



Kuşadası First For Property Sales

A SURVEY by a top internet sales website has revealed Kuşadası to be the number one area for property sales across Turkey.



Kuşadası surprisingly beat the likes of Istanbul's popular neighbourhoods and Bodrum in the survey for sales of properties over the first six months of 2012 according to sahibinden.com

The survey said **Kuşadası** was the most popular for property sales followed by Cannakale, then Didim, pushing Bodrum into fourth place and Istanbul's suburbs into fifth.

This has been played out by a 60 per cent drop in property prices in the Bodrum region, it added.

The survey claimed property sales had increased by 33 per cent across the Aegean region, while there had been an apparent 70 per cent drop on the Mediterranean and a 25 per cent fall in Istanbul.

However, the good news on the property market has been tempered by the ongoing closure of title deeds offices due to a temporary block on foreigner to foreigner sales as the government re-aligns the property laws for foreign nationals.

This has also been complicated by the main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) appealing to the Constitutional Court to annul and suspend the same bill regarding the sale of property and land to foreign nationals, arguing that some provisions in the

Continued on page 3....

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Confusion with Residence Law

Earlier this month The Ege Eye newspaper were informed by some of its readers that the Kuşadası Police station were now only issuing Residence permits for 1 year to Irish Citizens.

Our reporter contacted the Aydın police station who confirmed the above was true.

More confusion then arose when citizens of other nationalities were being told the same " No more than 1 year ".

Our reporter then visited the Kuşadası police station where he was told the new law applied to all nationalities. Many of our readers then contacted us to say they had received 2 to 5 years residence permit.

Our investigations are ongoing at the moment and we will be speaking to the ministry in Ankara to clarify the position so watch this space!

As we go to print a British couple have just applied for and got a 5 year residency.

Did You Know ?

If you purchase a new property on a co-operative run site you may be entitled to a 5% discount on your property tax for 5 years.

To avail of this offer you must contact the belediye immediatly after purchase.



RESIDENCE - GENERAL INFORMATION

If you wish to apply for your first residency permit don't forget you can pick up your application forms and get all the information you may require here at the Foreign Citizens free ADVICE CENTRE Mon - Fri 10 - 5 or call us on (0256) 6123207 anytime

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If you need the services of a pharmacy at short notice, at least two are open 24 hours a day in Kusadasi at any one time.
Every pharmacy has a sign in their window showing the locations of the ones that are on duty that day.

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Foreign Citizens Advice Centre



Need advice now?
The volunteers at The Advice Centre have been living in Kusadasi for many years and have been offering practical help and advice to those living, working, visiting and investing in Turkey since 2005.

The services of The Citizens Advice Centre are given independently and in the strictest confidence. The Advice Centre is staffed by a team of paid staff and volunteers and, as the service is funded by donations from local residents and businesses, at no time will the Centre charge for the advice that it offers. All correspondence is for information purposes only and you are advised at all times to engage the services of suitably qualified professionals to carry out your instructions.

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Continued from front page

bill are unconstitutional.

This further delay could simply kill off transfers to foreigners for at least another two months as the title deeds offices will be unable to provide the service. However, sales of foreigners' homes to Turkish buyers are still going ahead unhindered irrespective of the issues at national level.

The bill that eased restrictions on the sale of land and real estate to foreign citizens and firms was adopted on May 3, despite harsh objections from opposition parties.

The bill removes the condition of reciprocity and increases the total amount of real property that a foreigner can own from 25,000 square meters to 300,000 square meters across the whole country. The amount of property owned by foreigners in a given district cannot exceed 10 percent of the privately owned real estate there.

Property purchase is a complex matter. If you feel that this issue may affect you dont hesitate to contact us here at the **Ege Eye newspaper** where we would be happy to assist you further.

At London Olympics, Turkey Eyes Istanbul 2020

Turkish athletes get ready to make their mark at the London Olympics to increase Turkey's international standing in sports.



In a bid to raise Turkey's profile to host the 2020 Olympics in Istanbul, the country has sent a record 114 athletes to compete in the London Olympics, which opened on Friday 27th July with observers expecting a strong performance in wrestling, weightlifting and taekwondo.

Ramazan Sahin, the 66kg wrestler who took gold in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, is a Turkish favourite expected to bring home Turkey's 29th gold medal in the sport. But with athletes competing in a record 16 sports, there are high expectations Turkish athletes will highlight the country's rising status and readiness to host the games in 2020.

Istanbul, Madrid and Tokyo are the finalists for the 2020 games, with the final vote scheduled for September 7th 2013.

