Türkiye
2021 TÜRKİYE
DESTINATIONS & EXPERIENCES
KIT
REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
TGA
TÜRKİYE TOURISM
PROMOTION AND
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
Türkiye
goturkiye.com

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Ölüdeniz, Muğla

WELCOME TO Türkiye

With its breathtaking natural attractions, one of a kind historical and archaeological sites, unique and rich cuisine, advanced accommodation infrastructure and superior service quality, Türkiye promises experiences that should not be missed.

In addition to its rich geography that connects Asia and Europe to one another and its culture that blends the East and West in its own unique way, Türkiye's real wealth comes from its world-renowned hospitality and friendliness.

The unique blend of cultures bearing the traces of many civilizations that inhabited these lands, which have been the crossroads for many peoples, cultures and religions since the dawn of human history, creates differences in Türkiye's gastronomy, all arts that require creativity, nightlife and daily living.

Thanks to its geography with diverse climates, Türkiye goes through all four seasons at once on the same day. In addition to beach and sun holidays along the coasts that are surrounded with three different seas on three sides, you can enjoy many water sports.

It is possible to plan for winter sports holidays on the mountains in the East and inner regions, retreats that focus on wellness and health in the woodlands, peaceful nature holidays on the one of a kind highlands in the north, and history and gastronomy-oriented weekend getaways in the southeast region.

And the capital of empires, the ancient city that does not fit in one continent and spans over both Asia and Europe, İstanbul. Merging the past and the present, İstanbul is the center of art, shopping and nightlife with the world-famous Bosphorus and centuries old artifacts that bear the traces of different beliefs.

The unique Turkish geography consisting of 7 main regions including the land of Mesopotamia is a must visit destination for its climates that are unique to each region, one of a kind cuisine, different cultures, colorful nature and artifacts that have witnessed the history of the world.

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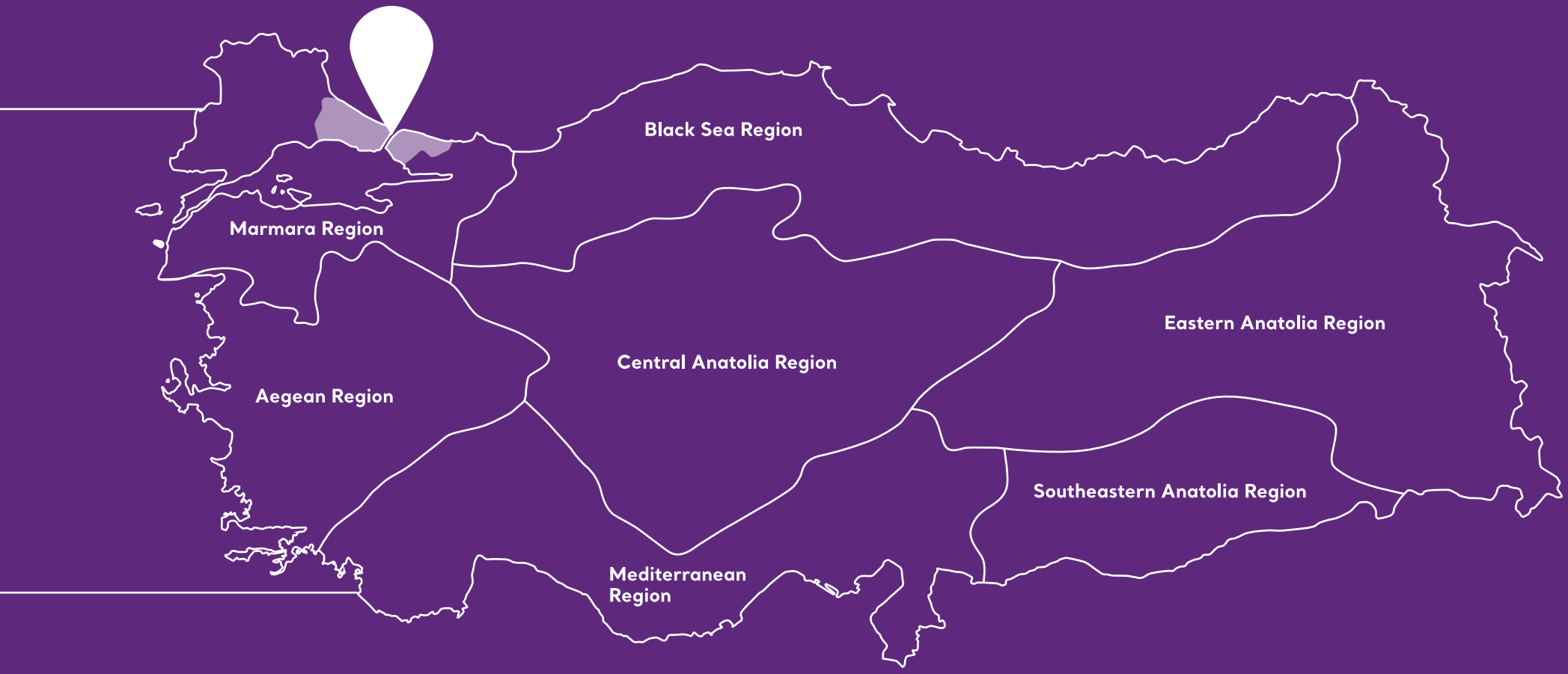
İstanbul

Connecting the continents of Asia and Europe, İstanbul was the capital of Roman, Byzantium and Ottoman Empires, making it one of the most precious cities in the entire world. It's a metropolis where anyone who desires to have new experiences, can find what they are looking for with its deep history, unique nature, rich gastronomy, artisan shopping opportunities, fashion workshops of modern designers, cosmopolitan city life and vibrant world of entertainment.


Black Sea Region
Marmara Region
Aegean Region
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Southeastern Anatolia Region
Mediterranean Region

Galata Tower, İstanbul

Hagia Sophia Mosque, İstanbul

Must Do's

- Take the old town tour
- Visit Princes' Islands
- Enjoy Bosphorus ferry trip
- Get to know galleries and museums
- Shop in the old bazaars and artists' studios
- Enjoy fine dining
- Eat fish by the Bosphorus
- Visit a hamam

Maiden's Tower, İstanbul

HISTORICAL PLACES

Basilica Cistern, İstanbul

Hagia Sophia Mosque, İstanbul

İstanbul's historical attractions that were added to UNESCO Heritage List in 1985 includes four locations: Sultanahmet Archaeological Park, Süleymaniye Mosque and the Protection Zone including its surrounding area, Zeyrek Mosque and the Protection Zone including its surrounding area and the Istanbul Land Wall Protection Zone. It is possible to venture between the pages of history by visiting the Hagia Sophia Mosque, Sultan Ahmet Mosque (Blue Mosque), Archaeological Museums and Basilica Cistern in Sultanahmet.

FINE DINING AND GASTRONOMY

Magnificent İstanbul connects not only Europe and Asia but the traditions and modernity with harmony. Modern Turkish cuisine has reached perfection with the efforts of hundreds of professional chefs, who specialize in dishes from many cultures that existed throughout history. Now, those dishes became indispensable for the gourmet tables after being reinvented in the hands of young chefs. With unique gourmet experiences provided by restaurants making the lists of world's best, İstanbul is a city of gastronomy that offers the most delicious samples from both Ottoman Court dishes and the cultures that came and went for centuries, as well as every region of Türkiye.

Çırağan Palace, İstanbul

ARTS & CULTURE

Beyoğlu, İstanbul

İstanbul has modern museums exhibiting artworks by leading artists around the world in addition to Turkish artists. The galleries of the city are often regarded as a gateway between Western and Eastern cultures.

İstanbul Museum of Modern Art, SALT Beyoğlu and Pera Museum make an impression not only with their exhibitions but with their eye-catching structures. Sakıp Sabancı Museum (SSM) along the shores of the Bosphorus is the first stop to many global exhibitions that come to Türkiye from Picasso to Ai Weiwei. The Museum of Innocence in Çukurcuma with the same name as Nobel Laureate Orhan Pamuk's novel, refreshes the beliefs in the power of the story.

Bosphorus, İstanbul

SHOPPING

Thanks to the creative talents and the visionary entrepreneurs, Anatolia's multicultural crafts' background has turned into global brands today. Nişantaşı and Bağdat Avenue, where global brands and their equally ambitious local counterparts are located side by side, are waiting for fashion lovers with an unlimited selection of shopping options.

Nişantaşı, İstanbul

NIGHTLIFE

Levent, İstanbul

İstanbul

One of the most vibrant cities in terms of nightlife, İstanbul offers different opportunities to nightlife enthusiasts 24/7. With all kinds of events ranging from night clubs to festivals, from concerts to parties, from live music bars to street and park parties; İstanbul never sleeps.

NATURE

Bosphorus, İstanbul

One of the largest metropoles in the world, İstanbul also enchants visitors with its unique nature. In addition to its famed Bosphorus; the lungs of the city, Belgrade Forest is another stop for a fresh breath, while Kilyos coast hosts those who want to enjoy the beach during summer. Destinations such as Princes' Islands, Şile and Ağva offer escapes away from the city life in the city itself.

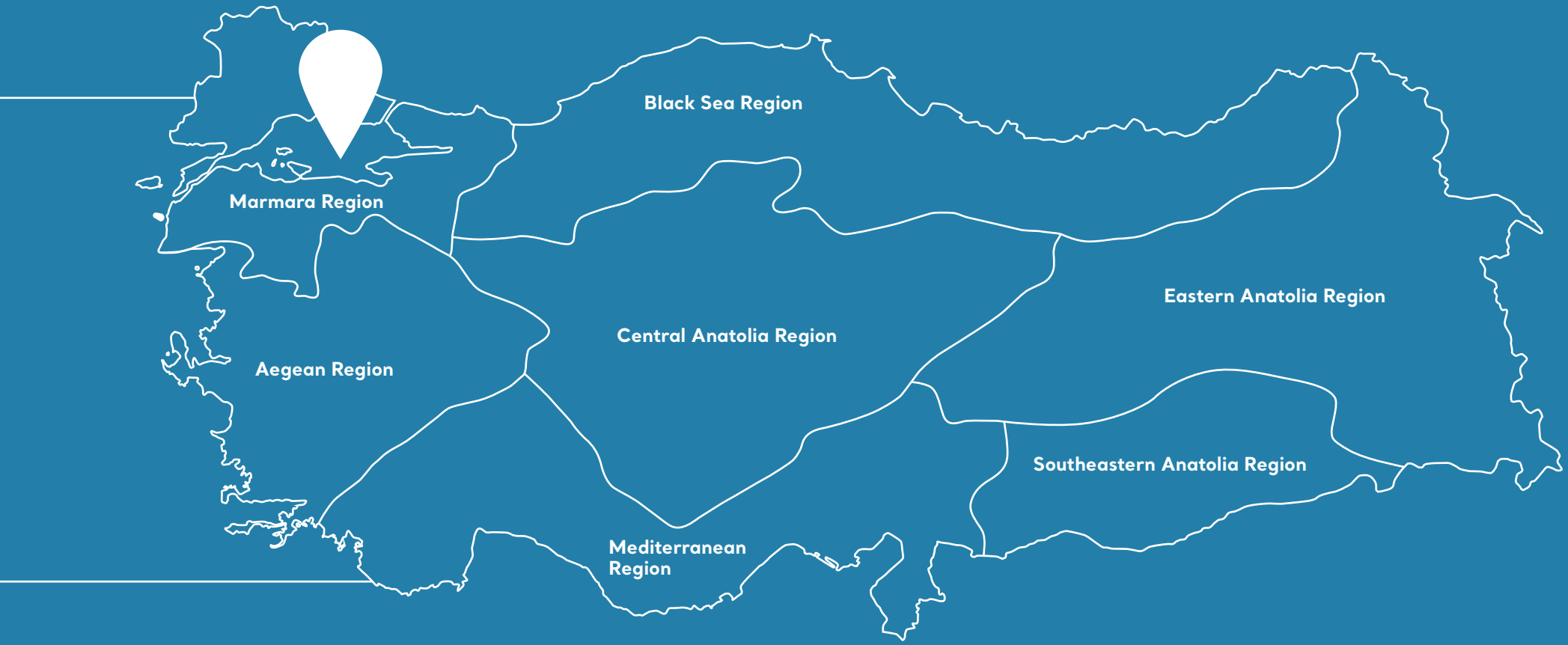
Princes' Islands, İstanbul

Marmara Region

Lying between the Black Sea, Marmara Sea and Aegean Sea, the Marmara Region witnessed the most significant periods in the human history due to its geographic location. It is one of the regions that must be discovered for its unique nature, rich culture and every important touristic attractions.

