

# Condé Nast Traveller

THE WORLD MADE LOCAL

NOVEMBER 2023

*Far, far away*

FINDING EPIC SOLITUDE IN  
INDONESIA'S KOMODO NATIONAL PARK,  
UNTOUCHED SOCOTRA AND BEYOND



THE  
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AWARDS 2023

YOUR WINNING HOTELS ★ COUNTRIES ★ ISLANDS ★ SPAS ★ RESORTS  
★ TOUR OPERATORS ★ AIRLINES ★ CITIES ★ TRAINS

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STYLE FILE



Top row, from left: Süleymaniye Mosque; jewellery at Begüm Khan; Rüstem Pasha Mosque; Fey clothing store. Bottom row, from left: dishes in Nackiyé's Legends collection; Haremlique pillowcases; café in Karaköy district



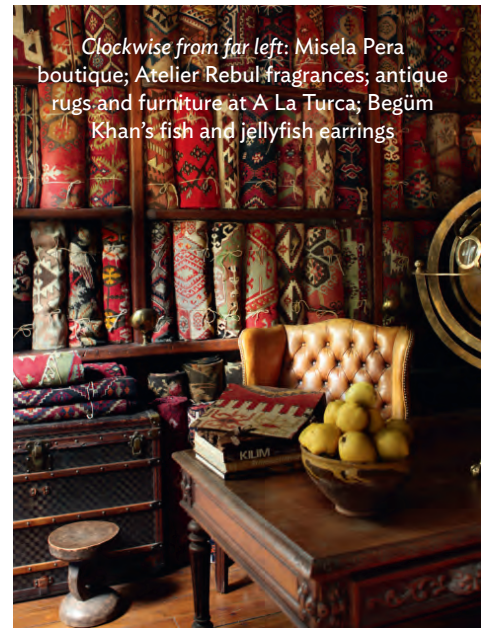
SHOPPING IN

# ISTANBUL

FROM VINTAGE NEONS TO JELLYFISH EARRINGS AND BESPOKE SCENTS, THE TURKISH METROPOLIS IS ALIVE WITH SURPRISE FINDS. BY SEVIL DELIN



## STYLE FILE



Clockwise from far left: Misela Pera boutique; Atelier Rebul fragrances; antique rugs and furniture at A La Turca; Begüm Khan's fish and jellyfish earrings

### STATEMENT DRESSING

Sisters Defne and Başak Kocabıyıkoglu are the cofounders of **Nackiyé**, a womenswear store in the style-forward Beşiktaş district, named after their great-grandmother and with a focus on wearable statement pieces. They mix and match prints and silhouettes, including roomy Patmos trousers, their shape inspired by harem pants, and pleated strapless tops in wallpaper-print jacquard. Dresses can be cinched at the waist or left to billow, worn over trousers or matching long-sleeved tops. The sisters' signature style is undone, with pieces bearing visible stitching or unfinished hems. Up the hill in high-style Nişantaşı is **Fey**, a basement store with racks dedicated to chic, made-in-Istanbul collections. Visitors can find classic button-down shirts, watercolour-printed A-line skirts, and asymmetrical peacoats. The shop was founded by designer Fatoş Yalın, former fashion director of Turkish *Marie Claire*, and is the only place to buy her engineered ballet flats and one-off raffia skirts. It also offers a curated selection of mid-century jewellery. Upstairs is a line of furnishings and menswear from Yalın's husband's brand, Arkun. [nackiye.com.tr](http://nackiye.com.tr); [fey.com.tr](http://fey.com.tr)

### CURIOSITY SHOP

Set on a curved cobblestone lane in arty Çukurcuma, antique crafts store **A La Turca** occupies a four-storey, late-19th-century house that was bought and restored by Erkal Aksoy in the mid-1990s. The bulk of his collection is Anatolian kilims (flat-woven Turkish carpets), with more than 100 wrapped up in bales and tied with twine, but the place is filled to the rafters with glazed pots, brass-pedestalled

globes and quirky tableware too. The basement is stocked with ceramic urns of all shapes, sizes and colours, and has a small garden. Upstairs, customers are welcomed into a cosy sitting room setup with vintage leather sofas, and the top floor features – among more kilims – a selection of time- and globe-spanning oil paintings. [alaturcahouse.com](http://alaturcahouse.com)

### BAGS OF COLOUR

In historic Beyoğlu, **Misela's** handbags fuse fresh contemporary styling with traditional Turkish methods. At the centre of the store is a round table covered in colourful clutches, and a large painting emblazoned with its logo: the *çintemani*, an ancient Turkish symbol made of three circles that represents abundance, among other things. Highlights include sunlounger-stripe fabric box clutches, pastel top-handle bags with contrast fastenings, and embossed bucket bags with bright tassels. Individuality and personalisation is at the heart of the brand: the signature Anatolia bag can be custom-made in 12 different shades, with more than 80 possible stitching colours and the option of monogramming. [misela.com](http://misela.com)

### MAKING SCENTS

Istanbul's Karaköy shoreline has been on the up for years, driven by **Galataport**, a massive subterranean cruise terminal complex. The vast space above ground is home to the Renzo Piano-designed Istanbul Modern museum and a former post office that now hosts some of Turkey's buzziest fashion labels, including Arzu Kaprol and Mehtap Elaidi. A must-visit is **Atelier Rebul**, one of the country's most beloved beauty brands, which was founded during Ottoman times in 1895.

