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**Turkey Private Tour**

Twins that Travel – Intrepid Travel

**September 2019**

**Day 1 / Date: 12th September 2019**

**Destination – Istanbul**

**Meals included:** Dinner

Welcome to Turkey! On arrival you’ll be met and transferred to your hotel. After checking in the rest of the afternoon is free. Once we know the groups arrival time we’ll schedule the welcome meeting accordingly.

This evening you tour leader will take you out for a welcome dinner at Sıdıka Restaurant which is owned by the lady called Sıdıka.

**Arrival Transfer**

* Included on a group basis

**Accommodation**

[The 10 Karakoy Istanbul](https://www.morganshotelgroup.com/originals/10-karakoy)

**Day 2 / Date: 13th September 2019**

**Destination – Cappadocia**

**Meals included:** Breakfast, dinner

This morning, we will head to the airport, to fly down to Kayseri. Our next destination will be Cappadocia! After arrival, we will head to the village of Göreme and have an orientation walk there. After our walk, we will be hosted by Nuray, our chef and the host for the day – she will be running a cooking class where we will be able to try local specialties.

**Accommodation**

[Exedra Hotel](https://www.exedracappadocia.com/gallery.aspx?gid=exedra-cappadocia)

**Included Activity**

* Orientation walk in Göreme
* Cooking class at Nuray’s house

**Day 3 / Date: 14th September 2019**

**Destination – Cappadocia**

**Meals included:** Breakfast, dinner

For the early birds, there is an optional hot Air Balloon ride which can be arranged (own expense)

After breakfast we’ll go for a soft hike to the beautiful valleys of Cappadocia – the land of beautiful horses. After our short hike you’ll meet Ruth who, set up a successful carpet business. She will explain how she ended up in Turkey and how she became and expert in her trade.

In the afternoon, we’ll visit the beautiful underground city of Kaymaklı and then late afternoon, we’ll be making our own potteries at Chez Galip’s! For dinner, we have plans to visit Women’s Cooperative to taste the yummy homemade food.

**Included Activity**

* Soft Hike at the valleys
* Carpet educational with Ruth
* Kaymakli Underground city
* Pottery Demonstration
* Dinner at Women’s Cooperative

**Optional Activity**

* Hot Air ballooning – Regular ride (€ 195- per person)

**Accommodation**

[Exedra Hotel](https://www.exedracappadocia.com/gallery.aspx?gid=exedra-cappadocia)

**Day 4 / Date: 15th September 2019**

**Destination – Istanbul**

**Meals included:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner

In the morning, you’ll be picked up by a private bus and head back to Kayseri airport to catch your flight back to Istanbul. On arrival, we will head to the restaurant called Parantez which is operated by two sisters. After the lunch, we will head to a Turkish Bath – hamam – to have the traditional scrub and soup massage! Late afternoon, we will head to Taksim area to have a tasting trail tour – where we will get to taste the local food and stop at a rooftop bar to watch the sunset with cocktails!

**Included Activity**

* Turkish Bath, ladies’ section. (Scub and massage)
* Night Tasting Trail tour

**Accommodation**

[The 10 Karakoy Istanbul](https://www.morganshotelgroup.com/originals/10-karakoy)

**Day 5 / Date: 16th September 2019**

**Destination – Istanbul**

**Meals included:** Breakfast, dinner

This morning, we will head to the old city and visit the historical sites such as Hagia Sophia, Blue Mosque, Hippodrome, Grand Bazaar, Suleymaniye Mosque and Spice Market. You will have some free time until the dinner later this evening.

For your farewell dinner, your leader will take you to a local but fancy rooftop restaurant!

**Included Activity**

* Old city tour of Istanbul

**Accommodation**

[The 10 Karakoy Istanbul](https://www.morganshotelgroup.com/originals/10-karakoy)

**Day 6 / Date: 17th September 2019**

**Destination –End**

**Meals included:** Breakfast

Sadly, your tour comes to an end. There are no activities planned for today and at the relevant time the group will be transferred to the airport to catch their flight.

