The Ege Eye

Issue 238

JULY 2024

"News for the Turkish coast since 2005"

The fire was brought under control

The fire, which started in Izmir and spread to Aydin, was brought under control because of intensive work by air and land teams.

According to the information obtained, the fire broke out in the forest area in the Pamucak area of Izmir's Selçuk district on Saturday, June 29, at around 17:00, and quickly surrounded the entire region and reached Aydın's Kusadasi district.

While hundreds of acres of land burned in the fire, extinguishing efforts from air and land during the day continued with land and night vision helicopters after dark. Support teams were sent to the region from surrounding provinces and districts. The extinguishing efforts in the region, where non-governmental organizations and volunteer citizens were mobilized as well as the teams, were successful

On The Ground in Kusadasi

A group of Irish tourists who had been attending a hosted BBQ in Adagol Park, near Kustur Beach found themselves stranded however, thankfully the local police came to the rescue and transferred them back to their accommodation in Kusadasi Centre.

Meanwhile, in Kusadasi many foreigners with homes in the town and surrounding areas became quite concerned as smoke was filling the air and as one resident reported
she woke up to find her apartment filled with smoke. Her home is upper ground in the Ege Mah area off the Aydin/Selçuk Main Road.

A representative from “Paws and Claws” a local animal charity in Kusadasi, took to the roads when safe to do so on Sunday morning heading toward Selçuk and Adagol, to check for surviving animals in need of aid but saw none. The representative stated that many street dogs lived in the area previously.

Many local farmers and others went with tractors trucks and diggers to assist the firefighters and others who worked hard through the night and early morning to stop the blaze from reaching Kusadasi centre.

For more on this story go to:https://theegeeye.com/the-fire-is-out-and-cooling-measures-in-place/

We used them (ABS) for a move from UK to Kusadasi in February 2021.

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In the UK the guys from ABS were Turkish and fluent in English.

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Carol F

editor@theegeeye.com 0256 6123207

REMEMBER, if you are living in Ireland or the UK and you wish to contact The Foreign Citizens Advice Centre for any information you can call on the following numbers to save on the price of an international call.

IN IRELAND – CALL 01 657 1475

IN UK – CALL 0207 0787443

EDITOR

Nick Hannigan

FEATURES/CONTRIBUTORS

Klaus Jurgens, Shelia Mansell, Ela Halliwel, Patrıcia Byrne,Ozlem Warren, Karen Froggat Lisa Morrow

RESIDENCE

GENERAL

INFORMATION

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October - April 10am - 4:30pm

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MEDICAL EMERGENCY	112
FIRE	110
POLICE HELP	155
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Many of these departments will now come under 112

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You can send a request by email to info@theegeeye.com and a copy will be sent to you.

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Do you need an English speaking carpenter?

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Do you need an English speaking electrician

Tel: 0090 541 901 0682

LET'S NOT FORGET THEM IN THE SUMMER HEAT

Everyone is struggling with the heat as the weather reaches 40 degrees.
It should not be forgotten that stray animals need more water in these hot days. Let's leave water and food to stray animals. Let's make the lives of our paw friends easier.

Stray animals should not be forgotten in these hot days when water is needed more.

Placing a bowl of food and a bowl of water on the streets, in front of doors, and in front of garbage containers for our furry friends who live on the streets in Kusadasi and have difficulties in these hot days can save a life.
It should not be left to our paw friends to help them reach areas that they can reach in a clean way that does not hurt them. Source: https://www.kusadasiolay.com/

MY PROPERTY TURKEY

My Property Turkey

The laws are changing constantly these times in Turkey around purchase and sales of properties and also in the area of long and short term rentals.

The Foreign Citizen advice centre through the Ege Eye Newspaper and Kusadasi News have been publishing articles in this regard.

The aim of "My PropertyTurkey" is to assist and support you in ensuring you have a smooth, hassle free and easy transition to your perfect home here in Turkey.

Using our extensive knowledge, we can help with all aspects such as the setting up/registering your water, electric and bank account and helping with other utilities also.

We have a Key Holding service which guarantees you peace of mind knowing your property is secure. We have heard those same stories too!
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E-mail us with your questions we will be delighted to help

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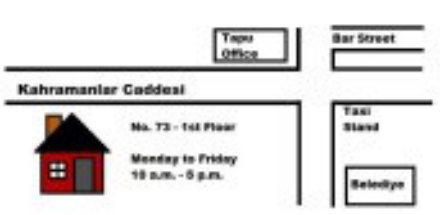
Providing free, independent advice and support on all aspects of living working, visting, buying & selling property and investing in Turkey



We provide an independent & confidental service. The service is funded by local residents & businesses and therefore there is no charge for the advice it offers.
All correspondence is for information purposes only and you are advised at all times to engage the services of suıtabilty qualifed professionals.

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EURO 2024 – expat community donned Turkish colours in style

By: Klaus Jurgens

By the time of putting pen to paper for this July article it was far from certain which national team would reach the EURO 2024 play-offs, not even mentioning which team might ultimately be crowned champions. And for this contribution it does not matter at all as perhaps you are an avid soccer aficionado or exactly the opposite, more like 'football - no thank you' and fair enough.
Yet something else does seriously matter for this month's edition and something as witnessed live on location here in our fine resort.

Flashback first – your friendly contributor remembers a football match between Türkiye and England shown live on television in a Public House in central London mid - October 2003 with the match being played in Türkiye – result, a nil - nil.
Me and my wife the happy newly-weds after our exchange of vows in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea earlier that wonderful summer had to make a compromise about where to watch that match, husband indeed a Chelsea and England supporter and my wonderful wife most naturally a Türkiye supporter. Where should we go – to a local establishment reserved for English soccer fans, or, alternatively, to an equally fine bar or restaurant showing live television closer to the heart of the Turkish community…

My wife had the perfect intuition, after strolling a bit here and there, looked around, and spotted a completely packed bar near Westminster Palace. In we went, hardly any space, drinks orders required mastering the art of shouting over a rather long distance instead of discreetly leaning over the counter in the sense of 'may I have another wee dram, please?'

What I will never forget is that even in this part of the city far removed from any stereotypical Turkish neighbourhood, think Stoke Newington, the audience was fairly divided between supporters of each national team. Back to the subject of donning colours as they were there in abundance indeed – flags behind the bar with both team's colours, England fans with their shirts, Turkish fans with theirs. It was on that memorable night that I got inspired by that amazing spirit of the Turkish football fans – no aggression, loud but civilized, and happy to share that moment in the good company of their England fans at the same time. Here ends today's flashback, straight ahead to EURO 2024 and back to our shared Kuşadası.

Street viewing 2.0

It had been quite some time before the actual match started – Portugal facing Türkiye. Tables reserved in a well-known local establishment where young members of all genders and old(er) men, aka me, are made feel welcome.
Then TV screens were put into the correct angles so that everyone could watch the game at ease. That was just about an hour before the event started. Then something extraordinary happened, or with hindsight, here in Kuşadası nothing extraordinary at all, please let me explain.

First, some members of the bar staff (non-Turkish!) donned Turkish colours. Then second, and step by step guests came along equally dressed in the colours of the Turkish national team. Some in white, some in red as there are two potential outfits each match depending on your opponent's team, as the home team has the right to choose. Despite being in a fine expatriate-oriented establishment one felt at once as being in a Turkish-Turkish food and beverage outlet.
And then our Turkish friends and neighbours arrived and as is customary in this fantastic country and most definitely so, on a last-minute basis.

Türkiye is by definition a last-minute country and that makes it even more loveable as eventually everything, literally all turns out well, works out perfectly well without that extra panic attack or heart attack being shipped in for good measure.
Granted, all tables had been reserved or already taken but here comes the spirit of our Turkish hosts – no table? No worry! We have got some stacked up backdoors, please wait. The outside area of the place almost doubled by that clever re-arranging. Hospitality management 2.0., if not more.
And my point is…

My point is that notwithstanding the fact that on that night we had unfortunately no openly Portugal favouring attendees – not that there are no citizens of that great nation amongst us but we must be honest, not as of yet in numbers desirable – it reminded me of that London evening over two decades ago.

Sports unites.

