

# BILATERAL EXCHANGE STUDENTS GUIDE

## BILATERAL OFFICE

ISTANBUL BILGI UNIVERSITY

SANTRALISTANBUL CAMPUS  
ESKİ SİLAHTARAĞA  
ELEKTRİK SANTRALİ,  
KAZIM KARABEKİR CAD. NO: 2/13  
34060 EYÜP İSTANBUL

+90 212 311 72 43



**İstanbul  
Bilgi University**

# W E L C O M E

Istanbul is a natural gateway on two continents, Europe and Asia, divided by one of the world's busiest waterways: the Bosphorus Strait. A metropolis with it's rich history of 8,500 years. The natural beauty of the city, it's exciting scene blending a metropolitan way of life and its modern infrastructure make it a unique meeting place for experience. A magnet for dynamic and talented people from around the world, Istanbul is the ideal destination with its vibrancy, modernity, top-notch infrastructure and enviable geographical position.

This fact sheet provides useful information about the City of Istanbul and BİLGİ.

We wish you an advantageous stay!



# CAMPUS HISTORY AND LOCATION

Istanbul Bilgi University has campuses that are centrally located and offering a vivid and colorful student life with more than 1,000 social and cultural events a year: Kuştepe, Dolapdere, **santral**istanbul (Silahtarağa Power Plant) BILGI campuses are equipped to provide for all the academic and extracurricular needs of students. Physical facilities comprise conference halls, film production, post-production, ensemble and recording studios, cinemas, a sports complex, computer laboratories and student cafeterias. University also provides shuttle services between campuses and other places of the city.



# CAMPUS HISTORY AND LOCATION

## **A Brief History of Silahtarağa Power Plant later santralistanbul Campus**

Silahtarağa Power Plant was the first city-scaled power plant of the Ottoman Empire. It was the first thermal power plant (it used heat as a source) of the Empire. The power plant started its production with three turbine-generator groups that were placed in the engine room, and six boilers that were placed in the boiler house. Silahtarağa Power plant became a facility difficult to keep active in the late 1970s with the smoke it produced in the middle of the industry centre and the difficulties it had with taking water from Golden Horn. In 1950s, water began to decrease in Golden Horn that began to get contaminated and after the foundation of Alibeyköy Dam the water level began to decrease drastically. The coal transportation that is required to run the power plant is done through the highway. Having completed its economic life (as its production capacity gradually decreased) the Silahtarağa Power Plant terminated production in 1983. The power plant was allocated to Istanbul Bilgi University by the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources in 2004. In 2007, The Silahtarağa Power Plant was converted into santralistanbul.





# CAMPUS HISTORY AND LOCATION



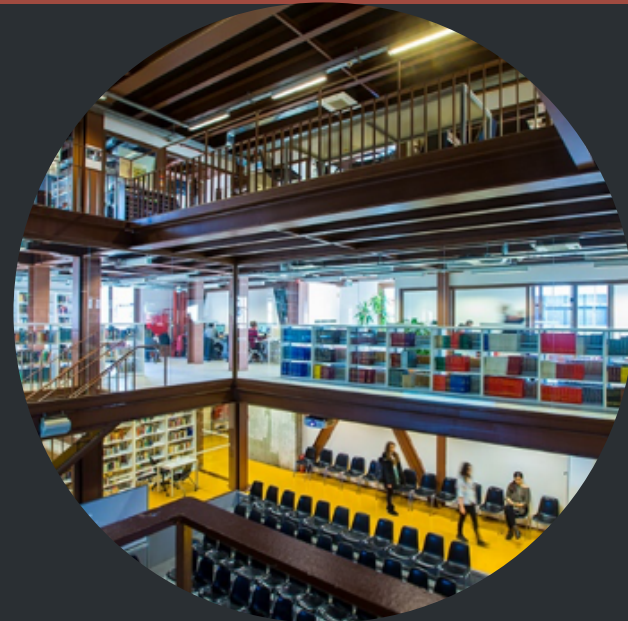
## **Dolapdere Campus:**

Ten minutes away from Taksim, the heart of art scene, social activities and city life. A campus with award-winning architectural design.

