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TRABZON



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HISTORY AND CULTURAL BACKGROUND

Trabzon is a hub of the Eastern Black Sea Region, with a long history, rich culture and great natural beauty. While Trabzon bears the marks of past civilisations, its earliest history remains mysterious but the Central Asian origin Turkish people are said to have inhabited the city first. On the other hand, archaeological excavations have revealed traces of human habitation during the Chalcolithic and Bronze Ages. In light of these finds, we can say that the earliest known settlement was a trading colony of Miletus that came into existence around 670 BC. The name of the city is first mentioned as "Trapezus" in the book of Xenophon entitled Anabasis.

An important Silk Road connection between Europe and Asia, Trabzon has hosted many civilisations throughout its history. The Cimmerians, Medes, Persians and Macedonians were among the earlier rulers of the port city. The city was



Sumela Monastery

part of the Eastern Empire after the split of Rome, controlled by the Byzantine Empire and later the Komnenos Dynasty. The Komnenoi began to rule Trabzon at the dawn of the 13th century, and lasted more than 250 years until 1461, when the Ottoman Sultan Mehmet II, the Conqueror, conquered the city.

Trabzon has been an inspiration for world-renowned travellers such as Xenophon, Evliya Çelebi, Fallmerayer and Frunze, who visited the city and immortalized it in travel books and manuscripts. Today, the city is also an important centre of commerce and culture, replete with its museums, monasteries, mosques, tombs, caravanserais, bathhouses, covered bazaar, city walls and magnificent examples of civic architecture, markets, a fantastic landscape, and mystical nature.

The people of Trabzon preserve the traditional handcrafts, such as stone-carving and wood-carving, weaving, jewellery making, the art of the coppersmith, knife making, and quilting.

Trabzon's gold and silver jewellery, its typical horon line Dance, the local musical instrument kemençe (Byzantine Lyra) and its sport have found a worldwide audience.



GEOGRAPHY

Trabzon, situated in the Eastern Black Sea Region, is at the terminus of transit routes to the Caucasus and Iran. It is on the north shore of the Black Sea, with the provinces of Gümüşhane and Bayburt to the south, Giresun to the west, and Rize to the east. The larger settlements lie along the coast. The mountains along the narrow coastal strip rise to 3,000 metres. The mountainous hinterland contains passes and high pastures set amid spectacular summits, and is suitable for plateau tourism.

CLIMATE

Trabzon has a very rich flora, and about 440 endemic plants thrive in the region.

The annual average seawater temperature is 16.1°C, and the average for August rises to 27.5°C. In March the temperature can fall to a low of 6.0°C. The region is under the influence of the Black Sea climate: the winters are cool but humid, and summers are temperate. As a peculiarity of the Black Sea climate there is a high probability of rain throughout the year.



ECONOMY

The economy of Trabzon is still largely agricultural. The principal products are tobacco, hazelnuts and tea.

Black Sea Polenta (Kuymak), which is prepared with butter, stringy low-fat cheese, and cornmeal, and Black Sea Anchovy (hamsi) are specialities of the local cuisine that incidentally make a great contribution to the local economy.

Trabzon forms a bridge between Caucasia, Central Asia and the west, and plays an important role in trading. Trabzon also attracts many tourists, and its modern port facilities and airport provide easy access. The Karadeniz (Black Sea) Technical University gives the city a modern outlook.





MUSEUMS

Museum of Trabzon (Mansion House of Kostaki)

The Museum of Trabzon is one of the rare examples of European architecture in Turkey. It was built in 1917 as the mansion house of Alexi Kostaki. The building was used as the Vocational Lycée for Maidens between 1937 and 1987. The Ministry of Culture began renovation work in 1988, and the building reopened as the Museum of Trabzon on the 22nd of April 2001.

The architectural style and decorations of the Museum of Trabzon are in the Baroque Rococo style, a departure from the traditional arts of the Ottoman Empire that had prevailed through the 19th century.

A fascinating gallery of archaeological artefacts is in the basement, while a ground floor gallery introduces the history of the Mansion House. The first floor houses the gallery of ethnographical artefacts, and the mezzanine floor is used for the administrative offices.

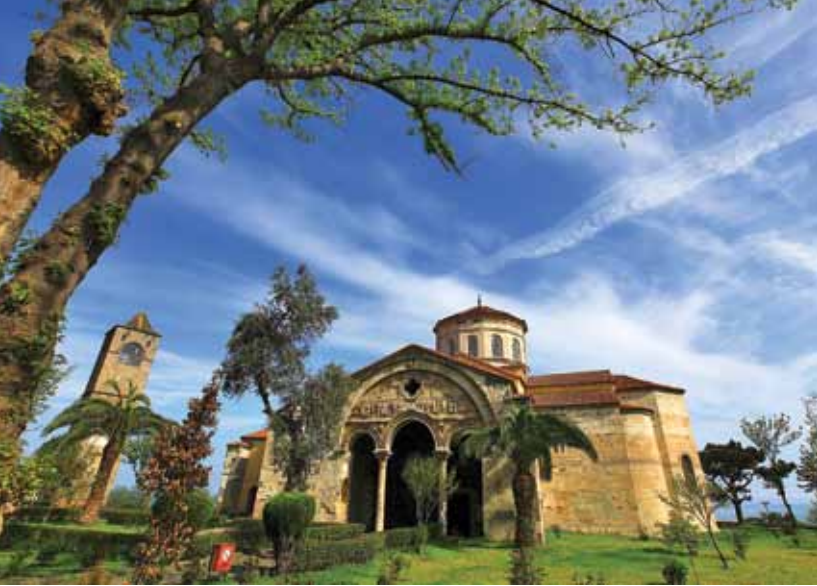
Ayasofya Museum

Ayasofya Museum is one of the most prominent Byzantine era structures in the region. The building is thought to date to the reign of Komnenoi Emperor Manuel I, between 1238 and 1263. It was renovated in 1864 under the auspices of Riza Effendi of Bursa. Restoration between 1958 and 1962 leads to the building's opening as a public museum in 1964.



Ayasofya Museum





Village House Exhibition

A plot of land adjacent to the Ayasofya Museum was purchased by the state in 1993 and added to the public land of the museum. The governor's office together with local benefactors helped create an exhibition of a typical village house, which was opened to the public in May 1996.





Museum of Atatürk

The Museum of Atatürk, in Soğuksu Village, was built at the end of 19th century as the summer retreat of the Banker Konstantinos Kapagiannidis. Atatürk stayed here during his first visit to Trabzon in 1924, and on subsequent visits. He wrote part of his last will and testament here, and after his death the building was converted into a museum exhibiting several personal items and photographs.



The Museum of Trabzonspor FC



Being one of the historical works of Trabzon, Trabzonspor Museum was on the second floor of Sadri Şener Social Facility Building, but in 2011 it was moved into a modern museum building. The museum which displays many championship cups reveals that the Trabzonspor Sport Club has an important place in the Turkish football history. The most interesting cup in the museum is the 'half cup' which was shared with Ankara Havagücü Sport Club in the 1958 Turkish Amateur Football Championship.

