

ISTANBUL UNIVERSITY YENIKAPI SHIPWRECKS PROJECT
APPLICATION AND RESEARCH LABORATORY VISIT
17–18 September 2025 / 18:00–19:00

YENIKAPI SHIPWRECKS: A TIME TUNNEL

Discovered during the Marmaray–Metro excavations carried out between 2004 and 2013 in the historic peninsula of Istanbul, at the site of the ancient Theodosian Harbour, the Yenikapı Shipwrecks constitute the world's largest collection of medieval shipwrecks, with 37 ancient vessels dated between the 5th and 11th centuries AD. These extraordinary finds shed light on Istanbul's maritime past and the trade networks of the Byzantine era.



Excavations at Yenikapı Shipwreck 34

What Happens in the Laboratory?

The Istanbul University Yenikapı Shipwrecks Application and Research Laboratory is a specialised centre established for the documentation, conservation, and scientific analysis of ship remains recovered during excavations.

3D Documentation Activities

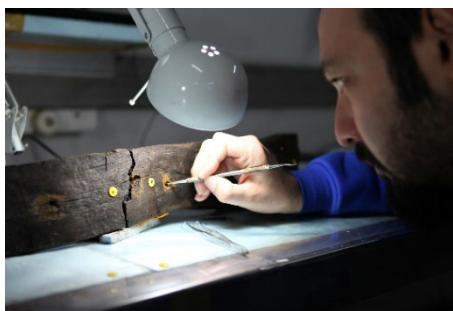
Contact-based digital drafting (FaroArm)
Digital modelling using structured-light scanners (Peel 2)
Technical drawing and digital archiving of wooden components
Morphological analyses of ship construction techniques

Conservation of Waterlogged Wood

Polyethylene glycol (PEG) impregnation techniques
Freeze-drying processes
Wood species identification, degradation assessment, and preservation strategies



Cleaning of waterlogged ship timbers



Examination of shipbuilding techniques



Conservation treatments

This visit will take place in two separate groups on 17–18 September 2025, between 18:00 and 19:00.

Participation will be limited, and registration is required.

Address: Aksaray Mah. Namık Kemal Cad. Kuleboyu Sk. No: 29