



Did you know?

The Wondrous Variety From The Hearty Olive

As you cross the **Olive Route**, you can savour three common and popular Olive varieties in **Türkiye**.

Domati, found throughout the **TürkAegean**, are larger olives and, therefore, considered the best green olives for stuffing with garlic, almonds, peppers, and cheeses. Also in the region is the green Memecik olives are mid-sized olives with a slightly oval shape. It offers a rich taste due to its high oil content.

Milas olive oil received recognition from the EU. The European Union registered it for a protected designation of origins and geographical indication.

Türkiye's relationship with the olive is sacred. And getting in touch with nature along the route, you will soon discover why Türkiye is one of the top 5 olive producers in the world.

When venturing southwards to **Aydın**, the visitors can learn about the history of olives, meet the families who cultivate the olive groves, help with the harvest, and set their taste buds on fire with the olives and olive oil-based dishes of Turkish cuisine.

land's olive and olive oil connection between the to reflect on the **Kuşadası**. Step back in time Olive Oil History Museum in the Oleeatrium Olive and some 25 million trees, lies heart of olive groves, and history of olives, meet the culture. Along the route, Join, cook, eat, repeat!



The story of the tree

Olive cultivation and olive oil production have been a part of this region's daily life and culture since ancient times. Travelling further down, on your way to Izmir, you may visit the tree of Kirkağaç in Manisa. 1650-year-old monument olive oil workshop in the 6th century BC, and you can capture the spirit and flavour in the residing **TürkAegean**, is considered among the most important centres of olive cultivation and oil in **Türkiye**. Here the Izmir stage of Olive Route, includes passages through the charming cities and towns of **Çeşme**, **Urla**, **Seferihisar**, **Güzelsu**, **Menderes** and **Selçuk**.



Harvest Prayer

The Olive route is a journey of passion, where you can visit olive groves and olive with coasts to two different seas. And the unique nature of the region is reflected in the city's culinary culture. The development of olive oil production in the Gulf region has made olive oil widespread in meals. It is also recommended to try "paplına" (a type of sprat) fish whilst on the Cunda Island (Cunda Adası) of Ayvalık. You can also swim on Sarımsaklı Beach, buy tours. Besides, in Ayvalık, harvest festivals are great experiences to engage with the locals and taste local delicacies.

Trevelling further inland, towards **Balıkesir**, the important olive cultivation centre, with high-quality olives and olive oil. Balıkesir is located in critical geography for olives, grain

ROUTE OF THE OLIVE TREE

CHASING THE WAY OF OLIVE TREE THROUGH TURKAEGEAN

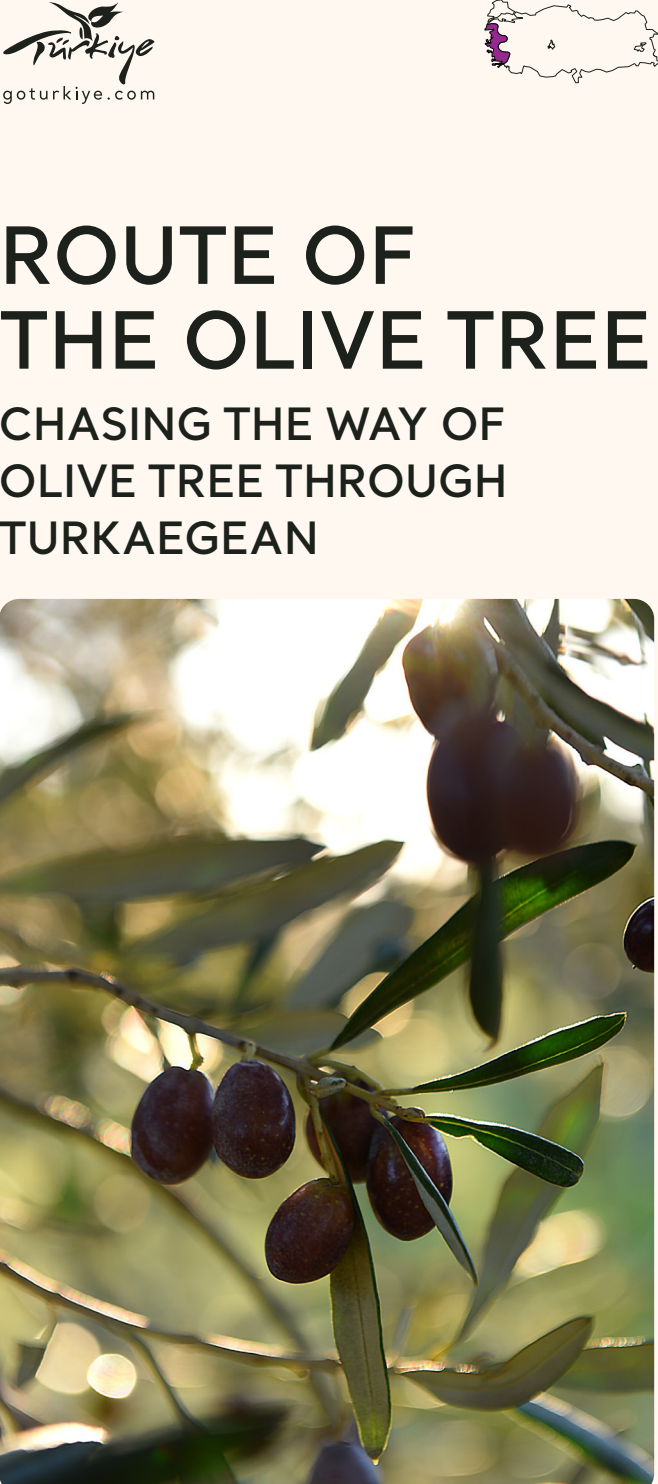
Olive in the culture and history of TürkAegean