Ugur Erdener, the head of Turkey's Olympic Committee, told reporters that the heightened role of women on the national team is an important part of Turkey's strategy.

"This year, nearly 60% of the athletes are women, which is strong proof of the importance Turkey's Olympic Committee accords to the need for increasing women's activity in sports," he said

Turkey still has a long way to go to strengthen its sports record and show it is ready to host in 2020, however. The ministry of youth and sports was established just last year and has been actively building sports facilities and encouraging youth to get involved in athletics.

Erdener said financial resources to sports have been allocated by the state, sports federations and sponsor companies that have increased Turkey's

prospect of winning medals in London and securing Istanbul's bid to host the 2020 Olympics.

In London, Turkey will compete in gymnastics, sailing, badminton, women's volleyball, women's basketball, boxing, shooting, archery, judo, taekwondo and athletics (field sports).

In the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, 67 Turkish athletes competed in 12 sports and won one gold, four silver and three bronze medals.

Turkey has high hopes for a stronger performance in London. Turkish athletes won seven medals at European Athletics Championships held in Helsinki, Finland, in June, becoming the fifth-highest medal winner among 50 countries competing in 42 events.

One rising athlete is the female hammer thrower Kivilcim Kaya. "I'm dedicated to my target as a female hammer thrower. My biggest goal in the Olympics to surprise my competitors in all over the world," Kaya told reporters.

Nevin Yanit is a female sprinter competing in hurdling. In the European Championships she won gold in the 100m hurdles, showing another success of Turkish women athletes eager to make history in the Olympics.

"[Yanit] aims to increase her Olympic success to the highest point and running to win the finals," her coach Cuneyt Yuksel told reporters. "So that gives her extra responsibility. But she believes in herself and I trust her. I know that she can make it as long as her motivation is high."

Travelling Further Afield

Sightseeing in Istanbul

No trip to Turkey will ever be complete without a trip to Istanbul. There are so many places to see and explore . Here are just a few .



Hippodrome: The former center of sportive and political activities of Constantinople. You will be able to see the Obelisk from Egypt, Serpentine Column from Delphi and fountain of Willhelm II..

Blue Mosque, One of the biggest mosques of Istanbul from 17th century architecture is one of the principal adornments on the skyline of Istanbul. Also famous for its blue tiles and 6 minarest..

Topkapi Palace, The former imperial residence from where the Great Ottoman Empire was ruled. Today a spectacular museum that has one of the largest collections of Chinese and Japanese porcelain and the very famous treasury of the Royal Family..

St. Sophia (Haghia Sophia), The magnificent Byzantine Church of all times; one of the finest and largest architectural works of art in the world..

Grand Bazaar, In addition to its historical importance, it's a bazaar that will tempt even the nonshoppers with its rich collection of precious handmade carpets, jewellery, leather and souvenirs..

Suleymaniye Mosque, masterpiece of Sinan, the chief architect of the Ottoman Empire, built in the name of Suleyman The Magnificent during the 16th. century, considered as the best amongst the imperial mosques.

For all you music lovers some concerts coming up in Istanbul that you might be interested in :

Red Hot Chili Peppers are playing on Saturday 8th September

Jethro Tull will be in concert on Monday 10th September.

Blue Lagoon



The Blue Lagoon is located in Ölüdeniz.

It is one of the most popular beach destinations in Turkey because it has very beautiful scenery, a calm atmosphere and very crystal clear water. There are also a variety of

water sports available .

One of the the most famous water sports is Paragliding (should not be missed). The Blue Lagoon area is also a very safe area for childrens swimming .

How to get there

Ölüdeniz is connected to Fethiye with a wide road that is well-paved and is in a very good condition. There is also a very frequent minibus (dolmuş) service between Fethiye and Ölüdeniz. Access to the beach is shut in the evening around 6PM.

Remember if you are living in Ireland and you wish to contact the Foreign Citizens Advice centre for any information or advice



You can call their Irish number (00353) 01 6571475 where one of their volunteers will be happy to help you anytime .



Çe me counting down to Babylon Soundgarden fest

UK hip hop artist Example, Turkish alternative band Duman, experimental rockers Replikas, electro-pop musician Bedük, the funk band Kolektif İstanbul and bass guitarist Alp Ersönmez are among performers in the line-up for next month's Babylon Soundgarden festival in the Aegean holiday resort town of Çeşme.

