SHOPPING ITINERARIES

ISTIKLAL CADDESI & ÇUKURCUMA

DÉCOR/ANTIQUES HAVE YOUR CAB DROP YOU AT THE MARMARA PERA HOTEL, MESRUTIYET CAD. / HOME TO THE KNOCKOUT VIEWS OF BAR AND DINER MIKLA (SEE RESTAURANTS/SMART). WITH YOUR BACK TO THE HOTEL ENTRANCE, HEAD UP THE LITTLE ALLEY BETWEEN CHARLOTTE BISTRO AND HOTEL YENISEHIR AND TROT UP TO ESTIMAL CAD. ALRIGHTY, HERE IT IS, THE BIG OLD RUE DE LA PERA (THINK LONDON'S OXFORD ST.). THE STORES HERE ARE MOSTLY OF LITTLE INTEREST, BUT BE SURE TO LOOK UP AS YOU WALK, AS THE MAJESTY IS ALL IN THE ARCHITECTURE. OPTIONS: IF YOU TURN RIGHT HERE, AND HEAD A COUPLE OF BLOCKS DOWN, YOU'LL COME TO DIVINE LITTLE MARKIZ (SEE COFFEE), AND DIAGONALLY OPP. MARKIZ IS KUMBARACI YOKUSU - ZIP DOWN THIS LITTLE LANE TO FIND LEB-I-DERYA (SEE Bass). OR, INSTEAD HEAD LEFT UP ISTIKLAL CAD. AND AT #314 S PASABAHCE / 244 0544 / FOR GOOD, CHEAP N'CHEERFUL TURKISH GLASS HOMEWARES (AMONGST SOME DROSS), EXIT PASABAHÇE LEFT UP ISTIKLAL CAD., ON THE RIGHT AT #389 IS ROBINSON CRUSOE BOOKSTORE (SEE VERY USEFUL). NOW AMBLE ALONG FOR TEN MINS OR SO TO FIND GALERIST (SEE ART) ON THE 4/F AT #311 (YOU'LL ALSO FIND 360 HERE (SEE RESTAURANTS/SMART). FURTHER ALONG STILL, ON THE RIGHT ARE THE IMPOSING GATES OF THE GALATASARAY LYCÉE. HERE YOU HAVE A CHOICE, IF YOU'RE HANK MARVIN (STARVIN'), HEAD OPPOSITE TO FIND THE CICEK PASAJI OR FLOWER PASAGE. JUST BEFORE IT IS A LITTLE ALLEY, SAHNE SOKAK, HEAD LEFT DOWN HERE INTO THE MARKET REDOLENT WITH FRUIT, VEG, FISH, CAVIAR, HONEYCOMBS AND LOTS OF RESIDENT MOGGIES. TAKE THE FIRST LEFT AND YOU'LL COME ACROSS THE LOVELY OLD SUTTE DELI, OR CARRY ON AND TAKE THE FIRST RIGHT INTO NEVIZADE SOKAK, A STREET FULL OF FAB LITTLE AUTHENTIC PLACES FOR MEZE (SEE RESTAURANTS/MEYHANE). REFRESHED? HEAD BACK TO CICEK PASAJI AND CROSS ISTIKLAL CAD. TO FIND THE LITTLE ALLEY KARTAL SOKAGI OPPOSITE, IT'S JUST BEFORE THE BIG STONE GATES OF GALATASARAY LYCÉE. HEAD UP AND ROUND TO THE END AND TURN RIGHT ONTO TURNACIBASI SOK. ON THE RIGHT AT #16 YOU'LL FIND MOR / 292 8817 / FOR CHUNKY, ETHNICKY, SHAB-CHIC BRONZE AND ENAMEL JEWELS. ZIP TO THE END TO FIND MOTIF / 245 1964 / ON YOUR LEFT AT 31/A, A NEAT GALLERY OF TRAD AND MODERN RUGS AND CARPETS. HERE YOU'LL ALSO FIND TARIHI GALATASARAY HAMAMI / 249 4342/3 / IF YOU FANCY A GOOD STEAMY PUM-MELLING, THE LOCAL WAY. CARRY ON LEFT AND HEAD DOWN THE STREET AND YOU'LL FIND THE GREAT LOCAL VIBE AND VARIOUS BRIC-A-BRAC EMPORIA OF THE BOHO-CHIC CUKUR-CUMA ENCLAVE. ON THE LEFT AT #67 IS DESIGN ODYSSEY ASLI ÖNEL, A SMALL, BUT EXCELLENT SHOWROOM OF VINTAGE AND RETRO ICONIC FURNY AND DÉCOR. NOW TAKE THE NEXT RIGHT INTO FAIK PAŞA YOKUŞU TO FIND POPCORN / 251 4911 / ON YOUR RIGHT FOR A JUICY COLLECTION OF VINTAGE PHONES, RECORDS AND LAMPS, AND OPPOSITE AT #1 IS ADORABLE MINE KERSE / 249 3561 / WHO PRODUCES A SMALL, BUT UNIQUE LINE IN FELT AND LEATHER FABRI-BAGS AND JOLLY TEA-COSY HATS.