As long as we treat everyone who fancies the other team with the utmost respect so will we be treated with the utmost respect.
Our expat community feels, thinks, lives Türkiye. Hence no surprise - that expat establishment was basically a completely Turkish affair – half filled with expats, half with our Turkish friends and neighbours. But would there have been 50 Portuguese indeed, 50 further expats no matter which nationality, and 50 Turks from Kuşadası the atmosphere would have been the same and like a ball, not like a fight.

We showed the Turkish colours on that night, and our Turkish friends greatly appreciated. As was said in the opening paragraph, no one knew who will progress, who will win. International friendship made in Kuşadası is what this article was meant to be about – enjoy the peak of your summer season.

ENVIRONMENT

Investment in Clean Energy This Year is Set to be Twice the Amount Going to Fossil Fuels

Global spending on clean energy technologies and infrastructure on track to hit $2 trillion in 2024 even as higher financing costs hinder new projects, notably in emerging and developing economies.

Despite pressures on financing, global investment in clean energy is set to reach almost double the amount going to fossil fuels in 2024, helped by improving supply chains and lower costs for clean technologies, according to a new IEA report.

Total energy investment worldwide is expected to exceed $3 trillion in 2024 for the first time, with some $2 trillion set to go toward clean technologies – including renewables, electric vehicles, nuclear power, grids, storage, low-emissions fuels, efficiency improvements and heat pumps – according to the latest edition of the IEA's annual World Energy Investment report.

The remainder, slightly over $1 trillion, is going to coal, gas and oil.

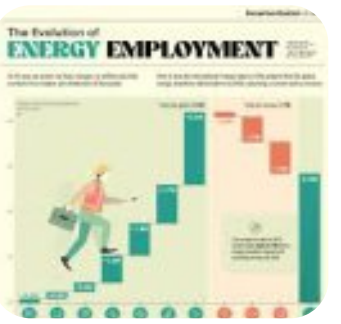
In 2023, combined investment in renewable power and grids overtook the amount spent on fossil fuels for the first time.

The new report warns, however, that there are still major imbalances and shortfalls in energy investment flows in many parts of the world.
It highlights the low level of clean energy spending in emerging and developing economies (outside China), which is set to exceed $300 billion for the first time – led by India and Brazil.
Yet, this accounts for only about 15% of global clean energy investment, far below what is required to meet growing energy demand in many of these countries, where the high cost of capital is holding back the development of new projects. Source: IEA

Energy employs 65 million people worldwide

The Energy sector accounts for 2% of global employment, relatively evenly distributed across fuel supply, power sector, and end uses Over 65 million people were employed in the energy and related sectors in 2019, accounting for almost 2% of formal employment worldwide.

Half of the energy workforce is employed in clean energy technologies.
Energy sector employment in 2019 is divided approximately into thirds among fuel supply (coal, oil, gas and bioenergy), the power sector (generation, transmission and distribution), and energy end uses (vehicles manufacturing and energy efficiency for buildings and industry).



In fuel supply, oil has the largest labour force, totalling almost 8 million. This is followed by 6.3 million in coal supply and 3.9 million in gas supply. In the power sector, generation employs around 11.3 million while transmission, distribution and storage combined account for approximately 8.5 million.

In end uses, 13.6 million are employed in vehicle manufacturing, while another 10.9 million are employed in energy efficiency.

Roughly 65% of the energy sector workforce is connected to developing new energy infrastructure, while 35% are involved in operating and maintaining existing energy assets.

Clean energy employment is rapidly growing alongside efforts to decarbonise energy systems—these sectors account for 50% of the global energy labour force today and represent the highest employment creation potential.
Energy employment is spread globally, with a greater concentration in manufacturing hubs and producer economies.

The People's Republic of China (hereafter 'China') has the largest number of energy workers, near 20 million, which represents around 2.5% of the employed in China. In the Middle East and Eurasia, the energy workforce makes up a relatively high share of economy-wide employment, averaging 3.6%. North America has 7.9 million workers in energy, equivalent to 3.4% of total employment; Europe has 7.5 million workers in energy, or 2.4% of total employment.

These jobs span the energy value chain and are captured in different economic activities.

Those working in the production of raw materials, which includes mining and extractive sectors for fuels and agriculture to produce bioenergy, total over 8.5 million. In the mining sector in particular, energy workers make up 15% of global employment. Over 21 million energy sector employees work in manufacturing and approximately 15 million are in construction, making up 5-6% of their respective sectors.
An estimated 14 million work in utilities and other professional services. Other types of jobs, such as wholesale traders and energy transport, make up the balance. Source IEA

Great discount for AdalıKart holders at Ada Market!

About AdalıKart

AdalıKart is an initatitive introduced under the leadership of Kusadasi's Mayor, Omer gunnel.
The card which includes many services and discounts, especially for social facilities affiliated with Kusadasi Municipality, aims to build a bridge between citizens and tradesmen and to assist in developing the district economy. It also aims to ensure that local people living in the district benefit from socio-cultural services and activities.

The AdalıKart is specifically for city residents of the Kusadasi Municipality aged 18years + and is personal to the member only and cannot be shared.
To avail of discounts, you must present your card at the card reader machine so not having the card on your person will mean, full retail cost being applied within stores.

How to Apply

Application on production of your residency card and passport size Photos can be made online at: https://adalikart.com/tr or in person at Address: Türkmen Mah. Atatürk Boulevard Ünlü St. Muammer Bey Apt. No:6/B Kusadasi/AYDIN. There is an option to add in your education certification. Within 15 days, once approved, the card will be sent to the applicant's residence address or arrangements for collection at the AdalıKart offices can be made. Phone: 0256 460 40 40 / 4447114.

Adalikart holders, can shop with a 20 percent discount from the Ada Market store and the Ada Market express vehicle, where healthy food products produced on municipal lands opened to agriculture by Mayor Ömer Günel in 2019, are sold at affordable prices, and from the Ada Market Express vehicle that tours the neighbourhoods within the previously announced program, are very pleased with the situation.

By providing discounts at contracted member businesses, it will contribute to increasing ticketing and environmental awareness in cultural and artistic activities, promoting a sustainable lifestyle and providing many other services.

Advantages for member businesses

Increased number of customers with member merchant privileges. Earn more income by offering the services the municipality will share with you to our fellow citizens. Become known as a member business that embraces the green movement.

Advantages to Card Holders

You can benefit from discounts and advantages at Kusadasi Arya Touristic facilities, discounts at the determined rate at contracted member businesses, surprise advantages on special days, and privileges at cultural and artistic events. Additionally, social supports can be received quickly with AdalıKart.

Recycling

The municipality collect recyclable waste from your homes and recycle it. Thus, they support the home economy of their fellow citizens, contribute to the economy, and while doing all this, protect the Kusadasi environment and its future.
In return for the packaging waste you accumulate, you will be able to benefit from the advantages of the Municipality's contracted member businesses.

Providing service in its new location on Türkmen Mahallesi Candan Tarhan Boulevard, Ada Market has on its shelves, seasonal vegetables grown in Ada Bahçe, as well as food products produced by local producers, especially women's cooperatives which is produced in the surrounding regions.

Ada Bahce, was built by Kusadasi Municipality to improve agricultural production and ensure that consumers have direct access to healthy food at lower prices.

Kusadasi residents who come to Ada Market for their food shopping can access all basic food products, from fruits and vegetables to dairy products, cheese and eggs. Ada Market store also includes handmade and local products such as tarhana, jam, pickles and dried fruits.

Giving back

The discount applied at the Ada Market store by Kusadasi Municipality, which has developed many social aid projects such as "Milk support", "Lunch bag support", "Food parcel support" for the city residents who are having a difficult time economically due to the increase in basic food prices, has increased the numbers of Adalıkart holders. makes an important contribution. Kusadasi residents, who can access healthy food products at affordable prices, all thanks to Mayor Ömer Günel.

Turkish charities give humanitarian aid to Uganda Africa and parts of Europe

History of Eid al-Adha

Islamic narrative has it that Prophet Ibrahim, or Abraham, the forefather of the monotheistic religions of Islam, Christianity and Judaism, received through his dreams a commandment from God to sacrifice his son Ismail, or Ishmael.

Ibrahim and Ismail submitted to the will of God and were ready for the sacrifice as an act of faith and obedience.

The devil – known as “Iblis” in Islam – tried to dissuade Ibrahim from following the order and the prophet threw stones at him to chase him away.

