



Thrace & Marmara

Includes ➔

Edirne.....	143
Tekirdağ.....	150
Gallipoli (Gelibolu) Peninsula.....	151
Eceabat.....	162
Kilitbahir.....	163
Çanakkale.....	163
Troy (Truva).....	167
Gökçeada.....	170

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Barba Yorgo Taverna (p173)
- ➔ Kilye Suvla Lokanta (p162)
- ➔ Mustafanın Kayfesi (p172)
- ➔ Yalova (p166)

Best Places to Stay

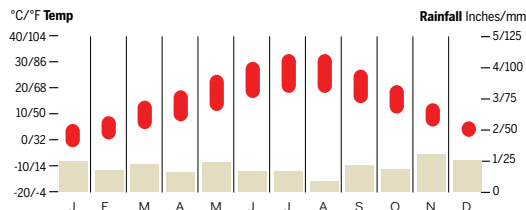
- ➔ Anemos Hotel (p172)
- ➔ Anzac Hotel (p165)
- ➔ Gallipoli Houses (p159)
- ➔ Hotel Edirne Palace (p148)
- ➔ Pansyon Agridia (p172)

Why Go?

Grand narratives have unfolded in this corner of Turkey for millennia, leaving an extraordinary archaeological site (Troy), a city full of Ottoman buildings (Edirne), historically significant battlefields (Gallipoli) and a culturally fascinating and physically beautiful island outpost (Gökçeada) for visitors to explore. It was here that Alexander the Great crossed the Hellespont on his conquering march to Persia, and where the Achaeans (Greeks) and Trojans fought the war immortalised by Homer in the *Iliad*. Mehmet II launched his campaign to conquer Constantinople from the Ottoman capital of Edirne, and nearly 500 years later Allied forces landed on the Gallipoli (Gelibolu) Peninsula, triggering a bloody stand-off with Turkish troops that would drag on for nine long months and help to define the modern nations of Turkey, Australia and New Zealand.

When to Go

Edirne



Apr & May
Multicoloured wildflowers carpet hillsides on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

May & Jun Enjoy organic black cherries and semi-deserted beaches on Gökçeada island.

Aug Locals party on Çanakkale's waterfront during the Troia Festival.

Edirne

0284 / POP 150,260

Capital of the Ottoman Empire before Mehmet II conquered Constantinople and moved his court there, Edirne is blessed with imperial building stock, a notable culinary heritage and a lingering and

much-cherished sense of civic grandeur. Close to the Greek and Bulgarian borders, the city has a European flavour that is best appreciated in summer, when locals party on the banks of the Tunca and Meriç Rivers and cheer on the contestants at the world-famous Kırkpınar oil-wrestling festival.



Thrace & Marmara Highlights

1 Visit the World Heritage-listed Selimiye Mosque (p145) in the former Ottoman capital of **Edirne**.

2 Sample local wine and food while following the newly established **Thracian Vineyard Route** (p149).

3 Investigate the fascinating Greek heritage and windswept landscape on the Aegean island of **Gökçeada** (p162).

4 Walk in the footsteps of WWI soldiers and contemplate the horrors of war on the **Gallipoli Peninsula** (p151).

5 Laze away an afternoon admiring the view over the Dardanelles at a waterfront *çay bahçesi* (tea garden) in **Çanakkale** (p163).

6 Admire Trojan gold and other ancient artefacts in the newly opened museum at the **Troy** archaeological site (p169).