



EDİRNE TOUR GUIDE

(A DAY LONG)



HIDIRLIK BASTIONS - COMPLEX OF SULTAN BAYEZİD II HEALTH MUSEUM - CHURCH OF STS. CONSTANTINE AND HELEN - GRAND SYNAGOGUE OF EDİRNE - MOSQUE WITH THREE BALCONIES (ÜÇ ŞEREFELİ MOSQUE) - OLD MOSQUE - SELİMİYE MOSQUE - TURKISH ISLAMIC ARTS MUSEUM NECMİ İĞE HOUSE ETHNOGRAPHY MUSEUM – KARAAĞAÇ

After our journey, we arrive in Edirne. First destination is Hıdırlık Bastions, which was used during the first Balkan Wars as a stronghold. After its restoration, it is arranged as Balkan History Museum. In the area, we will witness the history of Edirne, painful memories of the Balkan Wars, and the heroic defence of the city. After watching the view of the city from the highest region of the city, we move to our next stop.

After our short travel, we arrive at the Complex of Sultan Bayezid II. The imaret, medrese, and hospital parts were arranged as a museum. In Medrese-i Etibba, we learn about medrese education. When it opened, the building was designed to treat people with mental health conditions, and patients were healed with water and music. After seeing the developments of medicine and treatment methods in the Ottoman period, we move on to the imaret section. Artefacts belonging to the Ottoman culinary culture are exhibited here. The Mosque inside the Kulliye is worth seeing due to its unique structure.

Edirne has had a multicultural structure as a trade centre for many years. This part of our tour includes pieces from Edirne's cultural mosaic. Our first stop is the Bulgarian orthodox church which takes its name from the founder of Istanbul, Constantine, emperor of Rome and his mother, Helen. During the church visit, we learn about the Orthodox culture and then move on to the Great Synagogue of Edirne. Here, we will talk about Jews who were part of Ottoman culture and were saved from Spain by Bayezid II.

Later our Synagogue visit, we start walking to see the old Greek and Jewish houses in Kaleiçi. We arrive at the historical Ali Pasha Bazaar on foot from the Kaleiçi. While continuing our walk to Saraçlar Street, we look at the Macedonian Castle and Sokullu Khan and Bath and arrive at Üç Şerefeli (The Mosque with Three Galleries) Mosque. After seeing the Mosque's unique door ornaments, minaret, and dome, we move to the Old Mosque, which witnessed the Fetret era of the Ottoman Empire and is also known as Ulu Mosque is one of the most important works of the early Ottoman period. After seeing the outstanding examples of Ottoman calligraphy during our visit, we continue our walk to **Selimiye Mosque**.

Selimiye Mosque constitutes the peak of the Ottoman classical period. Sinan, the architect, conveys all his knowledge to the construction. Selimiye was a gift from Sultan Selim to Edirne. After the information we took from our guide, we visited the Medrese building, which serves as a **Turkish Islamic Arts Museum** inside the Selimiye Kulliye. We finished our museum visit by seeing the many artefacts and structures about Balkan wedding traditions and Ottoman house life. The museum takes its name from Necmi İğge, one of the founders of the Edirne Museum.

After our museum visit, we give you some free time. During your time, you can visit Selimiye Arasta, Bedesten and Alipaşa Bazaar and buy some of the famous products of Edirne, like mirror broom (aynalı süpürge), mis soap, and Edirnekari. Don't forget to taste almond paste, almond cookie, and Deva-i Misk Helva.

At the end of our free time, we get on our bus and go to Karaağaç. In Karaağaç, which become part of our lands with the Lausanne Peace Agreement, we go to the Meriç Riverside and make a photo break. Then, we see the world recorder liver pan, lavender gardens, military station and martyrdom panoramically. We come to the train station and take information about the historical train station and Lausanne Peace Monument. Our free time begins after. In your free time, you can visit Natural History Museum or drink tea and coffee in this peaceful place. After free time finishes, our busses come, and our return starts. We say goodbye to each other until we meet again on another tour.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- The tour program is designed to be applied full day between 9:00am -18:00pm. You can make arrangements according to your group's interests. Extractions are recommended if your time is limited since the entire program is hard to apply. Please consult your professional tour guide about the subject.
- If you make your travel by bus, Mehmet Müezzinoğlu viaduct should be used to go to Karaağaç. In Navigation applications, it is called Künde Street. Vehicles of 3 tons or more are banned from crossing the old stone bridges.
- You can also see the city's most important tourist spots by taking the Nostalgic Tram-Like Sightseeing Train, starting from across the Old Mosque and passing in front of Selimiye Square, heading towards Karaağaç. After your visit to Karaağaç, head to the pier located by the river and take a trip on the Meriç River with an Ottoman Kancabaş Boat.
- Hıdırlık Bastions Balkan History Museum is affiliated with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. According to the Directive on the Procedures and Principles to be Applied in Museum and Archaeological Site Visits of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Museum Card is valid, and admission is free for citizens over 65, under 18, and active-duty teachers upon presenting their cards. Our disabled citizens can visit the museum free of charge with one companion. Turkish ID card holders can enter with a Museum Card. The ticket price for foreign visitors is €3 (Euro). (Closed on Mondays.)
- The Sultan Bayezid II Complex Health Museum is affiliated with Trakya University. The Museum Card is not valid. Admission is free for citizens over 65, under 18, all university students including those from Open Education Faculties, Ministry of Culture and Tourism personnel, and active-duty teachers upon presenting their official IDs. The ticket price is 40 TL for local tourists and 100 TL for foreign tourists. Only the Mosque section of the Complex can be visited without a ticket. (It is open to visitors seven days a week.)
- The Necmi İğce House Ethnography Museum is affiliated with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. According to the Directive on the Procedures and Principles to be Applied in Museum and Archaeological Site Visits of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Museum Card is valid, and admission is free for citizens over 65, under 18, and active-duty teachers upon presenting their cards. Our disabled citizens can visit the museum free of charge with one companion. Turkish ID card holders can enter with a Museum Card. The ticket price for foreign visitors is €3 (Euro). (Closed on Mondays.)
- The Turkish Islamic Artifacts Museum is affiliated with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. According to the Directive on the Procedures and Principles to be Applied in Museum and Archaeological Site Visits of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Museum Card is valid. Citizens under 18, over 65, and active-duty teachers can visit the museum by presenting their ID cards. Turkish ID card holders can enter with a Museum Card. The ticket price for foreign visitors is €3 (Euro). (It is open to visitors seven days a week.)
- Selimiye Mosque is under restoration. Restoration is planned to finish in 2025. Only a limited part of the Mosque is open to visit.
- This program is prepared as of January 2025.