This act is commemorated by Muslims as a rite of Hajj, where they cast pebbles at symbolic pillars in the city of Mina.

Seeing Ibrahim and Ismail’s obedience, God sent down a lamb from the heavens for the sacrifice, according to Islamic tradition.
A similar version of the story is also mentioned in Christianity and Judaism.

Muslims around the world celebrate Eid al-Adha to honor the devotion of Ibrahim and Ismail.
The symbolic sacrifice of livestock is part of the rituals associated with the festival, but is not an obligation in Islam, rather an act that is encouraged.

Donations of meat were made which reached countless families who would otherwise have been unable to celebrate this very important sacred festival.
It is an important tradition which Turkiye has facilitated for many years with dedicated web pages set up to receive monetary donations from the citizens of Turkiye which aims to assist those at home and abroad. One such group, “The Diyanet Foundation” played a major role.

“On the occasion of Qurban Bayram, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the generous individuals who contribute,” he told Anadolu Agency (AA).
Another Foundation called “The Turkish Deniz Feneri Association” distributed meat to the needy in more than 20 countries, including Uganda.
Abubalar Byango, the director of Uganda’s Byango Development and Charitable Organization, told Anadolu that with support from the Turkish Keskul organization, they were able to distribute meat from 500 cows to needy people in Eastern Uganda.

It is customary on this Muslim holiday to give meat to the needy. The meat from 7,000 Beef Cows was distributed to the needy.

In an interview with Anadolu News, the Ambassador to Uganda, Fatih Ak complimented the Turkish community in Uganda who delivered those donations and those individual persons and groups who contributed so that Ugandan families in need could enjoy also the festival.
Donations were also made in other countries of Africa, as well as in the Middle East, Asia, and Europe. Ref: AA News

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The Economy

Investment in gold is rapidly increasing.

Geopolitical tensions and expected interest rate cuts from the Fed have sparked buying frenzy in many countries around the world. Alongside central banks, individual investments are rapidly increasing in countries like Germany, China, and South Korea.

Gold, which has been remembered as a significant investment asset during crisis periods in the pandemic, continues to be a solid investment during times of war and crisis. Particularly, the anticipation of a decrease in the dollar index with the onset of Fed interest rate cuts in the second half of the year is increasing the allure of gold. This is triggering gold investments worldwide.

China increases its gold reserves by 60 tons in a month.

The People's Bank of China (PBOC) increased its gold reserves for the 18th consecutive month in April. The amount of gold bullion held by the PBOC increased by 60,000 ounces last month, reaching 2,264 tons. Amid economic uncertainties, young consumers are turning to gold as a valuable asset. According to NDTV, surveys show that 70 percent of consumers between the ages of 18 and 40 plan to purchase pure gold jewellery.
German households hold over 9,000 tons of gold.

According to a survey conducted by Reisebank, Germans increasingly trust gold as protection against inflation. The gold stocks held by private households in Germany as investment in bullion or coins have increased by 35 tons since 2021, reaching 5,229 tons.

The remaining 3,805 tons are held as jewellery, totalling over 9,000 tons. Together with the central bank's gold reserves of 3,353 tons, it is revealed that 5.9 percent of the world's gold belongs to Germany. The value of this gold is approximately 750 billion euros.

Gold is sold like cakes in supermarkets in South Korea

Demand for bullion and coins in South Korea increased by 27 percent annually, reaching 5 tons. The country's largest supermarket chain, CU, has started offering mini gold bullions to customers. CU began selling gold bullions weighing between 0.1 grams and 1.87 grams.

Since its introduction, people in their 30s have accounted for over 41 percent of total sales.
People in their 20s accounted for 6.8 percent of all sales.
Although consolidation is expected in the short term, a new record is expected by the end of the year.
The outlook for gold demand worldwide continues to be shaped by expectations of Fed interest rate cuts.
While expectations shifting towards September may slow down the pace of gold, ongoing attacks by Israel, which has not accepted the ceasefire offer in the Middle East, are causing safe haven purchases of the precious metal.
In this scenario, while prices are hovering above $2,300 in the short term, there is a possibility of consolidation. If $2,300 is breached, it could lead to sales down to $2,267. However, in the medium term, due to the continued validity of all factors supporting gold, the expectation of a rise is maintained. Wells Fargo predicts $2,500 for the end of the year. Source: BTT

GREAT NEWS ON THE LITERARY FRONT FOR MONI ARORA - Kusadasi Life

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You can pick up a copy at Adonis Travel Agency located near Deniz Bank en-route to the new City Park (Old Belediye).
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eamd13IziaM

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Economy -European Commission says Apple in breach of EU competition rules

Commission also opens 3rd non-compliance probe against tech company

The European Commission on Monday said Apple is breaching the EU's Digital Markets Act (DMA) with its App Store rules as it prevents app developers from freely steering consumers to alternative channels for offers and content.

In preliminary findings sent to the company, the commission said that none of Apple's business terms allow developers to freely steer their customers, while under most of the business terms available to app developers, the company allows steering only through "link-outs."

Although Apple can receive a fee for facilitating via the AppStore the initial acquisition of a new customer by developers under the DMA, the commission found that the fees charged by Apple "go beyond what is strictly necessary" for such remuneration.

Under the DMA, developers distributing their apps through Apple's App Store should be able, free of charge, to inform their customers of alternative cheaper purchasing possibilities, steer them to those offers, and allow them to make purchases.

"Our preliminary position is that Apple does not fully allow steering.
Steering is key to ensure that app developers are less dependent on gatekeepers' app stores and for consumers to be aware of better offers," EU Commissioner for Competition Margrethe Vestager said in a statement.
If the commission's preliminary views were to be ultimately confirmed, none of Apple's three sets of business terms would comply with the DMA, which requires gatekeepers to allow app developers to steer consumers to offers outside the gatekeepers' app stores, free of charge.

The commission would then adopt a non-compliance decision within 12 months from the opening of proceedings on March 24.
3rd non-compliance probe
The commission also opened a new non-compliance procedure against Apple over concerns about its new contractual requirements for third-party app developers and app stores, including Apple's new Core Technology Fee.

Under the new fee, developers of third-party app stores and third-party apps must pay a €0.50 ($0.54) fee per installed app.

"We have also opened proceedings against Apple in relation to its so-called core technology fee and various rules for allowing third-party app stores and sideloading," Vestager said.
"The developers' community and consumers are eager to offer alternatives to the App Store," she said, and added: "We will investigate to ensure Apple does not undermine these efforts." Source AA

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5 secret beaches in Türkiye to escape crowds

Türkiye has some of the most picturesque and serene beaches in the world. While many tourists flock to popular spots like Bodrum, Antalya, Mugla and Izmir lesser-known beaches offer a tranquil escape from the crowds.

This guide covers some of Türkiye's secret beaches that promise breathtaking views and serene atmospheres, perfect for those seeking a unique beach experience.

1. Hidden Cove

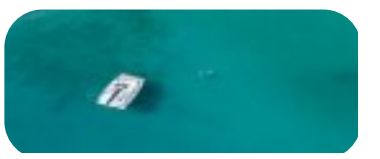
Where it is: Kemer district of Antalya, near Beldibi

About the beach: Gizli Koy, also known as Rus Koyu (Russians' Cove), is a hidden gem surrounded by nature's beauty. This secluded beach attracts Russian tourists during the summer, earning its nickname.

The beach features pristine waters and high-quality sands, making it perfect for swimming and sunbathing. Despite its small size, Gizli Koy offers an exclusive and peaceful environment. The surrounding cliffs and lush greenery create a stunning backdrop, ideal for photography and relaxation.

There are no commercial facilities, so bring your own supplies. The beach's isolation means it's generally quiet, providing a peaceful retreat even in peak tourist season.

How to get there: Reaching Gizli Koy requires effort due to the rugged terrain. Park near the Camdag Tunnel in Beldibi and proceed on foot. The path to the beach is steep and uneven, so sturdy shoes and a good level of fitness are essential for navigating this route safely.



2. Hacettepe Cove

Where it is: Near Ayayorgi Koyu in Dalyankoy, Cesme

About the beach: Hacettepe Koyu offers a peaceful retreat just beyond the bustling Ayayorgi Koyu. The beach features sandy shores and crystal-clear, shallow waters, ideal for families and those who prefer calm seas.

