THE EGE EYE

ISSUE 245

FEBRUARY

2025

"News for the Turkish coast since 2005"

"BOYCOT THE EXORBITANT PRICES"

The first Cabinet Meeting of the year, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan said, "Our citizens also need to contribute to the fight against the high cost of living. The way to do this is to boycott those who sell at exorbitant prices."

"THE INCREASE IN MINIMUM WAGE CAN BE USED AS AN EXCUSE FOR PRICES TO BE INCREASED BY 5 OR 10 UNITS"

The relevant part of Erdoğan's statement is as follows: "While the cost may increase by 2-3 units due to the increase in the minimum wage, this increase can be used as an excuse to raise prices by 5 or 10 units. It is obvious that these increases stem from greed, avarice and lack of conscience. Our honest, moral and conscientious businesses are the majority, and they are not the addressees of our words.

"WE ARE ALSO MAKING INTENSIVE EFFORTS TO PROVIDE OUR CITIZENS WITH ACCESS TO HEALTHY AND RELIABLE FOOD"

The state is of course obliged to do what is necessary in the fight against opportunism.

During last year's inspections, approximately 5 billion liras worth of administrative fines were imposed on 224 thousand companies that applied exorbitant prices. A total of 366 million liras worth of fines were imposed on 1,555 real and legal persons during the inspections.

We also make great efforts to ensure that our citizens have access to healthy and reliable food. We conducted 1.3 million inspections in 2024. We imposed 1.4 billion liras worth of fines. We have no tolerance for those who adulterate the products they sell or those who reach into the people's pockets. These inspections will increase even more in 2025.

"FREE MARKET DOES NOT MEAN ILLEGALITY"

We will protect the rights of 85 million people at the highest level within the framework of free market principles. Free market does not mean irregularity.

The purpose of our inspections is not to interfere with the free market but to ensure that its functioning progresses more healthily.

"OUR GREATEST TRUTH AGAINST OPPORTUNISTS IS USING OUR FREEDOM OF NOT BUYING"

Our citizens also need to contribute to the fight against the high cost of living.

The way to do this is to boycott those who sell at exorbitant prices.
As citizens, our greatest trump card against opportunists is to use our freedom not to buy. We can achieve much more effective results by joining hands with the state and the nation on this issue.

We have made significant progress in the fight against inflation in the last 1.5 years. As inflation decreases, the purchasing power of all 85 million people will increase. Our goal in 2025 is to largely resolve this issue. Source: https://www.haberler.com/

January rent increase ceiling announced

The rent increase ceiling rate for January was 58.51 percent.

With the announcement of the inflation figures for December 2024, the ceiling rate for January rent increases were determined.

The change in CPI in December 2024 was 1.03 percent compared to the previous month, 44.38 percent compared to December of the previous year, 44.38 percent compared to the same month of the previous year, and 58.51 percent according to twelve-month averages. Source: https://www.iha.com.tr/

The February CPI rates for February will be published on the Ege Eye facebook page on the 3rd of the month.

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Did you realise that you can buy your Travel Insurance in Turkey ? Did you know that Travel Insurance is cheaper here than in your own Country ? Get yourself a better quote for your Travel insurance or any type of insurance to include a variety of Health and House insurance plans, in Turkey - look no further than your local Foreign Citizen Advice Centre where You are in good hands.

The Advice Centre's Volunteers have over 15 years experience in dealing with clients' needs and Brokers at the Center.

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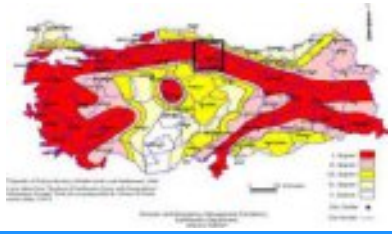

Earthquake Danger Zone Map

We do not sell insurance; we simply help you to compare what's on offer from the different brokers. All polices will be issued to you directly by fully licensed insurance brokers.

RESIDENCE
GENERAL
INFORMATION

If you wish to apply for your first residence, extend your existing one or apply for long term residence you can avail yourself of free help and advice at the:-

THE FOREIGN CITIZENS ADVICE CENTRE
OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY
until 4.30pm

Phone: 0090 541 9010682

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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

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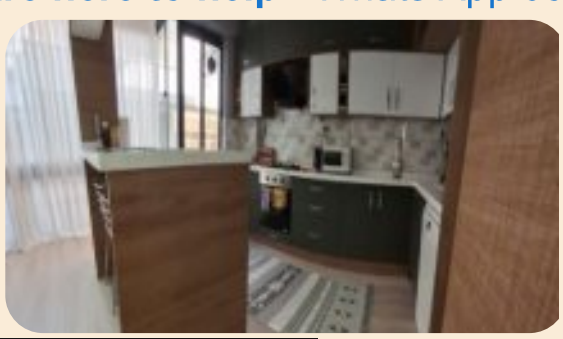

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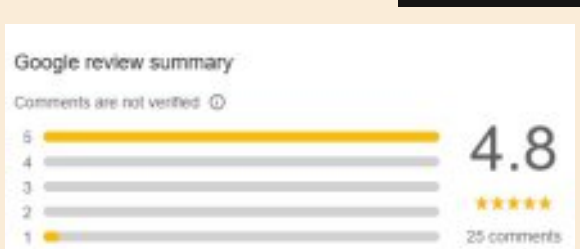


E-mail the advice centre at support@adviceturkey.org or telephone the Admin Office on 05318 560 546 – all queries will be answered by our friendly team the same day, so don't hesitate to ask
From the owner - By the owner - To the owner

Emergency Travel Document

The Consulate in Izmir can provide an ETC (Emergency Travel Certificate) that will enable a trip back to Ireland.

Please provide the following:

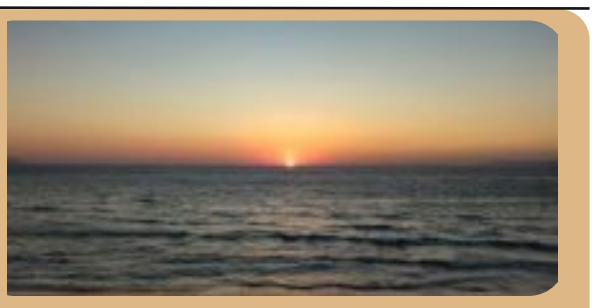
- Scanned copy of the police report (via email)
- Your passport number (via email)
- Scanned copy of any ID (such as driver's licence) (via email)
- Digital copy of your Photo (passport photo) (via email)
- Return flight details (via email)
- You will have to bring (two) physical copies of your passport photos to the Consulate in Izmir
- The cost of the ETC is 30 Euro/500 Turkish Lira (Cash) (to the Consulate in Izmir)

The address of the honorary consulate is the following:
Sheit Fethi Bey cad. No.55k.
18 Heris Tower Pasaport 35210 Izmir

You can make contact with trish@theegeeye.com who will advise and support through the process.

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**. WhatsApp: 00905395819386

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We have a **Key Holding service** which guarantees you peace of mind knowing your property is secure. We have heard those same stories too!
Should you require regular property checks just let us know. WhatsApp: 00905318560546

We have an extensive panel of vetted professionals on our books such as, **Painter/ Decorators, handy persons,Tradesmen/Women, Plasterers, and Builders**. WhatsApp: 00905358546547/00905419010682
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Long or Short term rentals - We can provide you with services if you choose this path. http://www.mypropertyturkey.co.uk/contact-us/ - WhatsApp: 00905395819386

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We provide an independent & confidential service. The service is funded by voluntary donations 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 suitably qualified professionals.

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E-mail the advice centre at support@adviceturkey.org or telephone on 05419010682 - all queries will be answered confidentially by our friendly

EU Regulation 261/UK Law 261 – do you know your air passenger rights?

By: Klaus Jurgens

'Ground staff are on their way'; 'they will be here shortly'; 'there was a sick person on-board that is why they are late'… granted, journalists are supposed to be good story-tellers but if any of our colleagues in that fine trade ever needed an upgrade your writing skills – class, look no further than London Heathrow Airport around midnight on an early December night last year.

The entire situation resembled indeed more of script for a cheap Hollywood B-Movie than standard reality at a world leading transport hub. Here is how it all began: one of the last flights to depart from Terminal 2 on that evening was bound for Türkiye. A very smooth check-in done, farewell visit to a well-known watering hole ticked off, and on to the gate. Boarding completed – or so we thought. All of a sudden non-liveried ground staff, hence no airline representative but airport staff, entered our plane and started to unload carry-on items. For quite some time passengers had been trying to put rather large pieces of luggage into the overhead lockers – to no avail as people brought along more than the usual small cabin baggage allowance anyways. The cabin crew on-board tried as best as they could to find empty spaces but no such luck. And time was running out as we were already delayed by almost twenty minutes.

A verbal argument ensued between a female passenger and that ground staff mentioned earlier on in this article as he took the piece of luggage from her and explained to her it will be put into the hold. Eventually and by now over half an hour delayed the cabin crew closed the doors and the captain told us he would switch on the engines shortly. All sorted then? Far from it!

We did not move an inch and to our dismay realized that the engines had not been switched on at all. Instead, an announcement was made from the flight deck that our plane has just been cancelled as the airport would shut down due to its night flights curfew. A quick check confirmed that it was five minutes after 11 p.m. but a plane ready to depart for sure would merit an exception unless all air traffic controllers had already put on their coats heading home?

With no choice left we all disembarked and re-entered the departure level only to be told we would need to re-enter the United Kingdom, too, as if we had just arrived, not departed. Easier said than done as all those passengers without UK border control accepted e-passports had to queue in front of the one and only immigration desk as most immigration staff had left some time ago as there was no more incoming flight at that late hour. It took some of them almost two hours to re-join all of us eagerly waiting for news what would happen next. Can you imagine passengers who would have a single-entry visa on their passport and not a multiple entry alternative? And although immigration certainly knew that it was not their fault IDs had to be re-examined, and entry stamps issued once again. Annoying for immigration, ever more so for the actual passengers.

By now other ground staff - as not a single official airlines representative had bothered to show up – had told us please re-collect your checked-in luggage and wait for a bus. That bus would bring us to a nearby hotel as our flight remained cancelled for good with the earliest alternative to travel being noon the next day. We would receive a text message to our registered mobile phones. Needless to say, that unless you are on roaming many foreign passengers would never be able to retrieve such a SMS… Anyhow, two buses arrived at around 2 a.m. and took us to the promised nearby hotel. Here the 'generosity' of the airline stopped however – we were told no late-night snacks, and no breakfast the next morning. No meal vouchers either which easily could have been used in the next-door 24/7 convenience store. Next morning without any further personal assistance in the hotel a text message came in that the departure time had again been changed to early afternoon. End of story… not quite.

Here comes the good news in all that chaos: if a flight departing from the EU and in this case the UK remains part of this particular law having added it into the body of UK laws during the final Brexit negotiations passengers are guaranteed compensation. At stake: EU Regulation 261/2004 and corresponding UK Law 261. Airlines and if a delay or cancellation results in more than three hours of travel disruptions compensation must be paid. In our case of up to 540 Pound Sterling, should the airline agree to pay out. As they have one option to refuse settlement: regardless of offering a hotel for free airlines must compensate for loss of time and other disruptions to a passengers itinerary, think business meeting or important family reunion unless they can claim 'extraordinary circumstances'.

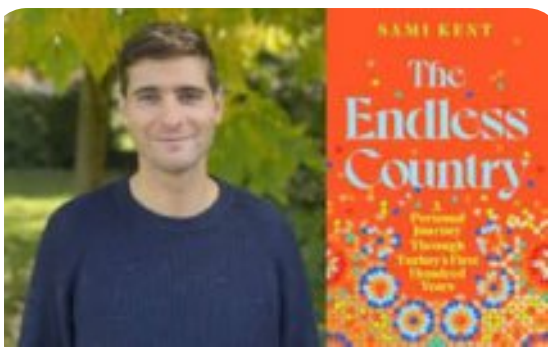
Knowingly allowing passengers to exceed carry-on luggage items, and knowing that the airport was about to shut down is no extraordinary circumstance but total negligence from the side of the airline.

