



# GOOD TRAVEL EXPERIENCES

TURKIYE 



This is the first selection of authentic and genuine experiences carefully selected and validated by the **Good Travel Alliance**, a **collective of committed** destinations, tourism boards, tour operators, and experience providers working together to develop travel products, attractions, activities, and trails that maximize social benefits **while minimizing negative impacts on the climate, environment, nature and culture.**

## FORCE FOR GOOD

With the support of Alliance experts, we help measure the impacts of those experiences, enabling the promotion of existing and new travel offers enabling **Good Travel Experiences.**

You are now reading the first edition of a guide that will feature an ever increasing number of experiences.

**Would you like to see your experience included?**

Contact us at [alliance@greendestinations.org](mailto:alliance@greendestinations.org).

**TURKIYE** 

[alliance.greendestinations.org](http://alliance.greendestinations.org)  
[www.goodtravel.guide](http://www.goodtravel.guide)

### IMPORTANT NOTICE:

"The Good Travel Alliance (GTA) makes no representation, warranty or guarantee regarding the information provided in this Guide, and accepts no liability for the same."



# EXPERIENCES IN TURKIYE

## 01 BURSA

Aktopraklık Archeofest  
Storks Festival

## 02 ISTANBUL

A Day in Ovacık Village  
Arts & Crafts  
Exploring The Golden Horn  
Prince Islands Hiking Routes  
Walking Tour of Şişli

## 03 IZMIR

The Flamingo Road

**GOOD TRAVEL**  
**EXPERIENCES**  
GUIDE

# AKTOPRAKLIK ARCHEOFEST

## PREHISTORY COMES ALIVE THROUGH PLAY, CRAFT, AND COMMUNITY IN BURSA

Step into prehistory at Aktopraklık Arkeofest, held at the Aktopraklık Höyük Archeopark & Open-Air Museum. This family-friendly festival brings archaeology to life with reconstructed dwellings, interactive workshops, and activities designed for all ages.

 CULTURE EXPERIENCE

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## BURSA, TURKIYE

Visitors can shape clay, weave, try ancient fire-making, or join mini-digs for kids, while archaeologists and local craftspeople share knowledge and skills. Storytelling, guided walks, and artifact displays immerse guests in daily life of early communities, while evening sky-watch sessions connect heritage with science. Inclusive and welcoming, the festival blends fun, learning, and creativity—offering families, schools, and culture lovers a memorable way to engage with Bursa's earliest roots.



### GOOD TO KNOW

**Duration:** 14 Hrs

**Type of activity:** Festival

**Is accessibility information available?:** Yes



### RECOGNITIONS

 GTE SCAN: **90%**



Making contributions to the local economy



Empowering local people or communities

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# STORKS FESTIVAL

## CELEBRATING NATURE, SHARED HABITATS, AND COMMUNITY IN BURSA

The Bursa Storks Festival invites visitors to discover the harmony between wildlife, culture, and local life. Set across the villages of Gölyazı, Eskikaraağaç, Fadıllı, Karaoğlan, and Dorak, the festival highlights stork habitats through engaging and responsible tourism.

  NATURE & CULTURE EXPERIENCE

GOOD TRAVEL  
ALLIANCE 

## BURSA, TURKIYE

With nature walks, cycling tours, photography events, and workshops, the festival blends fun with education while empowering local communities. Families enjoy hands-on activities, artisans showcase traditional crafts, and villagers offer local products that create meaningful economic opportunities. Beyond celebration, the festival raises awareness for stork conservation and fosters respect for both natural and cultural heritage, making it a unique and socially responsible experience.



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### GOOD TO KNOW

**Duration:** 20 Hrs

**Type of activity:** Festival

**Is accessibility information available?:** No



### RECOGNITIONS

 GTE SCAN: **70%**



Making contributions to the local economy



Empowering local people or communities



# A DAY IN OVACIK VILLAGE

## COMMUNITY-BASED CULTURAL AND NATURE EXPERIENCE IN OVACIK VILLAGE

Spend a day in Ovacik Village, where oak forests, fresh air, and local traditions create a peaceful escape into rural life. This experience blends nature, culture, and sustainability in a way that feels both authentic and restorative.

  NATURE & CULTURE EXPERIENCE

GOOD TRAVEL  
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## ISTANBUL, TURKIYE

Guided by locals, visitors enjoy light hikes, traditional food workshops, and farm-to-table meals that highlight village flavors and seasonal produce. Guests can learn hands-on cooking techniques like pasta making, jam preserving, and pickling, while connecting with villagers who share their crafts and way of life. Perfect for families, couples, or small groups, the day offers a meaningful balance of outdoor exploration, cultural immersion, and slow-travel tranquility in one of Türkiye's most scenic rural landscapes.



### CONTACT US

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### GOOD TO KNOW

**Duration:** 10 Hrs

**Type of activity:** Community-Based

**Is accessibility information available?:** Yes



### RECOGNITIONS

 GTE SCAN: **89%**



Making contributions to the local economy



Empowering local people or communities



# ARTS & CRAFTS

## AUTHENTIC SHOPPING AND ARTISAN TRADITIONS IN ISTANBUL'S OLD CITY

Discover Istanbul's Old City through a tour that highlights authentic, locally made arts and crafts. Designed for travelers seeking genuine pieces at fair prices, this experience goes beyond the usual shopping stops.

 CULTURE EXPERIENCE

GOOD TRAVEL  
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## ISTANBUL, TURKIYE

Visitors explore artisan hubs like the Bazaar of Istanbul Arts and TKHV (Foundation for the Promotion of Turkish Culture), where traditional crafts such as calligraphy, marbling, miniatures, ceramics, embroidery, and doll-making come to life. The journey also includes the famous Grand Bazaar and Nur-u Osmaniye district, renowned for exquisite rugs and jewelry.