The warm water temperature makes it perfect for swimming. Sera Beach provides amenities like restrooms, food services, and sun loungers, ensuring a comfortable day by the sea.

Despite its proximity to the popular Ayayorgi, Hacettepe Koyu remains relatively quiet and is perfect for sunbathing, swimming, and relaxing in a tranquil environment. The natural beauty and serene atmosphere make it a hidden treasure in Cesme.

How to get there: Hacettepe Koyu is easily accessible from Cesme. Head toward Dalyankoy and follow the signs to Ayayorgi Koyu. Hacettepe Koyu is just a short distance beyond Ayayorgi, making it easy to reach by car or local transportation.

3. Jackal Cove

Where it is: Near Seferihisar, Izmir, close to Azmak Koyu

About the beach: Cakal Koyu remains largely undiscovered by the masses, offering an untouched natural environment perfect for camping and day trips. The beach features cool, clear waters and a serene atmosphere, surrounded by lush vegetation.

Several shaded spots under trees provide ideal locations for setting up tents or hammocks. With no commercial facilities, visitors must bring their own food, water, and other necessities.

This adds to the beach's charm, making it a pristine and tranquil spot for swimming, sunbathing, reading, and enjoying the sounds of nature. The beach's isolation and unspoiled beauty make it a favorite among nature lovers and those seeking a peaceful retreat.

How to get there: To reach Cakal Koyu, head toward Seferihisar and take the road through Ulamis Koy. Continue past Duzce Koy and follow the dirt road toward Azmak Koyu. After passing Azmak Koyu, you will reach Cakal Koyu. The final stretch involves navigating a rugged dirt road that may require a 4×4 vehicle. The beach is about 0,12 miles (200 meters) from where you can park your vehicle.

4. Kaputas Beach

Where it is: Between Kas and Kalkan, Antalya

About the beach: Kaputas Plaji stands out as one of Türkiye's most stunning beaches. Nestled between steep cliffs, this small beach offers a breathtaking view. Visitors descend 187 steps to reach the beach, a journey well worth the effort.

Kaputas features a blend of golden sands and small pebbles, with incredibly clear and refreshing waters due to the mix of mountain spring water and seawater. This unique combination keeps the water cool even on the hottest days.

Kaputas is popular for swimming and sunbathing, and the surrounding cliffs provide a peaceful environment. The beach's beauty attracts photographers and nature lovers. Despite its popularity, the beach remains clean and well-maintained, thanks to local efforts.

How to get there: The beach is 12.5 miles (20 kilometres) from Kas and 4,3 miles from Kalkan. Drive or take a dolmus (shared minibus) from Kas or Kalkan. Parking can be difficult during peak season, so arrive early. Alternatively, boat tours from Kas and Kalkan often include stops at Kaputas, providing a scenic and stress-free way to visit.

5. Cleopatra Beach

Where it is: Alanya, Antalya. About the beach: Kleopatra Plaji, named after the famous Egyptian queen, Cleopatra, is one of Alanya's most iconic beaches. This beach features fine golden sands and crystal-clear waters, making it perfect for swimming and snorkelling.

According to legend, Cleopatra herself swam in these waters, adding historical allure to your visit. The beach spans approximately 1.24 miles, offering plenty of space to relax and soak up the sun. The shallow waters near the shore make it safe for children and non-swimmers.

Kleopatra Plaji is famous for its underwater visibility, allowing snorkelers to see rich marine life and natural underwater landscapes. The beach is well-equipped with amenities like sun loungers, umbrellas, and beachside cafes, ensuring a comfortable day by the sea.

How to get there: Kleopatra Plaji is at the western end of Alanya's Damlatas Plaji, easily accessible from the city center. Public buses and taxis frequently run to the beach, making it convenient for tourists.

These hidden beaches in Türkiye provide a perfect escape for those seeking tranquillity and natural beauty. Each offers a unique experience, from historical ruins to crystal-clear waters, making them ideal for a serene getaway.

Pack your essentials, embrace the adventure, and enjoy the unspoiled beauty of these secret havens. Whether you are a nature enthusiast, a history buff, or simply looking for a peaceful beach to relax, Türkiye's hidden beaches await your discovery. Source: turkey today

Poached Eggs with Garlic Yoghurt, Turkish Style - Cilbi

Ozlem Warren

I hope you enjoy this delicious poached eggs in garlic yoghurt, Turkish Style, called Cilbir.

I like to prepare a simple red pepper flakes infused olive oil sauce and pour this over the poached eggs with garlic yoghurt, just before serving. The delicious heat from the red pepper flakes complements the dish beautifully.
Author: Ozlem Warren

Recipe type: Vegetarian, eggs, Turkish Style
Cuisine: Turkish Cuisine
Serves: 2

Ingredients
1 large garlic clove, crushed and chopped finely
400g/14oz strained yoghurt, brought to room temperature
2 large free range eggs
30 ml / 2 tbsp. olive oil
30 ml / 2 tbsp. apple cider, grape or white wine vinegar
10 ml / 2 tsp. Turkish pul biber

Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
Pide bread or crusty bread to serve
Fresh herbs to decorate

Instructions
Prepare the garlic yoghurt first – about 30 minutes before poaching the eggs – and bring to the room temperature.

In a small bowl, beat the yoghurt with garlic and seasoning. Spoon this into two serving plates, creating a round thick layer to provide a nest for the poached egg. Let the yoghurt mixture reach the room temperature.

Fill a small pan with hot water, add the vinegar (this will help sealing the egg whites) and bring to a boil. Stir the water to create a whirlpool and crack in the first egg.
As the egg spins and the white sets around the yolk, stir the water ready for the next one. Poach each egg for 2-3 minutes so that the yolk remains soft.

While the eggs are poaching, quickly pour in the olive oil in a small pan and stir in the Turkish pul biber,over medium to low heat. Stir and let the pul biber infuse to olive oil for 30 seconds, turn the heat off.

Lift the eggs out of the water with a slotted spoon and place them over a couple of sturdy paper towels, to drain the excess moisture. Then gently place them over to the garlic yoghurt spread.

Drizzle the pul biber infused olive oil over the poached eggs. Serve immediately with pide bread or crusty bread by the side.

Coban Salata, Shepherd's Salad with cucumbers, tomatoes, spring onions would also go well with this delicious poached eggs over garlic yoghurt, Cilbir; Afiyet Olsun.

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Sports News in Turkey

Türkiye pins down Olympic glory with record-breaking medal tally

In Olympic history, Türkiye has been shining as a powerhouse in the wrestling arena, with a record haul of medals that underscores the nation's enduring passion for this ancient sport.

As anticipation builds for the 2024 Paris Olympic Games, a deep dive into Türkiye's medal-winning disciplines reveals wrestling's pivotal role in the country's Olympic narrative.

Türkiye boasts an impressive tally of 41 gold, 27 silver and 36 bronze medals, totaling a remarkable 104 Olympic honours.
Of these, a staggering 66 medals have been clinched by national wrestlers, cementing Türkiye's reputation as an Olympic "medal repository."

The wrestling stalwarts have notched an impressive 29 golds, 18 silvers and 19 bronzes throughout Olympic history, with their inaugural Olympic triumphs dating back to the Berlin 1936 Games.

At the historic Berlin Games, Turkish wrestlers Yaşar Erkan and Ahmet Kireççi etched their names in sporting folklore, with Erkan claiming Türkiye's first-ever Olympic gold and Kireççi securing a bronze.

The Olympic journey of Turkish wrestlers has been studded with remarkable achievements, including multiple golds by legends like Mustafa Dağıstanlı, Mithat Bayrak, and Hamza Yerlikaya across editions spanning from 1956 to 2000.

Rıza Kayaalp, a titan in contemporary wrestling, has emerged as a beacon of Turkish wrestling prowess, clinching silver in Rio 2016 and bronze in both London 2012 and Tokyo 2020.
With his sights set on Paris 2024, Kayaalp seeks to fulfil his Olympic dream of claiming the ultimate gold.

The indomitable spirit of Turkish female wrestlers has also shone brightly on the Olympic stage, with Yasemin Adar Yiğit etching her name as the first Turkish female wrestler to medal at the Olympics, capturing bronze in Tokyo 2020.