In the final match of Turkish Championship which was organized by the Football Federation in 1958, Trabzon İdmanocağı and Ankara Havagücü sport clubs had the same points and averages, and both refused to hold a new match. So, the Football Federation declared both of the clubs as the champion and the cup was divided into two.

Cevdet Sunay House

It is located in Ataköy on the Çaykara-Sultan Murat Plateau road at a distance of 21 km from Çaykara district.

Cevdet Sunay was one of the statesmen grown up in Trabzon. He was born in a small town called Ataköy in 1900.



Through his life of service, he undertook a number of public duties such as the Chief of the General Staff and the 5th President of the Turkish Republic. After his death in 1982, the house he was born in and was restored as a museum, and opened to visitors as Cevdet Sunay Museum-House in 2001.

Black SeaRegion Traditional Life Style Exhibition

The traditional folklore and handcrafts of the Black Sea region are exhibited in the in the Kanuni foundation in Ortahisar district.



Kanuni House

The splendend building commisioned in the district where Süleyman the magnifient was born is a structure dating to the 19 th century and is now used an exhibition house.





FORTRESSES

Fortress of Trabzon

The fortress extends from the shore to the hills above the city, and it is the best-preserved structure of its type in the region. Its origins go back to the 4th century AD. The defensive walls are divided into sections known as the Upper Fortifications, Citadel, Middle Fortifications and Lower Fortifications.

Kalepark Fortress

To the east of the city, it was built by the Genoese on a hill with commanding views of the port. At present only the ruins of storerooms and the church remain.

Akçakale Fortress

Located 18 kilometres west of Trabzon, the fortress is believed to have been built in the 13th century. It was repaired during the Ottoman Era, and extended to be used as a military base.

Arsenal

The arsenal has two concentric towers built on the western slopes of Boztepe. The inscriptions and tughra (calligraphic seal) of Sultan Abdulhamit II above the portal tell us that it was built in 1887. It was used as ammunition storage during the Russian occupation between 1916 and 1917. An explosion in 1919 destroyed its dome. The building was subsequently renovated and is now run as a restaurant by a private sector.



MOSQUES, CHURCHES, TOMBS AND MONASTERIES

Gülbahar Hatun Mosque and Tomb

Ottoman Sultan Selim I, the Grim, commissioned this mosque in 1514 to commemorate his mother Gülbahar Hatun. The mosque, near Zağnos Bridge, to the west of Ortahisar, was originally part of a religious complex – comprising public kitchens, a madrasah, bathhouse, and a school for young children. Only the tomb and mosque have survived to the present day. However, in 1899 the Gülbahar Hatun Primary School was built on the site of the old school.



Ahi Evren Dede Mosque



The construction date of Ahi Evren Dede Mosque which is located in Boztepe Neighbourhood overlooking Trabzon is not known. On the other hand, according to historic records a dervish lodge was built on the site of today's mosque and tomb by Ahi Evren during the rule of Sultan Orhan, but there is not certain information about this lodge complex.

Later Ahi Evren Dede Mosque was built on this site. It survived to the present since it was repaired by the efforts of Hacı Hakkı Baba in time of Sultan Abdülaziz in 1888 (1305 in Muslim Calendar).

İskender Pasha Mosque

İskender Pasha, the Governor of Trabzon, commissioned this mosque in 1529. The mosque, in Taksim Square, was built on a square floor plan.



Çarşı Mosque

Hazinedarzade Osman Pasha, the Governor of Trabzon, commissioned this, the largest mosque in the city, in 1839. Today, Çarşı Mosque is part of the fabric of Kemeraltı locality in the neighbourhood of Çarşı, and wows tourists with its superb stone masonry.

Erdoğdu Bey Mosque



Built by Erdoğdu Bey, the governor of Trabzon in 1577, the mosque stands in the neighbourhood named as Erdoğdu Bey. It had undergone a number of restorations which damaged its originality on a large scale.

Screened and elevated loges at the entrance of the last public section and the main prayer hall are wooden, and connected with each other from the top. Its prayer niche is vaulted in stalactite work, and each cusp is decorated with a rosette. On the upper side is an inscription which informs us that the mosque was repaired finally in 1899 (1317 in the Muslim Calendar). Its pulpit is wooden and decorated simply.

Ortahisar Fatih Mosque

The Church of Golden Headed Virgin Mary, situated in the Ortahisar neighbourhood, is one of the principal churches of Trabzon. It is believed to have been commissioned by Flavius Hannibalianus, the nephew of Roman Emperor Constantine I. The church has passed through various renovations, and it began to serve as a mosque in 1461.



Yeni Cuma Mosque

This building, originally a church, in the Yeni Cuma Neighbourhood, was commissioned to commemorate St. Eugene, a Christianity martyr, who was adopted as the patron saint of the Empire of Trebizond. It is thought that the church was commissioned in the 14th century. There was a basilica on the site in the 13th century, which became a cruciform plan church. The structure served as a mosque after the conquest of Trabzon, and assumed its present-day form.

Molla Nakip Mosque

This church, situated in the Pazarkapı Neighbourhood, was built in the 5th or 6th century, and devoted to St Andrea. Following the conquest of Trabzon, it served as a mosque.

Kudrettin Mosque

Located in Esentepe Neighbourhood, the church was built in the 14th century to commemorate St. Philip and then it as used as a mosque.

Hüsnü Göktuğ Mosque

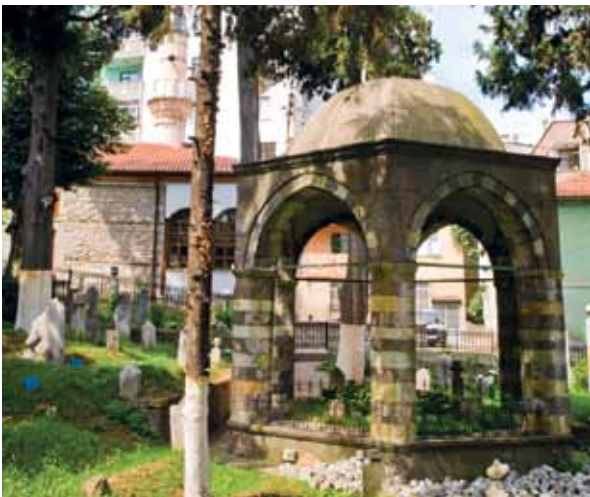
The Genoese built this church in the 15th century, in present day Çömlekçi Neighbourhood. The building remained a church until 1953, when Hüsnü Göktuğ, the Governor of Trabzon, renovated it into a mosque.

Gülbaharhatun Tomb



It is located to the east of Büyük İmaret (Hatuniye) Mosque. Built for Gülbahar Hatun, mother of Sultan Selim the Grim in 1506, the tomb was built of yellowish cut stones and displays superior quality of stonework. For decorative purpose, grey coloured stones were used on the arches of windows. The tomb has an octagonal shaped plan, and an octagonal tambour. Its dome was again eight cornered, and covered by lead.