## **Kuştepe Campus:**

Located at the center of İstanbul, very near to Mecidiyeköy and Şişli, in the heart of business life.

Istanbul Bilgi University Library provides a direct contribution to education, research and the intellectual development of students. 3 libraries and 7 study halls offer various spaces such as studying and reading sections for individual and collective use, comfortable reading sections, IT corners, etc. BİLGİ e-library houses over 58,500 e-journals, 368,000 e-books, 117 databases and e-encyclopedias.



# CONTACT INFORMATION

## **Burçak Başaran**

*Team Manager*

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E-mail: muge.aslanbay@bilgi.edu.tr

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## **Begüm Çiçek**

International Student & Alumni Relations Assistant Specialist

Phone: +90 212 311 65 16

E-mail: begum.cicek@bilgi.edu.tr

# APPLICATION PROCEDURE



GPA requirements: 2.20

Language requirements: B2 Level, TOEFL 70 and IELTS 5.5

## **Deadline for 2021 Spring Semester:**

Nomination 1st December

Application 30th December

## **Procedure:**

All required documents must be send to **bilateral@bilgi.edu.tr**

Application Form

Copy of Passport

Transcript

Language Proficiency document

5X5 Photo

# PROGRAMS TAUGHT IN ENGLISH FOR EXCHANGE/DEGREE STUDENTS

## **Undergraduate programs**

### **Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences**

Civil Engineering  
Computer Engineering  
Electrical and Electronics Engineering  
Energy Systems Engineering  
Genetics and Bioengineering  
Mechanical Engineering  
Mechatronics Engineering  
Mathematics

### **Faculty of Architecture**

### **Faculty of Communication**

Communication Design and Management  
Digital Game Design

### **Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities**

Comparative Literature  
English Language Teacher Education  
European Union Studies  
History  
International Relations  
Music  
Psychology  
Political Science  
Sociology



# PROGRAMS TAUGHT IN ENGLISH FOR EXCHANGE/DEGREE STUDENTS

## **Undergraduate programs**

### **Faculty of Business**

Economics  
Business Administration  
Business – Economics  
Business Informatics  
Marketing  
International Finance  
International Trade and Business

### **School of Tourism and Hospitality**

Gastronomy and Culinary Arts  
Tourism and Hotel Management

### **School of Applied Sciences**

Banking and Finance  
Fashion Design  
International Logistics and Transportation

# PROGRAMS TAUGHT IN ENGLISH FOR EXCHANGE/DEGREE STUDENTS

## Graduate programs

European studies  
Economy  
e-MBA English  
Human Resources Management  
MBA English  
Media and Communication Systems  
Marketing  
International Political Economy  
International Finance  
International Relations

**Language of Instruction:**  
English

**Language Requirements:**  
B2 Level English

**Credits:**  
ECTS credit system

## Academic Calendar

### Undergraduate program:

Fall Semester: mid-September – mid-January

Spring Semester: mid-February – mid-June

### Graduate program:

Fall Semester: mid-September – mid-January

Spring Semester: mid-February – mid-June

# B U D D Y   P R O G R A M

A Buddy student voluntarily helps incoming international exchange students of İstanbul Bilgi University.

The main responsibilities of the volunteer Buddy students:

- To assist you with the Academic issues including course registration and general overview of the Student Information System (SIS) page;

To introduce the life at BİLGİ and in Istanbul;

- And other issues regarding life as a student Istanbul.



# RESIDENCE PERMIT PROCESS

Upon arrival to Turkey, International students must obtain a Residence Permit.