The second leg of İstanbul-based club Babylon's new live music festival Babylon Soundgarden, the two-day fest in Çeşme is scheduled for Aug. 30-31 in Babylon Aya Yorgi. Tickets are available through Biletix.



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Visitors Section

Garden by Sozlum



***Want to escape the hustle and bustle of Kusadasi for a while ?
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you will find the Garden by Sozlum.***

Surrounded by natural beauty with vast pine forests and many olive groves this unique location is a firm favourite with families locals and tourists alike.

Why not bring a picnic and relax around the beautiful picnic areas. While the children play in the large playground area you can have a walk around the many garden areas where you can enjoy the many splendid flowers and trees.

For the more energetic there is also a large swimming pool, football fields and tennis courts for you to enjoy. Garden by Sozlum is always aiming at providing the best possible service with its attractive facilities and sports and fun activities offering countless recreational possibilities

If you fancy a nice meal while you are there, Garden by Sozlum can offer you many choices with a full A la carte restaurant a picturesque terrace restaurant or a cafeteria if you just want a snack. Their choice of dishes include traditional Turkish, Indian, Chinese and Mexican.

The Garden By Sozlum also offer sports and activity lessons for children aged from 0 to 14 years .

Activities include swimming, basketball, football, chess and many more. The sessions are held in the morning or afternoon (of your choice) and last for 2 and a half hours, during this time you can drop your children off and go and enjoy some alone time or you can stay and enjoy The Gardens By Sozlum.

Groups are divided in ages of 0 to 6 and 6 to 14 years, with 4 classes a week only setting you back 80 TL a month.



For an unforgettable time contact The Garden By Sozlum today.
FACEBOOK PAGE

* Daily and weekly prices available on request.

If you would like a really enjoyable fun day out in these truly lovely gardens just hop on the Aydin bus from the centrum and tell the driver to drop you at the Garden by Sozlum.

For reservations please call 05079873216



Kusadasi Caravanserai



- ***Address Ataturk Boulevard
Kusadasi***
- ***Hours:Open daily***
- ***Admission:Free***

The centuries roll back when you step inside Kusadasi's Caravanserai, rich with Ottoman and Seljuk architectural details.

With its Venetian-style swallow-tail battlements and red stone walls, the

Ottoman castle dates back to 1618 and the days of Vizier Öküz Mehmed Pasha. In the Ottoman era, the castle acted as a trading house and meeting place for merchants, and was fortified to protect the valuable goods stored there.

Entering the Caravanserai, you walk through a marble arched gateway into a double-story courtyard filled with lush palm trees, Turkish rugs (for sale), marble pools and fountains.

These days the former stronghold is a welcoming boutique hotel with a well-known restaurant. The hotel combines Ottoman history and modern-day conveniences, with bathrooms and fireplaces providing plenty of 21st-century comforts.

The Kusadasi Caravanserai is a popular entertainment venue. Traditional Turkish cuisine and entertainment fill the courtyard on 'Turkish Nights', when folk music and belly dancing are performed under the stars.

Dining Out in Kusadasi

Although the dining scene in Kusadasi is unavoidably tourist-oriented, there are still a number of traditional Turkish cafes that can provide an authentic meal.

Most Turkish meals start with a plate of mezze (appetisers), which can feasibly be a meal in itself. But save room for the fabulous tasty kebabs that come in a range of styles and meats.

You may also want to try a kofte, Turkey's intriguing version of the hamburger.

For dessert, it's worth indulging in the local baklava if you have a serious sweet tooth.

Traditional Turkish drinks consist of raki, an alcoholic brew distilled from raisins and aniseed, and ayran, a salty yoghurt beverage that is refreshing on a hot afternoon.

Every kind of international cuisine can be found in Kusadasi as well, even American fast food chains.

Check out the restaurants along the harbour for incredibly fresh seafood.

What will we do Today ?

TURKEY ADMITTED TO F.I.R.A.

Turkey were admitted to membership of FIRA, the governing body of the European rugby playing nations at a recent meeting in Denmark.



The proposal had been on the table for some time and a delegation traveled from Ankara to make a final presentation. This was accepted and further discussions will take place, with a meeting arranged in Dublin (headquarters of the IRB) for sometime in August.

The IRB, (International Rugby Board) are the world body governing Rugby and if this and subsequent meetings are successful it could see Turkey compete for a place in the Olympic Games in Argentina in 2016.

As Turkey is making a bid to host the 2020 games, this only enhances their chances of success.

A huge amount of work has gone towards advancing Rugby in Turkey and no small amount of credit must go to Mr Niall Doherty, the appointed National coach of the Turkish Rugby Federation. Niall is well known in rugby circles in Kusadasi.