Açık Tomb (Hamzapaşa Tomb)



Hamzapaşa Tomb stands on the east of Hamzapaşa Mosque in the Küçük İmaret Graveyard. The tomb which dates back to the 18th century is hexagonal and canopied. It includes three graves, and one of these is the grave of Hamza Pasha

Santa Maria Church

This church was built between 1869 and 1874 on the imperial edict of Sultan Abdülmecit to serve Christian visitors and expatriate communities. It is still functioning and its sumptuous decorations and the splendid depictions of St. Andrea, St. Petro and St. Eugene on the north and west walls are foci of interest.

St. Anna (Küçük Ayvasıl) Church

This is the oldest church in Trabzon, located on the Maraş Street. Above the entrance portal, there is a Byzantine relief and an inscription relating the story of repair work undertaken during the reign of Basil I in 884-885. The church has a basilica plan with three naves and three apses.

St. John Church

St. John Church, built at the beginning of 13th century, is located in Hızırbey Neighbourhood. It was substantially repaired in mid-19th century and again at the end of 20th century. At present it serves the public as a multipurpose hall.

Vazelon Monastery

The monastery, set amid a pine forest, is 35 kilometres from Trabzon city centre. Its foundation date remains unknown, but some researchers believe that it was founded between 270 and 317 AD. The monastery was repaired in 565, during the reign of the Emperor Justinian, and since then it has gone through many repairs and alterations.

The monastery, which was dedicated to St. John the Baptist, was abandoned in 1923. The structure which can be visited today contains the church and monks' rooms dating back to the 19th century.

Kaymaklı Monastery

This monastery is 3 kilometres from Trabzon. It was built in the 15th or 16th century, and devoted to Jesus Christ. It was repaired in the 18th century. It is the only Armenian monastery in Trabzon. There is a striking inscription on the outer wall of the building.

Sumela (Virgin Mary) Monastery

This Greek Orthodox Church and Monastery Complex, Panagia Soumela or Theotokos (Mother of God) Soumela, was built 1,200 metres above the sea level, on Mount Mela, on the western banks of the Panagia (Virgin Mary) Stream. Today the monastery is in Altındere Village, Maçka County of Trabzon Province.

The drive to the monastery from Trabzon city centre takes about 45 minutes. It is a steep climb.

The monastery was first established in the 4th century AD. It was repaired and extended during the Komnenos Dynasty. The complex assumed its present-day form during the reign of Emperor Alexios III.

The monastery complex encompasses a cave where the church was built, a holy fountain, student cells, ancillary buildings, and a guest room. Further extensions were added in 19th century.

The main unit of the monastery is the rock church. Its exterior walls are decorated with frescoes depicting biblical scenes from the lives of Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary. This is the most visited religious site in Trabzon.











Kızlar Monastery (Panagia Theoskepasti)

This monastery on the southern slope of Boztepe hill was likely built in 14th or 15th century. The structure was enlarged in the 19th century. The tallest part of the monastery contains the mausoleum of Constantine I of Georgia.

Kuřtul Monastery (Gregorios Peristera)

This monastery, in Kuřtul (řimřirli) Village of Maça County, sits on a hilltop with commanding views of the surrounding area. The monastery, built in 752, was built around a rock church and holy spring.

Zaęnos Bastion

This rectangular-plan bastion was built with cut stones during the reign of Emperor Alexios II. Once used as a prison, the building now serves the public as the İsmail Hakkı Berkmen History Library.





CARAVAN SERAIS AND THE COVERED BAZAAR

Taşhan Inn

İskender Pasha, the Governor of Trabzon during 1531-1533, commissioned this inn. The building has been repaired and altered several times.

The walls are built of dressed stone blocks, while the portico arches and vault dome are made of bricks. During the repairs undertaken in 1980, the original tile roof was replaced with a concrete mosaic.

Vakıf Inn (Gön Inn, Attar Inn)

The city caravanserai, or inn, is situated to the northwest of the Covered Bazaar. It was built as part of a religious complex, and the inscription on the wall of the nearby mosque indicates that it was commissioned by the benefactor Hadji Yahya in 1781.

It is a three-storey high building constructed around a courtyard.

Alaca Inn

This inn is situated in Bakırcılar Neighbourhood. We have no firm information about its construction date, but the inn and the next door Alaca Bathhouse are believed to have been built in the 18th century.

The inn is a three-storey structure built around a rectangular courtyard. The quality of the inn's masonry is readily apparent.

The Covered Bazaar (Bedesten)

The Covered Bazaar, the oldest commercial building in the city, is situated in the centre of Trabzon market. It is thought that the Genoese built the structure, which was substantially repaired during the Ottoman Era. With its single dome, the structure is unique among the Covered Bazaars of Turkey. At present it is used as storage for firewood.

BATHHOUSES

Sekiz Direkli (Eight Pillar) Bathhouse

This bathhouse is located in Pazarkapı Neighbourhood. The building's architectural features date it in the 18th century. The Municipality of Trabzon has completed extensive repairs.

It has a dressing room, and warm and hot bathing sections.

Paşa Bathhouse

İskender Pasha, the Governor of Trabzon in the 16th century, likely commissioned this bathhouse, which was built between 1521 and 1533. It is located on the south side of the Çarşı Mosque, and was built as a twin bathhouse for male and female customers.

Meydan Bathhouse

Commissioned by its benefactor, the Kazazade family, at the end of 19th century, it was built as a twin bathhouse for male and female customers. Only the dressing room section remains in its original shape.

