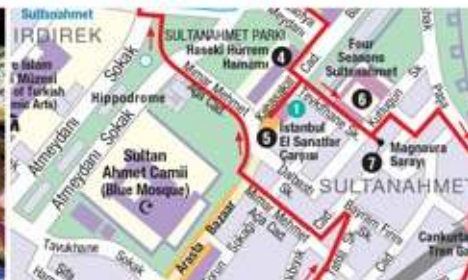


INSIGHT GUIDES

EXPLORE ISTANBUL



THE **BEST** ROUTES AROUND THE CITY



INSIGHT GUIDES

EXPLORE ISTANBUL



How To Use This E-Book

This **Explore Guide** has been produced by the editors of Insight Guides, whose books have set the standard for visual travel guides since 1970. With top-quality photography and authoritative recommendations, these guidebooks bring you the very best routes and itineraries in the world's most exciting destinations.

Best Routes

The routes in this book provide something to suit all budgets, tastes and trip lengths. As well as covering the destination's many classic attractions, the itineraries track lesser-known sights, and there are also excursions for those who want to extend their visit outside the city. The routes embrace a range of interests, so whether you are an art fan, a gourmet, a history buff or have kids to entertain, you will find an option to suit.

We recommend reading the whole of a route before setting out. This should help you to familiarise yourself with it and enable you to plan where to stop for refreshments – options are shown in the 'Food and Drink' box at the end of each tour.

Introduction

The routes are set in context by this introductory section, giving an overview of the destination to set the scene, plus background information on food and drink, shopping and more, while a succinct history timeline highlights the key events over the centuries.

Directory

Also supporting the routes is a Directory chapter, with a clearly organised A–Z of practical information, our pick of where to stay while you are there and select restaurant listings; these eateries complement the more low-key cafés and restaurants that feature within the routes and are intended to offer a wider choice for evening dining. Also included here are some nightlife listings, plus a handy language guide and our recommendations for books and films about the destination.

Getting around the e-book

In the Table of Contents and throughout this e-book you will see hyperlinked references. Just tap a hyperlink once to skip to the section you would like to read. Practical information and listings are also hyperlinked, so as long as you have an external connection to the internet, you can tap a link to go directly to the website for more information.

Maps

All key attractions and sights mentioned in the text are numbered and cross-referenced to high-quality maps. Wherever you see the reference [map] just tap this to go straight to the related map. You can also double-tap any map for a zoom view.

Images

You'll find hundreds of beautiful high-resolution images that capture the essence of the destination.

Simply double-tap on an image to see it full-screen.

© 2013 Apa Publications (UK) Ltd



A close-up photograph of a person's face, focusing on the eye and cheek area. The person has traditional body paint applied to their face. A large, textured yellow patch is on the cheek, with several black lines extending from it. Below the yellow patch, there are two parallel black lines, with a thin red line between them. The person's eye is looking slightly to the right. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a white garment.



INSIGHT GUIDES

Inspiring your next adventure
www.insightguides.com

The new travel website from Insight

Legend

-  Start of tour
-  Tour and route direction

-  Recommended sight
-  Recommended restaurant or café

City Maps

-  Place of interest
-  Tourist information
-  Statue / monument
-  Main post office
-  Bus station
-  Theatre
-  Cathedral or church
-  Main library
-  Beach
-  Ferry route
-  City wall
-  Urban area
-  Notable building
-  Hotel
-  Pedestrian area
-  Shop / market
-  Park
-  Transport hub

Regional Maps

-  Place of interest
-  Chateau / Castle
-  Airport
-  Lighthouse
-  Monastery
-  Viewpoint
-  Ancient site
-  Peak
-  Crater
-  Cave
-  Cable car
-  Railway
-  Funicular railway
-  Urban area
-  Marsh
-  National park
-  International boundary
-  State / Province boundary

Table of Contents

How To Use This E-Book

Recommended Routes For...