Did you know about your rights under laws 261? Hoping that you may never need to use them it nevertheless makes good passenger's sense to keep them in mind for a 'just in case'.

A BOOK WORTH READING

"The Endless Country"

A Personal Journey Through Turkey's First Hundred Years



Spanning the Declaration of the Republic to the Gezi protests, journalist Sami Kent explores Turkey's hundred-year history; speaking to an array of witnesses, including, most prominently, his father who moved to the UK in the 1970s.

Kent blends history and travelogue with his own intimate revelations; those of a second-generation immigrant connecting with his ancestral home.

"I have read it and would read it again. Our friend Osman said he discovered things he never knew happened both in the country & personally.

"Koçero, an outlaw, the not-so-roaring 1920s under Atatürk are seen by Kent through the lens of hats, the Sun Language Theory, he's aiming for a history more mosaic than textbook..."

"I believe Sami does a good job of telling the regional history of Turkey through interviews, anecdotes from witnesses still alive, & good research." Johnny Hogue

The Endless Country by Sami Kent review – After Atatürk
Cruelty and courage in a panoramic history of Turkey

https://www.theguardian.com/books/article/2024/jun/27/the-endless-country-by-sami-kent-review-turkey

"Wonderful storytelling looking back at key events in Turkish history over the last 100 years. Loved the style, flow and human elements captured throughout. Strongly recommend this book!" Melis Kantarci

"The book expertly composes a mosaic of Turkish stories from the early 20th century to date. It's compelling, well-researched and at times moving. A rare and great insight into the country's past and present" M Carini

"The narrative is gripping, with a masterful weave of language and events between the past and present, personal and socio-eco-political. It reminds me of reading Dalrymple; each chapter an engaging whole" Emma C

Sami Kent is a writer and radio producer based between London and Istanbul. He has reported on Turkey for The Guardian, BBC Radio 4, Al Jazeera, The London Review of Books and many publications.
He has also made several radio documentaries for the BBC and is now working for The Guardian's award-winning podcast 'Today in Focus'. The Endless Country is his first book.

I swapped my UK flat for an all-inclusive hotel in Turkey

A man swapped out his rent for a month-long holiday after realising it would be cheaper to head abroad than pay for his flat.

Josh Kerr, 24, realised it would be cheaper to stay at an all-inclusive five-star hotel in Turkey than rent his flat in Manchester.

He spent 28 days at a five-star hotel in Antalya, compared to the £950 a month he pays for rent and bills at his flat in Manchester. The trip cost Josh £944, including return flights and hotel food and drinks.

Addressing his 48,000 followers in a TikTok video he shared, Josh said: "I'm not funny but I pay £950 for my rent, bills and council tax.

There's breakfast, lunch, dinner, drinks and snacks here. What do we do in England?"

"EVERYONE IS VERY HAPPY HERE"

"I can't believe I'm actually doing this. I was sitting around wondering if going all-inclusive abroad would be cheaper than living at home, and it turns out it is," Josh told MailOnline Travel.
Comparing Manchester to life in the hotel Josh added: "Everyone is so much happier here. I think it's because everyone is on holiday."

Josh, a creative strategist, will continue to work full-time remotely.

In a video posted to TikTok he filmed himself searching various holidays using holiday company On the Beach and found a stunning resort in Turkey for less than his rent.

Check out his video on TikTok: https://www.tiktok.com/@joshkerr0/video/7333647029702315297

Buses in Turkey circled the world 52 thousand times in 2024

Last year, 142 million 646 thousand 487 passengers were carried by buses in Turkey in a total of 14 million 698 thousand 947 trips with tickets and for tourism purposes.

During these trips, buses covered a distance of 2 billion 110 million 393 thousand 75 kilometres and made enough trips to circle the world 52 thousand 661 times.

Minister of Transport and Infrastructure Abdulkadir Uraloğlu made an evaluation regarding the 2024 road passenger transportation data in his written statement.

Last year, tickets were used on buses under the authority of the General Directorate of Transport Services Regulation. Uraloğlu, who gave the information that a total of 14 million 698 thousand 947 trips were made for this purpose, reported that 142 million 646 thousand 487 passengers were carried with these trips.

Uraloğlu drew attention to the distance covered by buses during their journeys and said, "In 2024, buses covered 2 billion 110 million 393 thousand 75 kilometres. Buses made enough trips to circle the world 52 thousand 661 times."

3 million 4 thousand 891 intercity tickets in 2024busStating that 82 million 219 thousand 469 people travelled on voyages, Uraloğlu emphasized that 60 million 427 thousand 18 passengers were carried on 11 million 694 thousand 56 voyages for tourism purposes.

Retired and discounted travel opportunities for the disabled

Uraloğlu, noting that 41.49 percent of the passengers were female, and 58.51 percent were male last year, noted the following:

"With the arrangement we made upon declaring 2024 as the Year of Retirees, a total of 666 thousand 99 retirees benefited from a 20 percent discount. In addition, 1 million 857 thousand 402 disabled citizens and 653 thousand 703 children used passenger buses in ticketed passenger transportation.

In the trips carried out in 2024, buses covered a distance of 2 billion 110 million 393 thousand 75 kilometres." Source: https://www.trthaber.com/

It can be used from the age of 16:
Fiat put it on sale and announced its price

Dolcevita, the convertible-roof version of the Fiat Topolino, has been launched in Turkey

According to the brand's statement, the 100 percent electric Topolino Dolcevita was developed with a specially designed sunroof, a wicker rope door, silver-looking details and a shower set that can be preferred as an accessory.

The iconic Fiat Topolino, first introduced by Fiat in 1936, has been reinterpreted with modern technologies. The model appeals to urban life.

The features of the Topolino Dolcevita include front and rear LED headlights, silver details, vintage design mirrors, special wheel covers, black floor mats and a phone holder. The rear carrying unit and Dolcevita Box are offered as standard, and the accessory list of the model includes the shower set, Topolino Fan, Topolino Badge, JBL Go speaker and sunshade.

Topolino Dolcevita has the same technical features as the Topolino model, which was launched in Turkey in March with its closed version. The electric vehicle Topolino Dolcevita comes in a special mint green color. The 2.53-meter Fiat Topolino Dolcevita has a safe maximum speed of 45 kilometers per hour. The model, which has a 5.4 kWh battery that can be charged in under 4 hours with household sockets, offers a range of up to 75 kilometers.

According to the brand's statement, Topolino, a 100 percent electric model, can be used by people aged 16 and over with a B1 driving license in Turkey.

The new Topolino Dolcevita, which has taken its place in Fiat showrooms and on the website, is offered for sale at a special promotional price of 479 thousand 900 liras.

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Bodrum's seabed is becoming a desert

Mehmet Baş (74), who is known as 'Aksona Mehmet' and is the last sponge diver of the region in Bodrum district of Muğla, both introduces sponge diver skills to tourists and observes the changes under the sea by doing diving tourism. Baş, who said that the disease in sponges continues, said, "There have been changes under the sea due to climate change. The sea bottom is currently turning into a desert. The sponges are dead, there are no piñas, there are no oysters. The sea bottom has become poor and has disappeared. I watch it, my heart aches and it is falling apart. It is not possible to save the sponges."

Mehmet Baş, known as 'Aksona Mehmet', was born in Muğla in 1950.BasementHe was born in the district. Baş, who started sponge fishing when he was only 15 years old, dived and hunted sponges in many parts of the world for 22 years thanks to his passion for the sea. Baş, who is stated to be the last sponge diver of the region, started to organize blue cruise tours, especially diving tourism, with his own boat in 1987 due to a disease that developed in sponges. Aksona Mehmet, who stated that he could not break away from the sea for about 60 years and continued to do underwater research, stated that he tried to keep sponge fishing alive by having tourists dive in the Aegean and Mediterranean basins.

Baş, who detected that the disease in sponges continued during a dive he made off the coast of Muğla Gökova a while ago, shared it on social media. Baş, who said that he wanted to pass on the maritime culture to future generations with his dives, said, "Since I spent my childhood on the seashore, I always wondered about the mystery of the deep blue. When I was 13, I dived with the mask of a very valuable elder of mine. After seeing the bottom of the sea that day, the mystery of the deep blue always attracted me. After that, I always lived with the dream of the deep blue."

'I GOT MY FIRST DIVING MASK BY HAVING MY MOTHER SELL ME A GOAT'

The Chief continued his words as follows:

"From that day on, I started coming to Bodrum all the time. There used to be sponge fishing boats in Bodrum Harbor, there was no tourism. Everyone was making a living from sponges. I wanted to buy a mask, I didn't have money, I bought a diving mask by selling a kid to my late mother. Then I started diving on the shores. I started sponge fishing when I was 15. It was not legally possible for a 15-year-old to dive, they hired me as a sponge worker. We started sponge fishing with Mustafa Cengiz, one of the nephews of the famous sponge merchant Ali Cengiz. From that day on, I fell in love with the deep blue seas, I fell in love and started earning my living from there."

'UNNAMED HEROES OF THE DEEP BLUE: SPONGE HUNTERS'

Baş, who stated that he trained many captains for Turkish maritime, said, "I bought a 6-meter-long boat in 1981. I named my boat 'Aksona'. The word 'Aksona' is of vital importance for sponge divers. For centuries, sponge divers used to call the resting places 'Aksona' to dive down and throw off the nitrogen mixed with the blood. After that, my name remained 'Aksona Mehmet'. I trained dozens of men from scratch. Sponge divers become very good captains; I trained many people for my country's maritime. The heroes of the deep blue are sponge divers. It is a magnificent sea culture that comes with the teachings of master-apprentice.

Sponge divers used to go to the shores of Benghazi, Tunisia, Africa and Greece and bring tons of sponges, thus contributing to the country's economy. Sponge is a product given to us by nature. At the foundation of Bodrum maritime, there are sponge divers, the unsung heroes of the deep blue, in the world-famous underwater marine museum in Bodrum Castle. I am glad that I grew up with that culture, I always say 'My teacher is the sea'. That is why I make an effort to pass on the marine culture to future generations," he said.

'THERE HAVE BEEN NO SPONGE DIVERS OR SPONGE DIVERS BOATS IN BODRUM FOR 25-30 YEARS'

Baş, who explained that sponge divers started tourism when they could not make money, said, "Sponges caught a disease in the entire Aegean and Mediterranean in 1986. The state used to give cheap loans to encourage sponge hunting. Later, the sponges were infected with plague. Tourism also started at that time, and when sponge divers could not make money from sponges, they switched to tourism. Some fished with their boats and gave up sponges. There have been no sponge divers or sponge fishing boats in Bodrum for 25-30 years. When the sponge business ended in 1987, I had a 12-meter boat built and switched to diving tourism. I have not been disconnected from the sea, I have dived from the Sicily Channel to the Mediterranean, Aegean and Greek islands for 60 years. I have been closely observing the changes under the sea. No one on earth can interfere with sponges positively or negatively. There were sponges everywhere again in the early 2000s. In 2011, due to a disease that started in Crete, sponges caught plague again and disappeared."

'IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO SAVE THE SPONGES'

Baş, who said that sea creatures are dying due to climate change, said, "There have been changes under the sea due to climate change. The seabed is currently turning into a desert. Sponges are dead, there are no piñas, there are no oysters. Under the sea is impoverished and destroyed. I watch this situation; my heart aches and I am torn apart. It is impossible to save the sponges. I dived in Gökova the other day. The water temperature is 26 degrees in the 35–40-meter diving distance, and 18 degrees in the 60-meter diving. I took out a sick sponge to show the tourists. I hope this situation will improve in the future. I do diving tourism, I observe what is happening under the sea and this is how I earn my money," he said. Source: Firat AKAY/BODRUM (Mugla), (DHA) https://www.dha.com.tr/

Special selection Menus are available Monday - Sunday weekly 12pm to 6pm daily

Do not forget to mention The Ege Eye on arrival to the Restaurant !! 15% off the a la carte menu - Valid for the month of February.

