

Ralph Rapson in Istanbul

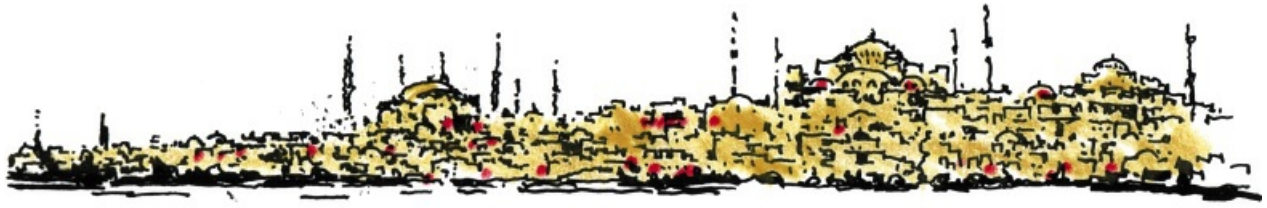
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[Hagia Sophia](#), in Istanbul, Turkey, designed by [Isidoros and Anthemios](#), 532 to 537.

Color sketch by [Ralph Rapson](#), from [Ralph Rapson Sketches and Drawings from Around the World](#), courtesy of the [Afton Press](#).

"I may be one of the few people who have seen Istanbul and the Straits of Bosphorus from atop a minaret. I'd long wanted to see the Hagia Sophia, once a mosque, a Christian church, and now a museum, and when I suggested to a guide I'd met in the streets that I'd like to see the city from one of the towers, he miraculously found a way. For twenty dollars, I not only had several meals and a day's worth of touring, but I also got to see the city's narrow, jostling streets and port from one of its finest vantage points." – Ralph Rapson



Overview of Istanbul, Turkey. Image: Ralph Rapson

Source: Architecture Week People & Places Blog