

TR061013 Gonzaga University Pre-Tour Information

General Advice

We have brought many people of varying ages and abilities to this part of the world, which is becoming increasingly more popular as time goes by and the travel infrastructure continues to improve. Turkey was visited by 31 million travelers in 2012 as the seventh most visited destination in the World. Nonetheless, Turkey is a developing country, and in some regions the overall quality of travel services is not what you would find in the United States or Europe. To get the most of your trip, you should have a healthy sense of curiosity, an adventurous spirit, and a flexible attitude about the unpredictable nature of travel in western Asia.

This trip is designed for people who want a different kind of travel experience. It emphasizes active exploration and close cultural contact, gourmet food and cruise experience on traditional wooden gulets. We seek out unusual experiences, in out-of-the-way places where ordinary tours don't go. To fully enjoy this trip, you should be in good health and enjoy an active lifestyle.

Part of the adventure is that changing circumstances may make it impossible for us to follow this trip itinerary exactly. The sequence of places visited may vary due to weather conditions. When we are forced to make variations, we make every attempt to use facilities that are equivalent in quality. Be flexible! As with all travel arrangements anywhere in the world, changes may occur with only a moment's notice—sometimes even less! Be prepared. The unexpected may turn out to be the highlight of the trip.

One of the greatest joys of traveling is coming into contact with people from other cultures with customs different from our own. Be respectful of the differences and have a ready smile and you can be sure that it will bounce back. Another piece of advice to make a trip more pleasant is to be on time. No one likes to sit on a bus waiting for a late member of the group to show up. If you have any problems please let your tour leader know about them right away. It will make the solution much easier and faster.

Turkey is a secular society and most Turks are Muslims. Unlike some other Islamic countries, travelers to Turkey will find few restrictions. Modest dress while visiting mosques is important and women should wear a scarf over their heads while inside although it is not a must in Turkey. Men should not put shorts on while visiting a mosque. Mosques should never be visited while services are taking place.

Leave a copy of your hotel contact list and flight schedule with a family member or friend.

Passports & Visas

Please check to make sure your passport is valid for at least six months after your departure. Make a copy of the first two pages and keep them with your valuables. There is a visa requirement for American and Canadian citizens traveling to Turkey. The visa costs \$20 for Americans and \$60 for Canadians and it is best to purchase it at the Istanbul airport upon arrival. Only cash U.S. currency must be used for the purchase of the visa for the American and Canadian travelers. You hand the clerk your passport and the fee *in CASH*, the clerk sticks a stamp in your passport and you're on your way. The clerk doesn't look you up in a database or scan your passport or take your name or

anything. The whole thing takes 10 seconds. Basically, the sticker visa fee is just a **tourist tax**.

You have to get your visa in Istanbul Airport before passport control. Please take the line for the visa first and then take the line for passport control. Both desks are next to each other. Please be sure that you are in front of the visa desk first and then passport control desk.

Check your flight tickets when they arrive for the exact flight number and make sure the name on your ticket is the same as that on your passport. Please do not forget to put nametags on your luggage.

Inoculations, Preventive Medicine and Medication

Always check with your personal physician or a qualified health clinic for the most up-to-date recommended or required inoculations or preventive medicine.

Bring all of your prescription medication with you, making sure that you have enough to last for the duration of the trip. Also bring over-the-counter medication that you are used to taking. Carry a typed list of all of your medications in your wallet and also a list of any particular medical conditions you may have. We hope everyone will be well. However, it is comforting to know that the quality of medical facilities in Turkey is very good.

Luggage

You are allowed one standard suitcase that is not over 45 pounds and one carry-on piece that is small enough to fit under the seat on the plane or in the overhead storage compartments and weighs no more than 16 pounds. In case of missing the luggage during international flights you might divide your belongings between your luggages. You will avoid the danger of missing certain items when you receive one of your suitcases. Leave some space for items you will surely want to bring back from Turkey. You will clear customs in Istanbul. Porters will be available to help with taking baggage through customs. A tip of \$1 per bag is appropriate. Not over packing makes for a more pleasant journey.

Safety

Turkey is a safe country with a low crime rate. However, as always, it is wise to exercise common sense while traveling. Keep your hands on your handbags or carry-on luggage. Most hotels provide a safety box if you need for your valuable items. Take your passport and airline tickets everywhere with you. You will need to show your passport when flying domestic and changing money. Keep also the copy of your passport and flight tickets in another place.