Living in Ireland: Pros and Cons for Turkish Immigrants

Living in Ireland is a matter that needs to be seriously evaluated for an immigrant, with its pros and cons. Ireland is a country located in the west of Europe, attracting attention with its nature, history and cultural richness.

In recent years, it has become a popular destination for many Turkish immigrants and students. This increase is particularly related to the opportunities that Ireland offers in the fields of education and technology. Language schools, the opportunity to have a work permit during undergraduate and graduate studies, and the fact that it is home to many technology companies make Ireland attractive. However, living in Ireland has some advantages as well as some difficulties. In this article, we will evaluate the pros and cons of living in Ireland as a Turkish immigrant or student. We will also offer a different perspective by comparing living in Ireland with the UK and other European countries.

Pros of Living in Ireland

1. Quality Education and Career Opportunities

Ireland is known for its universities, which offer high-quality education, especially in the fields of technology and science. World-renowned universities and language schools such as Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin are a great attraction for Turkish students. Ireland is also home to the European headquarters of global technology giants such as Google, Facebook and Microsoft. This increases job opportunities for highly educated individuals.

Living in Ireland can provide great advantages in terms of both education and employment. There are high-paying job opportunities in many fields, especially in the technology, engineering and finance sectors. Multinational companies located in the country offer a wide range of career opportunities for Turkish immigrants.

2. Hospitable and Friendly Culture

The Irish are generally friendly and helpful. Living in Ireland offers good opportunities to mix with the locals. Especially in the big cities like Dublin and Cork, there is a tolerant approach towards immigrants. This can make cultural adaptation easier for Turkish immigrants and students. The multiculturalism in the country makes it possible to meet people from different cultures.

3. Natural Beauty and Peaceful Life

Ireland is a country full of natural wonders. Known for its rolling green hills, endless beaches, historical buildings and unique towns, this country is a great option for those looking to get away from the stressful city life and live in a peaceful environment. Natural beauties such as the Cliffs of Moher or the Ring of Kerry are one of the biggest advantages of living in Ireland. Also, life in the countryside outside of cities like Dublin can be much quieter and more peaceful.

4. Education and Job Opportunities in English

Since the official language in Ireland is English, there is a great language advantage for Turkish students and immigrants. It becomes easier to improve your English and work internationally. At the same time, studying in English gives a significant advantage to living in Ireland compared to other European countries. In countries like Germany and France, the language barrier can sometimes be a problem.

Cons of Living in Ireland

1. High Cost of Living

Living in Ireland can be quite expensive, especially in larger cities like Dublin. Dublin is one of the most expensive cities in Europe and rents are rising rapidly. The high rents can make it difficult for Turkish immigrants and students to budget. Many people, especially immigrants, are forced to share homes due to the high rents. The cost of living in Ireland is higher than in other European countries. Basic costs, especially food, transportation and accommodation, are on par with big cities like London and Paris.

2. Weather Conditions

One of the biggest challenges for those looking to live in Ireland can be the weather. The country experiences rain and cloudiness for most of the year. The short and cold days, especially in the winter months, can be difficult for Turkish immigrants who are used to the sun. Therefore, those considering living in Ireland need to be prepared for the weather. Although Ireland’s weather may seem like something that can be ignored at first, it can be a trigger for many people to develop various problems, such as depression.

Comparison with Ireland, UK and Other European Countries

There are some significant differences between living in Ireland and the UK and other European countries. First of all, Ireland’s economic situation has improved rapidly in recent years, which has led many international companies to choose Ireland as their European headquarters. Although there has been a relative economic recession in the post-pandemic period, Ireland is still seen as a center of attraction. However, there are no major differences in the cost of living and salary rates compared to the UK.

Living in the UK, particularly in London, can be expensive, similar to the larger cities in Ireland. However, the job opportunities in the UK can be more extensive and the language advantage is the same. On the other hand, the cost of living in countries such as Germany, France and the Netherlands can be lower than in Ireland, but this is where the language barrier comes into play.

Despite the Turkish population in various parts of countries such as Germany, France and the Netherlands, Ireland is a more untouched place for Turkish citizens. This is why it is preferred by new generations of Turkish immigrants.

Living in Ireland may be more advantageous than other countries in Europe in terms of education and job opportunities. In addition, Ireland, as a country that remains in the European Union after Brexit, continues to offer job and education opportunities for non-EU citizens. In this respect, trade and travel opportunities with the EU become more accessible for Turkish immigrants.

Conclusion: Is Living in Ireland a Good Choice for Turkish Immigrants?

Living in Ireland has many advantages and some challenges for both Turkish immigrants and students. Education and job opportunities, cultural richness and an English-speaking environment make Ireland attractive. However, factors such as high living costs and weather conditions are important factors to consider. Living in Ireland can be a preferable option, especially when compared to the UK and other European countries, due to the language advantage and job opportunities.

In conclusion, Ireland can be a positive choice for Turkish expats and students in terms of both quality of life and professional opportunities. With the right planning and preparation, it is possible to build a successful life in this country. Source: https://irishturks.com/

Immigration procedures

As previously notified by the Ege Eye and the Citizens advice centre in Kusadasi:

REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF
MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

Türkiye's Directorate of Migration Management has implemented a significant change affecting foreign nationals and expats who need to obtain or renew residence permits.

Individuals who hold valid residence permits must schedule appointments via randevu.goc.gov.tr before visiting their offices for tasks like address registration, passport changes and fingerprinting.

Mandatory appointments:
Walk-ins for these services are no longer allowed. Those who arrive without an appointment will be turned away and required to reschedule. Same-day appointment availability may be limited.

Missed appointments:
If you miss or cancel your appointment, you will not be able to book another one for 15 days.

e-Government login required:
Access to the appointment system requires an e-Government or e-Devlet login. If you do not have an e-Devlet password, you can obtain one from any PTT branch by presenting your residence permit card and Turkish mobile phone number.

Foreign Citizens Advice Centre
Support@adviceturkey.org.uk
Tel: +90 5318 560 546

Residence permit validity:
The system only allows appointment bookings during the validity period of your residence permit. While system errors may sometimes enable processing after expiration, the rule states that applications can only be made within 30 days of the permit's expiration date.

Additional obligations for foreign residents:

Foreign nationals must also register with the National Electronic Notification System (UETS) after completing their address registration. Applications for residence permit renewal without UETS registration will not be processed, and submission of the UETS registration certificate is mandatory.

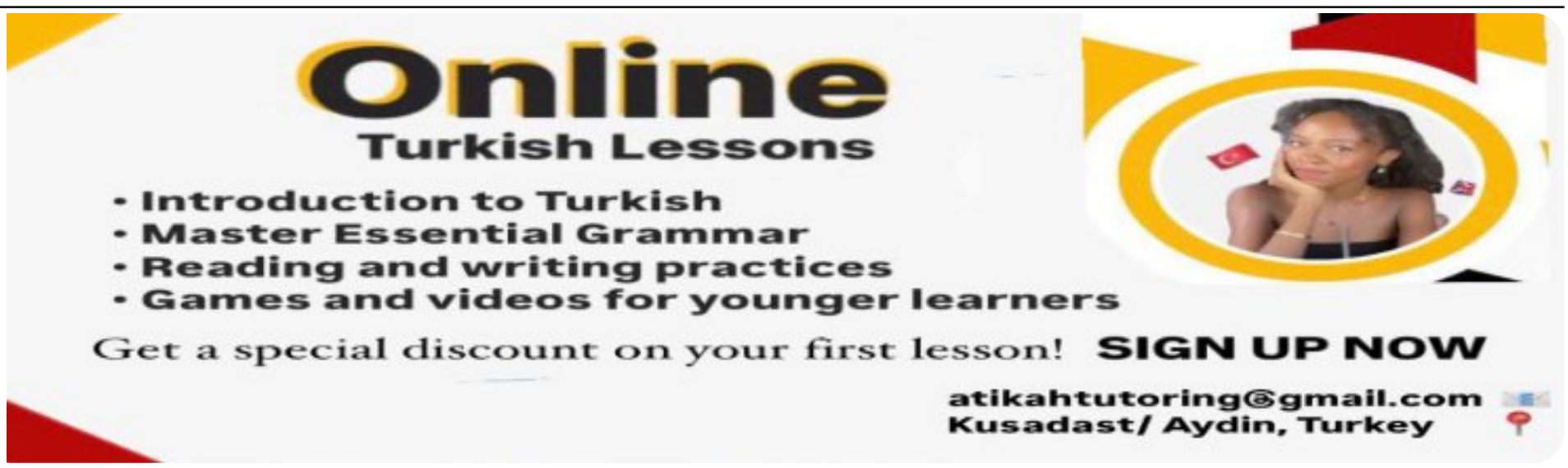
What is UETS?
UETS facilitates legal notifications electronically, replacing traditional methods like postal mail. Notifications, such as rejection of residence permit applications, are sent through the system to your registered email and phone number. Legal deadlines, like the 10-day response window following a rejection, start from the notification date.

How to Register for UETS:

Enable two-factor authentication on the e-Devlet account (login via SMS verification).
Search "UETS" in e-Devlet, complete the form, and finalize registration.
A unique 15-character UETS number (e.g., XXXXX-XXXXX-XXXXX) will be issued, remaining unchanged throughout the stay in Türkiye.

Foreign residents are strongly advised to carefully plan their appointments and UETS registration to ensure smooth processing of their residence-related tasks. Source: https://www.turkiyetoday.com/

Please ensure that you make contact with the Foreign Citizens advice centre for any queries you may have and also, please ensure you are not out of the country during the processing and issueing of **your residency Permit as it will be cancelled.** Contact Trish or Sevi in the Public office for advice should you anticipate this situation as being liklely in your case.



HEALTH - World's Dirtiest Hands: Turks Break Record!

The world's dirtiest hands record was broken by Turks! How about questioning our hygiene habits by learning the details of this interesting news? Discover the Turkish understanding of cleanliness and this interesting situation!

Hand Washing Habits in Europe

Although hand washing is a basic hygiene practice, there are notable differences in habits across Europe. According to data recently published in Statista, half of Dutch residents do not consider it very important to wash their hands after using the toilet.

Euronews has shed light on handwashing habits in Europe by reporting on this research. In Italy, 43% of people refuse to wash their hands with soap after using the toilet.

Russians and French Prefer Not to Wash Hands

Spain ranks third in terms of hand washing habits with 39%, while this rate is recorded as 38% and 37% for the French and Russians respectively. This situation calls into question the idea that hand hygiene is so important.

Next in line are Austrians and Latvians; for both groups, the rate of those who do not adopt the habit of washing hands is 35%.

Poland performs better when it comes to hand washing, with 68% of the population reporting that they wash their hands after using the toilet.

