



MEDITERRANEAN REGION

# TURKEY

04 SA 1777, Kapitel 5





04 SA 1777 (5)

COVER: Side — Photo Ara Güler







ANTALYA: The Bach --- Photo Sami Güner

# ANTALYA

The province of Antalya is situated in the Mediterranean region which is famed for its superb historic sights and beautiful landscape. The shores of Antalya lie along 300 miles of sandy beaches.

A large part of the province is mountainous; however, there are plains in certain spots. The most important mountains are Mount Tahtalı and Mount Bey.

The plain of Antalya rises in successive levels from the Mediterranean shores.

The rivers of Antalya are the Aksu, the Köprüsuyu, the Manavgat, and the Düden and there are some lakes such as Lake Kara, Lake Avlan and Lake Ova.

With its hot, dry summers and warm, rainy winters Antalya has a typical Mediterranean climate.

Large parts of the Antalya forests consist of pine trees. Wheat, cotton, sesame with a number of others are the main products of the province.

On the coast, citrus fruits are the chief source of income. Banana trees are cultivated in the vicinity of Alanya.

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND :** The history of Antalya and its surroundings goes back to prehistoric ages. The first settlers of this region were the Hittites.







Pamphylia was the first name of the region in early times and the province of Antalya includes ancient Pamphylia and parts of Pisidia, Cilicia and Lycia.

Some immigrants came to the vicinity of Antalya from the Greek Islands but they did not found new cities. They settled in the existing ones such as Aspendos, Side and Perge.

The region was captured by Croesus, the King of Lydia, but later fell into the hands of the Persians in the year 547 B.C.

Alexander the Great, the Macedonian King, invaded the region during his eastern campaign. After his death, this region passed to Antigonos who was one of Alexander the Great's generals.

Pamphylia suffered from the attacks of the Arabs in the VIII th and IX th centuries. Christians settled here from the fifth century onwards.

After the collapse of the Seljuks, the region was captured by the Hamitoğulları in 1299 and was conquered by the Ottomans in 1391, in the reign of Sultan Murad the First.

The founder of the city was Attalus the Second, king of Pergamum (159-138 B.C.). During that time, Side was a famous city and harbour which was situated 80 kms east of Antalya.

The city of Antalya was founded by Attalus the Second after he had been unable to capture Side.

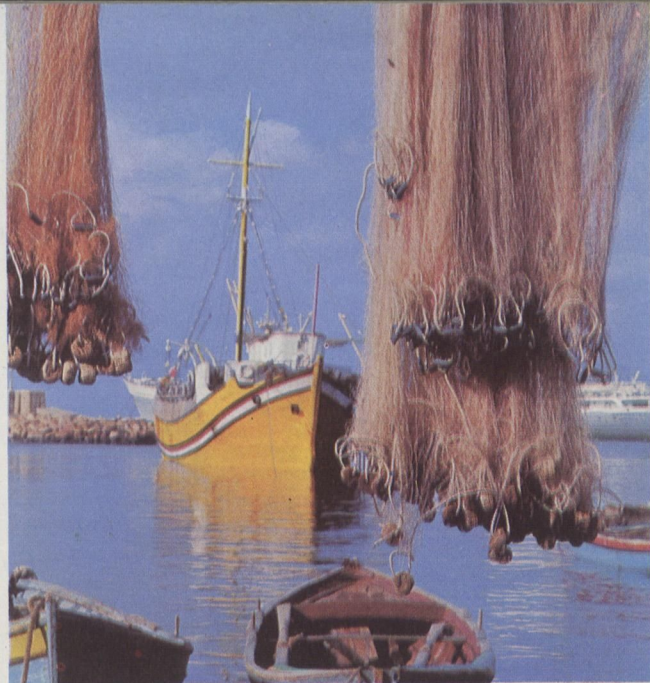
The city was called Attaleia after the name of its founder. Later on, Antalya became more important while Side declined in importance in the region. After the division of the Roman Empire, it became a part of the Byzantine Empire.

In the year 79 B.C. the pirates were exterminated by the Romans. The harbour was rebuilt and it became one of the most important trade centres.

#### PLACES OF HISTORICAL INTEREST IN THE CITY

**City Walls :** These were constructed on foundations of the Romans in the II nd century A.D. Repaired many times, they are still standing. They are in the form of two walls, one inside the other. One surrounds the harbour and the other the town.

**Hadrian's Gate :** This is the gate with three arches constructed in 130 A.D. in honour of the Roman Emperor



ANTALYA: View of the Harbour — Photo Sami Güner



ANTALYA: A view — Photo Sami Güner





ANTALYA: Hadrian's Gate — Photo Sami Güner

Hadrian's visit to Antalya. It is protected on either side by two towers and decorated with marble columns in the Corinthian style. The height of the original gate was 8 metres.

**Hıdırlık Tower :** With its two storeys, the tower rises in the southeast corner of the city wall. The lower part is square and the upper part is cylindrical. Although it has been thought that it was the grave of a Roman dignitary, it was more probably used as a lighthouse.

**Kesik Minare (Truncated Minaret) :** It was constructed in the V<sup>th</sup> century A.D. as the Church of Panaghia. It was subsequently converted into a mosque with the name of Korkut Mosque or Kebir Mosque after a great deal of modification. The top half of the minaret has disappeared, consequently the name of Kesik Minaret was given to it. It is in a ruined condition. In view of its dimensions and its marble work the basilica can be regarded as one of the most valuable Christian architectural objects preserved up to the present day.

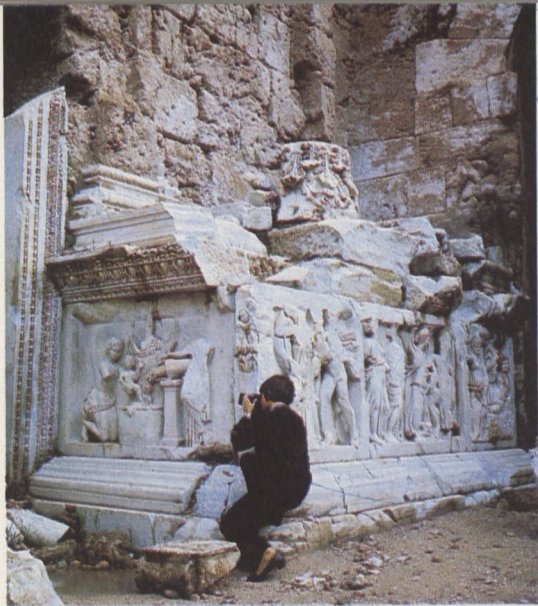
**Karatay Mosque :** It was constructed by the Seljuk vizier Karatay in 1250. It is an important building of Seljuk architecture. The gate and mihrab (altar) of the mosque are ornamented elaborately.

**Yivli Minare (Grooved Minaret) :** This is in the centre of the town and was originally a Byzantine church. During the reign of Alaeddin Keykubat, the Seljuk King (1219-1238), it was turned into a mosque. The minaret of the mosque is made of brick and is adorned with blue tiles. This mosque is now used as the Archeological Museum.

**The Seljuk Medrese, facing the Yivli Minare:** It was constructed in the same century as the Yivli Minare.

The Portal, which is still in a very ruined state, is to be restored in the near future. The Medrese has four exedras and a courtyard in the middle. Formerly there





ANTALYA: Archaeology Museum — Photo Sami Güner

were columns on both sides of the courtyard, but this part does not exist any more. Besides the edifices of these quarters, there are the Mevlevihane (18 th cent.) and the Mausoleum of Zincirkıran Mehmet Bey from the 13 th century (newly restored), which are of remarkable value. The town wall formerly ran along here, fortified at this place by a tower which still exists.

**Bali Bey Mosque** : It dates from the 16 th century. It has a square ground plan and one dome (restored in 1964).

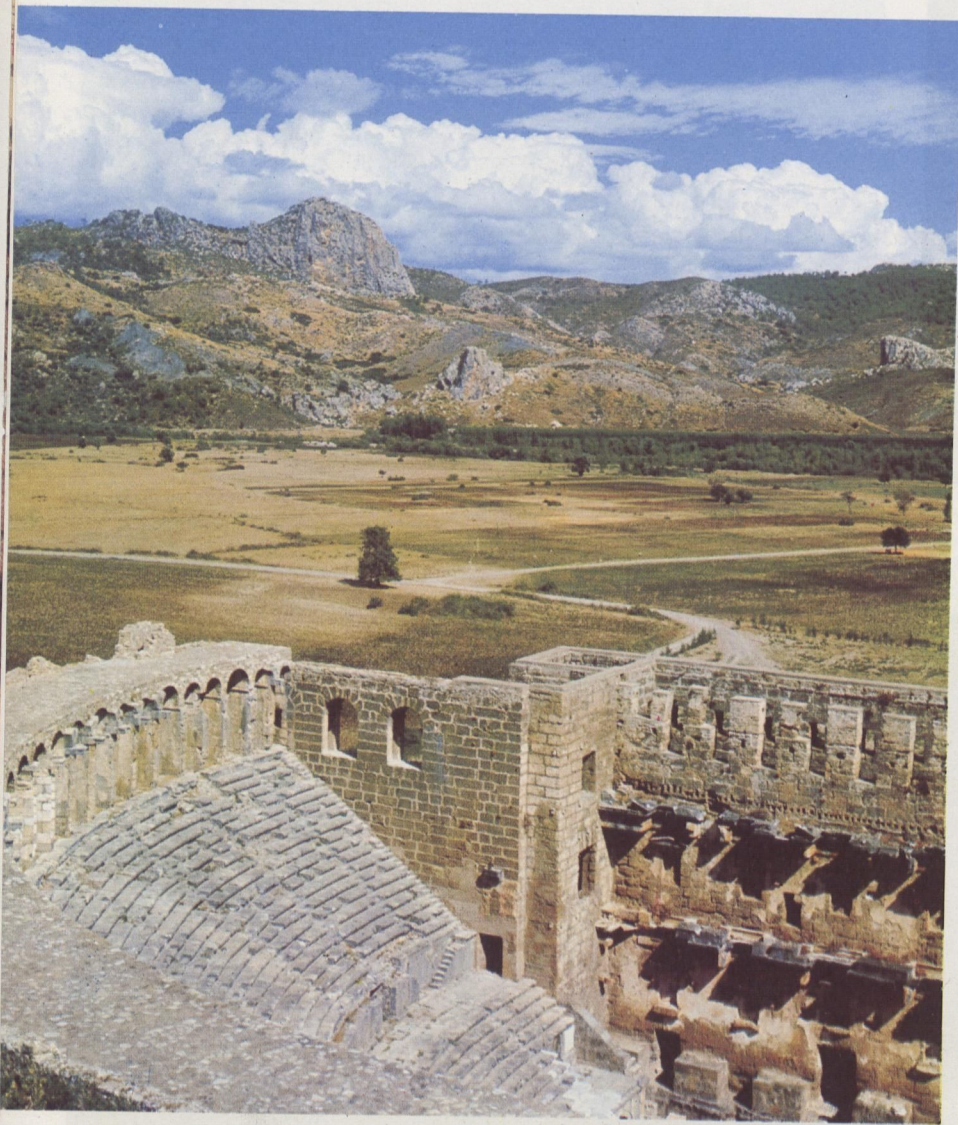
**Müsellim (Tekelioğlu) Mosque** : Erected in 1796. It has a square plan and one single dome. On its southwest side there is a library, a rectangular edifice vaulted over by a dome.

**Paşa Mosque (Tekeli Ahmet Paşa)** : Erected in the 18 th century the mosque is situated behind the castle tower. This mosque too has a rectangular plan and is vaulted by a big dome flanked by four smaller domes, two on each side. The interior of the mosque is decorated with

ANTALYA: Düden Falls — Photo Ara Güler







ANTALYA: A theatre of Aspendos — Photo Sonia Halliday

wall ornaments and stained glass windows. The mosque has one minaret only.

**Murat Paşa Mosque** : Built in the 16th century the mosque was repaired in 1962. It has one single minaret with two galleries.

**Karataş Mausoleum with a small mosque** : This Seljuk building that can be seen from the port, dates from the XIIIth century. It was recently restored.

**Pergole Park** : This is one of the most beautiful parks in Turkey. The gulf of Antalya and the rocky mountains when seen from this park form a magnificent tableau whose colours change every hour of the day.

