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The Konya News

Monthly

$3 / ₺60

YEAR: 3 • VOL: 26 www.thekonyanews.com KONYA, SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 2024

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"Decrease in Crime Rates" New Governor İbrahim Akın is in Office!

The City should be on Mayor's Agenda



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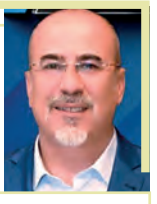
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Mevlevi Dishes



The 'prescriptions' given by the great Islamic scholar Rumi in his works are still an important part of Konya cuisine today...

The famous Islamic thinker Rumi chose most of his symbols from nature while explaining his philosophy of life. Foods are also among these symbols. The phrase "I was raw, I was cooked, I was burned", mentioned in Mevlana's work Divan-ı Kebir, which collects his divine love poems, is an example of this. In addition to the information about Sufism, the famous scholar's food recipes are also a gift from the food culture of his time...



Kerem İŞKAN
Executive Editor

New Tourism Routes in Konya

Konya's three central district municipalities are trying to make Konya an important destination on the Turkish Tourism Routes by huge investments on different areas of tourism. With the completion of Konya Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay's Dar'ül Mülk Konya Project, Ground Bridge Projects, and Türbe Önü Gold Bazaars projects, Konya has gained a completely different tourism identity.

What and Where to Eat In KONYA?

Local Tastes & Best Addresses



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Cave diversity in Konya attracts the tourists

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Selcuk University Athletes Won 12 Medals at the European Championship!

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Why is Ney Similar to the Perfect Man?

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Cave diversity in Konya attracts the tourists



By Doğa İŞKAN



Çamlık Caves

Balatini Cave in the Çamlık Caves region, located within the borders of Konya's Derebucak district and declared as a national park in 2022, can be explored thoroughly. The lighting and furnishing works carried out in order to bring the cave, which has a spectacular structure, into tourism, have come to an end. The steepness of the land in the area where the cave is located creates suitable habitats for wildlife, and protected wild goats can also be seen in the region. There are nearly 20 large and small caves in the surrounding area.

Güvercinlik: 130 meters vertical cave

Güvercinlik Cave, located at an altitude of 1090 meters in Güneybağ District of Güneyşığı district, is located 130 meters underground. It is possible to come across a wide variety of formations such as stalactites, stalagmites and cave milks in the cave, which can be visited by professionals.

Güneysınır Mayor Ahmet Demir stated that "We are working on the cave, which will contribute to our district in cultural terms. Hopefully, we want to make Güvercinlik Cave more visitable. No one except professional cavers can descend because there is a vertical descent of 130 meters. Its floor is approximately the width of a football field. We held meetings with the ministries, projects are being prepared."

Körükini Cave

This cave, formed by the Uzunsu Stream of Derebucak, is 1 km west of Çamlık District and can be reached by a stabilized road. The entrance has an impressive appearance with a height of 30 m, and there are water-eroded rock



pieces of equal width in the passage. There is a deep lake at the end of the passes, 130 meters ahead.

As you walk by, larger and more slippery rock pieces appear. The cave ceiling is sometimes meters high. The cave continues in similar styles but has exits exceeding the dimensions of 12x12 meters in diameter. Almost a hundred meters before reaching the exit, you will encounter the truly remarkable view on the right of the passage. This section consists of many pools, stalactites and stalagmites. During the summer months, the pool is not full. The depths of the pools are between half a meter and one and a half meters, and the waters are clear. In this part, there are stalactites formed on the ceiling. These make the cave look more beautiful.

Baltaini Cave

It is an active stream cave passing on the right side of the river ledge, which is widely covered with limestone. It is located on the north-facing slope of Uzunsu Valley, above Balat hamlet, and is 6 km away from Derebucak and 5 km from Çamlık District.

Balatini Cave consists of two levels located one above the other. The floor of the fossil arm forming the upper floor is completely covered with cave clay. The main gallery, which is the lower floor and carries water, can be advanced by walking through the water during periods when water is low. Only three potholes, one of which is more than 5 meters deep, can be crossed with passing techniques or by using a boat. Travertines and giant potholes are the beauties of the cave worth seeing. The cave has one entrance and four exits.

"Decrease in Crime Rates"
New Governor İbrahim Akın is in Office!

İbrahim Akın, who has been appointed as the Governor of Konya from the Presidency of the Civil Inspection Board with the decree published in the Official Gazette with the signature of President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, is on his duty.

Governor İbrahim Akın stated that "92 percent of the public order incidents that occurred in Konya in the last two months were clarified. Successful results have been achieved in the operations carried out against organized crime, especially recently, and that the fight against drugs continues uninterruptedly. Noting that operations against crime and criminals have increased in the city. It is our fundamental responsibility to protect and strengthen the peace in Konya."

CRIME RATES DECREASED IN KONYA

Providing information about Konya's public order, Governor Akın said the following in his speech:

"Thanks to the public order activities carried out throughout the province, a visible decrease in crime rates has been achieved. Patrol activities and practices carried out jointly by our police force and gendarmerie have contributed to a significant decrease in crimes such as theft, extortion and fraud. Especially recently, successful results have been achieved in operations against organized crime. Successful and devoted work was carried out in Konya in 2024."



The City should be on Mayor's Agenda

Uğur İbrahim Altay, President of the World Organization of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), also known as the World Union of Municipalities, said regarding the suspension of some mayors: "Nobody should be sorry. No one will allow you to support a structure that is considered a terrorist organization not only by Turkey but also by the European Union and the United Nations, and to do this through the mayor's office."

Mayor Altay spoke as follows at the meeting held in Konya Metropolitan Municipality Stone Building:

"Another agenda of municipalities in Turkey and around the world is



earthquake. Our country has to live with the reality of the earthquake, and we have to take measures accordingly. In this regard, the biggest responsibility is on municipalities and local administrators. But unfortunately, in recent days, our mayors in Turkey have started to talk about almost everything except municipality. We all have political identities. When we are elected, we become candidates from a political party, but there is something we always say and that our citizens know. After we are elected, we take off our badges and put on our Turkish flag. Because we are everyone's mayor now. We need to solve the daily problems of every individual living in the city, increase the standard of living and quality of life, and determine a future vision for our cities. Of course we will do politics, of course we will talk, but politics cannot be our main agenda. Because we are city managers. If the mayor's agenda is not the city, the municipality's agenda is not the city either."

Suluin Cave

There are very large rocks on the polje located between the opposite heights of the Değirmenlik Valley of Derebucak. The upper entrance of the cave is rocky. After passing two ponds after the entrance, you come to the long pond. (150 m) There are 14 cave frescoes with saints and saintess from the Roman period on the walls of the cave.

The width of the cave varies between 3-8 meters, but the height can exceed 20 meters. Deep waters cover the entire expanse of the gorge and can be navigated by a short-oared boat. In some parts, the depth of the water can reach 5 meters. The passage widens further towards the exit. The 10-meter-wide rift, which looks quite spectacular here, is getting wider and wider. Huge expanses have formed around the exit of the cave. There are no visible edges inside the cave. The visitors must have a boat and enter with a boat from the exit. There is access via a stabilized road to the cave exit.

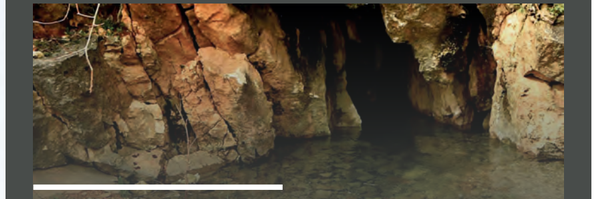




Sakal tutan Cave

You can reach Sakal Tutan Cave, located within the borders of Seydişehir district, at the foot of the Taurus Mountains, which is the Cave Paradise, via Süleymaniye Village on the Mortaş road.

According to the research done in the cave, Sakal Tutan Cave, which is within the vertical cave group and has a depth of 303 meters, ends with a lake. In the cave, which is popularly known as Düden Shroud Threshold, a stream with a very high flow rate occurs in the summer months. The water of the stream originates from the Water Eye located near Değirmenlik Village. The cave, which was first discovered by French cavers, was subjected to extensive research and experiments between 1979 and 1980. The cave, which was mapped in 1979, has not been deeper than 300 meters since then.



