

Turku Academy Program, 6–16 November 2025

Thursday 6 November direct flight from Helsinki to Istanbul (TK1762 HEL-IST at 12:30-17:15), transfer with metro to the Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul (SRII). Dinner in the evening.

Friday 7 November Full day at the Golden Horn. Visits to Ayasofia/Hagia Sophia, Blue Mosque, Topkapi Palace, Hagia Irene, Hippodrome of Constantinople, Archaeological museum, Basilica Cistern (if time Ayios Konstantinos, Ayia Kriaki). The famous places can be continued on Sunday and Thursday afternoons.

Saturday 8 November Full day excursion to İznik (Nicaea, approx. 2h from Istanbul). Visits to Lefke Gate (Damascus Gate), Ayasofia/Hagia Sophia in İznik, and Basilica of Saint Neophytos.

Sunday 9 November Visit to the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Church service and afterwards a lecture in English about the current situation of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Possible visit to the Saint George's Cathedral.

Monday 10 November Visit to the Princes' Islands (Adalar) where the Hagia Triada Monastery is located. The ferry leaves from Kadıkoy (Chalkedon). Afterwards dinner in Çiya in Kadıkoy, evening tea in Moda Aile Çay Bahçesi (watch the sunset in Europe while drinking tea in Asia).

Tuesday 11 November Morning visit to ISAM at 10-12 am in Room 15-20, lunch 12.30-14 not necessary vegetarian diets, topics: secularization of education, modernization of theology education

Wednesday 12 November 11.30-13 visit to the Marmara University (School of Education, Atatürk Eğitim Fakültesi at Aydınevler, Maltepe, Başbüyük), minibus to Maltepe, keep this talk general and neutral, meeting with students, one Finnish student presents the Finnish education system

Thursday 13 November Morning visit to Quincentennial Foundation (synagogue, museum, meeting with the director and the curator of the museum Mrs Nisya Allovi)

Friday 14 November shopping in the Grand Bazar and the Egyptian Bazar (continue visits from Saturday).

Saturday 15 November Breakfast meeting at 10.30 with Havle Women's Association, Üsküdar.

Sunday 16 November Optional visit to Khalkedon (Kadıkoy). Church service in Istanbul Lutheran Church in Kadıköy. Metro to Istanbul airport and a direct flight to Helsinki (TK1763 IST-HEL at 15:20-18:05).