

DID YOU KNOW THAT



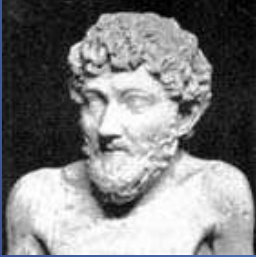
The only city in the world located on two continents is **Istanbul**, which has been the **capital of three great empires, Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman** for more than 2,000 years.



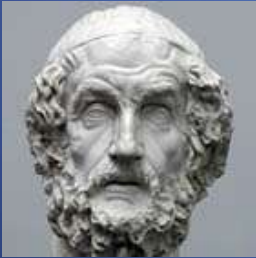
St Nicolas - the original Santa Claus - was born in **Patara** in Turkey and has a church dedicated to him in **Demre**.



Leonardo da Vinci drew designs for a bridge over the Golden Horn, an inlet at mouth of the Bosphorus, that was never built.



Aesop - famous for his fables and parables - was born in **Anatolia**.



Homer (Homerus) was born in **Izmir** on the west coast of Turkey and he depicted **Troy**, which is north of Izmir, in his Epic the Iliad.



Alexander the Great conquered a large territory in what is now Turkey and cut the **Gordian Knot** in the Phrygian capital (Gordium) not far from Turkey's present-day capital (Ankara).



The world's **oldest known settlement** is in **Çatalhoyuk** in central Anatolia, Turkey, and dates back to 8000 BC.



The **Virgin Mary** spent her last days in Selcuk, Izmir, near the **ancient city of Ephesus**.



Julius Caesar proclaimed his celebrated words "Veni. Vedi, Veci" (I came I saw, I conquered) in Turkey when he defeated Pontus, a formidable Kingdom in the **Black Sea Region of Turkey**.



The **first known University** in history is in **Harran**, Southeast Turkey.



The famous **Trojan Wars** took place in **western Turkey**, around the site where a wooden model of the Trojan Horse has been erected at the site.



One of the seven wonders of the ancient world, The Temple of Artemis at **Ephesus** (today only base ruins remains in Selcuk, Izmir)

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One of the **seven wonders of the ancient world**, The **Mausoleum at Halicarnassus** today only base ruins remains in **Bodrum**, Mugla



According to the Legend of Great Flood, after the withdrawal of the waters, **Noah's Ark** landed on **Mount Aḡrı** in eastern **Anatolia**.



One of the **first most accurate world maps** were drawn by the well-known Turkish cartographer and navigator **Piri Reis** in 16th century.



The **Seven Churches** referred in the **Book of Revelation** are all found in Turkey: **Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea**.



The **first man ever to fly** was Turkish. Using two wings, Hezarfen Ahmet Celebi flew from the Galata Tower over the Bosphorus to land in Uskudar in the 17th century.



The **oldest known shipwreck** in the world was excavated in Kas. The shipwreck is on display now in **Bodrum Underwater Archaeology Museum**.



The **first coins** ever minted were done so at **Sardis**, near **Izmir**, the capital of the ancient Kingdom of Lycia, at the end of the seventh century B.C.



Anatolia is the **birthplace** of many historical figures such as the Phrygian **King Midas**, the father of history **Herodotus** and **St Paul**.



Tulip originated on the Asian steppes. The Turks first gave the Dutch their famous tulips that started the craze for the flower in England and the Netherlands. There is a period of elegance and amusement in 18th century is named "The Tulip Age" in Ottoman Empire.



The most valuable silk carpet in the world is in the Mevlana Museum in Konya. **Marco Polo's** journeys in the 13th centuries took him here, and he remarked that the "best and handsomest of rugs" were to be found in Turkey.



Gobekli Tepe Şanlıurfa is the **oldest human-made place of worship** yet discovered. Dated to 7500 - 6000 BC.



The word "turquoise" derives from the French word for Turkish (*Turquois*), the beautiful colour of waters of the Mediterranean Sea on the southern Turkish coast.