**Mount Bey** : It is an ideal spot for mountaineers. This mountain rises on the west side of Antalya.

**Düzler Pine Forest** : It is 8 kms from Antalya. One may see here a typical example of an Antalya forest. It is a very lovely picnic spot.

**Kadınyarı** : This is a steep cliff by the sea. Women who had sinned were said to be thrown off this cliff into the sea in the time of the Tekeli Oğulları.

**Beaches** : Konyaaltı Beach is situated 2 kms to the west of Antalya. Lara beach is 12 kms to the east. There is also Karpuzkaldıran beach near Lara.

**Düden Falls** : Near Lara beach, this is a place with a magnificent view. The height of the fall is 60 metres.

#### PLACES AND MONUMENTS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST IN THE VICINITY

**Aspendos (Belkis)** : The town is built on two hills, one big and the other small, 48 kms east of Antalya. Aspendos was the most important city in Pamphylia and its history goes back a long way. It is said that the town was founded by the Argians and became very rich by using the river for commercial purposes. It has one of the best preserved theatres in the world. This theatre was constructed in the II<sup>nd</sup> century A.D. by the architect Zenon and it is large enough to hold 15000 spectators. The stage of the theatre has several storeys



and the auditorium is in two parts. Every year an Antalya festival is held here. During the Seljuk period, it was restored and used as a caravanserai. In the Acropolis of Aspendos, there are the Agora, Basilica, Nymphaeum and Odeon. Among the other buildings of the town, the aquaduct can be mentioned that supplied water to the town in ancient times.

**SIDE:** It is situated 78 kms to the east of Antalya. This was an important city of Pamphylia. During the Roman period, it was the principal slave market of the Mediterranean. It has a theatre which is the largest in Pamphylia. It is large enough to hold 25.000 spectators. Around Side can be seen remains of Byzantine

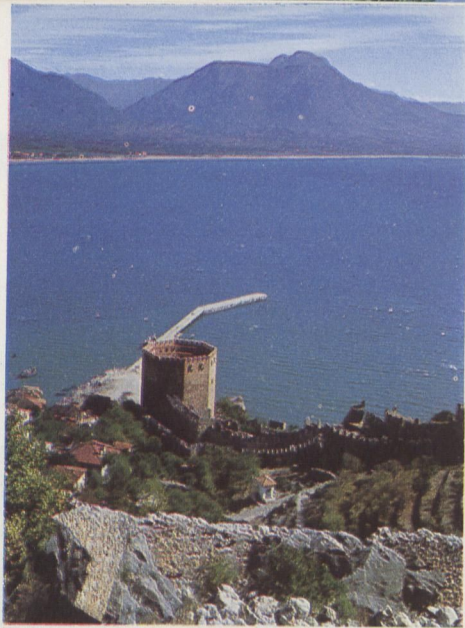
walls, a Roman temple dedicated to Athena which was built in the IIIrd century B.C., a basilica dating from Byzantine times and a Roman cemetery, agora, nymphaeum and baths. Side was successively occupied by the Greeks, Romans and Byzantines

**PERGE (Murtuna):** It is situated 18 kms to the east of Antalya. Although it is now far from the shore and entirely cut off from the sea, Perge was once joined to it in earlier times by the Kestros river. It surrendered to Alexander the Great during the Hellenistic period and thus was saved from destruction. Most of the walls from this period are still standing. It was developed



KAŞ: Theatre — Photo Ara Güler





ALANYA: View of the Red Tower — Photo Edvin Rizi



ALANYA: A view of the Castle — Photo Sami Güner

in the time of the roman Empire and particularly during the II<sup>nd</sup> century A.D., but began to decline from the IV<sup>th</sup> century A.D. onwards. It plays an important part in Christian history, being the place where St. Paul preached his first sermon. There are some remains from the time of the Greeks, Romans and Byzantines, the most important being:

**The City Gate:** This is guarded on the outside by two cylindrical towers. The inside was modified to from a chamber of honour which was adorned with statues during the Roman period.

**Theatre:** It can hold 12.000 spectators. Although the stage is ruined the auditorium is well preserved.

**Stadium:** This is in the shape of a horse-shoe, 234 metres long and 35 metres wide. There are niches covered by arches in the façade of the building. It is possible that these were used as shops.

**Street with Columns:** This starts from the city gate and cuts straight across the town. There are shops and houses on either side.

**Other Works:** Gymnasium, and the remains of two baths, one to the north-west of the town, the other to the west of the city gate

**Manavgat Falls:** 10 Kms. from Side. It is a beautiful picnic spot.

**ALANYA (Corakesion):** This is a pretty town situated 140 kms to the east of Antalya. Its former name was Corakesion and its history goes back a long time. The castle of Alanya was built by pirates in the II<sup>nd</sup> century and passed on to the Romans. During the time of the Byzantines it was a small town. It only achieved its importance after passing into the hands of the Turks in 1221 by the action of the Seljuk Sultan Alaeddin Keykubat, who gave it the name of Alâiye. In 1471 it became part of Ottoman territory.

**Fortress:** This was constructed between 1226 and 1231 on foundations from a previous age.

**Kızilkule (Red Tower):** It is to be found by the harbour, at the north end of the city walls. It was constructed by Alâeddin Keykubat and received its name because of the dark red of the stones from which it is built. It was constructed with the aim of protecting the shipyard which was the most important installation in Alanya.

**Shipyard:** It is on the south of the Red Tower. The shipyard was constructed by Sultan Alâeddin Keykubat in 1227.

**Alâeddin Mosque:** This has lost its old character as a result of repairs.

**Small Mosque of Akşebe Sultan and Tomb:** It was constructed in 1230. The sarcophagus in the tomb is finely decorated.



**Emir Bedreddin (Andızlı) Mosque** : This wooden mosque was built on the site of an older mosque.

**Kale Mosque** : This was built by the Ottomans on the site of a previous mosque. Its plan is square and surmounted by a dome.

**Covered Market (Bedesten)** : The date of this covered market is not known exactly but it has an important place in civil architecture.

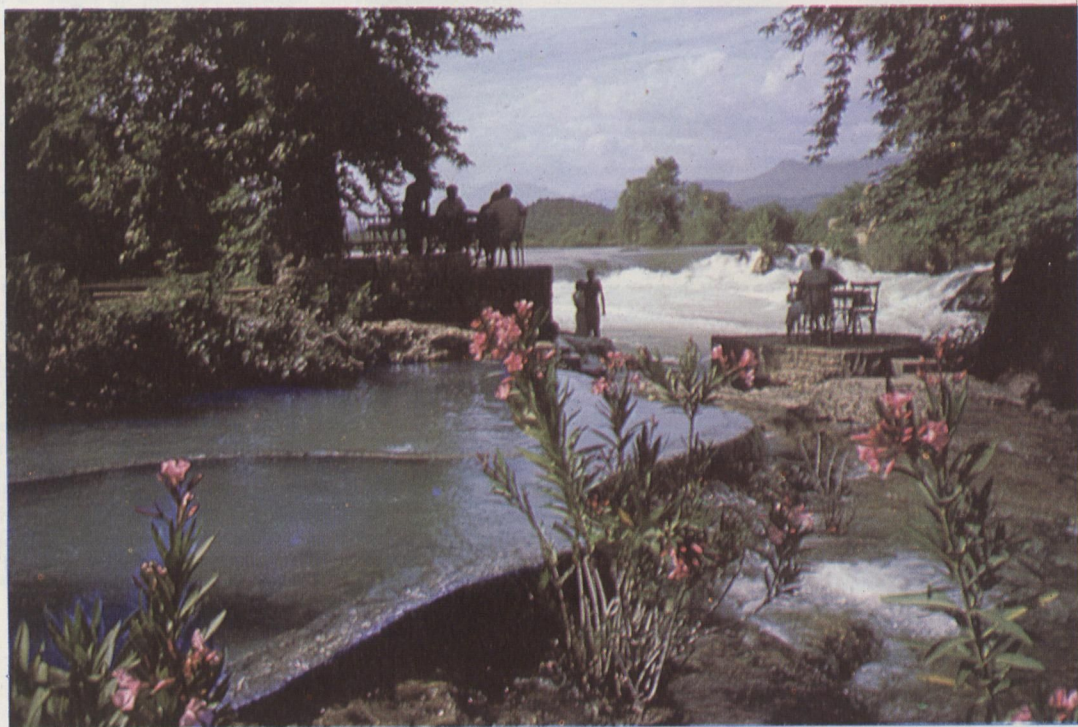
**Lighthouse** : It was built in 1720 by Nevşehirli Damat İbrahim Paşa.

**Other Works** : Inside the castle of Alanya may be found re-

mains of baths, cisterns and a church.

The Gülefsen Mausoleum in Yukarı Oba was constructed in the first half of the 15th century. In the village of Oba there is a beautiful Seljuk medrese with a courtyard. Here in this region stood the summer residences and castles of the Seljuk Sultans. One of these summer pavilions can still be seen although in a ruined state.

**DAMLATAŞ CAVE** : It is situated in Alanya. This cave has both stalactites and stalagmites and is known for its healing properties for asthmatic people.



ANTALYA: The fall of Manavgat — Photo Ara Güler





ALANYA: Cave of Damlatas — Photo Hüsni Dirimen

**AKSEKI:** In this district one can find mountain villages which are fine examples of the Turkish urban system. In the district centre itself there is a library, housing valuable manuscripts.

**KARA IN:** 27 kms to the west of Antalya. Diggings have brought to light objects dating from the Stone Age.

**TERMESSOS:** Situated 30 kms to the west of Antalya. The city appeared in the time of Alexander the Great. Afterwards, under the rule of the Romans, particularly in the II<sup>nd</sup> century and in the first half of the III<sup>rd</sup> century, the city was highly developed. Termessos was also adorned with temples, state buildings and statues. There are no remains from the time of the Christians and therefore, the city must have been abandoned by its inhabitants in the IV<sup>th</sup> or V<sup>th</sup> centuries A.D. Some monuments to the dead are still standing on the city road. Termessos had a perfect city plan with streets of columns and the agora was placed in the centre of the city. Around the agora there were shops. The gallery which was built by Attalus the Second, the King of Bergamum, is notable here. In the vicinity of the city and inside the city walls there are graveyards and rock graves which can be seen.

**FINIKE:** The port of the town is very busy. It is famed for the export of timber. There is a ruined castle here from the Mioric period. There are two sarcophagi near it.

**LIMYRA:** Lycian graves can be seen here which are hollowed out of the rock. Limyra is near Finike.



#### ELMALI :

**Ömer Paşa Mosque :** Constructed in 1610 this monumental building with a single dome is the greatest edifice of the Ottoman era in this region.

**Ömer Paşa Medrese :** Constructed at the same time as the mosque. The mausoleum of Ömer Paşa is situated on the south side of the mosque. The bath was probably also erected at the same time. The cooling section has been pulled down due to the construction of the street.

The Sinani Ümmî Mosque, Medrese, Library and Mausoleum are the most important buildings of Elmalı. This quarter was renewed and enlarged between the 17th and 19th centuries.

The Şadırvanlı Medrese (a library today) is famous. The Mosque is a wooden structure, dating from the 19th century; today, however, in a ruined state.

In the surroundings of Elmalı there are several prehistoric tumuli. On one of them excavations are going on at present. In Korkuteli there is a Seljuk medrese from the 13th century. In the village of Tekke on the road between Elmalı and Finike there is the Abdal Musa Tekke (Dervish Monastery). Within the mausoleum of this first of the Turkish missionaries, who came here in the 13th century, one can see several tombs as well as the sarcophagus of Kaygusuz Abdal.

The whole village had been at one time a pious bequest, founded for the maintenance of the monastery. Inside the monastery there are the House of the Dervishes, a kitchen, the Mausoleum of Budala Sultan (foolish Sultan), several gardens and a holy well. A jacket of Abdal Musa and his wooden sword can also be seen here.

**DEMRE (Myra) :** Near the village of Kale, it is half an hour inland. It was built in the Lycian period in V-IVth centuries B.C. Rock graves of the Lycian period, the grave of St. Nicholas (Santa Claus) and the church built in his name can be seen here.

**SURA :** There are some ruins worth seeing in Sura which is in the vicinity of Demre. These include very unusual graves, an acropolis and walls dating from the Hellenistic period.

**KINIK (Xanthus) :** Xanthus is near Kınık and on the Kocaçay which forms a boundary between Lycia and Caria. It was one of the important cities of Lycia which flourished in the IVth and Vth centuries. On the northern slope of the acropolis there are a well-preserved theatre, and the monuments to the Nereids and Harpies. There is also a large Byzantine church with its dependent buildings which is still standing.