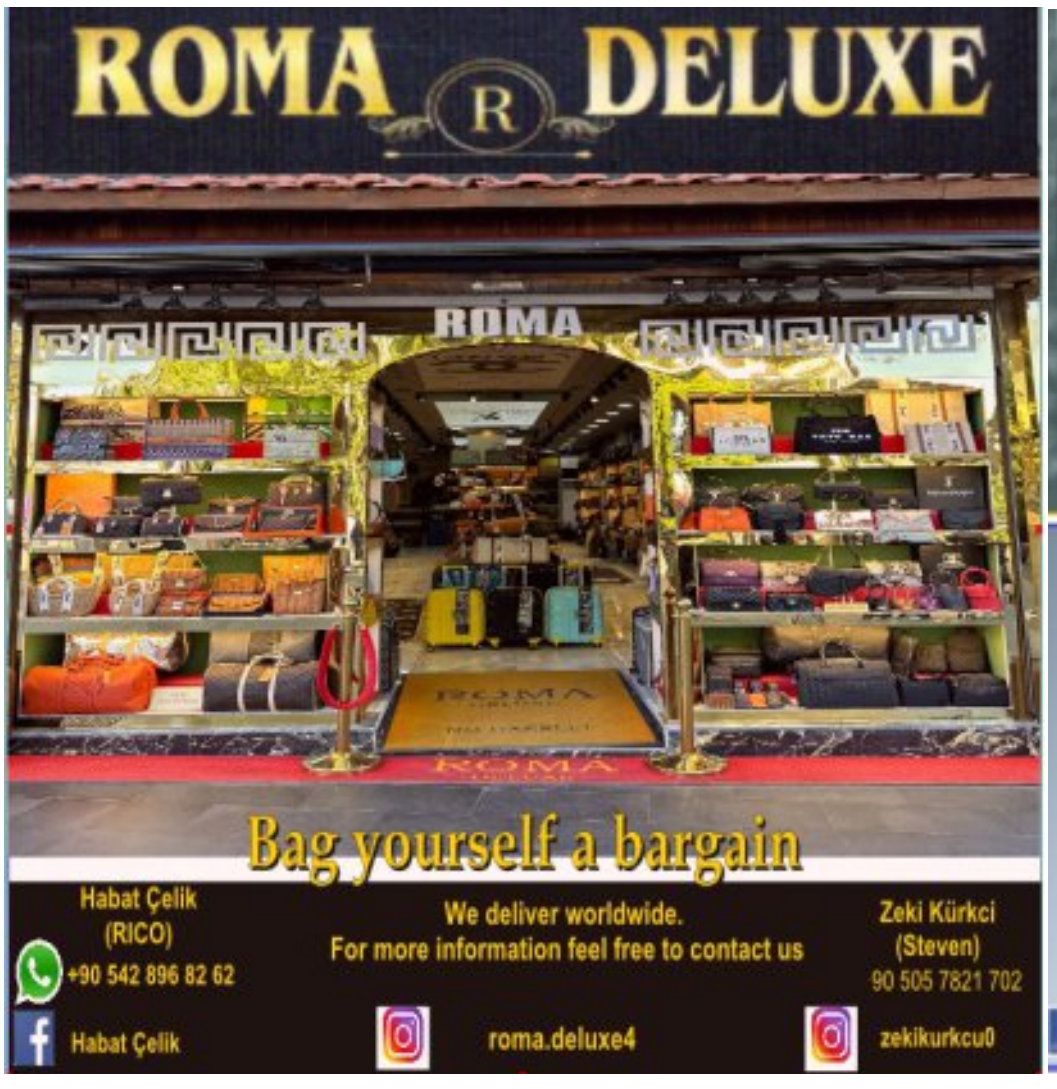
In both the Czech Republic and Ukraine, 71% of the population maintain hand washing habits, and in Bulgaria, 72%. Switzerland is next on the list with 73%, followed by Ireland with 74% and the UK with 75%.

In Finland, the percentage of people who do not like to wash their hands after using the toilet is around 25%. However, 76% of the population pays attention to hand hygiene. This rate is similar in Scandinavian neighbours Sweden, with 78%. Germany and Iceland are also at this level.

Countries that take hand hygiene more seriously are in the 80% range. It Turns Out That Turks Have Clean Hands

In Serbia, the hand washing rate was recorded as 83%, in Romania 84% and in Kosovo 85%. This rate is at a similar level for the Portuguese.

Two countries that attach great importance to hand hygiene are Bosnia and Herzegovina and Turkey. In Turkey, the hand washing rate after using the toilet is 94%. However, Bosnia and Herzegovina takes this rate a step further, showing that 96% of the population washes their hands with soap after using the toilet.



Sebzeli Bulgur Pilavı - Bulgur Pilaf with Aubergines, Peppers,Tomatoes

This is a really lovely dish, a meal in itself. Traditionally, aubergines (eggplant) and peppers are finely diced here, though I love their texture and keep them on the chunky side. I also prefer to bake them rather than frying – lighter and equally delicious.

This is especially enjoyed during the summer at home, when the aubergine, peppers and tomatoes are in abundance. If you can get ripe tomatoes, you can dice them to use instead of tinned. The cooling cucumber and yoghurt dip, Cacık, complements this dish beautifully.

Author: Ozlem Warren
Recipe type: Vegetarian recipes
Cuisine: Turkish recipes
Serves: 4-6

Ingredients
2 medium aubergines (eggplant), trimmed
6 tablespoons olive oil
1 green and 1 red (bell) pepper
1 medium onion, finely sliced
1 tablespoon double concentrated tomato paste
400 g (14 oz) tin chopped tomatoes
400 g (14 oz/2¼ cups) coarse bulgur, rinsed
460 ml (16 fl oz/1¾ cups) hot water
1 teaspoon pul biber
1 teaspoon dried mint
sea salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

For the cacık dip
150 g (5 oz) cucumber, diced
275 g (10 oz/generous 1 cup) plain yoghurt (or plant-based alternative)
dried mint, to sprinkle
sea salt, to taste

Instructions
Preheat the oven to 200°C fan/220°C/425°F/gas 7.

Cut the aubergine lengthways in quarters and then slice into 1 cm (½ in) pieces. Lay them on a baking sheet and sprinkle salt over them, and set aside for 10 minutes
(salt will help the moisture and bitter juices come out of the aubergine).
Dry the aubergines and baking sheet thoroughly with sturdy paper towels and spread the aubergines in one layer.

Pour 3 tablespoons of the olive oil over and use your hands to coat well. Bake for 20 minutes.

Cut the peppers in half, deseed and remove the hard stalk. Cut each half into 3 wedges and slice each wedge into 1 cm (½ in) chunks.

When the aubergines have had 20 minutes in the oven, remove and stir in the chopped peppers. Pour over 2 tablespoons of olive oil, season with salt and pepper, and bake for a further 20 minutes until the vegetables start to char at the edges. Remove from the oven and set aside.

Heat the remaining 1 tablespooon of oil in a large pan over a medium heat, add the onion and sauté for 5 minutes until softened. Stir in the tomato paste and chopped tomatoes, and bring to a gentle boil.

Stir in the rinsed bulgur and combine well, then pour in the hot water, season with pul biber, salt and pepper, and mix well. Cover and cook over a low heat for about 15 minutes, or until the bulgur has absorbed all the liquid. Turn the heat off, cover the pan with a clean dish towel and place the lid on firmly. Rest the pilaf for 10 minutes (the towel will absorb excess moisture).

Gently combine the baked aubergine and peppers with the bulgur, stir in the dried mint and combine well.

For the cacık dip, simply combine the diced cucumbers with the yoghurt in a bowl. Sprinkle over some dried mint, season with salt to taste and mix well. Serve on the side of the pilaf.

Valentine's Day special: The quirks of loving a Turk by Leyla Yvonne Ergil

Ever dated a Turk? Then you may have noticed they have a few quirks when it comes to dating, marriage and relationships – and especially in the words they use to describe their feelings.

While Valentine's Day was admittedly not celebrated much in Turkey a few decades ago, since the millennium, it has gained widespread popularity, especially in the country's major metropoles – as can be attested to by the sheer number of ribbon-laced advertisements donning the streets.
But what does Valentine's Day truly mean to the Turks? After all, how and at what level it should be celebrated could be the cause of confusion for many an expat engaged in romantic relationships with one of the country's natives.
So, let's start with the basics: first, Valentine's Day in Turkish is referred to as "Sevgililer Günü" – which best translates to "The Day of Lovers." Thus, to wish someone a "Happy Valentine's Day" in Turkish, one would say, "Sevgililer Günün Kutlu Olsun" – although you may want to reserve this phrase for closer acquaintances as it is admittedly not that prevalent a holiday just yet.

A recent poll taken by a private survey company in Turkey regarding Valentine's Day trends revealed that in reality, just over 30% of the respondents actually planned to celebrate the holiday. Other findings showed that 50% of the participants believed in "true love," while approximately 36% of men and 33% of women respondents believed in "love at first sight." Meanwhile, as for the question of how participants actually met their own partners, 50% responded that it was through families and acquaintances.

At the same time, a survey conducted by a major credit card company among 17 different European countries also had some interesting findings that may help guide you in selecting a Valentine's Day gift for that special Turk in your life.

According to the survey, the majority of women in Turkey expected to be given gifts by their partners rather than purchasing gifts themselves. Accordingly – and most likely due to the fact that it is mostly men buying the gifts – a fourth of Turkey's Valentine's Day purchases are done the day before the holiday.

Meanwhile, according to the survey, the absolute worst gift that can be given to a Turk is straight-up cash, which was actually seen as being offensive and could even lead to an argument, a notion that was over doubly prevalent among the Turkish participants.

When worlds collide: a love guide for expats in Turkey

In Turkey, love is simple, love is fast and love is a three-letter word called "aşk." While aşk translates into English as "love," "aşık" means to be in love, while "seni seviyorum" is that ever-longed for construct of: "I love you."

The "I love you" moment as we know it in the English-language world, in which couples admit and commit to one another and that generally comes at a more advanced stage in the courting process, is a statement that can be breached near immediately in Turkey.

This could be due to both the fact that they are die-hard romantics and hence 50% believe in "true love" but could also be simply due to the difference in language. It is much more prevalent to simply say, "Seni seviyorum" or "Seni çok sevdim," the latter of which can also mean, "I like you a lot" and hence comes the confusion.

The statement of "liking" someone, aka the stage preceding the state of "love" in English, is referred to in Turkish in a number of ways and with differing meanings. "Senden hoşlanıyorum" is the literal translation of "I like you;" however, it also means "I have taken a fancy to you" and can thus be perceived as flighty and noncommittal to a potential Turkish partner. "Seni beğeniyorum," on the other hand, while also meaning "I like you," takes on more of the meaning of admiring someone and most regularly can be attributed to physical appearances. Thus, the Turkish romantic can get stuck for a loss of words and understandably succumb to the ever-present phrase "seni seviyorum" – even if it is a new and just blossoming coupling.

Then again, the Turks do love to dive right in, and suddenly you may find yourself verbally planning vacations and future plans and speaking in the "we" form (that is – "biz"). It can even be quite offensive to your Turkish loved one if you continue to speak in the singular, which can get tricky for independent-minded English speakers who certainly don't realize they have done anything to distance their partner when discussing their own plans or thoughts.

The term "naz" – which can be translated as "coyness," "whim" or even "disdain" – is actually considered by some to be a virtue in Turkey. Now, this is where the term "naz" becomes problematic. In times of the past, women especially would master the art of "playing hard to get" and would thus act with "naz" – or in other words, feign reluctance. What this resulted in, is making the men of Turkey try to break down this barrier to figure out if "no" actually meant "no" or if it was the game of "naz" in which the actual meaning was "maybe." Thus Turkish men may seem especially pushy when it comes to pursuing potential romantic interests, and it falls on the foreigner to express their disinterest distinctly to ensure the message is loud and clear and possibly even more so than in other countries due simply to this very outdated concept of playing coy.

Another Turkish term that doesn't translate well into the English language but is also used as part of the courting process is "balık etli." This term (which translates into "fish flesh," and yes, you read that correctly) is actually intended to be a complimentary reference to voluptuousness and is used for buxom women especially to denote "something to hold onto." Ladies don't be offended; it is yet just another outdated attempt at flattery and courting.

One concept that needs to be nipped in the bud in any culture is that of jealousy. However, it is also a concept that has been embedded in the Turkish psyche for decades with films and musical lyrics all referring to the notion as if it was normal. While these are vastly general statements that should definitely be taken with a grain of salt, unfortunately, Turkey is also a prevalently macho culture, and many a woman is expected to do much of the household chores, cooking and cleaning, while the men will always offer to carry the heavy stuff. The Turks do, however, have the utmost respect for their mothers and thus don't be surprised if it is the matriarchs of the household that get a gift this Valentine's Day, and you don't!