Time

Turkey is seven hours ahead of Eastern Daylight Savings Time and ten hours ahead of Western Daylight Savings Time. When it is 5.00PM in Istanbul, it is 10.00 AM in New York and 7.00AM in Seattle. There is just one time zone all around Turkey.

What to Pack

The lists below are an outline not to forget. Please make sure that you have what you need during tour. Each guest might need more or less items.

Women

Comfortable dresses, skirts or pants that would be suitable for going out to dinner

Pairs of Bermuda shorts, peddle pushers, or lightweight skirts
Pairs of lightweight slacks or jeans
T-shirts or lightweight blouses
Bathing suits and cover-up
Thongs for the pool area and boat
Comfortable walking shoes and sandals
Socks
A warm sweater or sweatshirt for cool evenings
Underwear
Nightgowns
Sun hat and sun glasses
Toiletries including a small shampoo, sun block, Band-Aids, toothpaste and toothbrush, diarrhea medication, lip balm, comb and brush, deodorant, moisturizer
Sewing kit
Some zip-lock plastic bags
Tote bag
Travel journal
Reading materials
Folding rain cover

Men

Sports jacket or wind breaker
Pairs of khaki slacks, 1 pair lightweight jeans
Pairs of Bermuda shorts
Long sleeve shirts
T-shirts
Short sleeve shirts
Belts
Sweater or sweatshirt
Socks
Bathing suit and thongs
Comfortable walking shoes and sandals,
Underwear, pj's
Sun hat and sunglasses
Toiletries including comb & brush, toothbrush and toothpaste, shaving cream, razors, shampoo, sun block, lip balm,
Travel journal
Reading materials
Folding rain cover

Share

Insect repellent
Small calculator
Travel alarm clock
Umbrella
And of course, your favorite imported drinks from the duty free for the boat.

Photography Equipment

Do not forget your camera and its accessories. See electricity section below for batteries and chargers. Bring lens cleaner, lens tissues and brush, lens cap, extra batteries, and Ziploc bags to protect your gear. **If you have special type battery for your equipment,**

please be sure that you have some spare ones because it might not be possible to find a specific type of battery while you are traveling.

Electricity

The voltage in Turkey is 220 volts and plug is European round/ 2-prong plug. Bring a three point round pin adapter for any electrical appliances you plan to bring. (Most accommodations have hair blowers in the rooms.)

Climate

Most of Turkey has a very sunny climate, even in winter. The average daily hours of sunshine range from three to four hours in midwinter, to as much as thirteen hours in summer. For the areas we are visiting, even the hottest weather is often tempered somewhat by low humidity in the interior regions, and sea breezes on the coast.

Average Daily Afternoon High Temperatures (°F), Relative Humidity, and Rainfall

MONTH	ISTANBUL			TURQUOISE COAST		
	Temp	% Relative Humidity (1400 hrs)	Average Monthly Rainfall (in)	Temp	% Relative Humidity (1400 hrs)	Average Monthly Rainfall (in)
MAR	51	67	2.8	63	52	3.0
APR	65	62	1.8	75	48	1.7
MAY	69	61	1.5	79	45	1.3
JUN	77	58	1.3	87	40	0.6
JUL	82	56	1.3	92	31	0.2
AUG	82	55	1.2	92	37	0.2
SEP	76	59	2.3	85	42	0.8
OCT	68	64	3.2	76	49	2.1
NOV	59	71	4.0	67	58	3.3

Please note: The data cited above reflect *climate* as opposed to *weather* conditions, and are meant to serve only as general indicators of what can reasonably be expected. They reflect meteorological trends that have been tabulated over the years and reported by various sources, such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the US National Weather Service, and the New York Times *World Weather Guide*. Data shown are for sites we visit or the nearest regional equivalents. As your departure

approaches you may wish to monitor current overseas weather conditions through major newspapers, various Internet sites, or the Weather Channel.

Shopping

Gifts and souvenirs with proofs of purchase can be brought or sent home from Turkey. Upon entering the U.S., items per-household totaling up to \$400 are duty free. **The export of Turkish antiques is forbidden.** A value added tax is charged to all purchases. Turkey always has been a shopper's paradise for American travelers. There are many beautiful items for sale and prices are low in comparison to other European countries.