**KAŞ (Antiphellus-formerly Habassus) :** Greek, Roman and Byzantine remains can be seen here. There is a theatre dating from the Hellenistic period which is well preserved. The tombs cut into the rocks, the Agora and the town wall are in good condition. The small town near Kaş was at one time the centre of the district.

Of all buildings which existed before only the mosque has been preserved. It was constructed in 1772. It has a rectangular ground-plan and one single dome. The three small external cupolas, on the side where the portal is, were destroyed in 1828 by an earthquake. The minaret is however still standing.

**SİLYON (Yanköy Hisarı) :** It successively passed into the hands of the Greeks, Persians, Romans, Byzantines and Seljuks. The city was also captured by Alexander the Great. The remains to be seen are mainly of the Hellenistic period; city walls, towers, bastions and doors which are in a fine state of preservation.



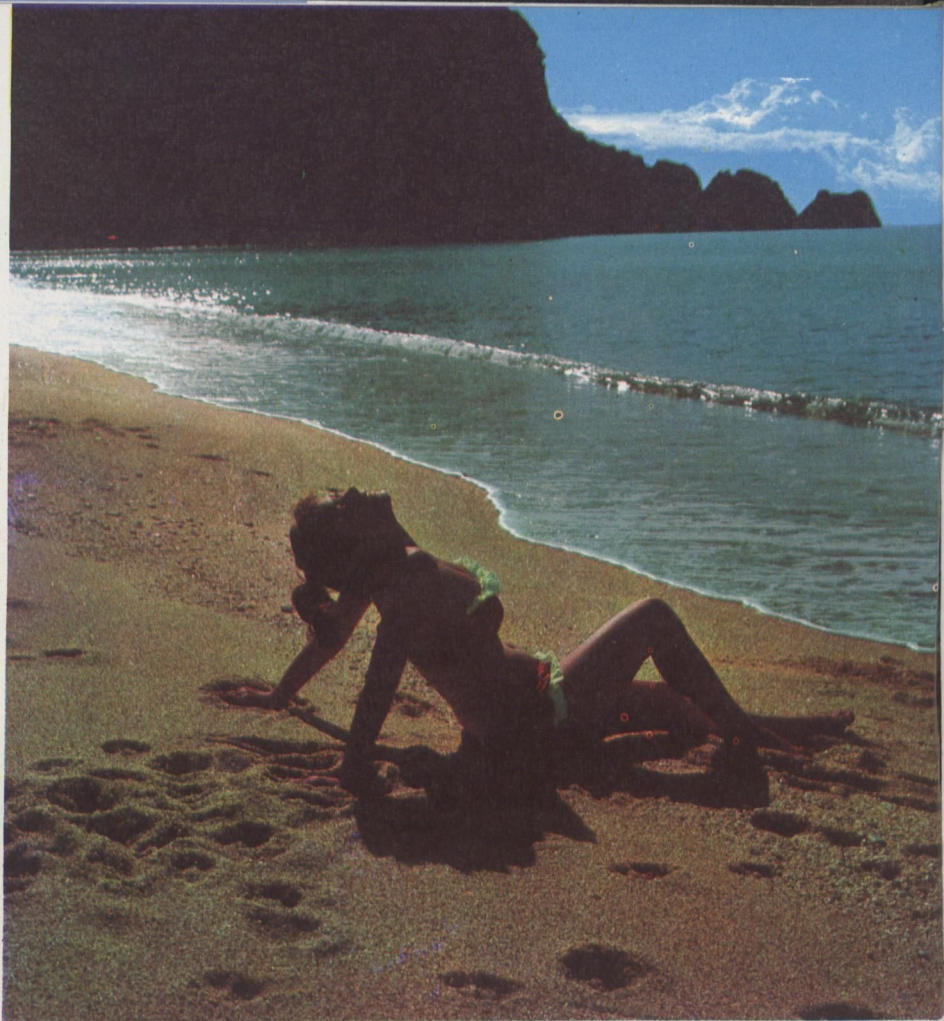
ALANYA: A banana orchard — Photo Sami Güner



**SELGE (Zerk)** : This was one of the main mountain towns of Pisidia, constantly at war with neighbouring towns. Today remains of its stadium, temple, theatre, water course and graves can be seen in Selge.

**Caravanserais and Inns** : A number of inns were built along the road which joined the Seljuk capital of Konya to the shores of the Mediterranean. These were constructed very solidly from blocks of stone. The ceilings are high and arched, the doors, decorated with delicate Seljuk motifs and inscriptions, may be seen with their magnificent Seljuk decoration. The most famous of these inns are: Susuz Inn, Burma Inn, Tol Inn, Pazarçık Inn, Kargı Inn, Alara Inn, Şarapsa Inn, Kırkgöz Inn. The natural beaches of Antalya lie along the Mediterranean shores of the province. Here one may bathe from the beginning of April to the end of November.

**ÇIRALI**: About 80 kms to the south of Antalya. Due to the burning gas which constantly flows out of the earth one can see a flame which is never extinguished. According to legend, this is the flaming tongue of the dragon Chimera which was killed by Bellerophon.



ALANYA: The Beach — Photo Sami Güner



Once upon a time there lived a handsome young man, called Bellerophon. His greatest desire was to get the chance to ride the winged horse, Pegasus. But to do this was no easy job. The young man tried everything but without any success. One day,

however, he met an old and good-hearted sooth-sayer, who advised him to go to the Temple of Athena for a night. He followed this advice without hesitation. While asleep, there appeared to him the goddess herself giving him a golden bridle, with which he would break - in the winged horse. Next day he set out in search of Pegasus, which he finally finds, bridles and mounts. Thus Bellerophon became the master of the skies.

After killing his brother by mistake he, with a sorrowful heart, left the country and went abroad. After many adventures he had to fight Chimera the fire-breathing monster, in the front a lion, in the middle a goat, and at the back a snake. Armed with his bow and arrows he mounted Pegasus and flew through the air to the place where the monster was. He at last succeeded in killing the monster which was unable to do Bellerophon any harm. But the fire which the monster was spitting, he couldn't put out. It still burns on the slopes of the mountain and is the same fire which Homer and others mention in their works.





# BURDUR

The province of Burdur is in the Antalya section of the Mediterranean region.

The mountains of Burdur province belong to the western Taurus system.

There are 14 lakes within the borders of the province. Among these, Lake Burdur is the largest and is also the seventh largest lake in Turkey.

**CLIMATE** : Burdur has characteristics of both Mediterranean and continental climates with hot summers and cold winters.

In and around the city, there are various industries such as the attar of roses industry, the textile industry, metal works and livestock raising.

Farming and livestock provide the main source of income for the inhabitants of the region.

BURDUR: Ağlasun — Photo: Emin Hakarar



**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND** : Diggings in the Hacilar region have proved that it has been inhabited since 6000 B.C. Around 1200 B.C. it became a principality by the name of Arzawa, subject to the Hittites, and was later occupied by the Phrygians, Lydians and Persians successively. Alexander the Great captured the region during his march on Ankara. During the 11th century B.C. it came under Roman rule and for a time was attached to the Kingdom of Pergamum. When the Roman Empire split in two it fell to the Byzantines and after the 11th century came into the hands of the Tekeoğulları, Seljuk and Hamitoğulları Turks and in 1391 was made part of Ottoman territory by Yıldırım Beyazıt.

As a result of diggings carried out in this area objects dating from the Neolithic, Arzawa, Phrygian and Roman periods have been found. The old name of the region was Pisidia, and Burdur was known as Arcania Limnae, then Polydoron, and finally during the Seljuk period it received its present name.

**HISTORICAL PLACES IN THE TOWN AND THE VICINITY Taşoda** : It is a notable work from the point of its decoration and architectural style.

**Ulu Mosque** : This was built by Dündar Bey of the Hamitoğulları Turks in 1300. This is the first work of the Hamitoğulları in Anatolia. On the door of the mosque there is the Great Seal of Dündar Bey.

**Clock Tower** : It was built 150 years ago.

**Museum** : There are some objects dating from the Neolithic age up to the present day and there are also many manuscripts in this museum.

**Hill restaurant at Susamlık** : It has a magnificent view over the city and lake.

**HACILAR** : This is situated on the Burdur-Tefenni road, 24 kms from Burdur. Archaeological diggings have brought to light small statues and remains of buildings dating from the Neolithic Age (8000-7500 B.C.).

**AĞLASUN (Sagalassus)** : 37 kms from Burdur. There is a Roman theatre seating 12,000 dating from the 11th century A.D. Tombs and capitals of columns may be seen, also a castle built in the Middle Ages.

**HORZUM (Cibyra)** : It was situated in Gölhisar town, about 110 kms from Burdur. Here one can see a theatre, stadium, agora, towers and also tombs.

**PIRNAZ (Bubon)** : It is situated around Altınyayla. There are the remains of a Roman theatre, stadium and temple.



Roman remains may be seen in the following villages in the vicinity of Burdur, Bereket (Motras), Marmara, Karacaören (Isini), near Ağlasun: Başköy. Near Bucak: Çirme - Çamlık (Cremna), Melli (Milias), Karaot (Seeni) and Ürkütlü - Kızılkaya (Comama).

**Caravanserai** : Seljuk caravanserais can be seen near Bucak, at İncirdere and Susuz villages.

**PLACES TO VISIT :**

**INSUYU CAVE** : 12 kms from Burdur, near the Burdur - Dinar highway.

There is a mineral water spring on the entrance of the cave. Inside the cave flows an underground river. The cave, full of stalactite and stalagmite, is lighted. There is a camping site near the cave.

**Salda Lake** : Situated 90 kms from Burdur, in Yeşilova. It is a suitable place for camping with its fine beaches and pine trees. There is a tourist restaurant here.

**Dirmul (Altınyayla) and its forests** : Near Gölhisar. It is about 130 kms from Burdur. It is a mountainous spot with plenty of fresh water springs.

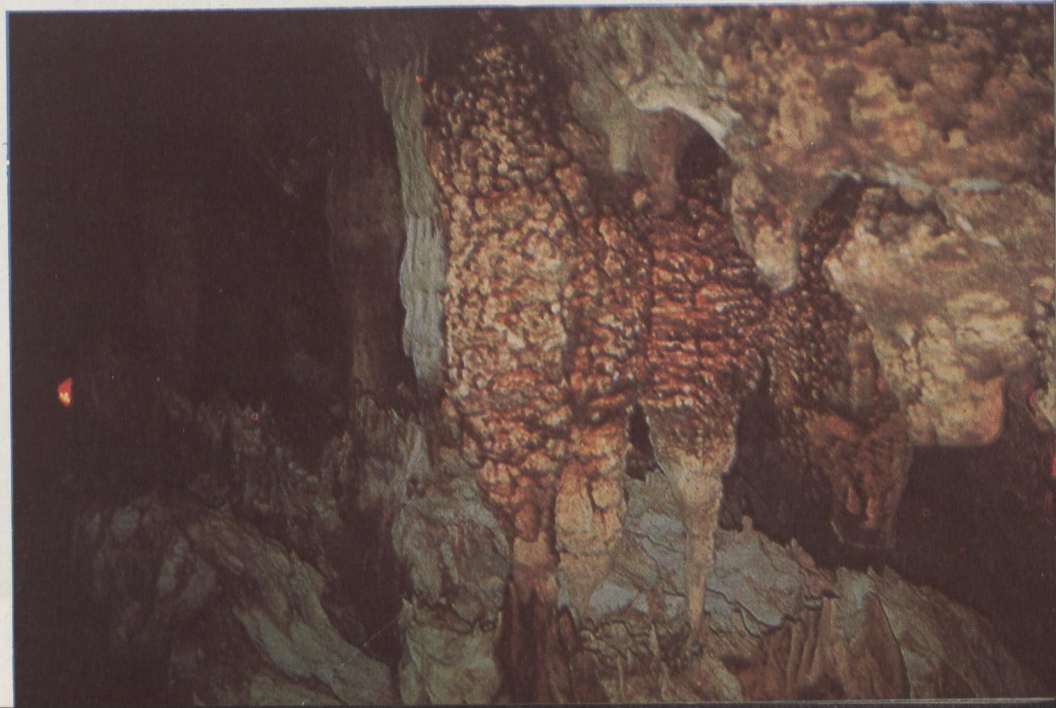
**Gölhisar Lake** : There are many fish and an island in the middle of the lake has the ruins of a castle dating from the Hamitoğulları Turks.