Marmara region is the home of many historical events such as the First Council of Nicaea which is of great significance to the history of Christianity, the Trojan War that was the subject of Homer's Iliad, and three Ottoman capitals with rich history and culture: Bursa, Edirne and İstanbul. It also includes the trenches and monuments of the Battle of Gallipoli within its borders.

With a coastline that borders 3 different seas, Marmara region offers unlimited alternatives for sea holidays and it is the right address for great discoveries.


Black Sea Region
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Mediterranean Region

Must Do's

- Watch the sunset in Bozcaada
- Visit Çanakkale Martyrs' Memorial and the Troy Museum
- Taste the pan-seared liver in Edirne
- Visit Edirne's Selimiye Mosque
- Watch the grape harvest festivities
- Go skiing in Mount Uludağ
- Eat İskender Kebap in Bursa

Bozcaada, Çanakkale

HISTORICAL PLACES

Selimiye Mosque, Edirne

Furthest to the west of the region, Edirne is home to the masterpiece of Sinan the Royal Architect, the Selimiye Mosque, which is one of the most beautiful mosques in Türkiye in terms of its aesthetics and it is also inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage list. The first capital city of the Ottomans, Bursa has many monuments that still stand witness to history, such as the Ulu Mosque, Yeşil (Green) Mosque and its Shrine and Muradiye Complex. A neighbouring town to the city of Bursa, İznik is a very special point of interest that hosted the Council of Nicaea, which was convened in 325 BCE. At the region's southeastern corner, Çanakkale and the Dardanelles carry the traces of the battles that changed the course of history to the present day.

ARTS & CULTURE

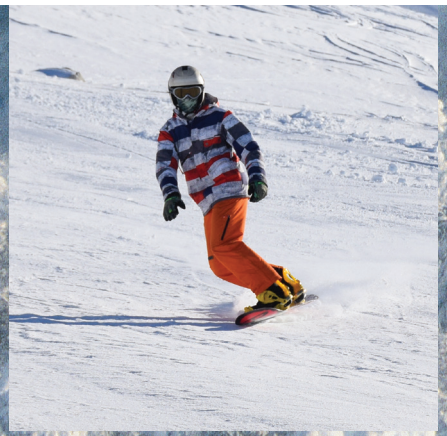
When it comes to Arts & Culture in the Marmara Region, the first place that comes to mind after Istanbul is Bozcaada. With the annual Bozcaada Jazz Festival and Classical Music Festival, Bozcaada is one of the leading centres on this area, not only in Marmara but in the entire country. Other highlights of the region include the Thrace Festival and Thrace-Erikli Music Festival which are held in Edirne. Another focal point of the region, Bursa hosts the Masterpiece Workshop, where many painting and sculpting workshops are held throughout summer.

GASTRONOMY

Edirne is known for its pan-seared liver, and its neighboring city Tekirdağ is known for its meatballs, world-famous Turkish rakı and local wines. İzmit's fairy floss and Adapazarı's famed meatballs are among the must-taste flavors of the region. Visitors to Bursa, which is one of the largest cities in the Marmara region, must experience the renowned İskender Kebap and candied chestnuts.

SPORTS

Moving toward the east from İstanbul, Kocaeli and Sakarya offer many alternatives to their visitors, from winter sports to nature sports. Overarching Bursa's silhouette, Mount Uludağ is among the most significant locations in Türkiye for winter sports during winter and hiking during summer. The cities in the Marmara Region host many sporting events thanks to the convenient nature of the region.



NATURE

Southern Marmara's bird paradise Lake Manyas and its basin are located within the borders of Balıkesir and this is one of the top natural sights worth exploring. Extending between Çanakkale and Balıkesir, the southern side of the Mount Ida Range is designated as a national park featuring a large diversity of plant species. One of the most interesting natural sights in the region, Kocaçay Delta in Bursa is home to rare plant species and includes swamps, reed beds and grasslands harboring 45 thousand different water birds. İğneada Floodplain Forests are located in Kırklareli and they feature lakes, sand dunes and woods.

Mount Uludağ, Bursa

Mediterranean Region

Located along the southern coastline of Türkiye, the Mediterranean region, where green and blue meets and pine scent is mixed with the iodine smell from the sea, offers everything that can be looked for in a vacation with its turquoise waters, long beaches, unique nature, historic roads, ancient cities and rich gastronomy. Merging cultures and religions in harmony, UNESCO gastronomy city Antakya is also located in the Mediterranean region.

Black Sea Region
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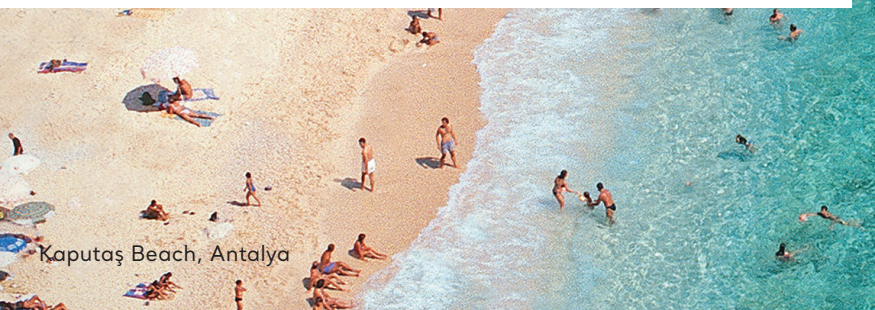
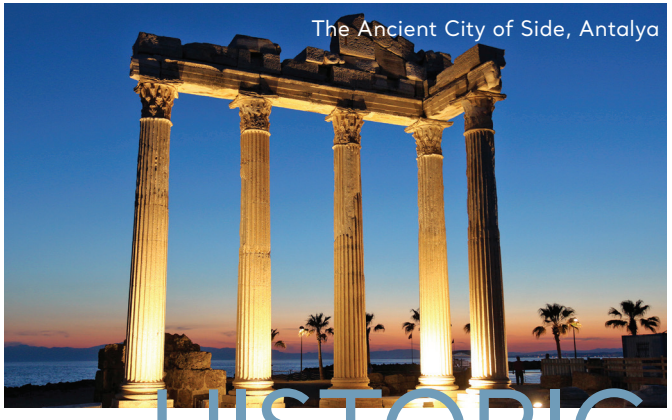
Mediterranean Region

Must Do's

- Swim with caretta carettas
- Trek along Lycian Way
- Enjoy the blue voyages
- Take glam camping
- Visit the rose gardens
- Go for scuba diving
- Visit Olympos
- Savour Belen tava in Antakya



Kaputaş Beach, Antalya



The Ancient City of Side, Antalya

HISTORICAL PLACES

Home to many civilizations throughout history, the Mediterranean region is a real heaven for those, who are interested in history and culture tourism, in addition to those interested in the sea, sand and sun. In the region that bears traces of the past, there are tons of archaeological sites to visit throughout the region starting with the Knidos Open-Air Museum located on the border of the Aegean and Mediterranean and dating back to 13th century CE. Some of these locations include Termessos in Antalya, where hundreds of sarcophagi blend in nature, the historic city centre Kaleiçi, Aspendos Theatre that is still in use today and Sagalassos Ancient City, among others. The Church of St. Nicholas, also known as the Church of Santa Claus, is located in Demre, which hosted the ancient Lycian cities of Myra and Soura dating back to 5th century CE. Located on the western end of the Antalya Bay, Olympos is another important ancient city.
Located on the eastern end of the Mediterranean Region, a crossing point between religions and cultures, Antakya is home to the first church in the world, the Cave Church of Saint Peter.

Aspendos Theatre, Antalya

ARTS & CULTURE

The effect of the Mediterranean's warm climate and sea is also reflected on the people living in the region. In April, when the streets are full of the scent of orange flowers, it is possible to welcome the spring with locals by participating in the Orange Flower Carnival held in Adana, one of the most important cities in the region.
Hosting many international events such as the Sabancı Theatre Festival, International Adana Golden Boll Film Festival and Antalya Golden Orange Film Festival, the region hosts major artists around the world. Particularly the performances in the ancient Aspendos Theatre dazzle the crowds. The Mediterranean also makes an impression on its visitors with its vibrant nightlife in the vacation spots, especially during summer season.

GASTRONOMY

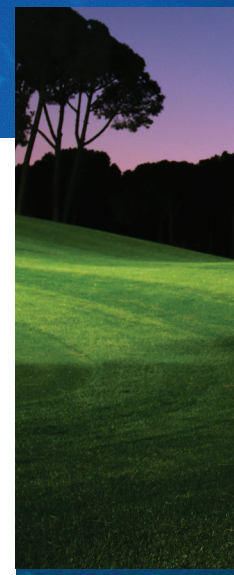
With both healthy and delicious recipes, the Mediterranean cuisine is a paradise for foodies who enjoy vegetables, fruits, seafood, grains and dishes cooked with olive oil. In the Mediterranean region, which includes cities such as Hatay, which was selected as a city of gastronomy by UNESCO and Adana, which was nominated to become a city of gastronomy, it is possible to create gastronomic routes that could keep foodies busy for days. The first place that comes to mind when it comes ice cream in Türkiye, Kahramanmaraş is located on the east end of the region. And 200 recipes among more than 400 in the cuisine of Antakya, a district of Hatay, are unique. Harboring flavors arising from the blend of surrounding cultures for centuries, Antakya cuisine revived nearly 40 forgotten recipes. Another food that is unique to the city is the tarhana chips.

SPORTS

Starting from Fethiye and ending in Antalya, the Lycian Way offers the opportunity to hike along the region for about 510 kilometers while enjoying incredible views of the land and sea. Hikers are accompanied by numerous miracles of nature including the Butterfly Valley, Kabak Cove, Kalkan, Kaş, Kekova, Demre, Finike, Adrasan Cove, Çıralı Beach and Mount Olympos along the Lycian Way. It is also possible to visit many ancient cities along the way including Sidyma, Pyndai, Phellos, Apelia, Theimussa, Letoon, Xanthos, Patara, Antiphellos, Apollonia, Idyros, Simena, Myra, Limyra, Gagae, Olympos, Sura, Belos and Phaselis.

Located at the end of the Lycian Way, Fethiye's uniquely beautiful Ölüdeniz and Mount Babadağ right next to it host many adrenaline junkies for paragliding between April and October. Türkiye's southern coastline allows the opportunity to surf year-round for the surfing and windsurfing aficionados, thanks to the abundantly windy shores.

Home of the world's most luxurious golf resorts, the quality of Antalya's Belek region is recognized by international platforms that specialize on this subject. Belek was awarded the "Best Golfing Area of the Year" award in Europe in 2008 and it hosts golf lovers with 27 golf courses that are set up in the incredible landscape of the Mediterranean.