Beyşehir Pınarbaşı Cave

Beyşehir Pınarbaşı Cave is located on the southwestern slope of Kızılova Polje, south of Beyşehir Lake. A road branching off from the Beyşehir-Derebucak highway passes through Kızılova Polje and reaches Pınarbaşı Village. The cave is very close to the village. It is a horizontal cave developed on a prominent fault in the Cretaceous limestone. The cave, from which a large karst spring emerges, contains siphuncles and lakes that are difficult to pass through. For this reason, it is a difficult cave to explore. It is also extremely rich in terms of dripstone accumulation.

Within the scope of the "Cave Tourism Project" of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 50 of the more than 20 thousand caves in the country have been opened to tourism so far.

The Konya News

Founded: 19 October 2020
September-October 2024 • Year: 4 • Volume: 26
Published as: Local and Monthly
Price : $3
On behalf of **DOU COMPANY PUBLISHING**

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Fevziçakmak, Hacıbayram Cd. 18
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AN INVESTMENT JOURNEY to THE CENTER of TÜRKİYE



By Ahmet ÖZKAN

The Centre of Logistics

Konya, covering 41,000 km2 in the centre of Anatolia, is located at the foots of the Taurus Mountains, a gateway connecting Central Anatolia to the Mediterranean. Konya, the province with the highest number of neighbour provinces, is surrounded by Ankara, Eskişehir, Karaman, Antalya, Isparta, Afyon, Mersin, Aksaray and Niğde and is neighbour to more than 10 million people. One of the investment advantages of the province is its geographical location. Konya is growing rapidly and shares its earnings with investors while growing through its rich and deep-rooted history, safe location, agricultural industry, young population, urban life and culture, transportation network and advantageous position in the incentive system. Geologically, Konya is among the provinces with the lowest earthquake risk.

It is also possible to reach Ankara, Eskişehir, Kocaeli and Istanbul from Konya by high-speed train connections. It takes about 2 hours to reach Ankara and Eskişehir by high-speed train, while 4 hours and 20 minutes to reach Istanbul. Konya provides flights to Istanbul through its airport, from which there is the opportunity to access many points in the world. Furthermore, there are direct flights to important cities of Europe at certain periods. It is possible to reach 10 million people by a 3-hour highway from the province, which ranks first in the length of divided roads and state highways. It is approximately 350 km from Mersin Port, one of the largest ports in Türkiye.

The City that Stands Out with Its Qualified Workforce

The province with 2.32 million population, is the home of 2.7% population of Türkiye. The "young people" between the ages of 15-24 constitutes 16.2% of its population. It is a province in good standing in terms of education level and qualified workforce, with more than 130,000 students studying at the 5 universities. Konya is at the 4th place in Türkiye regarding the number of teaching staff and the number of university students.

In Konya, there are 379 secondary schools, which is also called "high school". 173 of these schools provide vocational and technical education. Within this regard, 45.6% of secondary schools in Konya are vocational and technical high schools.

Long Industrial History-Strong Structure in Manufacturing

Konya industry has made great progress in various sectors after the 1980s. Among these, machinery manufacturing, automotive spare parts industry, metal casting, food industry, on-vehicle equipment production, plastic-packaging, manufacturing on-board crane equipment, manufacturing agricultural machinery, weapon industry and equipment, and milling machine production stand out as competitive sectors. Some sectors which have developed in the recent past are renewable energy, software, defence industry and pharmaceutical sectors.

Considering the shares of Konya's Gross Domestic Product for 2022, the industry sector has a share of 30.9%, the agricultural sector has a share of 18.8% and the service sector has a share of 39.8%.

Konya is the leading manufacturer of the Turkish market in the metalworking machinery sector, the on-board equipment sector, the agricultural machinery and equipment sector, and hunting rifle production in our country. The province is at the second place in exporting of agricultural machinery and equipment in our country. It ranks the 4th in defence industry exports.

There are totally 25 companies in ISO 1,000. There are also many large companies in this list with production and investment in Konya, although they are registered to another provincial chambers. 4 clustering activities are carried out in automotive sub-industry, casting, agricultural machinery and medical-defence industry areas.

In Türkiye, Konya takes the 4th place in the number of industrial enterprises, 1st in the number of automotive sub-industry; 2nd in the number of machinery-equipment manufacturers, 3rd in the number of basic metal manufacturers and 5th in the number of food manufacturers. Konya is the 1st in the total industrial estate area and in the total industrial area, and 3rd in the total OIZ area in Türkiye. Konya is the province with 108 and it has the 1st place in the number industrial estate areas.

Focusing on developing the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem with Konya Tekno-kent and Inno-Park Konya Technology Development Zones, Konya with 21 R&D Centres and 1 Design Centre, has more than 50,000 workplaces, more than 600 foreign capital companies, 12 Organized Industrial Zones and 108 industrial sites, is an important agriculture, industry and trade centre of our country.



Activities for establishing Kadınhanı OIZ, Yunak OIZ, Cihanbeyli OIZ, Hüyük OIZ and Agricultural Machinery Specialized OIZ (Organized Industrial Zone) Specialized OIZ have also been continuing. There are also 2 Industrial Zones, Karapınar Energy Specialized Industrial Zone and Konya Technology Industrial Zone. Also, Konya has one "private industrial zone". With all these characteristics, Konya is increasing its share in high technology-oriented production and is becoming more and more attractive for investors every day.

One of the largest international fairs of Türkiye is held every year in Konya, with the 5th largest fair centre of Türkiye.

High Capacity in Innovative and Productive

Konya takes the 8th place in the number of patents registered, 5th in the number of trademarks registered, 5th in utility models and 7th in designs. Furthermore, there are 74 products with Geographical Indication in Konya and it is the 2nd in Türkiye.

City with Foreign Trade Surplus

By completing its ongoing projects, our province, which has increased its exports 39 times in the last 24 years, will become the centre of investment, as in many areas. Exporting 3,36 billion dollars to more than 180 countries with more than 3,400 exporting companies, Konya has a foreign trade surplus (1,75 billion dollars). Manufacturing industry constitutes 93.5% of Konya's exports.



Shining Star in Solar Energy

The province is the most suitable region of Türkiye in terms of solar radiation values and sunshine hours. It is exposed to the best radiation (solar radiation) and sunlight in Türkiye. The region, geographically covered with wide plains with suitable slopes, is in a suitable location for investments related to solar energy. Furthermore, one of the richest lignite coal mine reserves (approximately 1.8 billion tons) is located in the Konya-Karaman Region. With the rapidly increasing energy demand, the region also has a great potential in terms of hydroelectric, solar, wind and biomass energy.

The Granary of Türkiye

Konya, the granary of Türkiye, has a total agricultural area and is the leader of Türkiye in terms of total grain production. Konya takes the first place in the production of milk, flour, sugar, wheat, barley, sugar beet, tulip, corn, carrot, vetch, canary grass, sainfoin seed, lupine and canola.

The city takes the second place in producing clover, corn (silage), seeded grape, red cabbage, horse radish, pepino, green lentil, mint, sunflower (appetizers), grass seed, pea and fenugreek in Türkiye.

It takes the 3rd place in the producing sour cherry, cherry, cumin, opium poppy, safflower, clover (seed), fennel, plum tomato, oat, radish and vetch (vicia pannonica). Konya takes the 1st place in the livestock value, animal product value and the number of bovine and cattle (culture); the 2nd place in the number of total ovine and sheep and the 3rd place in the number of laying hens and merinos sheep.

The City of Culture and Tourism

Furthermore, the city which is an important tourism centre and hosts more than 3 million people every year, is also very suitable for investments in faith, culture and nature tourism. It is on the transit route of important tourism centres such as Cappadocia and Antalya. There are 9 five-star and 10 four-star hotels. Mevlana Museum is the most visited museum in Türkiye.



Mevlana's seven advices



One of the first names that come to mind when Konya is mentioned is Mevlana. Mevlana is one of the most important cultural heritages representing Konya. Mevlana is an important Islamic scholar and thinker for both Konya and Islamic history. Mevlana, whose real name is Muhammed Celaleddin, started to be mentioned with this name meaning 'our master' after he started to give lectures in Konya. Mevlana is also known as Rumi. Rumi literally means Anatolia. He was given this name for living in Konya for many years and being one of the important cultural heritages of Anatolia.