Turkish carpets are famous the world over. The carpets can be either hand or machine made. Those that are handmade are better quality. They will not only last longer but they are also considered a work of art. It is better to buy a carpet in a carpet-making region such as Cappadocia, Konya, Selcuk, Bergama and Van. Always insist on and keep an official receipt for customs. Taking carpets that are 100 years old or older out of Turkey is illegal if you do not have a special permit arranged by the dealer.

After carpets, leather is the next best buy. Jackets, handbags, and briefcases are popular buys. Turkey also makes excellent clothing at good prices. Jewelry is best purchased in Istanbul and very good deal when it is compared to the US. Especially wholesalers out of the Grand Bazaar have great deals. Turkish gold is normally of good quality but uninformed shoppers should be careful buying gold and silver items. Ceramic plates and tiles range from tourist trinkets to works of high quality. Main ceramic production centers are Iznik, Kutahya, and Cappadocia. Copper is an excellent buy and there is a wide selection of uniquely designed trays and plates that have been hand beaten with careful precision. Antique metalwork of all kinds is very popular and is widely available in the flea markets of Istanbul. Handmade linens and embroideries are one of Turkey's real shopping surprises. Many of these items are made with an excellent quality of silk. Turkish silk scarves are of excellent quality. Traditional musical instruments can be a great bargain, as well as water pipes, daggers, belly dance costumes, mother-of-pearl inlaid slippers, puppets, and other such oriental paraphernalia.

Bargaining is an accepted form of doing business for large purchases and is, except in Western-style shops and malls, entirely expected. Museum shops have fixed prices and they have great deals for the silver items and small objects. They reproduced the ancient patterns as necklaces, earrings, bracelets and other items. Bargaining is not a game, and merchants will be extremely displeased if you waste their time haggling over an item of small price, or one you have no intention of buying. It is a good idea not to disclose immediately the item you're interested in, but enquire about it last when the merchant is giving up hope of making a sale. As a bargaining guideline in the Grand Bazaar, wait for the best price they offer and then offer a price of about two-thirds of what the dealer asks and go on from there. You cannot drop your price to below your first offer. If you plan to buy a number of items, get the best price for just one first and then ask if there might possibly be a discount for buying in quantity. Bargaining can be a pleasant enough if you know what you want, know what you care to spend for it and go about it in a cool and courteous manner. **You might ship the items you purchased however; it will be a deal between you and dealers and be your own responsibility.**

Food and Wine

Most of our travelers find the food in Turkey to be excellent. When you consider that the Ottoman Empire once stretched from the very gates of Vienna to the Arabic countries, across the Mediterranean and North Africa, and all the way to central Asia, you can begin to grasp the complexity and subtlety of Turkish cuisine. Turkey is also one of few nations on earth to produce a food surplus, so there is an abundance of fresh and wonderful fare. We generally eat in small local restaurants or sometimes at our hotels in the busy days. Aboard ship, our crew prepares delicious and fresh meals.

For breakfast you might want to try Turkish yogurt. The breads are fresh and tasty, too. Turks usually serve their tea black and very sweet; and the coffee served is generally Turkish style, strong, unfiltered, and black in a small cup. A big meal usually starts with *mezes*, a selection of all sorts of appetizers and salads. Don't pass up the *börek*s, which are pillow-shaped turnover pastries filled with cheese, meat, parsley, and herbs. *Dolma* is the name for grape leaves and different vegetables stuffed with rice, herbs, nuts and currants. There may also be soup (*corba*), such as lentil with rice and lemon, chicken, or creamy tomato soup. Lamb, chicken, and beef are the basic meats, often served as a variety of kebab with rice or bulgur *pilav* on the side. Fish and shellfish are wonderful; do try the calamari and mussels. Salads follow the variety of seasonal vegetables and greens locally produced. *Pasta* means pastry – not noodles – in Turkish. The Turks are notorious for having a sweet tooth, which will become obvious if you bite into a honey-soaked piece of *baklava* pastry and Turkish Delights.

Turkish coffee, beer, local wine and the national drink “raki” complement the meal. Decaffeinated coffee is not available all around Turkey except the international hotels. If you would like to bring your special brand beverages to the boat, duty free shops upon your arrival are the best place to buy them. Imported and local spirits are highly taxed in Turkey.