Kaş, Antalya

Must Do's

MEDITERRANEAN REGION

NATURE

The Mediterranean is certainly at the top when it comes to mother nature's generosity with lush forests, lakes, waterfalls, highlands and brilliant waters. From Isparta's fragrant lavender gardens to the country's Lake District, from the lush forests on the Toros Mountain Range to the highlands in Kahramanmaraş; the Mediterranean is expecting its visitors to enjoy its amazing nature.

An old fishing village, Kalkan is among the favorite places to visit due to its unique nature. Located nearby, the Kaş district is home to the Patara Beach, which is the 2nd longest beach in Türkiye and one of the most important breeding grounds for loggerhead sea turtles, and the Kaputaş Beach, which comes out of nowhere like a miracle between rocky cliffs.

Lavender Gardens, Isparta

Must Do's
MEDITERRANEAN REGION

Aegean Region

Located on the west side of the fertile Anatolian lands where the Asian continent extends toward Europe, the Aegean region bears traces of a unique history thanks to the civilizations it hosted for thousands of years, and displays the gifts of nature with each and every hue of blue and green generously. This amazing geography, known for its centuries-old olive trees that have witnessed the history and olive oil, manages to make everyone fall in love with it; write songs and poems for it thanks to its sun, waters, history and culture available at every inch of the way.

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Mediterranean Region

Assos Ancient City, Çanakkale

Must Do's

- Camp at Mount Ida Range
- Try the Aegean appetizers
- Go to Grape Harvest festivities
- Visit the Butterfly Valley
- Visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site: "Ephesus Ancient City"
- Drink wines of famous wine village "Şirince"
- Refresh in Manisa's healing waters
- Eat boyoz and kumru in İzmir

HISTORICAL PLACES

Ephesus, İzmir

With its ancient cities, castles, churches and many more monuments that have withstood the challenge of centuries, the Aegean Region proves that it was a cradle of civilization at every step. Home to historic structures such as the Taksiyarhis Church and Leka Panaya Monastery, Ayvalık and Cunda Island attracts visitors due to its unique architecture from the 19th century. Watching the sunset against the harsh winds of the Aegean during summer is a whole different experience in the ancient city of "Assos", also known as Behramkale, which bears the traces of different civilizations with monuments such as the Temple of Athena and Acropolis of Assos. Moving toward the south, one of the most important travel routes of Türkiye awaits its visitors. Among the most important centers for culture, arts and civilization, the Ancient City of Ephesus, which is protected as a UNESCO "World Heritage" Site, is home to the site of Temple of Artemis, which was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world.

ARTS & CULTURE

From Bodrum Music Festival to Zeytinli Rock Festival, Aegean Region hosts activities that cater to all kinds of taste in music. Particularly outdoor concerts are essential for summer nights. The venues in every vacation town in the Aegean Region welcome its visitors offering different music and activities that would suit to every taste. The vibrant nightlife makes Aegean Region unforgettable. Cittaslow Seferihisar offering a calm life, Urla hosting the International Artichoke Festival and live summer concerts, and Çeşme with its mesmerizing nightlife are among the important centers of the region.

GASTRONOMY

With large variety of olives, freshest herbs, fragrant dishes cooked with olive oil and sea-scented flavors, the Aegean cuisine is highly ambitious to take its place in the world of gastronomy. The herbs that grow by themselves at almost every part of the Aegean region are so famous that many residential areas such as Urla and Alaçatı hold their own unique herb festivals. The calamari meatballs, grilled octopus' arms, stuffed squash blossoms, mastic ice cream, sea beans, fava, herb-filled pastries, artichokes, stuffed chard leaves, and stuffed vine leaves prepared with olive oil are on the top of the list of flavors you must taste. The region is famous for its grapes and wines, grape molasses, grape juice and grape jams bringing joy to palates with their aromas unique to the region. Carrying centuries old traditions to the present day with its wine and fig production since the 19th century, Şirince Village is the meeting point of the gastronomy world with annual grape harvest events and remains among the top wine routes in Türkiye.

SPORTS

Alaçatı, İzmir

The region, which hosted many marathons over the past few years, is also one of the most important destinations for water sports thanks to its pristine waters. Alaçatı, the first destination that comes to mind when it comes to surfing is also located in this region. An important center for windsurfing due to its shores with abundant strong winds, Alaçatı host many international windsurfing competitions.

Sailing in locations such as Bodrum, Akyarlar, Çeşme and Ilıca is ideal to enjoy the turquoise waters. The route extending from Halicarnassos to Knidos, in other words the cycling route starting from Bodrum and ending in Datça passes through the Gökova Bay from end to end, and it is a unique experience to discover the Aegean Region.
While the Şahinderesi Canyon hosts visitors that enjoy rock climbing, the Tozlu Plateau hosts nature aficionados, who want to camp out and make new discoveries with mountain bikes, and the Ayı Creek awaits the nature sports lovers and trekkers.

NATURE

From the nature's gift to humanity, the Butterfly Valley to a secret paradise, Akyaka, the Aegean Region displays every hue of green and blue generously. Pamukkale, home of unique white travertines is also 2000 years old center of beauty and health with its thermal waters. The Mount Ida Range extending right next to the turquoise waters of the Aegean right above the Edremit Bay, is home to 23 different endemic species. Located along a long shoreline, Çeşme has blue-flag fine sand beaches such as Ilıca and Boyalık beaches, Ayayorgi cove and Eşek Island. Bodrum offers each and every hue of blue and green amongst pine trees at locations including Karaincir, Cennet, Adaboğazı, Adabükü, Akvaryum, Hattat Cove and Orak Island. You can experience the "Turkish Riviera" dream in Yalıkavak, Göltürkbükü, Gündoğan and Gümüşlük towns under the hot sun and with stunning views at sunset. From the newly discovered villages to the slow-paced cities, the Aegean offers tourists a vacation nested in nature and makes people fall in love with the olive oil scented fishing villages and blue flag coves.
A common emotion surrounds everyone going back home from the Aegean;
"I left my heart behind in the Aegean".

Butterfly Valley, Muğla

Black Sea Region

With its unique nature and warm climate, the Black Sea shores is an ideal travel destination for those who want to enjoy unlimited hues of green. The passageways, and canyons that carry the passengers to the fruit gardens, highlands and prairies spreading along the skirts of mountains from meandering roads create breathtaking views in the Black Sea Region of Türkiye.

Producing vast amounts of hazelnuts, corn and tea, which is an integral part of Turkish hospitality, the Black Sea Region is ideal for planning alternative vacations to experience daily life in the region among the locals.

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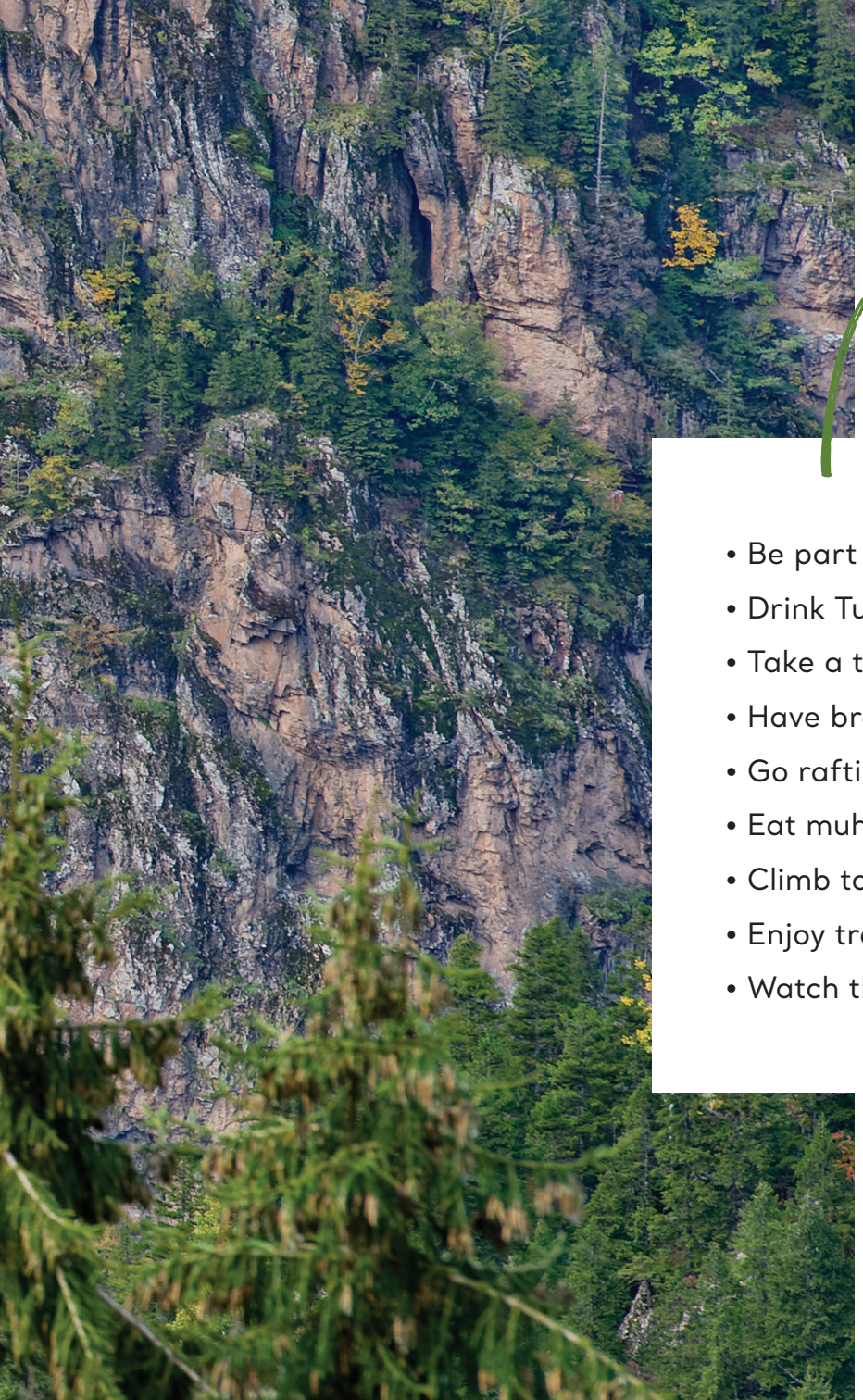
Sumela Monastery, Trabzon



Must Do's

- Be part of the harvest of local products
- Drink Turkish tea
- Take a trip to the highlands
- Have breakfast above the clouds
- Go rafting
- Eat muhlama, anchovy and sütlaç
- Climb to the Sumela Monastery
- Enjoy trekking at Cehennem Creek Canyon
- Watch the drifting clouds at Gito Plateau

HISTORICAL PLACES

Sumela Monastery, Trabzon

Home to many civilizations throughout history, from Rome to the Ottomans, the Black Sea Region has a rich history. Also sheltering many monuments from monasteries to castles, from churches to mansions, the region has many historic attractions such as the Sumela Monastery, Amasra Castle, Hagia Sophia Mosque, Zilkale Castle, Vazelon Monastery and King Sepulchers awaiting their visitors.

ARTS & CULTURE

The Black Sea's highland festivals are an unparalleled opportunity for those who want to get familiar with the culture there. Local festivals with different themes that are held at almost every highland of the Black Sea, such as the Snow Man Festival in winter, the Sütlaç (rice pudding) Festival during summer and the Bread Festival, give visitors an opportunity to witness the daily lives of the locals, get acquainted with the Black Sea music and learn the original Black Sea folklore dance called horon.

Ayder, Rize

Ayder, Rize

GASTRONOMY

Sumptuous meals with unique flavors to the region await those who follow the nature's call and visit the Black Sea region. Beginning the day with a breakfast with local and organic flavors set against an amazing view, tasting the eternal specialty of the Black Sea cuisine, white beans at Çayeli restaurants, trying the anchovy unique to the Black Sea and tasting the comforting Hamsiköy rice pudding in Trabzon are among the essentials of a Black Sea journey.