Mevlana was born on September 30, 1207, in the Khorasan region of Balkh, located on the borders of Afghanistan. He also belongs to a noble family. His father is Bahaeddin Veled, known as the Sultan of Scholars. Due to the conflict of his father Bahaeddin Veled's thoughts with Fahreddin-i Razi, one of the important philosophers of the period, Mevlana and his family had to emigrate from Khorasan. After Khorasan, he visited many cities such as Baghdad, Mecca, Medina, and Damascus and finally came to Konya.

Although Mevlana is referred to as a mystic, his thoughts were not limited to a single religion and race and influenced many communities and was followed by people from all religions. His works have been translated into many languages and have influenced hundreds of people over the centuries. His works spread beyond the lands he was born and grew up in, earning him the title of "the best-known and best-selling poet in the USA". Mevlana wrote most of his works in Persian. But besides Persian, he has also works in Turkish, Arabic and Greek. His most famous works are; Masnavi, Divan-i Shams-i Tabrizi, Fihi Ma Fihi, Mecalis-i Seb'a and Mektubat. Mevlana's beliefs and teachings have developed around the idea of tawhid. Generally, his works are based on his love and devotion to Allah. Mevlana has seven famous suggestions. Mevlana Celaleddin Rumi stated that "In generosity and helping others: be like the river", "In compassion and grace: be like the sun.", "In concealing others' faults: be like the night.", "In anger and fury: be like the dead.", "In modesty and humility: be like the soil." "In tolerance: be like the ocean." and "Either you appear as you are, or: be as you appear.". One of his best-known works, Masnavi, is a didactic poem written in aruz meter, consisting of 6 volumes and 25618 couplets, written in Masnavi style, and describing the understanding of "unity of existence". In this work, Mevlana tried to explain the Quran more clearly with exemplary stories. One of the most important features of Masnavi is that the stories do not have an end. Another of his best known works is Divan. Mevlana dedicated his work Divan to Shams-i Tabrizi, who had a great influence on the shaping of his thoughts.

Mevlana died on 17 December 1273 in Konya. After Mevlana died, his son Sultan Veled and his student Hüsameddin Çelebi founded the Mevlevi order. Mevlevi order is a human-oriented tariqa which is based on tolerance, sincerity and beauty that developed around Mevlana's teachings and thoughts. Although Mevlana did not lead any tariqa throughout his life, he had a great role in laying the foundations of a tariqa. The foundations of Mevlevi order were laid in Konya. It spread from Konya to Anatolia and then to other regions.

Mevlana Museum is one of the most important cultural symbols of Konya. Mevlana Lodge and Mevlana Tomb started to be exhibited as a museum in 1926. Various artifacts belonging to Mevlana, Mevlana's sarcophagus, Mevlana's cenotaph cover, Masnavi, April Bowl, musical instruments, oil lamps, plates and manuscripts are exhibited in the Mevlana Museum. At the same time, there is a library of manuscripts belonging to the Ottoman, Seljuk and Karamanoğulları periods in the museum. Mevlana Cultural Center organizes Mevlana events at various times of the year. In this center run by Konya Metropolitan Municipality, there are exhibition halls, semahanes (ritual halls), research center, library, and performance stages.











The Death of *Mevlana*

By Zeynep UÇAR



The description of Mevlana during his final days is as follows: He had crescent-shaped open eyebrows, and his large hazel eyes, with a colour between yellow and black, were so sharp and captivating that no one could withstand his gaze. There was a slight redness on his pale wheat-coloured complexion, and fine hairs covered his temples, with a moustache always neatly trimmed and a sandy beard that had streaks of grey. He walked with a slight stoop, weakened by continuous ascetic practices. One day, while in the bath, he looked at his frail body with pity and remarked, "Throughout my life, I have never felt ashamed in front of anyone, but today I am ashamed of this weak body." The writing of the Masnavi had come to an end. However, in his final days, his face had become even paler. His eyes were more distant and profound, and occasional waves of fever came and went. In the last months, he began writing gazelles that spoke of the impending time to depart from this world. One day, while wandering in the courtyard of the madrasa designated for him, he would occasionally sigh and sometimes groan. Suddenly, he fell ill. It was the beginning of November. The illness persisted for about forty days. The two renowned doctors of the Seljuk palace, Physician Mevlana Ekmeleddin and Gazanfer, were in attendance. However, the illness could not be diagnosed. The signs of the illness were high fever and irregular pulse. Yet, he never lost his consciousness, memory, or the ability to be treated. The great patient consoled those around him, saying, "Do not grieve for me; our illness is nothing but a reason to separate from this world." Initially, his most valued disciple, Hüsameddin Çelebi, who had transcribed the Masnavi, his son Sultan Veled, and all his companions, including Şeyh Sadreddin and Qadi Siraceddin, never left his bedside. They constantly endeavored to alleviate his condition by washing his face, head, feet, and chest with cold water. Sometimes, despite the high fever, he continued to recite his most beautiful rubaiyat and gazelles. Regarding Mevlana's illness, one of his esteemed grandsons, Feridun Nafiz, says today: "Despite the pallor of his face, we are not sure whether this is the fever of typhoid or chronic carditis. We personally believe it to be the latter, as the final ailment." On the day before his death, on December 16th, Mevlana had relatively improved. Until the evening, he conversed with those who came to check on him, yet every word seemed like a farewell. That evening, his most faithful friend, Çelebi Hüsameddin, and his beloved son, Sultan Veled, two doctors, and close friends were once again at his bedside. Sultan Veled had not slept for several nights. Mevlana looked at him with aged eyes and, in a weak voice, said, "Bahauddin! Today I feel a bit better; go, rest!" As Sultan Veled left the room with a moved heart, Mevlana recited his final ghazal, and Hüsameddin Çelebi recorded it with tears: "Go! Lay your head on the pillow. Leave this wretched one who writhes in agony alone. We, the waves of love, struggle and strive through the long winter nights. If you wish, bestow your grace with a smile; if you wish, depart and inflict suffering. There is no need to keep promises for the king of the beautiful faces. "Oh faded lover, be patient; be faithful. The one who kills us has a heart as hard as stone. The one who kills us does not suggest any remedy for the price of our blood. There is no solution to this pain other than to die; so how can I say, 'Cure this pain!'?" "Last night, I saw an old man in the neighbourhood of love in my dream. He pointed to me with his head and said, 'Come to our side.' Even if there are dragons on this path, drive away the dragon with the brightness of that emerald! "It's enough now! I am unconscious. If you want to show your skill, tell the history of Ebu Ali Sina; talk about the admonition of Abu al-Ala al-Ma'arri!" This became Mevlana's final ghazal. Mevlana passed away on December 17, 1273, the fifth Sunday of Jumada al-Akhir of the year 672 in the Hijri calendar, while speaking words of truth and wisdom. As some admirers expressed it, "The sun of his majesty set in the western horizon of the holy realm, becoming invisible." In reality, as the Sipahsalar described, he had seated himself at the threshold of eternity, awaiting the opening of the door and his invitation. However, the "sun of Mevlana, which had warmed hearts and enlightened minds for 700 years in Konya," perpetually kept him alive among us. The next morning, Konya was in a serene silence. A grand funeral ceremony was taking place. However, this calm shattered when the time came to lift the casket. As Mevlana's outer shroud, known as the ferace, was brought out, people poured into the streets, flowing in from markets and bazaars, shedding sincere tears as they came to welcome the funeral. At the head of the funeral procession were Sadreddin Konevi, two doctors, Muhiddin Pervane, and all the Seljuk viziers, emirs, professors, and students. According to the Sipahsalars, they circled the casket through the marketplaces, and officials wielding sticks attempted to disperse the crowd. Finally, the casket reached the prayer ground close to the evening prayer. Mevlana had willed for his prayer to be led by Sheikh Sadreddin. However, when Sheikh Sadreddin came forward to lead the prayer, the physician Ekmeleddin advised, "Observe decorum. Mevlana was the true king of these venerable sheikhs, and he has departed." Hearing this, Sadreddin, unable to contain his sorrow, broke into sobs and seemed on the verge of fainting. They had to support him, and in his place, Qadi Siraceddin stepped forward and conducted the prayer. Mevlana's admirers considered that night not as a night of separation but as a night of union. For this reason, they named that night "Şeb-i Arus" (The Night of Union) and celebrated it in their ceremonies. Because, as Mevlana said: "When they pass my bier after my death, do not think that I am concerned with the troubles of this world. When you see my funeral: Do not cry as 'Separation! Separation!' My true meeting with my beloved is at that time. "When they lay me in the grave, do not say, 'Farewell! Farewell!' because the grave is a veil behind which there is the tranquillity of paradises." Mevlana knew this well: "God created me from the wine of love. Even if death crushes me, I will still be that love."

