

BUSINESS TRAVELLER

Reading

Read this article adapted from the *Financial Times* and answer the questions on the next page.

FT

Istanbul guide: from the bazaar to the Bosphorus

by Andrew Finkel

1 Where to stay

If you are in Istanbul for sightseeing, then you could stay in Sultanahmet or find a small hotel away from the tourist areas.

However, this may not be the best option for the business traveller with a morning appointment on the far side of town. Traffic and distance can be a problem for those on a busy schedule. The challenge is to get the work done, but also find time to discover what makes Istanbul unique.

Many of the city's five-star hotels enjoy a view where you can see lights on the Bosphorus and passing ships.

2

A visit to the grand bazaar can feel exotic. An afternoon at Hagia Sophia, once a Byzantine church, then a mosque and now a museum, is recommended.

But some of the best sightseeing in Istanbul is done with a knife and fork.

3

There are a large number of restaurants along the river. A Bosphorus meal is a great Istanbul tradition. A meal can include a cold *meze*, then a hot *hors d'œuvre*, followed by a perfectly cooked piece of fresh fish.

4

Try to arrange your flights to avoid the rush hour, which in the evening can last until 9 p.m.

There is a metro line that takes 40 minutes from the European airport. But the last stop is not in the most convenient part of the old city, and the chances are that you will have to continue your journey by taxi.

Cabs from the airport are strictly controlled. All cabs in the city run on a meter and are reasonably priced.

If you can reach your destination by ferry, it is the best way to see the city, and the boats run on time.

1 Match these headings (a-d) to the parts of the text (1-4).

- a) How to travel around the city_____
- b) What to see_____
- c) Where to eat_____
- d) Where to stay ___1_____

2 Find these things in the article.

- a) two religious buildings: church, mosque
- b) two things you use to eat food: k_____, f____
- c) two words for a car that you pay to take you somewhere: t____, c____
- d) two words for transport on water: f____, b____

3 Decide whether these statements are true (T) or false (F).

- a) Istanbul only has large hotels. _____
- b) The traffic in the city is bad sometimes. _____
- c) Some of the expensive hotels have views of the river. _____
- d) There are no restaurants near the river. _____
- e) It's possible to take the metro to the airport. _____
- f)) Taxis in Istanbul are very expensive. _____
- g) Travelling on the river is a good way to see Istanbul. _____