ENVIRONMENT - The Aegean Sea is under threat from mucilage

In a statement regarding the mucilage nightmare that has returned to the Marmara and Aegean Seas, WWF-Turkey (Wildlife Fund) stated that the mucilage problem that has taken over Turkey's seas must be solved with a holistic approach under the leadership of science, and called on everyone to take action to comply with the 22-article Marmara Sea Action Plan before it is too late.

THE PROBLEM COULD NOT BE SOLVED IN THREE YEARS

In a statement made by WWF-Turkey (World Wildlife Fund), “The Marmara Sea carries the waste load of 25 million people living around it, industrial facilities and agricultural activities in the region. As a result, the Marmara Sea Action Plan consisting of 22 articles was prepared in 2021 to solve the mucilage problem that arose, and the entire Marmara Sea was declared a special environmental protection zone. However, the waste discharge and pollution problem, which are the most important causes of mucilage, could not be solved in the intervening 3 years.

AFTER MARMARA, THE AEGEAN SEA IS UNDER THE THREAT OF MUCILAGE

Bandırma Onyedi Eylül University Faculty of Maritime Studies Academician Prof. Dr. Mustafa Sarı also drew attention to the fact that mucilage has spread in the Marmara Sea and passed into the Aegean Sea, saying, “Although it occasionally comes to the surface, the mucilage that surrounds the sea like a spider web at depths of 3-25 meters under current conditions is highly likely to come to the surface starting from spring with the warming of the waters.
The mucilage that has started to sink to the sea bottom has started to threaten living groups such as pinas, sea meadows, sponges and corals, and has started to cause fishermen to be unable to pull in the nets they throw.”

THE ONLY SOLUTION IS TO NOT RELEASE EVEN ONE LITRE OF WATER INTO THE SEA WITHOUT PURIFICATION

Mucilage is formed when single-celled plant microorganisms (phytoplankton) increase excessively when they find a suitable environment and release their secretions into the sea.
According to the statement, mucilage, which traps animal nutrients in the marine environment, settles on creatures such as mussels, oysters, corals and larvae that cannot move, affecting the nutrition and respiration of marine creatures.
It was stated that this situation not only causes a decrease in biodiversity, but also threatens the environment and human health. Source: https://anterhaber.com/

153 winners of Nobel and World Food prizes seek new ways to grow food

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) —
More than 150 recipients of the Nobel and World Food prizes released an open letter calling for a dramatic increase in research and a commitment to new food distribution efforts with a goal of producing more crops and avoiding a global hunger crisis in coming decades. https://www.worldfoodprize.org/index.cfm?nodeID=96854&audienceID=1

The letter notes that an estimated 700 million people now are “food insecure and desperately poor” but that without a “moonshot” effort to grow more and different kinds of food, far more people will be in dire need of food because of climate change and population growth.

“As difficult and as uncomfortable as it might be to imagine, humanity is headed towards an even more food insecure, unstable world by mid-century than exists today, worsened by a vicious cycle of conflict and food insecurity,” states the letter, signed by 153 recipients of the two prizes. “Climate change is projected to decrease the productivity of most major staples when substantial increases are needed to feed a world which will add another 1.5 billion people to its population by 2050.”
Corn production in Africa is expected to decline and much of the world could see more soil degradation and water shortages, the letter says.
“We are not on track to meet future food needs. Not even close,” it adds.
The letter grew from a meeting of food accessibility experts’ last fall. Despite the potential gloom, it holds out hope for an optimistic vision of the future if people take needed actions. The letter says that a dramatic increase in research funding coupled with more effective ways to share information and distribute food could prevent a hunger crisis.

Brian Schmidt, who won the Nobel Prize in physics in 2011, said the need to dramatically increase food production in the coming decades is a huge challenge. He calls it a

“destination with destiny,” but one that can be achieved with proper funding to enhance existing knowledge as well as global leadership.
“It is an imminently solvable problem. It is a problem that will affect billions of people in 25 years. It is a problem that to solve it, there are no losers, only winners,” Schmidt said in an interview. “All we have to do is do it.”
Schmidt said he hopes governments in the U.S., Europe and elsewhere can commit to solving the problem, but he thinks private groups like the Gates Foundation may need to take the lead in funding initial steps that will draw attention and prompt action by politicians.
The letter calls for “transformational efforts” such as enhancing photosynthesis in essential crops such as wheat and rice, developing crops that are not as reliant on chemical fertilizers and lengthening the shelf life of fruits and vegetables.

Cynthia Rosenzweig, a climate research scientist at NASA who won the World Food Prize in 2022, said in an interview that researchers are already making progress toward breakthroughs, but their work needs to be turbocharged with more funding and emphasis from world leaders.

“It’s not that we have to dream up new solutions,” Rosenzweig said. “The solutions are very much being tested but in order to actually take them from the lab out into the agriculture regions of the world, we really do need the moonshot approach.”
The term moonshot refers to an unprecedented effort, stemming from President John F. Kennedy’s call in 1962 for Americans to rocket to the Moon. Rosenzweig, noting she works for NASA, said meeting the food needs of a growing population will take the kind of commitment the U.S. made in achieving Kennedy’s goal of reaching the Moon.
“Look at how the scientists had to come together. The engineers had to be part of it. The funding had to come together as well as the general public,” she said. “That base of support has to be there as well.” Source: https://apnews.com/

Economy: Monetary tightening contributed 6.8 billion TL to public finances

The General Directorate of Markets on the website of the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey (TCMB)Turkish Lira. The analysis prepared by Markets Manager Ali Gencay Özbekler and Assistant Experts Ali İzzeddin Çelebi and Alper Tunga Demir was published.

In the analysis, it was noted that monetary policy can affect public borrowing costs through the shape of the yield curve and the demand for borrowing auctions, and that in periods when tight monetary policy is implemented, short-term interest rates increase together with the policy rate, while the expectation of a decline in inflation can reduce long-term interest rates.

Similarly, inflation In the analysis, it was reported that the fight against the debt instruments strengthened the risk appetite and risk-bearing capacity of banks by increasing predictability, thus increasing the elasticity of the demand curve in the auctions where the bond was reissued and increasing the risk-bearing capacity in the secondary market interest. It was reported that the change was limited.

In the analysis, Ministry of Treasury and Finance In the context of re-issue auctions, it was stated that the effect of the tight monetary policy stance in reducing borrowing costs was examined.

"The demand curve shows the relationship between the amount of borrowing and the cost of borrowing in Treasury auctions"
In the analysis, it was stated that the demand curve formed in treasury borrowing auctions can be calculated using the price-quantity data realized up to the auction cut-off point, and it was noted that the demand curve shows the relationship between the amount of borrowing formed in treasury auctions and its cost.

In the analysis, it is stated that the demand curve becoming more horizontal means that price elasticity increases, and the negative relationship between bond prices and interest rates is also examined. It was stated that a more flexible (horizontal) curve reduces the cost to the Treasury for the same amount of borrowing.

In the analysis, it was stated that the monetary policy stance played a supportive role in shaping the elasticity of the demand curve, and indeed, when the quantity and price values formed in Treasury borrowing auctions were examined periodically, a more flexible demand curve was formed in periods when tight monetary policy was implemented, and the main issue here was that the flattening of the demand curve observed in the auctions was associated with the increase in the risk-bearing capacity of banks.

In the analysis, it was stated that in an environment of tight monetary policy, the far end of the curve shifted upwards and thus the effect of quantity on price decreased, and it was pointed out that the flattening of the curve showed that the demand conditions in the auction improved and the Treasury was able to borrow at a lower cost.

"Treasury reissue auctions show borrowing costs falling by 40 basis points on average"
While it was stated that the analysis results pointed to the positive effect of tight monetary policy on the primary market, it was noted that there was a decrease in borrowing costs through the increase in flexibility within the framework of the tight monetary policy stance.

Focusing on the CBRT's latest monetary tightening cycle, the analysis stated that borrowing costs in Treasury reissue auctions decreased by 40 basis points on average, and that this was calculated to have contributed approximately 6.8 billion TL to public finances.

In the analysis, it was reported that tight monetary policy increased yield rates in bond markets through the monetary transmission channel, while supporting demand flexibility in reissue auctions through the predictability and expectations channel.

The analysis stated, "Increasing flexibility with the contribution of predictability and credibility indicates an increase in the risk-carrying capacity of banks. Thus, we evaluate that the CBRT supports the financial system with its policy stance and contributes to public finance through Treasury auctions." Source: https://www.trthaber.com/

ECONOMY - Bitcoin Falls on Profit Taking

Bitcoin, the original cryptocurrency , fell 3.70% on Monday to below $101,000, according to data compiled by Bloomberg .

The decline came as smaller tokens like Solana and Cardano, which have surged since Trump's election victory, lost more than 5%. The decline comes after President Trump on Friday ordered the White House to create a working group to advise on cryptocurrency policy, in a long-awaited executive action. The group is tasked with proposing a regulatory framework for digital assets in the U.S., and is expected to be presented within six months.

Trump's order stopped short of confirming that the US would establish a Bitcoin reserve, something Trump promised during his campaign. "The expectations were bought," said Sean McNulty, head of APAC derivatives at FalconX. "While the market got 90% of what it wanted with the executive orders, clearly they were mostly priced in. Anything short of a Bitcoin reserve that immediately started buying BTC was going to be disappointing."

The digital asset market responded largely calmly to the order on Jan. 24, before posting modest gains. Bitcoin has surged more than 50% since Trump's election victory in early November. Trump has been skeptical of cryptocurrencies in the past, but changed his mind during the campaign after the sector contributed significant political donations to the election. He has pledged to make the U.S. the crypto capital of the world and in December appointed venture capitalist David Sacks as his AI and crypto advisor.

The developments, which bear the name Trumpcoin , made the Republican leader's rapport with the sector even more apparent when he and his wife Melania launched memecoins with questionable intrinsic value and high volatility in the days leading up to his inauguration on Jan. 20. "After a series of positive news stories, including pro-crypto regulatory appointments, new ETF product filings and executive orders, it appears the market is starting to catch its breath," said Justin d'Anethan, head of sales at token launch advisory firm Liquifi. Source: https://www.patronlarkulubu.com.tr/

Total reserves of the Central Bank increased

The total reserves of the Central Bank increased by 4 billion 257 million dollars in the week ending January 24.

The Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey (CBRT) announced the Weekly Money and Banking Statistics. Accordingly, the total reserves of the Central Bank increased by $4 billion 257 million in the week ending January 24, reaching $167 billion 560 million.

Gross foreign exchange reserves increased by $2 billion 537 million from $96 billion 791 million to $99 billion 328 million.
Gold reserves increased by $1 billion 721 million from $66 billion 511 million to $68 billion 232 million in the week of January 24.

Those who have gold should be careful about this claim!

Gold and money markets expert Islam Memiş made important assessments about gram gold prices. Stating that gram gold broke a new record and rose to 3,198 lira, Memiş advised investors to be cautious. Stating that a major reversal could occur in the market, Memiş drew attention to July in particular and told investors to be patient.

"Don't Panic, You'll Be in the Wrong Corner"

Islam Memiş warned investors not to panic, stating that there could be a period in which markets could take a wrong turn. Memiş, who stated that the 112 level could be seen one last time, especially in the dollar index, emphasized that investors should also be careful on the ounce of gold. Memiş, who stated that $2720 is the red line for an ounce of gold, said that closing above this level could bring $2760-2780 levels, but investors should still not panic.

Expectations of a Decline in Gold

İslam Memiş also stated that he expects a decrease in ounces of gold and silver. Stating that there was a short-term increase above the $2720 level and that it reached $2760, Memiş warned investors not to sell at this level. Emphasizing that it is necessary to look at the main trend, Memiş stated that the expectation of a decrease at the $2600 level is still valid.

"Gram Gold Will Reach Its Peak Every Month"

İslam Memiş stated that the gram gold TL price has risen to 3165 lira and that the ounce gold and gram gold have parted ways. Memiş, who said that there will be no sharp declines on the gram gold side, emphasized that investors with gram gold in their hands should wait. Memiş, who stated that the levels of 3500 lira will be seen until July, and 4000 and 4500 lira after July, claimed that the gram gold will see a new peak every month.