THE OLDEST BREAD IN THE WORLD WAS DISCOVERED IN Çatalhöyük





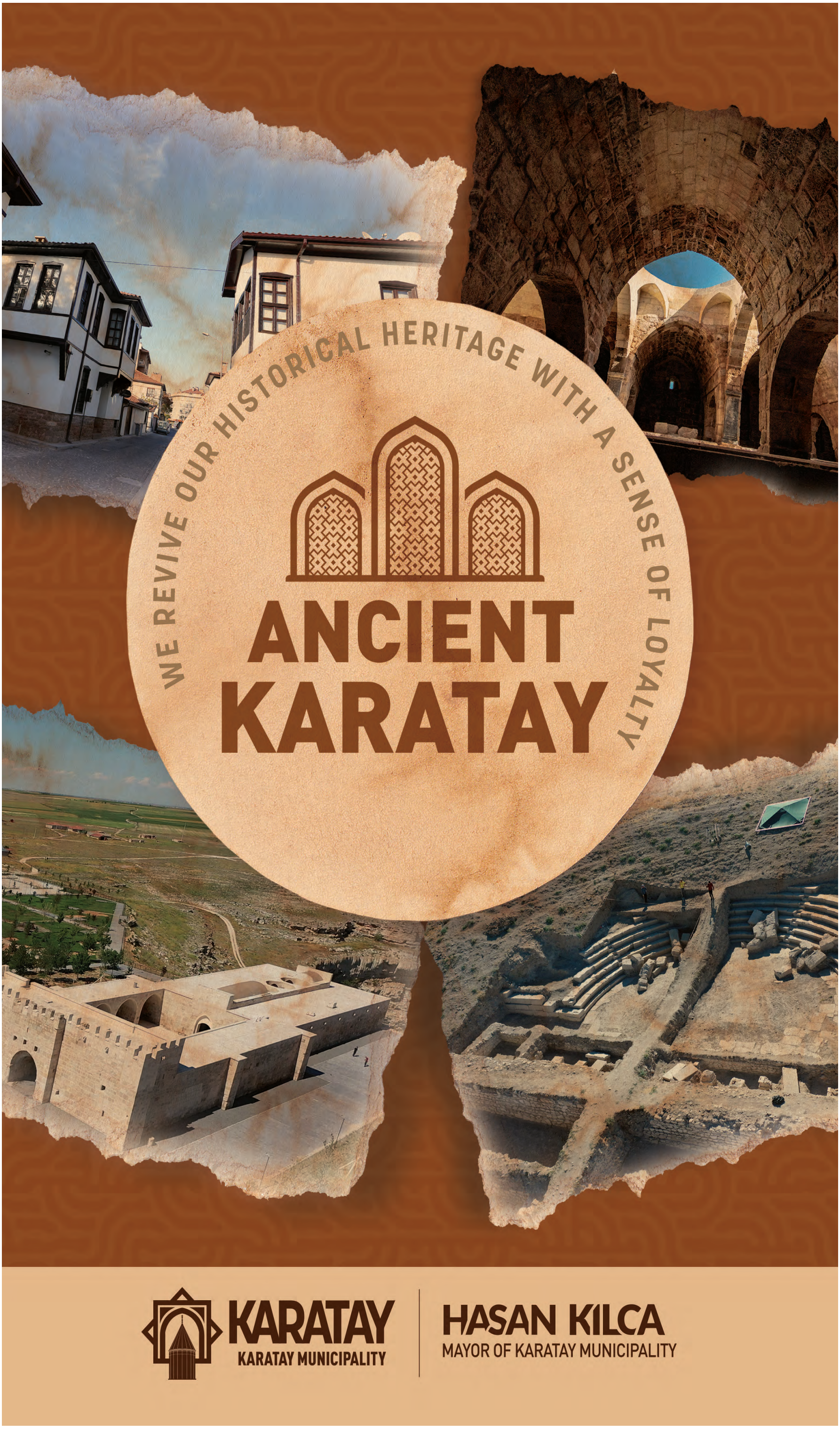
In Çatalhöyük, located in the Çumra district of Konya, where approximately 8 thousand people lived together in the Neolithic period; The oven structure was discovered in the area called "Place 66", where there are mud brick houses adjacent to each other, entered from the top. Barley, wheat, pea seeds and a palm-sized find that was thought to be food were found around the destroyed oven.



According to the results of the analyses meticulously carried out by Necmettin Erbakan University Science and Technology Research and Application Centre (BİTAM), it was determined that the spongy residue was a bread fermented in 6,600 BC. Çatalhöyük Neolithic City, which has an important place in this area, revealed that the starting point of food archaeology was Anatolia. The fact that this find in Çatalhöyük is the oldest bread in the world offered a deeper perspective into the past to understand how people ate in their daily lives and food production processes thousands of years ago.

Radiocarbon tests carried out at TÜBİTAK Marmara Research Centre (MAM) showed that the small, round and spongy structure found in the corner of the oven was covered with a thin clay, allowing organic remains to be preserved until today. The fact that there have been no findings in this bread-like form so far and that the bread discovered in Çatalhöyük is the oldest known bread has been an exciting discovery for Turkey and the world.





KARATAY
KARATAY MUNICIPALITY

HASAN KILCA
MAYOR OF KARATAY MUNICIPALITY

Konya's Marvelous Natural Wonders to Visit



By Mustafa ÖZKAN



Karapınar Desert

Located in Konya, the Karapınar Çölü (Karapınar Desert) attracts a lot of attention as a natural wonder. It has a red appearance and a soft texture, creating a true desert landscape. The formation of this desert is believed to be the result of volcanic formations. It serves as a popular area for activities like camel riding, attracting visitors regularly.

Karapınar Desert is located within the borders of Konya's Karapınar district. Its name comes from the fact that it is found in this district. The area is covered with red dunes, covering hectares of land. It is known as the only desert within Turkey's borders and is of volcanic origin.



Salt Lake

Located at the intersection of Ankara, Konya, and Aksaray provinces in Turkey's Central Anatolia Region, Salt Lake is a salty lake. It provides 40% of Turkey's salt needs. The formation of salt in Salt Lake occurs through the infiltration of meteorological waters into the underground, dissolving pre-existing salt domes and bringing them to the surface along tectonic faults.

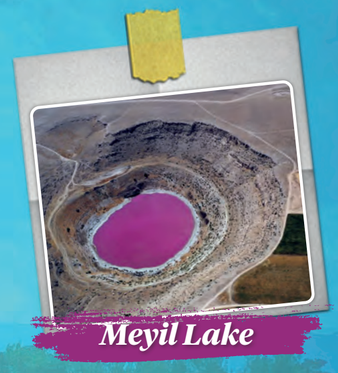
Being the second largest lake in Turkey in terms of surface area, Salt Lake is situated in a vast tectonic basin buried among the surrounding plateaus. This basin was formed through Neogene tectonic movements. The depression where Salt Lake lies is surrounded by faults from the east, west, and south. During the Quaternary period, the lake's surface area decreased due to less rainfall. Over time, the lake further shrank to its current state.



Akşehir Lake

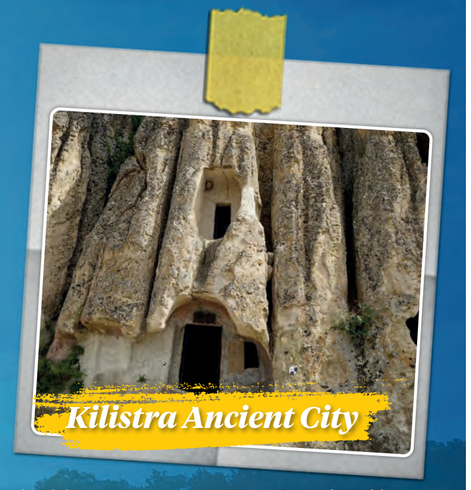
Located in a depression between the Sultan and Emir mountains, Akşehir Lake is a lake in the Akşehir district. Administratively, it is within the boundaries of Konya and Afyonkarahisar provinces.

Since it is in a closed basin, it does not have an outflow to the outside. However, its waters are not very salty due to the abundance of freshwater sources mixing with the lake's shores. The salinity becomes more pronounced in the middle and northeastern parts.