**Aziziye village and forests** : 60 kms from Burdur. This plain is full of fresh water springs.

**Erenardıç** : 20 kms from Burdur. It is a restful place for hunters.

**Burdur Çendik Beach** : There is a restaurant with modern facilities at this beach which is 8 kms from Burdur.

BURDUR: İnsuyu Cave — Photo Edvin Rizı





# ISPARTA

The province of Isparta is in the Antalya section of the Mediterranean region.

The land formations in Isparta province are noted for calcareous low plains which are surrounded by mountains.

Aşığöl, Lake Kovada, Lake Burdur and Lake Eğridir are the most important lakes in the province of Burdur.

There is no important river in the province.

The low plains of Isparta have hot summers and cold winters.

In this region, the attar of roses industry, the soap industry and carpet manufacturing are highly developed.

Sulphur is its most important underground wealth and is obtained from the town of Keçiborlu.

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND :** It is not certain by whom Isparta was founded. Its old name is said to have been Baris. The Hittite Principality of Arzawa (XII B.C.), the Lydians, the Persians, the Macedonians and finally the Romans all ruled over the region at different times. In 395, it was apportioned to the Eastern Roman Empire. From the XIth century onwards it passed into the hands of the Tekeoğulları, the Seljuk (Kılıç Aslan, 1204), and the Hamitoğulları Turks (1381). Towards the end of the XIVth century, Murat I annexed it for the Ottoman State.

**HISTORICAL MONUMENTS IN THE TOWN :**

**Firdevs Paşa Mosque :** It was built by the architect Sinan.

**Çarşı Mosque :** Constructed by Kutlubey in the XIVth century.

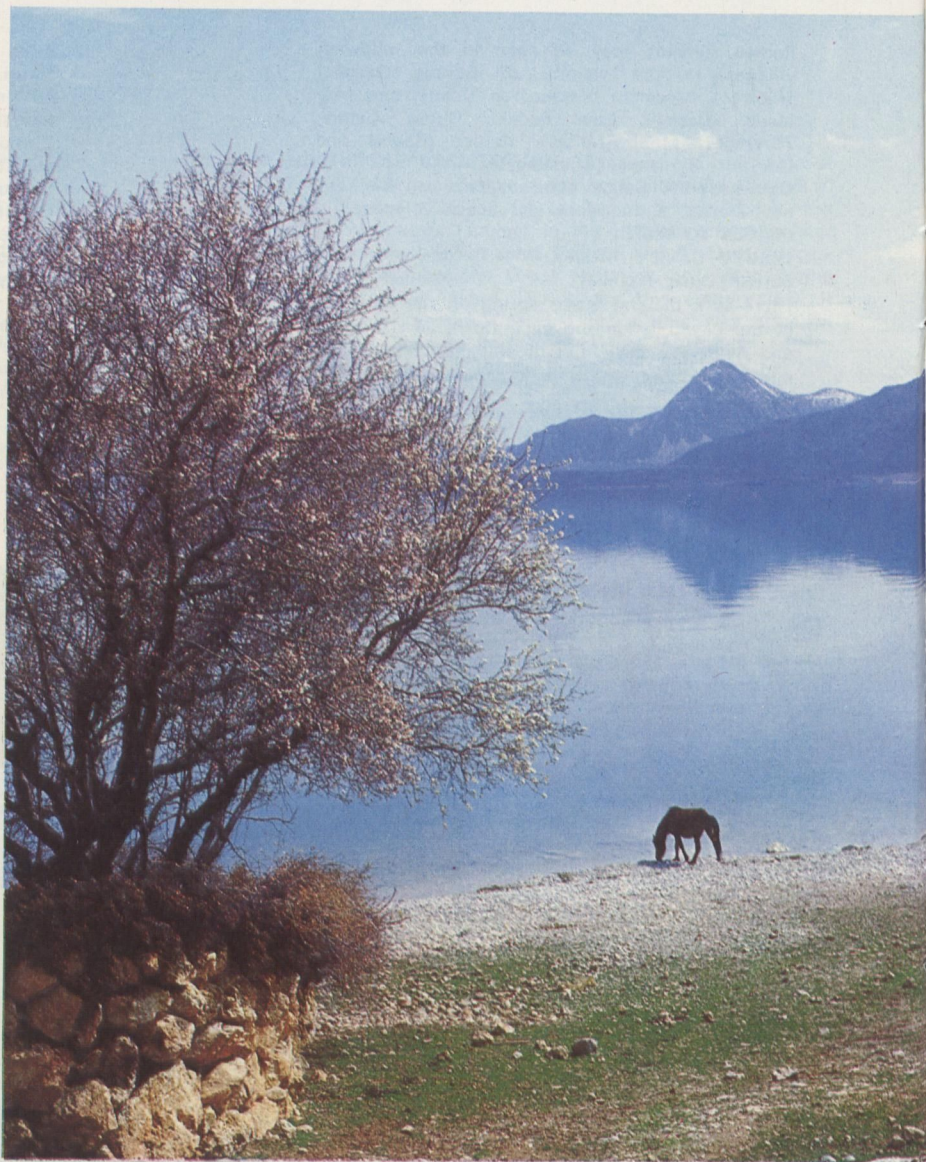
**Yılan Kıran Fountain :** A work of the Seljuk period.

**Kırık Minaret :** This is the work of the Seljuks.

**Sadiye Bükası :** The work of the Seljuks.

**Fortress :** Dates from the XIVth century. It is in ruins now.

**Library :** It contains over fourteen thousand rare handwritten books.



EĞİRİDİR: The Nature — Photo Sami Güner.





**Museum :** The museum displays finds from the area of Isparta, including Roman reliefs, Turkish-Islamic works and a collection of Turkish folk art. The coin collection of the museum is also extensive.

**PLACES AND MONUMENTS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST IN THE VICINITY :**

**BAYAT SEDEF :** Also called Bayat Town or Sedeftiman. It was an important town during the time of Seleucid. Traces can be seen of graves and a theatre.

**DADIL - MIHAIL :** On the Eğridir-Gelendost road. Here one may see a caravanseraï dating from the XIIIth century.

**KILIÇ VILLAGE:** It is situated between Keçiborlu and Burdur Lake. There are columns with Byzantine capitals and inscriptions to be seen.

**BARLA :** Situated on the western shores of Lake Eğridir. The main monument of interest is the Çeşni-gir Paşa Mosque. Its minaret is constructed of tiles in the Seljuk style. There are also the ruins of two baths.

**ANAMAS :** 65 kms to the west of Isparta. The Yılanlıoğlu Mosque was built in the XIIIth century.

**YALVAÇ :** 104 kms to the north-east of Isparta. It was known as Pisidian Antiochia. The city was made a free city by the Roman Emperor Augustus in 189 B.C. The town was destroyed during the Arab occupation in 713. There are remains dating from the Greek, Roman and Byzantine periods in this region. The main monuments of interest are the Propylaea, Temple, Byzantine Church, Basilica, water courses and the Temple of Men.

**EĞRIDİR :** 34 kms to the north-east of Isparta, situated on the shores of the lake. There is an old legend about the origin of this lake: A young man ran after a gazelle all day long with his dog. At last he drove it between two rocks and stretched his bow. He shot his arrow but the gazelle changed its place with a quick movement and instead of hitting the quarry the arrow sank into a rock. At that moment water poured from that point and filled the whole plain.

There are the remains of a Seljuk castle and on the islands in the lake one can see the ruins of Byzantine churches. The Ulu



EĞRIDİR: View of Lake — Photo Emin Hakarar

Mosque was built in the XVth century by Hızırağa. Its minaret is interesting in that it stands on an arch. The Dündar Bey Medrese is also worth looking at opposite the mosque.

**ŞARKI KARAAĞAÇ :** Near Beyşehir Lake. The Kebir Mosque is of Seljuk construction. Also to be seen are the Alçıklar small mosque and fountain built in the time of Sultan Mehmet the Conqueror.

**PLACES TO VISIT :**

**EĞRIDİR LAKE :** This lake to the north-east of Isparta is deep blue in colour and hemmed in by rows of snow capped mountains. The slopes of the mountains are covered with forests. Yörük Mountain is suitable for skiing in the winter and camping in the summer.

Visitors spend their days sailing on this lake. This is also an ideal spot for fishermen, matchless in its natural beauty.





# İÇEL - MERSİN

ANAMUR: Mamuriye Castle — Photo Sami Güner



Situated in the Adana section of the Mediterranean region,

The western parts of the Adana plain extend into the south-east border of İçel. This plain narrows towards the west and a narrow coastal plain is formed in the district. To the north of the plains there are the Taurus Mountains and the highest mountain of the province is on the north side of Külek pass.

The Göksu (Calycadnos) is the most important river in the region. Emperor Frederick Barbarossa was drowned in this river when he was leading the III<sup>rd</sup> Crusade. The province of İçel has the typical features of a Mediterranean climate.

İçel is famous for its out-of-season fruit and vegetables, citrus fruits and bananas are grown here in abundance. Mersin is an important trade centre of the region and also has a refinery installation.

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:** This has been a place of settlement from prehistoric times. In the classical period, the province was known as Cilicia because of the stony nature of the terrain. It was under the control of the Hittites, Greeks, Romans and Byzantines, suffered occasional Arabs invasions, and passed into the hands of the Seljuks in the XI<sup>th</sup> century, the Karamanoğulları in the XIV<sup>th</sup> century, and the Ottoman Turks in the XVI<sup>th</sup> century.

#### **HISTORICAL MONUMENTS AND PLACES TO VISIT IN THE TOWN**

**Eski Cami (Old Mosque):** It stands in the business quarter of the town. Constructed in 1870 it was repaired in 1901 and 1934. According to the inscription on the spring in the courtyard, the mosque was a foundation of Bezmi Âlem Sultan, the mother of Sultan Abdulaziz!







ÇEŞME: A view of Kızkalesi — Photo Çetin Gökçeataam





İÇEL: Siifke folk dance — Photo A. Castrillon



**Yeni Cami (New Mosque)** : It stands right on the Gümrük Square. According to the inscription the mosque was constructed in 1900 by a rich man called Abdulkadir Saydanı.

**The sights of the town** : The Monument of Atatürk and the Park.  
**PLACES AND MONUMENTS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST IN THE VICINITY**

**Yümüktepe** : This is about 3 kms to the north of Mersin. It was a settlement during the Stone Age, Calcolithic, Early Bronze and Hittite period. As a result of the excavations, 32 different cultural layers have been brought to light. In particular, a fortress dating from 3500 B.C. is especially important, being one of the oldest examples of this type of civil architecture in Anatolia.

**Roman Baths** : 5 kms to the east of Mersin, at the village of Karaduvar are the remains of Roman baths with mosaic decorations. The mosaics are worth seeing.

**Viran Şehir (Pompeiopolis)** : 10 kms from Mersin. It was founded by Rhodians in about 700 B.C. They called it Soli (Sun). There are some remains from the times of the Greeks, Romans and Byzantines. The most important site is the Sacred Way (Via Sacra), lined with marble Corinthian columns, and in the harbour an ancient breakwater can be seen.

**Kanlıdivane (Kanyetela)** : 45 kms from Mersin, near Kızkalesi. The ruins scattered over a vast area belong to the Hittite, Phoenician, Greek and Byzantine periods. In the vicinity are rocks with reliefs as well as sarcophagi, castles and Byzantine churches.

**Cennet-Cehennem Obruğu (The Pits of Paradise and Hell)** : 2 kms north of Corycus, are two pits formed by the sinking of the ground due to undermining by subterranean waters. The one known as the Pit of Paradise is 90 metres deep and has trees. Inside the pit, the ruins of a XIIIth century church and a spring can be seen. It is said that the very steep and deep Pit of Hell (100-120 metres) was at one time used as a place into which sinners were thrown.

**Corycus** : 50 kms from Mersin. It was a place of settlement during the Hittite, Greek, Roman, Byzantine and Turkish periods and remains from all these periods can be seen. The ruins of the temple, theatre, palace, cisterns and aqueducts are well worth a visit. The medieval castle on the sea shore is magnificent. In ancient times, Corycus was an important commercial centre for trade between Cyprus, Egypt and Rome.