Your Turkish Gulet

Gulet, from the French *golette* (schooner), is a traditional Turkish broad-beamed wooden coastal sailing vessel with a raised bow, a broad-flat stern, a main foremast and a secondary mast aft. The *gulets* are equipped with powerful diesel engines to provide primary power, and sails to provide additional power or main power in strong winds. This means you can sail silently when the wind prevails, but cruise wherever you want reliably with motor power to run the itinerary. A *gulet's* public area includes an elegant galley with large picture windows, a spacious lounge furnished with rich fabrics and open bar. Yachts also have two broad decks for sunbathing and a swimming platform. The stern deck of a *gulet* is broad, fitted with a low, wide-cushioned bench that is perfect for lounging, reading, relaxing or napping. The stern deck area, shaded by an awning if the sun is hot, is large enough to accommodate a table for games, drinks or exquisite *al fresco* meals. For sun worshippers, there are on board a multitude of loungers and mats to bask in the Mediterranean sun.

Our itineraries are designed to cruise or sail for an average of three-four hours daily. *Gulets* in many ways are like small full-service hotels with a constantly changing spectacular sea view. There is also no better way to enjoy a refreshing swim while at anchor in warm turquoise waters.

The crew of a *gulet* includes the captain, a gourmet chef, and two sailors. They have their own cabins with separate en-suite facilities. The crew on our boats is trained to provide the finest service that will exceed your expectations.

Made mostly from teak, it is rigged for sailing with double masts and double jibs, but we usually cruise under motor power. We carry a small boat with an outboard motor for shore excursions. Our *gulet* has a sun deck, an indoor dining area, and one outdoor dining verandah. There are comfortable cushions for relaxing on the observation decks, fore and aft. To keep the decks and cushions clean, we'll wear water shoes, flip-flops, or slippers onboard or simply bare foot and socks, rather than shoes. Don't forget to bring along a pair!

There are guest cabins with en-suite shower and toilets facilities and separate crew quarters. There is hot water all day. Please be aware that smoking is strictly forbidden in cabins. Please note that while the gulets do have electric power with 2 generators of 46 KVA, the current and general service is not always consistent. This is important to consider if you have any essential equipment (such as breathing apparatus for certain medical conditions) that requires constant electricity supply.

Banking and Currency

There are banks and ATMs in everywhere we travel. **\$1=1.76 Turkish Lira**
When you arrive in the Istanbul Airport there are ATM machines. You might have some Turkish lira immediately. Therefore you do not need to obtain any Turkish currency before your arrival in Turkey.

Credit Cards

MasterCard and Visa are the preferred, most widely accepted credit cards in Turkey and can be used in most hotels, shops, and restaurants. **American Express credit cards are accepted only international chain hotels and some of Turkish hotels. However, most restaurants and shops do not accept American Express Credit Card and travelers check.** It is also advisable to bring some cash, which can be used for shopping purchases in smaller stores. The best way in the recent years is to bring your debit card. You have to remember your PIN (it should be in numbers not in letters) number to withdraw some money. ATM machines deliver money Turkish Lira all around Turkey even in small towns. There are few ATM machines which deliver in different currencies, such US dollars or Euro in resort towns. **Please do not forget to inform your banks that you will be out of the country and will use your credit and debit cards in Turkey. Some banks block cards after seeing big withdrawal in another country.**

Communications

In order to make international call from Turkey you dial 00 for the international access (instead of 011 in the USA) and 1 for the USA; 00 1 should be followed by the US number. The area code for Turkey is 90. Please make sure that you give the contact list for the hotels to one of your family members.

Tipping and Taxes

At various establishments like hotels, restaurants, Turkish baths, barbers and hairdressers, tipping at a rate of 10%-15% of the total is common. Taxi and "dolmus" drivers on the other hand, do not expect tips but maybe rounded fares. Hotel and restaurant tips and baggage handlings are included during our trip. Gratuities for guides, drivers, and crew on the boat are not included (please check what is included and

excluded at the end of our tour itinerary). Although tipping is not an obligation in Turkey it is customary in the travel service business as follows: \$3-5 * serving day per guest for drivers, \$7-10 * serving day per guests for guides. Each traveler usually leaves total amount of between \$40 and \$60 to the whole crew for the entire service. Their service will exceed your expectation and you will be amazed for what they do for you and your group. You may present this gratuity with a thanks note in an envelope. There is no sale tax in Turkey but VAT which changes between 8% and 18% all around Turkey.