Fırtına Deresi, Rize

SPORTS

Promising peace with each and every hue of green, the Black Sea also has something to offer to the adrenaline junkies with its nature sports. The Black Sea region offers many unique alternatives for many nature sports. The sports lovers can climb the Kaçkar Mountain Range or go heli-skiing, do rafting in the Fırtına Creek, go for a canoe ride in Karagöl or a zip line adventure in Rize.

NATURE

Mesmerizing everyone with its nature, the Black Sea is waiting to be discovered with its highlands above the clouds, lakes surrounded with trees, majestic valleys and waterfalls. Taking a route in Türkiye's Black Sea region may take weeks thanks to the must-visit natural attractions dotting the region. Lake Uzungöl, Çal Cave, Lake Karagöl, Pokut Highlands, Ayder Highlands and Mount Sis are only a few of the places to be explored in the region.

Central Anatolia Region

The Central Anatolia region, the heart of Türkiye, is home to the capital of the modern Türkiye, Ankara as well as the UNESCO World Heritage Site, world famous Cappadocia. It is a destination that should not be missed by those who want to get to know Türkiye better. The region is decorated with many cultural and historic monuments that bear the traces of centuries in its cities spread on vast steppes. With a 5000 year history, Ankara is the largest city in the region and the capital of the modern Türkiye since 1923.

The region housed many civilizations, such as the Hittites, Phrygians, Lydians, Persians, Macedon, Eastern Romans, Seljuks and Ottomans. Another highlight that makes the region so special is that it is a centre of medical tourism with the thermal springs in Eskişehir, Ankara, Konya, Niğde, Kayseri; the spa and lounges established in their vicinities.

Black Sea Region
Marmara Region
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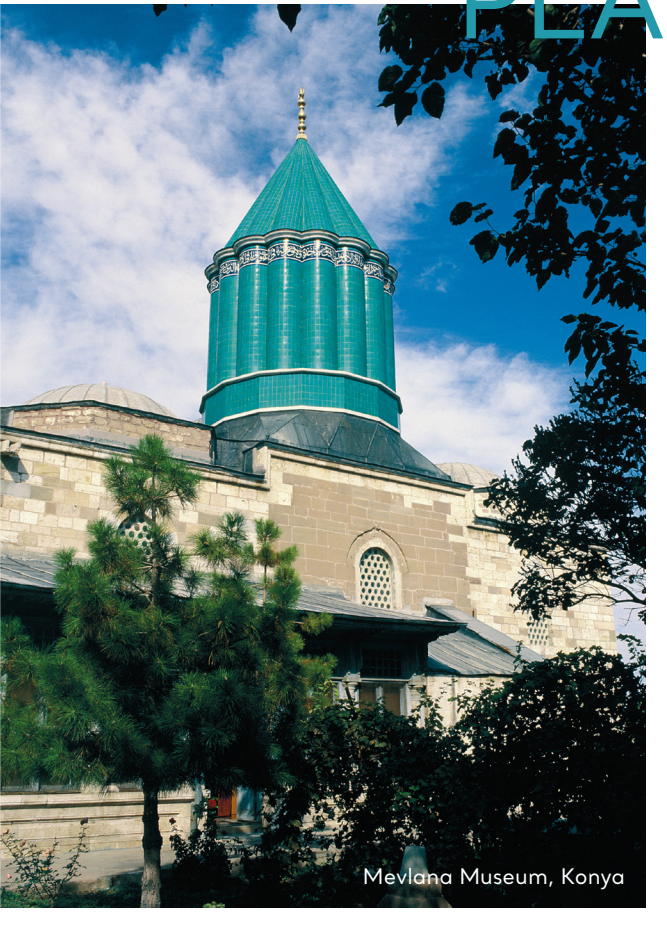
Mediterranean Region

Must Do's

- Visit the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations in Ankara
- Visit Anıtkabir and Atatürk Museum
- See the Historic Odunpazarı Houses in Eskişehir
- Witness the miracle of nature in Eskişehir Meerschaum Museum
- Take a hot-air balloon ride in Cappadocia
- Visit Rumi in Konya
- Taste pastrami in Kayseri
- Visit the kangal kennels in Sivas

Cappadocia, Nevşehir

HISTORICAL PLACES


Mevlana Museum, Konya

The important touristic attractions of the region include Cappadocia, home of the world-famous fairy chimneys as well as the Ihlara Valley, Derinkuyu underground cities, Göreme National Park, Seljuk monuments in Konya, Konya Archaeological Museum, Rumi's Tomb, Aziziye, Selimiye and Kapu Mosques, İnce Minaret, Karatay Madrasa and ancient Hittite cities located in various places. The Kurşunlu Mosque, its Complex in Eskişehir and the Behramşah Castle in Yozgat are among the important historic monuments of the region. Also, the Gök Madrasa, Ulu Mosque, Çifte Minareli Madrasa, Bürüciye Madrasa in Sivas are well worth visiting.

ARTS & CULTURE

Spearheaded by the vibrant cultural and artistic life of the capital Ankara, the Central Anatolia region hosts many culture and art events. In addition to the year-round plays and concerts, numerous gallery exhibitions that display artworks by both Turkish and international artists, brighten up Ankara's art world. A college city, Eskişehir hosts many events bolstered by the dynamism brought by young people, while the processing of meerschaum mineral that is unique to the region is a special form of craftsmanship. Many artworks are on display at the Meerschaum Museum and Museum of Modern Glass Arts. In addition to art events such as the International Rumi Commemoration Day held in Konya, Ankara Music and Film Festivals, Eskişehir International Film Festival, many local events including the Pastırma Festival in Kayseri, Erciyes Winter Tourism Festival, Nasrettin Hodja Birth Festivals held in Sivrihisar, Eskişehir and Yunus Emre Commemoration Day are now the meeting points for culture and art lovers all year.

GASTRONOMY

Every province in the Central Anatolia region offers its own unique flavors. Eskişehir's chebureki and the sorpa soup prepared with lamb meat, Konya's traditional etli ekmek (bread with minced meat), sacara and fırın Kebap, Sivas' famed meatballs, pide and katmer, Kayseri's dumplings and pastırma are dishes that must be tasted while visiting the Central Anatolia Region. In addition to its unique dish the Ankara tava, the capital offers a gastronomy mosaic of Türkiye with many restaurants serving exquisite samples from local and world cuisines.

SPORTS

Due to its harsh climate during winter months, the Central Anatolia region hosts many skiers in the skiing facilities in Erciyes, Kartalkaya, Ilgaz and Elmadağ. The capital, Ankara assumes an important role in the region with advanced sports facilities that hosts many national and international tournaments. One of the most interesting natural examples in the Central Anatolia region, the Lake Tuz offers its visitors to have the surreal experience to walk on the water and witness a vast expanse of white plains right out of a movie set. Mogan, Akşehir, Eymir and Ilgın Lakes and Sarıyar and Gökçekaya Resevoirs are among the favorites of hikers with their unique natural beauty.

NATURE

Welcoming their visitors with thousands of hues of green in spring and orange in fall, the national parks of the Central Anatolia region offer mesmerizing views. Aladağlar Mountain Range, Yozgat Pine Forest and Lake Beyşehir National Parks are standing out with their natural beauties. In addition to these, the Göreme Historic National Park enables visitors to discover history as well as nature, and it is particularly preferred by visitors, who are interested in archaeological sites. The Central Anatolia region also offers many options for thermal vacations. The healing waters of the region have been healing the inhabitants of the region for centuries. The districts of Kızılcahamam, Haymana, Ayaş and Beypazarı, located near Ankara, are the major centers for thermal tourism in the region.

Cappadocia, Nevşehir

Eastern Anatolia Region

Spanning from the northeastern corner of Türkiye to its southeastern corner, the Eastern Anatolia Region is impressive with its cities that bear the traces of many civilizations throughout history, vast mountain ranges, valleys, lakes and canyons. It is highly interesting for its unique gastronomy and culture shaped by the harsh climate and fauna.

Black Sea Region
Marmara Region
Eastern Anatolia Region
Central Anatolia Region
Aegean Region
Southeastern Anatolia Region
Mediterranean Region

Must Do's

- Visit Lake Van
- Ski at Sarıkamış
- Walk on frozen Çıldır Lake in winter
- Enjoy breakfeast in Van
- Eat cheese in Kars
- Visit Ani Ruins in Kars
- Visit İshak Pasha Palace in Ağrı

Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Aghtamar, Van

HISTORICAL PLACES

Ishak Pasha Palace, Ağrı

The Eastern Anatolia Region is home to many historic monuments such as the Ani Archaeological Site in Kars, Harput Castle that was built by the Urartian with a rectangular layout in Elazığ, Kemah Castle in Erzincan, Yakutiye Madrasa in Erzurum, İshak Pasha Palace and Tomb of Sheikh Ahmed-i Hani in Ağrı and Akdamar Church on the Akdamar Island in Lake Van. The world's largest Turkish-Islamic graveyard is also located in the gateway of Turks to Anatolia, Bitlis Ahlat.

ARTS & CULTURE

Home of the Van cat that is famed for its mismatched colored eyes, Van is a college city and hosts many culture and art events in the region just like Erzurum, another college city in the region. The Boğatepe Village in Kars, the land of cheese, is home to the first and only Cheese Museum of Türkiye. Events such as the Yüzenada Festival that is held in Bingöl every August, Tatvan Eastern Anatolia Fair Culture and Arts Festival that is held in Bitlis every July, Sarıkamış Snow Festival, April 15 Ağrı Festivities, Ardahan Honey Festival, Muş Tulip Festival, Ardahan and Malazgirt Culture Festivities bring dynamism to the region.

GASTRONOMY

Almost each province has its own cuisine in the region that is rich and unique in terms of gastronomy. Van stands out with its herby cheese enriching the city's highly rich and delicious breakfast. The pearl mullet caught in Lake Van is among the unique flavors that must be experienced. Kars is famous for its graviera and kaşar cheese. Bitlis style büryan Kebap, Erzurum cağ Kebap, Ardahan's sacaltı Kebap and dil Kebap are unique to the region, leaving the visitors' palates with unforgettable flavors.

SPORTS

The Eastern Anatolia region has the most snowfall in Türkiye during winter months and therefore has facilities ideal for skiing. Thanks to the longer than usual winter season, it is among the leading regions for skiing with facilities such as Kars Sarıkamış Ski Center, Erzurum Palandöken Ski Center, Bingöl Yolkaçtı Ski Center, Bitlis Merkez Ski Center, Elazığ Sivrice Hazarbaba Ski Center, Erzincan Bolkar Ski Center and Ağrı Mount Bubi Ski Center. Also, the Çoruh River and Barhal Stream in Artvin are among the top 10 spots for rafting in Türkiye. The tallest mountain in Türkiye, Mount Ağrı is one of the favorite spots for mountain climbing.

NATURE

The region is home to many natural wonders. The famed Mount Ağrı, the 2nd largest crater lake in the world, and the largest crater lake in Türkiye, Nemrut Crater Lake in Bitlis, Lake Çıldır that freeze in winter, Bingöl Floating Isles, Tortum and Girvelik Waterfalls, Munzur Valley National Park, Sarıkamış-Allahüekber Mountain Range and Mount Ağrı National Park are only a few of the natural attractions in the region.

