



MARSEC COE
WELCOME PACKAGE

Welcome to
MARITIME SECURITY CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

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MARITIME SECURITY CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Turkish National Defence University (NDU) Campus
Atatürk Wargaming and Convention Centre (AWCC) Compound
Yenilevent-Beşiktaş-İstanbul/Türkiye

Welcome to
MARITIME SECURITY CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE



Firstly, let me congratulate you on your assignment to Maritime Security Centre of Excellence. Sincerely hope that you and your family will enjoy your stay here in Türkiye.

Every member of MARSEC COE will be ready to give assistance whenever you needed. This welcome package will provide information that might be needed for your comfortable stay in Türkiye. You are also welcomed to ask for any kind of assistance.

I wish you prosperous time in Türkiye and look forward to your contribution to Maritime Security Centre of Excellence.

CAPT (TUR-N) Mehmet Cengiz EKREN
Director, MARSEC COE

About MARSEC COE

HISTORY

Maritime security requires multinational-interagency cooperation and can only be achieved through working together with national, regional and global maritime security organizations as well as civilian agencies. There are numerous national, regional and global maritime security related initiatives around the globe. UN, NATO, IMO, and EU are among these global maritime security stakeholders.

The idea of establishing a Maritime Security Centre of Excellence (MARSEC COE) stemmed from the coordination requirement among government, private sector, industry and academies in order to get a more secure maritime environment in our region. In accordance with NATO's smart defence approach, Türkiye decided to coordinate and unite the efforts in a centre of excellence acting as a hub for maritime related issues.

With this aim, on 12 November 2012, the "Multinational Maritime Security Centre of Excellence (MARSEC COE)" was officially inaugurated in Aksaz Naval Base-Marmaris-Muğla/Türkiye, under the command of Turkish Naval Forces Southern Task Group Command. This institution was established as an outcome from the "Smart Defence" initiative [] and aimed at Supporting Allies' security interests by working on "Maritime Security" in the surrounding seas. Due to its proximity to international airports, universities and maritime industry, the centre was relocated to Beylerbeyi-İstanbul/Türkiye in January 2017, and then in March 2018, moved to its present location at the Turkish National Defence University (NDU) Campus in the Atatürk Wargaming and Convention Centre (AWCC) Compound, Yenilevent-Beşiktaş-İstanbul/Türkiye along with Multinational Joint Warfare Centre (MJWC).

Through the way of becoming a NATO Accredited Centre of Excellence (COE); Türkiye, as a Framework Nation, after several coordination visits and meetings and also inputs of NATO Allied Command Transformation (ACT), Allied Maritime Command (MARCOM), Combined Joint Operations from the Sea Centre of Excellence (CJOS COE), and Centre of Excellence for Operations in Confined and Shallow Waters (COE CSW); conducted the 1st Establishment Conference on 04-07 February 2019, and the 2nd Establishment Conference on 6-9 May 2019, and have finalized MARSEC COE Concept together with Operational and Functional Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) with consensus of all participants. Greece and Romania declared their intentions as Sponsoring Nations for MARSEC COE, and MoU signing ceremony was held with the participation of Türkiye as the Framework Nation, the Sponsoring Nations, and NATO Allied Command Transformation (ACT) on 18 October 2019.

MARSEC COE 1st Steering Committee (SC) Meeting was conducted on 5-6 February 2020 with the participation of representatives from Türkiye, Greece, Romania as sponsoring Nations and, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Portugal, Qatar, Spain, and NATO ACT as observers at MARSEC COE in İstanbul. Later on, NATO ACT CPD representatives conducted MARSEC COE Accreditation Assessment Visit on 04-05 March 2020 at MARSEC COE. As of 8 June 2020, "Maritime Security Centre of Excellence (MARSEC COE)" has achieved the status of "International Military Organization" as the 26th centre of excellence accredited to NATO.

The agreements for Portugal's joining to MARSEC COE were signed in late December 2021. The Centre expanded in January 2022, welcoming Portugal as its 3rd Sponsoring Nation and 4th Member.

As of July 2022, the Centre gained the "NATO Unconditional Institutional Quality Assurance Accreditation" for the following 6 years, by successfully resulting evaluation of HQ Allied Command Transformation (ACT) QA Team of Experts.

MISSION

The mission of MARSEC COE is to expand the capabilities of NATO and Partner Nations by providing comprehensive, innovative and timely expertise in the field of Maritime Security Operations (MSO).