Meyil Lake

A karstic structure in Konya, Meyil Sinkhole Lake turns pink due to the decrease in water levels and the presence of artemia salina bacteria in the water. The Meyil Sinkhole is located within the boundaries of Karapınar province in Konya.



Kilistra Ancient City

Located 45 kilometers southwest of Konya, within the Hatunsaray (Lystra) district of the Meram province, Kilistra Ancient City stands out as an archaeological site. It had intense settlements during the Hellenistic and Roman periods and quickly grew during the Early Christian period, acquiring a Cappadocia-like architectural character.

Kilistra, situated on the historical King's Road (Via Sebaste), holds strategic importance and is one of the five centers where the Roman Empire established military colonies on the southern frontiers.



Obruk Plateau

Located along the Ereğli line in Konya, the Obruk Plateau stretches all the way to Salt Lake. The sinkholes are divided into dry and wet types. The altitude of Obruk Plateau is around 1000-1050 meters, and it contains the Obruk Lake. During your Konya vacation, Obruk Plateau is a fascinating region to explore, and you can also discover nearby plateaus and witness the beauty of this city up close.



Meke Lake

Located in Karapınar district of Konya, Meke Lake is a lake formed by the filling of a volcanic cave with water. It is known for its small islands in the middle. Meke Lake is situated 2 km inland from the junction on the Karapınar-Ereğli road in the Karapınar Plain. The total length of the lake and the primary maar is 800 meters, and its width is 500 meters. The lake is 12 meters deep and is named after the migratory meke birds living in the area.

This maar, formed by a volcanic explosion about 4-5 million years ago during the Pleistocene era, gradually filled with water and later, around 9,000 years ago, a second volcanic explosion gave rise to a volcanic cone in the middle of the lake.



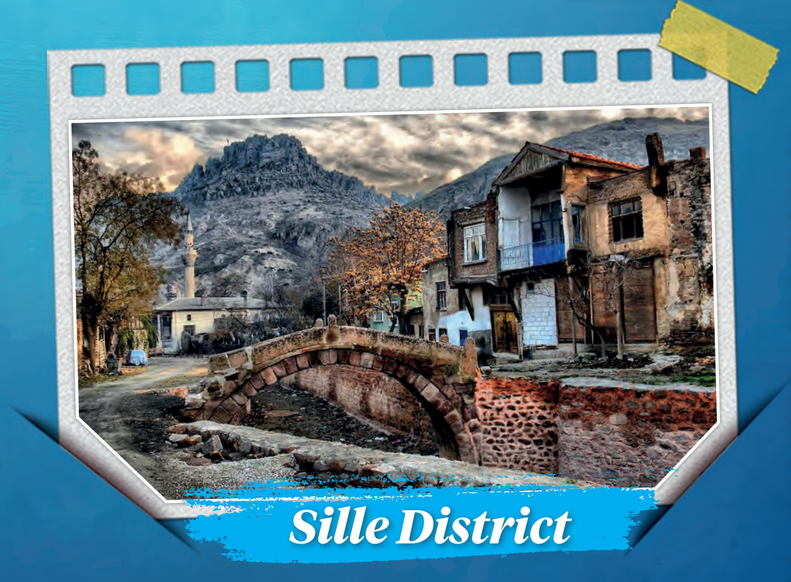
Suğla Lake

Located in the southwestern part of Konya province in Turkey, Suğla Lake is a karstic lake. During rainy years, its area expands significantly, while in dry years, the lake dries up, revealing an alluvial lakebed that becomes a good agricultural area. Its water is freshwater.



Beyşehir Lake

Located in the Lakes Region, within the borders of Konya and Isparta provinces, Beyşehir Lake is Turkey's third-largest and the largest freshwater lake. It is surrounded by the Toros Mountains to the west and south, the volcanic Erenler Mountain to the east, and the Sultan Mountains and Mount Anamas to the northwest and southeast.



Sille District

Many regions of Turkey draw attention with their historical beauties. Among the places to be visited in every season and region, Sille District in Konya boasts a history of 5,000 years. Sille, once an important neighborhood where different cultures coexisted in Konya's Selçuklu district, captivates tourists with its historical texture.

Having been inhabited since the Phrygian period and serving as a significant settlement area since the Byzantine era, Sille has been one of the early centers of Early Christianity and an important stop on the pilgrimage route between Istanbul and Jerusalem.

Today, it is a neighborhood affiliated with the Selçuklu district and has been declared an "urban conservation area" by the Konya Cultural Assets Protection Board.

What and Where to Eat In KONYA?

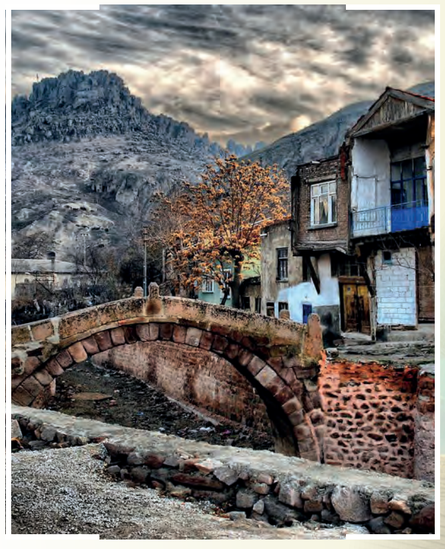
Local Tastes & Best Addresses





By Büşra Sedef İşkan

Sille District



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Arabaşı Soup

Arabaşı soup is a local soup made from chicken meat, flour, tomato paste, spices and butter. It is a flavour that is not only unique to Konya but can be found throughout Central Anatolia. It is especially made during the winter months for healing purposes. It is eaten with its unique dough that comes with it.

Where to eat Arabaşı Soup in Konya?

You can eat a very delicious Arabaşı soup also in Efe Çorba, which we mentioned above.

Sac Arası



For sacarası, we can say that it is a version of pastry filled with sherbet and peanuts. It is a dessert specific to Konya. A must-have after etliekmek or oven kebab.

Where to eat Sacarası in Konya?

❖ **Hacı Şükrü**

We ate the best one after dinner at Hacı Şükrü, which we mentioned in detail above.

Green Moldy Cheese

If the French have Roquefort cheese, we also have green Mold cheese. It is greenish in colour, very dominant, aromatic, and resembles a tulum cheese with a dispersible structure. It goes especially well with buttered bread. Additionally, some places that make etliekmek also make Konya pastry with mouldy cheese. If you come across, definitely get it.

Where to buy Green Mouldy Cheese in Konya?

❖ **Kadınlar Pazarı**

You can easily find it in places selling cheese or local products. We bought it from Kadınlar Pazarı. You can also find many other local products here. Address: Akçeşme, Cıvıl Çeşme Road. No:2, 42020 Karatay





Kilistra Ancient City

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Etliekmek / Konya Pastry / Bıçakarası



I want to say Etliekmek, "a type of pita made in Konya", but the people of Konya get really angry. The minced meat mixture is spread on the dough, which is rolled out in the form of a thin and long strip and placed in the oven. It is served to the table on long boards the size of a table to impress. The one in the photo above is the cut version. Bıçakarası, on the other hand, is meat cut into larger pieces with a cleaver. Konya Pastry is a version of etliekmek enriched with cheese. My personal favorites among them are etliekmek and bıçakarası. Etliekmek is delicious as a pastry for breakfast if left for the next day.

Where to eat etliekmek in Konya?

❖ **Halk Etliekmek**

It is an etliekmek shop with two branches where you can find Konya etliekmeği, Konya pastry, Konya furun kebab and all kinds of etliekmek and pastries cooked in the oven specific to Konya. Especially the Recai pastry with moldy cheese and cutlet meat is very popular. We give the location of the head office. Address: Şemsitebrizi, Şerafettin Street 38/A, 42060 Karatay Tel: (0332) 352 51 85

❖ **Seranade Etliekmek**

Located in the industrial zone, the place is shabby, but this is one of the places where you can find one of the most delicious meat breads in Konya. Especially the Konya Pastry with mouldy cheese is very successful. Address: Musalla Bağları, Elmalı Street No:254, 42000 Horozluhan Organized Industrial Zone /Selçuklu Tel: (0332) 235 25 93

❖ **Bolu Lokantası**

While Vedat Milor appreciates that the etliekmek here is slightly thick and small in size, just as it should be, customers who are used to having thin dough do not think the same way. Try it and decide for yourself. Address: Türbeönü Çarşıları 42030 Karatay Tel: 0544 860 00 01

❖ **Ferah Etliekmek**

In addition to options such as bıçakarası and etliekmek, there are side dishes such as Konya Pastry with thyme and mouldy cheese, mushroom casserole and roasted eggplant. Etliekmek is crispy and delicious. The place is shabby. It has two branches. We are giving the address of first branch. Address: Necip Fazıl, Yaka Street. No:13/B, 42090 Meram Tel: (0332) 323 22 79



Exclusive tastes of the palace cuisine are on your table with their essence.