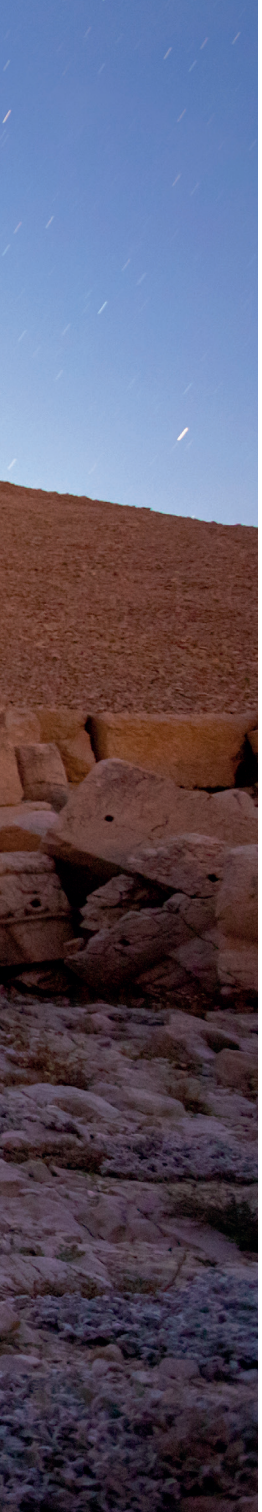
Palandöken Ski Center, Erzurum

Southeastern Anatolia Region

The Southeastern Anatolia Region of Türkiye takes its visitors to an almost mystical landscape with the historic monuments left behind by tens of civilizations at every corner of these ancient lands and its culture and gastronomy that was carried to present day by the peoples inhabited these lands for centuries. Cradle of handicrafts Mardin with its stone houses that are one of a kind in the world; home to one of the largest mosaic museums in the world, Zeugma Mosaic Museum, Gaziantep; and the city of Prophets, Şanlıurfa, where one of the greatest archaeological discoveries of the century that has changed the understanding of human history, Göbeklitepe are among the important focal points of the region.

Black Sea Region
Marmara Region
Central Anatolia Region
Eastern Anatolia Region
Aegean Region
Southeastern Anatolia Region
Mediterranean Region

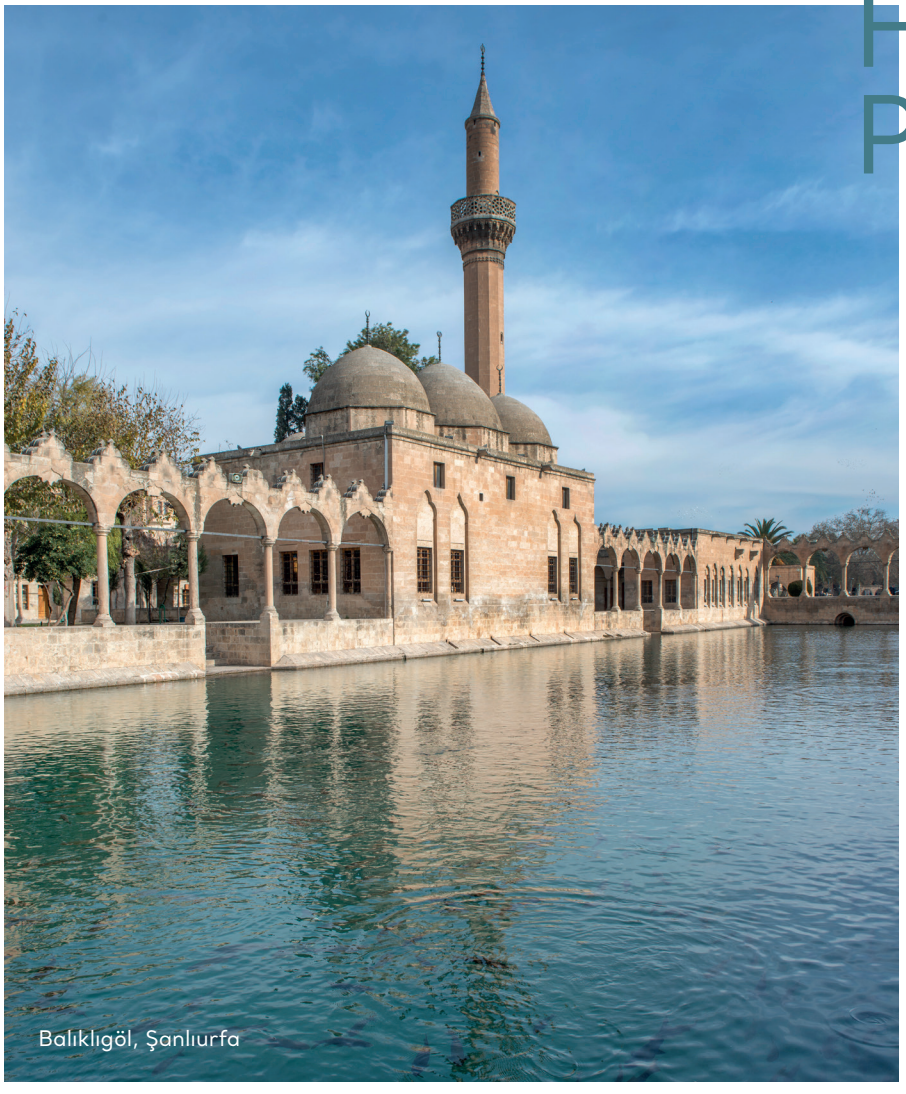
Mount Nemrut, Adıyaman



Must Do's

- Visit Göbeklitepe, the Zero Point in Time
- Drink Menengiç coffee at Gümrük Caravanserai
- Visit the Zeugma Ancient City and Museum
- Climb the stairs to the Hasankeyf Castle
- Watch the sunrise on Mount Nemrut
- Visit the Deyrulzafaran Monastery in Mardin
- Discover Cittaslow Halfeti

Zeugma Mosaic Museum, Gaziantep



Balıklıgöl, Şanlıurfa

HISTORICAL PLACES

Home to Göbeklitepe and assumed to be established by Seleucus I Nicator circa 300 CE, Şanlıurfa bears the traces of all civilizations that were dominant on this region throughout history. Visitors to the city have the opportunity to visit the protected ancient city in Harran, Balıklıgöl, Cave of the Patriarchs, Historic Grand Bazaar, Fırfırlı Mosque, Mosaic Museum and the Urfa Archaeological Museum, where the largest Neolithic artefact is on display. In Gaziantep, in addition to Zeugma Mosaic Museum, Şahinbey Museum of National Struggle, where visitors can learn about the legendary struggle that gave the city its current name, Rumkale Castle, Historic Gümrük Caravanserai, Turkish Bath Museum and Karkamış Ancient City are among the must-see locations. With its distinctive architecture and unique stone houses, Mardin is an ancient city that gives the sense of living in another time and place. Mardin keeps its unique culture born out of

different religious beliefs, traditions and customs since antiquity. Deyrulzafaran Monastery, Dara Mesopotamia Ruins, Kırklar Church, Mardin Ulu Mosque are among places that should not be missed.

ARTS & CULTURE

Visitors staying at local hotels of Şanlıurfa can enjoy the Sıra Night that represents the local entertainment style unique to the area. A distinct location with wood cladded shops and stone cobbled streets, Gaziantep's Bakırcılar Çarşısı (Coppersmiths' Market) is a must-visit to see the exquisite examples of various handicrafts. In Mardin, the centuries-old diversity of cultures has made the city a cradle of handicrafts. Many forms of handicrafts are still sustained in Mardin; for instance, the art of telkari, in which thin wires of silver or gold are fused to form decorative objects or jewelry, is an age-old tradition that adds another dimension to silver and gold working and does not exist anywhere in the world.

GASTRONOMY

The original cuisine of the region offers an unforgettable experience for the visitors. Urfa Kebap, liver Kebap, raw meatballs, lahmacun, pilaf varieties and bostana salad and künefe as a dessert are the flavors that must be tasted in Şanlıurfa. Many special flavors await the visitors in Gaziantep, whose cuisine is placed on the list of UNESCO's Cities of Gastronomy. What makes the Gaziantep cuisine enjoying more than 400 different dishes so special is the variety of ingredients used. For instance, Gaziantep cuisine uses seven kinds of sour flavours while traditional cuisines use one or two.

The Munzur River, Tunceli

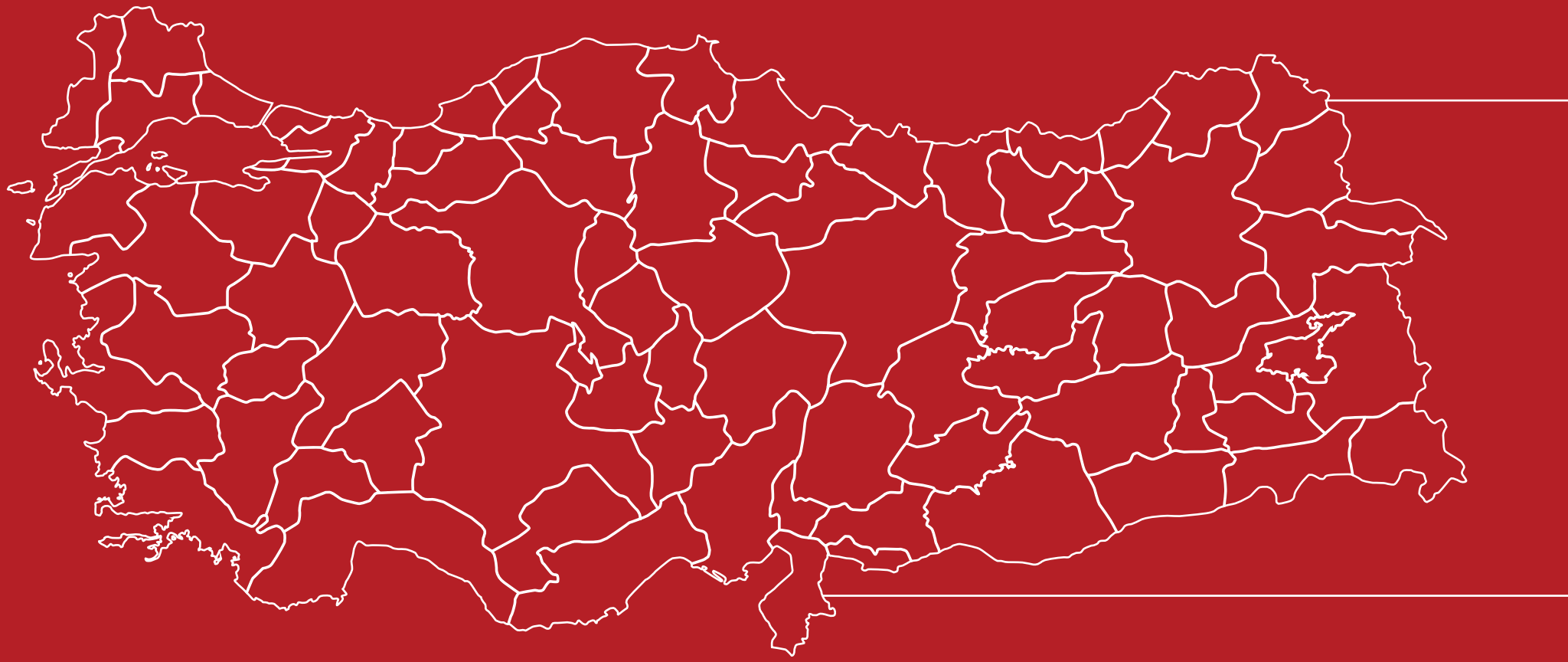
Amanos Mountains, Hatay

SPORTS

The Munzur River in Tunceli mesmerizes the visitors with its unique nature and it is one of the top 10 rivers for rafting in Türkiye. Munzur River is within the borders of the Munzur Valley National Park and promises its visitors an exciting adventure with a challenging 20 kilometer long track. Şanlıurfa's Siverek district is home to the Karacadağ Ski Center where skiers are hosted every year.