On the local front the Kusadasi Eagles R.C. made a historic decision at a meeting in the Sozer Hotel on the 16th. of July. A proposal was put forward to hand over the operating and administration of the club to the Turkish membership. This in itself may not seem a big step forward, it is indeed. from its inception the KKRC has been guided by former rugby playing and enthusiastic supporters who are resident here, but non nationals.

The aim was that local members would eventually take over the running of the club themselves and this is now on the table for discussion. It is fervently hoped that enough local support will be found, to achieve this ambition. Former members who helped in the past have committed themselves to pushing this proposal through, with a deadline set for mid-september. More up dates to follow as this progresses.

Brian Morrissey.

Answers To July Quiz

- 1. Aries
- 2. Rum
- 3. One hundred and ten (110)
- 4. Wife
- 5. Good sense of humour
- 6. Belgium
- 7. 1984
- 8. James King
- 9. Abba
- 10. fifty (50)
- 11. Liquid crystal display
- 12. Enzo Ferrari
- 13. Palm trees
- 14. Alaska
- 15. Only Fools and Horses

Easy Turkish Lemonade Recipe

Turkish lemonade – known as limonata in Turkish – is an unbelievably easy, tasty and refreshing drink, perfect for those hot days when you relish something sweet to drink. Anyone can make this simple drink, even those who aren’t talented in the kitchen. This recipe is made up of three very easy-to-follow instructions and it is a guarantee that you’ll enjoy making it too.

Ingredients:

Juice of three lemons

Zest of three lemons

½ cup sugar
2 cup boiling water

Method

- 1. Place the sugar and the lemon zest in a glass bowl. Add the boiling water and stir. Put aside until tepid and place in the refrigerator until the mixture is cold.
- 2. Add the juice of the lemon and filter the mixture through a strainer.
- 3. Serve while it is cold and enjoy!



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Easy

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Medium

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Hard

Answer to July Brainteaser

Three closed boxes have either white marbles, black marbles or both, and they are labeled white, black and both. However, you're told that each of the labels are wrong. You may reach into one of the boxes and pull out only one marble. Which box should you remove a marble from to determine the contents of all three boxes?

Answer...

The one labeled both. Since you know it's labeled incorrectly, it must have all black marbles or all white marbles. After you determine what it contains, you can identify the other two boxes by the process of elimination.

Residence Permits



Good news for the people of Ku adasi. You can now make your first application for your residence permit in Kusadası police station.

This is great news for everyone as it means no more travelling to Aydın.

Don't forget you can still visit the **Foreign Citizens Advice Centre** where they can help you fill in your application form, have all your original documents photocopied and be guided through the whole process.

Freeze on property acquisition by foreigners



At the moment most foreign nationalities cannot have Tapus transferred into their name.

The Government in certain areas of the country including Kusadası has removed the requirement for foreigners to obtain military clearance when purchasing property, this has caused problems for some Tapu offices who are not 100% clear on how to implement the recent law therefore a freeze has been put on the issuing of Tapus to avoid problems occurring later on.

The Ege Eye spoke to the Tapu office management in Kusadası today who confirmed the freeze but could not give any indication as to how long it would last. The freeze has been in place for a few weeks now.

Irish and British citizens are among those in the group who are affected by this. If you are thinking of buying or in the process of buying at the moment call or drop into the Foreign Citizens Advice Centre where they can advise you on all your options .

Check out The Ege Eye online at:



*now including useful advice articles and updated daily



The Ege Eye is committed to helping causes and charities in the local area and has teamed up with The Ponz Charity Social Club.

Each month we will be giving the charity a FREE supply of newspapers which they can then sell and use the money towards their funds. So, purchase a copy from them and not only will you get to read a copy of your local newspaper you will also be donating towards a worthy cause.

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Turkish Bath

A Turkish bath is called a hamam. It usually includes massage and a tea bar. Some hamams in many parts of Turkey are over 250 years old. Many hotels also offer a Turkish bath experience. You can also find many turkish baths in and around Kusadasi .



The first step in experiencing a traditional Turkish bath is getting ready in the camekan, or changing room. You undress in a private booth where you can lock up your street clothing and

change into a pestemal and terlik, which are a fringed towel wrap and a pair of slippers. Many people bring the rest of what they need such as a drying towel, shampoo and soap because some hamams don't supply these items and the ones that do may charge a high price for them.

