



A large redevelopment project for the Fener-Balat region of Istanbul is planned by the municipality and will demolish over 500 buildings to be replaced by a 5 star hotel.



VODINA CADESI

Fener-Balat has its own unique style of architecture and the project will demolish 300 buildings of architectural importance. 900 families will be evicted from their homes and businesses will be moved out their shops and relocated to areas outside the city. Is this really fair for residents that have been in the Fener-Balat for generations?



VODINA CADESI

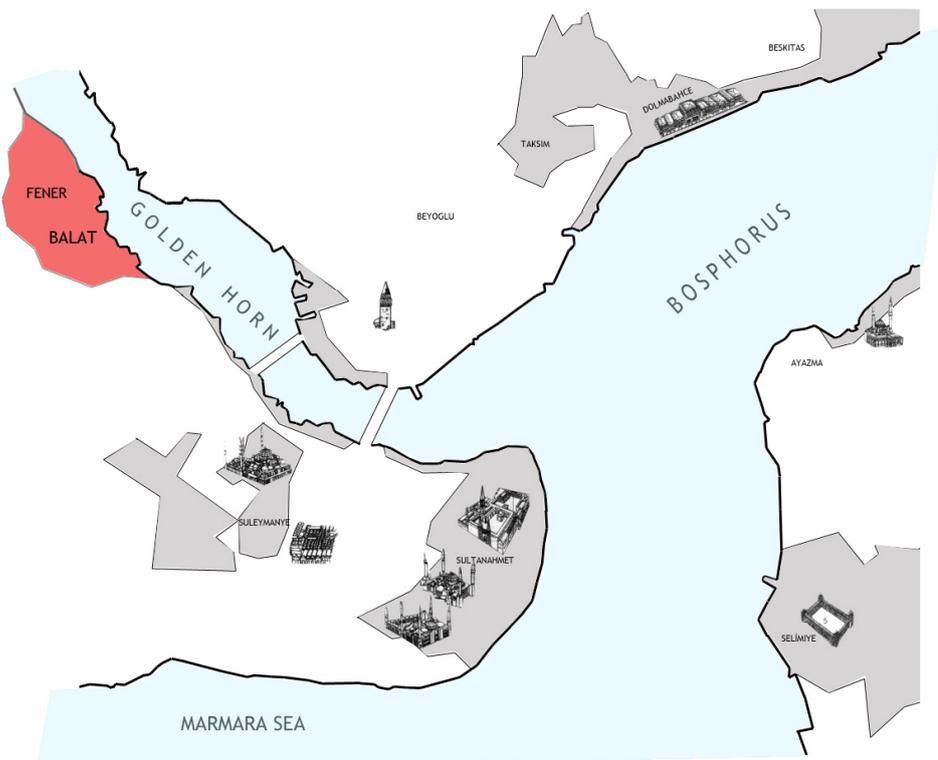
EU spent 7 million euro's renovating 121 houses in the Fener-Balat region, some of which now are to be demolished.

Residents in the area have put signs up saying, "Don't touch my house."

**Please help the Fener- Balat community and give them a voice against the planned demolition!**

Baris Ozgul, Burcu Nimet Dumlu, Brooke Gasaway, Farahin Fadzlishah, Karl Osborne, Marko Milovanovic, Sarah Beven, Tom Reynolds

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Hatice Çakır lives in her first floor apartment on Hızır Çavuş Street in Fener. She enjoys the beautiful view of the Golden Horn and chatting to her neighbours from her window. She was born in the house and has lived here ever since. Now she is 70 she cannot walk far so she buys her bread (ekmek) from street sellers who place it in a bag on a string which she lifts to her window.

