



BURSA

▣ LET'S PLAY CULTURE LET'S PLAY CLIL



BURSA

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CITY OF ALL TIMES



Bursa is located in the north-west of the Anatolian peninsula, at the foot of Uludağ mountain, and south-east of the Marmara Sea.

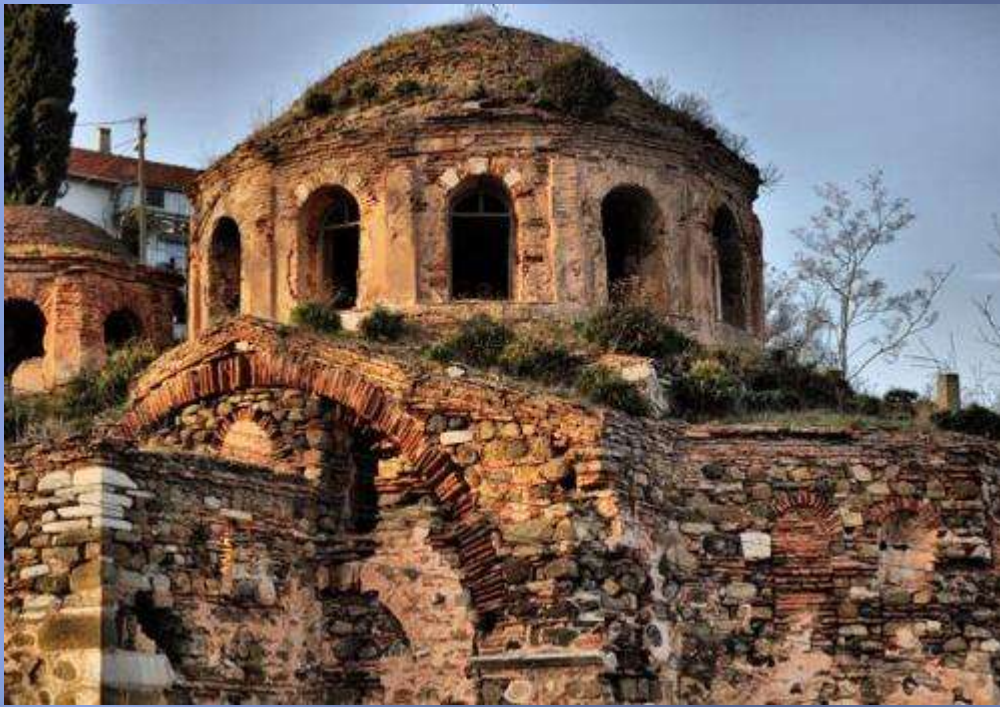


- It is a unique wonder of nature with its lakes, rivers, mountains, curative thermal waters, large and fertile plains, and especially with its rich flora.



Bursa is a modern city which has not confined itself to the natural beauties God has bestowed upon it, but has also advanced its industry and technology to the same level as the other developed countries and now it is the fourth biggest city of Turkey with its population exceeding 2,5 million.





- ▣ It is also a city full of culture and history showing the architectural and cultural features of the Byzantine, Ottoman, and Republican eras through to the present-day.





- ▣ Bursa, dazzling its visitors with the richness of its unique monuments belonging to the Byzantine and Ottoman periods, is one of the most important tourism cities of Turkey after İstanbul in terms of “cultural tourism potential”





Bursa houses 27 archaeological, 3 urban, and 1 natural SIT areas, and more than 2000 cultural, historical and monumental architecture pieces which need to be protected





Uludağ Ski Resort

İznik Tiles



**Emirsultan and
redbuds**



İznik Hagia Sophia Church



As well, it is the largest winter and natural sports center in Turkey with Uludağ closely situated Bursa. It is a city that combines many civilizations. You can visit churches, chapels from the Byzantine times and many mosques built at the period of Ottoman Empire.

SYNAGOGUES

The First synagogue built during the Ottoman Empire by the decree and proclamation of Orhan Gazi was the Synagogue Ets Ahayim (Life Tree). Following this, “the Mayor Synagogue” was built for Jewish immigrants leaving the Spanish Island of Majorca at Spain seeking sanctuary in the Ottoman Empire in the XV. century. Another synagogue is “Gerufl Synagogue” on Arapşükrü Street. It was built by Sultan Selim in the early XVI. century. Gerufl Synagogue, large and well kept, still has open doors for Jews living here.



