

ISTANBUL

Istanbul is an architectural beauty with a horizon of buildings from a mix of ages dating back hundreds of years. Visit the Blue Mosque with its six minarets, the Hippodrome that was the home of both the Byzantine and Ottoman cultures, and the Basilica Cistern the largest of the ancient cisterns that lie beneath the city. For a day out, the nine car-less Princes' Islands offers history, culture and traditional Turkish charm.

Turkey is famed for its Hamams (Turkish Baths) and there are plenty in Istanbul, some being men-only however those with a large gay clientele are located outside the city centre and hidden on back streets. There are laws that forbid sexual-activity in public places that have forced the closure of exclusively gay bathhouses.

Istanbul is the place to explore and discover the Ottoman Empire and the history of homosexuality that can be found depicted through ancient stories and artwork.

Istanbul is also the centre of gay life in Turkey with a breathtaking and cosmopolitan atmosphere. Around Taksim you will find restaurants on roof tops with an amazing view over the city and great food. The nightlife doesn't start until midnight and continues to the early hours of the morning, there are a number of bars making it a vibrant and thriving new gay scene.

Gay night life in Istanbul features numerous places with most gay bars and clubs being located near Taksim Square.



GAY & LESBIAN BARS

Chianti Cafe Pub

Istiklal Caddesi, Balı Sokak No: 31

Chianti Cafe Pub is a gay exclusive bar located on a side-street just in the middle of famous Istiklal Street, the heart of the nightlife and gay life of Istanbul.

mon-sun 16:00–02:00

www.istanbulgaybar.com

Durak

Muratpaşa Sokak 9

The most traditional gay only bar in the city features many men with moustache drinking beer with live turkish.

mon-sun 11:00–02:00

Mor Kedi

Istiklal Caddesi, Imam Adnan Sokak 7, Taksim
Istanbul, +902122442592

Mostly gays but also lesbians are the visitors of this cafe bar, which plays Turkish and English pop music and has a friendly atmosphere.

mon-sun 10:00–00:00



GAY & LESBIAN RESTAURANTS

Besinci Kat

Siraselviler Caddesi, Soganci Sokak, No:7, Cihangir - Taksim

Very gay friendly restaurant on the fifth floor in the same building as night club Barbahçe, therefore frequented by a lot of gay men



GAY & LESBIAN NIGHT CLUBS

Love Dance Point

Cumhuriyet Cd, No:349, Beyoğlu

One of the larger and most popular gay clubs in the city. Trendy, busy and recommended.

wed 23:30–05:00, fri-sat 23:30–05:00

Tekyön

Siraselviler Caddesi, 63/1, Taksim

Tekyon is the busiest gay night club of Istanbul, with no entrance fee, featuring occasionally drag shows. Trendy music, with a big dance floor.

mon-thu 22:00–04:00, fri-sat 22:00–05:00, sun 22:00–04:00

XLarge Club

Kallavi Sokak 12

Big club in a former cinema, Xlarge has numerous show performances on stage, like drag queens, Gogo boys and some cabaret shows and Gogo ladies just for the ladies

wed 23:30–04:00, fri-sat 23:30–04:00

ENJOY YOUR STAY IN ISTANBUL