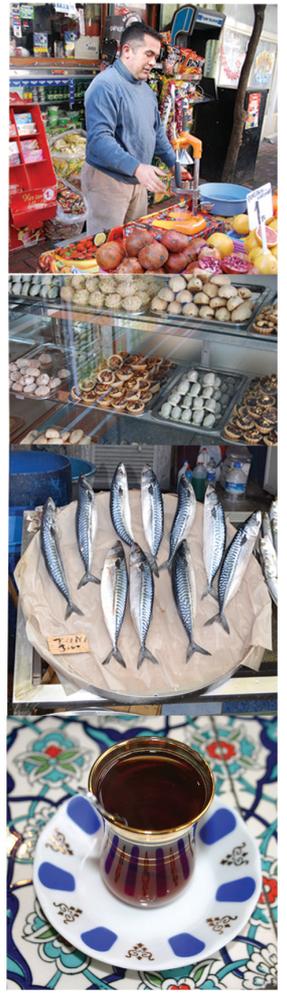


Fruit juice (meyve suyu) is made fresh and sold on the street. It is a great way to enjoy oranges, pomegranates and other fruit.

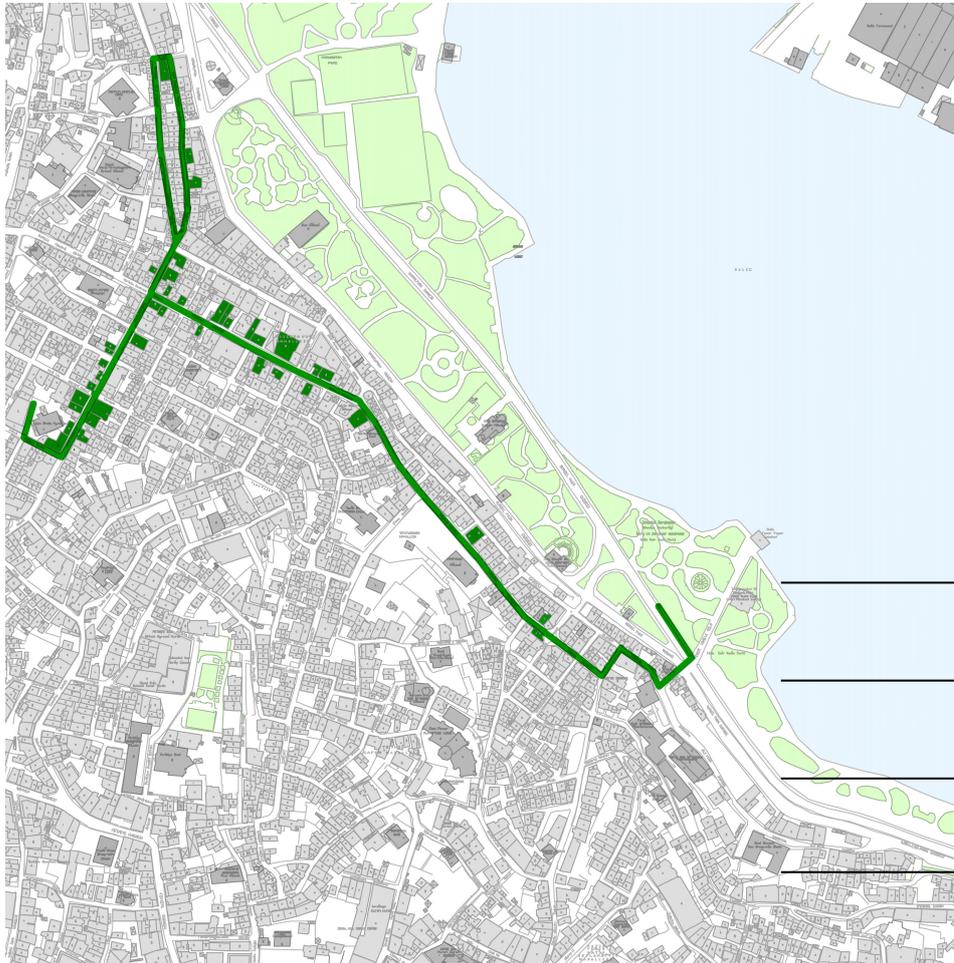
In Fener there is a bakery (pastahane) that was established in 1923. They make very delicious (Çok lezzetli!) cakes. The bakery may be lost if regeneration work in the area is carried out.

The street sellers (seyyar satıcı) supply pastries, bread and vegetables. Often they supply to housewives by putting things into baskets lowered from windows.