- ANCIENT REMAINS
- ESCAPING THE CROWDS
- NIGHT OWLS
- OTTOMAN ATMOSPHERE
- PAMPERING
- SHOPAHOLICS
- SPIRITUAL SUSTENANCE
- VILLAGE LIFE

Explore Istanbul

- City layout
- History and architecture
- Climate
- Population
 - Local customs
- Politics
 - Secularism and religion
 - Economics
- Cultural capital

Food and Drink

- Where to eat
 - Rooftop dining
- What to eat
 - Breakfast
 - Ottoman cuisine
 - Kebabs
 - Not for the faint-hearted
 - Seafood
 - Vegetarian options

Desserts

Herbs and spices

What to drink

Shopping

Bazaars

Malls

Boutiques and high-end fashion

Antiques

Entertainment

Where to go

Bars and pubs

Nightclubs

Live music

Gay scene

Turkish Baths

Visiting a hamam

Getting changed

A hamam dictionary

Istanbul's hamams

History: Key Dates

Beginnings of Byzantium

Byzantine Constantinople

Ottoman capital

Republican era

Modern Istanbul

1. Sultanahmet: Around Hagia Sophia

Layout

The Million

Basilica Cistern

Hagia Sophia

History

Inside the museum

Cankurtaran

Former prison

Magnaura Palace

Tranquil backstreets

Divan Yolu

Constantine's Column

Çemberlitaş Hamam

2. Sultanahmet: Around the Blue Mosque

Tomb of Sultan Ahmet

Hippodrome

Blue Mosque

Inside the mosque

Arasta Bazaar

Mosaic Museum

Küçük Hagia Sophia Mosque

Sokullu Mehmet Paşa Mosque

Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts

3. Topkapi Palace

First Court

Hagia Eirene

Second Court

The Divan

Third Court

Exhibition rooms

Fourth Court

The Harem

Tour highlights

Museum of Archaeology

Around Gülhane Park

4. The Grand Bazaar

Nuruosmaniye Caddesi

Nuruosmaniye Mosque

The Grand Bazaar

Layout

Halıcılar Sokak

Zincirli Han

Çukur Han

Lütfullah Efendi Sokak

A puff of smoke

5. Eminönü

Galata Bridge

Eminönü's backstreets

Rüstem Paşa Mosque

Hasırcılar Caddesi

Egyptian Bazaar

New Mosque

Lunch option

Sirkeci Train Station

6. Galata, Tünel & Pera

Galata

Karaköy Fish Market

Bank Street

Bereketzade Mosque

Galata Tower

Music shops

Galata Dervish Lodge

Tünel

Pera

Pera Museum

Church of St Antoine

Contemporary art and cocktails

7. Taksim to Tophane

Taksim Square

İstiklal Caddesi

Side streets

Nevizade Sokak

Fish Market

Galatasaray Lycée

Çukurcuma

CIHANGİR

Tophane

İstanbul Modern

8. Dolmabahçe to Ortaköy

Dolmabahçe Palace

A white elephant

Palace interior

Beşiktaş

Naval Museum

Luxury hotels

Yıldız Park

Historic pavilions

Ortaköy

Büyük Mecidiye Mosque

Heading back

9. Bosphorus Villages

Kuruçeşme

Kuruçeşme Park

Arnavutköy

Cape of Currents

Bebek

Refreshment options

RUMELİ HİSARI

Rumeli fortress

Climbing up the walls

EMIRGAN

Sakıp Sabancı Museum

Heading back

10. The Imperial Mosques

Beyazıt

Old Book Bazaar

Beyazıt Mosque

İstanbul University

Süleymaniye Mosque

Inside the Mosque

Refreshment options

Mimar Sinan's Tomb

Süleymaniye Hamam

Valens Aqueduct

Şehzade Mosque

Caricature and Cartoon Museum

Fatih

Wednesday Market

Fevzi Paşa Caddesi

11. Old City Walls

Edirne Gate

Kariye Museum

Mosaics and frescoes

Theodosian Walls

Remains of Byzantine palaces

12. Fener and Balat

Fener

Two Churches

Balat

13. Eyüp

Sokullu Mehmet Paşa's Tomb

Eyüp Mosque

Tomb of Eyüp Al-Ansari

Mihrişah Valide Sultan's Tomb

Eyüp Cemetery

14. Üsküdar

Üsküdar's Mosques

Yeni Valide Mosque

Şemşi Paşa Mosque

Maiden's Tower

15. Bosphorus Boat Trip

Bosphorus villages

Anadolu Kavağı

Yoros Castle

Asian shore

Kanlıca

Anadolu Hisarı

'The Sweet Waters of Asia'

