**GEOGRAPHY – TURKEY**

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**Turkey** occupies a unique geographic position, lying partly in [Asia](https://www.britannica.com/place/Asia-ancient-Roman-province) and partly in [Europe](https://www.britannica.com/place/Europe). Throughout its history it has acted as both a barrier and a bridge between the two continents.

Turkey is situated at the crossroads of the [Balkans](https://www.britannica.com/place/Balkans), [Caucasus](https://www.britannica.com/place/Caucasus), [Middle East](https://www.britannica.com/place/Middle-East), and eastern [Mediterranean](https://www.britannica.com/place/Mediterranean-Sea).

Borders: Turkey is bounded on the north by the [Black Sea](https://www.britannica.com/place/Black-Sea), on the northeast by [Georgia](https://www.britannica.com/place/Georgia) and [Armenia](https://www.britannica.com/place/Armenia), on the east by [Azerbaijan](https://www.britannica.com/place/Azerbaijan) and [Iran](https://www.britannica.com/place/Iran), on the southeast by [Iraq](https://www.britannica.com/place/Iraq) and [Syria](https://www.britannica.com/place/Syria), on the southwest and west by the [Mediterranean Sea](https://www.britannica.com/place/Mediterranean-Sea) and the [Aegean Sea](https://www.britannica.com/place/Aegean-Sea), and on the northwest by [Greece](https://www.britannica.com/place/Greece)and [Bulgaria](https://www.britannica.com/place/Bulgaria).

Turkish straits:  the [Bosporus](https://www.britannica.com/place/Bosporus), the [Sea of Marmara](https://www.britannica.com/place/Sea-of-Marmara), and the [Dardanelles](https://www.britannica.com/place/Dardanelles). They link the Black and Aegean seas.

Capital: The capital is [Ankara](https://www.britannica.com/place/Ankara), and its largest city and seaport is [Istanbul](https://www.britannica.com/place/Istanbul).

Form of government:  [parliamentary democracy](https://www.britannica.com/topic/parliamentary-democracy).

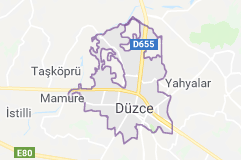
Mountains: Turkey’s highest mountain is [Mount Ararat](https://www.britannica.com/place/Mount-Ararat) (5,165 metres); in the southeast there is the Uludoruk Peak (4,744 metres); in the west, the Demirkazık Peak (3,755 metres) and Mount Aydos (3,479 metres).

Rivers**:**  [Aras River](https://www.britannica.com/place/Aras-River) (400 km), Euphrates (1,250 km) and [Tigris rivers](https://www.britannica.com/place/Tigris-River) (530 km).

Lakes: Turkey has about 50 lakes; saline lakes: [Lake Van](https://www.britannica.com/place/Lake-Van), Tuz; freshwater lakes: Lakes Akşehir, Eğridir, Beyşehir and Lake İznik.

Climate: The coastal areas of Turkey have a temperate Mediterranean climate, with hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters.

The coastal areas of Turkey have a temperate Oceanic climate with warm, wet summers and cold, wet winters.

**Duzce is the city of our Turkish friends.**

