

SOLARIS VILLAS- SOME INFORMATION ABOUT TURKEY



Since the 1920's the motto of the Turkish Republic has been the words of its founder; MUSTAFA KEMAL ATATURK, " PEACE AT HOME, PEACE IN THE WORLD

The city of Troy, the site of the ancient Trojan Wars is located in western Turkey, where a replica of the famous Trojan Horse has become a favorite tourist attraction.



The largest neolithic human settlement with the longest history of continuous habitation (since 7000B.C) was found in Catalhoyuk, Turkey.

Without any written source revealing their manufacturing secrets, the art of ceramics and tile making in Iznik became a very important artistic and cultural symbol during Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman periods.



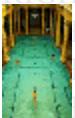
Two of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Temple of Artemis and the Mausoleum of the great Carian king Mausolus at Halicarnassus (modern Bodrum), are in Turkey.



The last home of the Virgin Mary is believed to be in Selcuk (Ephesus)-Turkey.

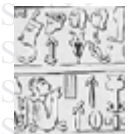
Early Christians escaping Roman persecution nearly 2000 years ago sheltered in the caves of Cappadocia in central Turkey.

Turkey is the fourth largest producer of honey in the world. Honey made from the nectar of specific flowers and tree blossoms such as linden, mint, ash, and orange for their distinctive flavours and properties.

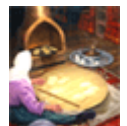


Located on a major geothermal belt, Turkey is among the top seven countries in the world in terms of thermal springs.

The 2nd and 3rd largest libraries of the ancient world are located in the Turkish cities, Pergamum and Ephesus.



HAVE YOU TRIED TURKISH GOZLEME YET? It is cooked on an open fire, top of a sac or a griddle, and made of spinach cheese, meat or potato wrap.



DO YOU LIKE A GOOD CIGAR? In 1984, a modern cigar production line went into operation at the Cibali cigarette factory in Istanbul, using a blend of the famous Havana, Java and home grown cigar tobaccos, producing five types of extraordinary cigars, all up to world standards. So if you like a good cigar, why not try one on your next visit.



The first treaty (Kadesh) in the world is written in Hitite cuneiform on clay panels and signed by Ramses II and Hattusilas. Ramses II wanted to invade the Hitite capital "Hattusha" (modern Bogazköy) but he was not successful.



Contrary to common belief, the word "Harem" is Arabic. Turks call it "Darussade" (House of Felicity). Before Islam the Turkish people were monogamous. In the 10th century Turks accepted Islam and adopted polygamy but this practice was banned by the founder of modern Turkey, Kemal Ataturk, thus in 1930's Turkey became the only Islamic country that did not allow polygamy. The practice continues to this date.



Celeleddin Rumi, founder of the Islamic Mystics Sufi Order (Whirling Dervishes) in the 13th century lived in Konya, Turkey.



The oldest law code in the world was written by Hammurabi on clay panels and found in the excavations near Çatalhöyük, Turkey.



Rising 2150 meters in South Central Turkey, Nemrutis an awe inspiring and enigmatic burial site of a Roman King Antiochus (1st century B.C)/ The stone statues reaching a height of 8-10 meters each, they represent the king himself as well as his adorned gods such as Apollo, Tyche, Zeus, Heracles.

Turkey is an important onyx and silk producer in the world. MAKE SURE TO VISIT SILK AND ONYX FACTORIES in your area. Please ask us for the location of the factories.



A GUESS FROM GOD - According to Turkish tradition, a stranger at one's doorstep is considered A guest from God for a minimum of 3 days.

BELLY DANCING, the rhythmical, hip swaying movements of oriental dancing is an inextricable part of the allure of the orient.



MISS WORLD-2003

Legend has it that Turkey was the location of the first beauty contest, judged by Paris with the Goddesses Aphrodite, Hera and Athena as leading



The biggest emerald in the world which weighs 3260gram, is displayed in Topkapi Palace (Cannon Gate Palace), Istanbul.



King MIDAS of the golden touch came from Asia Minor, the part of Turkey now called Anatolia.



Each year, at least 150 archaeological excavations are going on in Turkey.

The prophet Abraham is thought to have been born in south-eastern Turkey.



Istanbul is the only city in the world located on 2 continents, Asia and Europe. Founded in 650 BC, it was the capital of the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) and Ottoman Empires since 330 A.D.