As Paris 2024 beckons, the hopes of a nation rest on stalwarts like Yiğit, Kayaalp and the reigning champion Taha Akgül, who clinched gold in Rio 2016, embodying Türkiye's enduring legacy in the realm of Olympic wrestling.
Reflecting on historic highs, Türkiye's wrestling maestros delivered their greatest medal haul at the 1960 Rome Olympics, claiming an impressive seven golds and two silvers, a testament to their unparalleled dominance on the grandest stage of them all.
Source: Daily Sabah

MY FORMULA 1 DREAM

Türkiye's Kenan Sofuoğlu sets wheels in motion for son's F1 dream

Kenan Sofuoğlu, a five-time World Supersport champion and captain of the Turkish national motorcycle teams, is grooming his 5-year-old son Zayn for Formula One glory after his podium debut in karting.

Zayn Sofuoğlu hailed as "Türkiye's youngest kart racer" from the Borusan Otomotiv Motorsport (BOM) Karting Team, secured his first win in the "micro" category at the TOSFED Körfez Racing Circuit during the MOTUL 2024 Türkiye Karting Championship's opening races on April 19-21.

Speaking to Anadolu Agency (AA), Kenan Sofuoğlu expressed immense excitement about his son's racing debut, reminiscing about his own past visits to the Körfez Circuit and the unique challenges of coaching a young racer, particularly one's own child, with the added complexity of experience.

The Türkiye Karting Championship has witnessed a lively atmosphere. Zayn Sofuoğlu's growing recognition draws enthusiastic crowds, and Kenan Sofuoğlu looks forward to completing the season on a high note.
Believing in Zayn's potential for success, Kenan Sofuoğlu explained the deliberate choice of the BOM Karting Team, recognizing their excellence and positive response to Zayn Sofuoğlu's inclusion, leading to the recent contract signing after successful trials and federation approval.

Despite challenges due to Zayn Sofuoğlu's young age, Kenan Sofuoğlu expressed confidence in their journey towards Formula One greatness, fueled by dedication and hard work.
Zayn Sofuoğlu, showcasing his versatility in both motorcycles and cars, confidently stated, "I will be the champion." Source: Daily Sabbah

FACTS & FIGURES ABOUT KUSADASI

Kusadasi is located on gulf of Kusadasi of the Aegean sea between Turkey and Greece.

Kusadasi caters to tourists arriving by land, or from the port for cruise ship passengers heading to Ephesus.

According to Greek Historian Homer, Agamemnon who was the famous commander of Spartans, cured his soldiers in Pygale on the coastline of Kusadasi

Turkish famous traveller Evliya Chalabi said that Kusadasi had a port with 500 cargo ships capacity in 17th century AD as one the most famous export & import centre.
The last home of Virgin Mary is in Selcuk near Ephesus.

One of the seven wonders of the ancient world called Artemis temple is 10 miles far away from Kusadasi.

The National Park, which is about 18 miles to Kusadasi port, covers almost 28,000 hectares and features azure coves and pebble beached backed by pine tree forests. This “nature museum” is home of 804 kinds of plants belonging to various species and subspecies, of which are unique to the region. About 250 species of birds can be spotted here, 68 of which breed in the area.

Kusadasi is in the middle of two great Ionian cities, Ephesus on the west and Panaion on the east.

The best time of visiting Kusadasi town; the beginning of the season April & and ending of the season September & October months.

Kusadasi has 22 miles long, clear coastline with full of sand beaches from Pigeon Island to National Park.

Kusadasi is the second busiest port of Turkey after Istanbul but is the capital of cruise ports of Turkey because each year at least 600 big cruise liners pay a visit to Kusadasi port.

The language in Kusadasi is Turkish, but on touristic spots you can also use English.

The currency in Kusadasi is New Turkish Lira (₤, YTL). You can find ATMs along the city.

Kusadasi has a Mediterranean climate with dry hot summers and wet mild winters. Normally winter is colder than in other cities around the Mediterranean August is the hottest month in Kusadasi with an average temperature of 28°C (82°F) and the coldest is February at 9°C (48°F) with the most daily sunshine hours at 13 in July. The average annual temperature is between 7°C and 12°C.

Kusadasi covers an area of 264 square kms and according to the latest census in Kusadasi 133,177 Population [2023] live in its town and villages.

Kusadasi entertains about two and a half million holiday-makers as well as 900-1000 cruise ships call at Kusadasi port for east Mediterranean tours from the beginning of May to the end of October.

Mourinho at Fenerbahce: How will it impact Turkish football?

Turkish football has never had a manager that ‘will draw attention to the football there like Mourinho,’ says sports journalist Sean Gillen.

- Turkish football has never had a manager that ‘will draw attention to the football there like Mourinho,’ says sports journalist Sean Gillen
- Mourinho’s presence at Fenerbahce will boost international coverage, attract bigger names and give more exposure to the entire league, Gillen tells Anadolu
- Winning the Turkish title will become Mourinho’s ‘obsession and he will expect all players and staff to adopt that obsession,’ says Gillen

With Jose Mourinho, Turkish football now has a “superstar manager” who can elevate its standing in the world, according to an international sports journalist.

“Mourinho is a superstar of football, and the world will be watching,” Sean Gillen, who writes for Portuguese football news outlet PortuGOAL.net, told Anadolu.

“The Turkish league has had many Portuguese coaches but none of them will draw attention to the football there like Mourinho.”

The Portuguese tactician has signed a two-year contract at Fenerbahce, one of the big three clubs of Turkish football alongside Besiktas and reigning champions Galatasaray.
Source AA

Cruise Ship Passenger Traffic Up 10 Percent in Four

Cruise ships brought more than 135,000 holidaymakers to Turkish ports in the first four months of 2024, marking a 10 percent increase from a year ago.

In January-April last year, around 123,000 cruise ship passengers visited the country's ports.

The cruise ship traffic at Turkish ports rose 5 percent in the first four months this year to 12.3, data from the Transport Ministry showed.

The port of Kuşadası on the Aegean coast was the busiest as it received 67 ships with 82,000 passengers.

Some 23 cruise ships with more than 26,000 travelers visited Istanbul in the January-April period, making it the second busiest destination, followed by the port in the Aegean province of İzmir with 6 ships and some 8,000 passengers.

Last year, 1,192 cruise ships visited Türkiye's ports with more than 1.5 million passengers. Meanwhile, data from the provincial directorate of culture and tourism showed that foreign tourist arrivals in Istanbul surged 10 percent in the first four months of 2024 compared with the same period of 2023 to 5.24 million.

Russians constituted the largest group of international holidaymakers, according to data. From January to April, 167,800 Russian nationals visited Istanbul.

Germans and Iranians came second and third at 109,000 and 80,000, respectively.

Some 68,000 Americans and 62,000 French vacationed in Istanbul in the first four months of the year.

More than 1 million foreign tourists arrived at Istanbul Airport, while 395,000 holidaymakers entered entered the city through Sabiha Gökçen Airport.

In April alone the number of foreign tourists visiting the megacity grew 15 percent annually to 1.4 million. Source: Hurriyet Daily News

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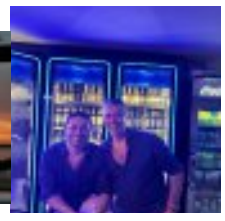

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Heavy Traffic incoming to Kusadasi

An estimated 111 thousand 499 vehicles and their passengers arrived at Kusadasi for the Eid al-Adha (Sacrifice festival) which started on Saturday 15th of June.

Compared with last year, numbers holidaying in Kusadasi during this time appeared to be much reduced compared to 2023 according to residents of the town.

Holidaymakers who visited Kusadasi, enjoyed all that the Kusadasi region had to offer.
The Ladies beach area, Dilek Peninsula National Park, Sevgi Beach and recreation areas were all busy.

The hospitality sector, owners and workers, felt that business was not as good as last year but yes there was a noticeable improvement week on week with this holiday being the best week so far in the 2024 season.

In early June 2024, Omer Gunel, Mayor of Kusadasi took control of the municipality beaches and said the following:

“With the protocol signed between our Kusadasi District Governorship and Kusadasi Municipality on May 20, 2024, all maintenance, cleaning and operation of Kusadasi beaches for 10 years was given to our municipality.

We will protect our beaches, which are one of the most important natural resources of our city, with the same meticulousness and care as we have done so far. All umbrellas and sun loungers will be free on our public beaches. We are progressing the purchasing process of our new sun loungers and umbrellas as quickly as possible. Our products will be available to our citizens as soon as possible. We will also renew our shower and WC cabins on all our beaches.