VISION

MARSEC COE is to become an internationally recognized focal point as well as comprehensive expertise and knowledge provider in the area of maritime security, thus expanding capabilities of NATO and Partner Nations.



About TÜRKİYE

National flag



Capital	Ankara
Language	Turkish
Total area	780.043 km ²
Population	85.279.553
National currency	TL (₺)
Local time	GMT + 3
International telephone code	+90

Geographical location

Southeastern Europe and Southwestern Asia (that portion of Türkiye west of the Istanbul Strait is geographically part of Europe), bordering the Black Sea, between Bulgaria and Georgia, and bordering the Aegean Sea and the Mediterranean Sea between Greece and Syria.

Neighbour countries

Greece, Bulgaria, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Syria, Iran, and Iraq

Independence

On October 29, 1923, the assembly declared Türkiye to be a republic and elected Mustafa Kemal ATATÜRK as its first and founder president.





1. HEALTH CARE IN TÜRKİYE

Firstly, it is advised to check your insurances coverage before your travel.

Türkiye has an excellent modern state healthcare system, funded by government through a national health insurance scheme.

Before leaving your country, it is important to check what health services will be available to you in Türkiye.

Healthcare systems vary from country to country and might not include some services that you would expect to get free of charge in Türkiye.

State health insurance system: like many other European countries Türkiye has put in place the compulsory health insurance system, which means that residents of Türkiye are obliged to obtain health insurance coverage (i.e. pay compulsory health insurance contributions). The State guarantees healthcare services provided by the Compulsory Health Insurance Fund.

You can benefit from private health insurance in Türkiye.

Here are some of the private health insurance companies:

www.anadolusigorta.com.tr/en

www.allianz.com.tr/en_GB.html

www.groupama.com.tr/homepage/



2. MONEY, BANKS & CREDIT CARDS

The unit of Turkish money is the Turkish Lira (Türk Lirası, TL or TRY). It's usually best to obtain your Turkish Liras in Türkiye rather than before you leave home, as the exchange rates outside Türkiye are usually not as good as those inside the country

Euros, Dollars, and Sterling can be easily changed into Turkish Lira at all banks, post offices (PTT), and change offices. There are legal exchange offices in all cities and almost any town. You can see the rates office offers on the (usually electronic) boards located somewhere near its gate. Banks also exchange money.

The majority of the banks have ATMs and there are a huge number of free-standing ones at strategic points. They operate in the same way as those throughout the USA and Europe. There is an option on most to choose the language and in some cases to choose Turkish Lira, Dollars, or Euros.

On your trip to Türkiye, you can use your major credit card to pay for most purchases; however, please note for example if you make a reservation and pay in advance online with a credit card for some travel services such as airline flights, car rentals, etc., you may be required to provide the exact same credit card at boarding time!

Visa and Mastercard are widely accepted, American Express much less so.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

If you plan to use your credit/debit card in Türkiye, please inform your bank on your intention before departure! Otherwise, it is very possible that your bank will block your account/ card for security reasons when you try to use it abroad! Unblocking your card, when abroad, may cost you lots of phone calls and troubles!



3. DRIVING REQUIREMENTS

In Türkiye, please drive on the RIGHT side of the road. It is compulsory to buckle up a seat belt front and rear (if fitted). It is compulsory to carry a driving license, car registration papers and insurance document. Third party insurance is compulsory. All foreign driving licenses are recognized; however, any license, which does not bear a photograph, must be supplemented by a document with a photo, preferably a passport.

For the toll roads and bridges, you should have a pre-filled speedy passage system (HGS) sticker on your car.

The Traffic Police must be called in the event of an accident where both parties could not come to an agreement; if there are injuries or death, Telephone: 155

Speed Limit

50 km/h – In towns and settlements

110 km/h - Two lane roads (outside of built-up areas)

120 km/h - Highways/motorways



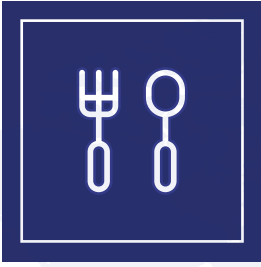
4. TURKISH LANGUAGE

Greetings:

Hello	-	Merhaba
Good Morning	-	Günaydın
Goodbye	-	Güle güle
See you	-	Görüşürüz

Niceties:

Welcome	-	Hoşgeldiniz
Thank you	-	Teşekkürler
Excuse me	-	Afedersiniz
Please	-	Lütfen



5. TRADITIONAL FOODS

A big part of experiencing a new culture is exploring the local cuisine. In the case of Türkiye, you cannot really go wrong when it comes to food; there is something for every taste.