**Kız Kalesi (Maiden's Castle)** : This castle is in the sea, exactly opposite Corycus. It was built to defend Corycus from a possible attack from the sea. Inside the castle, there are the remains of a palace. The unfortunate son of Sultan Mehmet the Conqueror, Sultan Cem, stayed here for a time before going to Rhodes.

İÇEL: Uzuncaburç (Diocæsarea) — Photo Hüsnü Dirimen





**THE KIZKALESİ (MAIDEN CASTLE) LEGEND :**

The Kizkalesi was — according to the legend — built by the ruling king of that time in order to save his only daughter from death. The legend relates that an augur had foretold to the king that a snake would bite his daughter and that she would die of this.

In order to save her the king ordered that a castle should be erected in the midst of the sea. There he resided with her.

One day, however, a basket of grapes was presented to the king. Nobody saw that a snake had found its way into the basket and that it was sleeping there. From there the snake entered the room of the daughter, bit her, and thus caused her death.

**NARLIKUYU :** Located near Kizkalesi the place is very interesting from the tourist point of view. There one sees a Roman bath adorned with delightful floor mosaics with pictures of

SİLİFKE: Mocamp — Photo Sonia Halliday











İÇEL: Mosaics of Narlıkuyu (The Three Beauties) — Photo Hüsnü Dirimen

three naked women and of several partridges. The mosaics are of such liveliness and freshness that they look as if they have been newly made.

On the upper part there is an inscription, where the following words can be read :

«He who drinks from this water will become clever and live long; the ugly will become beautiful».

The spring that one sees here is said to be the legendary «Nus» spring. Some historians are of the opinion that this spring is the famous «Bath of the Beautiful» or «Bath of the Bachelors».

The three women represented are Hera, Athena and Aphrodite.

**UZUNCABURÇ (Olba - Diocaesarea) :**

This is to the north of Silifke. The most important monuments here are the Temple of Jupiter, a small theatre and the ruins of the city gates.

**SİLİFKE :** 83 kms to the south-west of Mersin. Its ancient name was Seleucia ad Calycadnos. It was founded in the Hellenistic period by Seleucus I in the third century. In 1461 A.D. it was added to the territory of the Ottoman Empire by Gedik Ahmet Paşa.

**Silifke Castle :** This castle bears the characteristics of medieval architecture. It has 23 towers and turrets. The residence of the Seleucus kings is to be found in the middle of the castle. Underneath the palace, there is a cellar or cistern cut out of the rock. The cellar is 5 metres deep, 18 metres long and 5 metres wide. There



is also a mosque inside the castle; according to Evliya Çelebi (the famous Turkish traveller), this was built by Sultan Bayezit.

**ANAMUR (Anamorium):** It is one of the southern-most towns in Turkey.

**Anamur (Mamuriye) Castle:** This castle is still standing with its towers, turrets and embrasures and other features. It was built in the Roman period (IIIrd century A.D.) and repaired at various times.

The walls of the castle take in the Acropolis and that part of the town which is built on level ground. There are very well-preserved grave monuments outside the walls of the castle. After its capture by the Karamanoğulları, it was repaired and a mosque, fountain, and baths were built inside.

**Anamur Buğu Deligi Inn:** Situated 1 km to the north-west of the town and 4.5 metres below ground level. It has an area of 1.000 square metres and stalactites and stalagmites adorn the inside. There are also various streams inside the cave which constantly flow from out of the earth and are known for their healing properties particularly where asthmatic persons are concerned.

The vicinity of Anamur is surrounded by gardens of citrus fruits and bananas. It is a very beautiful spot for camping.

**Softa Castle:** This is a pirate castle 20 kms east of Anamur. It was built by the Phoenicians. The remains of baths and a church are to be seen in the neighbourhood.

**Kanlıviran:** The remains of a temple which was dedicated to Apollo, Roman grave monuments and the remains of two churches can be seen here.

**Kaldıran Castle:** 52 kms to the west of Anamur, the ruins of a castle dating from the Byzantine period can be seen.

**MUT (Claudiopolis):** Situated 147 kms to the west of Mersin. A small mosque, tomb and the remains of city walls dating from the XIVth century can be seen in the town.

**Mut Castle:** The foundations of this castle are very ancient. It has four towers, a tower known as the inner citadel and inside this, there is an underground passage leading to the castle spring.

**Lâlağa Mosque:** This was constructed between 1444 A.D. by Lâlağa, one of the Emirs of Alâeddin Bey of Karamanoğlu. It has a great dome, the nave being covered with five small domes.

**Inns:** There is the Yarımca Inn dating from the Seljuk period and the 32 roomed Davut Paşa Inn from the time of the Karamanoğulları.

**Other buildings:** There are two tombs dating from the Karamanoğulları.

**Rock Graves:** Graves and sarcophagi have been found carved out of rock along the Silifke-Mut road. The church known as the Basilica of Aya Thecla is also in the vicinity.

**Mavğa Castle:** 16 kms from Mut. This castle was built near Kozlar pasture with its stables, mangers and drinking troughs entirely carved out of rock.

**Sertavil Inn:** This building is from the Seljuk period, on the Mut-Karaman road.

**Alahan:** On the Mut-Karaman road, 20 kms away from Mut, the remains of a church and a monastery can be seen. The Byzantine church and the monastery from the Vth century are well preserved and have beautiful stone carvings.

MERSİN: View of the city — Photo Naci Keskin







MERSIN: Tents of Yörüks — Photo Hayri Tuncer

**TARSUS** : It is 30 kms north of Mersin. According to Strabo, it was founded by the Argeans on their way to the Nile coast in search of Io. According to the ancient Greek legend this spot was named Tarsus because Pegasus on his wandering through Cilicia broke his foot there. The historical treasures are embraced by a beautiful landscape in Tarsus. Before the invasion by the People from the Sea in 1290 B.C., the city was in the hands of the Hittites. In 333 B.C. it fell to Seleucus Nicator I. After the collapse of the Seleucid kingdom, Tarsus was ruled successively by the Romans and the Byzantines and later it was invaded by Arabs. As a town on the frontier between the Islamic and Christian worlds, it was a constant place of battle. It fell into the hands of the Turks after the victory of Malazgirt in 1071 A.D. and in 1515 A.D. Sultan Selim the Grim made it part of Ottoman territory.

Tarsus has won a special regard from Christians as the birth place of St. Paul. It is also the place where Antony and Cleopatra met for the first time.

**Şahmeran Baths** : The blood-stained stones on the wall are attributed to the king of snakes (Şahmeran) who was beheaded, according to legend.

**Ulu (Great) Mosque** : It was constructed in 1579 by İbrahim Bey, son of Piri Paşa of Ramazanoğulları. The one-gallery minaret was erected 217 years earlier.

**Kırkkasık** : It was constructed by İbrahim Bey of the Ramazanoğulları in the XVIIth century.

**Well of Saint Paul** : This is the well of the house where the Apostle St. Paul lived.

**Cleopatra Gate** : One of the six gates in the walls which used to surround the town. At Gözlükule, the port of Tarsus, the Roman General Antony welcomed the Egyptian Queen Cleopatra.

**Principal historical monuments and places to visit in the vicinity** : **Gözlükule** : This is situated in the north-east of Tarsus and it has been a place of settlement for 5000 years from the Stone, Chalcolithic, and Bronze Ages.

As a result of excavations, remains have been found from the Hittite period, a Hellenistic bath and the stoa and remains of a Roman theatre. This is the spot Cleopatra approached by boat prior to her meeting with her lover Antony.

**Cave of the Seven Sleepers (Eshab-ı Kehf)** : This is 14 kms to the north west of Mersin. Ten steps lead down to the cave, the interior is square and carved out of the rock.

**Dönük Taş** : This is to be found on the right bank of the River Tarsus and is said to be the tomb of Sardanapulos. It may be the remains of a Roman temple.

**Water Scales** : They were built in 200 B.C. and are part of the aquaduct which brought water to the town.

**Karabucak (Eucalyptus) Plantation** : Once the site of Lake Pegma, this has now been made into a eucalyptus forest.

**Nemrun (Pine Pasture)** : This pasture is 68 kms from Tarsus. This is a popular resort and has beautiful landscapes. There is a historical castle which is worth seeing.

**Cilician Gate** : Alexander the Great passed through this pass on his way to the south. On the narrowest part of the pass a relief depicting Alexander may be seen on a rock.



# ADANA - SEYHAN

Adana is the capital of Seyhan Province and also the biggest city of the Mediterranean Region. It is situated on the north of the Adana plain, also known as Çukurova, on the left bank of the Seyhan River at the place where it emerges from the Taurus Mountains. The main rivers are the Seyhan and Ceyhan. The city which is 50 kms inland from the Mediterranean and at an altitude of 18-20 metres has a typical Mediterranean climate with hot, dry summers and mild, rainy winters.

The main produce of the province is cotton; also wheat, citrus-fruits, vegetables, fruit, sugar cane and leguminosae are grown. It is an economically well-developed province, and big industrial centre. Three quarters of the exports of the province are cotton, cotton oil and cotton thread.

## HISTORY :

Adana according to some archaeologists was called Adania. According to the legend Adana was originally founded by Sarus and Adanus, the sons of the god Uranus who in Greek mythology represented the Great Bear. Thus Adana derives its name from Adanus. Being situated on a main trade route it was subject to constant invasions.

Excavations made in the vicinity show that the place has been inhabited since early times.

Adana and its surroundings were first occupied by the Hittites in the XVth century B.C. and later by the Assyrians. In the VIth century B.C. it became part of the Persian Empire only to be conquered by Alexander the Great in 333, passing into the hands of the Seleucids after his death. Later it was conquered by Pompey and became part of the Roman Empire. During the first half of the VIIth century the armies of Islam captured the region which was invaded by the Crusaders in the XIIth only to be recaptured by the Seljuks of Konya.

In 1517 it was captured by Sultan Selim and became part of the Ottoman Empire. Following the first World War, Adana was temporarily occupied by the French armies on December 24, 1918. On January 5, 1922 it became part of modern Turkey.

**HISTORICAL MONUMENTS IN THE TOWN : Taşköprü (Stone Bridge) :** This was built across the Seyhan River by the Roman Emperor Hadrian in the IInd century AD. and repaired by the Byzantine Emperor Justinian in the VIth century. It is 319 metres long and has 21 arches of which 14 are still standing.

ADANA: Swimming Pool — Photo Sonia Halliday







ADANA: Cotton plantation — Photo Sami Güner



ADANA: The Dam of Seyhan — Photo Sami Güner

**Small Mosque of Akça :** It was the first mosque built in Adana and was constructed in 1409 by Akça Ağa of the Ramazan Oğulları.

**Küçük Mescit (Small Mosque) :** Constructed by Halil Bey in 1492. It is now used as a depot.

**The Ulu (Great) Mosque and Precincts :** Construction began in the time of the Ramazanoğulları by Halil Bey and was completed by his son Piri Bey in the XVIth century. The influence of the Mameluks can be seen in this mosque which is an excellent example of the multi-columned mosques seen in Central Anatolia.

**Eski (Old) Mosque (Yağ Camii) and Precincts :** This mosque, which is in the shopping centre, was constructed during the time of the Ramazanoğulları and repaired during the reign of the Ottomans. The entrance door is of yellow coloured stone and is an important work of art.

**Hasan Kethüda Mosque and Precincts :** It dates from the XVIth century. It was designed in the form of a square by the architect Sinan. Its dome is of Ottoman style.

**Yeni (New Mosque) :** Built by Abdülrezak Sultan in 1724 it is still used as a mosque. Other mosques are the Şihoğlu Mosque (1802) and the Mestanzade Mosque (1681).

**Yeşil (Green) Mescit (Small Mosque) :** It was constructed by Gençzade Hacı Mahmut in 1741. It is administered by the Directorate of Pious Foundations.

**Covered Bazaar :** Built by Piri Paşa, it was repaired by Hasan Paşa in 1850.

**Irmak Bath :** Constructed by Ramazanoğlu Halil Bey in 1594. Other baths are the Çarşı (1529) and the Mestan Baths (1703).

**Clock Tower :** The construction was completed in 1882 by Hacı Bekir Sırrı Efendi during the time of Abidin Paşa, Governor of Adana.

**Archaeological Museum :** It was opened in 1924 and was moved to its present site, the Greek Church, in 1928. It houses objects, unearthed in the excavations conducted near Adana, belonging to the Neolithic, Calcolithic, Copper, Bronze, Hittite, Greek, Roman, as well as Phoenecian, Seljuk and Ottoman periods.