You usually can choose whether you'd like to take a bath by yourself or have a hamam attendant scrub your skin with a coarse mitt. The hair treatment usually includes a scalp massage with a shampoo. The bathing room is a steam bath with separate washing areas around a heated stone table called a goebektas that is used for massage after the steam bath.

After the steam bath and massage, hamam patrons go to a cooling room with cooler showers. Tea is usually available to drink. A visit to a Turkish bath may take two hours or even more.

Quad Biking

Kusadasi isn't just about Ephesus, monuments and bazaars. You can trek, dive or enjoy the sun, sea and sand. Or try fun new sports like quad biking.

You'll head for the Quad Club where an instructor will welcome you and give you a short briefing explaining the route you'll follow. After that, you'll get on your quad bikes and head off on a fun quad bike adventure. As you follow your instructor, feel the wind on your face as your convoy snakes its way along the winding trails and then relax with free time in the sun.

Duration: Half Day takes about 4hrs

Just so you know:

You should wear comfortable shoes and long trousers. Also bring swimwear with you if you wish. Safety equipment is provided and must be worn. You'll ride the quad bikes in pairs. Should you wish to ride alone a supplement charge will be applicable. The terrain is rocky and rugged on the trek and sandy on the beach. Teenagers aged 12 to 16 must be accompanied by their



parents and cannot drive the quad bikes. Although this tour has limited walking a certain level of fitness is required.

Check your local tour operator for details and prices etc...

Scuba Diving and Snorkelling



The waters around Kusadasi are impossibly clear, making for ideal underwater excursions.

Dozens of operators offer everything from beginner's training courses to complete boat dives far out at sea.

Reefs, caves and shipwrecks await certified divers, and the prices are very reasonable.

Hiking

If you are an outdoor enthusiast or simply want to explore Turkey's natural beauty, the Dilek Peninsula National Park is one of the best places you can enjoy fun outdoor activities.



Dilek Park, located on the sea-side town of Guzelcamli, can be easily reached along the 09-58 route (30 minutes drive from Kusadasi's city centre).

The park features breathtaking mountain views ideal for long treks, and apart from hiking,

you can enjoy a relaxing time at the beach, as well as picnicking on the park's designated areas.

Nightlife & Entertainment



So you have done the Bar street scene and you are now looking for somewhere new so why not try a beachclub.

Most of the popular Kusadasi nightclubs are beach clubs.

For instance, **Jade beach club**, located in the Snake region, is a massive complex that features bars, restaurants, tennis courts and a nightclub.

Another trendy place is **Miracle beach club**, located near Green Beach, which a popular venue with an excellent location overlooking the sea.

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www.theegeeye.com and register for your copy to be delivered to your inbox every month.



Batman premiere stateside turns mayhem – are Turkish cinemas safe?

Surprised being tempted to read about a cinematic balancing-act of sorts intertwining first, Batman in The Dark Knight Rises stateside and what went so horribly wrong in that Colorado movie theatre a few weeks ago, and second, the safety of Turkish cinemagoers, respectively? Confused? I would be, perhaps; but let me decipher my very own hopefully plot-building introductory comments and see whether when the credits roll we have found a reader-writer memorandum of understanding and turn a page satisfied. In a nutshell: my daughter is staying grounded for the foreseeable future with regards to watching a movie in a public cinema either there or here. Let me explain to you why.

Safety in a public cinema is never watertight, it simply can not be. Whether watching a movie in a trendy Leicester Square franchise as I have done many times before or venturing into a Champs Elysées outlet after having taken the Eurostar shuttle to fashionable Paris which is an equally favorite pastime for many UK residents or indeed packing your tooth-brush here in Kuşadası (perhaps the best and most 'in' locations of all three!), heading to İzmir Adnan Menderes Airport and embarking on a week-end trip to the up-and-coming Turkish capital of Ankara and stepping into one of the many, many movie houses dotted on and off the city's boulevards one thing is certain: accepting the fact that life comes packaged with the risk factor! Come to think of it, that could be a new blockbuster movie title... 'Life with the risk factor'... only joking!

What I really want to write about today is that regardless of whether you enter a cinema in a costal resort along Turkey's Aegean shorelines or in whatever other nation's cinema-hosting dwelling you forfeit some of your basic rights: you enter a public place supposedly full with maniacs waiting to snatch your purse (or as it had happened to me once by someone stealing my umbrella from underneath my seat!); you walk into on-site public conveniences most definitely without any security camera of course not watching over you whilst inside but safeguarding over your safe entry and exit; or you simply purchase a ticket to a movie of your or your 16+ teenage aged children's liking – think the final episode of the Batman trilogy – and the room you enter is pitch dark; someone ushers you in, and on to your seat(s) it is indeed. Scary? You bet! Yet you simply trust those people running a movie theatre, don't you, don't we, or dare I say didn't we?