We carry out the daily cleaning of our beaches with our own production sand cleaning vehicle. We have the most important Blue Flag beaches of our country.
We will continue our necessary maintenance and cleaning work uninterruptedly so that our fellow citizens and our local and foreign guests visiting our city can benefit from our beaches in the most efficient and enjoyable way.

Our people and our guests will experience our public-oriented and quality service approach during their holidays at our beaches transferred to Kusadasi Municipality,"

Due to high accommodation costs in Kusadasi, some came and pitched their tents on the many public beaches for the duration of their visit whilst taking advantage of nearby facilities which were free to them.
They took advantage of the sunny weather, beaches and recreation areas.

Kusadasi, one of the Aegean’s jewels, was busy with visitors during the Eid al-Adha holiday more so after their national feast day on Sunday 16th June, which is the day when family get togethers take place.
After this day, Turkish holidaymakers started travelling to their chosen destinations.

Particularly on the Monday 17th June, after the feast day, Vehicle queues started forming at the entrance to the Kusadasi area, especially from the Izmir direction, where many summer vacationers and people coming for daily holidays are present.

Bodrum saw a massive influx of holidaymakers as did Didim which is less than an hour from Kusadasi.

A good number of Turkish expats also returned as is tradition via road from their homes abroad to be with their families in the Kusadasi region for Bayram.

An occupancy rate of over 90 percent was reported to have been reached in the accommodation facilities in the district with smaller boutique accommodation being the preferred option of Turkish holiday makers this year. Also reported was that the local population figure of 133 thousand plus increased to just under 1 million for the duration.

Sea Bus Between Bodrum and Didim

Muğla Metropolitan Municipality is starting sea bus services between Bodrum Turgutreis and Aydın Didim on July 1
The Didim-Turgutreis-Bodrum voyage, which will start with the cooperation of Muğla Metropolitan Municipality and Aydın Metropolitan Municipality, will start from Didim on Cabotage Day, July 1, 2024.
The opening ceremony will be held on Monday, July 1, at 10.30 at Didim D-Marin Passenger Pier, with the participation of Muğla Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Ahmet Aras and Aydın Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Özlem Çerçioğlu.

Didim-Turgutreis by sea in 1 hour
With the project implemented with the cooperation of two Metropolitan Municipalities, the distance between Aydın Didim and Muğla Bodrum Turgutreis, which is 140 km by road, can be reached in approximately 3 hours with the traffic density in summer months, while the 21 nautical mile long sea line can be reached in 1 hour by sea buses.
While the distance between the two tourism centers will be shortened with the 450-passenger sea buses, it is aimed to reduce the traffic congestion.
In this way, faster, safer and more comfortable transportation will be provided for both local and foreign tourists. In addition, citizens who can travel the 14 km distance between Turgutreis and Bodrum in 1 hour in the summer months will be able to travel this distance in 35 minutes by sea bus. Source: https://kenttv.net/

Holiday rush at Ada Camping!

With the Eid al-Adha holiday being extended to 9 days, the choice of those who want to have a holiday that suits their budget has become 'Ada Camping', located in Aydın's Kusadasi district.

The touristic facility opened by Kusadasi Municipality in Sevgi Beach was flooded with visitors.

During the Eid al-Adha holiday in Turkey this year, tent and caravan camps attracted great interest from holidaymakers as they were more economical than hotels and rental houses.

With its safe environment in touch with nature and its proximity to Sevgi Beach, Ada Camping has become a favourite of visitors coming to Kusadasi for holiday. Holidaymakers who came to the camping area, which includes social activity areas, restaurants, cafes and markets, enjoyed the sea, sand and sun.

Glamping and standard tents can be rented at Ada Camping, or those who wish can bring and set up their own tents.

Children also can have fun with their peers at Ada Camping, which has a separate area for caravans.

The tourist facility, implemented by Kusadasi Municipality, offers its guests an unforgettable holiday experience with all these aspects.

Stating that the summer season will be busy at Ada Camping, facility manager Özel Güler Eyüboğlu said, “We serve at almost full capacity during the holiday. Ada Camping's safe environment is also very effective in why holidaymakers choose us.
We also host foreign tourists from different countries of the world during the summer season.

"For us, hygiene, customer satisfaction and security are indispensable elements," he said.

Recai Başer, who came to the touristic facility from Istanbul for the Eid al-Adha holiday, said, “Ada Camping offers us the opportunity to spend a very clean and comfortable time.
One of the reasons for our preference is that its location is very close to the sea. Also, the employees are very attentive and friendly.
"We would like to thank Kusadasi Municipality for providing us with the opportunity to use such a facility," he said. Source Kusadasi Ajans

SunExpress named 'Europe's Best Holiday Airline

Award reflects SunExpress' commitment to providing its passengers with high quality, comfortable travel experience, CEO says

SunExpress, a joint venture of Turkish Airlines and Lufthansa, was named "Europe's Best Holiday Airline" in 2024 at the Skytrax World Airline Awards, the carrier announced on Monday.

The airline had also previously received the "World's Best Holiday Airline" award in 2022.

Max Kownatzki, CEO of SunExpress, said: "SunExpress is delighted to be named 'Europe's Best Holiday Airline' once again.
"This award is a reflection of our commitment to providing our passengers with a high quality and comfortable travel experience."

This year, passengers from more than 100 countries participated in the global survey conducted by Skytrax to measure passenger satisfaction.

Expanding its direct flights to Türkiye in 2024, SunExpress increased its seat capacity by 19% compared to the previous year to meet the demand abroad.

Offering direct flights to more than 200 destinations in 35 countries, the airline added 28 new routes to its flight network this summer and aims to carry 15 million passengers in 2024.

ARK - Animal Charity in Kusadasi - Out & About

Welcoming summer in style!

Animal Rescue Kusadasi (ARK) recently celebrated the arrival of summer in grand style with our much-anticipated second annual White Party, also known as the 'welcome to summer' party, generously hosted by the beautiful Seckin Saklibahce (secret garden) restaurant. The event was an unforgettable evening, filled with elegance, entertainment and enjoyment.

As the guests arrived they were greeted with a stunning red carpet entrance, setting the tone for the glamorous evening ahead. The venue is beautifully scenic, framed by trees, subtle outdoor lighting, pictures etc, further complemented by white paper lanterns in the trees, as a tribute to the theme of the event. It provided the perfect backdrop for our celebration.

A very talented violinist serenaded the attendees, adding even more sophistication to the atmosphere. Laughter and conversation flowed freely as old friends reunited and new connections were made, all in the spirit of supporting a noble cause.

Many thanks for the generosity of our attendees. Every donation to ARK – large or small – makes a tremendous difference the lives of the animals we care for. We are incredibly grateful for the community's unwavering support.

We were delighted that the guests included representatives of some of the businesses which support us, many long-term supporters and many new supporters – some being in Kusadasi on holiday. Music lasted late into the evening and everyone was on the dance floor, which was wonderful to see.

The success of this year's White Party is a testament to the power of community and to people's compassion. We are thankful to the restaurant for hosting us, to the ARK team of volunteers for their hard work and to everyone who attended, contributing to making the evening so special. People's support allows us to continue our mission and to make a positive impact on the lives of the street animals, who desperately need the help of humans.

There was a general consensus amongst the crowd that this was the best ARK event to date, though we hope to further exceed expectations in the future. We will be providing information on future events on an ongoing basis. Together we can create a better world for our furry friends. Thank you so much to those who are part of our journey.

If you were unable to attend the event in person but want to help the street animals in need please consider a donation to our worthy cause via our website – arktr.org, where you can also access our Facebook page. We will be eternally grateful for your support.

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WELCOME TO ARK (ANIMAL RESCUE KUŞADASI)

Welcome to ARK, where compassion meets action.

As dedicated volunteers, we extend our arms & hearts to the street animals of our community, providing essential nourishment, healthcare, and a pathway to loving homes through foster and adoption programs.

On our web Page: https://arktr.org/ and within the pages, you will discover the boundless dedication of our team and the profound impact of your donation support

DONATE TODAY - Every click, every donation, and every message sent is a beacon of hope for those who cannot speak for themselves. Join us on this journey of kindness, where together, we make waves of change in the vast sea of animal welfare. Thank you for caring deeply and for being a vital part of our mission.

