

May 2011



## **Festival Fever in Turkey**

As the weather hots up, so too does Turkey's lively cultural scene.

From Antalya's **Aspendos Opera & Ballet Festival** (9 June-2 July; [aspendosfestival.gov.tr](http://aspendosfestival.gov.tr)) held at the impressively preserved, 20,000-seater Roman theatre of the same name, to the **Istanbul Jazz Festival** (1-19 July; [iksv.org](http://iksv.org)), which this year boasts headliners Jamie Cullum and Paul Simon. Whatever your taste, there's something to suit.

**The Sonisphere Festival** return to Istanbul for a second year, with an impressive line-up including Iron Maiden and Alice Cooper (19 June; [tr.sonispherefestivals.com](http://tr.sonispherefestivals.com)).

Turkey's leading open-air music festival, **Rock n Coke** (16 & 17 July, [rockncoke.com](http://rockncoke.com)), this year welcomes the likes of Moby, The Kooks, Paolo Nutini and Friendly Fires.

For classical music lovers, festivals to look out for include the **Gumusluk Classical Music Festival** (July/August, dates t.b.c; [gumuslukfestival.org](http://gumuslukfestival.org)), on the Bodrum Peninsula, and the **Izmir International Festival** (20 June-21 July; [iksev.org](http://iksev.org)). Concert venues for the latter include the atmospheric Library of Celsus at Ephesus and 16<sup>th</sup>-century Cesme Castle.

Find out more at [gototurkey.co.uk](http://gototurkey.co.uk).

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