Küçüksu

Heading Back

16. The Princes' Islands

Kınalıada

Burgazada

Heybeliada

BÜYÜKADA

Accommodation

Sultanahmet

Galata

Tünel and Pera

Taksim, Harbiye and Cihangir

Dolmabahçe

Beşiktaş and Tesvikiye

Beyazıt

Fener and Balat

Asian shore

Princes' Islands

Restaurants

Sultanahmet

Kumkapı

Eminönü

Karaköy

Beyoğlu

Beşiktaş

Ortaköy

Bosphorus Villages

Fatih

Fener and Balat

Üsküdar

Princes' Islands

Nightlife

Concert venues

Pubs

Bars

Clubs

Gay and lesbian venues

Cinemas

A-Z

A

Age restrictions

B

Budgeting

C

Clothing

Crime and safety

Customs

D

Disabled travellers

E

Electricity

Embassies and Consulates

Etiquette

F

Festivals

G

Gay and lesbian travellers

Green issues

H

Health

Hours and holidays

I

Internet facilities

L

Language

M

Maps

Media

Money

P

Police

Post

R

Religion

S

Smoking

T

Telephones

Time zones

Toilets

Tourist information

Tours and guides

Transport

Arrival by air

Airports

Arrival by rail

~~Transport within Istanbul~~

Driving

V

Visas and passports

W

Websites

Useful websites include:

Women travellers

Language

Basics

Communications

Emergencies

Health

In a restaurant

Language difficulties

Numbers

Shopping

Sightseeing

Transport

Books and Film

Books

Contemporary Turkish novelists

Turkish poets

Turkish memoirs

Foreign writers

Film



ANCIENT REMAINS

Explore the city's Roman and Byzantine heritage at the Museum of Archaeology ([route 3](#)), followed by the awe-inspiring Hagia Sophia ([route 1](#)), the Theodosian Walls and the Kariye Museum ([route 11](#)).

