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## Green Heritage of İstanbul

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To the South of Istanbul lays the Marmara Sea, and to its North the Black Sea. The watercourse that divides Istanbul is the Bosphorus. It is located at 41° N 29° E, on the Bosphorus strait, and encompasses the natural harbor known as the Golden Horn, in the northwest of the country. It extends both on the European (Thrace) and on the Asian (Anatolia) side of the Bosphorus.

The wide diversity of unusual habitats has allowed development of an astonishingly rich flora. The province cover just 5110 sq.km yet supports a remarkably high diversity of plant species with 2300 vascular plant taxa. This paper based on several years interested on İstanbul floristic richness of the authors and recently carried out the project titled "Inventory and Monitoring Project of İstanbul that is part of the National Biodiversity Inventory and Monitoring of Turkey .Project supported by the Ministry of Forestry and Water Management 1. Regional Directory. This project report covers the natural heritage interests based on field works (105 days) collected 3500 specimens during February 2016 and November 2017 and related literature. Five habitats (grassland, forests, heatlands, sand dunes and other coastal habitats and wetlands) are of high national or even international importance to nature conservation. Of particular importance to nature conservation are the province's rarer species. Over 270 species that are regarded as nationally rare and /or threatened occur, of these 40 species abound here than anywhere else on earth. The checklist of Vascular flora of İstanbul have been updated with 62 endemic taxa .As result of the project, 13 new records are added to the İstanbul flora, 2 species have been reported as new record for Turkish

flora. Finally a new autumnal allium, *Allium istanbulense* Özhatay, Koçyiğit, Brullo & Salmeri has been described as a new species for plant science.

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