

# Turkish Delight

Aladdin: Hello! You must be Joanne from Canada. I'm Aladdin and I'll be your tour guide for the Eminonu Spice Bazaar today. Is this your first time in Istanbul?

Joanne: Hi Aladdin! Yes it's my first time here. I like your name. It's easy to remember. Have you watched Disney's Aladdin? Anyway, I'm sure there is a lot to explore at the bazaar but I'm specifically looking out for Turkish delight. My niece was reading *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, and it features throughout the book. She heard that I was visiting Turkey, so she made me promise to bring the most authentic Turkish delight back to her.

Aladdin: Well, I must say you've got the best person to help you accomplish your mission. But let's start sampling different ones first. Let's go!

Joanne: This feels like an adventure already. I'm game to try different ones.

Aladdin: OK try this one.

Joanne: Whoa, so sweet. I'm not sure, though. Oh but look at that store.

Aladdin: You're right, because what you just had isn't the best. That's why I brought you here now to this centuries-old store of Turkish delight.

Joanne: Wow, let me see. Haci Bekir! Aha, I did read about him and his Turkish delight.

Aladdin: Yup! I'm the boyfriend of Haci Bekir's great great granddaughter. She's the 6th generation of the family. Her great great grandfather came here to Istanbul to start his business in 1777.

Joanne: Isn't he the first one to use cornstarch instead of flour and refined sugar instead of honey? And I remember reading that the original name for Turkish delight is pretty complex.

Aladdin: Yes, it then was called "lokum". But there was a British tourist who really liked it. He couldn't pronounce the original name, so he came up with the name Turkish delight. Now, you have to try the Turkish delight from this shop.

Joanne: Hmm, delicious. It's delightful indeed. Alright, Aladdin, I must buy some from this shop to take home to my niece.

Aladdin: You bet! You do that, then we'll explore the rest of the bazaar.