The objects discovered at Yümüktepe and Gözlükule occupy an important place.

#### PLACES AND MONUMENTS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST IN THE VICINITY :

**Misis (Mopsuestia) :** Situated 27 kms. to the east of Adana on the Ceyhan road. This dates back to very ancient times. It was occupied by the Hittites and developed during the Roman period. It was taken over by the Arabs in the VIIth and VIIIth centuries A.D. and in 965 A.D. it was recaptured by the Byzantine Emperor Phocas. Situated on the trade route from the east, it never lost its importance. In 1515 it was made part of Ottoman territory



by Sultan Selim the Grim. The main items of interest are: the Roman amphitheatre and house containing mosaics which are in a very poor state of repair.

**Mosaics Museum** : It houses the floor mosaics of a Basilica type house belonging to the late Roman period, which was the most advanced age for mosaic art. These were unearthed by Prof. Bossert and Prof. Dr. L. Budde.

Although the motifs are fashioned in a very stylised manner, the human and animal figures are extremely realistic. It is made of small coloured stones in the form of jugs.

**Caravanserai of Misis** : There are two caravanserais on the other side of the Ceyhan River. The one to the west has been destroyed but a large part of the other is still standing.

**Misis Bridge** : Situated on the Adana-Aleppo road it was constructed in the middle of the IVth century by the son of the Eastern Roman Emperor. The bridge was repaired by Justinian. It has 9 arches and is constructed of large cream coloured blocks of stone.

**ANAVARZA** : Situated 71 kms. to the north east of Adana, this town was developed considerably during the Roman era. As a result of an earthquake in 526 A.D. it was destroyed and subsequently rebuilt with the help of the Emperor Justinian.

**Anavarza Castle** : This was built during the Byzantine period using Roman materials. During the Arab occupation various additions were made.

**Triumphal Arch** : Constructed in the IIIrd century A.D., the south front is decorated with six Corinthian columns.

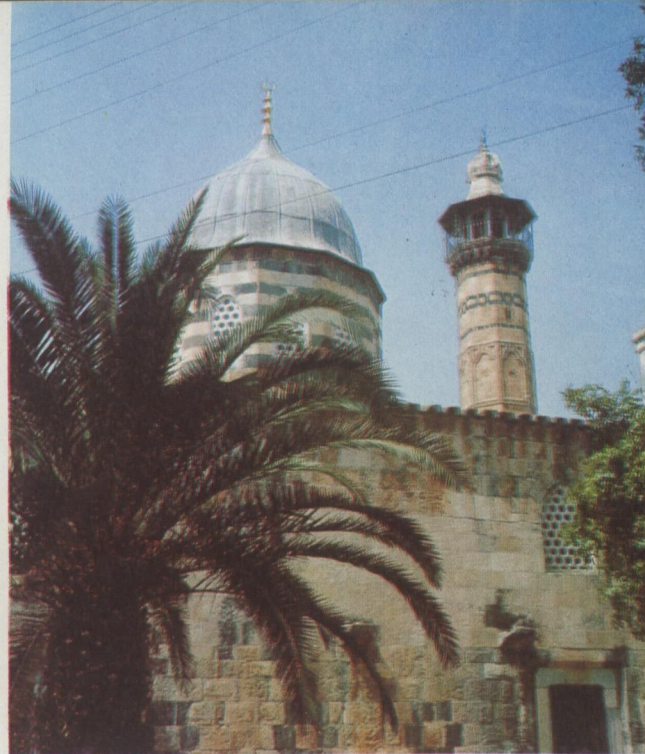
**Rock Church** : This was a church hollowed out of the rocks. It was built in 516 A.D. and the interior was formerly decorated with mosaics.

**Church of the Apostel** : It is thought to have been constructed during the Byzantine period. The apse is square.

Other things to be seen at Anavarza are: the stadium, theatre, amphitheatre and the remains of two aqueducts outside the city walls.

**ŞAR** : Situated 210 kms. to the north of Adana, Hittite and Roman ruins can be seen. It was a religious centre of the Hittites.

**KARATEPE** : It is situated 130 kms. to the north east of Adana near Kadirli. It was inhabited from the XIIth century B.C. onwards. During excavations carried out in 1946 the castle of the Hittite King Assistawandas who lived in the VIIIth century B.C. was unearthed. In addition to various reliefs, the inscriptions in both Hieroglyphic Hittite and the Phoenician language made it possible to decipher Hittite hieroglyphics for the first time and aided the understanding of the Hittite language. Objects found during the excavations are exhibited in the open air museum on the site. There are the remains of a Hittite castle on Domuztepe, facing Karatepe.



ADANA: Ulu Cami (Grand Mosque) — Photo Sami Güner

**Sirkeli Relief** : To be found 45 kms. to the east of Adana in the Ceyhan direction. A representation of the Hittite King Muwatallish is carved into the rock. This work dates from the XIIth century B.C.

**Yılkale (Snake Castle)** : 6 kms from Ceyhan. This dates from the Middle Ages (XIIth Century) and a large part of it is still standing.

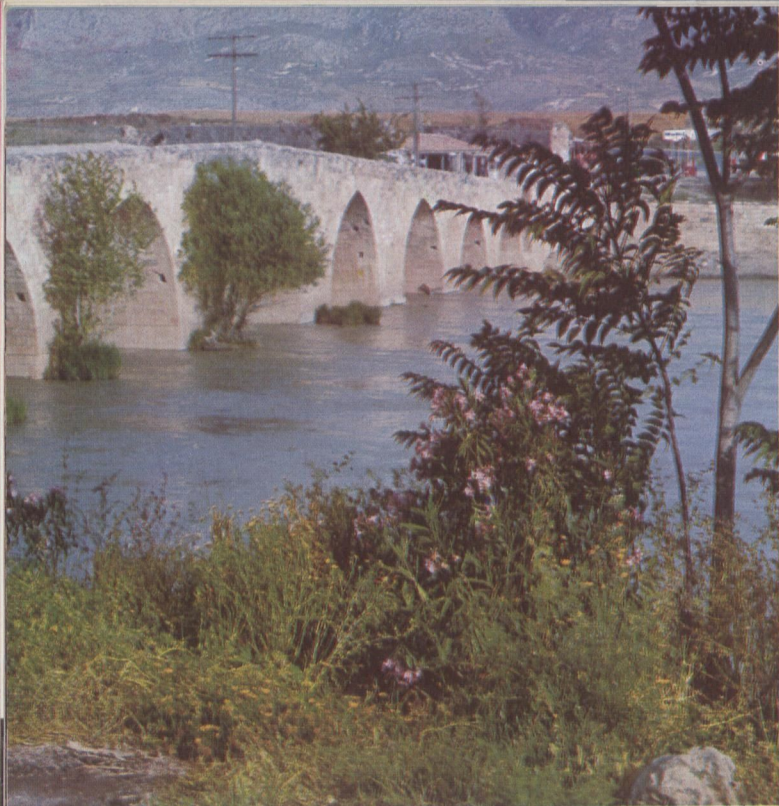
**AYAS (Yumurtalık)** : 30 kms. from Ceyhan. It is one of the oldest cities of Cilicia. There used to be a port and city here in the early ages.

This castle was repaired by Sultan Süleyman the Law Giver and dates from the Middle Ages.

**KADIRLI** : Situated 102 kms. from Adana. It is thought that Kadirli was built on the site of the ancient city of Flaviapolis. The bronze statue of the Roman Emperor Hadrian exhibited in







ADANA: The bridge of Misis — Photo Sami Güner

the Istanbul Archaeological Museum was found at Kadirli. One of the main items of interest to be seen in this town is the Ala Mosque. The importance of this mosque lies in the fact that it shows together Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman art. This was originally constructed as a church and later converted into a mosque. In the vicinity of Kadirli the Cem Castle may be seen. This dates from the Middle Ages. There is a stone relief from Roman times to be seen to the south of this castle.

**Milvan Castle:** Situated 48 kms. from Adana near the town of Karaisalı, this dates from the Middle Ages.

**Hoş Kadem Mosque:** Built in 1448 by Emir Abdullah Hoşkadem of the Egyptian Mameluks.

**Sis Castle:** Near Ceyhan and Anazarva Castle, this dates from the Middle Ages and was restored in the IXth century.

**Kurtlar Castle:** A relief of the Middle Ages situated to the east of Adana in the town of Bahçe.

**Dumlu Castle:** 68 kms from Adana to the north west of Ceyhan. This dates from the Middle Ages and played an important part in the Crusades.

**FEKE (Vahka) :** 127 kms. from Adana, this was the scene of battles between the Byzantines and Armenians. One can see the remains of a castle and chateau dating from the Middle Ages.

**CEYHAN :** Situated on the left of the Ceyhan river it is built on the site of the old Yarsuvat Village. There are many carding and press factories, some rice factories, ice, vegetable oil, soap and construction material factories. Hand-crafts are well developed.

**KOZAN :** Situated on the north edge of the Ceyhan Plain It is constructed on the site of the ruins of an old city.

**Kozan Castle :** Situated inside the town it was first built by the Assyrians and later repaired. It is built on a steep hill and has 44 towers. The castle has many store rooms reached by descending 20 to 30 steps, secret passages and big water reservoirs.

**KARATAŞ:**

The terrain of this sub-province stretches over the part of the Çukurova plain that protrudes towards the Mediterranean. There are many shore lakes here, the main ones being the Akyayan, Akyatan and Tuz lakes. Karataş is Adana's seaside town and many bathing facilities have been built.



**POZANTI:** It lies over the very steep and partly forested sections of the central Taurus mountains. It is a stop on the road connecting central Anatolia to Syria.

The Abbaside Caliph, Memun, died at his headquarters on the banks of the Pozanti river on his way to fight the Byzantines in 833.

**OSMANIYE:** The town is situated on the slopes of the Amanos Mountain in a very fertile valley among orchards.

**KARAIŞALI:** It is situated on the high peaks of the Taurus mountains. Its main river is the Çakıt. It is the smallest sub-province of Adana.

**FEKE:** Situated in the mountainous terrain between the tributaries of the Ceyhan River, the Samantı and Göksu rivers.

**SAİMBEYLİ:** The old name of the sub-province is "Haçindir". Saimbeyli is situated on the undulating terrain of the central Taurus Mountains.

Other Sub-provinces are: Mağra and Bahçe.

**PLACES TO VISIT:**

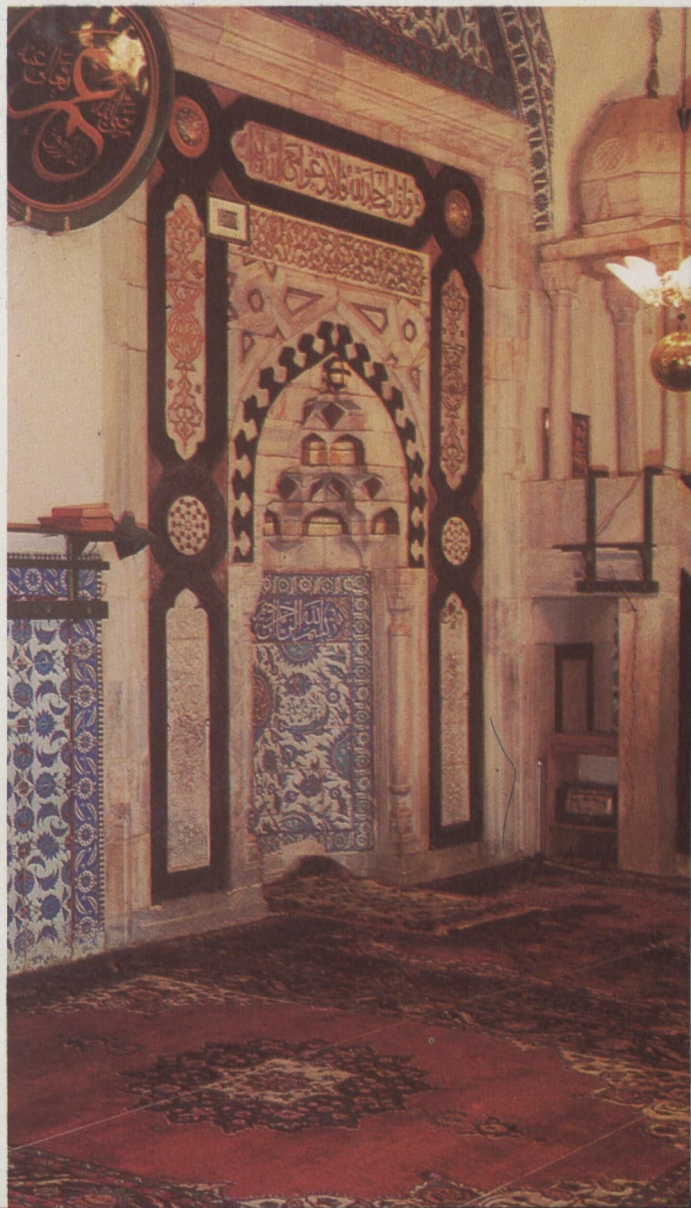
**Çamlık (Pine Groves):** This is an excursion spot 10-15 minutes away from the town.