STEP OVER TO A LA TURCA AT #4/245 2933 / FOR A RAVISHING COLLECTION OF BEAUTIFULLY DISPLAYED KILIMS, ECLECTIBLES, CERAMICS, FRAMES, SCULPTURE, MARBLES, CARVINGS AND COVETABLES IN A BEAUTIFUL THREE-STOREY HOUSE - BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE HUGE COLLECTION OF URNS AND JUGS IN THE ATMOSPHERIC KITCHEN BASEMENT. PLUM PERFECT. NEXT DOOR AT #6 IS ACCENTURC / 245 7168 / FOR MODDY JEWELLERY (CHECK OUT THE UPSTAIRS STUDIO OF FUNKY CERAMIC ARTIST BIRSEN CANBAZ / 245 0434 / BIRSENCANBAZ.COM / FOR OFF-THE-WALL CERAMIC SCULPTURE AND ART). CARRY ON NOW DOWN FAIK PAŞA YOKUŞU TO #19/1 FOR PIED DE POULE / 245 8116 / A CHARMING STASH OF VINTAGE GALSWEAR HATS AND SHOES, AND SERDAR ÖGECAN AT #21/245 9356 / WHO HAS A DISARMING SMILE AND A NOT UN-DELIGHTFUL COLLECTION OF CHANDELIERS AMONGST OTHER ANTIQUES. OVER ON THE RIGHT AT #34A ON A CORNER IS LITTLE TOMBAK II / 244 3681 / FOR A JOYFUL SLEW OF GEWGAWS AND BIBELOTS PLUS VIN-TAGE CHROME HAIRDRYERS, ELECTRIC FANS AND BAKELITE RADIOS. OPPOSITE TOMBAK IS A LITTLE LANE, HACIOGLU SOKAGI. NIP DOWN HERE TO FIND THE NIMBLE FINGERS OF THE LADIES AT SEDEF GÜR AT #74 FOR FEMMY, SPARKLY WRAPS, TOPS, KAFTANS AND ACCESSORIES IN CLASSIC AS WELL AS MODERN SILHOUETTES. NEXT DOOR YOU'LL FIND THE PAINTED AND LIMED FURNITURE AND DÉCOR OF ASLI GÜNŞIRAY IN THE FARROW & BALL / HOPPEN PALETTE OF TAUPES AND NEUTRALS. AS YOU FACE SEDEF GÜR BEAR LEFT UP THE LITTLE RISE AND YOU'LL FIND SAMDAN ANTIQUES / 245 4455 / ALWAYS WORTH A LOOK FOR LOVELY ORNATE ANTIQUE DOORS, LAMPS AND HEIRLOOM WHATNOTS. EXIT AND WHIP BACK UP TO FAIK PAŞA YOKUŞU, CONTINUE LEFT AND AT #57 YOU'LL FIND GÜL & NEVIN ANTIQUES' SWEET CHANDELIER COLLECTION / 0538 547 2776. AT THE T-JUNCTION TURN RIGHT ONTO HAYRIYE CAD. AND ROUND THE CORNER ON YOUR RIGHT IS FUNKY GALERI APEL (SEE ART), OR ON THE LEFT IS CASUAL FASH AT OSMAN AND BIS WEAR AT #20/3. NEXT DOOR, STOA / 251 4098 / DOES A NEAT LINE OF SUPER-CHUNKY RUSTIC CONTEMPORARY FURNITURE, PERFECT FOR LOFT-LIVERS. YOU HAVE GOT TO BE PARCHED AS A PARROT NOW. NO WORRIES. STEP NEXT DOOR TO RELAXED CEZAYIR (SEE RESTAURANTS/CASUAL) FOR JOE AND A WEE. THIS SAFFRONY, AIRY SALON AND BAR IN AN IMPOSING OLD BUILDING IS THE PERFECT POST-SHOP FLOP-SPOT. WELL, DIDN'T YOU DO WELL? IF IT'S NEARING THE MAGICAL COCKTAIL HOUR, YOU'VE NOW GOT A COUPLE OF CLOSE-BY OPTIONS. EITHER EXIT CEZAYIR, HEAD LEFT AND BEAR RIGHT TO BRING YOU BACK UP TO THE GALATASARAY LYCÉE ON ISTIKLAL CAD., OR, EXIT AND HEAD RIGHT AND GO UP THE STONE STAIRS TO THE LEFT OF GALERI APEL, PAST KOYU KAHVE (CAFÉ) AND KEEP HEADING UP THE LITTLE HILL TO BRING YOU BACK TO TARIHI HAMAMI. BOTH WAYS BRING YOU OUT CLOSE TO ÇIÇEK PASAJI BEHIND WHICH IS NEVIZADE SOK. FOR MEZZE THRILLS (IF YOU MISSED OUT EARLIER). BUT BETTER YET, HEAD BACK DOWN ISTIKLAL CAD. TO NEARBY PANORAMIC 360 FOR A SNEAKY SUNSETTER SIP, OR CARRY ON FURTHER DOWN TO LEB-I-DERYA (SEE BARS). OR, FOR THE BEST VIEWS OF ALL, POOTLE BACK TO WHERE YOU STARTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ITINERARY FOR MIKLA (SEE RESTAURANTS/SMART), OR NU TERAS (SEE BARS) - IT'S ONLY SIXTY SECONDS WALK FROM MIKLA, COCKTAILVENIENT!

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