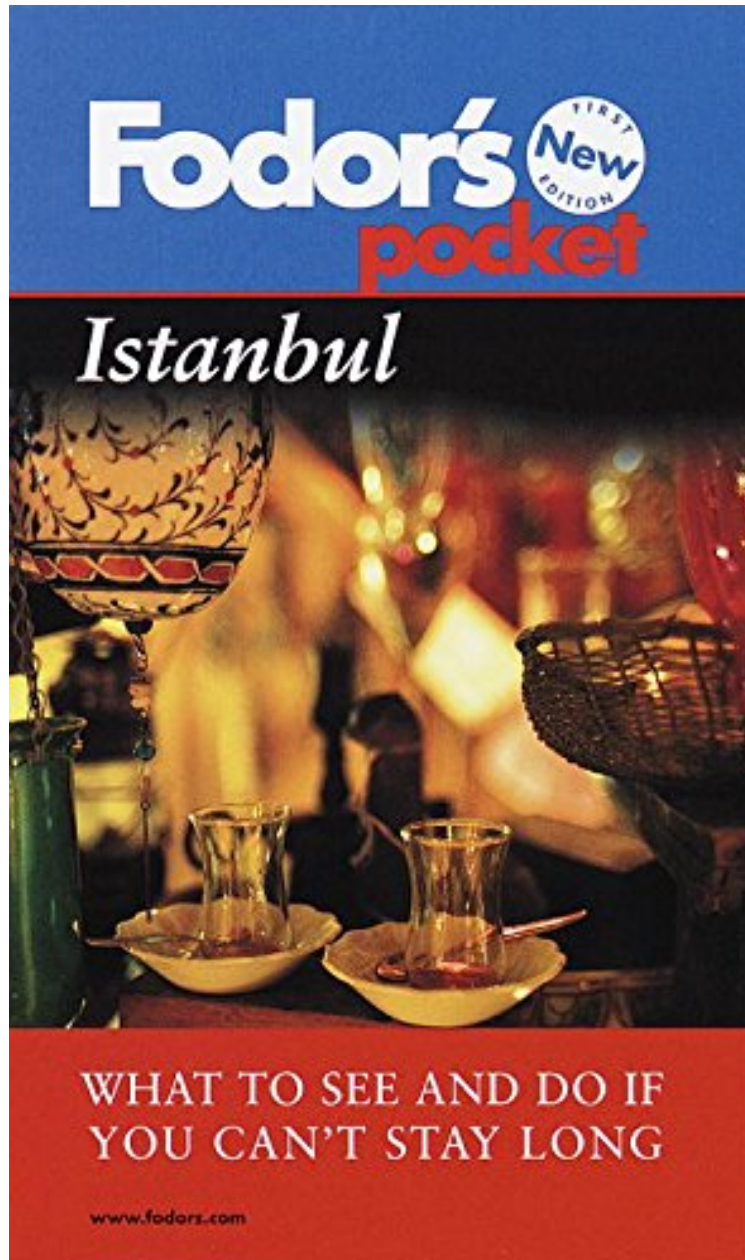


Fodor's Pocket Istanbul, 1st Edition: What to See and Do If You Can't Stay Long (Travel Guide)

Eugene Fodor

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Eugene Fodor : Fodor's Pocket Istanbul, 1st Edition: What to See and Do If You Can't Stay Long (Travel Guide) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fodor's Pocket

Istanbul, 1st Edition: What to See and Do If You Can't Stay Long (Travel Guide):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book
By Dean G. Nowacki
Great book to study ahead of time and small enough to take with you. We ended our cruise in Istanbul and had 3 days to visit. This book was very helpfull.

Pocket Guides are designed for leisure and business travelers who want the highlights of a destination. They contain full, rich descriptions of the best a destination has to offer -- the most worthy sights, the best restaurants and lodging in all price ranges, plus shopping, nightlife, and outdoors highlights. The Best of Istanbul -- with all the essentials All the must-sees, including the Blue Mosque, Topkapi Palace, Aya Sofya, and the Spice Market Top shopping -- how and where to buy one-of-a-kind kilims, colorful textiles, and hand-crafted jewelry Essential excursions to the Princes Islands, Edirne, and the fishing villages along the Bosphorus The best dining and lodging in every price range Romantic bistros, waterfront fish houses, authentic kebab stands, and the lowdown on local cuisine Luxurious palaces, modern high-rises, Ottoman-style town houses, and cozy antiques-filled pansiyons Endorsed by the American Society of Travel Agents Pocket Istanbul is excerpted from Fodor's Turkey "Fodor's can't be beat." -- Gannett News Service "Fodor's always delivers high quality...thoughtfully presented...thorough." -- Houston Post "Packed with dependable information." -- Atlanta Journal-Constitution "An excellent choice for people who want everything under one cover." -- Washington Post

From the Inside Flap
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Tales of the City
Though it is often remarked that Turkey straddles Europe and Asia, it is really Istanbul that does the straddling: the vast bulk of the country resides comfortably on the Asian side. European Istanbul is separated from its Asian suburbs by the Bosphorus, the narrow channel that connects the Black Sea, north of the city, to the Sea of Marmara, to the south. Already 1,000 years old when conquered by Emperor Constantine in AD 326, Istanbul (then Byzantium, later Constantinople) was made capital of the Roman Empire in the East and survived long after the western capital fall. Most of the finest Ottoman buildings in Istanbul date from the time of Sleyman the Magnificent who led the Ottoman Empire to its highest achievements in art and architecture, literature, and law. Sleyman commissioned the brilliant architect Sinan to design buildings that are now recognized as some of the greatest examples of Islamic architecture in the world. Istanbul has its modern side, too, with all the concomitant traffic jams, air pollution, overdevelopment, and brash concrete-and-glass hotels creeping up behind its historic old palaces. But the city is more than grime and noise. Paradoxically, its beauty lies in part in the juxtaposition of the ancient and the contemporary. Some of the perks that come with modernity are luxury hotels, designer clothing stores, and Western-style department stores. These are today's monuments, which, alongside the elegant mosques and majestic palaces built by and for yesterday's titans, dominate and define splendid Istanbul.