

Visiting Hours

April 1-September 30
 Opening Time: 09:00
 Closing Time: 19:30
 Ticket Office Closing Time: 19:00

October 1-March 31
 Opening Time: 09:00
 Closing Time: 17:00
 Ticket Office Closing Time: 16:30

Closed on Monday.

Address: Yahya Kemal Caddesi, No: 42, Sarıyer, İstanbul • **Phone:** 0212 263 53 05

Please visit the web site for up-to-date information.

[f TurkishMuseums](#)
[@officialturkishmuseums](#)
[t TurkishMuseums](#)
[v TurkishMuseums](#)
[@TurkishMuseums](#)

www.turkishmuseums.com



www.muze.gov.tr



RUMELİ FORTRESS

SIGNATURE OF SULTAN MEHMET THE
 CONQUEROR

GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR
 CULTURAL ASSETS AND MUSEUMS

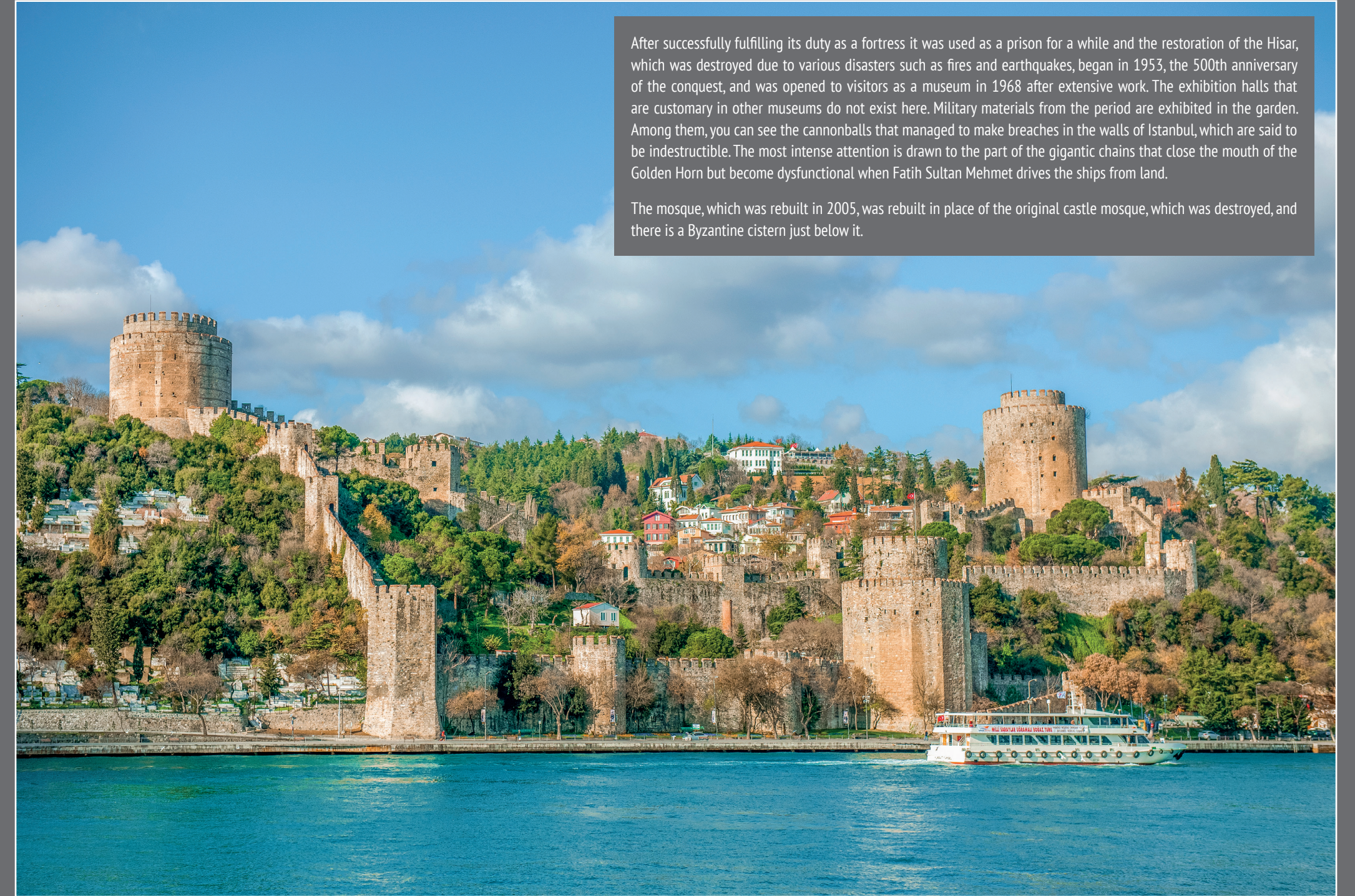




Spread over an area of 30,000 square meters in Sarıyer and giving its name to the region where it is located, Rumeli Fortress is one of the landmarks of Istanbul. Its construction, which was started in 1452 by the order of Sultan Mehmet II, was completed in only 4 months, which can be called 'superhuman success'. While visiting the fortress, you will definitely notice the spolia architectural pieces hidden among the stones of the wall. The reason for this is that the materials of the old buildings in the surrounding area were used during its construction. However, when it is learned that most of the timber and stones were brought from Anatolia and that lime was brought from the lime quarries around the Çubuklu district, the admiration for this magnificent structure increases even more.



Rumeli Fortress consists of three large towers and the walls connecting these towers. These most magnificent towers of the Middle Ages were built by the three great viziers of Fatih, Saruca Pasha, Halil Pasha and Zağanos Pasha. It is thought that these pashas were responsible for the construction of the towers they named, as well as covering the construction costs. Apart from the three large towers, there are fourteen smaller towers. As we can learn from the famous Turkish traveler Evliya Çelebi, the five gates of the Hisar are called Hisarpeçe Gate, Dizdar Gate, Dağ Gate (again, an unnamed gate in the direction of the mountain) and Sel Gate. The Fortress also has a special importance as it contains the first Turkish inscriptions of the Bosphorus.



After successfully fulfilling its duty as a fortress it was used as a prison for a while and the restoration of the Hisar, which was destroyed due to various disasters such as fires and earthquakes, began in 1953, the 500th anniversary of the conquest, and was opened to visitors as a museum in 1968 after extensive work. The exhibition halls that are customary in other museums do not exist here. Military materials from the period are exhibited in the garden. Among them, you can see the cannonballs that managed to make breaches in the walls of Istanbul, which are said to be indestructible. The most intense attention is drawn to the part of the gigantic chains that close the mouth of the Golden Horn but become dysfunctional when Fatih Sultan Mehmet drives the ships from land.

The mosque, which was rebuilt in 2005, was rebuilt in place of the original castle mosque, which was destroyed, and there is a Byzantine cistern just below it.