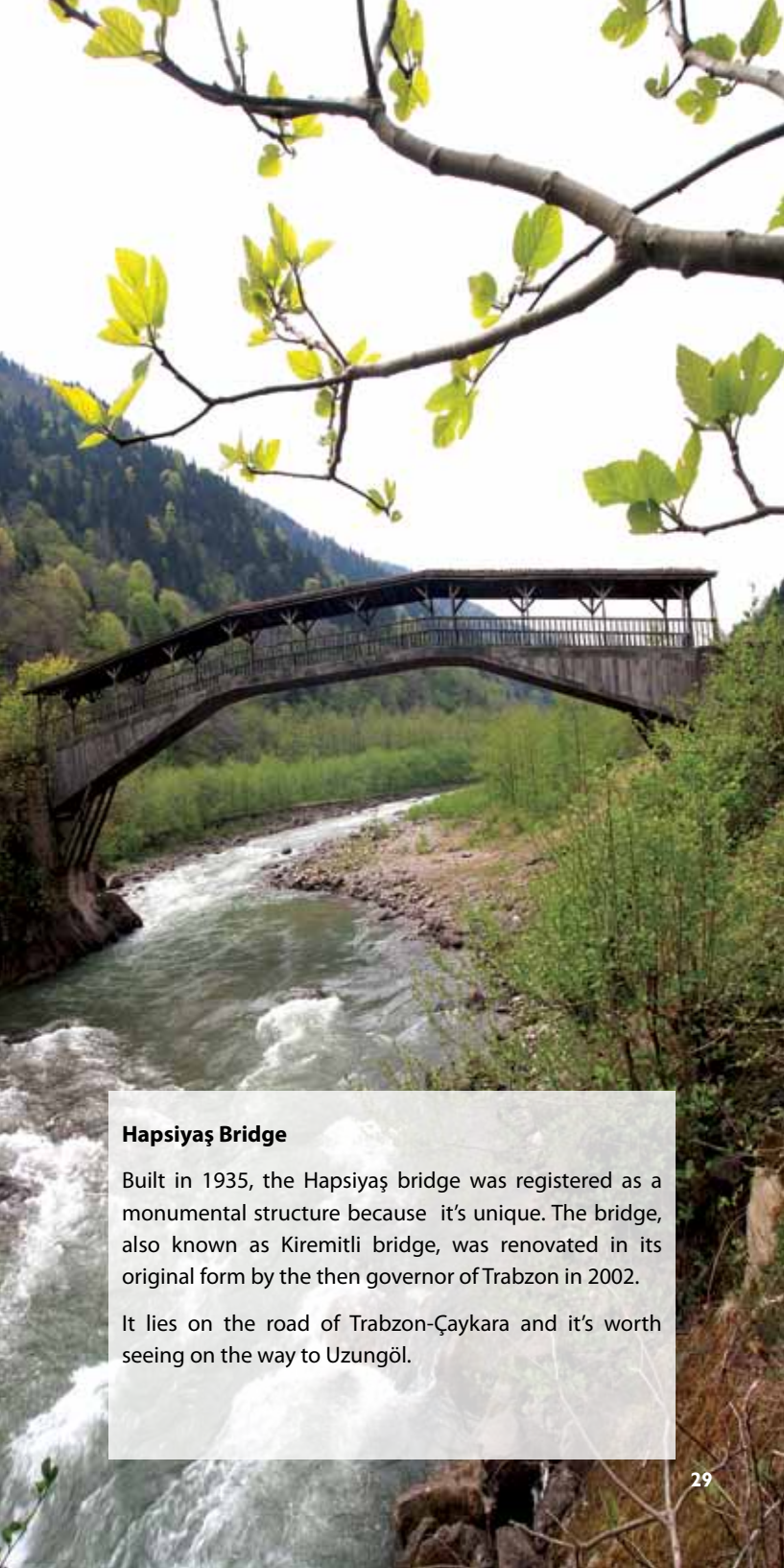
BRIDGES, FOUNTAINS AND AQUEDUCTS

Zağnos Bridge

The bridge connects Ortahisar and Atapark neighbourhoods. The workmanship of its imposts indicates Late Roman or Early Byzantine era construction. Studies have found four different stages of construction. It was substantially repaired in the 15th century by the contributions of Zağnos Pasha, and further repairs were also undertaken.

Tabakhane Bridge

The bridge connects Ortahisar and Atapark neighbourhoods, and spans a small stream. It is located on the same highway as Zağnos Bridge. The bridge assumed its present shape after various repairs and enlargement works. The initial construction was believed to have been in the 1st century AD. Evliya Çelebi has argued that it was built during the Karakoyunlu Era. The present structure of the bridge is Ottoman, following a 19th century renovation.



Hapsiyaş Bridge

Built in 1935, the Hapsiyaş bridge was registered as a monumental structure because it's unique. The bridge, also known as Kiremitli bridge, was renovated in its original form by the then governor of Trabzon in 2002.

It lies on the road of Trabzon-Çaykara and it's worth seeing on the way to Uzungöl.

Değirmendere Bridge

The Nemlizade family commissioned this four arched bridge in 1891. There is also an overflow arch on the western side.

Abdullah Pasha Fountain

The fountain is situated on the eastern entrance to the Zağnos Pasha Bastion. The fountain's original site was in present-day Taksim Square, but it was removed during the road enlargement works, and later placed in its present position. The fountain was commissioned in 1844 by Haznedarzade Abdullah Pasha, the Governor of Trabzon, and built as a marble structure. It has a rectangular plan, designed in the Imperial style. Its carved rosettes with arboreal motifs and acanthus leaves, and the Arabic and Persian inscriptions, make this historic structure one of the best example of Empire style fountains.

Abdülhamit Fountain

This fountain was built at the İskender Pasha Neighbourhood in 1891 to commemorate Sultan Abdülhamit. The rectangular fountain was built with cut stone masonry, and the imperial calligraphic signature of Sultan Abdülhamit II was placed above the faucets. The base and capital of columns were decorated with acanthus leaves.

İmaret Stream Aqueduct

The aqueduct, commissioned by the Emperor Justinian (Flavius Petrus Sabbatius Iustinianus, 527–565) AC, is located in the city centre of Trabzon, on the western slopes next to the Trabzon Fortress. It has been repaired many times, and the present structure was built in 13th century. The aqueduct is approximately 30 metres long and 7 meters high. It has five arches, and is built with cut stone masonry.

Kuzgundere Aqueduct

The aqueduct spans Kuzgundere stream to the east of the Trabzon Fortress. It is a 13th century structure, built with rubble and cut stone masonry. 8 metres long and 6 meters high, the aqueduct is also known as the “İnce Köprü” (Slender Bridge).

Kavaklı Aqueduct

The aqueduct is located in the Yenicuma Neighbourhood and it is believed to be a 13th century structure. The 20 metres long and 7 metres high aqueduct was built with rubble and cut stone masonry.

MANSIONS AND HOUSES



There are several architecturally impressive mansions and houses situated throughout the city. They have reached our times without substantial alterations or renovations.

We recommend that you visit the following mansions and houses:

- Memişağa Mansion House
- Yarımbıyıklıoğlu House
- Kundupoğlu House
- Çakırağa Mansion House
- Nemlizada Mansion House
- Orta Neighbourhood - Akçaabat Houses
- Ortahisar Houses





Memişağa (Kastel) Mansion

Memişağa Mansion is located to 4 km east of the Sürmene district on the main highway. Major part of the mansion was stone, but it is famous for its woodwork and it is two storeyed. It is supposed to have been dated back to the 18th century.

Yarımbyıkoğlu House

It is in the Pazarkapı Neighbourhood. This two storied house has an outer hall. Its inscription informs us that it was built in 1706.

Kundupoğlu House

It is located to the south of Yarımbyıkoğlu House. Small part of the house has survived to the present day. Dating back to the 18th century, it was originally planned with an outer hall. Upper room which has been repaired recently has plaster, wood carving and handpainting ornamentations.

Çakırağa Mansion

The house which is located in the Sıraağaç village of Of is the town of Trabzon, was built at the beginning of 19th.century by İsmailağa. It was built on a hillypoint by a rectangular plan and ashlar

Some parts been renewed of bulding, and has a ground-floor and one more floor

Nemlizade Mansion

The construction of this mansion was started by Nemlizade Hacı Ahmet Efendi in Gazi Paşa Neighbourhood and completed in 1892.

The mansion which includes four storied and separate quarters for women and men reflects the European style of that period. Wall panels with Kütahya tiles decorate the living room and other rooms on the women quarter's ground floor.



Akçaabat Ortamahalle (District)

Some of the settlement areas in Turkey which feature sample houses have survived to the present day without important changes. Akçaabat-Orta Neighbourhood is a remarkable one among these areas in the Black Sea Region.