**Departure Transfer**

* Included on a group basis

**Suggested Flights – Turkish Airlines +/- £285.00pp**

12th Sep Gatwick – Istanbul 10.30 – 16.25

17th Sep Istanbul – Gatwick 13.55 – 16.00

***N.B Flights are not currently on hold, so price and availability is subject to change.***

Trip Cost and What’s Included

**Leader/Guide**

**Trip Cost**

Per person based on;

**Per person GBP 940.00pp**

***We require a minimum of 8 people to guarantee the tour. We can hold the group flights whilst we wait to reach minimum numbers. If you plan to book your own flights, please don’t do this until we guarantee the departure.***

**Single Supplement** – *Compulsory if an uneven number of people travel*

**£310.00**

**Guide price for flight**

**+/- £285.00pp**

**Additional arr/dep Transfers (1-4 pax)**

**£50.00 each way**

**Pre/Post tour accom**

**Single £110.00 per room**

**Twin £135.00 per room**

Deposit required  **- GBP 200 pp – Balance due 8 weeks before departure.**

Tour Leader throughout

**Meals/drinks**

5 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 5 dinners.

**Accommodation**

Hotel x 5 nights

**Included Activities**

As per the itinerary, including entrance fees where applicable.

**Transport**

Air-conditioned vehicle transfers throughout.

Internal flights in Turkey

**Assistance**

24-hour support from our local office

**Exclusions:**

* International arrival/departure flights
* International airport departure tax
* Tour guide for free time or days
* Optional activities
* Any visas required
* Services not mentioned in the itinerary
* Early check in or late check out at hotels
* Meals and drinks not mentioned in the itinerary
* Tips for leaders, guide and driver
* Expenditure of personal nature
* Personal Insurance

**Problems and emergency contact information**

In the case of a genuine crisis or emergency only, Intrepid's Istanbul Operations team can be reached on +90 532 641 2822

Intrepid's Local Operator: +90 532 641 2822

**Important notes**

A group airport arrival transfer is included from Ataturk Airport in Istanbul. If arriving in to Sabiha Gocken Airport, an arrival transfer is available at additional cost.

TURKEY:  
We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest information on travelling in Turkey before your departure and ensure that your travel insurance covers you for all areas of your itinerary. We have links to prominent government travel advisories and regular updates on issues affecting this trip on our Travel Alerts page - [www.intrepidtravel.com/au/travel-alerts](http://www.intrepidtravel.com/au/travel-alerts)

### **Passport and visas**

PASSPORT

As a general rule most countries expect that your passport has a minimum of 6 months validity remaining. Please ensure the name on your passport matches the name on your booking and airline tickets. Your passport details are required to complete your booking. Your consultant will contact you when this is required. Take a copy of the main passport pages and other important documents with you, and leave another copy at home with family or friends.

**VISAS**

Visas are the responsibility of the individual traveller. Entry requirements can change at any time, so it's important that you check for the latest information. Please visit the relevant consular website of the country or countries you’re visiting for detailed and up-to-date visa information specific to your nationality. Your consultant will also be happy to point you in the right direction with acquiring visas. Visas can take several weeks to process, so familiarise yourself with any requirements as soon as you have booked your trip to allow for processing time.

TURKEY:

Australia: Yes - apply for an e-visa before you go  
Belgium: Yes - apply for an e-visa before you go  
Canada: Yes - apply for an e-visa before you go  
Germany: No - not required  
Ireland: Yes - apply for an e-visa before you go  
Netherlands: Yes - apply for an e-visa before you go  
New Zealand: No - not required  
South Africa: Yes - apply for an e-visa before you go  
Switzerland: No - not required  
United Kingdom: Yes - apply for an e-visa before you go  
USA: Yes - apply for an e-visa before you go

Most nationalities require a visa to enter Turkey. Visas must be obtained through the e-Visa system. To apply for an e-visa, please go to <https://www.evisa.gov.tr/en/> at least two weeks before you arrive in Turkey. This multiple entry e-Visa costs USD60 as is valid for 90 days. Please note, visa costs can change at any time and with little notice depending on the political climate of the region.  
Some countries do not require a visa at all. This includes passport holders from New Zealand, Argentina, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland for stays up to three months. We recommend all nationalities check with their local consulate o embassy as this information can change.

Entry Requirements – Passport Validity:  
Foreigners entering Turkey must carry a passport with at least 60 days validity beyond the expiry date of their visa.