Tea houses (Çay Evi) are a place to meet and chat. There are many to explore in Fener-Balat.



FENER-BALAT SHOPPING AND DINING ROUTE



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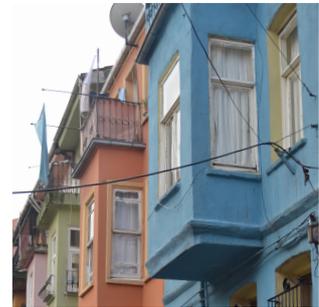


Ceremaic façade model of the Fener and Balat houses handcrafted by artist Beyhan Gursoy. Her gallery, Balart, is located at 36 Hızir Cavus Koprubasi Street in the Fener neighbourhood.

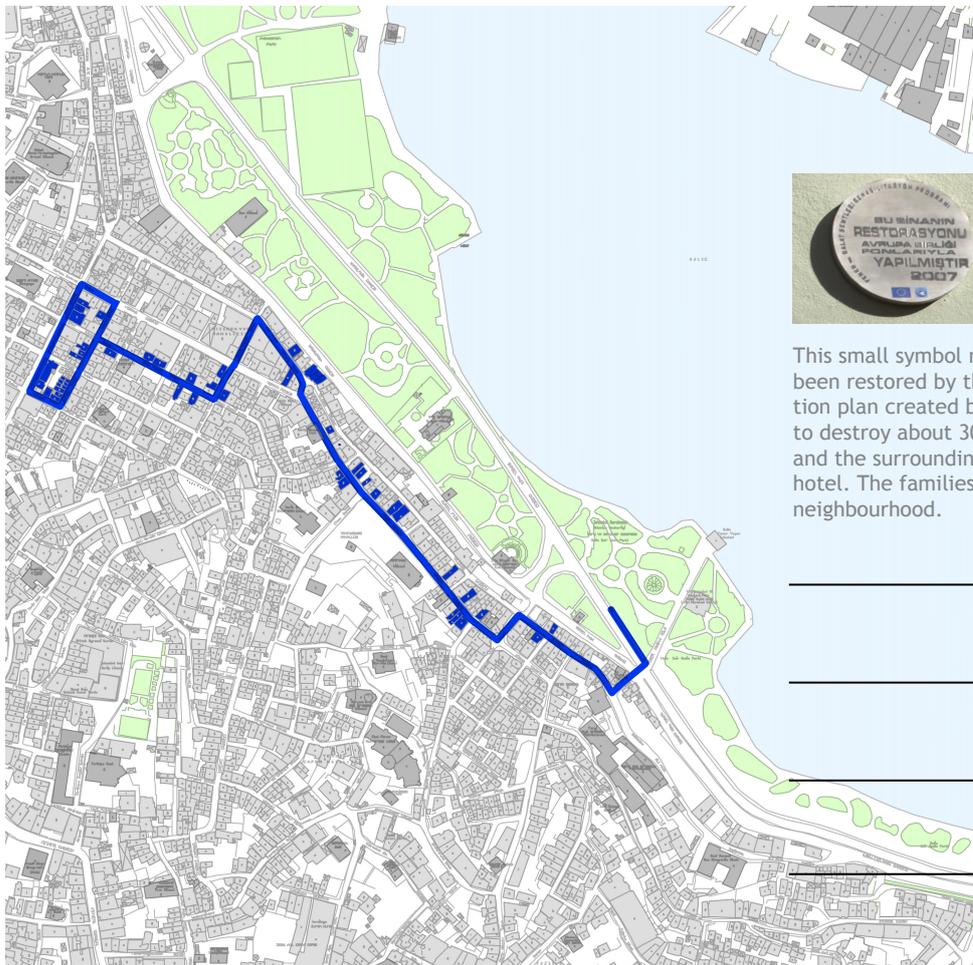


During the 17th and 18th centuries the Fener and Balat districts was a focal point of the social and cultural lives of Greeks, Armenians and Jews. Now, the districts are inhabited by a mostly Muslim population who immigrated from other cities and rural areas. Many of the buildings are now falling into disrepair and are no longer livable.