"Keep the Gold Waiting"

İslam Memiş advised investors to continue to hold their gold if they do not need cash. However, he stated that those who need cash can evaluate these increases as an opportunity. Memiş said, "Whether you are going to buy a house, a car, or something else, do your job, but for those who hold gold, these upward movements will continue on an annual basis." Memiş's statements are being followed carefully by gold investors.

Note: The evaluations included here are not within the scope of investment. Our news has absolutely no investment advice. Source: Real Agenda

Everything increased overnight! New prices announced for 27 items

The 2025 price hikes have been announced! As of the new year, prices have increased in many items. Passport fees, traffic fines, MTV, driver's license and many other areas have come into effect in new prices. Here are the item-by-item 2025 price hikes and their details...

Since the first day of the new year, news of price hikes has been coming one after another. Along with the Revaluation Rate in 2025, there has been an increase in many taxes and duties. Passport fees, traffic fines, Motor Vehicle Tax (MTV), driver's license fees, IMEI registration fees and many other items have increased. Here are all the increased items and details...

Increases with Revaluation Rate Come into Force

As of January 1, 2025, the Revaluation Rate-based increases applied to taxes and duties came into effect. These increases affected many items, from passport fees to traffic fines, from IMEI registration fees to motor vehicle taxes. Citizens will face increased fees in many areas with the new year.

New Era in Electricity Bills

A new era has also begun in electricity bills in the new year. Subscribers who exceed a monthly electricity consumption of 417 kilowatt-hours will not be able to benefit from the subsidized tariff. While bills exceed 1,050 TL in high-consumption households, it is stated that they can go up to 2,000 TL. This practice will be valid as of February 1st.

Increases in Securities and Fees

The prices of valuable papers such as passports, ID cards and driver's licenses have also increased in the new year. Passport fees started at 2,359 TL and increased to 11,274 TL. The ID card fee is 185 TL, and the ID card issued due to loss is 370 TL. Driver's license fees have increased to 1,883 TL for Class A and 5,678 TL for Class B. In addition, the prices of valuable papers such as notary papers and declarations have also been increased.

Traffic Fines Increased

Traffic fines have also been significantly increased. The fine for running a red light increased from 1,506 TL to 2,168 TL, illegal parking fines increased from 690 TL to 993 TL, and drunk driving fines increased from 6,439 TL to 9,268 TL. The fine for exceeding the speed limit by 10% to 30% increased from 1,506 TL to 2,168 TL.

Other Increases and Tax Regulations

The exit tax increased from 500 TL to 710 TL, and the phone IMEI registration fee increased from 31,692 TL to 45,614 TL. The lowest tax in MTV was 4,834 TL, while the highest tax exceeded 230 thousand TL. The exemption amount in rental income was determined as 47 thousand TL. Fuel SCT was also increased by 6 percent. In addition, the income tax and stamp duty exemption provided to wage earners was updated to 47,519.79 TL. The meal money exemption was increased to 240 TL, and the travel money exemption was increased to 126 TL.

Increased List

Here are some of the increased prices effective as of January 1, 2025:

New Vehicle Lowest MVT: 4,834 TL
6-Month Passport Fee: 2,359 TL
Passport Fee for More Than 3 Years: 11,274 TL
International Exit Fee: 710 TL
Phone IMEI Registration Fee: 45,614 TL
Red Light Penalty: 2,168 TL
Illegal Parking Penalty: 993 TL
Drunk Driving Penalty: 9,268 TL
Speed Limit Exceeding Penalty (%10-%30): 2,168 TL
Class A Driver's License Fee: 1,883 TL
Class B Driver's License Fee: 5,678 TL
Plastic Bag Price: 50 Kurus
Notary Paper and Declaration: 125 TL
Protest, Power of Attorney, Ex-Officio Deed Fee: 250 TL
Valuable Paper Passport Fee: 1,137 TL
Valuable Paper Residence Permit Fee: 810 TL
Valuable Paper ID Card Fee: 185 TL
Valuable Paper Lost ID Card Fee: 370 TL
Valuable Paper Family Booklet Fee: 1,010 TL
Valuable Paper Driver's License/Work Permit: 1,420 TL
Blue Card Fee: 185 TL
Foreign Work Permit/Exemption Certificate: 810 TL
Noise Fine: 1,406 TL
Household Waste and Residue Fine: 450 TL
Tobacco Product Fine: 1,406 TL
Environmental Law Violation Fine (Before 20 thousand TL): 557,212 TL
Environmental Law Violation Fine (Before 100 thousand TL): 2,786,492 TL
Daily Meal Allowance Exemption: 240 TL
Daily Travel Allowance Exemption: 126 TL

Source: My Economy

BILL PAYING SERVICE AVAILABLE

Did you know that the Foreign Citizens Advice Centre provide a free of charge bill payment service?

They take care of any bill:

Rental payments, insurance, cell phone bills, Internet, Utility Bills ... They handle it all

Are you having work done in your Holiday home ? You can avail of help and support to source and pay for works on completion. The Centre ensures that amounts paid are customary and reasonable.

If there is an issue, your Account Manager will contact you however you prefer: phone, email or text.

Additional or one-off bills ? Not a problem, please make contact to ensure that bills are paid on your behalf.

The Centre scrutinizes your bills for errors and fraud and makes sure your bills are paid on-time and correctly.

For more details: Contact the centre public office or via their new updated website: **https://adviceturkey.org/contact/**

AdviceTurkey.org
advice & support

AGRICULTURE - Milk producers are relieved

The solution to mastitis, one of the biggest problems of dairy farming worldwide, came from the Karya Farma HBX R&D team operating within ADÜ Teknokent. Karya Farma, which has been producing innovative projects in the sector for nearly 20 years and holds 18 patents, announced that they have achieved promising results with the treatment method they developed based on natural ingredients.

This special formulation, which they call HBX-2371, offers an effective treatment method against udder infection, which is frequently seen in dairy animals. Hakan Baskent, the founder of Karya Farma HBX R&D, stated that this result, which they achieved after many years of work, is an important success not only for themselves but also for the entire livestock sector. Baskent stated that they aim to reduce economic losses and offer an environmentally friendly approach with this natural treatment.

HBX-2371, developed for the treatment of mastitis, consists entirely of natural ingredients. This product, which contains olive and fig leaf extracts and bee products in its formulation, aims to protect both animal health and the environment by minimizing the use of antibiotics. Title,

“Developed with completely natural ingredients such as olive and fig leaf extracts and bee products, HBX-2371 aims to protect both animal health and the environment by reducing antibiotic use. We believe that HBX-2371, which we produce with the combination of science and labour, will add value to the agricultural sector by improving animal welfare and milk quality,” he said.

Full Marks from Manufacturers

İlyas Gedik, who is engaged in dairy farming in the Umurlu Neighbourhood of the Efeler district, stated that he had the chance to try HBX-2371 and received positive results in a short time. Gedik,

“Mastitis was a big problem for us. The natural content and rapid treatment effect of HBX-2371 protected the health of our animals and eliminated the loss of efficiency in milk production due to the disease. We were very happy to get such a result without the use of antibiotics,” he said and thanked Karya Farma for their new work.

Success Proven by Clinical Studies

Hakan Baskent emphasized that HBX-2371 has achieved very successful results in clinical studies and field tests. He stated that the product provides 85% improvement in acute mastitis cases and reduces the number of somatic cells by 70% in subclinical mastitis cases. Baskent stated that these impressive results strengthen HBX-2371's position in the sector and added that they will conduct studies on different animal species in the future.

HBX-2371 promises hope for the future by offering a sustainable solution to the challenges faced by the livestock sector, both economically and environmentally.
Source: Ihlas news agency

ARK’s meeting with the Mayor

ARK (Animal Rescue Kuşadasi) is keen to maintain a productive relationship with the Belediye on behalf of Kuşadası’s street animals – aiming to be another voice for the animals who are reliant upon the care and compassion of us humans.

ARK Board members recently had a meeting with Ömer Günel, the Mayor (Başkan/President) of Kuşadası and two of his senior team members who have specific responsibility for animal welfare issues. A key aim of the meeting was to receive an update regarding the Municipality’s response to the animal law passed by the Turkish Government in Summer. The most contentious aspect of the new law when it was at draft stage was the proposal that municipalities be permitted to euthanise animals which had not been adopted after spending at least 30 days in a shelter. Thankfully this was removed from the draft law at a late stage, being replaced by an ability to euthanise animals only in certain circumstances. However, it was reassuring to hear that Kuşadasi Municipality doesn’t intend to euthanise animals.

One aspect of the new law that must be adhered to is that the TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release) practice in respect of street dogs is no longer permitted. The law dictates that once a dog is taken to a shelter it should be registered (and given an ear tag) and kept there unless it is adopted. Given the number of street dogs, this surely acts as a deterrent to some municipalities neutering and/or capturing them….
Adoption of street animals was a matter which was raised at the meeting. All of us who care about animals need to make every effort to increase the number of animals who are able to find a home. There are so many beautiful animals – young and old, on the street and in the Shelter, who so deserve a loving home. It’s pleasing that each year a growing number of animals are adopted by foreign visitors, who fall in love with a dog or cat during their holiday. The process can be quite straightforward. Yes, it’s not cheap, but can be a lot less than many people pay to buy pedigree animals in their own country.

The Mayor referred to the Municipality’s wish to develop additional facilities in order to better accommodate the adoption progress for dogs, though this is dependent on support being provided at a national level.
Another key subject discussed at the meeting related to the neutering of street animals - both cats and dogs - which is clearly an essential way of controlling the population of street animals and avoiding the hunger and health challenges that so many currently suffer. At present, street cats can be neutered free of charge at the Cat Neutering Centre in the Marina area. The Municipality is in the process of developing a second cat neutering facility, which will also provide medical assistance to cats. The new facility is in Davutlar and will cater primarily for street cats in the Davutlar/Guzelcamli areas, which are obviously some distance from the main shelter on Kirazli Road.

Many thanks to all who took part in our New years day swim fundraising event. We had a wonderful day shared with sponsors, swimmers and the general public. More about this on our facebook page.

We in ARK are passionate about the welfare of animals and will do all in our power to protect and care for Kuşadasi’s street animals. To find out more about our work visit our website Arktr.com and follow our Facebook page. ARK is a voluntary organisation, therefore donations to ARK, however small, would be gratefully appreciated. Written by: Karen Froggatt

TÜRSAB BTK presidents and managers Visit Kuşadası

TÜRSAB Aydın BTK President Eda Yurtcan, İzmir BTK President Kıvanç Meriç and BTK board members visited Kuşadası Mayor Ömer Günel in his office. During the visit, ideas were exchanged about regional tourism in 2025.

Cruise tourism was discussed

Following the meeting, the delegation also visited Ege Port Port General Manager Aziz Güngör. Comprehensive evaluations were made on Kuşadası Port and cruise tourism. Important consultations were held on Turkey's tourism potential and developments in the region.

These contacts are expected to give new momentum to regional tourism. Source: https://www.turizmajansi.com/

WOOD WASTE IS TURNED INTO FUEL FOR THOSE IN NEED IN KUŞADASI

Kuşadası Municipality, which increased its social aid three-fold after Mayor Ömer Günel took office, provides coal aid to those in need throughout the winter season, as well as tree waste obtained from pruning work carried out throughout the city as fuel. In this way, families are provided with a warmer winter while also contributing to the protection of the environment.

Kuşadası Municipality transforms the pruning work it does on trees in the city between November and March, depending on seasonal conditions, into a service that will warm the homes of families and individuals in need in the winter. In this context, the branches and dried roots and trunks obtained from the pruned trees are regularly collected by the Parks and Gardens Directorate teams. The tree waste, which is then loaded onto trucks, is taken to the directorate's work centre in the Kadınlar Denizi Neighborhood and cut into sizes that will fit into the stove.