NATURE

Mount Nemrut National Park in Adıyaman is one of the world-famous destinations in the region. It offers one of the best places around the globe to capture a stunning sunrise. Birecik is another important spot in the region where the northern bald ibis, a bird species rarely seen anywhere else in the world, continue to live under protection there. Another course that should not be missed by the visitors is the Hızır Valley. Located on top of Amanos Mountain Range within the borders of Gaziantep province, Hızır Valley promises an unforgettable experience to the visitors with colorful flowers, mountain tulips and captivating views.



Up and Rising Trends in Türkiye

UP & RISING TRENDS IN TÜRKİYE

GÖBEKLİTEPE
ZERO POINT IN TIME

GÖBEKLİTEPE

Türkiye's Southeastern Anatolian region, whose ancient earth is scattered with the traces of dozens of civilisations, has magnificent historical remains that have withstood the test of time. It still holds the memories of the people who inhabited the area over the centuries. Beyond any doubt, the most outstanding of these remains is Göbeklitepe.
It dates back to 12 thousand years ago. The 'Zero Point in Time', Göbeklitepe whisks its visitors away to a world of mystery and is one of the most remarkable discoveries that has changed our understanding of human history.

EASTERN EXPRESS

The Eastern Express in Türkiye starts its journey in Ankara and ends it in Kars. It takes more than 24 hours to complete this journey. It is true that getting ther by plane is much shorter, but those on-board pick the Eastern Express to enjoy a nostalgic journey adorned by breathtaking views.

UP & RISING TRENDS IN TÜRKİYE

WINE TASTING

Türkiye is one of the countries where wine has long been produced. It is probably one of the first to have started making wine. There are 600 to 1200 grape varieties unique to Türkiye. The leading vineyard regions in the country are the coastline of the Marmara Sea, Cappadocia in Central Anatolia, Aegean Region and eastern provinces like Elazığ and Diyarbakır.

SPORTS

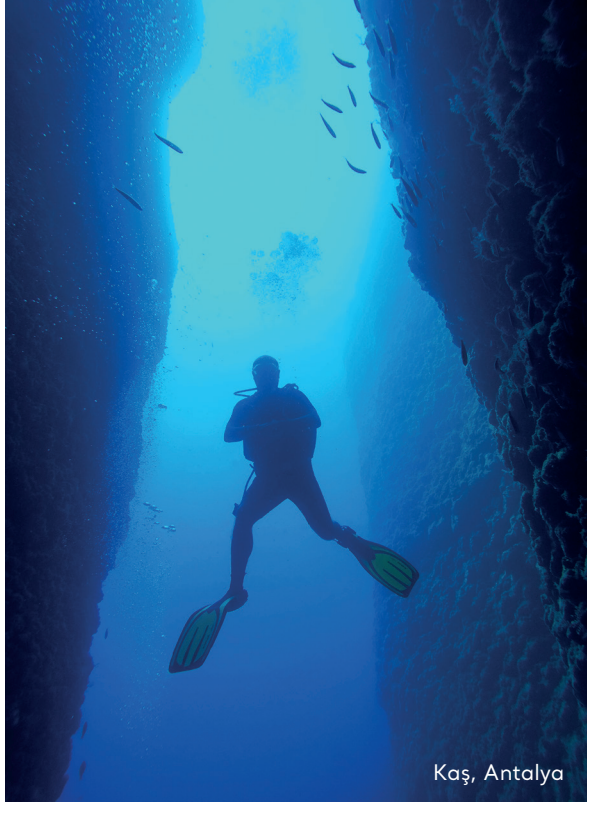
Türkiye blends its striking natural sceneries with the historical values of the Antiquity and invites those seeking adventure every season. A peninsula surrounded by waters on three sides, Türkiye offers sports and healthy activities suitable for anyone.

KITE-WIND SURFING

Windy shores and short, frequent waves provide a perfect setting for surfing, windsurfing and kite surfing throughout the year. Surfing centres are located in various locations, from the easternmost shores of the Black Sea to the seas of the Marmara, the Aegean and the Mediterranean offering variety to surfing enthusiasts at every level of proficiency. The most prominent of these destinations are Alaçatı, Datça, and Akyarlar where surfers can enjoy crystal clear seas.

Alaçatı, İzmir

UP & RISING TRENDS IN TÜRKİYE


Kaş, Antalya

SCUBA-DIVING

Türkiye's 8,000 kilometer coastline and its perfect Mediterranean climate combined with great visibility under water and fascinating historic wrecks addresses the country as one of the great destinations for divers. Türkiye hosts some of the best free diving centers in the world, and this magnificent undersea world is complemented by the enchanting turquoise seascapes and green shorelines. Diving conditions are excellent throughout the diving season from April to November with visibility up to 30m and with water temperatures ranging between 18°C and 26°C.

Ovacık, Antalya

CYCLING

Türkiye has fantastic cycling routes around the country that offer amazing views of Türkiye's coasts and sightseeing of ancient cities and ruins. Best routes are; Cappadocia, Princes' Islands - İstanbul, Kapıdağ Peninsula in Marmara Region, Bozburun Peninsula – Marmaris in Aegean Region, Fethiye Peninsula and Lycian Coast in Mediterranean Region.

İSTANBUL REGENERATED NEIGBOURHOODS: BALAT, GOLDENHORN, YELDEĞİRMENİ

İstanbul is a mega city inhabited by more than 14 million people and embodies the entire country where no neighborhoods are the same due to the diversity of cultural backgrounds and beliefs held by the inhabitants. With modern neighborhoods filled with boutique art galleries, restaurants and bars, İstanbul is where you will definitely enjoy getting lost between historical and contemporary venues.

Balat, İstanbul

UP & RISING TRENDS IN TÜRKİYE

GASTRONOMY:

NEW GENERATION MEYHANES AND THIRD WAVE COFFEE SHOPS

Like everything in the world, the meyhane culture that has been maintained in Anatolia for centuries is changing and evolving; the best example of this is the "New Generation" meyhanes that are popping out at many neighborhoods in Istanbul. To adapt to this generation, the new meyhanes play more modern music, offer mezes that are influenced by many different cuisines that cater to every age group and they are quickly becoming the new symbols of the city.

The same situation applies to the coffee culture. A cup of coffee will be remembered for 40 years; however, new generation coffee shops did not wait that long to take their place in the street culture. These third wave coffee shops spread quickly by offering blends of different coffee beans from all around the world to coffee lovers. It is possible to taste these new generation coffees mainly in Karaköy, Moda, Balat and Cihangir in İstanbul, as well as in many other cities all around the country.

GASTRONOMY TOURS:

HATAY, ANTAKYA, GAZİANTEP, ADANA, İSTANBUL.

Türkiye has a remarkable array of cultural traditions fed by elements that differ in each region. The Turkish gastronomy goes well beyond the expectations of the gourmets, offering distinct flavors in almost every city.

Pamukkale, Denizli

WELL BEING

Türkiye has more than 1500 thermal springs and more than 260 thermal facilities and is at the highest level in terms of using thermal resources. You can receive thermal treatments approximately for 300 days per year in Türkiye.

CALENDAR OF MAJOR EVENTS

Sureyya Opera House, İstanbul

- Jazz Festival – July, İstanbul
- Contemporary İstanbul – September , İstanbul
- Sinop Biennial – August, Sinop
- Coffee Festival – September, İstanbul / September, Ankara
- Fashion Week – March - October, İstanbul
- İstanbul Movie Festival – April, İstanbul
- International Golden Orange Film Festival - September/October, Antalya
- İstanbul Music Festival- June, İstanbul
- Bozcaada Jazz Festival- July, Bozcaada
- Zeytinli Rock Fest – August/September, Edremit
- Urla Fresh Herb Festival – March, İzmir
- İzmir International Fair – September, İzmir
- International Golden Boll Film Festival - September, Adana
- Orange Blossom Carnival – April, Adana

USEFUL INFORMATION

Maiden's Tower, İstanbul

WEATHER

Surrounded by high mountains and open seas, Türkiye is a cornucopia of natural wonders. Apart from that, Türkiye is noted for its climatic diversity ranging from the Mediterranean to oceanic and continental climates.

TAX

The generally applied Value Added Tax (VAT) rates are set at 1%, 8%, and 18%. Commercial, industrial, agricultural, and independent professional goods and services, goods and services imported into the country, and deliveries of goods and services as a result of other activities are all subject to VAT.

SHOPPING, BARGAINING, TIPPING

It is typical to tip the servants up to 20 percent of the bill to receive good service in generic restaurants. Tipping is always the choice of the customer. And bargaining is a tradition in Türkiye as it is in many countries.

TIME ZONES

Time in Türkiye follows UTC+ 03:00 all year. This time zone is also called Local Turkish Time (TRT) or According to Local Time in Türkiye (TSI). The time is in the same time zone with Eastern European Time, Arabic Standard Time and Time Zone in Moscow.

CURRENCY

The currency of Türkiye is Turkish Lira (₺). There are 200 ₺, 100 ₺, 50 ₺, 20 ₺, 10 ₺ and 5 ₺ bills. Coins are available for the amounts of 1₺, 0,5 ₺, 0,25₺, 0,10₺, 0,05₺ , 0,01₺
Exchange offices are available at international airports, hotels and central areas of the cities.

Kabak Bay, Muğla

About Tourism Türkiye

Located in the Mediterranean and connecting Asia and Europe continents that are separated by the famous Bosphorus, Türkiye is a unique destination for international tourists. The country that has always been a hub for cultural interaction and home to varying climates inspires the visitors today with its history, nature and gastronomy that reflect the diversity of civilizations for centuries. Located at the crossroads of cultures, Türkiye has a distinct understanding of art & fashion which is the synthesis of tradition and modernity, and its extremely dynamic shopping & entertainment life also attracts the visitors from all over the world.

Signature Experiences in Türkiye

1. CROSSING BETWEEN CONTINENTS

One of the most frequently asked questions about Türkiye is - What continent is Türkiye in? In İstanbul, people will proudly answer "Both!". In no other place in Türkiye, the distinction is clear as it is in İstanbul, where the city spans on both continents. The Bosphorus divides the city of İstanbul into European and Asian sides.