Working Hours

Government Offices

Monday-Friday (8:30-12:30), (13:30-17:30)

Saturday-Sunday (closed)

Banks

Monday-Friday (8:30-12:00), (13:30-17:00)

Saturday-Sunday (closed)

Shops

Monday-Saturday (9:30-13:00), (14:00-19:00)

Sunday (closed)

Istanbul Covered market: Monday-Saturday (8:00-19:00)

Sunday (closed)

Turkey: A Brief History

Several discoveries found in the Antalya region have been dated to Neanderthal man. A recent excavation near Konya has found an accomplished artistic culture that dates to 9000 years ago. It was a peaceful, matriarchal society, which thrived on agriculture and the obsidian trade. It is considered the oldest truly urban culture ever discovered and much of its artwork you will see at the Ankara Museum.

The beginnings of an Anatolian civilization came from the Hattian culture that flourished between 2500-2000 B.C. At this time a separate Bronze Age culture developed around the legendary city of Troy on the Aegean Sea. Around 2000 B.C., the Hittites, a warrior aristocracy, conquered the Hattians. The Hittites became the first great empire of Anatolia and for a time contended with Egypt for mastery of the Middle East. During this time period the Lycians controlled much of the coastal area of modern Turkey. The Hittites and the Lycians were swept away by an unknown invader called the "Sea Peoples." Political and cultural unity in Anatolia ended with the fall of the Hittites. The legendary King Midas also ruled in the region of Phrygia in the eighth century BC. It was not until the Persians created their empire in 549 B.C. that was the region brought under a unified control.

The Persians and their main adversary the Macedonians and Greeks now began an epic struggle for supremacy. The first conflict was the result of a Greek instigated rebellion in the Aegean. The Persians invaded Greece in 490 B.C. and were defeated at Marathon. For a brief period of time the Greek Asian cities were independent but during the Peloponnesian War they reverted back to Persian control. In the spring of 334 B.C. Alexander the Great invaded Asia with the goal, or ruse, of liberating the Greek cities. Within a year he had conquered all of Anatolia and eventually the entire Persian Empire.

Soon after Alexander's untimely death in 323 B.C. and his generals carved up the newly created empire for themselves. Through this process Anatolia became thoroughly

Hellenized. Trade and commerce boomed and cities such as Ephesus grew to a large size. One unusual event of the time was an invasion in 275 B.C. of the Galatians, a Celtic tribe, who installed themselves in the center of Anatolia. Though they were eventually defeated by the Greeks, the Celts stayed and their red-haired and freckled descendants can still be seen in Ankara and many other Turkish towns.

Roman control over Anatolia came gradually and irresistibly, one province at a time. For much of the period the Romans used the coastal Greek cities as proxies to control the interior of Anatolia. The cities were eventually conquered by the Romans, first by Brutus and then by Anthony and Cleopatra. The new empire, founded by Augustus, laid the foundation for over two centuries of peace and prosperity in which the region reached its fullest measure of wealth and influence. It was during this period that Anatolia, through its large and prosperous Jewish communities, provided the basis for the rapid spread of Christianity. St. Paul began his travels around Anatolia, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles, in 43 A.D.

The founding of the city of Constantinople in 4 A.D. and the division of the Roman Empire into two halves confirmed Anatolia as a major force in the Mediterranean. While the western section dissolved into anarchy, several strong Eastern emperors successfully turned the state into the theoretically Christian, Greek-speaking Byzantine Empire. The empire thrived until the beginning of the 7th century when warfare with the Persians and the armies of Muslim Arabs sent the Empire into a steady decline.

In 1071 A.D. the Seljuk Turks, a people who originated in central Asia, defeated the Byzantines and ruled Anatolia. The Seljuk capital was located in Konya. Their architecture, seen in their schools and mosques, marks the beginning of Turkish art. Unfortunately for them, the Seljuks were only the first wave of central Asian conquerors to arrive in Turkey. The Mongols defeated the Seljuks in 1243. During this period the Crusader States moved into the region as well. When the Crusaders found the Seljuks to be a formidable foe they turned their attentions to the remains of the Byzantine Empire and sacked Constantinople in 1204. In 1359, the Seljuks became tribute-paying vassals to a new group of Turks, the Ottomans.