Ortahisar Houses

What makes Ortahisar Houses in Trabzon built according to traditional Turkish architecture. These houses are very specific considering their urban structures and their architectures. Old houses are the structural cornerstones of Turkish urban culture which formed in hundreds of years and are still living at the present day. Along with Ortahisar Touristic Purpose Special Planning Region and Zağnos Valley the touristic monuments, however the fortress and Turkish Architectural structure have been revealed.









KEMENÇE- HORON- FOOTBALL

Kemençe

The dominant musical instrument of the Eastern Black Sea Region is the *kemençe*, which comes from the family of bowed string instruments that includes the Byzantine Lyra and Arabic Rebab, the common ancestors of the violin. This traditional folk instrument has three steel strings and it is played with a bow strung with a ribbon of horse hair. It is also known as the Black Sea Kemençe or Kemençe of Laz.

Football

Football is the most popular sport in the city. The city's principal football club with the official team colours of maroon and blue, Trabzonspor, has played an important role in promoting the city and Turkey in the international arena.

Horon

This is a rhythmic and lively line-dance featuring quick steps and the fast shaking of the upper torso, accompanied by kemençe music.



ALTERNATIVE TOURISM OPTIONS

High Pastures

Araklı-Pazarcık Tourism Centre

The tourism centre is located along the Karadere Stream, 43 kilometres south of Araklı. The road to Gümüşhane passing through the Yağmurdere Valley, and the road to Bayburt over Aydıntepe Hill meet, at the centre of the village. There is a phone connection and shopping facilities.

Araklı-Yeşilyurt-Yılantaş Tourism Centre

The high pasture is 64 kilometres outside Trabzon, and 33 kilometres to the Araklı County Seat. A 10-kilometre long metalled (compacted gravel) road reaches the high pasture from Yeşilyurt Town.

Araklı Tourism Centre

This tourism centre is 30 kilometres outside Trabzon city. With its unmatched location, Araklı is one of the most popular tourism centres in Trabzon and it has great tourism potential.

Trabzon Akçaabat-Karadağ Tourism Centre

The high pasture is accessible by a road from the highway between Vakfikebir and Akçaabat-Düzköy. The road quality is poor. It is named after the Karadağ Peak, at 1,946 meters altitude. There are grocery stores, a cafe, a restaurant and a bakery at the centre.

Trabzon-Tonya-Armutlu-Gümüşhane-Kürtün-Erikbeli Tourism Centre

The tourism centre is 25 kilometres from Tonya, and 34 kilometres from Şalpazarı. Its altitude is 1,800 metres, and food, beverages and shopping and phone connection are available at the high pasture.

Trabzon Maçka-Şolma Tourism Centre

The 22-kilometre dirt road from south exit of Maçka County leads through the Mağura Plateau to the tourism centre. The Plateau is situated at 1,850 metres altitude, and has a grocery, a butcher, cafe facilities and a phone connection.

Trabzon-Giresun Sisdağı Tourism Centre

The plateau, 78 km from Trabzon, is at 1850 metres altitude. At the high pasture, accessible by the road of Şalpazarı-Geyikli, services of food, beverages, and shopping and phone connection are available.

Sera Lake

The high pasture can be reached via a 2-kilometre-long metalled branch road to the south from the junction at the 7th kilometre of the highway from Trabzon to Akçaabat. There is a camping and picnic facility on the shores of Sera Lake, and there are pensions for overnight stays.

Lake Uzungöl (Uzungöl)

The Uzungöl is a declared “Special Environmental Protection Zone”. It is 99 kilometres from Trabzon, and 19 kilometres from Çaykara County. The lake was formed when a landslide dammed the Haldizen Stream, flooding the valley. A spruce forest surrounds the lake, set amid a remarkably rich flora and a pleasing landscape. There is a trekking route along the lake and pedalos are available for hire.







Balıkli Lake

Formed due to the geographical structure of the Region, Lake Balıklı is an ideal spot for recreation and picnicking with its extraordinary natural beauties. It can be reached by Balıklı Göl Akçaabat-Düzköy road leading to Hıdırnebi plateau.

Maçka-Mavura High Pasture

The high pasture is 18.5 kilometres west of Maçka County. Its altitude is 1,800 metres. The dirt road leading to the high pasture passes through a forest, and it is an ideal trekking route. All the necessary facilities are available at the high pasture. Food and beverages are also served during the summer months.

Tonya Kadıralak High Pasture

A metalled road provides access to the high pasture which is within the municipal boundaries. Kadıralak is surrounded by a spruce forest. During the summer season grocers, food and beverage facilities, and all the expected infrastructure services are available.

Maçka-Çakırgöl High Pasture

The dirt road splitting from the junction at the 5th kilometre of the highway from Maçka to Sumela Monastery travels 90 kilometres before arriving at the high pasture. The high pastures of Çakırgöl is at 2,504 metres altitude, and to reach it the road passes through the high pastures of Armutluk, Kırantaş, Akarsu, Ayaksa, Livayda, Kurugöl, Mesaraş, Furnoba, Kasapoğlu, Camiboğazı, Ortaoba, and Deveboynu.

Sazalanı High Pasture

The Sazalanı high pasture is 5 kilometres from the Erikbeli Tourism Centre, and at 1,700 metres altitude. Passenger services to the high pasture are available. All infrastructure services are also available at the high pasture.

Mount Sisdağı High Pasture

A 25 kilometre long road leads through Erikbeli Tourism Centre to the high pasture which is at an altitude of 1,850 metres. Most of the usual infrastructure services are available. There are passenger services departing from Tepebaş, in Şalpazarı.

Kadırga High Pasture

The Kadırga High Pasture is at 2,300 metres altitude. The high pasture is accessible by road, and drivers have several possible routes: via Tonya-Erikbeli, via Kürtün-Erikbeli, via Akçaabat-Düzköy and Hakça Obası, or over a 20-kilometre long metalled road diverging towards the northwest from the Gümüşhane-Trabzon highway at Mount Zigana. Passenger services are also available.







Çatma Obası High Pasture

Çatma Obası is a small high pasture located 9 kilometres south of Kadirga Plateau. There are trekking routes around Erikbeli-Kadirga-Çatma Obası pastures and Zigana Ski Centre. Sites of mythological interest, such as Mızraklı Su (Spear Spring), Şehitler Tepesi (Martyr's Hill) and Çingiraklı Kuyu (Well with a Bell) are within walking distance.



Sultan Murat High Pasture

With an altitude of 2,000 metres, this plateau is 25 kilometres from the Çaykara County Seat, and 54 kilometres from Mount Aydıntepe. In the plateau, all the regular infrastructure services are available.



Hıdırnebi High Pasture

The high pasture is 45 minutes drive from Trabzon, at an altitude of 1,600 metres. The surrounding forest has a rich wild life, and pensions, food and beverage services will be found at the centre of Kuruçam Village.

Akçaabat-Karadağ High Pasture

Accessible via a 30 kilometres road that splits off from the Akçaabat- Düzköy highway, the high pasture is at the altitude of 1,880 metres. The high pasture has pensions, and food and beverage services.