**Bürücek Mountain Pasture:** To be found on the Adana-Tarsus road in the Taurus Mountains.

**Karataş:** This is a typical fishing village with a pretty beach 50 kms to the south of Adana.

**Dilberler Sekisi:** This is a picnic spot covered with pines between the Seyhan Dam and Regulator.

**Seyhan Dam:** An attractive park has been laid out here.



ADANA: Interior of the Ulu Cami — Photo Sonia Halliday





# ANTAKYA - HATAY

Antakya is the most important province in South Anatolia. It is situated on the south of the Amanos Mountains and north east of the lower Orontes river valley which opens the plain of Amik to the Mediterranean. The most important mountains in this region are the Amanos Mountains. These mountains permit transport east and west at a number of places. Belen is the most

important pass on these mountains between İskenderun and Antakya.

In Antakya, besides the plain of Amik, there is also a narrow coastal plain between the Amanos Mountains and the sea.

The most important river of the region is the Orontes which rises in the Lebanon, passes through Syria and the plain of Amik and flows into the Mediterranean. Other streams are the Afrin and the Karasu.

Amik is the principal lake of this province.

ANTAKYA: A view of İskenderun — Photo Işık Bekman





Its climate, to the delight of visitors, is Mediterranean, with hot, dry summers and warm rainy winters.

The most popular fruits are oranges and lemons. Rice cultivation can be seen in the valleys. Hunting is increasing in this region and partridge, quail and deer are the principal prey of the sportsman.

Near Lake Amik there are many varieties of wild birds.

#### **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

The history of the region goes back to 4000 B.C. During excavations carried out on the barrows on the plain of Amik, it was ascertained that the area has been inhabited since the Stone Age. It has passed through the hands of the Hittites, the Assyrians, the Persians, the Macedonians and was developed considerably during the Hellenistic Age.

The town of Antakya was built in 300 B.C. by Antiochus, one of Alexander the Great's generals. During the Roman and Byzantine periods, it was a centre of commerce, learning and amusement, and played a large part in the spread of Christianity. Saint Peter came here and founded the first church organization. In the IIIrd and IVth centuries many meetings of church and council were held in the town. Battles between the Byzantines and the Arabs took place here and it was captured by the Crusaders in 1084 and then a Latin State was founded here which continued for a period of 170 years. In 1268 it was captured by the Mameluks and in 1516 Sultan Selim the Grim made it part of the Ottoman territory during his Egyptian campaign. It came under the jurisdiction of the French in 1918 and reverted to Turkey in 1939.

#### **HISTORICAL MONUMENTS IN THE TOWN:**

**Bridge:** This was built over the Orontes river by the Roman emperor, Diocletian (284 - 305). One of the supports of the bridge is decorated with the representation of a Roman eagle.

**Museum:** Here one can see a wonderful collection of Roman mosaics from round about Antakya. These were worked from natural coloured stones and decorated the floors of dwellings. The most beautiful are those dating from the IIrd and IIIrd centuries A.D. The art of mosaic declined in the IVth century and disappeared altogether at the end the Vth century. In addition to this most interesting collection, various objects from barrows in the vicinity can be seen.



SAMANDAĞ: View of the Beach — Photo Sami Güner





ANTAKYA: Asi River — Photo Sami Güner

**Habibneccar Mosque** : This was a church built in the Middle Ages, subsequently turned into a mosque.

**Ulu Mosque** : It is an Ottoman mosque inside the town, which was constructed during the time of Suleiman the Magnificent in the XVIth century.

**Other works** : Kurşunlu Inn and Mosque, Cundi, Meydan and Saka Baths etc, all constructed during the Ottoman rule.

**HISTORICAL PLACES AND MONUMENTS IN THE VICINITY :**

**Harbiye (Daphne)** : Situated 8 kms, to the south of Antakya, it commands a beautiful view and was famous for its waterfall as an excursion spot during the time of the Romans. The aquaducts that can be seen are the only remains from Roman and Byzantine times.

**Saint Peter's Grotto** : This church is hollowed out of the rock and is to be found 2 kms out of the town on the Reyhanlı road. Saint Peter used to preach here. It was made into the form of a church by the Crusaders in the XII-XIIIth centuries. The façade resembles a Gothic church. There are remains of mosaics to be found inside the cave and, the right of the altar, there is a spring which is supposed to be sacred. A ceremony is held here on the 29th of June, the day when Saint Peter is reputed to have been killed.

**Baths of the Sinners (Charonion)** : Built during the time of King Antiochus. There is the relief of a Heron's head here.

**Castle and City Walls** : There are the remains of a castle which was completed during the time of Nicephoros Phocas, 7 kms to the south of Antakya. This castle was repaired by Basileus II and the Crusaders at the beginning of the XIth century. It has two entrances: the Damascus Gate and the Aleppo Gate. The city walls, remains of which may be seen in many places, were constructed in the Hellenistic period. They have been repaired at various times and are 30.000 metres long.



**Kürşat Castle:** This is 14 kms from Antakya on the Yayladağı road. It was constructed by the Crusaders and the two towers guarding the south-west front are in a fairly good state of preservation.

**CASSIUS MOUNTAIN (Cebel Akra):** This was a spot sacred to the Hittites 33 kms to the south of Antakya. It continued to be regarded as a sacred place during subsequent periods.

**YOĞUNLUK:** Here may be seen the remains of a church constructed by the Crusaders in the XIIIth century. It is 11 kms to the south of Antakya.

**SAMANDAĞ:** 28 kms to the south-west of Antakya. The place known as Mağaracık to the north of the town was built as a harbour.

**MAĞARACIK (Seleucia of Pieria):** This is 5 kms from Samandağı. There are the ruins of a harbour, temple and city gate.

**Titus Tunnel:** It is 8 kms from Samandağı. It was constructed by the Emperors Titus and Vespasianus, to prevent the harbour being flooded.

**Rock Graves:** Near to the tunnel, there are rock graves which were built in the same period. To the north of the Acropolis there are the remains of a gate.

**Heronion:** It is a rock relief portraying the boatman of Hell. It is 2 kms from the town.

**Bath:** Here may be seen the foundations of a Roman bath. All its floor mosaics have been removed to the museum.

#### REYHANLI:

**Tel-El-Cüdeyde:** This is a barrow 1 km from Reyhanlı.

**Çatal Höyük:** This is one of the 183 barrows on the plain of Amik which have not been excavated yet.

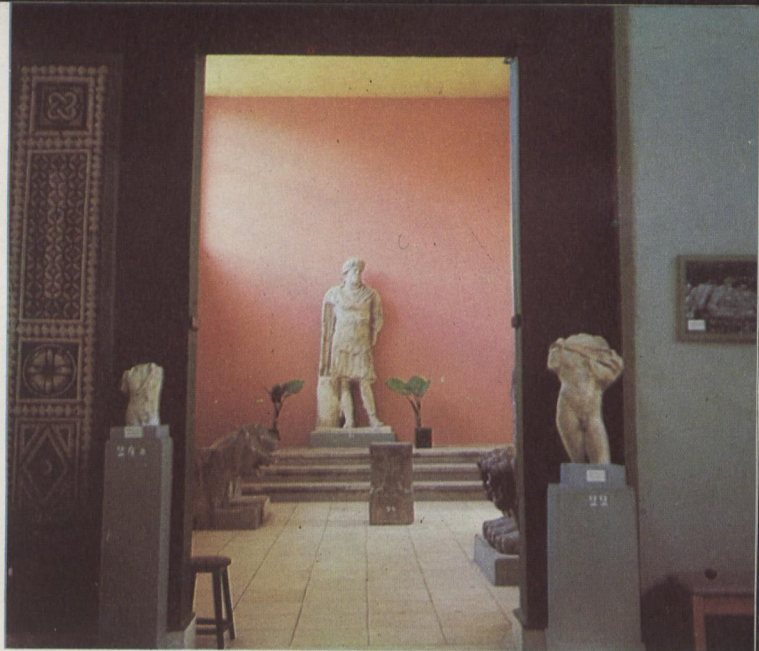
**Tel-Açana:** 22 kms from Reyhanlı. In the excavation of this barrow, different cultural layers were found from 3400-1400 B.C. Among these, Dehep and Akrat barrows are mentioned.

**Tel-Tainat:** In Antakya museum, there are many finds which have been made in the Tainat barrow. These date from the VIIIth century B.C.

**Mosaics:** 22 kms along the Reyhanlı-Cilvegözü road some splendid mosaics have been found in the garden of a house.

**Monastery of Monks:** 25 kms from Reyhanlı, it dates from the Vth century.

ANTAKYA: The Church of St. Peter — Photo Hüsni Dirimen



ANTAKYA: Interior of Museum — Photo Oktay Erentürk







ANTAKYA: Mosaic Museum -- Photo Sami Güner

ANTAKYA: Mosaic Museum -- Photo Sami Güner



#### ISKENDERUN :

58 kms to the north of Antakya. Iskenderun is Turkey's largest port on the Mediterranean. It was founded by Alexander the Great and given his name following his victory at Issos. It was destroyed by the Sassanians in 260. In the VIIIth century it was taken over by the Arabs and in 969 passed into the hands of the Byzantines. In 1515 it was captured by Sultan Selim the Grim, and in 1918 it was occupied by the French but reverted to Turkey in 1939.

**Arusz:** This is a little fishing village to the south-west of Iskenderun. It is thought to be the site of the town of Rhosus built by the Seleucids in 300 B.C. Round about one can see the remains of ancient buildings and city walls. The beach at Arusz is very pretty. In the vicinity of Hinzir Point may be seen the remains of a Crusader's castle.

**BAĞRAS (Bakras) Castle:** This castle, dating from the time of the Crusaders, is on the road to Antakya from Iskenderun and it is thought to have been formerly known as Pagrae. It was an important halting place in very ancient times.

**Issos:** This is 84 kms from Antakya, and was the site of the famous battle between Alexander the Great and Darius III in 333 B.C. which resulted in victory for Alexander.

#### YAYLADAĞI :

**Barlı Inn:** The city ruins which have been found in the Keldağ diggings date from the early periods of Christianity. It has a good road.

**The Church of Barlı Inn:** It is from the early period of Christianity. And is 17 kms from the town centre. There is also Kasım Bey Mosque and the remains of a Roman Bridge inside the town.

#### KIRIKHAN :

**Trapeze Castle:** It dates from the Roman period in Alaybeyli village.

**Hassa:** The forest in the vicinity is a beautiful picnic spot with a number of springs



ANTAKYA: Entrance of the city — Photo Sami Güner



ANTALYA: The beach of Samandağ — Photo Sami Güner





#### **DÖRTYOL :**

**Payas Castle :** 20 kms from the town. This was built in the time of the architect Sinan.

**Cin Tower :** This tower dates from the period of the architect Sinan. The Sultan Selim Complex, constructed in 1574 by Sultan Selim II., consists of the following buildings: Mosque, Bath, Inn, Bedesten, Spring, Bridge and school for small children. It represents an unique example of Turkish architecture.

**Belen :** Sultan Süleyman Inn from XVIth century.

#### **OTHER PLACES TO VISIT :**

In this district, there are a very large number of summer pastures and resorts. The most important of these places are Soğukoluk, Belen, Beyhan, Antik, Nergislik, Bityas. Arsuz and Samandağ have attractive beaches with modern facilities.

**Hot Springs :** The Hâmam Springs situated at Reyhanlı, 39 kms to the east of Antakya, are very popular.



**SAMANDAĞ:** Swimming pool

Photo: Sami Güner





# MARAŞ

The larger part of the province of Maraş is in the Adana section of the Mediterranean region.

Ahır, Engizek, and Nurbak mountains on the north side of the plateau of Maraş and Berit Mount on the west side of the town are a continuation of the Taurus range.