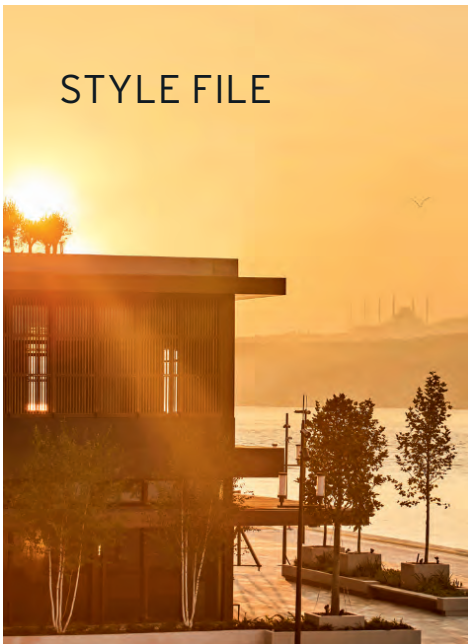


The store is designed to resemble an old-world apothecary, with vintage bottled fragrances and a pharmacist mixing bespoke scents. [galataport.com](http://galataport.com); [atelierrebul.si](http://atelierrebul.si)

### WILD INSPIRATION

Acid-green paint and a flashing neon flying scarab signal entry into the world of jeweller Begüm Kıroğlu. Her flagship boutique, **Begüm Khan** in Nişantaşı, is an ode to her unconventional botanical and animal influences. The larger room of the store contains exhibit-style cases, displaying dramatic pieces shaped like tropical frogs, snakes and insects, as well as Far Eastern flowers such as orchids and lotuses. There is also an extensive collection of evil-eye jewellery, oversized pharaoh cuffs and maximalist earrings in praying mantis, jellyfish and shell designs. [begumkhan.com](http://begumkhan.com)

## STYLE FILE



### PRE-LOVED PIECES

Aslı Atamer turned her Istanbul family villa in the leafy northern neighbourhood of Zekeriyaköy into **House of Junk**: a revolving door of eccentric accessories, vintage finds and homeware she scooped up on her travels. Upstairs is still kept as private bedrooms, so the shopping happens in the open-plan living room, where mid-century credenzas are strewn with straw hats, palm-tree lamps and quirky candlesticks, and brass hat stands hold blazers and flapper dresses encrusted with beads. One day there might be a velvet egg chair, another a painted totem pole, and the basement is jam-packed with neon signs, vintage slippers, antique toys and medical mannequins. [@house\\_of\\_junk](#)



Top row, from left: Galataport; designer Begüm Kiroğlu. Middle row, from left: House of Junk; Misela's collaboration with artist Işık Güner. Bottom row, from left: clothing at Fey; The Peninsula Istanbul's afternoon tea

### GLOBE-SPANNING FRAGRANCES

Mert Güzel and Murat Katran, founders of **Nishane**, don't believe in boundaries. Their unisex perfumes seek to bridge divides, with popular fragrances including the Armenian-made Ani and Ege (meaning Aegean), which has packaging that features its name printed in both Turkish and Greek. Many of the brand's spellbinding, highly concentrated scents refer to Anatolian culture, including Hacivat and Karagöz, named after traditional shadow puppets, and Hundred Silent Ways, a quotation from Rumi. The sleek store on Ahmet Fetgari also stocks the Home Collection: eight fragrances inspired by different global cultures. [nishane.com](#)

### HOMEWARE HAVENS

**Dank!** is a trove of modern and retro home furnishings displayed in a jumble of tiny pseudo-living-spaces. It's an alternative to a certain Swedish brand, describing itself as a protest against the frenzy of consumption, and invites visitors to sell their unwanted items on consignment. The hangar-like store is filled with second-hand designer furniture as well as new items from closing-down sales. There's a vast array of geometric Turkish carpets and kilims, plus smaller home accessories such as vases, glassware and a sought-after selection of vintage lamps. For finishing touches to a Dank! room, **Haremlique** sells the city's best-quality Turkish-made bed linens at the Zincirlikuyu area's Zorlu shopping centre. Prints are named after districts of Istanbul, or feature Aegean and Ottoman-inspired patterns. There are also embroidered napkins, and robes and kaftans from the capsule line Haremlique A La Mer. [dank-design.com](#), [haremlique.com](#)