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### GOOD TO KNOW

**Duration:** 6 Hrs

**Type of activity:** Shopping Tour

**Is accessibility information available?:** N/A



### RECOGNITIONS

 GTE SCAN: **88%**



Making contributions to the local economy



Empowering local people or communities



# EXPLORING THE GOLDEN HORN

## HERITAGE, MOSAICS, AND AUTHENTIC LIFE ALONG ISTANBUL'S HISTORIC WATERFRONT

The Golden Horn's neighborhoods — Balat, Fener, and Eyüp — are living mosaics of Istanbul's multicultural past and vibrant present. Narrow streets lined with colorful Ottoman houses, Byzantine ruins, churches, synagogues, mosques, and historic landmarks like the Chora Church reflect centuries of intertwined heritage.

### CULTURE EXPERIENCE



## ISTANBUL, TURKIYE

This walking tour invites travelers to explore authentic markets, artisan workshops, and traditional cafés while taking in scenic views of the Golden Horn inlet. Rich in history, culture, and local life, the route is ideal for those seeking a genuine connection to Istanbul's diverse traditions and communities.



### GOOD TO KNOW

**Duration:** 6 Hrs

**Type of activity:** Walking Tour

**Is accessibility information available?:** No



### RECOGNITIONS

 GTE SCAN: **88%**

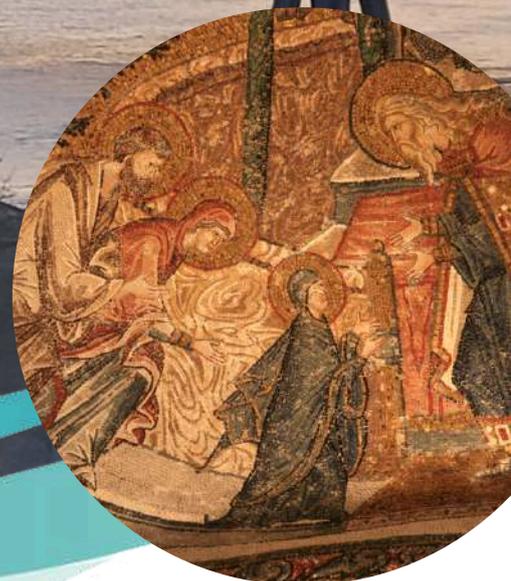


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# PRINCE ISLANDS HIKING ROUTES

## NATURE AND CULTURE TRAILS ACROSS ISTANBUL'S ISLAND GEMS

The Prince Islands Walking Routes invite visitors to explore the tree-lined streets, forest trails, and rich cultural heritage of these iconic islands. Long a source of inspiration for poets, writers, and artists, the islands reveal their beauty step by step—through blooming wildflowers, monumental trees, and views steeped in history.

  NATURE & CULTURE EXPERIENCE

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## ISTANBUL, TURKIYE

Created through a collaboration between guides, local institutions, and the municipality, the project aims to balance tourism with sustainability. Visitors are encouraged to respect the tranquility of the islands, reduce waste, and support efforts to protect biodiversity. By walking the routes consciously, travelers not only discover a unique cultural landscape but also help preserve it for generations to come.



### CONTACT US

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### GOOD TO KNOW

**Duration:** 10 Hrs

**Type of activity:** Guided & Self-guided navigable hiking routes

**Is accessibility information available?:** N/A



### RECOGNITIONS



GTE SCAN: 82%



Making contributions to the local economy



Empowering local people or communities



# WALKING TOUR OF ŞİŞLİ

## DISCOVER ISTANBUL'S FIRST GREEN DESTINATIONS CERTIFIED MUNICIPALITY

Explore Şişli, a lively district of Istanbul where history meets sustainability. Recognized as Türkiye's first municipality awarded by Green Destinations, Şişli showcases eco-conscious urban planning and cultural vibrancy.

 CULTURE EXPERIENCE

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## ISTANBUL, TURKIYE

This guided walking tour takes visitors through historical landmarks, community-led green initiatives, and inviting public spaces, offering a deeper look into how modern sustainability blends with the district's heritage and daily life.



### GOOD TO KNOW

**Duration:** 6 Hrs

**Type of activity:** Walking Tour

**Is accessibility information available?:** N/A



### RECOGNITIONS

 GTE SCAN: **88%**



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# THE FLAMINGO ROAD

## A BREATHTAKING JOURNEY THROUGH A SANCTUARY FOR FLAMINGOS

The Gediz Delta is a sanctuary that hosts almost ten percent of the world's flamingo population. Each year, thousands of flamingos nest here, and this enchanting boat journey allows you to witness their dazzling colors and captivating courtship dances up close.

### NATURE EXPERIENCE



## IZMIR, TURKIYE

Our tours offer a unique, educational experience for nature and bird-watching enthusiasts. Using private, 6-person boats, you'll access permitted areas of the delta and use binoculars to observe thousands of flamingos and numerous endangered species. The tours provide comprehensive knowledge about the local fauna and ecosystem through informative presentations. The experience is designed to promote environmental awareness, foster a love of nature, and create lasting memories in this natural wonder located in the heart of the city.



### GOOD TO KNOW

**Duration:** 1h15m

**Type of activity:** Boat Tour

**Is accessibility information available?:** Yes

### RECOGNITIONS

 GTE SCAN: **75%**

### CONTACT US

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## Flamingo Boat

# GOOD TRAVEL EXPERIENCES

GTA's: FIRST SELECTION OF AUTHENTIC AND  
GENUINE EXPERIENCES



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