı Canım Çiğirim C1
 21 Asmalı Cavit C1
 22 Cafe Privato C3
 23 Datlı Maya F1
 24 Delicatessen C1
 25 Demeti G1
 26 Duple Meze Bar C1
 27 Füreyya Galata Balıkçısı C3
 28 Gram C2
 29 Helvetia Lokanta C2
 30 House Cafe C2
 31 İstanbul Modern Cafe/Restaurant F3
 32 Jash G1
 33 Journey F1
 34 Kahve 6 F1
 35 Karaköy Güllüoğlu D5
 36 Karaköy Lokantası E4
 37 Kiva Han C3
 38 Lokanta Maya E4
 39 Meze by Lemon Tree C1
 40 Midpoint D1
 Mikla (see 79)
 41 Namlı D5
 42 Sofyalı 9 C2
 43 Tarihi Karaköy Balık Lokantası C5

🍷 Drinking & Nightlife

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 48 Leb-i Derya D2
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 49 Mavra D3
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 50 Münferit E1
 NuTeras (see 10)
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 53 Smyrna F1
 54 Tophane Nargile Cafes F3
 55 Unter E4
 56 White Mill G1
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🎭 Entertainment

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 59 Nublu İstanbul C4
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🛍 Shopping

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 67 İstanbul Kitapçısı D1
 68 İstanbul Modern Gift Shop F3
 69 La Cave Wine Shop F1
 70 Lale Plak C2
 71 Mariposa G1
 72 Old Sandal C3
 73 Paşabahçe D1
 74 Selda Okutan E4
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🏊 Sports & Activities

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🛏 Sleeping

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 78 Has Han Galata C4
 79 Marmara Pera C1
 80 Richmond Hotel C2
 81 TomTom Suites D1
 82 Vault Karaköy C5
 83 Witt İstanbul Hotel F2
 84 World House Hostel C3





BEŞİKTAŞ, ORTAKÖY & KURUÇEŞME



Top Sights

1 Dolmabahçe Palace A5

(p143)

7 Yıldız Porselen Fabrikası E2

8 Yıldız Şale C1

Sights

2 Çırağan Palace D4

3 İstanbul Naval Museum B5

4 National Palaces Painting Museum B5

5 Ortaköy Mosque G3

6 Yıldız Park D2

(p144)

Eating

9 Banyan F3

House Cafe (see 9)

10 Kitchenette F3

11 Kümpir & Waffle Stands G3

12 Vogue A4

(p145)