Here are some examples;

- Mantı
- Lahmacun / Pide
- Menemen
- Dolma
- Kuru Fasulye
- Kumpir
- Balık-Ekmek
- Yoğurt
- Lokum
- Şiş Kebap
- Adana/Urfa Kebap
- Döner
- Yaprak Sarma
- Karnıyarık (Stuffed Eggplant)
- Börek
- İmambayıldı
- Baklava
- Turkish Coffee

For more information please check these pages:

<https://blog.topdeck.travel/15-foods-must-try-turkey/>

<https://traveltriangle.com/blog/turkish-foods/>

Emergency Numbers, Electricity, Resorts



Emergency numbers:

112 For all situations



Electricity:

The mains voltage for electricity is 220V and 50Hz
Central European type wall socket (two-pin plugs) is standard in Türkiye



Resorts:

Mediterranean Coastal Resorts:

Alanya, Belek, Side, Kemer, Kaş, Kalkan

South Aegean Coastal Resorts:

Göcek, Kuşadası, Fethiye, Marmaris, Bodrum, Datça, Didim, Dalyan, Akyaka

North Aegean Coastal Resorts:

Alaçatı, Dikili, Asos, Foça, Ayvalık, Çeşme, Bozcaada, Gökçeada

Black Sea Coastal Resorts:

Amasra, Akçakoca

Climate, Foreign Embassies & Consulates



Climate:

The climate in Türkiye varies according to the region. Generally, the country's climate is moderate in İstanbul and around the Sea of Marmara the climate is moderate. The average temperature in winter is 6°C and in summer 23°C.

In Western Türkiye there is a mild Mediterranean climate with average temperatures of 9°C in winter and 27°C in summer.

The climate of the Anatolia is a steppe climate (there is a great temperature difference between day and night). Rainfall is low but in winter, there is more snow. The average temperature is 23°C in summer and -2 in winter.

The climate in the Black Sea area is wet, warm and humid (summer 23, winter 7).

In Eastern and South-Eastern Anatolia there is a long hard winter and sometimes the snow falls from November until the end of April (the average temperature in winter is -13 and in summer 17°C).



Foreign Embassies and Consulates:

<https://www.allaboutturkey.com/consulate.html>

About İSTANBUL



1. TEMPORARY RESIDENCE

MARSEC COE is located at Yenilevent-Beşiktaş/İstanbul in the Turkish National Defence University (NDU) Compound. The closest airport is Istanbul Airport (IST). To be able to reach to MARSEC COE, firstly, get on the airport shuttle service HAVAİST to Taksim. After arriving to Taksim, you may reach to MARSEC COE by using taxi or metro (M2) station 4th Levent.

It is advisable to start searching for a temporary residence before you come to Türkiye. First of all, you need to decide what kind of living place you would like (house or flat/apartment/hotel).

If you do not want to get stuck in traffic jams in the morning/evening, it would be useful to rent the flat/apartment near to the working place (Levent, 4th Levent, Kağıthane, Maslak, Şişli districts would be suitable.)

You can find hotels suited for any budget anywhere in İstanbul.

We suggest Kalender Military Officer's Club for short period of accommodation, if so please let us know beforehand so we can check for availability and make reservations.

Here are main rental search engines:

www.sahibinden.com/category/en/real-estate-residential

www.hurriyetemlak.com

www.trivago.com.tr



2. PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM

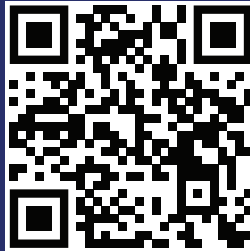
Istanbul stretches over 5,000 km² and it is one of the most congested cities in the world, therefore moving is not always easy. You can check the Istanbul map shown below.

www.metro.istanbul/en

Transportation is available in many ways (subway, tramway, Marmaray, buses, metrobus, boats) in Istanbul. All you will need an Istanbul kart for fees. Also sometimes, you have to switch your current means of transport. Therefore, we suggest checking online resources and applications. (Ex: Yandex, Moovit...)

In addition, Metro İstanbul is providing 24 hours service at weekends and public holidays as of August 30th. (Friday nights, Saturday nights and the nights before public holidays with 20 minutes headway.)

You can download the network map in your mobile devices via the QR code.





3. HOSPITALS, CLINICS, PHARMACIES

There are different kinds of clinics in İstanbul: hospitals, polyclinics and small family/medical centres.