Out and About with ARK

Recent weeks have been particularly busy for the ARK team of volunteers

Neutering street animals is of crucial importance, and we are constantly getting animals neutered or assisting other kind people in doing so, by loaning cat traps and cages and/or helping with transport. Activity was particularly intensive on 2 days, focused on trapping un-neutered cats on Pigeon Island. 27 cats were neutered, with most being caught at dawn, while the island and walkway were quiet.
ARK is delighted to have established an excellent relationship with the Ramada Resort.

The Resort's management clearly cares about the health and wellbeing of the cats on their land. One aspect of that is neutering, as they obviously want to avoid an expansion of the cat population, while at the same time reporting any sick or injured cats and providing food and water at a designated place on the site.
Hakan Arik, the Resort's Quality & Sustainability Manager, is ARK's key point of contact and is indeed a credit to the Ramada Resort.

Another very positive development in respect of broader animal welfare issues is ARK's growing relationship with KODER, Kusadasi Hoteliers Association. A very constructive meeting was held with Tacettin Ozden, the President of KODER, which should lead to some very positive outcomes.

The cost of veterinary treatments paid for by ARK in May was a record – over 100,000 tl. That obviously creates pressure, as we need to ensure that we continue to receive donations, which are our lifeblood. We don't want to ever be unable to help animals which need our care. Some of the individual vet treatments were complex
.
An example is a lovely cat which we named Hope. She was critically ill with an infected uterus, though has made a full recovery after a major operation.

A small team from ARK continue to volunteer their time to support the staff at the Belediye's animal shelter, providing home-cooked food, treats, comfortable bedding and lots of love and hugs, particularly to the cats and kittens and to puppy dogs. It's extremely sad that many puppies and kittens are orphans, which often has a major impact on their ability to survive. Very few of the animals on the shelter are adopted, which is something that we in ARK are desperately keen to improve upon.

ARK volunteers also feed several groups of street animals – some as a result of the kindness of individual sponsors.

The area around Kustur, Adagol park and Pine Bay is home to many animals (particularly dogs) who need help. Sadly, despite the support of the staff from the Animal Shelter, we were unable to trap three female dogs in Spring to arrange for them to be neutered.
Sadly, each has given birth to a litter of puppies. We're determined to find a solution to avoid repetition. To add to the problem, many 'new' dogs and cats have been dumped in these areas in recent weeks – particularly over the Bayram holiday. In one case, all 4 siblings in a litter of kittens had eye problems, resulting in ARK arranging for one to have an eye removed and another having only partial sight.

Despite how busy things have been and the sadness of much of the work which the ARK volunteers do, there has been some light relief – not least the 'White Party' (which is reported on separately), plus an afternoon/evening trip to Sirince, which was attended by 22 ARK supporters. A lovely evening was had by all.

There was another positive development this period – the number of our online followers exceeded 7,000. Thank you to everyone who takes an interest in ARK's activities! Arktr.org

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Turkish Airlines retains Europe’s best airline title for 9th time

National flag carrier Turkish Airlines retained its title of "the Best Airline in Europe" for the ninth time, thanks to an award by air transport rating agency Skytrax on Monday.

The carrier also received awards of the best business class catering and best airline in Southern Europe, at the 2024 World Airline Awards.

The awards, known as the “Oscars of the Aviation Industry,” were announced at an event held in London.

"These awards highlights the carrier’s exceptional service quality across its extensive network, underscoring the airline's dedication to providing a seamless and comfortable travel experience for its passengers," Turkish Airlines said in a statement.

Established in 1933 Turkish Airlines has a fleet of 458 (passenger and cargo) aircraft flying to 347 worldwide destinations -- 293 international and 53 domestics -- in 130 countries.

At the awards, Qatar Airways was named the World’s Best Airline, winning the prestigious Airline of the Year 2024 title.

Losing its top spot, Singapore Airlines was ranked second in the world for this year.

Emirates placed third, ANA All Nippon Airways fourth, and Cathay Pacific fifth, out of more than 350 airlines included in the survey results.

Residence permit now mandatory for foreigners to marry in Türkiye

Foreigners wishing to marry in Türkiye must have a legal residence permit in the country, the Interior Ministry's General Directorate of Population and Citizenship Affairs stated in a letter sent to marriage bureaus countrywide, a move aimed at slowing the trend of gaining Turkish citizenship through marriage.

"To ensure public order and effectively combat irregular migration, in the marriage procedures of a Turkish citizen with a foreigner or between two foreigners, the marriage application should only be accepted if the foreign national possesses a valid passport or equivalent document and has a legal residence permit in our country.

New citizenship law turning point for Turks in Germany

Germany is home to the world's biggest Turkish community overseas, with more than 3.5 million people. Most of them are descendants of "guest workers" invited to rebuild postwar Germany.

Along-awaited law easing the pathway to a German passport came into force on Thursday, marking a turning point for millions of Turks eager to hold dual citizenship.

The naturalization reform put forward by Germany's three-party center-left coalition government allows people to become German while retaining their original citizenship. Ref: Daily Sabbah

MUSIC CONCERTS NEWS

Concert dates in Turkey will once again showcase the multi-facetedness of Istanbul through music from 3 to 18 July 2024 with the 31st International Jazz Festival.

The line-up includes names like Gregory Porter, Chris Isaak, Joshua Redman, YolanDa Brown, Arlo Parks, Baptiste Trotignon, Kristjan Randalu and Modern Art Orchestra feat. Kornél Fekete-Kovács.

Organised by Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (İKSV) and sponsored by Garanti BBVA, ,
the festival will host more than 200 local and international artists in close to 40 concerts in 16 days
Concert programme: https://caz.iksv.org/en/programme

Jazz Boat

Yolan Da Browne

7th International Ephesus Opera and Ballet Festival

The seventh International Ephesus Opera and Ballet Festival will be held at Ephesus from Saturday June 29-July 13.

More details: https://www.biletinial.com/tr-tr/mekan/uluslararasi-efes-opera-ve-bale-festival.

Before an Event

During an Event

Advice: Bring a Cushion and bottled water !

Kylie Minogue is Coming to Bodrum

Grammy award-winning Australian singer Kylie Minogue is coming to Bodrum July 5th to give a concert at the 10th anniversary special invitation of Mandarin Oriental Bodrum. Kylie Minogue, the best-selling and most successful artist of all time, is one of the rare names that continues to make us listen to her songs. Kylie Minogue, who is etched in memories with her song “Can't Get You Out Of My Head”, is coming to Bodrum for a very special concert.

Kylie Minogue's live performance and dance show, which will be held at Mandarin Oriental Bodrum's 10th Anniversary special event, where leading names from the society and business world as well as important guests from the world jet set will attend, is eagerly awaited. Source: KENTtv

Sony Music acquires Queen's catalogue for historic $1B sale

Legendary British rock band Queen's music catalogue has been acquired by Sony Music in a deal worth over $1 billion, according to reports.
On Friday, Hits, a music industry trade publication, reported that Sony triumphed over other recording giants to secure ownership of Queen's catalogue for 1 billion pounds (approximately $1.2 billion). Two sources confirmed the staggering deal to Variety.
Hits noted that the only revenue Sony won't receive under the deal is from live performances. Founding members Brian May and Roger Taylor continue to perform as Queen alongside singer Adam Lambert, replacing the late Freddie Mercury.
Hits reported that another potential buyer offered $900 million but couldn't top Sony's winning bid. The Sony deal is expected to close in "the next few weeks."

Under the deal with Sony, DMG will retain the band's North American rights, though some royalties received by Queen members under the DMG deal will now be paid to Sony.
Sony's billion-dollar acquisition is the most expensive music catalogue sale in history, surpassing Bruce Springsteen's $600 million sale in 2021. In 2020, Bob Dylan sold his publishing rights for a reported $400 million, and Sony acquired Dylan's recorded music catalogue in 2022 for $150-$200 million. However, these amounts have not been publicly confirmed. Source: Daily Sabbah

PLOGGING IN DIDIM

Until recently this writer had never heard the word used here in Turkey.

Wikipedia tells us what the meaning is:
Plogging is a combination of jogging while picking up litter.
Merging the Swedish verbs plocka upp and jogga gives the new Swedish verb plogga, from which the word plogging derives.

There is a group of volunteers in Didim who consistently do this in their locality.