### **Medical and health information**

All travellers need to be in good physical health in order to participate fully on this trip. When selecting your trip please make sure you have read through the itinerary carefully and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please note that if, in the opinion of our group leader or local guide, any traveller is unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group, we reserve the right to exclude them from all or part of a trip without refund.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information or for any necessary vaccinations and anti-malarial requirements before departure. We recommend that you carry a first aid kit as well as any personal medical requirements (including a spare pair of glasses) as they may not easily be obtained at the locations on this trip.

DRINKING WATER:  
As a rule we recommend you don't drink tap water, even in hotels, as it may contain much higher levels of different minerals than the water you are used to at home. For local people this is not a problem as their bodies are used to this and can cope, but for visitors drinking the tap water can result in illness. Generally this isn't serious, an upset stomach being the only symptom, but it's enough to spoil a day or two of your holiday. Many hotels and lodges provide safe drinking water, while bottled water is another alternative. Water consumption should be about two litres a day. Rehydration salts, motion sickness tablets, and diarrhoea blockers are available from many pharmacies.

### **Food and dietary requirements**

Your group leader or representative will endeavour to cater for specific dietary requirements where possible, and vegetarianism and gluten intolerance will be catered for in most instances. There are, however some meals and activities that are fixed in advance and therefore cannot be modified to suit dietary requirements.

Please notify your booking consultant of any dietary requirements at the time of booking. For those suffering from particular food allergies, your group leader or representative will endeavour to disclose to their fullest knowledge the main ingredients in dishes being consumed. It is, however, your personal responsibility to ensure that you do not ingest any foods to which you are allergic.

### **Money matters**

When it comes to money matters on the trip, every traveller is a little different. You know your spending habits better than we do, so please budget a sensible amount for things like meals not included, drinks, shopping, optional activities, tipping and laundry. It’s always better to bring a little more than you think you’ll need.

Also make sure you’ve read your trip details thoroughly so you know what’s included in the trip price and what isn’t. This should make budgeting a little easier. You’ll find this info in the Inclusions section of your Essential Trip Information (that’s this document).

CURRENCY  
The Official currency of Turkey is the Turkish Lira (TRY). Most goods and services can be paid for using the local currency. The EUR is also acceptable as is the USD. For the supply of everyday services like meals and general shopping we recommend the local currency.

**BANKING**  
ATMs are widely available in all major towns and cities throughout Turkey. Credit and debit cards are the best way to access money throughout most trips (note though that charges are made for each transaction). Credit cards are generally available in tourist shops and restaurants. Visa and MasterCard are generally preferred over American Express, Diners, etc. Smaller venues take cash only.

**TIPPING**  
Gratuities aren’t compulsory on your trip, but they can make a big difference to locals employed in the tourism industry. If you are happy with the services provided, a tip is an appropriate way to thank them. While it may not be customary to you, it is of great significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels, inspires excellent service, and is an entrenched feature of the tourism industry across many Intrepid destinations.

Over the years we have found that many of our travellers find the need for tipping to be both tiresome and embarrassing, especially if they don't have the correct small change. To overcome this, your leader might raise the idea of a group tipping kitty, whereby everybody contributes an equal amount and then your tour leader pays the tips as you go. The leader will keep a running record of all monies spent (except restaurant tips). The record can be checked at any time and any money remaining at the end of the tour returned to group members. This amount is usually €2-4 per person/per day.

This kitty does not include tips for your leader and crew.

You may also consider tipping your tour leader for outstanding service throughout your trip. The amount is entirely a personal preference; however, as a guideline of €2-4 per person/per can be used. Of course, you are free to tip more or less as you see fit, depending on your perception of service quality and the length of your trip.

**SHOPPING**  
There are many opportunities to purchase souvenirs and handicrafts while on this trip, they can be a fantastic memento of your trip, and often these purchases help to support local artisans.  
Your Leader may suggest visits to different stores during your tour.  Rest assured that these vendors have been selected by our team on ground.  They provide good service and good quality products at fair market prices.  It also means that after sales service is available should you get home and have a problem with your purchase.  Some visits may be included as part of your itinerary where we feel the making of the craft is relevant to the destination and interesting for everyone to visit.  If this is the case you are under no obligation to purchase anything, simply enjoy the demonstrations and learning about the local craft.    We do also encourage you to enjoy shopping in the markets to compare prices and quality.