BEŞİKTAŞ, ORTAKÖY & KURUÇEŞME

13 Zuma..... F3

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17 Malta Köşkü..... D2

18 Reina..... G2

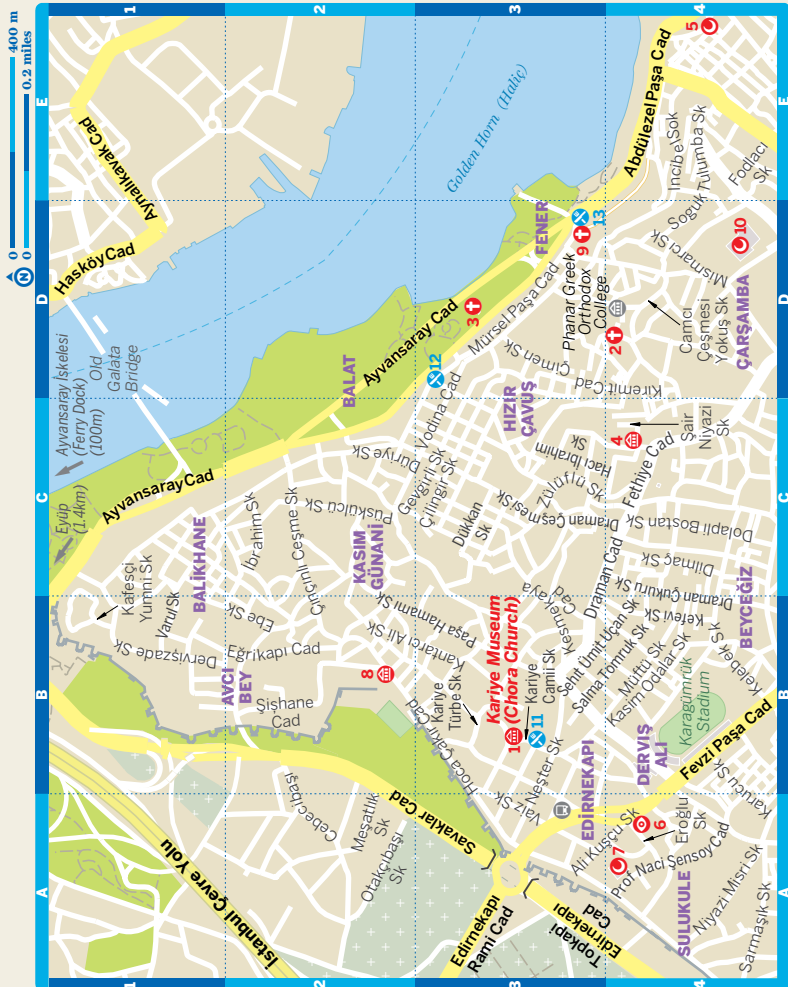
19 Sortie..... H1

Sleeping (p176)

20 Armagğan Bosphorus Suites..... G2

21 Four Seasons Istanbul at the Bosphorus..... D4

WESTERN DISTRICTS



Top Sights

- 1** Kariye Museum (Chora Church) B3

Sights

- 2** Church of St Mary of the Mongols D4

- 3** Church of St Stephen of the Bulgars D3

- 4** Fevziye Museum C4

- 5** Gül Mosque E4

- 6** Mihrimah Sultan Hamam A4

- 7** Mihrimah Sultan Mosque A4

- 8** Palace of Constantine B2

- 9** Porphyrogenitus D3

- 10** Patriarchal Church of St George D4

- 11** Yavuz Sultan Selim Mosque D4

Eating

- 11** Asitane B3

- 12** Köftecisi Anavut D3

- 13** Tarihi Halic İşkembecisi D3

KADIKÖY



Top Sights

- 1 Kadıköy Produce Market.....

(p150)

Eating

- 2 Baylan Pastanesi.....

(p151)

- 3 Çiya Sofrası.....

E2

- 4 Etabal.....

E1

- 5 Kadi Nimet Balıkcılık.....

E1

Drinking & Nightlife

- 6 Fazlı Bey.....

(p151)

- 7 Karğa Bar.....

E1

Entertainment

- 8 Süreyya Opera House.....

(p153)

- 9 Ali Muhiddin Hacı Bekir.....

(p153)

- 10 Mephisto.....

D1

- 11 Mesut Güneş.....

E1

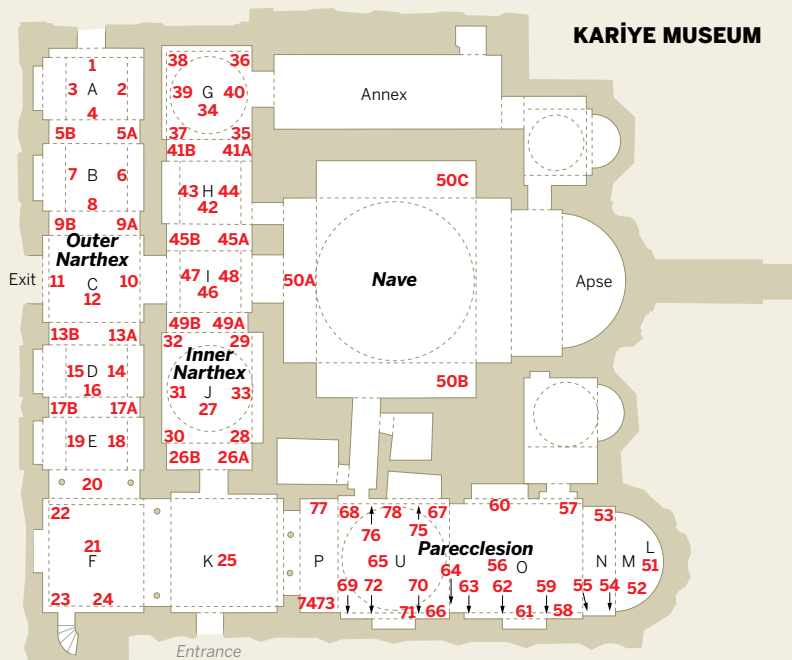
- 12 Soy.....

C4

Sleeping

- 13 Hush Moda.....