Now let me put this into the wider Turkish picture as we are talking about going to see a moving picture indeed. What always amazes me in Turkey is how lack-luster security staff are at the entrance to shopping malls where most families go to watch not only a movie but shop, eat, shop, and eat some more: the moment a child appears in front of them they more often than not simply let them pass – my seven-year old daughter as case in point. I am not saying that would-be suicide bombers or the Colorado killer used children to gain access to the site of their heinous crimes but if a child can pass security without any metal detector screening what about a woman pretending to be pregnant (of the pillow variety that is), someone posing as a disabled person, or me telling the guard I am on my cell-phone for this all important job interview and simply have to get into the mall and have to go now jumping the queue and must stay on the phone with car keys in my hands as the future boss is already calling and the interview hour has almost elapsed and he needs to know whether I am REALLY coming basically running past the 'güvenlik' (Turkish for security guard)?

What's more, many recent movies depict cinema theatres going up in flames – I wonder whether the movies were there first, or whether they reflect upon a crazy person's desire to cause maximum harm to innocent people after having watched the film?

I had always thought that the breaking out of a fire is the only danger to cinemagoers - some readers may recall that my previous management career was indeed in the hospitality sector and fire prevention was one of our major concern; today it appears that maniacs entering malls are a far greater risk.

Stepping up security? Yes! Banning public cinemas – of course not! What can be done instead to bring back the trip to the local cinema onto our leisure pursuit's agenda? Let us all lobby industry and politicians to make our cinemas what they once used to be: a place for happy first-time 'holding hands', where teenagers discovered life on and off the screen without too much disturbing light and where adults were allowed to watch more action oriented flicks all in the knowledge of that where they went to was an extension of their living room only more entertaining but as safe.

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Cards on the table: is it safe to watch a movie in Turkey with your family? Of course, relatively speaking it is as it was in Colorado before the attack or in Dortmund or Turkey's Dalaman. However, as the Breiviks and Colorado madmen seem to be on the rise and until further notice my daughter will watch whatever she likes and her daddy approves of only of on her mobile handheld device in the safety and comfort of our home instead of in a public movie theatre.

Credits rolling, plot unraveled, safety first. Boring? Maybe! Life-saving? Probably!

Klaus.jurgens@gmail.com



Direct flights to Edinburgh begin

The first flight from Istanbul landed at Edinburgh airport on the 16th July last.

Edinburgh Airport has welcomed its inaugural flight from Turkish Airlines, linking the city with Istanbul.

Turkish Airlines - Europe's fourth largest carrier in terms of passengers - will operate four direct flights between the two capitals every week.

As well as creating a direct link, the route will offer connectivity to a range of global destinations.

Edinburgh Airport Chief Executive Gordon Dewar said it was a significant development for the airport and city.

Infrastructure Secretary Alex Neil added: "I am delighted to welcome Turkish Airlines to Scotland.

"As one of the largest airlines in the world, the fact they have chosen to fly from Edinburgh is an indication of the quality and calibre of airline Scotland is attracting and a major success story in our drive to maximise the economic benefits which direct air connections bring."

Holiday / Tourist Visa



Many people still seem a little confused about the new holiday visa rules so we will again try to explain how the new system works .
The new rules replace the old 90 day visa which could be purchased back to back or renewed before expiry date.

As from 1st feb 2012 tourist / visitors visas will last for 180 days but holders will only be allowed to stay in turkey for up to 90 days in that period. Multiple visits are allowed but a new visa cannot be obtained until at least 1day after the current visa expires.
How will that work in practice.

Example 1 You visit turkey once a year for less than 90 days .
Purchase your visa stamp and enjoy your holiday .

Example 2 .You visit turkey twice or more in 180 days .
If your combined stay is no more than 90 days the visa stamp you purchased on your first visit will be valid for all your visits. If your combined stay is more than 90 days in 180 you will be fined on exit and possibly temporarily banned from Turkey .

Example 3 You visit turkey several times a year for extended holidays .
This is where it gets complicated. Let's say you come here on the 1st April and you stay 30 days, then you come back in July and stay another 30 days (no problem so far) but then you want to come back in Sept then there would be a problem. Although your combined stay would be no more than 90 days your 180 day visa would expire on the 28th Sept so you would need to leave on or before 28th and not return until the next day or after.
Alternatively you can purchase a residence permit to cover the extra period.