The tree waste that is turned into winter firewood is packaged and delivered to the addresses determined by the Social Aid Affairs Directorate, based on the applications made via Güvercin Masa's 444 71 14 phone number and the information received from the muhtars. The work, which is carried out in coordination with the Kuşadası Municipality with the help of coal, ensures that those in need can get through the harsh winter more warmly and easily, and that the environment is protected.
Kuşadası Deputy Mayor Seyfi Seyhan Suvari stated that the fuel support will continue throughout the winter and said, "We continue our work in our city without interruption in line with the criteria determined by our Mayor Ömer Günel in the field of social municipality. Our Mayor is producing many projects in order to minimize the impact of the economic crisis in Turkey on the people of Kuşadası. We will soon start providing stove support to our fellow citizens in need. In addition, our food package distributions continue. With this application, we protect the environment and utilize waste."

KUŞADASI'S FIRST TENNIS CLUB OPENED ITS DOORS

Kuşadası Tennis Club, whose construction was completed by Kuşadası Municipality, has opened its doors. Hosting 5 courts of international standards, Kuşadası Tennis Club has attracted great interest from tennis enthusiasts since the first day it was put into service.

Kuşadası Tennis Club, which is among Kuşadası Mayor Ömer Günel's vision projects and is eagerly awaited by sports enthusiasts, has been put into service. Built on an area of 6 thousand square meters in the Kadın Denizi Mahallesi Kasım Yaman Caddesi, the facility has been filled to the brim since the first day it opened, thanks to its 4 tennis courts with night lighting and 1 training court that meet international standards.

Kuşadası Tennis Club, which adds value and quality to the city with its tennis courts, sports area and equipment, children's playground, walking paths, cafeteria, spectator stands and 900 square meters of green area, received full marks from sports fans. The first guests of the club, tennis enthusiasts, thanked Mayor Ömer Günel for bringing such a modern and high-quality sports facility to Kuşadası.

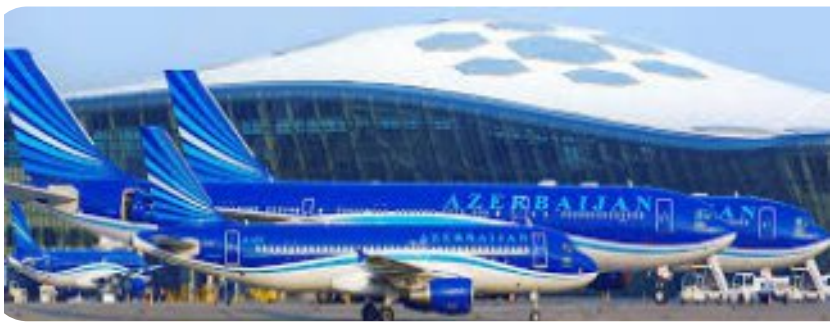
Those who want to start tennis can also join individual and group training given by expert coaches at Kuşadası Tennis Club, where Adalı Card holders receive a 50 percent discount. It is possible to make a reservation for Kuşadası Tennis Club, which appeals to all age groups from 7 to 70, via the Adamobil application or kusadasiteniskortu.com.

Ömer Günel is at the top again

Kuşadası Mayor Ömer Günel achieved great success by being chosen as the 2nd most successful district mayor in a survey conducted by the ORC Research Company throughout Türkiye.

Kuşadası Mayor Ömer Günel has won the appreciation of both the people of Kuşadası and participants across Turkey with his infrastructure and superstructure projects carried out throughout the city, as well as his work in the fields of social municipality and culture and arts.
Günel, who came in first with 64.1 percent of the votes in the 2024 survey conducted by ORC with 15,400 people, had attracted attention by being in the top 10 in the success rankings in previous years.
Mayor Günel's exemplary management approach continues to bring Kuşadası to the agenda both locally and nationally.

MY VISIT TO AZERBAIJAN FROM TURKIYE - By: Pat Curtıs



Türkiye borders as many as eight countries, including a small 9-kilometre-long border with the enclave of Azerbaijan providing many an opportunity to dip a toe in places that may not be on many tourists' visit list.

Azerbaijan which is also known as the 'Land of Fire' and its capital Baku, which is now a GP Formula One circuit, is one such place.

Both Pegasus and Azerbaijan Airlines have direct flights from Türkiye, including Antalya and Izmir, landing in Baku.
I'm not one to miss an opportunity to see something different and when a discounted fare with Azerbaijan Air departing from Izmir was advertised, I booked. Azerbaijan airline was impressive. Each seat had an individual TV with a range of language options, including English. The cabin crew served up a tasty complimentary 3 course lunch consisting of a small salad bowl, bread roll, hot beef dish with rice, some cheese and a chocolate cake desert. They also offered a drink of your choice … for me it was my first 50 cl cold Xirdalan (Azerbaijani beer) - followed by either tea or coffee.

Landing in Baku I was slightly disappointing to find out that despite the rows of empty air bridges the airline decided to throw in, free of charge, a coach tour of the runways by bussing us to arrivals. This is a pet hate of mine but on the positive side, passport control was very fast.

In arrivals I purchased a Azer SIM card giving me free local calls, texts and 20 GB data all for the equivalent of 800 Tl. A rival mobile supplier, Bakcell, was cheaper but Azer is reported to have wider coverage.

Outside the terminal there is an efficient air bus service which will take you to the city centre transport hub known as the '28 May' Terminus. This Terminus combines a huge retail area as well as bus, trains, metro and Taxis stations.

On this trip I took a taxi from the airport for 25 Manats (the local currency is called a Manat written as AZN and is worth about 20 Tl) for the 40 minutes' drive to my accommodation in town. As a first-time visitor I thought this was the better option and I have to say the taxi driver had no problem waiting around as I used an ATM to withdraw some Manats. Revolut card doesn't work in Azerbaijan but all my other debit and credit cards did. Interestingly there are no local bank ATM charges when making withdrawals (although you need to be aware that your own bank may charge…. mine didn't) and there were lots of Turkish Bank branches. I was able to withdraw small amounts of cash as I went along using a Ziraat ATM less than 5 mins from my accommodation.

Later that day I purchased a Bakicard travel card (this joins my collection of Antkart, Izmirkart, Konkart, Ntkart, Istanbul kart, Oyster card…etc, etc) for 2 Manats (about 40 Tl) and credited it with just 5 Manats. The card can be loaded with amounts of one Manat, five Manat, 10 Manat and so on. Each ride on a bus or on the metro within the city only costs 0.3 Manat or 6 Tl.

Baku has a promenade on the shores of the Caspian Sea and is the lowest lying national capital in the world. In fact, it's the largest city in the world below sea level. Strangely the Caspian Sea, which is also described as the world's largest lake, has a salt content only a third of other seas and oceans and is also below sea level.
Baku is famed for its beautiful medieval walled old city, which contains a vast royal complex called the Palace of the Shirvanshahs, as well as the iconic stone Maiden Tower. Contemporary landmarks included the Flame Towers which are 3 skyscrapers covered with LED screens illuminating at night and creating the illusion of tongues of flames climbing up the towers, hence its name.

The towers do resemble an opened pomegranate fruit, which is an emblem of Azerbaijani, and as well as housing a five-star hotel and some office space there are also residential apartments, cinema and restaurants. I'm unsure of the attraction of living in an apartment with flames, nightly, illuminating outside my windows but it does look spectacular from afar.

Walking around Baku it's clearly a fusion of ancient and modern, east and west, affluence and the non-affluent.

In the city the old medieval walled town looked impressive from the outside and it was even more spectacular and enjoyable to wander slowly about the cobbled streets and pedestrian alleyways. Interestingly this medieval centre is a living town with residents carrying on normal lives living in the historic buildings with their picturesque balconies. The ancient town walls date back to the 12th century. A local resident living in this medieval town gets a permit to drive their vehicle in but in general the streets did not have much moving road traffic.

There were lots of quaint shops and plenty of pretty restaurants. You need to keep alert when strolling around these medieval streets or you will miss features such as the monument to Cats and Lovers. For the life of me I couldn't find out the story or reason behind the carvings of the two young lovers on a balcony gazing up at three cats on a higher balcony. Maybe it's an Azerbaijani version of Romeo & Juliet. To be continued - Read Part 2 - next month.

Wearable technology brings hope to children with autism

Wearable technology is revolutionizing children's lives. Innovative solutions that hold great promise, especially for children with autism and speech difficulties, aim to improve the quality of life of both children and their families.

Wearable technology has become a part of our lives in recent years, especially in the field of health and safety. The effects of these technologies on children are quite remarkable. Smart textiles, especially developed for children with autism and speech difficulties, allow families to establish a stronger bond with their children.

Merve Aydıner, one of Turkey's prominent entrepreneurs in this field, attracts attention both at home and abroad with the smart textile projects she has developed.

Wearable technology for children with autism

After completing her undergraduate studies in Textile Engineering at Technical University, she studied at Domus Academy in Milan. Merve Aydıner, who is doing her master's degree, started working on smart textiles during this period. Her first project was selected among the 100 most creative international projects in the London International Creative Contest.

Aydıner, who has been a consultant to various companies in Europe in this field, formed a team for smart textile projects when he returned to Turkey. In the last three years, he has been working on smart textiles that can translate neuro states. EU Worth Partnership Project award. Also, Kadem received an award in the Women in Innovation entrepreneurship program. Currently in Turkey. It develops projects that enable tracking of personal health data in many areas, including the health sector.

The technologies developed by Merve Aydıner are also a ray of hope for children with autism and speech difficulties. Aydıner explains why she started the project with the following words:

"The mother of an autistic child wrote on social media: 'I love my child very much, but I don't understand if my child loves me.' This is a really difficult situation for parents. Children cannot express their feelings, which makes communication difficult. Wearable technologies play a key role in overcoming this difficulty. Thanks to these smart textiles, children's emotional states can be monitored, and families can better understand their children's feelings."

Big step for health and safety

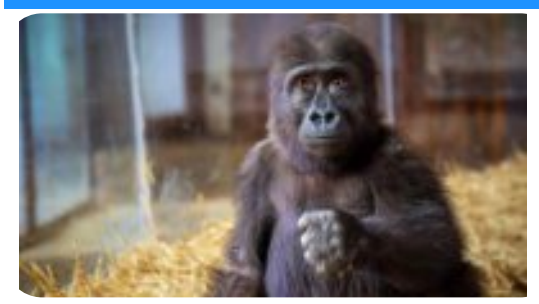
Smart textiles developed by Turkish entrepreneurs not only help children to be more comfortable in social environments but also monitor their general health status by monitoring their health data. Aydıner explains how this technology works:

"You can get movement data, pulse data, breathing, whether or not you have any chronic illnesses... Think of it like a live recording device. Artificial intelligence Once integrated, this data started to make sense."

In this way, parents can monitor their children's stress levels, sleep routines and even how the weather might affect a child's health. This technology provides a solid foundation for child safety and communication with parents, especially in cases such as autism.

As Aydıner stated, "Although we can understand people by looking at their faces in some cases, we may not be able to analyse some of the reactions of children. These smart textiles can detect alarm conditions from the nervous system and heart data and send notifications to authorized persons." This is a great advantage in terms of both ensuring the safety of children and providing early intervention for parents. Source: https://www.trthaber.com/

Baby gorilla named Olive



The name of the baby gorilla, which was caught at Istanbul Airport and whose rehabilitation process is ongoing, was determined as "Olive" through the social media campaign initiated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Istanbul Airport Customs Casing Smuggling and by the Intelligence Directorate teams on December 22NigeriaThe rehabilitation process of the gorilla cub, which was caught in a cage-type box departing from Bangkok and arriving in a zoo in Polonezköy, continues.

A baby gorilla, a species on the verge of extinction, is being kept under surveillance in a glass room at the zoo.
After the caregivers' clothes are disinfected, mask is allowed to enter in a plugged-in manner.
Playing in his room with blankets, plush toys and an abacus, the little one spends his days quite active, contrary to his shy and sad state when he was caught.
The baby gorilla, who amazes those around him by applauding and hitting his chest with both hands, attracts sympathy with his movements with his blanket and toys.