Keşkekli Kuzu İncik
(A dish of lamb's shank and ground wheat)



Piruhi
(Boiled dumplings seved with walnuts and butter)

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SELÇUKLU BELEDİYESİ

KONYA TROPİKAL KELEBEK BAHÇESİ

Mevlevi Dishes



Tandoori Soup

Ingredients

1/4 cup chickpeas
1/4 cup dried beans
2 onions (chopped)
2 tablespoons of ghee
1/2 cup bulgur
1/2 cup green lentils
2 tablespoons of roasting (using the knife-to-knife technique)
chopped)
8 cups broth
1 teaspoon cumin
1 teaspoon of black pepper
A little salt

Preparation

Soak lentils, chickpeas and beans in water for eight hours beforehand. Fry the onion in the casserole with clarified butter until it turns yellow. First add the bulgur, then the roasted ground meat and stir over the fire. Add lentils, chickpeas, beans and broth, add spices. When it boils, cover it and place it on low heat. Cook for about two hours until the beans and chickpeas are soft. Add salt, cook for another ten minutes and remove from heat. Let it rest for 10-20 minutes and serve with the casserole.



MEVLEVI SOFRASI

The 'prescriptions' given by the great Islamic scholar Rumi in his works are still an important part of Konya cuisine today...

The famous Islamic thinker Rumi chose most of his symbols from nature while explaining his philosophy of life. Foods are also among these symbols. The phrase "I was raw, I was cooked, I was burned", mentioned in Mevlana's work Divan-ı Kebir, which collects his divine love poems, is an example of this. In addition to the information about Sufism, the famous scholar's food recipes are also a gift from the food culture of his time...

RESPECT TO THE COOK

'Kitchen' has a very important place in the teaching of Sufism. This is where dervishes begin their training. The aim is to learn not only to cook, but also to respect the food that nature has made extraordinary efforts to offer to humanity. Great importance is given to the most efficient and appropriate use and consumption of food, which is why cooking was the most respected profession in the time of Rumi. In fact, it was a spiritual position. Mevlevis showed great respect to cooks because they skilfully cooked the blessings offered by the Almighty Creator and mediated the nutrition of the servants. The greatest proof of this respect is that when Rumi's beloved cook Ateş-baz Veli (the saint who played with fire) died, a tomb was built in his name. The eternal resting place of Ateş-baz Veli, perhaps the only cook in the world for whom a mausoleum has been built, is located in the Meram district of Konya. Alan Davidson, the world's famous food researcher, mentioned this place in one of his articles as follows: "We went to the tomb as tourists and returned as pilgrims."

THANK GOD FOR EVERY BITE

Sufis, who attach great importance to 'Somat' (table) manners, eat twice a day. Noon and evening... The table is prepared by the 'dears' (disciples). Salt carries ceremonial expression in meals. The meal begins and ends with it. Once the preparations are finished, it's time to eat the meal. When Kazancı Dede opens the lid of the cauldron, the 'cans' take the cauldron from the stove. The dinner invitation is announced with Kazancı Dede's prayer. The Sufis, who stand with their hands tied in front, bow their heads when they come to the door and sit at the table. The meal begins with the participation and prayer of the Sheikh. There is absolutely no talking during the meal. In Mevlevis, eating is almost a form of worship. While eating, they are constantly grateful for the morsels they are given. The meal is started and finished as a group.

FROM FISH SOUP TO ASHURE

When Rumi's works are examined, in the 13th century in Anatolia, vegetables such as leek, eggplant, zucchini, celery, spinach, onion and garlic; fruits such as apple, quince, pomegranate, pear, peach, fig, melon, watermelon; black-eyed peas, lentils, beans, chickpeas, broad beans from legumes; walnuts, almonds, hazelnuts, roasted chickpeas; dairy products such as cheese, yoghurt and ayran are consumed. Foods and beverages such as phyllo dough, tandoori bread, etli bread, pastry, bun, tutach, tirit, honey, molasses, halva, kadayıf, zerde and sherbet are also mentioned many times in Rumi's works. Turkey's valuable culinary culture researcher and cookbook author Nevin Halıcı's latest work in English, 'Sufi Cuisine', contains extensive information on the dishes cooked by the Mevlevis. In addition, 'Edirne Postnishini Ali Eşref Dede's Food Treatise', translated into modern Turkish by the poet Feyzi Halıcı, who lives in Konya, offers us a lot of information about the dishes in Mevlevi cuisine.

During the reign of Rumi, a culinary culture consisting of dishes prepared with simple ingredients was dominant due to the requirements of Sufism. In addition to the simplicity of the dishes in Sufi cuisine, their diversity is also a striking detail. From a wide variety of vegetable dishes to fish types... These recipes offered by Rumi are not only in books... Most of the people of Konya decorate their tables with the tastes of Sufis and they remember Rumi in every bite.

Carrot Dish with Molasses

Ingredients

1/2 kg carrots
2 glasses of water
2 tablespoons of ghee or butter
2 tablespoons of rice
1 cup sugar or grape molasses

Preparation

Peel the carrots, wash them, cut them into slices and place them in the pot. Add water and cover the lid. Cook over low heat for about thirty minutes until the carrots become soft. Add oil and rice. After 15-20 minutes, when the rice is cooked, pour sugar or molasses. After 5-10 minutes, when the water evaporates, remove it from the heat. Let it rest in the pot for ten minutes. Put it on a plate and serve hot.





Bulgur Pilaf with Chestnuts

Ingredients

10-15 chestnuts
2 tablespoons currants
2 cups bulgur
3 cups broth
200 g clarified butter
1 teaspoon of cinnamon
1 teaspoon of salt

Preparation

Score the chestnuts with a knife and roast them over the fire until their shells begin to separate. After peeling, cut it into two or three pieces. Crush the grapes in your palms, clean their stems and wash them. Put bulgur, chestnuts and currants in the pot. Salt the broth and boil. Add bulgur on top and cover it. Cook for three minutes on high heat, five minutes on medium heat, and then on low heat until the bulgur absorbs its water and becomes tender. Heat the oil in the pan and pour it over the bulgur pilaf. Sprinkle cinnamon on it and let it brew on very low heat for twenty minutes. Put it on a plate and serve with chicken cutlets and yoghurt.



It is too assertive to say that Konya is the master of every dish, but it is definitely the champion of some delicacies. It is out of question to leave Konya without eating "etliekmek" or lamb tandoori. In this article, we have listed for you what to eat in Konya and where to eat it most deliciously. All of the venues are places where locals go, so they are good in terms of price/performance, but they are extremely plain in terms of ambience.



By Doğa İŞKAN



Celery Sote

Ingredients

250 g lamb or mutton chops (cut into 4 pieces)
2 tablespoons of ghee
1 head of onion (chopped)
1/2 kg celery
3 cups broth (hot)
A little salt
A bunch of grapevine or enough grape juice

Preparation

Wash the meat and put it in the pot, put it on the stove. When the meat absorbs the broth it has released, add the oil and onion and fry until the onion turns yellow. Gather the meat in the middle of the pot. Sort and wash the celery. Lay the meat into the pot, starting from the edges. Add water, salt and cover the lid. When it starts to boil, add the grapefruit or grape juice. Cook over low heat for about 40-50 minutes until the celery becomes soft and drain the water. Cover your serving plate with the pot, turn it upside down and place the food on the plate. Serve together with the broth.

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The Konya News

KONYA'S NEW BRAND:

THE SURİÇİ BAZAAR

Meram Municipality made the first final of its giant transformation project Sahibata Neighborhood Şükran Urban Transformation Project with 'Suriçi Bazaar'. In the launch program of the Suriçi Bazaar, Meram Mayor Mustafa Kavuş stated that "the bazaar, which brings together past and present, will revitalize and colour the trade and social life. We are happy and proud to have brought such a historical day to our city and district."