During your term here in National Defence University, you can benefit from our polyclinic. In case of emergencies, polyclinics services are free of charge.

A polyclinic is a clinic that provides a variety of services and provides both general and specialist examinations. It is very comfortable because all the specialists are under one roof however, there may be some language obstacles as not all the receptionists and doctors speak and understand English.

In the vicinity of National Defence University, these are examples of several large public hospitals in İstanbul:

- o **Kağıthane Devlet Hastanesi** (+90 212 280 22 22)
- o **Beşiktaş Sait Çiftçi Devlet Hastanesi** (+90 212 381 67 00)
- o **Şişli Hamidiye Etfal Eğitim ve Araştırma Hastanesi** (+90 212 373 50 00)

In addition, you can use and private/semi private medical or family centres. Some of these centres have visiting specialist (oculist, etc.). Most of the staff in these private institutions usually speak English.

There is a list of different kinds of medical centres in İstanbul.

- o **Gayrettepe Florence Nightingale Hospital** (+90 212 288 34 00)
- o **Levent Private Hospital** (+90 212 279 38 94)
- o **Bayındır Levent Tıp Merkezi** (+90 212 279 60 60)
- o **İstanbul Florence Nightingale Hospital** (+90 212 375 65 65)
- o **Memorial Şişli Hospital** (+90 212 314 66 66)

If you do not have any health insurance, you might have to pay for a medical examination, treatment or other services in Türkiye. The invoice for these services should be submit to the national health insurance provider for covering expenses.

For a temporary or continuous residence, you should have health insurance before/after you come to Türkiye.

You can find any pharmacies in intersections, avenues and near the hospitals. They are open until 7:00 p.m. After that, you have to go night pharmacies.

You can check night pharmacies list from there:

<https://www.istanbuleczaciodasi.org.tr/nobetci-eczane/>



4. CAR RENTAL

Some of the biggest car rental companies listed below:

- www.dailydrive.com.tr
- www.rentalcars.com
- www.kayak.co.uk
- www.enterprise.com.tr



5. CAR INSURANCE COMPANIES

Some of the biggest car insurance companies listed below:

- www.dogasigorta.com/en
- www.anadolusigorta.com.tr/en/
- www.aksigorta.com.tr/en



6. CAR PARKING SYSTEM

Istanbul has a lot of parking options. You can use ISPARK, which are common in highly populated areas with few parking places. There are multi-storey car parks with proper entry and exit systems with tickets. Due to lack of space in nearly all of these, they expect you to leave your keys and many people in Istanbul do so. Valet parking is also very common, many restaurants and bars park your car for you in more modern parts of the city for a fee, and even small establishments do that.

The modern malls all have excellent parking lots underground. In residential areas, people just park their cars on the street.



7. CULTUREL LIFE AND ENTARTAINMENT

There are a lot of leisure activities you can do in Istanbul. Please check below to find plenty of sources for additional information about how you can spend a good time in Istanbul by following the links of your interest below:

<https://theistanbulinsider.com/top-15-things-to-do-in-istanbul/>

<https://www.timeout.com/istanbul>

<https://www.tooistanbul.com/en/home/>

<https://www.istanbul.net.tr/etkinlik>



8. SHOPPING

İstanbul has everything for every budget and style. From popular outdoor markets, bazaars, carpet & kilim workshops, copper working shops, antique and handicraft shops, to designer shops, traditional shops, modern department stores and very big shopping centres; shopping is one of the best things to do in Istanbul. Such as:

The Grand Bazaar (Kapalı Çarşı)

The Grand Bazaar (Kapalı Çarşı)

Taksim and around

Shopping Centre and Malls:

Sapphire

Metrocity

Kanyon

Özdilek

Hilltown

Forum İstanbul

Mall of İstanbul

Emaar Square

Marmara Forum

İstanbul Cevahir

GalataPort

The value added tax (here in after – VAT) and the excise duty exemption is granted in the way of refunding the paid taxes. For more information, please check VAT regulations.