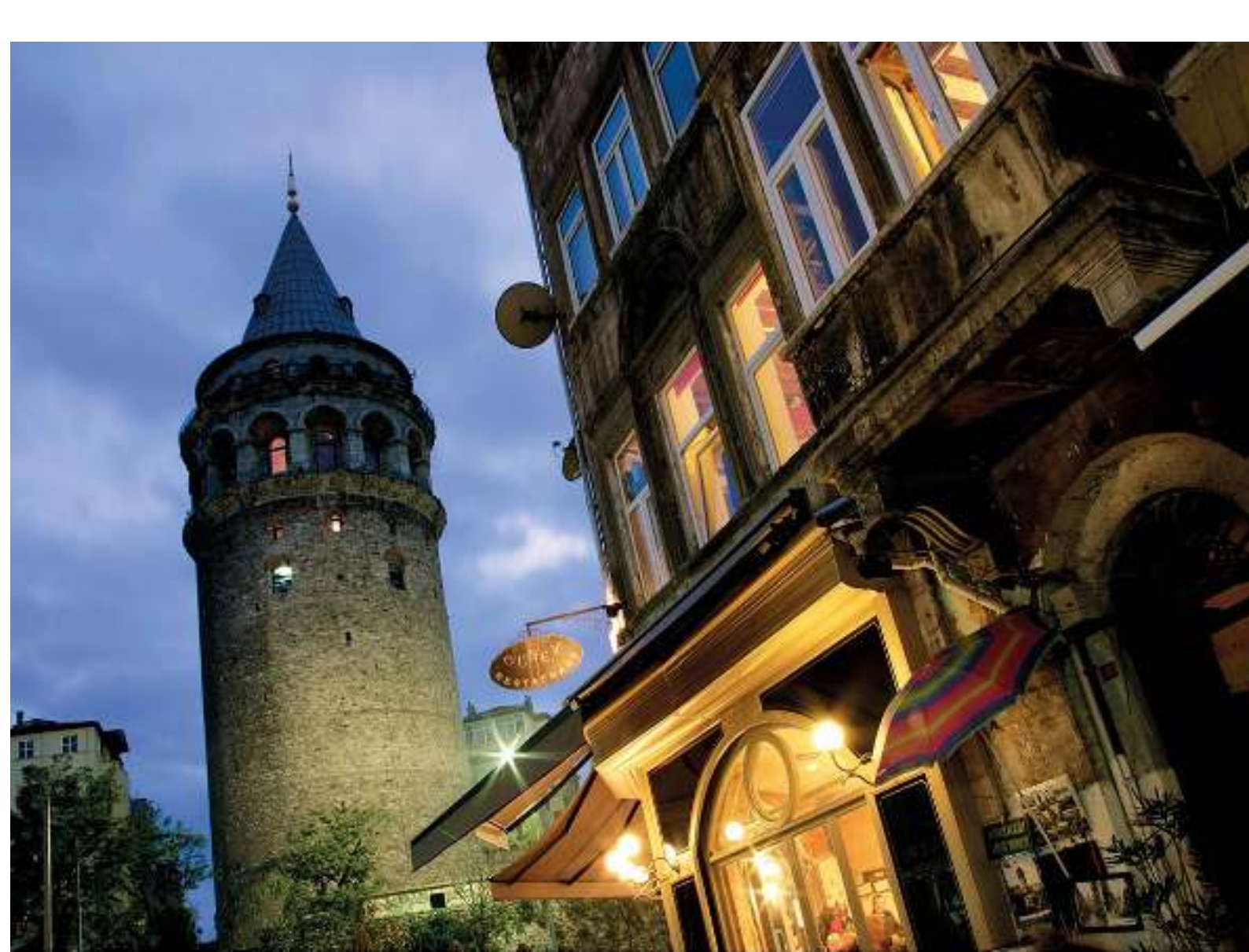
Rebecca Erol/Apa Publications



ESCAPING THE CROWDS

Take time out at the Pierre Loti Teahouse in Eyüp ([route 13](#)), stroll the peaceful streets of Fener and Balat ([route 12](#)) or potter around the mosques of Üsküdar ([route 14](#)).

Rebecca Erol/Apa Publications



NIGHT OWLS

For good times after dark, head for the bohemian bars of Tünel ([route 6](#)), or step up the pace at the high-octane clubs near Taksim Square ([route 7](#)) or by the Bosphorus ([route 8](#)).

Rebecca Erol/Apa Publications



OTTOMAN ATMOSPHERE

Admire the masterpieces of Sinan, the greatest Ottoman architect, such as the Süleymaniye Mosque (route 10) and the Rüstem Paşa Mosque in Eminönü (route 5). Be sure to stop by the Topkapı Palace too (route 3).