Bosphorus, İstanbul

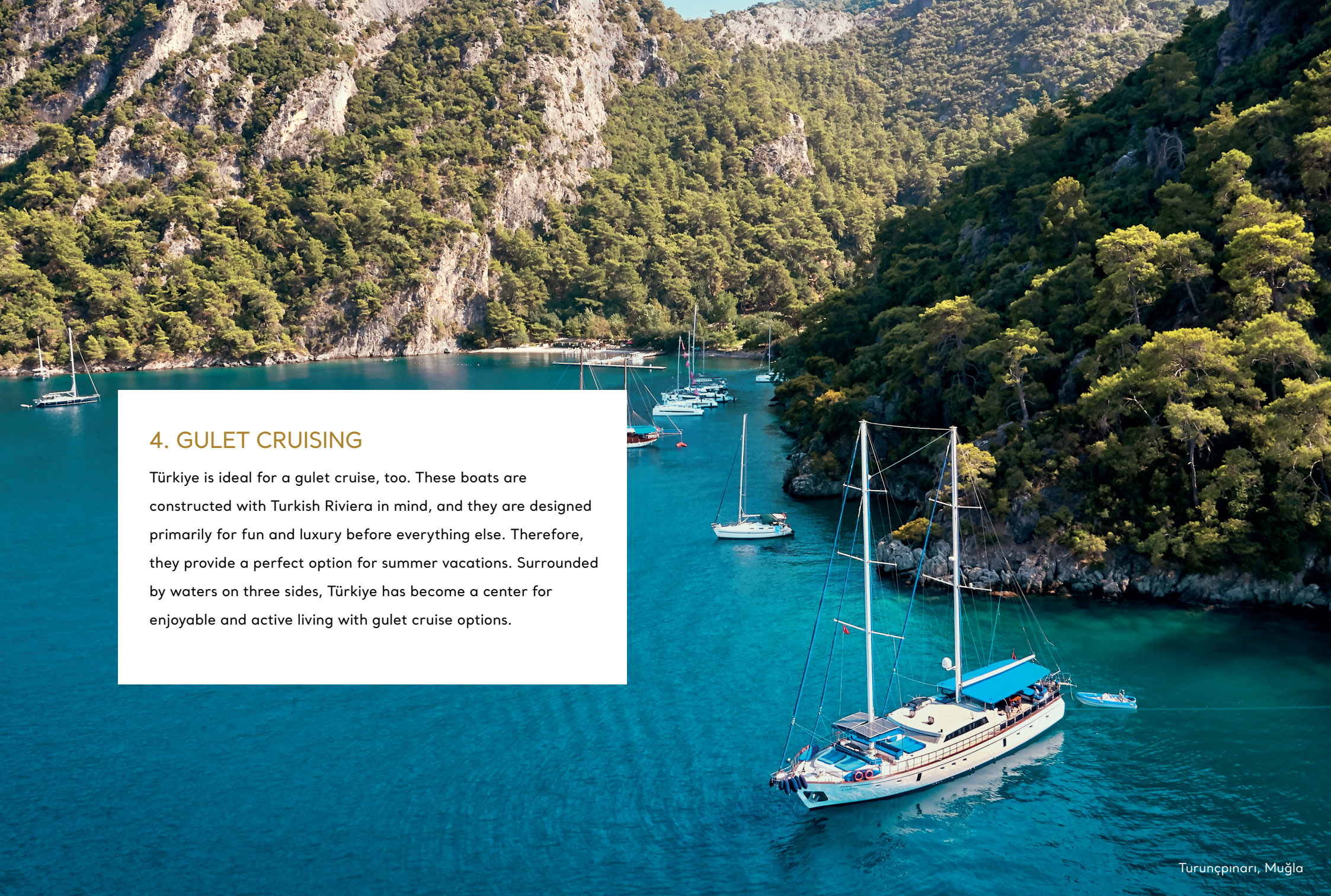
2. LYCIAN WAY

The Lycian Way, one of the most picturesque trekking routes in the world, invites aficionados of history and adventure to explore nature in all its magnificence as it reawakens in the spring. So, rejuvenate yourself and relish the ancient history! Sightseeing is an art, and the best and most efficient way to do it is by walking. The Lycian Way, with its landscapes, nature, and ancient past, is one of the best places on Earth to put it into practice. This unique route, which covers nearly 330 miles (535 km) offers adventure, stunning scenery, and the opportunity to explore ancient heritage.

Ölüdeniz, Muğla

3. BEACHES

Türkiye, with 7,200 km of coastline, has increased its blue flag beaches every year. There are 463 blue-flag beaches surrounded by tourist facilities while another 150 are public.



4. GULET CRUISING

Türkiye is ideal for a gulet cruise, too. These boats are constructed with Turkish Riviera in mind, and they are designed primarily for fun and luxury before everything else. Therefore, they provide a perfect option for summer vacations. Surrounded by waters on three sides, Türkiye has become a center for enjoyable and active living with gulet cruise options.

Turunçpınarı, Muğla

5. GALLIPOLI PENINSULA

Gallipoli (historically Callipolis), its harbor and town are located on a narrow peninsula on the Marmara Sea end of the Dardanelles.

6. STREET FOODS

As defined by the Oxford Dictionary as "a type of bread often coated with molasses and covered in sesame seeds, originating in Türkiye", simit is far beyond a simple pastry that can be eaten in any meal across the country. With tea, it is probably the most modest breakfast among Turks. Stuffed mussels "Midye Dolma" in Turkish is one of the most favorite street and beach food in Marmara, Aegean and Meditteranean Regions. Turks have a habit of getting as many as they can and even bet among each other to see who can eat the more.

7. SUNSET/SUNRISE ON MOUNT NEMRUT

One of the most important rituals when visiting Mount Nemrut is to enjoy the sunrise and sunset from the summit. King Antiochus erected giant statues of gods on the eastern and western terraces to show the respect of the ancestors for the western and eastern civilizations and inscribed their names both in Persian and Greek languages. The visitors get to enjoy watching the sunrise and sunset with these statues that have witnessed history for two thousand years.

8. LEGENDS OF MYTHOLOGY

As the birthplace of countless civilizations, Türkiye is the homeland of many historical and mythological figures, as well as many legends. The famous historian Herodotus, the apostle Saint Paul, King Midas and the goddess Cybele were all born in Anatolia. The Siren Rocks, described by Homer in the Odyssey, as well as the city of Troy from the Iliad are both in Türkiye, in Foça and Çanakkale respectively.

Mount Nemut, Adıyaman

9. WHIRLING DERVISHES

Whirling Dervishes took their name from scholar, poet and great Sufi mystic Mevlânâ Celâleddîn-i Rumi (1207-1273). Sufis seek a close relationship with God and perform a dance called "Sema" for Mevlânâ, sing hymns and say prayers for Mevlânâ.

10. BIENNIALS

Three major biennials are held in İstanbul and Mardin.
The objective of Mardin Biennial is to bring momentum to the city through arts. Every year artists, intellectuals, students and people coming from different cultures bring Mardin into the spotlight with a series of bedazzling exhibitions.

The İstanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (IKSV) has been organising the İstanbul Biennial since 1987 and İstanbul Design Biennial since 2012. Those biennials aims to connect artists from diverse cultures to the audience.

11. PAMUKKALE TRAVERTINES

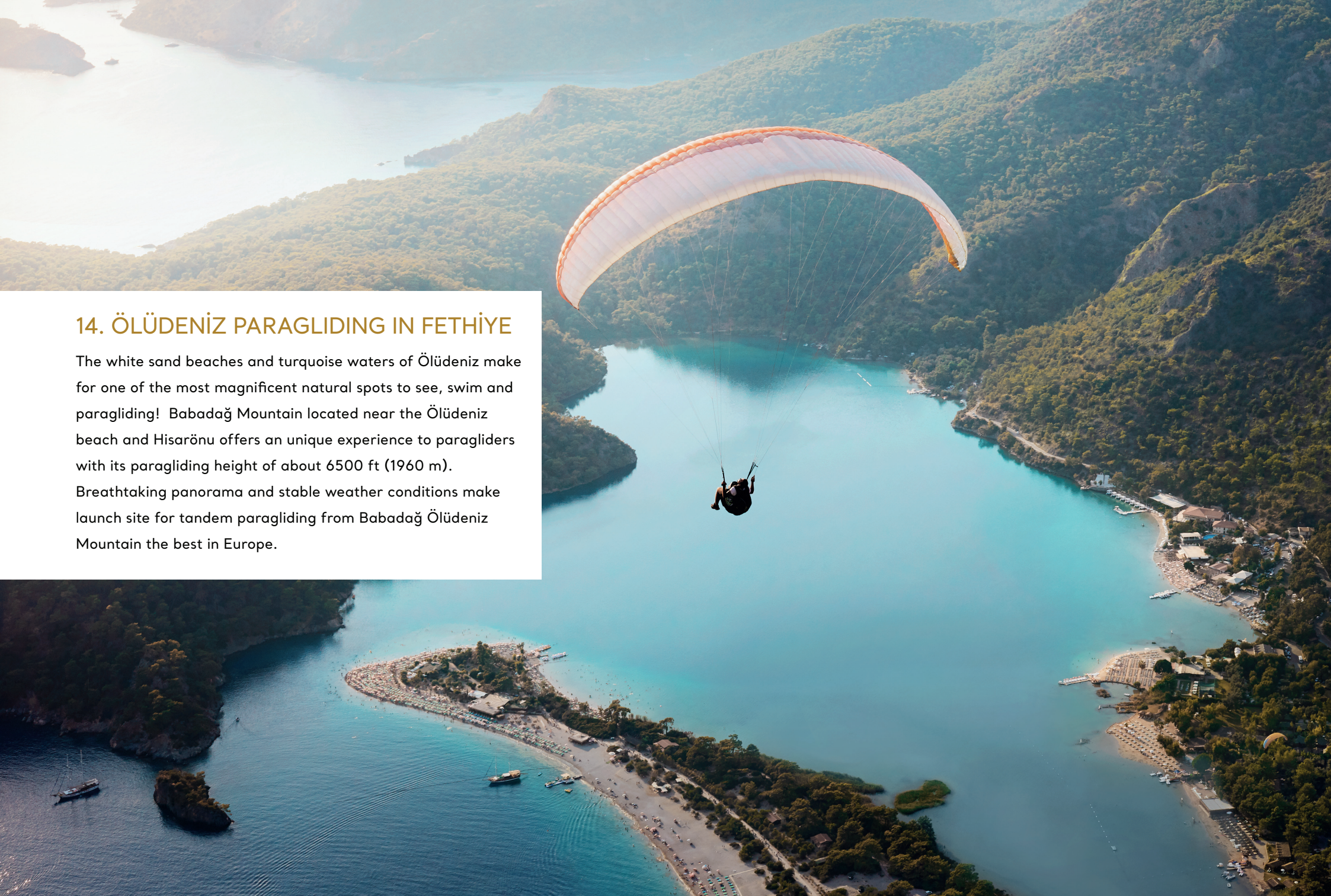
Pamukkale enchants its visitors at the first sight. Under the spell of travertine Pergamon Kingdom established the Hierapolis city nearby 2.000 years ago. At that era Hierapolis served as a thermal health center and visitors from various parts of Anatolia flocked to the city to receive a balneal treatment in search of health or beauty. In our age, those who seek beauty or health still dip in the thermal pools. Visitors also enjoy swimming the timeless pools as their ancestors did and enjoy the majestic sight of the travertine.

12. HARVEST TIME (ROSE HARVEST, LAVENDER HARVEST, GRAPE HARVEST AND MANY MORE.)

Harvests take place in Türkiye throughout the year and each is celebrated with great enthusiasm. It is possible to plan for an alternative holiday with locals by joining the harvest events all around the country and gathering roses, grapes, lavenders, pistachios or tea leaves and many more.

13. CANOEING OVER A SUNKEN LYCIAN CITY SIMENA

The remains of ancient Simena, now modern Kaleköy (just inland of Kekova Island), form one of the most impressive historical sites in Türkiye. Simena sits below the remains of a Crusader Castle that have been partly submerged in the Mediterranean hit by the earthquakes 1,800 years ago. Visitors exploring the area by a boat or canoe can see the Lycian burial ground and huge sarcophagi scattered along the nearby hillside.



14. ÖLÜDENİZ PARAGLIDING IN FETHİYE

The white sand beaches and turquoise waters of Ölüdeniz make for one of the most magnificent natural spots to see, swim and paragliding! Babadağ Mountain located near the Ölüdeniz beach and Hisarönu offers an unique experience to paragliders with its paragliding height of about 6500 ft (1960 m). Breathtaking panorama and stable weather conditions make launch site for tandem paragliding from Babadağ Ölüdeniz Mountain the best in Europe.

Süleymaniye Mosque, İstanbul

15. MASTERPIECES OF MİMAR SİNAN

The royal Ottoman architect Mimar Sinan left dozens of masterpieces in many cities such as İstanbul, Edirne, Erzurum and Diyarbakır. The Selimiye Mosque in Edirne is one of the most famous works of Turkish-Ottoman art. The Suleymaniye Mosque in İstanbul transformed the city's silhouette, becoming one of İstanbul's most renowned symbols.

16. TURKISH BATHS

A traditional Turkish bath or hamam is a perfect way to unwind and experience total relaxation. In one of Türkiye's many historic hamams, you will be scrubbed, washed and massaged in a perfectly authentic atmosphere.