**EMERGENCY FUNDS**  
We try to plan for every eventuality, but there are still some things beyond our control. Please make sure you bring an extra USD500 for emergencies (e.g. natural disasters or civil unrest). Sometimes these things necessitate last minute changes to our itineraries, and we can’t guarantee there won’t be some extra costs involved.

**TRAVELLERS TO TURKEY PLEASE NOTE:**  
Turkey is often misjudged when it comes to the cost of goods and services and prices can vary considerably, between regions. Cities like Istanbul and Antalya are very European and as such the standard of restaurants and cafes is very high and the cost equivalent to its European counterparts. Eating in local restaurants, road side stalls and markets is still inexpensive and lots of fun. Budgets are a personal choice but please bear in mind that you should not expect Turkey to be a budget destination.

### **Packing**

What you need to bring will vary according to the trip style you have chosen, the countries you are visiting and when you are travelling. Generally speaking, we recommend you pack as lightly as possible and make sure that you are able to carry and lift your own luggage, and walk with it for short distances.

Most travellers carry their luggage in a backpack, although an overnight bag with a shoulder strap would suffice if you travel lightly. Smaller bags or backpacks with wheels are convenient although we recommend your bag has carry straps. You'll also need a day pack/bag to carry water and a camera etc for day trips.

**LUGGAGE LIMIT:**  
On this trip, you must pack as lightly as possible because you will be expected to carry your own bag and, although you won't be required to walk long distances with your luggage, we strongly recommend keeping the weight under 15kg. If your itinerary includes a flight, please keep in mind that some domestic airlines have checked luggage limits of 15kg.

CLOTHING & CLIMATE:  
Please note that as a desert region, the Middle East can have extreme weather. Temperatures are generally hot with little rain. This can become extreme during the summer months of June to August. In the months of December to March it can be very cold, particularly next to the river or the ocean and out in the desert where night temperatures can drop dramatically. Even in the hot months, it can get cold in the desert at night. Consider bringing a sleeping bag, thermals, scarf, gloves and a warm jacket for travel in this period, especially on itineraries which include camping such as on a felucca, in a desert camp, or at a Red Sea beach camp. A light water and windproof jacket is useful and a hat is essential.

VALUABLES:  
Please try to avoid bringing unnecessary valuables, and use your hotel safes to store the bulk of your money, passport, and airline tickets. It’s also a good idea to purchase a money belt or pouch that is easily hidden. We strongly recommend that you photocopy all important documents e.g. air tickets, passport, vaccination certificate, etc. and keep the copies separate from the originals. While not valid, a photocopy makes it very much easier to obtain replacements if necessary.

BATTERIES/POWER:  
Most of our trips have access to power to recharge batteries for phones and cameras regularly. We always recommend that you carry an extra battery for your camera just in case. Charging of batteries is advised before checking out of your hotel rooms. Please bear in mind there may be some nights were electricity may not be as readily available as you might be used to – home stays, beach and desert camps etc.

RESTRICTED ITEMS  
Generally drones are not permitted into any Middle East destination or they require registration and pre approval please refer to your airline carrier if you are considering taking a drone on your travels or check out drone laws by country on line.  
We have had some reports of binoculars being confiscated or causing delay in customs if carried in hand luggage.

### **Climate and seasonal information**

Turkey is a large country split into seven regions, as a rule of thumb the Marmara, Aegean and Mediterranean coasts have typical Mediterranean climates with hot summers and mild, wet winters. In the east it is more mountainous with warm summers and very cold, snowy winters. Central Turkey (Cappadocia) ,has low rainfall  and very dry hot summers and cold or very cold winters.  
Istanbul and coastal centres can experience very high humidity.

Winter (approx. November to February) can be very cold. Not all of our hotels have heating so consider bringing thermals, scarf, gloves and a warm jacket for travel in this period. Summer (approx. June to August) can be very hot. Not all our hotels have air-conditioning, and in those that do, it's not always functioning. Please consider the seasons when planning your trip.