The hardy and humble olive tree is one of the important values of Türkiye, especially when we explore the culture formed around its cultivation. Venturing through the riches of the climate of the TürkAegean that is always perfect for olive production and where local cuisine offers dishes called **Zeytinyağı**; simply meaning, "those made with olive oil".



Worth A Detour

- Among the ruins of the acropolis in Ayvacık, the **Temple of Athena** is the best place to watch the magnificent view of **Edremit Bay** at sunset.
- Stop at **Zeus Altar** in **Adatepe** and see the ancient Gods' view. Homer mentions in the Iliad Epic that Gods lived on Mount Ida (Kazdağı) and watched and ruled the Trojan War from here.
- On your way towards **Ayvalık**, stop by in **Edremit** and join a trekking tour in the **Kaz Dağı National Park** (Kazdağı Milli Parkı).
- Visit **Şeytan Sofrası** (Devil's Feast) and enjoy the marvellous sunset in **Ayvalık**
- Alaçatı**, in **Çeşme**, is the perfect location for windsurfers and kitesurfer
- The farm-to-table fine dining experience in **Urla**
- Stroll through **Siğacık Pazarı** (open market) at **Seferihisar**, a beautiful coastal town, and the first Cittaslovs in **Türkiye**
- In **Selçuk**, visit one of the most beautiful ancient sites of the world, **Ephesus** and its environs, including the remains of the **Temple of Artemis**, the famous **Celsus library**, **Church of Mary** and the **Basilica of St John** on the acropolis of Ephesus, **Ayasuluk Hill**.
- Dive in **Kuşadası**, a popular holiday spot on Türkiye's Aegean coast, which has one of the more unusual dive sites in the form of an A300 Airbus.
- Visit **Bafa Lake**, the largest lake in the Aegean Region. Besides having at least 2000 years old olive trees in the region, the lake is of great importance for water birds during winter. Many raptors, especially long-legged predators, can be seen between October and April when the water level is high. Bird watchers and those interested in bird watching can take a break in this region and easily observe different bird species.



ROUTE OF THE OLIVE TREE

CHASING THE WAY OF OLIVE TREE THROUGH TURKAEGEAN

1. ÇANAKKALE
 - AYVACIK
2. BALIKESİR
 - EDREMIT
 - AYVALIK
3. MANİSA
 - KIRKAĞAÇ
4. İZMİR
 - ÇEŞME
 - URLA
 - SEFERİHİSAR
 - GÜZELBAHÇE
 - MENDERES
 - SELÇUK
5. AYDIN
 - KUŞADASI
6. MUĞLA
 - MİLAS



- COLOR CODES
- HISTORY & CULTURE
 - GASTRONOMY
 - FAITH
 - WELL BEING
 - NATURE & SPORT

