



ABOUT INVESTING IN TURKEY

1. Why should I invest in Turkey?

Turkey is an emerging market and has a growing reputation as a haven for tourists. It has 9 months of sunshine each year and some of the best coastline in Europe. The costs of living in Turkey are very cheap and the standard of living is high. House prices are reasonable and you can live in clean air with sea and mountain views from your home for less than the cost of an average house in the UK.

Turkey is planning to join the European Union and will be starting discussions for entry in 2005. After this it is likely that Turkey will join the European Union after 2010. Between now and then the level of investment will increase in Turkey and the standards are expected to rise. With this in mind any investment now will see greater returns in the future as joining the European Union will bring greater prosperity. If Spain and Portugal are used as examples, then after joining the European Union, property prices rose by substantially and early investors now have made a large sum of money by being there first.

2. Is Turkey really a safe place for foreigners to live?

Turkey is a safe place to live and crime rates are very low. Turkey has a large police force that is made up of local professional police and state police or Jandarma that are made up of both professionals and national service men. Due to the high number of policemen and culture in Turkey, criminals are not given any sympathy and are actively discouraged as prison sentences in Turkey for even petty crime are stronger than the UK and other European countries.

3. What is the crime rate in Akbuk?

The crime rate is extremely low and in Akbuk it is virtually unheard of. In most towns and cities in Turkey there is a high number of policemen on duty, therefore with a high police presence crime is greatly reduced.

4. How can I get past the language barrier? Should I be concerned?

The language barrier should not be of major concern as many people speak English. Naturally however if you can communicate in Turkish it would be advantageous to you.

5. Can I find a local job?

There is work available in Turkey but you will need to obtain a work permit to work there.

6. If I live in Turkey do I need to pay taxes?

There are taxes to pay if you live in Turkey. These include property tax, wealth tax and environmental tax. These taxes are relatively low, however you need to seek advice if you intend to live in Turkey.

7. Can I collect my pension in Turkey?

Yes you can arrange for your pension to be paid in Turkey. Please contact the department of work and pensions for advice on this.