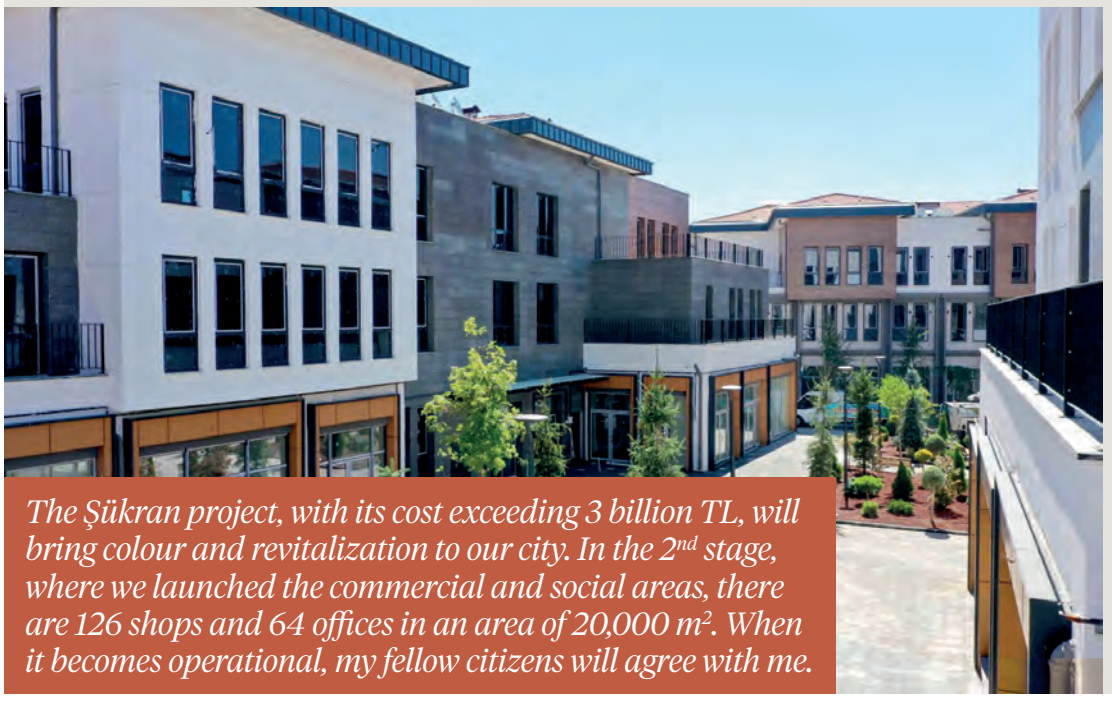


Kavuş: "WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE PROVIDED SUCH A HISTORICAL DAY FOR KONYA AND MERAM"

Expressing his feelings about the first completed stage of the project in his speech at the launch, Meram Mayor Mustafa Kavuş stated that "he experienced one of the most special and exciting moments of his life. Underlining that he and his team, like Konya and Meram, experienced a historic day. Şükran Urban Transformation Project, in which we have worked meticulously, with great efforts, and spent significant time with my teammates since the day I took office, is the first output. It is impossible to express in words the happiness of witnessing it with my friends. However, today, I and my teammates feel a great sense of gratitude for this good start, which I believe will seal the future of my city and district. I hope God will grant us the ability to fulfil it properly."

"LIFE AND COMMERCE WILL BE REVIVED WITH THE SURİÇİ BAZAAR, BRINGING THE PAST AND THE PRESENT TOGETHER"

Mayor Mustafa Kavuş, who also made statements about the importance of the Şükran Transformation Project in his speech, reminded that Meram has experienced an extraordinary rapid change and transformation process in recent years. Kavuş said that "Şükran is in the heart of the city, right in the centre, one of the vision points of Konya and, it is a showcase. The transformation carried out here is a result of our love for people and our love of serving Konya, as well as our understanding of protecting history and culture and, of course, our respect for our ancestors. The Şükran project, with its cost exceeding 3 billion TL, will bring colour and revitalization to our city. In the 2nd stage, where we launched the commercial and social areas, there are 126 shops and 64 offices in an area of 20,000 m². When it becomes operational, my fellow citizens will agree with me. This place suits the centre of the ancient city Konya very well. Life in the region, which is the centre of daily life and trade, will revive and become colourful again. We have managed to combine today's technology and aesthetics with the texture and spirit of history in the most beautiful way. May it be beneficial to our Walled Bazaar, my city Konya and Meram."



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By Doğuhan İŞKAN

Underground City with Winery and Cistern Discovered in Konya

The underground city, which was discovered during the work carried out in Konya's Sarayönü district, has spaces such as a cistern that can meet the water needs of approximately 20,000 people, workshop areas of various sizes and a large winery.

So far, 41 places have been identified in the 20,000 square meter area where the underground city spreads. Researchers say that based on the findings, the underground city can be dated to the 8th century. It is thought that the Christian local people may have built the underground city in the 8th century to protect themselves from raids that lasted 150 years.



A Mysterious Kingdom That Defeated the Phrygians was Discovered in Konya

Archaeologists have discovered a kingdom that ruled in Konya between 1400 and 600 BC. The mysterious kingdom was revealed by a stone found in an irrigation canal by a farmer from Konya.

Luwian writings were translated by experts. It was written on the stone that Phrygia was defeated by a kingdom, but the name of the victorious kingdom was not written. Researchers say that the region may be one of the largest ancient cities in Anatolia.

Although the name of the kingdom has not been revealed yet, Osborne explained that "the discovery is a very important breakthrough. We had no idea this kingdom existed. We have suddenly gained new, great information about the Middle East in the Bronze Age.

Although the name of the kingdom is not written on the stone found, it is written that the name of the king is Hartapu. The stone depicts King Hartapu's conquest of the Phrygian kingdom. Regarding the conquest of Hartapu, it is written on the stone, "The storm gods, (opposite) delivered the kings to their majesty." Based on the stone, it is thought that the capital of the kingdom was Türkmenkarahüyük.

Analysis shows that the stone was written at the end of the 8th century BC. The date of writing of the stone coincides with the reign of the Phrygian king Midas. For this reason, it is thought that the defeated Phrygian king was Midas.



Geometric Mosaic Floor Found in Konya

The Gymnasium was discovered when a person who wanted to build a building on his private land near the ancient city of Laodicea (modern-day Ladik district) contacted the local museum directorate for a construction permit to determine whether his property was in an archaeological site.

During the excavations, which spanned an area of 373 square meters, a geometrically patterned floor mosaic as well as columns, column bases and a tomb made of spolia were unearthed. In ancient times, gymnasiums were places where various sports were performed. In the middle of the complex geometric patterned mosaic base, the phrase "Made in the name of Ergenus, son of Dökumanos" is written in Greek. The mosaic, covered with a roof and special materials, is protected in its own place.



An important region since ancient times

The ruins in the region, which preserved their importance from the Ancient Age to the Islamic period, were unearthed by Head of the Department of Cultural Heritage Preservation and Restoration, Dr. İlker Işık and a team of 8 people of Selcuk University. Işık said that "Bozdağ National Park, a natural protected area, is an important region that has been used historically and culturally since ancient times."

Selcuk University Athletes Won 12 Medals at the European Championship!



Students from Selcuk University won 12 medals at the European Weightlifting Championship for Juniors and Under-23s held in Poland.

Athletes Cansu Bektaş and Gamze Altun, students at Selçuk University, competed in the women's under-23 category at 45 kilograms in the championship held at the Raszyn Centrum Sports Hall in Warsaw, the capital.

Cansu Bektaş won a silver medal in the 75 kg and 91 kg categories and claimed a gold medal with a total lift of 166 kg, setting a new European record for the under-23 category.

Gamze Altun won a bronze medal in the 70 kg category, a gold in the 93 kg category, and a bronze with a total lift of 163 kg. With her 93 kg lift, she also set a new European record. Bektaş and Altun together secured six medals, including two golds, in the women's under-23 category.

National athletes from Selçuk University's Faculty of Sports Sciences also won six medals, including three golds, in the junior women's category.

