

BILATERAL EXCHANGE STUDENTS GUIDE

BILATERAL OFFICE

ISTANBUL BILGI UNIVERSITY

SANTRALISTANBUL CAMPUS
ESKI SİLAHTARAĞA
ELEKTRİK SANTRALI,
KAZIM KARABEKİR CAD. NO: 2/13
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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 its rich history of 8,500 years. The natural beauty of the city, its 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



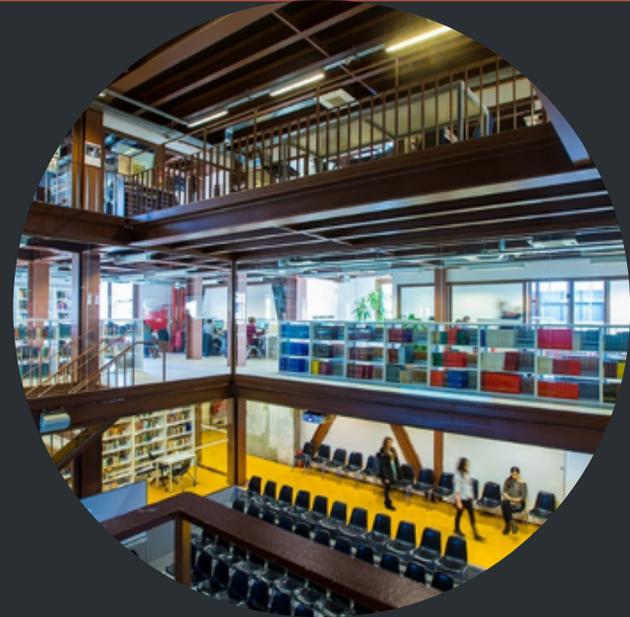
Dolapdere Campus:

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

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Begüm Çiçek

International Student & Alumni Relations Assistant Specialist

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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

BUDDY PROGRAM

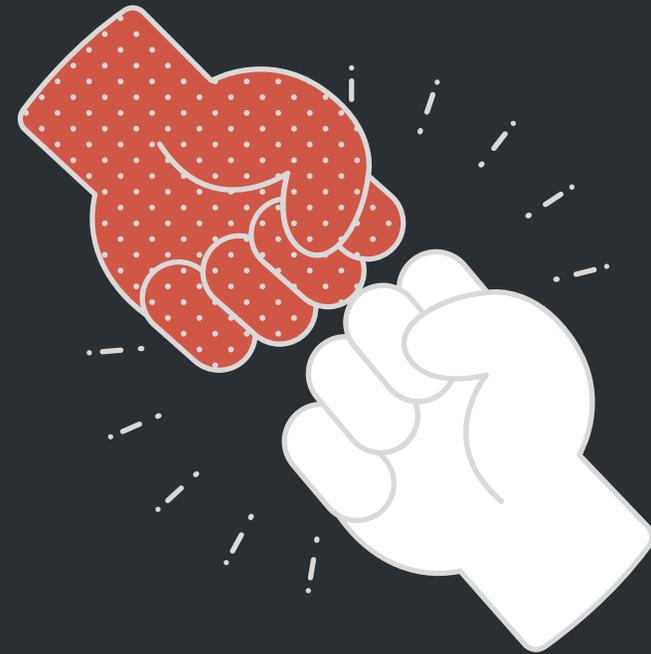
A Buddy student voluntarily helps incoming international exchange students of İstanbul Bilgi University.

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 BILGI 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.

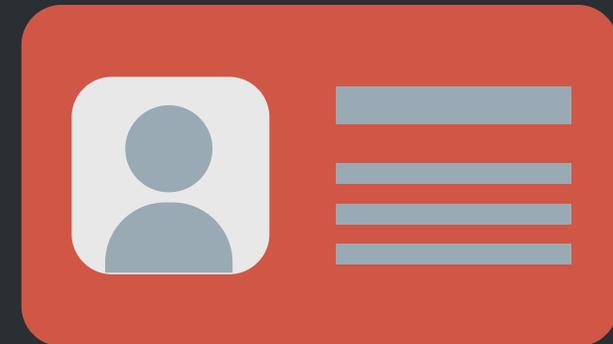
Online Application must be made, in any case, before the expiration of the visa. You should not make your online residence permit application before being physically here in Istanbul.

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

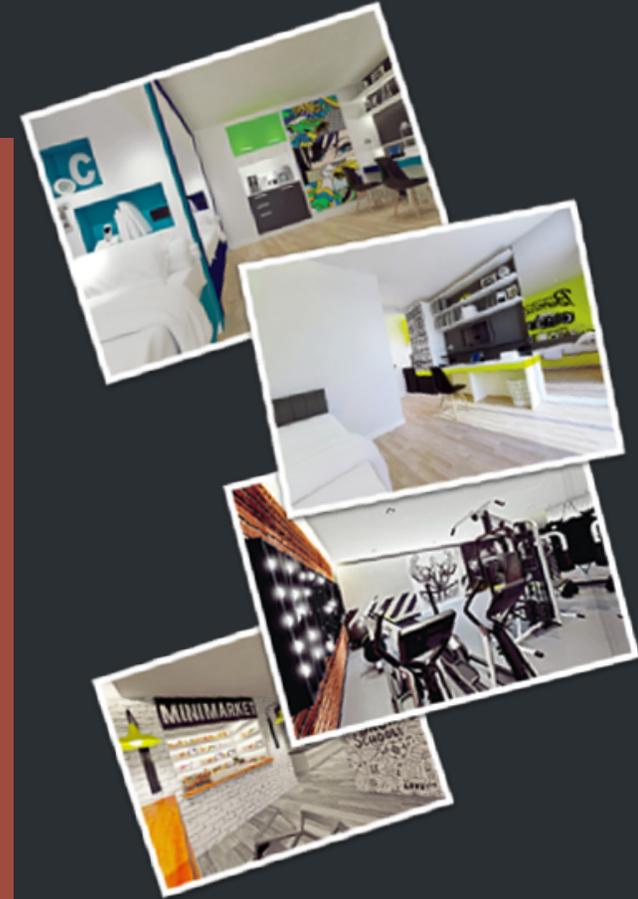
Phone: (0212) 244 03 83



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

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