In 1453 the Ottoman Empire succeeded in capturing Constantinople. The period between 1454 and 1700 was the height of the Ottoman State. Egypt and Mesopotamia were added to the empire and, under Suleyman the Magnificent, the Ottomans conquered Hungary and North Africa. Although under Suleyman, the empire reached its zenith, its slow decline was begun by his by granting trading concessions to the Austrians under Francis I. Suleyman also inadvertently started to involve his private harem, their accompanying eunuchs, and the Sultans' Janissary guards in palace intrigues and those three factions eventually became the real power in the empire.

For three centuries, starting in 1700, the Russian Empire kept pressure on the Ottomans with 43 declared wars. During this point in time the Greeks, Serbians, Bulgarians and Egyptians obtained their independence. It was also during this period, which included the Crimean War, that Turkey was called the "Sick Man of Europe." Attempts to reform the empire were too few and too late. In 1909 a group of discontented army officers, the "Young Turks," overthrow the Sultan and created a constitutional monarchy, governed by an elected parliament.

From 1911 through 1919, the “Sick Man of Europe” finally expired. Italy took Libya and the Balkan States, conquered most of what remained of Turkey’s European territory. The final blows occurred after Turkey entered World War I on the German and Austrian side. In May 1920 the Allies left Turkey with only Istanbul, its immediate vicinity and central Anatolia under its control. The Greeks, encouraged by the British, marched into central Anatolia.

At this critical time in Turkey’s history a brilliant man, General Mustafa Kemal, arrived in Ankara. Mustafa Kemal, a hero of the battle of Gallipoli, was a strong nationalist. Under his leadership a new army was created and defeated the Greeks. By 1922 Turkey was cleared of foreign troops and one year later the Republic of Turkey was declared.

Mustafa Kemal became the first president of Turkey and Ankara became the capital. The new parliament gave Kemal the name Ataturk, “Father of the Turks,” and Ataturk started an extensive modernization program. Under Ataturk’s leadership Turkey established itself as an integral part of the western world. Turkey holds the national election every four years as a well-established parliamentary democracy. Turkey is a member of NATO and plays a major role in contributing to the stability around the world and region. Turkey applied to the EU membership and has been working on the compliance process.

Geography & Natural History

Turkey’s total area is 300,223 sq. miles, which makes the country slightly larger than Texas. It borders the following countries: Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Iraq, Syria Greece, and Bulgaria. Turkey has more than 4,300 miles of coastline that touches the Aegean, Mediterranean, and the Black Seas. Most of Turkey is considered part of southwestern Asia while the small section west of the Bosphorus is included with Europe. The regions of Turkey we will visit include the plains of Central Anatolia, the Taurus Mountains, the Mediterranean Coast, the Aegean and our visit in Istanbul will be on the coast of the Marmara Sea.

Turkey’s geology is complex and varied. Most of the country consists of old plateau blocks that have been squeezed by younger rock formations to create mountain ranges. These mountain ranges run in many different directions with considerable irregularity. The highest mountains are located in the east with the highest peak being Mount Ararat at 16,000 feet. Extinct volcanoes have played an important role in the formation of landscapes in central and eastern Turkey. In the Cappadocia region, which we will visit on this trip, the erosion of volcanic tufa formations has created a wondrous landscape of spectacular rock formations. In the north and west of the country there has been enormous cracking and disturbance of rocks that making this region of the country vulnerable to earthquakes. These forces have also caused the irregular Aegean coastline and the formation of the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles Straits.

Turkey has the combined natural characteristics of three old world continents-Europe, Asia and Africa. It has diversity surpassing any other country located along its latitude. This diversity is reflected in the intermingling of plants and animals. Bears, wolves, jackals, leopards, deer, wild sheep and goats are still found in the areas we will be traveling through. Birds we might see include storks, eagles, falcons, and flamingos. Sea turtles nest on the beaches of the Mediterranean. Turkey is the home of a number of ornamental flowers, the most notable being the tulip. In fact, the word tulip comes from the Turkish word that means turban. Many familiar fruits such as cherries, apricots, almonds, and figs all originated in Turkey.

RECOMMENDED LINKS

<http://www.kultur.gov.tr/EN>

www.turkishembassy.org