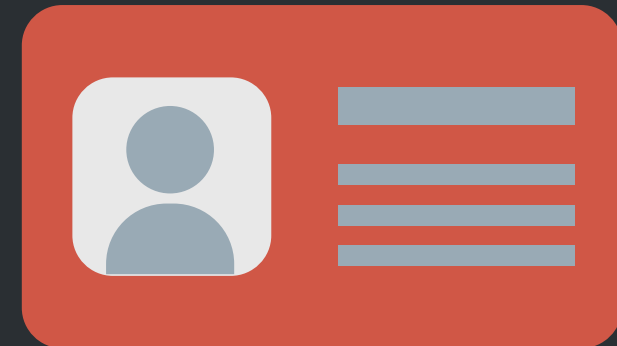
Online Application must be made, in any case, before the expiration of the visa. You should not make your online residence permit application before being physically here in Istanbul.

You will submit all of your documents to the Bilateral Office regardless of your appointment date.

\* If you have a Turkish nationality (TC Kimlik) or Mavi Kart, you do not need a residence permit.

For detailed information:

<https://www.bilgi.edu.tr/en/international/global-talent-management-center/bilateral-exchange-programs/bilateral-programs-incoming-students/preparing-for-istanbul/residence-permit-and-visa-procedures/>





# PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE

Istanbul Bilgi University has agreements with various health insurance companies that are able to provide you with a health insurance policy that will be sufficient for your Residence Permit application.

For detailed information:  
<https://rb.gy/0j9t58>



# TAX NUMBER

Private Health Insurance companies require you to have a tax number. Make sure to obtain one before you apply. You can get it in person or online.

You may apply for online at this link: <https://rb.gy/wmsthk>

To get one in person, all you need is your passport and a photocopy of the passport page with your photograph on it.

Address of Beyoğlu Vergi Dairesi (Tax Office):

Şahkulu Mahallesi, Meşrutiyet Cad. No:125, 34421 Beyoğlu

Phone: (0212) 244 03 83



# ACCOMMODATION

BİLGİ does not have its dormitory however the University is in collaboration with several companies that provide accommodation service. There are different types of the dormitories with different locations across the city and near to the Campuses of the BİLGİ. The dormitories for girls and boys are separated from each other.

**For more information and contacts, please follow the link.**



*For more information and contacts, please follow the link:  
<https://www.bilgi.edu.tr/en/life-at-bilgi/student/student-support-center/dormitories/>*

# PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELING

Aims to assist students' individual, social and academic development, ease their adaptation processes to university and help them acquire the skills necessary to cope with potential problems experienced in these areas. Does not share any personal information and content of counseling sessions confidentiality. Consultation in English is also provided.

**Totally free.**

**LOCATION:** L2 BUILDING (SMALL YELLOW BUILDINGS)

# STUDENT SUPPORT CENTER

Bridge between the students and the academic and administrative departments. Offers various services including Student Clubs:

Idea Clubs

- Clubs with Academic Content
- Clubs with Sports and Art Content
- Social Responsibility and Hobby Clubs

*In the territory of the Bilgi University, you can also find:  
Cafes and restaurants, Coffee houses, Photocopy Center, Bank, Book Store/Stationary Shop, Hairdresser, Infirmary, Shuttle(free).*

# GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT TURKEY AND OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

## QUICK FACTS ABOUT TURKEY

Official Name: The Republic of Turkey (TC- Türkiye Cumhuriyeti)

Capital: Ankara

Official Language: Turkish

Founder: Mustafa Kemal ATATÜRK

Area: 814,578 square kilometers (314,500 square miles)

Population: ~79,5 million

Currency: Turkish Lira/ Türk Lirası (TL)

National Anthem: The Republic of Turkey (TC-Türkiye Cumhuriyeti)

Flag: Red background with a white crescent and star in the middle.





# GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT TURKEY AND OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

## QUICK FACTS ABOUT TURKEY

Tukey is considered to be the gateway between Europe and Asia; it is a Eurasian country located on the Mediterranean stretching across the Anatolian peninsula in southwest Asia and the Balkan region of southeastern Europe.

It is bordered by the Black Sea, the Marmara Sea, the Aegean Sea, and Mediterranean Sea.

Turkey's location at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, makes it a country of significant geostrategic importance. Because of its geographical location, Turkey is a melting pot of cultures and a unique mixture of eastern and western traditions. Its neighbor countries are Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Greece, Georgia, Iraq and Syria.