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👁 Mosaics

- 1** The voyage of the Virgin to Bethlehem & the dream of Joseph
- 2** The census held for the enrolment for taxation & registration of Mary & Joseph in the presence of Cyrenius, Governor of Syria
- 3** Jesus going with Mary & Joseph to Jerusalem
- 4** Remains of mosaics – Jesus among the doctors in the temple
- 5A** St Trachos
- 5B** St Andronikus
- 6** The birth of Jesus
- 7** The return of the Virgin Mary with Jesus
- 8** The attempts of Satan to deceive Jesus
- 9A** St Georgios
- 9B** St Demetrius
- 10** Jesus & the inscription 'the dwelling-place of the living'
- 11** The prayer of the Virgin & the attendant angels
- 12** The wedding at Cana & the miracles
- 13A** Depiction of the saints
- 13B** Depiction of the saints
- 14** The Magi on their way to Jerusalem riding on horseback & the three Magi in audience with King Herod
- 15** Elizabeth & John the Baptist running away from a pursuing soldier
- 16** Remains of mosaics
- 17A** Depiction of the saints
- 17B** Depiction of the saints
- 18** The scene of King Herod's investigation & a guard standing
- 19** The mourning mothers
- 20** No mosaics left
- 21** A decorative medallion
- 22** The meeting of Jesus with the Samaritan woman at the well
- 23** The healing of a paralysed person by Jesus
- 24** King Herod giving the order for the massacre of the innocents & the execution thereof
- 25** Remains of mosaics
- 26A** The healing by Jesus of a young man with an injured arm
- 26B** The healing by Jesus of leprosy man
- 27** Twenty-four of the early ancestors of Jesus (Genealogy of Christ)
- 28** The healing by Jesus of a woman asking for the restoration of her health
- 29** The healing by Jesus of the mother-in-law of St Peter
- 30** The healing by Jesus of a deaf person

- 31 Dispersion of good health by Jesus to the people
- 32 The healing by Jesus of two blind men
- 33 The Khalke Jesus & the praying Virgin
- 34 Mary and the Baby Jesus surrounded by her ancestors
- 35 Joachim in the mountains praying to have a child
- 36 No mosaics left
- 37 The breaking of the good news of the birth of Jesus to Mary – The Annunciation
- 38 The chief priest Zacchariah judging the Virgin
- 39 Mary & Joseph bidding each other farewell
- 40 The breaking of the good news of the birth of Mary to Anne
- 41A The meeting of Anne & Joachim
- 41B Joseph bringing the Virgin into his house
- 42 Mary in the arms of Anne & Joachim & the blessing by the priests
- 43 Giving of the stick with young shoots indicating Joseph as Mary's fiancé
- 44 The birth of the Virgin Mary
- 45A The first seven steps of the Virgin & below, St Peter
- 45B The prayer of the chief priest Zacchariah in front of the 12 sticks
- 46 The presentation of Mary (age three) to the temple by her parents
- 47 The Virgin taking the skeins of wool to weave the veil for the temple
- 48 Theodore Metochites presenting a small model of the church to Jesus
- 49A The feeding of the Virgin by an angel & below, St Peter
- 49B Remains of mosaics – Directives given to the Virgin at the temple
- 50A The Assumption of the Virgin
- 50B Mary and the Baby Jesus
- 50C Jesus in a standing posture, holding the Bible in his hand
- 51 The Anastasis
- 52 The Church fathers
- 53 The raising (resurrection of the widow's son)
- 54 The healing of the daughter of Jairus
- 55 The Virgin Elousa
- 56 The Last Judgement
- 57 Abraham & the beggar Lazarus on his lap
- 58 St George
- 59 Rich man burning in Hell's fire
- 60 Those entering Heaven & the Angel Seraphim with the semi-nude good thief
- 61 Depiction of Andronikus II & his family & the inscription & depiction above of Makarios Tornikes & his wife Eugenia
- 62 The Bearing of the Ark of the Covenant
- 63 St Demetrius
- 64 St Theodore Tiro
- 65 Mary & child Jesus with the 12 attending angels
- 66 Four Gospel Writers (Hymnographers): St Cosmos
- 67 Four Gospel Writers (Hymnographers): St John of Damascene
- 68 Four Gospel Writers (Hymnographers): St Theophanes
- 69 Four Gospel Writers (Hymnographers): St Joseph
- 70 St Theodore Stratelates
- 71 King Solomon & the Israelites
- 72 Placement into the temple of the Ark of the Covenant
- 73 The combat of an angel with the Asurians in the outskirts of Jerusalem
- 74 St Procopios, St Sabas Stratelates
- 75 Moses in the bushes
- 76 Jacob's ladder & the angels
- 77 Aaron & his sons carrying votive offerings, in front of the altar
- 78 St Samonas & Guiras

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