St John, St Nicholas, St Paul, and St Philip all lived in Turkey.



WHY NOT COMING TO TURKEY FOR SKIING NEXT WINTER! With more than 15 different locations and world standard skiing slopes/resort, Turkey is becoming the place for skiing enthusiasts.

HAVE YOU TRIED TURKISH WINES YET? TRY DOLUCA OR KAVAKLIDERE WINES FOR YOUR DINNER

Beehive houses off Harran reputed to be the oldest continually inhabited community in the world.



HAVE YOU SMOKED NARGILE YET? An important part of the coffee culture in Turkey, NARGILE, Turkish water pipe can be smoked by using sour cherries, grapes or apple an considered to be relaxing on hythm of the burning oak charcoal.



Turkish Carpets are worldwide famous. The world's most valuable silk carpet is in the Mevlana Museum in Konya. It has 144 knots per square centimetres! As early as the 13th century, Marco Polo wrote "the best and the most handsome of rugs are woven here".



Turks gave the Dutch their famous tulips



Julius Ceasar uttered his famous words, "Veni, vidi, vici" (I came, I saw, I conquered) in 47 B.C after defeating Pharnaces II, the ruler of Pontus of the southern coast of the Black Sea.

The Archeological Museum in Istanbul was established in the reign of Ottoman Sultan, Abdulhamit II by his private painter and collector Osman Hamdi Bey, includes antiquities such as the sarcophagus of Alexander the Great (4 BC) and now is being considered as the best antique collection in the world.



The world's first coin collector, the King Croesus, the inventor of coinage reined the kingdom of Lydia in the vicinity of now modern Izmir, in BC 540.





The first recorded philosopher in the west, Thales of Miletus lived in ancient Ionia, now modern Izmir.

The heartland of classical Hellenistic culture is actually based in Turkey in ancient cities such as Troy, Pergamum, Miletus and Halicarnassus.



HAVE YOU VISITED “TURTLE BEACH” YET? Ask us for more details..

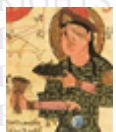
WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO A BIT OF DIVING? We can introduce you to a certified club in your area...



Ask us and we will show you the BEST LOCAL RESTAURANTS, CAFES AND BARS IN YOUR AREA.



Turkey is the first and only country in the world to establish a constitutional “Children’s Day”. Every year on April 23, the country rededicates itself to honouring and cherishing children and the freedom and independence of all people.



Anatolia (Turkey) was producing wine as early as 4000 B.C.



The names of Paris, Philadelphia and Europe originated in Turkey.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO FOLLOW THE FAMOUS “SILK ROAD”? Ask us for the best tours available! The great caravan route known as SILK ROAD has more than 2000 years history. From China to Rome, it passed through Turkey. It was not only used to transport precious goods but played a unique role in human history by linking different civilizations, cultures and religions together.



The map drawn by Turkish sailor Piri Reis (1457-1555) bewildered the world of science as it clearly illustrated the mountain ranges on the Coast of Antarctica and America although the mountain chains and their summits were only discovered in 1952.

Mark Anthony gave Cleopatra part of Turkey’s south-western shore as a wedding gift.

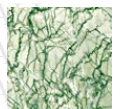


Homer whose famous epic, the Iliad depict the battles for the city of Troy was born in Izmir.

The domed basilica of Haghia Sophia-Istanbul (Ayasofya-meaning “Divine Wisdom” is the most impressive Byzantium Church in the world) occupies an amazing 77 metre long and 71.20 metre wide structure giving an impression that it is suspended in the air and is the fourth biggest basilica in the world following St Peters in Rome, Doumo in Milan, and St Pauls in London.



The Latin word Marmor (Marble) and its Greek equivalent Marmaros (hard, shiny, stone) is derived from the Island of Marmara (Turkey) where marble was found in abundance and became an important international trade material.



In 279 BC the Celts (or Gauls-Galler) invaded middle Anatolia and made the city Ancyra (now modern Ankara, the capital of Turkey) their capital. It is still possible today to see the foundations of the citadel in Ankara dated from Galatian times. The famous bridge ‘Galata köprüsü’ also takes its name from the ancient Galatians.



TURKISH MINT LOQUEUR FIZZ CAN BE the drink after a hot day!

DO NOT FORGET TO TASTE REAL TURKISH COFFEE (Türk kahvesi) AND MACAROONS (aci badem) while you are visiting Turkey.