Competing in the 45 kg category, Ezgi Kılıç won three gold medals with lifts of 74 kg, 85 kg, and a total of 159 kg, becoming the European champion. In the junior women's 55 kg category, Merve Ilden took the podium with a lift of 82 kg and a total of 181 kg, securing third place in Europe. Yağmur Melek Şahin, competing in the 45 kg category, earned a bronze medal with a lift of 81 kg.

Selçuk University Rector Prof. Dr. Hüseyin Yılmaz expressed his gratitude to the national athletes who brought pride to the country with their medals. Yılmaz stated, "Our students from the Faculty of Sports Sciences achieved great success at the European Championship held in Poland. Along with winning medals, our athletes breaking European records has further increased our joy. I congratulate our students and all our national athletes."

Konya Hosts Exciting Night Orienteering Event

By Büşra Sedef İşkan

Families gathered at the Historic Bedesten Bazaar for the Night Orienteering event organized by Konya Metropolitan Municipality.

A "Night Orienteering" event was organized for families by Konya Metropolitan Municipality. The event, held at the Historic Bedesten Bazaar, allowed family members to showcase their navigation skills, while participants enjoyed delightful moments.

In the event, where parents competed with their children aged 8-14 in four different categories, participants had the opportunity to showcase their physical and mental skills among Konya's historic landmarks.

In the darkness of the night, families worked together to find the control points marked on a map and compass, testing their navigation and goal-setting skills while enjoying quality time with their children.

At the end of the thrilling "Night Orienteering" event, the top participants were awarded prizes.



The Konya News

Why is Ney Similar to the Perfect Man?





By Sıla İŞKAN

Abidin Pasha explains the relationship between what the wise man is compared to as follows in his commentary:

"Before the ney was cut, it would always grow and find fresh life while it was in the reed grove. While the sage's soul was in the spirit world, it benefited from endless spiritual pleasures. When it comes to the cruel and dry world, it is dry like a thirsty reed because it is deprived of the world of spirits, which is the source of light and life.

Lovely sounds come out of the ney, and lovestruck and wise words come out of a perfect person. The sound of the ney increases the love of those who listen, and the wise person increases the love of talented people with his words of wisdom. Just as a story or a love adventure is often felt from the beautiful sounds of the flute, the states of true lovers and the secrets of the divine world are often heard and felt from the words of the sage.

Abidin Pasha also establishes a relationship between the size of the ney and the state of the wise man. Just as the size of the ney is correct, the state of the wise man is also correct. Ney cut from reeds is strange. The wise man who leaves the world of spirits is also a stranger in the world. The inside of the ney is empty of everything, it is filled only with the breath of love. wise man is also away from all kinds of gossip, his heart is filled only with the conversation and love of Allah. Ney does not produce a melodic sound on its own; it needs the breath of a master blower. The Arif also lives with a very inspiring spirit, to which he has inherited in a chained manner."

Hacı İlyaszâde Ömer from Sivas has very nice and interesting opinions about the ney in his Mesnevi Commentary. He said that "Listen to the reed, how it tells stories, how it complains about separations; In the verse: 'I created the ear and the eyes and the hearts for you...', Allah mentions listening as superior to the eyes and ears, that is, before seeing and heart matters, and Molla (Rumi) also placed listening at the beginning of Mesnevi. By listening, the listener's heart and eyes are opened and his chest is relieved. The key to this is stated in this verse of Allah: 'Listen and take advice.'

The reed whistle tells you with the language of mood: "I was living in water and soil with my branches, leaves and roots. I was unaware of the evil, discord and suffering of the low world. I was comfortable. I was safe from everything. I was growing and flourishing. Suddenly, by accident, they separated me from my origin, my place. They cut me, underneath and above me. They pierced my chest. They branded my lungs with a lot of torture. In the end, these troubles I went through turned out to be a blessing. My separation turned into reunion. I had a good ending. I fell into the hands of the master. I came with him out of breath. I became a breathmate. The saying "Even the winds are the breath of Allah" is the hadith of the Prophet. According to this hadith, that complete and mature man breathed his holy breaths and happy breaths into my heart. Dear Mother Mary, with the divine breath, was pregnant with Jesus. Even as a child, Jesus was both calling people to the right path and serving God well. While I was a piece of reed, I became the living water and spirit of love and pureness. The God said about Mary, 'I breathed into her my own spirit,' mature men also breathed into me. "I became the nightingale of the garden of truth, the heroic palaces of God's friends, the spirit-opener and cheerer of assemblies."

Ney, says like that: What is meant here is, according to the commentator, Molla (Rumi) and the similar ones. In some copies of Mesnevi, "Bişnev ez Ney" also proves this. Here, with the flute, mature and wise people are intended, whose hearts are empty of desires, this word, that word, other than God, and secrets.

> That sweet-speaking reed in your note is the taste of sugar; Your note brings to me the scent of devotion day and night. Start over again, play those tunes one more time. Love of existence, be glorious over all those who love!



Bediüzzaman Firûzanfer, in his commentary on Mesnevi, mentions that commentators gave different and various meanings when interpreting the first couplet. However, according to Firuzanfer, Rumi's purpose with the ney is that it is an instrument that can be played with breathing and blowing, and that he himself is a musician. "However," says Firûzanfer, "There is also symbolism in the flute and what is meant is Rumi himself. He has lost himself. It is under the control of love and the beloved. This beloved could be Şems-i Tebrizî, Hüsameddin Çelebi or Allah."

These qualities attributed to what are more or less similar qualities. The common characteristic is what represents the "Perfect Man":

"It is the symbol of a perfect human being who is free from earthly desires, has destroyed his ego, and is filled with divine love. The ney moans because it has fallen apart from the reed. Man has also been exiled from the eternal world, the spiritual world, to the world. He suffers because he is separated from God. As long as he lives in this world, he struggles with pain, diseases and troubles.

Man and Society

"Man will long for the happiness in the spiritual world and will look for ways to escape from the world in which he is a stranger and lives in exile." (Can, n.d., p. 13)

According to some people, the experimenter does not actually complain about the separation. What is actually the joy of reunion? According to another interpretation, ney is the name of devotion and loyalty. Evidence for this is again a poem by Rumi:

"That sweet-speaking reed in your note is the taste of sugar; Your note brings to me the scent of devotion day and night. Start over again, play those tunes one more time. Love of existence, be glorious over all those who love!

"Be silent, do not tear your veil, flow into the jug of the silent ones, be a veil, surrender yourself to the mercy of Allah..."



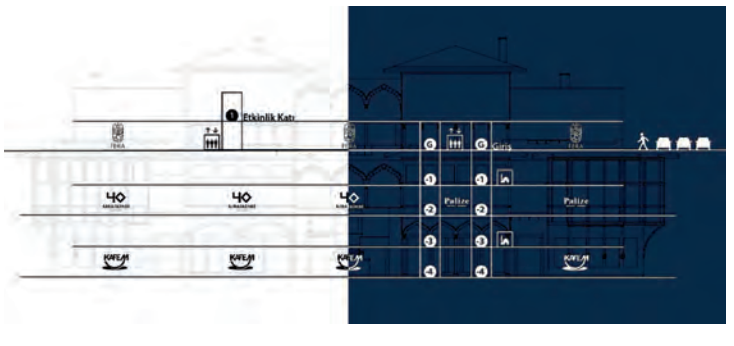
Akyokuş Mansion

Konya's inclusion among the 7 cities on the list for the 2025 European Smart Tourism Capital Award will further increase the awareness of the city.



Konya Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay emphasized that "the city is a historical city. Konya is one of the rare places in the world that has been able to sustain city life for 10 thousand years. Our journey started in Çatalhöyük and until today, Konya has been one of the important cities of every period."

Altay stated that "Especially the Çatalhöyük Welcome Center has turned into an archaeological site. Konya will become one of the prominent cities of Turkey with tourism, with the applications carried out within the city walls within the scope of the Stone Building Culture-Art, Stone Building Digital Museum and Darülmülk Project."



Smart City Application to be associated with tourism

Mayor Altay said, "We had the chance to provide such a beautiful facility in one of the most well-known places of Konya, where all the businesses of our Metropolitan Municipality are located. It has become a place that can be seen from wherever you look in Konya, like a pearl, especially with its night lighting. A complex consisting of Akyokuş Kafem, Kırkikindi Restaurant, Konya Cuisine and Palize Breakfast House was formed. I hope that this facility, which will serve Konya for a long time, will be beneficial."

Mansion, which has had numerous visitors since the day it opened, is very much appreciated by the people of Konya.