Düzköy Plateau (Haçka Obası)

The plateau is at an altitude of 1900 meters, and reached by a 12 km dirt road from Düzköy district to the south. Electricity, water springs, postal service, butcher, greengrocer, bakery and pension are all available on the plateau.

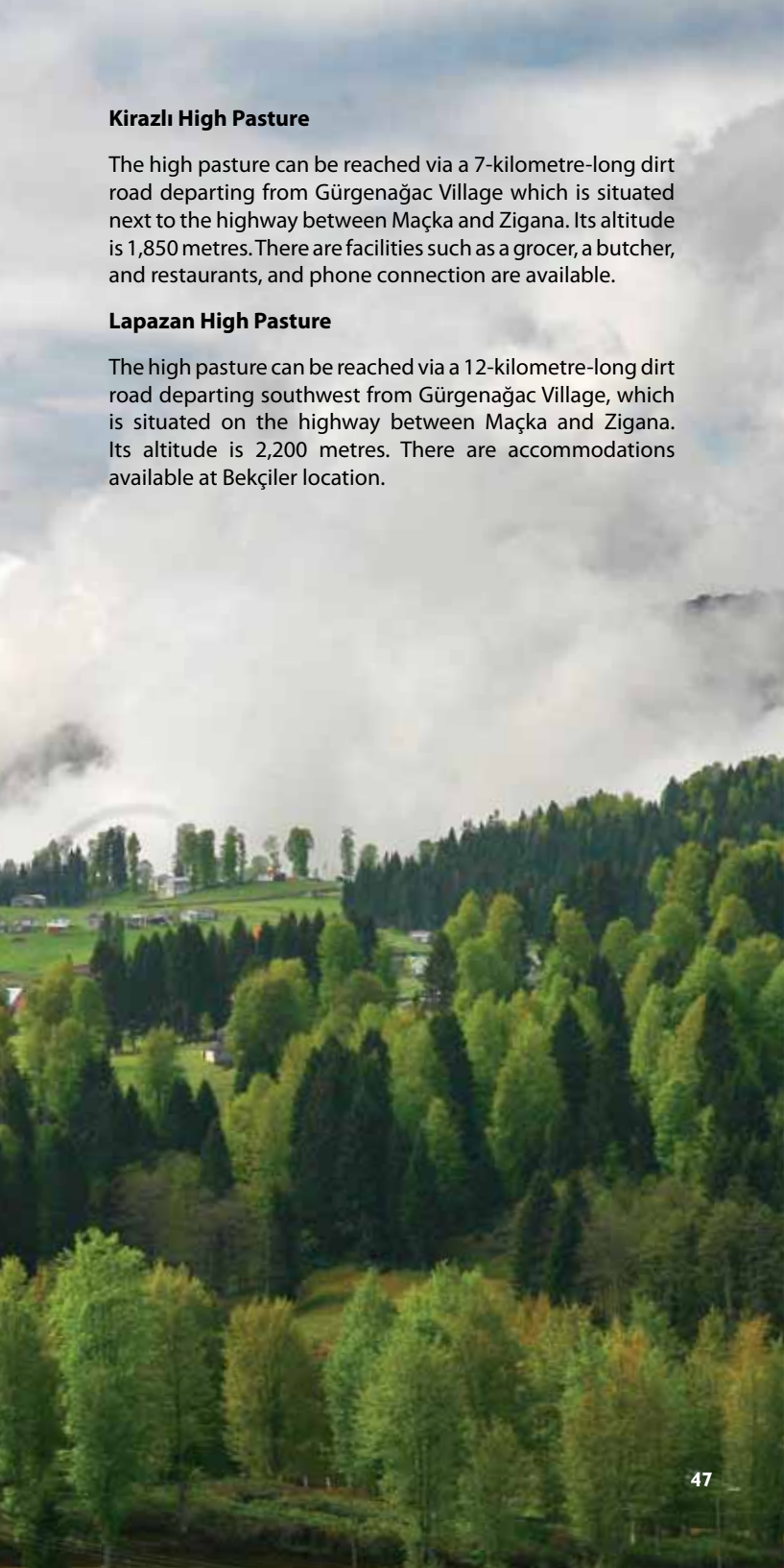


Kirazlı High Pasture

The high pasture can be reached via a 7-kilometre-long dirt road departing from G rgenağac Village which is situated next to the highway between Maka and Zigana. Its altitude is 1,850 metres. There are facilities such as a grocer, a butcher, and restaurants, and phone connection are available.

Lapazan High Pasture

The high pasture can be reached via a 12-kilometre-long dirt road departing southwest from G rgenağac Village, which is situated on the highway between Maka and Zigana. Its altitude is 2,200 metres. There are accommodations available at Bekiler location.







Mountaineering and Trekking



Mountaineering Routes

- Uzungöl Lake
- Demirkapı
- Karakaya



Jeep Safari

- Uzungöl
- Demirkapı
- Karakaya



Paragliding

- Uzungöl- Karastel Tepesi
- Uzungöl- Karaçımah Tepesi
- Akçaabat-Karadağ Hıdırnebi
- Düzköy-Çalköy Beldesi Doğankaya Çayırbağı
- Trabzon-Akyazı Beldesi



Trekking Routes

- Maçka-Ocaklı-Kulindağı -Figanoy Plateau-Lişer Plateau
- Lişer Plateau - Kayabaşı Plateau -Haçka Plateau in the district of Düzköy
- Çaykara Uzungöl Location-Karastel Plateau- Şekersu Plateau
- Altındere Valley in Maçka district-Sumela Cami Boğazı-Lake Çakırgöl
- Lake Çakırgöl Zigana Pass-Hamsiköy (Ancient historic road) in the district of Maçka

Paragliding

The province has several locations suitable for paragliding:

- Uzungöl Karastel Hill
- Uzungöl- Karaçımah Hill (Yente) - Çayıroba
- Hıdırnebi (High Pasture City) slopes
- Çayırbağı

Jeep - Safari

Routes:

- Trabzon - Beşikdüzü - Şalpazarı - Sisdağı mountain - Erikbeli - Kadirga- Haçka-Kayabaşı- Şolma Tourism Centre
- Trabzon - Maçka - Sumela Monastery - Camiboğazı -Taşköprü - Yağmurdere - Pazarcık Tourism Centre - Soğanlı Pass- Uzungöl - Anzer - Çoruh Valley
- Akçaabat-Düzköy-Kayabaşı Plateau - Lişer High Pasture -Şolma Tourism Centre - Maçka
- Trabzon - Vakfıkebir - Tonya - Erikbeli - Kürtün - Örümcek Forest - Torul Karaca Cave – Mount Zigana - Maçka - Trabzon
- Trabzon - Araklı - Dağbaşı- Aydıntepe - Underground City- Demirkapı Lakes - Uzungöl - Çaykara - Of - Trabzon
- Trabzon - Arsin - Yanbolu - Santa Ruins- Gümüşhane- İkisü - Torul - Mount Zigana - Maçka - Trabzon

Caving

Çalköy Cave

The cave is in Çalköy location of Düzköy. A 150 metres long gallery leads to a chamber with stalactites and stalagmites. The cave, with a small stream and a fall, which is narrow in some sections and wide in some others is open to visitors in all seasons, and the deepest parts of the cave remain unexplored.