9. MUST-HAVE APPS ON YOUR PHONE

In order to make your daily life easier, we suggest installing the following apps to your mobile phone:



Google Map
(Map application)



Metro
(Metro Stations)



YemekSepeti

YemekSepeti
(Food order app)



Bitaksi
(Taksi application)



ispark
(Parking application)



Glovo
(On-demand courier service app)



Trafi
(Traffic checking, stations i.e.)



iBB CepTrafik
(Traffic checking application)



Sahibinden
(Online classifieds & shopping app)

ABOUT NATIONAL DEFENCE UNIVERSITY



1. BEFORE STARTING YOUR DEPLOYMENT

Before you start the duty at MARSEC COE make sure that you have:

- ✓ A valid passport/ ID card;
- ✓ A valid security clearance;
- ✓ Health insurance for health care for you (see chapter 1. Health care in Türkiye)



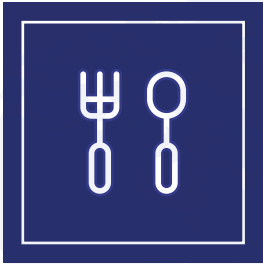
2. CAMPUS LIFE

National Defence University (NDU) Management; provides accommodation services with a capacity of 140 apart rooms, 12 VIP rooms, 221 beds. Also food and cafeteria services are available with a seating capacity of 714.

Furthermore, sports services are provided with grass and artificial pitch, indoor swimming pool, sauna, in multi-purpose gym. (Basketball, volleyball, table tennis etc.)

Also canteen, dispensary and child care centre are located at Recreational facilities area.

People who can benefit from our facilities include recent students who study in NDU and their families, visiting military personnel and their families, permanent staff officers, non-commissioned officers, specialist sergeants, civilian officials and personnel who holds a TAF ID and their families. We are very pleased to serve you and wish to hear your feedback.



3. FOOD SERVICES

NDU Dormitory Diner & Cafeteria

Self-service food with a rich home cooking menu is provided at NDU Dormitory Diner with a seating capacity of 144.

NDU Patisserie and Fast Food Hall

Also at the cafeteria section, pastry service with a capacity of 43 people inside for winter and 56 people outside for summer is provided. tea and fast food services are also available.

NDU Mess and Cafeteria

In NDU Mess section, a la carte food, a wide range of kebab and barbecue and bar services are provided at nights with a seating capacity of 232.

Pide Restaurant

With a seating capacity of 16 in winter and 24 in summer, food services are provided with a wide range of pide menu.

MJWC Dining Hall

Self-service food is available with a home cooking menu in education period with a seating capacity of 200.





4. SPORTS FACILITIES



Multi-Purpose Gym

The Gym provides service with its Volleyball and Basketball Court, Fitness Centre, Table Tennis, Pilates Hall, Sauna and tennis courts.



Swimming Pool

Provides service every day except Monday with a 25m length 17m width and 1.90m depth, semi olympic swimming pool.



Football Pitches

Provides service with 1 grass and 2 artificial pitches.



Walking and Running Trail

Provides service with a 400m walking and running trail.



5. OTHER FACILITIES



Barber

At NDU military mess barbershop is open for service every weekday. Also, the barbershop located in the shift dormitory area with a capacity of 1, provides service.



Hairdresser

Hairdresser at the NDU Dormitory's entry is open every day except national holidays. Total of 62 different services are available including hair trimming, wax, hair dye, manicure, pedicure.



Tailor

Tailor, located at Org. Nahit ŞENOĞUL Dormitory, provides service for personnel and their families.



Laundry and Ironing Services

Washing and ironing of our guests' clothes are available for a fee every day except Sunday, and payment should be made to receptionist at the Dormitory.



Dry Cleaner

Our guests can give their clothes to laundry room or dry cleaning firm located at the Dormitory area. Dry cleaning service is provided on Wednesdays and Saturdays



HGS HIGHWAY TRANSIT SYSTEM

Our guests have to pass the pre-paid HGS tolls with their personal vehicles when using the highway and toll road. You can buy a HGS tickets from PTT and contracted bank branches.



ABOUT ATATÜRK WARGAMING AND CONVENTION CENTRE (AWCC) & MULTINATIONAL JOINT WARFARE CENTRE (MJWC)

Our centre is at the same campus with National Defence University in Yenilevent, Istanbul. We are also collocated with Multinational Joint Warfare Centre. It is easily accessible by bus and subway from the airport, since it is located in the main routes in Istanbul. That building is the Multinational Joint Warfare Centre where MARSEC COE is located its first floor. The centre is comprised of six floors, which is almost equal to the size of six football fields. The centre consists of three main blocks, which are:

- The convention block;
- The war gaming block and
- The VIP meeting block.



2nd Wargaming Floor

Exercise Control Floor

1st Wargaming Floor

Ground Floor

Basement Floor



M A R S E C C O E
ENJOY YOUR STAY IN TÜRKİYE!

MARSEC COE
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