Nature Conservation and National Parks(DKMP) 1st Regional Director Fahrettin Ulu told AA correspondent that one of the most important tasks is the protection and development of wildlife.
Ulu explained that they received reports of nearly 10 thousand injured animals in Istanbul in 2024, and that they released animals such as deer, roe deer, foxes, vultures and eagles into nature after the rehabilitation process.
Ulu, who noted that the baby gorilla was put on the plane illegally without any registration, said, "It is determined that the current gorilla is in a small box in very unhealthy conditions and is completely tortured. There is no gorilla in Turkey at the moment. This is the first time we have detected such a gorilla in Turkey. For this reason, it is being protected very specially. A special environment is being created in a zoo that has received a work permit license from our ministry. The rehabilitation process is being carried out meticulously by the caretaker and veterinarian in this special environment."

Ulu stated that everyone remembers the timid and fearful looks of the baby gorilla on the day it was captured, and noted that the animal now gives affectionate looks and regains its self-confidence.
Ulu, drawing attention to the fact that the cub has adapted to its home, said, "Its weight was 9 kilos 400 grams when it first arrived, and it has now reached 10 kilos 400 grams. Its length has grown from 62 centimetres to 65.5 centimetres. This shows how well it is being fed in an environment."
Ulu emphasized that no conclusion has yet been reached regarding the return of the baby gorilla to its homeland, and continued as follows:

"What we especially want is for it to continue its life in the rainforests of its homeland, Africa. We will follow the process as long as there is a safe environment. As of now, as the General Directorate of Nature Conservation and National Parks, our negotiations continue with international organizations, the CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) secretariat and the countries that are the interlocutors. As a result of these negotiations, the public will be informed about this issue again."

"Thousands of name suggestions came"
Ulu, to determine the name of the baby, Agriculture andForestThe Ministry of Social Work initiatedmediaHe stated that his work was concluded.
Drawing attention to the fact that a name determination study was shared on social media regarding the baby gorilla that has won the hearts of 85 million people, he said, "Thousands of name suggestions came in on this subject, our citizens showed great interest. I would like to thank our citizens for their interest. The determined names were first reduced to four, four names came to the fore. The name Zeytin came to the fore. We are now saying, Zeytin, welcome to our country. From now on, our baby gorilla's name is Zeytin."
Source: https://www.trthaber.com/

RESIDENCY PERMIT APPLICATION

Residence permit documents (the card) is within the scope of valuable paper in accordance with the Law on Valuable Papers No. 210 dated 21/2/1963 and are subject to a document fee determined by the Ministry of Treasury and Finance annually. There is no exemption from the document fee for the citizen of any country. Other fees which will be sought, such as for notaries, Insurance, tax office, translators also require a seperate payment.

Anyone who charges a fee to submit Applications are breaking the Law. If you are approached and asked to pay extortinate amounts in order to obtain a guaranteed residence permit, please be aware that all parties to this are in breach of law.

The foreign citizens advice centre in Kusadasi are there to help everyone through the sometimes tedious process of an application and to answer any questions you may have. They offer support and advice at no charge and are a recognised association in Turkey.

As determined by the General Communique of the General Directorate of Public Accounts published in the Official Gazette dated 28 December 2023 and numbered 32413, the residence permit document fee to be applied in 2024 is given in the table here.

Valuable Paper	2024 Fee
Residence Permit Document	565,00 TL

At What Cost? Unravelling the Harms of the Fast Fashion

Fast fashion is an enormous, rapidly growing industry, with the number of new garments made per year nearly doubling over the past 20 years and global consumption of fashion increasing by 400%.
Waste occurs at every stage of the garment manufacturing process, harming wildlife, degrading land, and polluting soil and water.

The fast fashion industry is a significant contributor to the climate crisis, responsible for as much as 10% of global carbon dioxide emissions.
Animal-based textiles such as wool are responsible for greenhouse gas emissions, water pollution, widespread habitat loss from deforestation and grassland conversion, and other harms to wildlife. In fast fashion, wool is commonly blended with fibres derived from fossil fuels and coated with chemicals, further increasing the environmental cost of production and disposal of these garments.

Fast fashion has revolutionized the fashion industry at a cost to the environment and human rights.

The fast fashion business model relies on the exploitation of resources and human labour to deliver garments following the latest trends to its consumers at an unprecedented rate. This quick output of garments demands a sizeable volume of raw materials fed into the fast fashion industry, creating a significant amount of waste, pollution and degradation to air, water and wildlife habitat.

The pollution introduced by the fast fashion industry results in devastating impacts to both terrestrial and aquatic environments, with harmful effects linked to habitat degradation, proliferation of chemicals and microplastics in waterways, and the increasing impact of climate change from anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions.

Despite the increased demand and consumption of fast fashion garments and people's apparent growing interest in fashion, they are buying more while wearing fewer of the items they own. The poor quality of fast fashion clothing contributes to the limited lifespans of garments, which often end up decomposing slowly in landfills or being incinerated. In addition to degrading in landfills or being incinerated, fast fashion clothing has also become a notorious source of microplastics in marine environments as the cheap, plastic-based materials shed fibres that make their way to the oceans.

On top of the environmental exploitation that allows for fast fashion's cheap prices, the other contributing factor is worker exploitation in low-income countries where factories are based. Workers — primarily young women — are subjected to hazardous working conditions while earning unlivable wages, despite the companies pulling in massive profits.

Although both the fashion industry and consumers have indicated that sustainability is a priority, fast fashion is an increasingly unsustainable market that continues to grow, relatively unchecked. And the scale of this industry is enormous: For a company such as Shein, an estimated 1,000 new styles are uploaded daily — though there has been speculation that this figure may be a gross underestimate (Zhou, 2022). With the average number of each garment manufactured ranging from 50-100, according to the Shein website, this results in a minimum of 50,000 new garments created every day.

Changing these practices requires drawing attention to the harms of fast fashion and shifting the narrative from the glamour that has been assigned to overconsumption toward fashion that embraces sustainability and justice. Source: https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/

Here are the male professions that women find most attractive

The survey, conducted by the dating app The League, provides interesting data on the factors women pay attention to when choosing a career. According to the study, which included 2,000 women and men, women prefer doctors the most. The most striking result of the study is that women find professions that combine intelligence, ambition and the ability to think of others more attractive in men. Men who work in professions that aim to help people in particular become more attractive to women. 26 percent of participants say they would find it attractive to be in love with a doctor.

In second place is education for men and law for women. While 28 percent of men prefer to be with a teacher, 19 percent of women are interested in a lawyer. Education and law are attractive options for women because they are known in society as professions with social responsibility.

LOW INTEREST IN PROFESSIONS WITH HEAVY WORK STRESS

In addition, many women stated that they do not want to have a relationship with men who constantly work overtime and are overwhelmed by work stress. This situation shows that individuals who seek balance in their work life prefer less stressful and more people-oriented professions in order to establish healthy relationships. Ref: https://yenisokegazetesi.com/

SPORT

The draw for the last 16 play-off round of the UEFA Europa League has been held.

In the draw held at the UEFA Headquarters in Nyon, Switzerland, Galatasaray was paired with AZ Alkmaar from the Netherlands, while Fenerbahçe was paired with Belgian team Anderlecht.

If the yellow-red team makes it through the play-offs, they will face Manchester United or Tottenham in the last 16 round.

If the Yellow-Navy Blues eliminate their opponent, they will face Olympiacos or Rangers in the last 16 round.

The first matches of the UEFA Europa League play-off round will be played on February 13, and the return matches will be played on February 20.

The matchups in the play-off round are as follows:

AZ Alkmaar (Netherlands)-Galatasaray
Fenerbahce-Anderlecht (Belgium)
Twente (Netherlands)-Bodo/Glimt (Norway)
PAOK (Greece)-FCSB (Romania)
Union Saint-Gilloise (Belgium)-Ajax (Netherlands)
Midtjylland (Denmark)-Real Sociedad (Spain)
Ferencvaros (Hungary)-Viktoria Plzen (Czechia)
Porto (Portugal)-Rome (Italy)

Transfer attack from Kuşadasıspor

Kuşadasıspor, which has been going through bad times in the 3rd League, has added 16 new football players to its squad.

Kuşadasıspor, struggling to get out of the lower ranks of the Nesine 3rd League 1st Group, announced its new transfers.

The black and whites added 16 players to their squad at once. The fact that there were former national players among the transferred players drew attention.

The black and whites signed contracts with Ferhat Çulcuoğlu, Nuri Terliksiz, Sabit Hakan Yılmaz, Ömer Yıldız, Mustafa Aydoğdu, Hasan Baran Uçkan, Bayram Kılıç, Bora Taşdemir, Musa Orak, Yusuf Kanal, Tahsin Çakmak, Aytuğ Batur Kömeç, Oğuzhan Köseoğlu, Bülent Cevahir and Batuhan Sürer.

Sultans of Didim end the season

The season has ended in the 7th Group of the Turkish Volleyball Women's 2nd League. Polat Grup Didimspor, the Aydın representative, finished the group in 3rd place but could not qualify for the play-offs.

Koçarlı Belediyespor and Gencellispor, the Aydın representatives of the Didimspor women's volleyball team, which competed in the group with 12 teams, withdrew from the group during the season.
In the group where 10 teams remained, Didimspor won 12 and lost 7 in the 19 matches it played.
While Manisa BŞB sports group finished as the leader in the group where the yellow-black team was, Uğur spor finished second and Polat Grup Didimspor finished third.

The first two teams qualified to play in the play-offs. While Didimspor could not make it to the play-offs this season, Club President Deniz Polat and the management gave the message that they will play in the play-offs with a stronger squad next season.

Türkiye Champion in Kickboxing Kuşadası

The athletes of Ada Doğan Sports Club, who represented Kuşadası in the Turkish Kickboxing Championship held in Antalya on 21-28 January 2025, achieved a great success.

In the 48 kg Junior Women's K-1 Style category, Elina Melis Yıldırım and in the 60 kg Junior Women's K-1 Style category, Asya Akman left their opponents behind and became the Turkish champions. This important success of the athletes brought great pride to Kuşadası and the regional sports community.

NEW WEBSITE LAUNCH ANNOUNCEMENT

The Foreign Citizens Advice Centre based in Kusadasi launches their updated modern design website: https://adviceturkey.org

After many weeks of work and dedication from their design team they are pleased to announce the launch of their updated website!

AdviceTurkey.org
advice & support

Their primary goal during the redesign process was to create a more valuable, user-friendly and responsive resource across all platforms and devices.
Specifically, their team wanted their users to experience, learn and locate valuable information about their free services which would be suitable for all users' particular needs not only at their desk but also on mobile devices.

They have given their website an updated new look & design with an improved "live chat" function. They have reorganized information categories which clearly allows you, the user, to easier access valuable information on the https://adviceturkey.org website about their free services which are all entirely voluntary donation funded.

You can keep up to date with their latest announcements and news via their newly redesigned site plus the Ege Eye Facebook page and on the The Ege Eye News website at https://theegeeye.com

We hope you enjoy their new look!

For any suggestions, questions, comments please contact us via the website: https://adviceturkey.org

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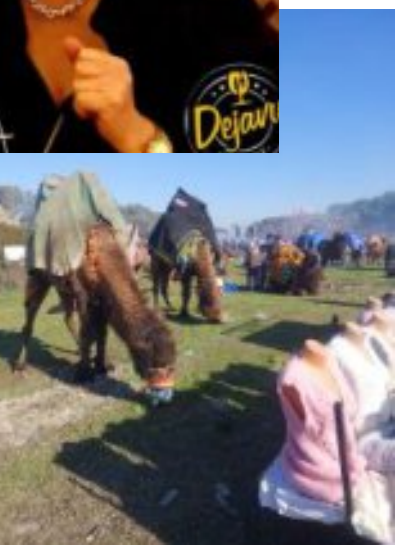
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