Akarsu Village Cave

The cave is in the territory of Akarsu Village of Maçka. Discoveries in the cave indicate that it was once used as a dwelling. No detailed exploration work has been carried out, but there are thought to be 72 chambers. Water streams through parts of the cave, which has many fine stalactites.

Camping and Caravanning

There are camping and caravanning facilities in most of the high pastures.

- Akçaabat- Hıdırnebi High Pasture City - at the 45th kilometre of the road between Akçaabat and Trabzon.
- Maçka Coşandere Camp Site - at the 5th kilometre on the road to Sumela Monastery.
- Maçka Sumela Camp Site - at the 2nd kilometre on the road to Sumela Monastery.
- Maçka Verizana Camp Site - at the 2nd kilometre on the road to Sumela Monastery.
- Uzungöl İnan Kardeşler Camp Site - Gölbaşı Uzungöl
- Uzungöl Kofuoğlu Facilities

Sports Rod Fishing

Sports fishing enthusiasts can unpack their rods by the streams and lakes of Trabzon Province. Carp and trout are the most sought after fish.

Bird Watching

The Trabzon high pastures and especially Altındere National Park provide suitable venues for bird watching enthusiasts. The National Park is within the borders of Maçka County, and is home to wonderful wealth of biodiversity. Lucky birdwatchers will see birds of prey such as buzzards, falcons, and eagles.

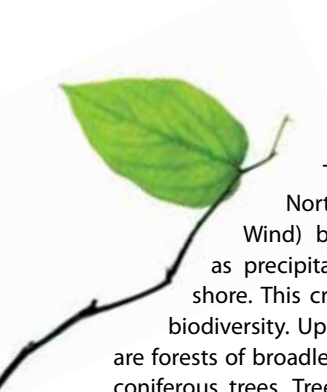












Rich Flora

The prevailing wind of the region is Northwesterly (known as *Karayel* – Black Wind) bringing the humidity of Black Sea as precipitation to the hills that lie along the shore. This creates the conditions for a wealth of biodiversity. Up to an altitude of 1,200 metres there are forests of broadleaved trees, and higher up forests are coniferous trees. Tree species such as spruce, fir, beech, scots pine, alder, and chestnut are common.

There are 440 endemic plant species in the region.

Wild Life

The forests of Trabzon Province are home to wild animals including deer, roe deer, brown bear, jackal, badger, wolf, fox, wild boar, chamois and marten. Such animals can be found on the southern slopes of Araklı County, and on higher slopes of Maçka County.





Congress Venues

In Trabzon, the 4 and 5 star hotels as well as the multipurpose halls operated by the universities, and public institutions provide a comprehensive service for congresses, panels, symposiums and sports contests.

Fairs and Road-shows

The World Trading Centre situated at Kaşüstü-Şana hosts domestic and international trade fairs.

PROTECTED ZONES

Uzungöl Nature Park

The Nature Park is 95 kilometres to Trabzon and 19 kilometres to Çaykara. It has a rich flora, stunning wild life and outstanding natural beauty, and in 1989 its 1,625 hectares of land was declared a Nature Park. There are accommodation facilities, picnic areas, and trekking routes in the park.

Altındere National Park

The National Park is set amid the rich flora and fascinating geomorphologic formations of the Altındere Valley. The Sumela Monastery is part of the park.



The National Park makes the beauty of nature accessible to the public through accommodation, picnicking areas, trekking routes and shopping facilities.

Natural Monuments of Trabzon

The Örümcek Forest is home to several 400-year-old spruce and fir trees, which have been declared natural monuments and taken under special protection.

GASTRONOMİ

Trabzon has its own rich cuisine. In addition to Hamsi (anchovy), which is made into 40 different dishes, Trabzon's cuisine includes its peculiar tasty foods such as stuffed corn (mısır sarması), stuffed cabbage with meat (etli lahana sarması), hamsi pita, hohol pita (hohollu pide), chard twisting (pazı burmalısı), hamsi pilaf, corn meal mush (kuymak), suböreği, thin dough dessert (yufka tatlısı), lazish dessert, gulya, fried pickle (turşu kavurması), stew of chard (pazı pilakisi), fried cabbage (lahana kavurması), omelet made with cheese (kaygana), hamsi birds, corn soup, nettle soup (ısırgan çorbası), hamsi bread, Trabzon kebab, sweet rice puding of Hamsiköy, zumur, kaz kaldıran, hoşmeli, Comara (tomara), hamsi stew (hamsi pilaki), milky pumpkin (sütlü kabak), vegetable dish with yogurt and rice (borani), hamsi popped in hot oil (hamsi çıtlatması), and grilled hamsi. Trabzon's local meals are available at the restaurants In different part of the city.



HANDCRAFTS

Gold and Silver Smiths

In Trabzon the goldsmiths who make the unique style of hand-woven belts, bracelets, necklaces and armbands have prime position. Also filigree (*telkari*) technique is used for various beautiful items such as cockades, buckles, picture frames, and teaspoons. Another local technique is spun metallic threads (*kazaz*) where a silk thread is used as the core and a flat golden or silver strip spun around it. Then the thin golden or silver spun thread is passed through the eye of a needle and many jewellery items can be woven.



The Coppersmiths of Trabzon

In Trabzon the workshops still clank as artisans form traditional copper, bronze and brass utensils and decorative items. The city's port and trade links with foreign countries allow local coppersmiths to export their products across the globe. The utensils include cauldrons, buckets, ewers, jugs, milk pitchers, pans and lids for frying anchovies, tankards, shallow lightweight pans with two side handles and a lid, pots, and brasiers.

Stonework

Architectural decorations as well as mill stones, stone hand mills, and carved stone baking pots (*pileki*) are also produced albeit on smaller scale. The stone hand mills are used for rough milling or cracking maize and wheat, while "*pileki*" is a round shaped hand carved stone pot used for baking bread under the ashes and ambers of fire in the open hearths of old houses, where leaves of walnuts or chestnuts, or lately a round piece of sheet metal, placed over the dough, act as a lid.

Woodworking

In the forested surroundings wood is used as the principal construction material as well as for many household and kitchen utensils. The primary example is the several sizes of cutlery and food preparation utensils carved out of boxwood.

Weaving

As throughout Anatolia, weaving in Trabzon has lost the primary position it had about a century ago. However, there

is still a demand for fabrics used in daily life, in rural clothing as well as products for the tourist trade. Demand for the *peřtamal* (bath cloth in cotton or linen and apron type warp over daily cloths woven in hemp), and the *keřan* (cotton cloths where waft yarns are dyed in successive different colours to create the design) sustains the craft.

Knife Making

While Sürmene was renowned as a centre of knife making, especially the ornamented daggers worn by men with the traditional dress, nowadays only a few masters continue producing knives on special order. These days, kitchen knives and tea harvesting shears are the most commonly produced items.



LOCAL ACTIVITIES

There are many festivals in the city and at the high pastures during the summer season between May and September.