Balconies or extensions to the houses, encourage social interaction between neighbors and provide a longitudinal street view.



FENER-BALAT RESIDENTIAL ROUTE



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This small symbol marks buildings that have been restored by the EU. However, a regeneration plan created by the municipality is going to destroy about 30 of the restored buildings and the surrounding homes to build a 5 star hotel. The families will be moved out the neighbourhood.

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Each group left their religion behind but also architectural building and cultures. The earlier group has affected the other newcomer(s) with these physical traces, without knowing each other.

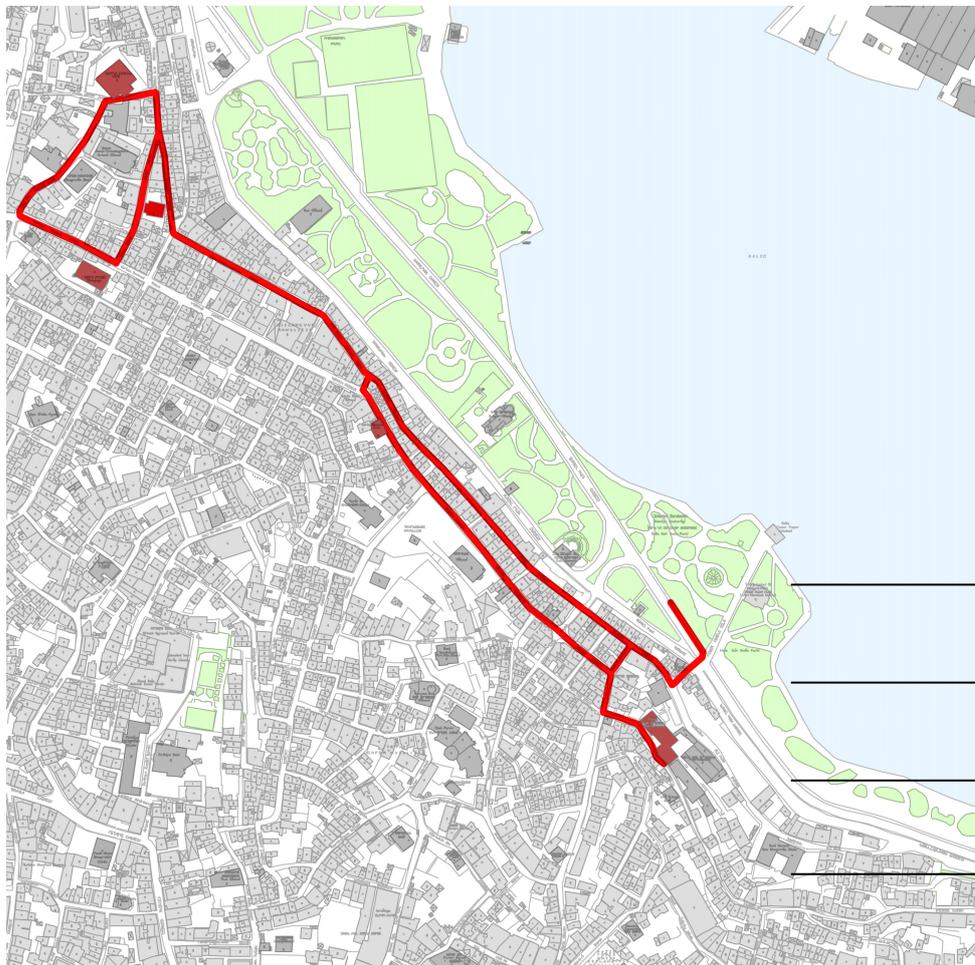


This land has been impacted by three different religious cultures: Greeks, Jews, and Muslims.

The Greeks were located here because of the Greek Patriarchate and the Orthodox Church during the Byzantine period. Secondly, during the Ottoman Period the Jewish people (especially jewelry makers) were the dominant residents. Currently, the neighbourhood is mostly Muslims.



**FENER-BALAT SPIRITUAL ROUTE**



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