RAMADAN 2019  
In 2019, the important month of Ramadan will be in progress from 6th  May through until 4th  June, and the Eid ul-Fitr festival will be held directly at its conclusion for 3-4 days. Ramadan is a festival of sacrifice where the devout refrain from eating or drinking during daylight hours. During Ramadan, business hours are shortened, including opening hours at some tourist attractions. Alcohol is not permitted during daylight hours and many restaurants will be closed. While you should expect some delays and inconveniences during this period, the month is a fantastic opportunity to travel in a Muslim country and witness this unique period, particularly the nightly celebrations when the sun sets and the fast is broken. Please note that although the Eid ul-Fitr festival can also be a fascinating time to travel it's a period of national holiday. Most government offices and businesses will be closed and some tourist site opening hours may be affected

### **Group Leader**

All group trips are accompanied by one of our group leaders. The aim of the group leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. We endeavour to provide the services of an experienced leader however, due to the seasonality of travel, rare situations may arise where your leader is new to a particular region or training other group leaders.

Your leader will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. You can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the places visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. In Turkey, in accordance with local regulations your Leader will also be a licensed Tour Guide and will not only have a broad general knowledge of the places visited on the trip; but will also have specialised knowledge on the sites visited and provide full guiding services.

### **Safety**

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure and ensure that your travel insurance covers you for all areas your itinerary covers. Please refer to our website's safety page for links to major travel advisories and updates on safety issues affecting our trip.

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe-keeping of your passport, air tickets, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of our hotels have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

Your leader will accompany you on all included activities, however during your trip you'll have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your leader will assist you with the available options in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your Intrepid itinerary, and Intrepid makes no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Please also note that your Leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it's deemed necessary due to safety concerns.

For more details on the type of conditions and safety standards you can expect on your trip, please refer to Intrepid's operational safety policy on our website. We recommend that you take a moment to read through this information before travelling, and would appreciate any feedback on how well it's being implemented in the field:  
[www.intrepidtravel.com/safety](http://www.intrepidtravel.com/safety)

FIRE PRECAUTIONS:  
Please be aware that local laws governing tourism facilities in this region differ from those in your home country and not all the accommodation which we use has a fire exit, fire extinguishers or smoke alarms.

BALCONIES:  
Some hotel balconies don't meet western standards in terms of the width of the balcony fence being narrower than 10cm.

TRAFFIC AND DRIVING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROAD:  
Depending on where you come from please note that drivers in this part of the world may drive on the opposite side of the road from what you are used to. Look both ways before crossing any road. Traffic can be a little more chaotic than you might be used to at home. Be aware!

SEAT BELTS:  
Please be aware that local laws governing transportation safety may differ from those in your home country and not all the transport which we use is able to provide seat belts.

PICK POCKETING & PERSONAL SAFETY:  
While travelling there is always the risk of pick-pocketing and petty theft, particularly in the more touristy cities. We recommend that you exercise caution when walking at night and encourage you to walk in groups and only on main, well-lit thoroughfares. Be particularly vigilant on public transport. Simple measures like carrying your day pack on your front, not hanging your bag over the back of your chair or on the floor and wearing a money belt will reduce any chance that your valuables should go missing.

WATER SAFETY:  
Please take care when taking part in any activities in the ocean, river or open water, where waves and currents can be unpredictable. It's expected that anyone taking part in water activities is able to swim and have experience in open water. All swimmers should seek local advice before entering the water.

TRAVEL ADVICE & TRAVEL INSURANCE  
We recommend that you check your government's advice in relation to the areas you will be visiting for their latest travel information before departure and ensure that your travel insurance covers you for all areas your itinerary covers.

SAFETY IN TURKEY:  
We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before your departure and that you ensure your travel insurance covers you for all areas in your itinerary. We have links to all major travel advisories and regular updates on issues affecting your trip on our safety page (link above).

The safety of our travellers and staff is our first priority. We continue to monitor the situation through official travel advisories and our local operations team, and we’re able to quickly change arrangements if for any reason we become concerned. If there should be any changes to the situation you will be advised immediately.