Details of these festivals can be obtained by calling the Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism or at the tab of "High Pastures and City Festivals" of the website <www.trabzonkulturturizm.gov.tr>.

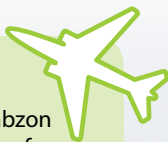


DO YOU KNOW THAT?

- The colonists from Miletus named the city TRAPEZUS, since the seaward appearance resembles a trapezium; ; it's also rumored that the city was called ' Tuğraboza' in Evliya Çelebi's travel book.
- The Ottoman Sultan Süleyman the Magnificent lived in Trabzon until he was 15 years old;
- Ayşe Gülbahar Hatun, the Mother Sultana of Ottoman Sultan Selim I, the Grim, died in Trabzon in 1505, and is entombed in the gardens of the mosque dedicated to her;
- Atatürk, founder of the Republic of Turkey, wrote part of his last will and testament in Trabzon.



TRANSPORT



In addition to the airport and seaport, Trabzon is easily reached by road, providing options for passenger and freight access.

The coach terminus is 1.5 kilometres from the city centre.

The Port of Trabzon is 1 kilometre outside the city centre. There are fast ferryboat services to the Russian port of Sochi, a journey of about 5 hours and on the other hand, an average voyage there takes about 12 hours

Trabzon Airport is the largest airport in the region. It is 2 kilometres outside the city centre.

SHOPPING



Shops selling gold and silver filigree jewellery line the cobble stone Kemeraltı Street, and the gold and silversmiths are hard at work in the markets. There are also several modern shopping centres in the city catering to all types of shopping needs.

ACCOMMODATION



There are many accommodation facilities certified as Touristic Establishments, and licensed by the municipality. The region has four and five star hotels.



DO NOT LEAVE UNLESS YOU HAVE:

- Visited the Fortress of Trabzon, the best preserved fortification in the region, which lies from the sea shore to the top of the hill;
- Visited the Museum of Atatürk located at Soğuksu, 7 kilometres to the southwest of the city, which is an example of 19th century civic architecture, given Atatürk by the people of Trabzon;
- Visited the Arsenal which is also known as the Tower of Fatih or Tower of Irena;
- Taken part in one of the festivals if you visit during the summer;
- Visited Sumela Monastery under its blanket of winter snow if you visit during the winter;
- Tasted stuffed kale rolls, anchovy and vegetable omelette at the shops on the road to Sumela Monastery, and sweet rice pudding in Hamsiköy;
- Hiked around Uzungöl Lake;
- Tasted trout with butter sauce and other specialities of the Black Sea cuisine;
- Visited and walked around the Sera Lake;
- Visited the Ayasofya Museum, which brings the 13th century alive through the distinctive features of Seljuk, Byzantine, and Georgian architectural styles;
- Visited the two (Archaeology and Ethnography) sections of Museum of Trabzon which are housed in an early 20th century mansion house with many important artistic and architectural features, and decorations;
- Enjoyed a tea from samovar at a cafe in Boztepe Hill overlooking the panorama of Trabzon, the expanses of the Black Sea and a magnificent sunset;
- Listened to the waves whispering against the coast at Ganita;
- Visited the Çal Cave which has one of the longest accessible galleries of among the natural caves of Turkey;
- Visited the Trabzon Houses at Ortahisar Neighbourhood.

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Governor's Office	Tel: + 90 462 230 19 66
Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism	Tel: + 90 462 326 07 48
<i>E-mail: info@trabzonkulturturizm.gov.tr</i>	
<i>Website: www.trabzonkulturturizm.gov.tr</i>	
Tourism Information	Tel: + 90 462 326 47 60
Museum Directorate	Tel: + 90 462 322 38 22
Municipality	Tel: + 90 462 322 46 01
Police Station	Tel: +90 462 230 19 85
Culturel Directorate of Municipality	Tel: +90 462 322 22 21
Library	Tel: +90 462 230 21 16
Türkiye Seyahat Acen. Birl.	Tel: +90 462 230 24 24
Karadeniz Profesyonel Turist Rehberler Derneği	Tel: +90 462 326 63 37
Seaways	Tel: +90 462 321 70 10
Fire Emergency	110
Ambulance Emergency	112
Police Emergency	155
Gendarmerie Emergency	156

Car Hire

There are car hire agencies at the airport and city centre. Contact details can be obtained by calling the Tourism Information.

Distances to the high pastures City / town - Km - Altitude

Adı	İl / İlçe	Km	Rakım
Şolma T.M.	Maçka	48	1800
Erikbeli T.M.	Tonya	92	1800
Karadağ T.M.	Akçaabat	61	1800
Pazarcık T.M.	Araklı	81	930
Yeşilyurt Yılantaş T.M.	Araklı	66	2035
Araklı T.M.	Araklı	33	200
Uzungöl	Çaykara	100	1090
Hıdırnebi	Akçaabat	34	1600
Kuruçam	Akçaabat	46	1600
Sazalan	Tonya	97	1700
Sisdağı	Şalpazarı	80	1850
Haçkaobası	Düzköy	55	1900
Lişer	Maçka	54	1850
Sultanmurat	Çaykara	116	2100



Cultural Heritage is Fragile

The world's cultural heritage is like a big puzzle. Each monument, each object, is an irreplaceable part of the overall picture which gives us insight into our origins, our development and our lives today. It helps us to understand and appreciate other cultures. Each discovery, each new interpretation adds to the puzzle and makes the picture clearer. We must ensure the protection of every single piece today, so that future generations may have the opportunities to enjoy the puzzle.

Many people are not aware that our cultural heritage is under stress from natural disasters such as earthquakes and floods, and from slower acting processes such as pollution or human actions. Even the most innocent gestures such as collecting ancient pieces of pottery or mosaics as souvenirs have a destructive impact if repeated by thousands. Touching an object of stone, metal or textile leaves traces of grease, acid or sweat on its surface. Climbing a monument wears down the structure underneath and can dismantle it. Writing or engraving names inflicts permanent damage. Strolling around narrow crowded places with bulky bags or backpacks might knock over an object or scratch a mural painting and ruin it. There are countless ways in which one can unknowingly contribute to the destruction of cultural heritage.

In 2020 there will be 1.6 billion visitors per year worldwide. Let us raise awareness of this issue so that we may join together to protect and enjoy the diversity and richness of our cultural heritage.

International Organization for Conservation of Cultural Heritage (ICCROM)

İŞARETLER / LEGENDS

- Köyler / Villages
- Belde / Suburban Centre
- İlçe / District Centre
- Yayla / Highpasture
- İl Merkezleri / Provincial Centre
- T.M. Turizm Merkezi / Tourism Centre
- Türkçe Tesis / Tourism Facilities
- Manastır / Monastery
- Majara / Cave
- Plaj / Beach

KARADENİZ BLACK SEA



DENİZ
KSEA





A historical port city with great natural beauties: Trabzon





Directorate of Culture and Tourism
Eski Vilayet Binası, Ortahisar
TRABZON
www.trabzonkulturturizm.gov.tr
info@trabzonkulturturizm.gov.tr
+90(462) 326 07 48
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