

Where East Meets West: Istanbul



1) Discussion

- a) What comes to mind when you think of Turkish football?
- b) Are there any intense rivalries in your country? Is there ever any trouble at the matches?
- c) What's your favourite city to visit?

2) Vocabulary

a) Match the vocabulary to the definition.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1) To Echo (verb) | a) A sports match between two local teams, often with a long-standing rivalry. |
| 2) Derby (noun) | b) An impressive and eye-catching display or performance that attracts attention. |
| 3) Coastline (noun) | c) . To think the same about an idea or event. |
| 4) Vibrant (adjective) | d) Full of life, energy, and bright colors; lively and dynamic. |
| 5) Spectacle (noun) | e) The boundary or outline where the land meets the sea or ocean |



b) Complete the sentences with the vocabulary from exercise 2a.

- 1) The energy of the team _____ that of the manager.
- 2) The match brought lots of excitement to the city, and the fans were very _____, filling up the cafes and cheering loudly.
- 3) The local _____ between two teams with a big rivalry got lots of people to come and cheer for their favourite team.
- 4) The Cape Town Stadium is one of the most amazing in the world, it's right on the _____.
- 5) The final of the Champions League should be an amazing _____, with two great attacking teams.



3) Quick Read - Read the article quickly and answer the question.

a) What makes football in Istanbul so special?

City of the World's Desire

Football is a huge part of life in Istanbul, where three major teams – Galatasaray, Fenerbahçe, and Besiktas – capture the city's heart.

Galatasaray, situated on the European side, plays at Türk Telekom Stadium. The fans, known as the "*Aslanlar*" or Lions, bring a lively spirit to the heart of Istanbul. The atmosphere at the stadium is electric, especially during important matches, with the passionate cheers of the Aslanlar echoing through the city.

On the Asian side is Fenerbahçe, and their home is Şükrü Saracoğlu Stadium. Fans, the "*Sarı Kanaryalar*" or Yellow Canaries, paint the Kadıköy coastline with their vibrant support. The Istanbul derby between Fenerbahçe and Galatasaray is a big event, filling the city with excitement and rivalry. The love for football is evident in every corner of Istanbul, especially when these two giants clash.

Besiktas completes the trio, playing on the European side at Vodafone Park in Beşiktaş. The "*Kara Kartallar*" or Black Eagles, as their fans are known, create a buzzing atmosphere. Besiktas adds its unique flavour to the city's football culture, contributing to the vibrant mix of the Istanbul football scene. The rivalry with Galatasaray and Fenerbahçe adds extra spice to the matches, making every match a spectacle that fans get excited about.

In conclusion, Istanbul's football culture is defined by the passionate support for Galatasaray, Fenerbahçe, and Besiktas. Whether you're on the European or Asian side of the city, the love for the game unites the people, making football an important part of Istanbul's identity and daily life.



4) Discussion

- a) What do you think about the rivalry between the teams in Istanbul?
- b) Do you have a favourite club from Istanbul? Can you think of any players that have played for them?
- c) Would you like to visit Istanbul? Why or Why not?