We hope this explains things a little easier for you all .If you need any help or advice on this topic or indeed on any other matter you can contact the Foreign Citizens Advice Centre on (0256) 6123207 where they will be happy to help you .

Ku adası expats come together!

Thursday the 19th July saw many expats come together for a night of fun and entertainment in aid of a very worthy cause.



Gossips cafe and bar kindly hosted a fundraising event in aid of Steve Sherran. Steve originally from the UK who now lives in Kuşadası with his wife Doreen suffered a heart attack recently and is currently still very ill in hospital.

All tickets for the event sold out within days leaving many people who would have liked to attend dissappointed.

The night itself began with a large buffet catering to everyones tastes and continued with a raffle, entertainment and karaoke. Many prizes were donated from local buisnesses and friends including meals at the saray and gossips, rental bike for the day, food baskets and much much more.

Peter Davidson a local painter kindly donated 3 of his paintings, 2 for the raffle and 1 to be auctioned off.

In a statement after the event Doreen said: “To all the wonderful people in Kusadasi who contributed to making last night's fundraising event at Gossips an exceptional evening, a massive thank you from Steve and myself! The whole evening was totally overwhelming for myself - your generosity and acts of kindness will remain with me always. What a lot I have to tell Steve when he eventually wakes up and before I throttle him!!!! An especially big thank you goes to Chris and Velli for all their hard work and contributions! Maggie should be two stone lighter for all the running around she's done and the wonderful help and support she has given me, and many thanks Roy for all you've done and allowing Maggie to be here for me! Thanks also to John Eadie for all your support and help at what is a very difficult time for you too! You are all too numerous to mention individually but you all know who you are and many, many thanks Doe xxxxxx “

A staggering 5660 TL was raised at Thursday's event.

Any people wishing to donate can still do so by going to Gossips and asking for Chris or Velli. There is also a collection box at The Ponz Hotel Ladies Beach.



Stranded: No return for holiday Scot until £5K hospital bill paid

A SCOTS holidaymaker who needed life-saving surgery has been told he cannot fly home until the £5,500 bill is paid.



Paul Mackie jetted off to Marmaris, Turkey, ignoring his father's advice to buy health insurance.

The 30-year-old from Edinburgh was struck down by burst stomach ulcers and needed keyhole surgery to save his life.

The Turkish authorities have told Paul that he cannot leave the country until he has settled his hospital bill or made a significant downpayment.

His friends and family are now desperately trying to raise cash to pay for the surgery and get him back to Scotland.

Paul's father, Allan, and his brothers, Jordan, 18, and Christopher, 22, went on the holiday but had to leave him behind to return home.

They travelled to the Mediterranean resort at the end of June, looking forward to a family break in the sun.

Allan said his son became crippled with pain on Friday last week, nine days into the break.

"I told him half a dozen to a dozen times 'make sure you get insurance'," said Allan.

"He said: 'I'll be fine, I've been away 11 times and nothing has happened to me.' You can't argue, they know better."

He added: "All of a sudden Paul was in extreme pain. We had to get the doctor out to the room. He thought it was cramps from the heat or something. They put him on a drip to see if that would ease it and gave him painkillers."

After failing to improve, Rush was taken to hospital by ambulance.

Doctors diagnosed burst ulcers which had to be treated urgently using keyhole surgery.

Although the procedure saved his life, Paul, who was discharged after a week, was initially presented with a bill for £11,000.

After discussions with hospital management, that has been reduced to £5,500 – but it is still far more than Paul can afford to pay.

Allan said his son had visited the doctor complaining of stomach pains shortly before the break. He was given tablets but the ulcers were not diagnosed.

He said: "We've gone out on holiday and binged a couple of nights, as you do, and it's affected his ulcer.

"That sort of thing can kill you. It's a lot better at the end of the day that they saved his life, but it's still a lot of money. We don't have that type of cash."

100 Lira Duty Will Be Charged On Mobile Phones Brought In From abroad

Recently a new law has been introduced regarding your mobile phone from abroad.

Before the law changed people were allowed to import 1 mobile phone every 2 years, tax free. They were able to, within 30 days get the phone registered to a Turkish network for a small fee.

Now the law has changed and you now have to pay 100 TL to the Tax office before you can register your imported phone.

We understand that you have to take the receipt from the Tax office to the network provider, who will still charge you a small fee. We believe it still has to be done within 30 days of entry to Turkey.