Turkey is democratic, secular and social state governed by the code of law and separated into Legislative, Judicial and Executive branches. Turkey has one of the fastest growing economies in the world.

# GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT TURKEY AND OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

## NATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

There are two types of public holidays in Turkey: the religious holidays which change according to the lunar calendar and fall on different dates each year; and those which are decided by the government and fall on the same day each year.

### ***National holidays:***

1 January – New Year's Day

23 April – National Sovereignty and Children's Day

19 May – Youth and Sports Day

30 August – Victory Day

29 October – Republic Day

### **Religious holidays:**

Ramadan/Sweet Festival: Three days religious holiday.

Eid al-Adha (Feast of the Sacrifice): Four days religious holiday.

# GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT TURKEY AND OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

## AVERAGE COST OF LIVING

The cost of living in Istanbul is lower than many other European cities. However, Istanbul has a high cost of living relative to the rest of Turkey. Students should be aware of that there are many social activities to spend money comparing to the other cities in Turkey.

Please check the link : <https://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/in/Istanbul>

- Accommodation: 800 – 5000 TL
- Food: 20 – 300 TL
- Transportation: 2.65 – 205 TL (monthly)
- Miscellaneous: 150 – 400 TL
- Lunch menu: 25 TL
- Bread: 1 TL
- Water (per lt): 1 TL
- Fruit & Vegetables (per kg): varies from 1 TL to 4 TL
- Pasta & Rice (per kg): varies from 1 TL to 4 TL
- Sugar & Salt (per kg): around 2 TL
- 2 tickets to the movies: 42TL
- 1 cocktail drink in downtown club:40TL
- 1 beer in neighbourhood pub (500ml or 1pt.): 18TL
- 1 month of gym membership in business district: 175TL
- Monthly rent for a 45 m2 (480 Sqft) furnished studio in NORMAL area: 1,537TL
- Utilities 1 month (heating, electricity, gas ...) for 1 person in 45 m2 studio: 346TL.

# ATTRACTIONS IN ISTANBUL

## HAGIA SOPHIA

It's said that when the Byzantine Emperor Justinian entered his finished church for the first time in AD 536, he cried out "Glory to God that I have been judged worthy of such a work. Oh Solomon, I have outdone you!" The Hagia Sophia was the emperor's swaggering statement to the world of the wealth and technical ability of his empire. Tradition maintained that the area surrounding the emperor's throne within the church was the official center of the world. Through its conversion to a mosque, after the Ottoman armies conquered Constantinople, to its further conversion into a museum in the 20th century, the Hagia Sophia has remained one of Istanbul's most cherished landmarks.

Opening hours: Daily from 09.00-17.00

Closed: Monday, and until 13.00 on the first day of religious holidays





# ATTRACTIONS IN ISTANBUL



## BLUE MOSQUE

Sultan Ahmet I's grand architectural gift to his capital was this beautiful mosque, commonly known as the Blue Mosque today. Built between 1609 and 1616, the mosque caused a furore throughout the Muslim world when it was finished, as it had six minarets (the same number as the Great Mosque of Mecca). A seventh minaret was eventually gifted to Mecca to stem the dissent.

The mosque gets its nickname from its interior decoration of tens of thousands of Iznik tiles. The entire spatial and color effect of the interior makes the mosque one of the finest achievements of Ottoman architecture.

Opening hours: Daily from 09.00 till dusk

Closed: 30 min before and 30 min after prayer time, 2 hours during Friday prayer

# ATTRACTIONS IN ISTANBUL

## TOPKAPI PALACE(TOPKAPI SARAYI)

First built by Mehmet the Conqueror in the 15th century, this glorious palace beside the Bosphorus was where the sultans of the Ottoman Empire ruled over their dominions up until the 19th century. The vast complex is a dazzling display of Islamic art, with opulent courtyards lined with intricate hand-painted tile-work, linking a warren of sumptuously decorated rooms, all bounded by battlemented walls and towers

Of the many highlights here, the most popular are the Harem (where the sultan's many concubines and children would spend their days); the Second Court, where you can walk through the vast Palace Kitchens and stand in awe at the dazzling interior of the Imperial Council Chamber; and the Third Court, which contained the sultan's private rooms..