Besides the plain of Maraş, there is a second plain in the north called Elbistan.

The Ceyhan river is the combination of the brooks of Söğütü and Hurma which run over the Elbistan plain. The brooks of the Maraş plain are also joined by the Aksu and they run into the Ceyhan River. The Göksu is the most important river of the region.

The climate is a transition between Continental and Mediterranean climates. Maraş has warm winters and hot and dry summers.

Maraş is more suited to the raising of animals. The main products of the region are grapes and their by-products.

MARAŞ: Museum — Photo Sami Güner







GAZIANTEP: Copper works — Photo Isik Bekman





# GAZIANTEP

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND :** The region has a very old history. Under the name of Maraksi, this was one of the Late Hittite cities. The Assyrians, the Persians, the Romans, the Byzantines and the Arabs occupied Maraş successively. Maraş passed into the hands of the Seljuks at the end of the XIth century, came under the rule of the Dülkadiroğlu Beylik in the XIVth century, and in the first half of the XVth century was taken over by the Mameluk Sultans. Sultan Selim the Grim captured the town during his Egyptian campaign in 1516 and it became part of Ottoman territory. The townspeople of Maraş showed great heroism during the recent fight for independence.

## MONUMENTS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST IN THE TOWN :

- The Fortress :** It is thought to be from the time of the Hittites. It has been rebuilt and repaired several times in recent centuries. In front of the fortress, there were four Hittite lions until the XVIIth century, but three of them were lost. The other one is in the Istanbul Archaeological Museum.
- Grand Mosque :** It is the work of Dülkadirli Turk. There is a ruined kitchen for the poor beside it.
- Hatuniye Mosque :** It was built by the grandmother of Sultan Selim the Grim.
- Ulu Mosque :** It has interesting mosaics in it.
- Beyazit Mosque :** It was constructed by Hacı Kocabey of the family of Sultan Bayezit in the Ottoman period.
- Museum :** Various historical objects and Hittite works which

were found in the vicinity of Maraş can be seen in this museum.

## PLACES AND MONUMENTS AND HISTORICAL INTEREST IN VICINITY :

**AFŞIN :** Efsus was the old name of the town. 6 kms to the west of this small town may be seen the Cave of the Seven Sleepers. On the same spot are an old mosque, and caravanserais from the Seljuk period.

**ELBISTAN :** It is situated to the north of Maraş. At Karahöyük which is situated in the vicinity of the town, diggings have proved that there was a settlement here in the Hittite period. Some household utensils and cuniform inscriptions have been found. A number of Seljuk constructions can be seen at Elbistan, the most important of which are the Ulu Mosque, the Himmet Baba Mosque. The Kız Kulesi (Girl's Tower) overlooking the town dates from the Middle Ages.

**GÖKSUN :** 103 kms to the north-west of Maraş. A few unimportant Roman remains may be seen here.

**The Ceyhan Bridge :** It was built in the Seljuk period and is on the Maraş-Elbistan road.

**Döngel Caves :** Some prehistoric fossils were found in these caves.

**Dikilitaş :** It is unknown how this monolith was erected, it is situated near Elzaniye village which is 14 kms north of Elbistan. It is 7 metres high and 1,5 metres in diameter.

**PLACES TO VISIT — Andırın :** 85 kms from Maraş. This small town surrounded by forest is in a mountainous spot.





# GAZIANTEP

The province of Gaziantep lies largely in the south-east Anatolian region and partly in the Mediterranean region.

The land is covered with plateaux, the altitude of which varies between 500-700 metres.

The Euphrates is the most important river of the region forming a natural boundary between the provinces of Urfa and Gaziantep.

In the province, the summers are hot and dry, and the winters very cold.

This region is highly developed economically and is a big industrial centre.

More than three quarters of the production is cotton, cotton cloth and cotton oil. Another major produce of the region is the pistachio nut. Its carpet weaving, metal work and Turkish sweet pastry (Baklava) are famous and are most important economic resources for this city.

GAZIANTEP: A view — Photo Işık Bekman





**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND :** It is not known for certain by whom the town was founded but it is said that the present Gaziantep is situated on the site of Doliche. The city came under the rule of the Hittites, the Assyrians, the Romans, the Byzantines and the Arabs. Towards the end of the XIth century, the city fell into the hands of the Seljuks and in the first half of the XVth century, it came under the rule of the Mamelük Sultans. Sultan Selim the Grim captured the city in 1516 during his Egyptian campaign and it became part of Ottoman territory.

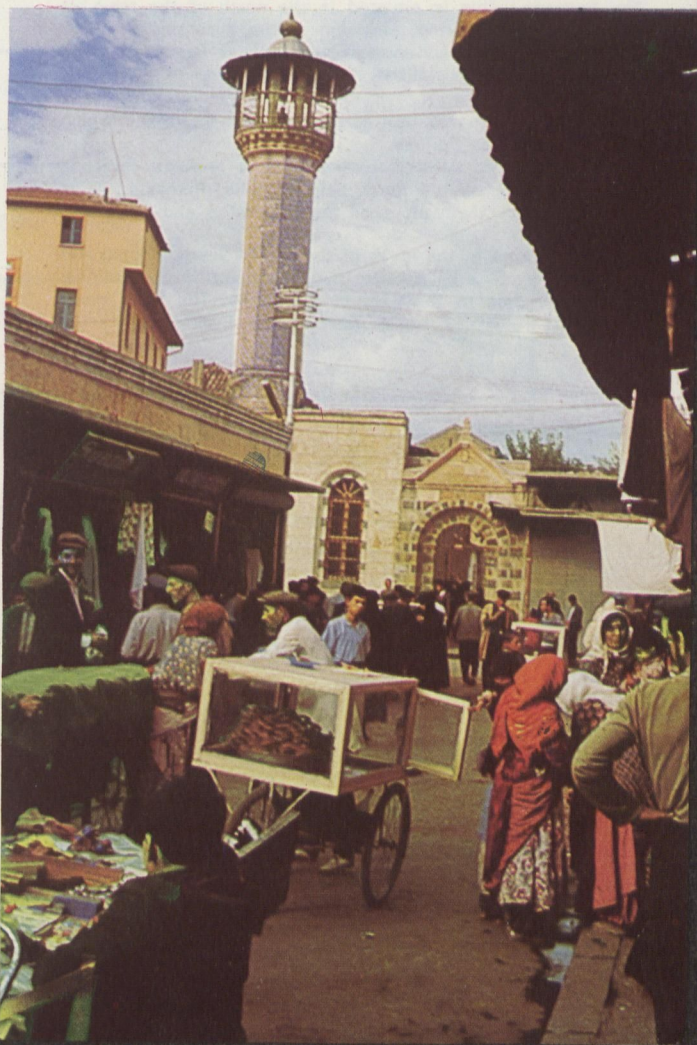
Gaziantep was occupied by the French in 1919 and the city earned the title of "Gazi" or "Veteran" from the heroism of its citizens during the of War of Independence

**HISTORICAL MONUMENTS IN THE TOWN — Ahmet Çelebi Mosque :** This wooden mosque whose workmanship is interesting was constructed in 1672. There is a medrese standing beside it (1713).

**Ömeriye Mosque :** It is thought that the mosque was constructed when the city was captured by Islam in the XIth century.

**Pişirici Medrese :** This is interesting with its underground parts reached by 10 to 30 steps.

**Other Mosques :** Before the War of Independence, the city had 37 mosques and 60 small mosques, but a number of these were destroyed during the battle.



GAZİANTEP: View of the city — Photo Edvin Rizl



**Archaeological Museum :** The Seljuk medrese is now used as a museum. One may see some of the objects which were discovered during the excavations at Zincirli, Sakçagözü, Kargamış. The Hittite seal collection is particularly rich.

**The Fortress :** This is situated in the north of the town. It was constructed during the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Justinian (527-565) and was rebuilt by the Seljuks.

#### **PLACES AND MONUMENTS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST IN THE VICINITY**

**Fortresses :** There are four fortresses near Gaziantep which were built by the Seljuks.

**Tilhabeş Fortress. Altıntaş Fortress :** It is in ruins. Revanda

**Fortress :** It is on the north side of Killis. Rumkale : It is situated where the waters of the Euphrates and Merzimen Rivers meet.

**Düllük :** 10 kms to the north of the town; Greek, Roman and Byzantine remains have been found here during excavations.

**Belkis :** 17 kms to the east of Gaziantep. The town came under the rule of Greeks, Romans and Byzantines.

**Kargamış :** Situated 81 kms to the south-east of Antep. This town became important from 1200 B.C. onwards when the Hittite Empire of Anatolia fell as a result of occupation by the Sea tribes. Kargamış was the most important of the Hittite Kingdoms in the south-east Anatolian and north Syrian regions. Damaged during battles between the Phoenicians and Assyrians, it was captured in 717 B.C. by the Assyrians. Archaeological excavations at Karkamış have found reliefs depicting mythological events and scenes from palace life. The Assyrian influence is evident. A large number of the objects found are in the Hittite Museum in Ankara.

**Sakçagözü** 50 kms to the west of Gaziantep. Diggings carried out here have proved that this was a settlement in the Neolithic, Calcolithic and Hittite periods. Some of the objects found are in the Istanbul Archaeological Museum.

**Zincirli (Samal) :** 98 kms to the west of Gaziantep. The little kingdom of Zincirli was at its most prosperous following the fall of the Hittite Empire of Anatolia in 1200 B.C. It was occupied by the Assyrian King Sargon II in the VIIIth century B.C. A number of the objects found during diggings are in museums in Ankara or Berlin.

**KİLİS :** It was mentioned by the name of "Kilizi" on the Assyrian clay tablets. At the time of Caliph Ömer, it was taken by the Moslems and annexed by the Count of Urfa during the First Crusade. During the reign of Sultan Selim the Grim, it became part of Ottoman territory. In the year 1919, the town was occupied by the British Army and in the same year handed over to the French, but in the year 1921 the town reverted to Turkey.

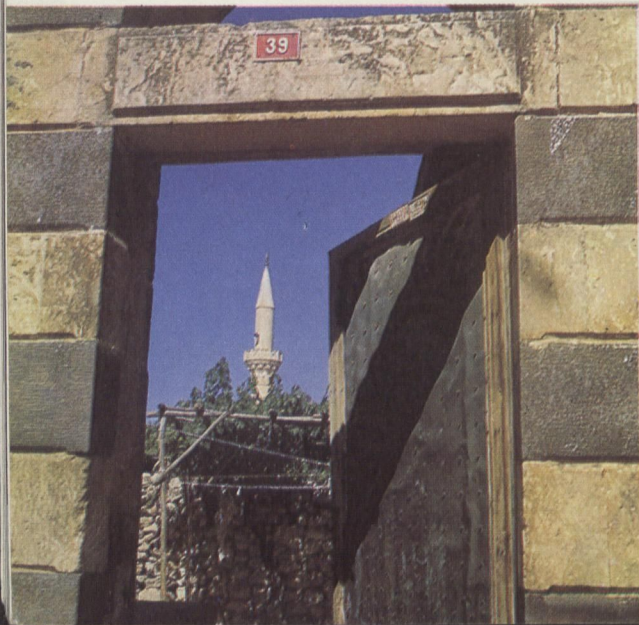
In the town, there are industries such as cotton weaving, silk weaving and the leather trade.

**NİZİP :** It is a pretty town. There is a ruined church from the Byzantine period. In the town there are also some historical mosques.

In the year 1961, during the excavation of Şehzade barrow, which is 7 kms distant from Nizip on the Gaziantep-Nizip road, different kinds of layers of Tel-Halaf culture were found.

#### **PLACES TO VISIT**

**Başpınar :** 10 kms from the city; it is an excursion spot where there are fresh water springs.



KİLİS — Photo Necmi Küllâhçı





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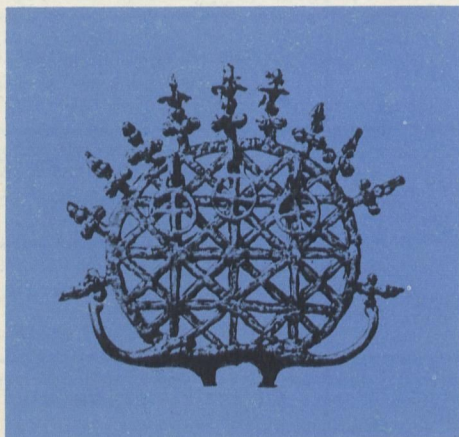
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