Their facebook page **"Plogging in Didim**" has 221 members and they inform the reader:
"Let's keep our lovely Didim clean while staying healthy!
Plogging is an eco-friendly activity from Sweden. It is a combination of jogging and picking up litter. It has spread to many countries.
Let's become role models and make Didim one of the cleanest cities in Turkey and do our health a favor at the same time!
Turkey obviously has a much warmer climate than Sweden, so picking up litter during a powerwalk or a regular walk to work, school or the beach is just as good.

We want to encourage Didim residents and holidaymakers to pick up plastic, cigarette butts and other trash in everyday life to keep our wonderful Didim cleaner, for our own well-being, our environment, our animals and, not least for the next generation.
Here you can encourage each other and post motivational pictures. You can also invite each other to organize junk picking events".

Here comes a short history lesson:
Their page tells us that:
"During the 1800th century, when our Swedish king Charles XII, in Turkish called "Kral Demir Bas" was allied with the Ottoman empire in the war against the Russians, Sweden imported some words from Turkey, such as "dolmus", "kalabalik" and "kösk".
Now it is time to give something nice in return and we would like to introduce "plogging" to Turkey :)."

Getting the Message out
The "Voices Newspaper" Facebook Page, does indeed help this plogging group by communicating their regular updates to a wider audience. That is how this writer came across them.

One such update recently in that newspaper, published on the 20th of June last, talked about the group activity on that day.

A day in the life of a Plogger
A group of twelve of the membership met and to go Plog at a small beach situated near Marti Sitesi in Didim.
Their attention was drawn to the unusual number of pitched tents and caravans on site.
One of the group's members chatted with tourists and educated them about the plogging group and what they were about. Many of these tourists were appreciative and understood the information given and assured them that they would be considerate and take their waste with them.

Group members enjoyed refreshment thanks to the hospitality of one caring family.

In one hour, 14 bags of rubbish were collected from that small beach.
This group of Ploggers operating in the Didim area are to be commended for their work on the ground and they truly are leading their community and others by example!

Sanliurfa – What to see and do. Part 2. By Lisa Morrow.

SANLIURFA HISTORY

At first sight, when you approach Sanliurfa on the airport bus, the city resembles nothing more than a mess of high-rise apartments haphazardly sprawled across the rolling plains of southeastern Turkey. However, another world awaits in the old town centre. The name Urfa, as most people call it, is derived from the early Aramaic language when it was called Urhai. The Abgarid Dynasty ruled the region from the 2nd century BC, founding the Kingdom of Osroene/Orshone in 132BC. Around 150AD King Edessa V. Abgar Ukkama professed his belief in Christianity. The name Urfa was replaced with Edessa and the city became the seat of the most important Syrian bishopric. Even now it's often referred to as the City of Prophets due to its religious importance. The city had a mixed population including Greeks and Parthians but was fundamentally Syriac. When the Romans took over in the 3rd century AD, they also called the city Edessa, and this was the name used by successive rulers until sometime in the late 16th early 17th century when the Ottomans annexed the city from the Byzantines. From then on Urfa was a Turkish city, despite briefly being occupied by Muhammad Ali Paşa, the Ottoman governor of Egypt, in the late 1830s.

When French troops occupied Urfa in 1919 during the Turkish War of Independence, the locals bravely resisted. So much so that in 1984, the Turkish Grand National Assembly passed an act adding the prefix "şanlı" to the city's name. Plain Urfa became glorious Urfa, or Şanlıurfa, to give its full name.

WHAT TO SEE IN SANLIURFA Continued Part 2

Bazaar area

Don't let all that tranquility fool you though. A short distance away around the rabbit warren that is the Sanliurfa covered bazaar, the narrow streets are packed with street markets and men wearing fetching lavender floral print kaffeyeh.
They cluster around tables in Gumruk Han playing backgammon, smoking hand rolled cigarettes full of yellow tobacco while cracking sunflower seeds between their teeth. Parked outside on the streets are their trusty steeds. Not horses but motorbikes, narrow bodied Kuba models, bedecked in leather covers and silky fringes with handwoven saddle bags slung across the back.

The next time I entered Gumruk Han, built during the reign of Sultan Suleyman the Magnificent in the 16th century, I was with the aforementioned gorgeous students.
To say we made an entrance was an understatement. You can read all about in my story All singing, all dancing all the time in my book Exploring Turkish Landscapes: Crossing Inner Boundaries.

Even if you're not into cooking, put the Sanliurfa Mutfak Müzesi on your itinerary. Formerly a private home, the municipality bought Hacıbanlar House to showcase local cuisine and cooking methods, as well as life in a traditional Urfa home, and that's where the beauty lies.
The rooms are full of hand carved wooden cupboards and ceiling decorations while the exterior masonry is superb. The displays include traditional equipment used in local kitchens, much of it obviously made by highly skilled artisans, and tableau of unnervingly realistic mannequins dressed in garments specific to the Urfa region. There are five rooms, two wells and a large courtyard.

Sanliurfa castle

I'm not much of a ruined castle type of person, and although I love walking, the summer heat in Sanliurfa means I stayed on flat ground and stuck to the shade as much as I could. I haven't actually walked up to the castle but according to various sources, a palace once stood on the hill at the spot where it's located, flanked by villas belonging to noblemen of the Kingdom of Orshone. A large number of artefacts dating to Byzantine and Islamic periods, including Ottoman, were discovered during excavations. Experts believe the final design of the castle was completed during the reign of the Abbasids who reigned from the 8th to the 13th centuries.

The palace is long gone and all that remains are the walls and two Corinthian columns at the top, dramatically lit up at night. They're believed to mark the spot where Prophet Abraham was thrown from by King Nemrut. All I can say is he must have had a pretty impressive throwing arm, given the distance. If you make it up there look out for the Aramaic inscription on the north-facing surface of one of the columns. It confirms the column was built by the kingdom of Abgar, the local Kingdom of Urfa in the 3rd century AD and reads, "I am Eftuha, son of the sun. I built these columns and the statue on them for Queen Shalmet, daughter of King Mano".

Ulu Camii

Ulu Cami, Urfa's grand mosque, is fairly simple in style. It's modelled after Syrian mosques and has 13 eyvan, vaulted halls that open onto a large courtyard shaded by Cyprus trees. Provided you can find a free seat it's nice to stop and have a break here, away from the bustle of the street. There's a freestanding clock tower and şardıvan, the ablutions fountain where worshippers wash before prayers, but not much else of note.
Being my father's daughter I had to look inside so put a scarf over my hair and entered the women's section. Unfortunately it's a late addition so all I could see were particle board walls and the tops of arches. Spying a door I cautiously opened it, disturbing three men lying on the carpet. Seeing my worried face they laughed and beckoned me into the main section. I was very curious as to why they were prone on the ground so I asked them. "It's lovely and cool in here", one answered, and I had to agree. I'm glad I sated my curiosity and can also tell you the interior is very plain, but the congregants very friendly.

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If you need advice or assistance on any of the above in:

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If you are calling, texting or WhatsApping any of the above **Turkish numbers from outside Turkey please add 009** to the beginning of the number.

You can **contact our volunteers any time** from Monday to Friday between 10 am and 5 pm (Turkish time)

For out-of-hours emergencies call 0256 612 3207, or our UK number 0207 078 7443 or our Ireland number 01 657 1475 or call, SMS or WhatsApp 05066 620 185 – 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Check us out - We would appreciate if you would copy and paste the following link for our Ege Eye Facebook group into your browser
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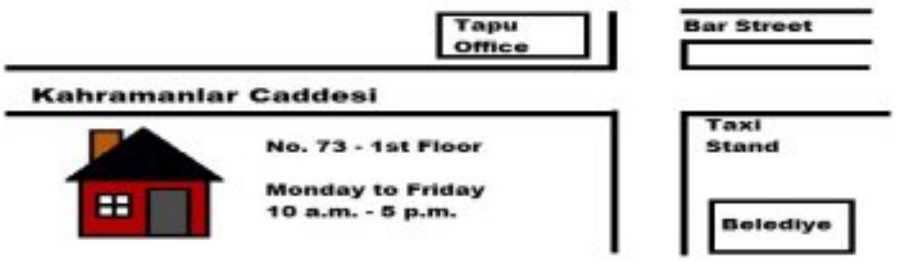

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