# ATTRACTIONS IN ISTANBUL



## **BASILICA CISTERN (YEREBATAN SARNICI)**

The Basilica Cistern is one of Istanbul's most surprising tourist attractions. This huge, palace-like underground hall, supported by 336 columns in 12 rows, once stored the imperial water supply for the Byzantine emperors. The project was begun by Constantine the Great but finished by Emperor Justinian in the 6th century.

Many of the columns used in construction were recycled from earlier classical structures and feature decorative carvings. The most famous of these are the column bases known as the Medusa stones in the northwest corner with their Medusa head carvings. A visit here is very atmospheric with the columns beautifully lit and the soft, steady trickle of water all around you.



# ATTRACTIONS IN ISTANBUL

## ISTIKLAL STREET AND TAKSIM

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# ATTRACTIONS IN ISTANBUL

## **GALATA TOWER**

This Genoese tower was built in the 14th century and is one of Istanbul's most recognizable landmarks. Take the elevator or the stairs for great panoramic views over the city from the top balcony. Be aware, though, that it's a super popular sight, so come early or be prepared to wait in line.



## **GRAND BAZAAR**

This massive covered market is basically the world's first shopping mall, taking up a whole city quarter, surrounded by thick walls, between the Nure Osmaniye Mosque and Beyazit Mosque.





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# WHAT TO DO?



- Eat a meat ball @Sultanahmet köftecisi
- Taksim is out and Karaköy and Kadıköy are the new Taksim.
- You can swim and watch a concert at Kilyos.
- You can eat the best desserts @Baylan Kadıköy
- You can see old polish village @Polonezköy
- You can visit Prince Islands with ferry
- You can eat the best midye dolma @Ortaköy Midyeci Ahmet

# TIPS FOR LIVING IN ISTANBUL

- Try to avoid traveling around Istanbul during rush hours, the streets are always congested. Taking the metro is always possible. The bridges between the European and Asian side are always packed.
- The ferries between Asia and Europe operate as a proper means of transportation. Just like a bus.
- Although English is widely spoken in the metropolitan cities, you are recommended to learn some basic Turkish words.
- The electricity is 220 Volts. Check the voltage in your home country and in case it is different you should buy a converter so that your electrical devices do not get harmed.



# USEFUL APPLICATIONS



# EMERGENCY CONTACTS



- Ambulance 112
- Police 155
- Tourism Police (0212) 5274503
- Gendarmerie 156 (all over Turkey for rural areas)
- Coast Guard 158 (all over Turkey)
- Fire 110 (all over Turkey)
- Forest Fire 177 (all over Turkey)
- Yellow Pages 11818 or 11811 or 11880 (all over Turkey) the cost of directory could be
- expensive
- Tourism Info 170 (all over Turkey)

# HOSPITALS

- Acıbadem International Hospital
- İstanbul Cad. 82, Yeşilköy
- American Hospital(Amerikan Hastanesi)
- Güzelbahçe Sok. 20, Nişantaşı
- Florance Nightingale Hospitals
- Abide-i Hürriyet Cad. 166,Şişli
- Memorial Hospital Şişli
- Piyalepaşa Bulvarı, Okmeydanı, Şişli
- Acıbadem Hospital
- Tekin Sok.18, Acıbadem,Kadıköy
- İstanbul Surgery Hospital(Cerrahi Hospital)
- Ferah Sok. 18, Nişantaşı, Şişli
- Metropolitan Florance Nightingale Hospital
- Cemil Aslan Guder Sok. 8, Gayrettepe,Şişli



# NECESSARY CONTACTS

## NURSES

Nurten Ulusaler  
Kuştepe Campus B02/  
nurten@bilgi.edu.tr  
+90 212 311 6314

Didem Kurap  
Kuştepe Campus B02  
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# CONTACT US

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<https://www.bilgi.edu.tr/en/international/global-talent-management-center/incoming/bilateral-programs/>