Whilst travelling in Istanbul before, after or during your tour we would recommend avoiding crowded areas like Taksim Square, Galatasaray and Kadikoy Meydan after 6.00pm especially on a weekend. If using public transport in the city please refer to <http://www.iett.gov.tr/en> for the latest updates and announcements.

### **A couple of rules**

Everyone has the right to feel safe when they travel. We don’t tolerate any form of violence (verbal or physical) or sexual harassment, either between customers or involving our leaders, partners or local people. Sexual relationships between a tour leader and a customer are strictly forbidden.

Use or possession of illegal drugs will not be tolerated on our trips. If you choose to consume alcohol while travelling, we encourage responsible drinking, and expect that you’ll abide by the local laws regarding alcohol consumption.

The sex tourism industry is known to exploit vulnerable people and have negative consequences on communities, including undermining the development of sustainable tourism. For this reason, patronising sex workers will not be tolerated on our trips.

By travelling with us you are agreeing to adhere to these rules. Your group leader has the right to remove any member of the group for breaking any of these rules, with no right of refund.

If you feel that someone is behaving inappropriately while travelling with us, please inform your tour leader or local guide immediately. Alternatively, contact us on the emergency contact number detailed in the Problems and Emergency Contact section of this Essential Trip Information.

### **Travel Insurance**

Travel insurance is compulsory for all our trips. We require that, at a minimum, you are covered for medical expenses including emergency repatriation. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects.

When travelling on a trip, you won't be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance and the insurance company's 24 hour emergency contact number has been seen by your leader.

If you have credit card insurance your group leader will require details of the participating insurer/underwriter, the level of coverage, policy number and emergency contact number rather than the bank's name and credit card details. Please contact your bank for these details prior to arriving in-country.

### **Responsible Travel**

Every place Intrepid visits is special – and we want it to stay that way. Our Responsible Travel ethos is at the heart of everything we do, from respecting local cultures and the environment, to initiating projects that make positive contributions to local communities. On all our tours we strive to work in a socially and environmentally responsible way. Contributing to local environmental and cultural conservation, we are not only helping the community but giving our travellers a more authentic experience, whether it's enjoying a homestay in a tribal village or sleeping in small, family-run accommodation.

### **The Intrepid Foundation**

Help us change thousands of lives by creating meaningful work and supporting skills training in communities around the world.

The Intrepid Foundation is the not-for-profit for Intrepid Group. We work with local organisations around the world to improve the livelihoods of vulnerable individuals and communities through sustainable travel experiences. With our travellers’ help, we’ve contributed more than AU $6 million to over 100 community organisations since 2002.

Did you know that tourism is one of the biggest contributors to the global economy, making up 1 out of every 10 jobs? That’s why we support local projects that create meaningful jobs and give people the skills they need to work in the destinations we take you to. And it’s why we exist – to make it easy for travellers to give back to the communities and places they’ve been in an effective and meaningful way.

All donations to The Intrepid Foundation are matched by Intrepid Group dollar for dollar (up to AU$10,000 per donor and AU$500,000 in total each financial year, excluding emergency appeals). And because Intrepid Group covers all administration costs, every cent goes directly to the projects. Donating is simple and secure. Please ask your leader for information about the projects we support through The Intrepid Foundation or visit our website:

<http://www.theintrepidfoundation.org/>

Organisations and projects currently supported by The Intrepid Foundation in Turkey include:

Small Project Istanbul (SPI)

Small Projects Istanbul (SPI) is a grassroots NGO operating in Istanbul. They provide skills development training, livelihood support, and educational and language support.  SPI offers 40+ programs a week that aim to improve the skills of women and their children toward brighter futures in which they will be the decision makers.

Children participate in childcare, language and psychosocial support to better cope and integrate into mainstream Turkish schools. Meanwhile, their mothers take part in the Women's Skills Development Program which transfers entrepreneurial, leadership, and technical handicraft skills in conjunction with their social enterprise, in which the participants gain a livelihood.

Donations to SPI through the Intrepid Foundation will support the Women’s Skills Development Program. All donations made via <https://www.theintrepidfoundation.org/small-projects-istanbul> will be matched.

"Drop Earrings Not Bombs" is one of the initiatives of the women's social enterprise at SPI [https://dropearringsnotbombs.org](https://dropearringsnotbombs.org/)