Do I Need To Have A Turkish Driving Licence ?

It is unknown to most of the foreign people living in turkey that after having lived here continuously for one year or more with a residence permit and if you drive a car you must obtain a Turkish driving licence.



Our reporter here at the Ege Eye contacted the traffic police in Kusadasi to clear up much confusion on this matter.

They confirmed that the above statement is correct, which means for those residents who don't exit the country at least once a year you need to apply directly to the traffic police for a Turkish driving licence.

Some useful words when driving



Bozuk satih - Rough surface

Dikkat - Attention

Dur - Stop

Park yapılmaz - No parking

Tamirat - Roadworks

Giremez - No entry

Tek yon - One way

Yavas - Slow

Yaya gecidi - Pedestrian crossing

Yol kapalı - Road closed

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Advice Bureaux in the UK to become main provider for information and advice



The Citizens Advice service in the UK is to become the main provider of information and advice to the public on consumer matters. The national charity will receive an additional £10m from the government to provide the service. The shake-up in consumer protection and advice was announced by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

From April 2013, the Citizens Advice service will represent consumers in unregulated industries (everything from retailers to builders), taking over from the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) and Consumer Focus. Responsibility for the regulated industries of gas, electricity and postal services will be transferred from Consumer Focus to a new Regulated Industries Unit (RIU), which will be created by April 2013 and work closely with the Citizens Advice service. In 2014, the government plans to transfer the RIU to the Citizens Advice service. A new National Trading Standards Board will be established by April 2013 to co-ordinate consumer protection between local authorities. Last month, the Citizens Advice service took over the running of the advice line for consumers provided previously by Consumer Direct.

Currently the government is consulting on enforcement in consumer protection. The consultation document includes proposals to simplify consumer protection enforcement laws and give powers to trading standards professionals to represent in cases before the county court.

Gillian Guy, chief executive of Citizens Advice, welcomed the announcement of the changes in consumer advice and protection, which she said would build on the long record of Citizens Advice Bureaux in offering consumer advice: 'With consumer advice, advocacy and education all under one Citizens Advice service roof, consumers will get a service they know and trust.'

In Turkey, the president of The Foreign Citizens Advice Service, Karim Abdullah, has welcomed the new efforts and hopes that the Turkish consumer protection groups will follow a similar course of action. He added 'Although it's still early days for us in Turkey we are seeing a marked increase in enforcement from consumer regulators in all areas of the country'.

Established in 2005, in Kusadasi, the service in Turkey now offers a one-stop-shop for consumers with foreign nationalities across the whole of the country. The team of paid staff, volunteers and legal specialists provide free and independent advice & support throughout their network of offices in Turkey, Ireland & the UK as well as with a dedicated group of client adviser who provide online assistance 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Keep your Home Cool this Summer

The summer is here and it's important that your home stays cool, for when you need to escape from the heat. Most people believe that keeping a house cool is an expensive task, but that needn't be the case. There are so many ways you can keep your home cool throughout the season at a low cost. Here are some options to consider when trying to keep your home nice and cool.

Room and ceiling fans

Fans are a great way to beat the heat in your home. Room fans are one of the most popular objects to have in the room on a hot summer's day, but paddle ceiling fans are another great option. Although ceiling fans are rather pricey, they have too many advantages to disregard. They have a reversible motor and you can control the direction of the blades for colder air or warmer air. So they can be very effective in the summer as well as the winter.

Window air conditioning

When fitting an air conditioning unit in the window, make sure it slopes slightly downwards towards the outside; this will allow the condensation trapped inside the air conditioner to run out, so that it doesn't cause rust.

Central air conditioning

For those of you, who have a central air condition system; make sure you have it serviced regularly. They must be in perfect shape to work properly, so if you haven't had it serviced for while, now's the time to do so. Even if you have regular servicing, another crucial step in keeping it in shape is by changing the filter once a month. They are not all costly and can help you tremendously in cutting down on unnecessary repairs.

Attic insulation

Many people believe that insulating an attic is only useful for the winter, but it actually works just as effective in the summer. If you decide upon doing this, make sure you have at least 8 inches of ceiling insulation. For safety precautions, make sure you cover all you exposed skin, and where a mask and safety glasses.

Attic fans

Attic fans on the roof can help your home keep cool, by decreasing the temperature of warm air in the attic. When the temperature of your attic is lower, the temperature of your house will lower too. It will also benefit the air conditioners in your home, because they won't need to work as hard to keep the rooms cool.