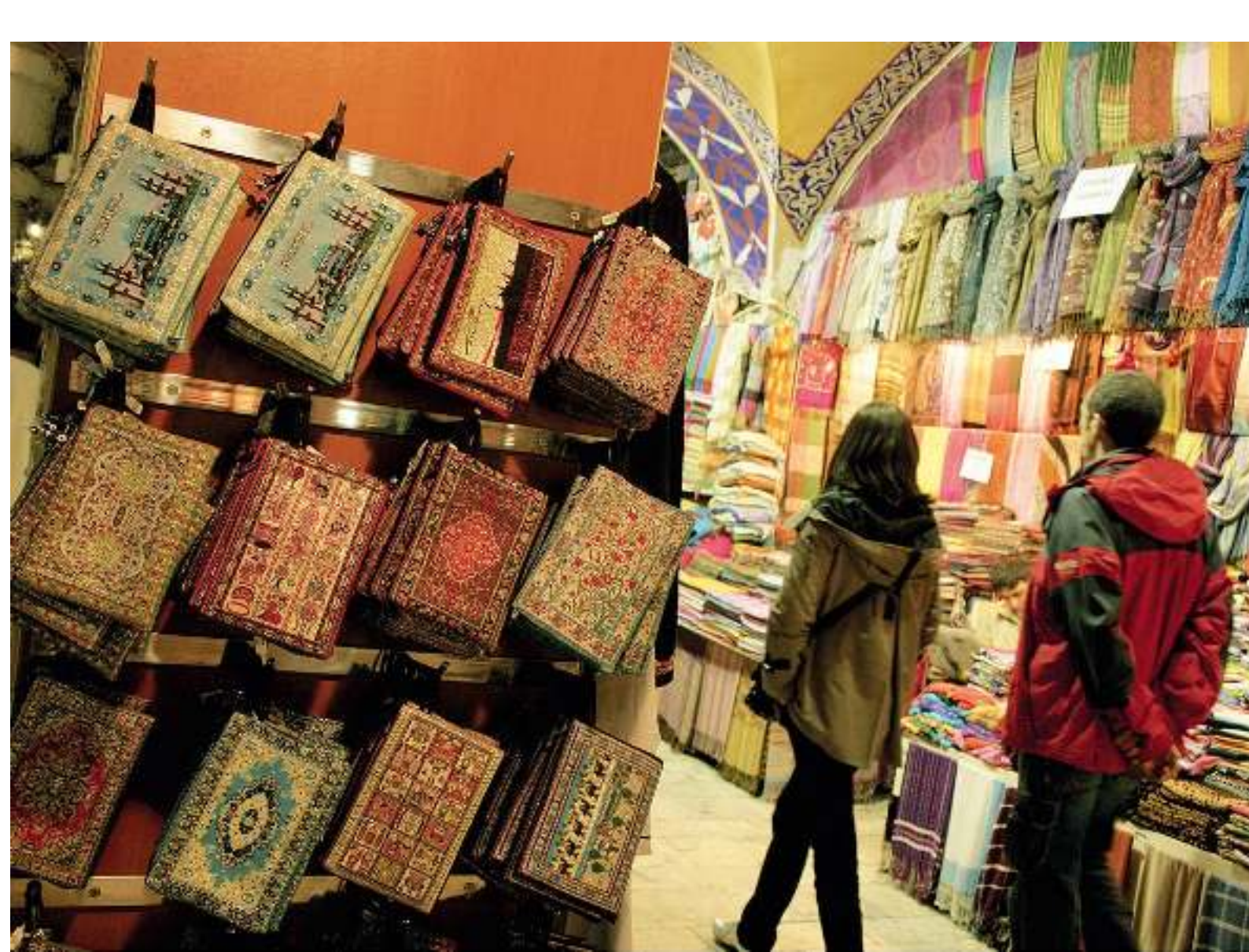
Rebecca Erol/Apa Publications



PAMPERING

Relax after a busy day of sightseeing with a long hot soak, a brisk rub down and an oil massage at Çemberlitaş Hamam ([route 1](#)).

Rebecca Erol/Apa Publications



SHOPAHOLICS

Haggle your heart out in the Grand Bazaar ([route 4](#)) or quietly browse the Arasta and Egyptian bazaars ([route 2](#) and [route 5](#)). Check out İstiklal Caddesi for high-street fashions or Çukurcuma for antiques (both [route 7](#)).

Rebecca Erol/Apa Publications



SPIRITUAL SUSTENANCE

Watch the Sufi mystics whirl away at the Galata Dervish Lodge ([route 6](#)), take refuge in the quiet Şehzade Mosque ([route 10](#)) or join the devout at the Muslim pilgrimage site of Eyüp ([route 13](#)).

Rebecca Erol/Apa Publications



VILLAGE LIFE

Experience another side of İstanbul life in the tranquil Bosphorus villages of Ortaköy ([route 8](#)), Arnavutköy and Rumeli Hisarı ([route 9](#)), or float past them on a boat trip along the Bosphorus ([route 15](#)).

Rebecca Erol/Apa Publications

sample content of Explore Istanbul: The best routes around the city

- [My Two Worlds online](#)
- [download *The Promethean Illusion: The Western Belief in Human Mastery of Nature* pdf, azw \(kindle\), epub](#)
- [read online Climbing Mount Laurel: The Struggle for Affordable Housing and Social Mobility in an American Suburb pdf, azw \(kindle\), epub](#)
- [read Just My Typo: From "Sinning with the Choir" to "the Untied States" pdf](#)
- **[download online Mutant Chronicles](#)**

- <http://www.satilik-kopek.com/library/My-Two-Worlds.pdf>
- <http://www.rap-wallpapers.com/?library/The-Promethean-Illusion--The-Western-Belief-in-Human-Mastery-of-Nature.pdf>
- <http://test1.batsinbelfries.com/ebooks/The-Cambridge-History-of-the-Cold-War--Volume-2.pdf>
- <http://www.freightunlocked.co.uk/lib/The-French-Kitchen-Cookbook--Recipes-and-Lessons-from-Paris-and-Provence.pdf>
- <http://aneventshop.com/ebooks/Narrative--Philosophy-and-Life--Boston-Studies-in-Philosophy--Religion-and-Public-Life--Volume-2-.pdf>