17. HOT AIR BALLOONS (CAPPADOCIA, PAMUKKALE)

One of the leading destinations for hot air balloon tourism in the world, Cappadocia offers mesmerizing rides over the open-air museum and you can start the day with a breathtaking view of the fairy chimneys. As an alternative to Cappadocia's sepia hues, Pamukkale's unique white travertines have become a rising star for balloon tourism in the recent years.

Cappadocia, Nevşehir

18. İZTUZU AND CARETTA CARETTAS

Situated 10 kilometers from Dalyan, İztuzu is a blue paradise where you can swim and sunbathe on golden sands. İztuzu is also one of the Mediterranean nesting sites of the loggerhead turtle or the caretta caretta. Every year, these endangered turtles appear between May and October to lay their eggs on the protected shore.

19. THE WORLD'S FIRST CHURCH

Antakya in southern Türkiye is one of the most historic cities in the country. Known as Antioch in ancient times, the city has been home to many civilizations and religions. Believed to be the first church ever built, the Church of St. Pierre in Antakya was carved in secret into the mountains.

20. THE MOSAICS OF ZEUGMA

The city of Gaziantep in southeastern Türkiye is home to the world's largest mosaic museum, the Zeugma Mosaic Museum. At the museum, you can see partly reconstructed ancient Roman villas, priceless mosaics, statues, fountains and frescoes.

21. THE SUMELA MONASTERY

One of the highlights of the Black Sea region, Sumela Monastery sits on a steep cliff at an altitude of 1200 meters. Carved out into the Karadağ Mountain above the Altındere Valley, the monastery dates back to the 4th century BCE and is a striking place to visit.

22. THE GREEN PASTURES OF THE BLACK SEA

Türkiye's Black Sea Coast is a nature lover's paradise with its alpine pastures, beautiful mountains, pristine lakes and rivers. The evergreen mountain pastures or "Yayla"s are perfect destinations to spend some time in nature. From the Ayder Valley in the Kaçkar Mountains to Pokut in Rize, these pastures have cool weather even in summer.

23. BIRTHPLACE OF SANTA CLAUS

Saint Nicholas, the 4th-century bishop who inspired the legend of Santa Claus, was born in Patara and lived in nearby Demre, known as Myria in ancient times. Patara, where you can find an ancient city and Türkiye's longest beach, is only an hour away from Kaş. A few kilometers from Patara, Demre is the home of Saint Nicholas Church, which has been a place of worship and pilgrimage for centuries.

24. THE REAL TROY

Çanakkale is home to one of the most famous archaeological sites in the world. Described in Homer's Iliad as the place where the Trojan War started, the site of Troy dates back four thousand years. The recently opened Troy Museum features interactive displays to better understand the nine periods of historic settlement in Troy.

ABOUT TÜRKİYE'S SAFE TOURISM CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

As part of the measures which have been put in place to prevent the spreading of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) that has been declared by World Health Organization as a pandemic, controlled normalization phase has now been initiated. Following the successful fight against the pandemic, to ensure that travel and tourism operations are carried out safely, all accommodation facilities, either active or soon to be active, are obliged to strictly comply with the measures and regulations set forth by relevant governmental bodies and public institutions.

Türkiye's Safe Tourism Certification Program defines an extensive series of measures to be taken with regards to transportation and accommodation of all Turkish citizens and international visitors who will spend their holidays in Türkiye. The certificate which will be given by international certification institutions will document and validate that airline companies, airports and other means of transportation as well as accommodation, congress and convention, theme parks, sea tourism, ski lift facilities and food & beverage serving facilities are compliant with high-level health and hygiene standards and measures.

Türkiye has implemented a tourism employee vaccination registration program for tourism employees in coordination with The Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Ministry of Health and Türkiye Tourism Promotion and Development Agency (TGA). The Program has been launched within the scope of 'Safe Tourism Certification Program' to welcome international travelers for the upcoming tourism season and to ensure the health and safety of tourism employees and its residents.

Within the scope of the program, first of all the employees of accommodation facilities, restaurants, tour guides, travel agencies who is registered under the 'Safe Tourism Certification Program' has been vaccinated.

CERTIFICATE OF
SAFE TOURISM
TÜRKİYE

PASSENGERS' HEALTH & SAFETY

Passengers (6 years of age and over) arriving to Türkiye are required to have taken a PCR test with a negative result within 72 hours prior to their scheduled flight departure, and the test result should be submitted during check-in.

Our passengers will be greeted at airports by authorized personnel wearing protective gears such as masks, gloves, face visors and goggles.

Passengers without face masks will not be allowed inside the airports and masks will be provided.

All our passengers will go through temperature measuring or thermal screening which detects elevated body temperatures.

PASSENGERS' HEALTH & SAFETY

The sitting areas and the elevators rearranged to adhere to safe social distancing guidelines.

In case a passenger displays any symptoms, healthcare personnel with required medical equipment will be available on-site and the passenger will be tested for COVID-19. Quarantine rooms complying with all international standards and in case of any symptoms, service will be taken from the nearest health center.

There are sensor gates, electronic check-in and special measures taken at the baggage area along with plexiglass barriers that minimize contact between passengers and airport personnel.

CERTIFICATE OF SAFE TOURISM TÜRKİYE

EMPLOYEES' HEALTH & SAFETY

All staff will go through pre-shift screening for symptoms before they enter the airport facilities. Thermal cameras and digital thermometers will be used for screening.

Our staff will receive regular hygiene and sanitation support. All necessary hygiene, sanitation, and medical equipment will be procured during the training period.

Restrooms for the personnel and the passengers displaying symptoms will be separate.

PRECAUTIONS AND MEASURES TAKEN AT TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES

All transportation vehicles will be regularly sterilized and disinfected; the seating plan will be arranged to maintain safe social distancing.

The personnel will check passengers' temperatures before departure. All passengers will wear face masks during the trip.

One seat will be left empty between each passenger.

PRECAUTIONS AND MEASURES TAKEN AT TOURISTIC FACILITIES

Our guests will have access to facilities after they go through temperature screening.

Our guests will be allowed access to facilities after they go through thermal (temperature) screening.

All areas within the facility will be disinfected regularly. The ventilation systems will also be checked regularly.

Social distancing rules will be applied in all common areas including swimming pools, meeting rooms, animations & recreational areas, and foyers. The facility will strictly adhere to reduced occupancy and guest capacity guidelines.

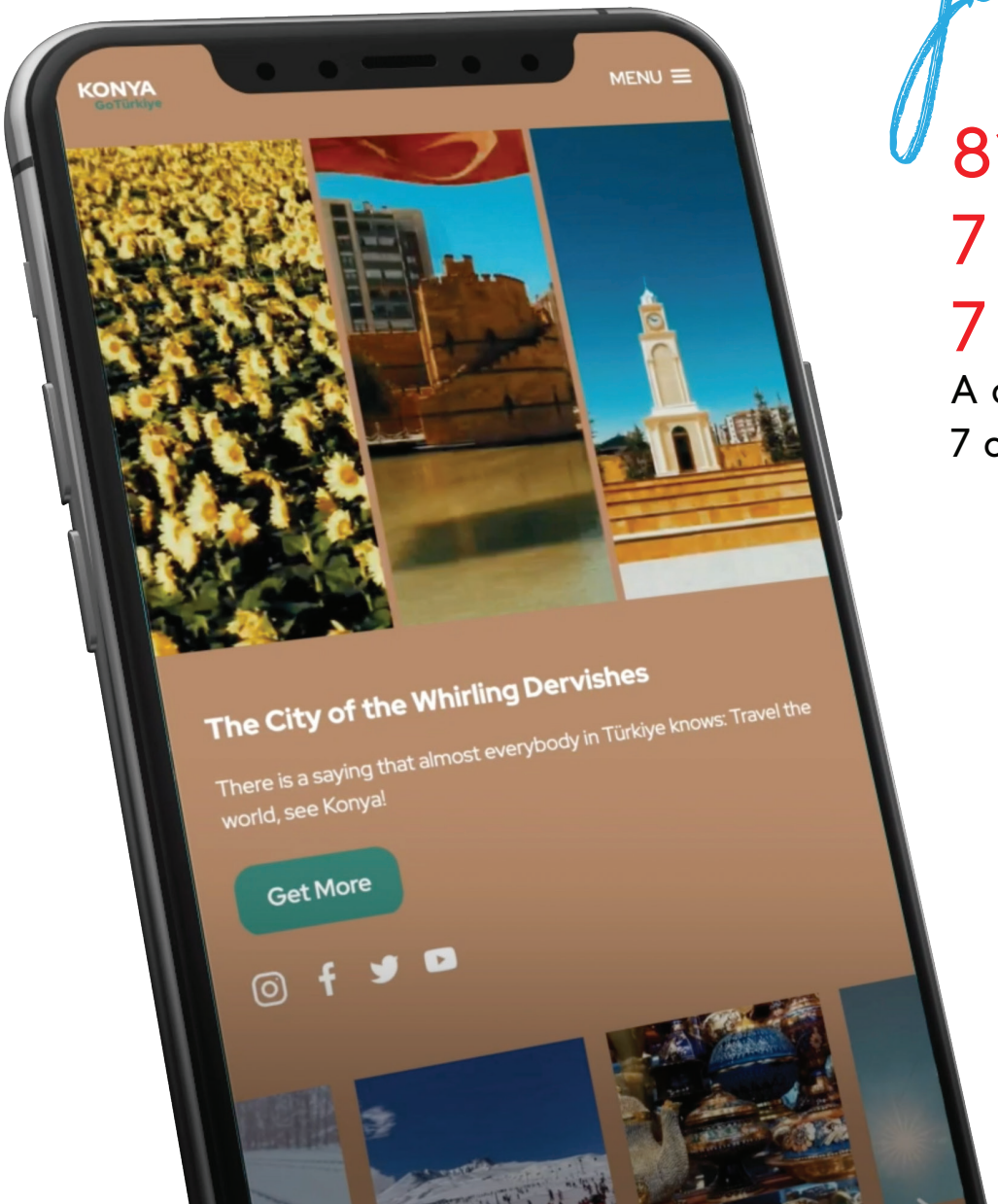
PRECAUTIONS AND MEASURES TAKEN AT TOURISTIC FACILITIES

Disinfectants and hand sanitizers will be placed throughout the facility for our guests' use.

There will be glass separators between the foods and the guest at the open buffets. The waitstaff will be serving the food requested by the guests as part of preventative measures.

In the kitchens, only the equipment that can be disinfected will be used. Disposable and packaged cutlery and seasonings will be available for guests at their table.

CERTIFICATE OF SAFE TOURISM TÜRKİYE



goturkiye.com

81 Cities
7 Regions
7 Colors

A digital tourism experience covering the 7 colors of 7 regions in 81 cities

ABOUT GOTURKIYE.COM

The global tourism information platform of Türkiye, GoTurkiye.com, with its modern design and state-of-the-art infrastructure, provides one-stop shop for all cultural and touristic assets of the country for those who would like to get information about Türkiye or plan their next visit.

Designed with the latest technology and design trends by Türkiye Tourism Promotion and Development Agency (TGA) and Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the new GoTurkiye platform (www.goturkiye.com) introduces tourist destinations and different experiences across 81 cities of Türkiye in a modernly designed website using a comprehensive storytelling model.

In addition to destinations, the platform features more than 50 different topics based on changing trends including golf tourism, museums, cultural routes, faith tourism, gastronomy, shopping.

The platform, which features comprehensive overviews of nature and culture routes, also in accordance with new trends has subpages specially prepared for different interest groups such as digital nomads and cycling enthusiasts. The new GoTurkiye.com platform also connect with its target audience through its own TV and podcast channels.

Kekova, Antalya

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