

Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Turkey - Edirne

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Ankara
- ✓ **Language:** Turkish
- ✓ **Population:** ± 166,000
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 6.279
- ✓ **Currency:** Turkish Lira (₺ - TL)
- ✓ **Country code:** +90 (284)
- ✓ **Visa:** For many nationalities, [check here!](#)
- ✓ **Emergency phone:** 112 (medical), 110 (fire), 155 (police), 158 (coastguard)
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A, Hep-B, Typhoid



History Recap Over 1 Drink

Byzantine Empire --> Ottoman Empire: 1683: Ottoman advance into Europe halted by Battle of Vienna. 1908: Young Turk Revolution --> constitutional rule (*degenerates into military dictatorship during WWI - Ottoman Empire alliance with Germany / Austria-Hungary*). '18-'22: Partition of defeated Ottoman Empire --> triumph of Turkish National Movement in war of independence against foreign occupation and rule of Sultan. National Movement in war of independence against foreign occupation and rule of Sultan. '23: Turkey Republic, president: Kemal Ataturk. '28: Secular, Islam removed from constitution. '45: Neutral most of WWII - Turkey declares war on Germany/Japan. Joins UN. '50: First free elections: Democratic Party. '52: Joins NATO (*abandoning Ataturk's neutralist policy*). '60: Armed coup. '63: Association agreement EEC. '74: Turkish troops invade Cyprus: US trade embargo (*lifted in '78*). '80: Military coup. Martial law. '84: Kurdish War: Kurdistan Worker's Party launches separatist guerrilla war. '90: Turkey allows US-led coalition against Iraq: air strikes from Turkish bases. '92: 20,000 Turkish troops enter Kurdish safe havens in Iraq in anti-PKK operation. '93: Ciller 1st female prime minister. '95: EU customs union. 2002: Family equality men-women. Death sentence abolished. '03: Istanbul attacks. '11: Syrian refugees. '15: Against Islamic State (*suicide bomb attacks*). '16: Kurdistan Freedom Hawks bomb attacks in Ankara. '16/'17: More Islamic State killing attacks.

Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spring												
Summer												
Autumn												
Winter												
Budget												

Altitude: 42m. Climate: Hot Summer Mediterranean (Csa).

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Mosques / Churches:** Selimiye, Old Mosque, Buyuk Sinagogu, Uc Serefeli, Muradiye Camii, Sah Melek, Dar-UI Hadis Camii, Beyazit II Mosque Complex, Bulgarian Church of Sweti George. Edirne has 392 mosques in total.
- ☺ **Sights:** Meric Bridge, Karaagac Tran Station, Lozan Anltl, Enez Castle, Makedonya Kulesi, Kulesi, Edirne Sarayi (*palace*), Saatli Medresi, Adalet Kasri.

Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 **Museums:** [Beyazid II Kulliyesi Health Museum](#), Edirne Archeology Museum, [Turkish & Islamic Art Museum](#), [Balkan War Museum](#), Edirne City Museum (*Kent Muzesi*).
- 👍 **Events:** Kirkpinar Oil Wrestling.
- 👍 **Shopping:** Erasta, Margi Outlet.

Budget Bites

- ⌘ **Big supermarkets:** Carrefour, Dia (*Bim is shit*).
- ⌘ **Markets:** Grand Bazaar of Edirne.
- ⌘ **Local food:** Sis Kebab (*meat skewer*), Iskender Kebab (*kebab with rice / tomato sauce*), Durum (*wrap*), Çig Köfte (*spicy sticky bulgur*), Köfte (*meat*), Sarma / Dolma (*rice in wine leaves*), Kebab (*meat in wrap*), Baklava (*sweet pastries*), Muhammara (*pepper-and-walnut-dip*), Gozleme (*salty pancakes*), Pilav (*rice*), Kumpir (*stuffed potato*), Simit (*sesame bagel*), Islak Burgers (*wet hamburgers*), Pide (*Turkish pizza*), Mezze (*fingerfood*), Mercimek Corbasi (*lentil soup*), Borek (*stuffed crispy bread*), Su Boreği (*borek-lasagne-crossover*), Menemen (*scrambled egg*), Manti (*kind-of-ravioli*), Lahmacun (*crispy bread topped with meat/salad*), Balik Ekmek (*fish sandwich*), Lokum (*Turkish Delight*).

⌘ **Go vegan:** Being vegan is pretty easy in this part of the world. Many local dishes are vegan on their own, such as: Çig Köfte, Sarma / Dolma, Potato or Spinach Gozleme, Simit, Kumpir (*without meat and mayonnaise*), Kisir, Bakla (*bean appetizer*), Ispanak Kavurma (*roasted spinach*), Patlican Ezmesi (*eggplant puree*), Acile Ezme and Fava (*bean puree*). Besides Çig Köfte food take-outs, there are some vegan/vegetarian restaurants: check them on [Happy Cow - Turkey](#).

Mama Said

- ☠ Turkey is pretty safe and assaults or robberies are uncommon. But like everywhere, use common sense.
- ☠ Drugs are illegal and sentences are high.
- ☠ Tap water is not drinkable, use filtered water.

Next?

- ➔ **In Turkey:** Istanbul, Avarar Islands, Bursa.
- ➔ **International destinations close by:** Bulgaria, Greece, North Macedonia.

Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are relatively cheap in Turkey, but not so much in high season (*summer*). Wild camping is legal and even [encouraged](#).
- ❖ The cheapest and most interesting way to go: [Couchsurfing](#) or [house-sitting](#)! Also check [WorkAway](#).

Festivals

- ☼ Kakava Hidirellez Festival: Religious, May.
- ☼ Kirkpinar Oil Wrestling Festival: Hot stuff, June.
- ☼ Trakya Music Fest: Music, Jul-Aug.

Nights Best Spent

- ◆ **Nightlife areas:** Downtown, Karaagac.
- ◆ **Theatre:** Edirne Cinema.

Free-Riding?

- Edirne has a very compact city center, everything is walkable.
- Cycling is possible, but rather uncommon in Edirne. Traffic doesn't pay much attention to cyclists.
- Edirne can be reached by train or bus. The main bus terminal (*Otogar*) is located at Iskender Koyo Otogar, but there are several (*verify before departure*). The train station (*Eski Istasyon*) is located at Karaagac. One can travel from Bulgaria by bus or night train. Within the city center bus transport is the main way to go. You need a local rechargeable bus card or you can pay a local to swipe the card for you. Minibuses go to outer neighbourhoods.
- Airport: Istanbul Airport (IST).
- Hitch-hiking is not too common nor safe in Turkey. I hitchhiked from Edirne to Istanbul and despite my big backpack and travel clothes I was mistaken for a prostitute, receiving some rather indecent requests. It's better to use apps like [Blablacar](#) to get a cheap(er) ride.

The Earth Becomes My Throne