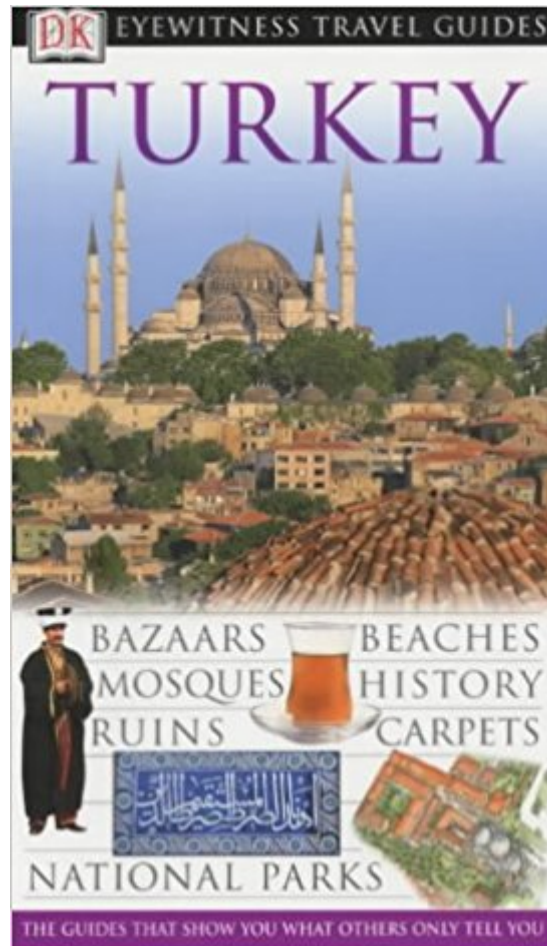




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Turkey (DK Eyewitness Travel Guide)



Synopsis

This volume shows Turkey at its best, from the beautiful beaches and azure seas to the glittering mosques and churches, intriguing historic quarters and colourful bazaars. In-depth coverage is given to Istanbul with the help of cutaways of ancient buildings, pictorial maps and 3-D aerial views. This award-winning guide also helps you to discover the treasures of this ancient civilisation, with in-depth coverage of many archaeological sites, including the classical ruined city of Ephesus and the cliff-side troglodyte village at Uchisar.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Eyewitness wins hands down Mail on Sunday --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

My first pass at this book left me feeling it was "light" and without substance. On second look I realized it is a gem. It has informative historic information and very good graphics. The illustrations of important sites and their specific details was the best I've seen. My only negative is that it's heavier when compared with the more usual travel guide. This seems to be due to the high quality of paper used. It's a book that will stand up to the needs of a busy traveler, not falling to pieces after long times on the road. And it's very easy to find the section you want thanks to their clever use of color coding.

After reviewing many travel books at the local bookstore, the one published by Eyewitness Travel was determined to be the most comprehensive with great history of the country, description of the sights and color photos. Maps were included with good resolution of streets. The book does not offer very good details on lodging, dining places or shopping. If you just wanted to know about the country, cities and places to visit this book was found to be better than others. I traveled on a cruise ship and did not need the lodging or dining details. Turkey is an amazing country with so many historical sites to visit. The ancient cities and ruins have remained more original than those reconstructed in other countries. Istanbul is an amazing city to visit with cross cultural influences apparent everywhere.

The guide has beautiful pictures, but I found it a little lacking in content, especially for the Ephesus area. If you are going on a cruise and stopping in Kusadasi as we did, we wanted information on the Kusadasi and Ephesus areas, including how to navigate ourselves through town, what the highlights are (where to focus our time) and how to get there, as well as some historical and background information. The little information this book did provide on Ephesus was not helpful but more of a history lesson. The book was so unhelpful, we had to "wing it" when we got off the ship. Ephesus is filled with turkish "salesmen" who will follow you, negotiate with you and generally bother you if you are prepared for it. It is quite daunting to have these men selling to you as soon as you get off the ship and it would have been more helpful if the book pointed you in the right direction about what to do so that we didn't feel like we were going to get ripped off. For example, the drive out to Ephesus is about 45 minutes and it would have been nice to have a tour book tell us the best way to get there. What is the safest bet? a bus, taxi (spelled taksi) or tour company? How much do these cost in general? When we had a taxi quote us a fee, it seemed very expensive, so it would have been good if the tour book told us what the general going rate is. BTW, we ended up finding 2 other couples to share the cost of a van. The van waited for us to take us back to the downtown area. The downtown area is right off the ship, walking distance. You will get accosted by salesmen, so be prepared. It's an interesting salesmanship...they expect to "host" you with drinks and seats. they will then bring items to you. It would feel luxurious to be waited on and hosted if they weren't pressuring you to buy. They do accept no as an answer though...eventually So, once we settled into the concept, we realized it was part of the culture and learned to handle the stalking and haggling and constant pressure. The same thing that makes them sales oriented also make them customer service oriented in their restaurants-this was nice.

This book looks nice, feels nice, and I suppose might taste nice. However, after living in Turkey for a year I found this book to be lacking in practical information. Eyewitness guides seemed to be geared more towards the tourist-on-a-tour rather than a person trying to make it on their own. There are three reasons I say this: 1) The hotel information is mainly for nicer establishments and there are not many listed. 2) The pictures are really nice, but there is not a lot of cultural, historical, or instructional information. 3) The book is really heavy making it a pain to carry around. I also owned the Lonely Planet Turkey book and loved it, I would recommend it over the Eyewitness Guide. It got me to where I wanted to go and I found most of the information to be accurate. People I worked with also liked the Rough Guide of Turkey. One other suggestion, if you are just headed to Istanbul, or plan to be in the country for a long period of time I would purchase both a Turkey guide and an Istanbul guide in order to save having to carry around a huge guidebook to the entire country.

If an eyewitness guide is available for a country, I buy it. I love the layout. All the guides have similar organization and the sections are helpful. It's fast once you get used to using them. The photos of points of interest can give you an idea of whether you want to see that attraction or not.

Lavishly illustrated, excellent commentary, and easy access to information makes this one of the best books to get for travel to Turkey. The DK series are the best travel books I have found, and this did not disappoint. I just returned from my second trip to Turkey in two years and find this book to be lavishly illustrated with pertinent information in a concise manner. I can't recommend it enough, especially at its price. Get it.

Am planning to go to Turkey early 2013 and needed a guide book which would give information on all the interesting and useful things a traveler needs. Though I have not looked in it closely yet, it looks that it has lots of information, with many illustrations and pictures, which is useful. Once I finish planning my trip from the guide, I might add an update.

I am using this book to plan my next trip in Turkey. I like the graphics and pictures. These are useful guides and good keepsakes but a bit general. I use it in conjunction with another travel book for two for more detailed information.

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