



HRANT DINK VAKERI
HRANT DINK FOUNDATION
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CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN
FOUNDATION

KarDes: Multicultural Memory Tour Guide has been developed by the Hrant Dink Foundation with the support of Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.



MULTICULTURAL MEMORY TOUR GUIDE

KAR DES



You can download and use KarDes for free.

What is KarDes?

KarDes is a mobile application in Turkish and English designed as a personal tour guide for users who wish to discover the multicultural legacy and multilayered fabric of Turkey. The KarDes app allows its user to discover the locations and histories of more than 1000 multicultural buildings in Turkey, to take memory tours, to listen to the stories of people who have lived in the districts the user walks through and to see old photographs of various neighborhoods and sites. Shedding light on communal memory, it helps to share cities' pluralistic stories. With KarDes, users can discover the cultural inventory of more than 1000 sites such as mosques, synagogues, churches, schools, hospitals, and cemeteries. By taking the memory tours that render cultural heritage visible, users can listen to the hidden stories of cities as narrated by well-known artists.

Discover Istanbul and Ankara

Although the sites we use, the buildings we pass by and the streets we walk down every day are all parts of rich stories, these stories usually lose that richness as they are forced into the shadow of standardized official narratives. KarDes brings its users together with more than 1000 cultural heritage sites to unearth the invisible wealth of Istanbul and Ankara. The 'Discover' feature on the application helps users access the locations, historical photographs, construction dates and in some cases, brief information about the cultural sites that they may encounter every day, unawares, along with a comprehensive inventory of the cultural heritage of Istanbul and Ankara.

Memory tours

KarDes, which aims to make visible unknown sites in well-known neighborhoods and allows their stories to be told, offers memory tours, each lasting an average of two hours and reveals the multicultural pasts of various areas. Users can access the alternative history narratives of the cities with neighborhood tours and thematic tours consisting of selected stops on specific topics. 'Loves of Istanbul Tour' prepared for Valentine's Day; 'Beyoğlu Theater Tour' and 'Direklerarası Theater Tour' prepared for the 24th Istanbul Theater Festival; and 'Stories of Istanbul's Multicultural Women Tour' prepared for International Women's Day are available on KarDes. Prepared through detailed research and consisting of nine to fifteen stops within walking distance to one another, the texts of the tours have been narrated by Ahmet Mümtaz Taylan, Ayla Jean Yackley, Banu Güven, Berge Arabian, Berkay Ateş, Ceylan Ertem, Cüneyt Yalaz, Ece Dizdar, Ercan Kesal, Eric Nazarian, Esin Alpogan, Gülçin Kültür Şahin, Hayko Cepkin, Kev Orkian, Lale Mansur, Mahir Günşiray, Nazan Kesal, Nejat İşler, Naz Göktan, Nur Sürer, Onur Ünsal, Philip Arditti, Sarp Aydınoglu, Serra Yılmaz, Shakeh Major Tchilingirian, Simon Johns, Songül Öden, Tilbe Saran, Tuğrul Tülek, Tülin Özen, Yekta Kopan and Yetkin Dikinciler.

Neighborhood stories

Aiming to make visible the urban and social memory which has been on the verge of extinction, KarDes offers excerpts from neighborhood talks and oral history interviews, providing the opportunity for users to listen to the stories of these neighborhoods and their transformations from the voices of residents. With around 60 oral history interviews, KarDes presents the stories of sites in various neighborhoods through a dynamic narrative. Continually updated with new tours, KarDes lets you discover places like Yorgo's Rose Garden, the Skating Palace, the Bulgar's Meyhane, Atamyan Theater, Apoyevmatini Newspaper, the Kurd's Tavern, Topalyans' Store, Saint Clement Church; and hear the stories of Knar Svajian, Hayim Albukrek, Aliye Berger, Zaruhi Kavaljian, Sappho Leondias, and Eftalya the Mermaid.