Bursa, a Spiritual and Tolerant City

Some travellers visiting Bursa were interested in lives the of dervishes and their lodges especially at 'Pınarbaşı'. Many travellers observed that way of Dervish life in Bursa and participated in rituals. J. H. A. Ubcini relates this feature of Bursa as follows: "Bursa is like a temple or a place of pilgrimage in the eyes of Ottomans. Just like Baghdad, it is worth the praise of 'Burcu'l-evliya'. However, Baghdad is an Arab city and Bursa is a pure Turkish city." Baptistin Poujoulat said: "Among the cities of Islam I have seen until now, I consider Bursa as a city absolutely Asian.



FOLKDANCES

There are 3 groups of Bursa folk dances; the sword & shield war dance, Uludağ Turkoman dances, and Thracian folklore. Uludağ Turkoman dances performed with two or more people by forming a circle. It is a group dance. In regional dances, mostly people have spoons or bells in their hands for rhythm purposes. Turkoman dances vary; “Güvende”, “Sekme”, “Düz oyun”, “Büyükoyun”, and “Algeria”. Most of these dances are performed regional music (türkü).



Sword & Shield is one of the folk dances played without music. It is found that this dance was being played in Anatolia before Turks as well. The sounds created by the dancers' clapping of their own foot and hand, acts as a rhythm. Sword & shield dances, symbolizing the wars of old times, consists of 6 figures and each of them has a meaning. The dance is played by 6-8 or more people. Many sword & shield dance groups active in Bursa, have been awarded many prizes by related domestic or foreign organizations because of the originality of the dance.



A Shadow Play Surviving for Six Centuries, KARAGÖZ

The shadow play, called “Karagöz play” has a significant place in the cultural life of Turkey. The investigations about the history and origins of Karagöz, revealed that this play has a close connection to Bursa, because the main characters of this play, Karagöz and Hacivat, were both Bursa citizens and the person who created this play, Şeyh Küşteri, was a citizen of Bursa as well.



The creator of the play

Thus, in Bursa, shadow art festivals are organized at international level. The shadow play of Karagöz is played behind a tight white curtain attached to a frame. The figures are kept in front of a light source. During early times this light source was a candle, however, today it has been replaced by electric bulbs. The Turkish shadow play Karagöz was born in Bursa and spread throughout our country. For a certain period of time it received little or no attention and was looked upon as a funny memory of the past but now, with the activities organized in Bursa, it is once again popular as if newly invented. UNIMA (International Puppets and Shadow Play Association) Bursa Branch and Metropolitan Municipality organise “Bursa Karagöz and Shadow Plays Festival ”every year in order to bring it to the world’s attention



Bursa, City of Thermal Baths and Health

The City of Thermal Baths and Health, Bursa, is one of the richest cities in the world in terms of bathhouses and especially thermal baths. The earliest citation pertaining to the thermal baths of Bursa occurs in the conversations of Dion and dates back to the year BC 80. Ottomans repaired the bathhouses of Byzantium.



Bathhouse of Ottoman



Bathhouse of Byzantium

The thermal waters of Bursa originate from the Bademli Bahçe and Çekirge regions located to the west of the city. The chemical analysis of these two waters are different and even the waters originating from the same region shows differences as well. In light of these analyses, it can be concluded that there is no relation between these two sources. The waters of Çekirge are called “çelikli” (including iron) and the waters of Bademli Bahçe are called “kükürtlü” (including sulphur).



FAMOUS FOOD OF BURSA

ISKENDER

Iskender Kebab or Iskender in short is one of the famous kebabs of Bursa. It started in 1867 in Kayhan Bazaar. Even if it is essentially "doner" kebab", what makes Iskender itself is the butter on it, the tomato sauce, the yogurt and the oily pitta bread pieces. Furthermore, Iskender meat is different from other doners. Iskender comes meat from rams which are fed with the thyme of Uludağ. The oil of Iskender meat is less. Spread to other cities from Bursa, Iskender Kebab is still made the best in its hometown, Bursa.



INEGOL MEATLOAF

The little meatballs that the immigrants from the Balkans brought into Turkey in the 19th century started to be sold as "Inegol Meatball" in a little shop which was opened in 1930 by Mustafa Besler. This delicious meatball is identified with Inegol and Bursa.



SPONGE PASTRY ROLLS IN SYRUP (KEMAL PAŞA TATLISI)

It is known as cheese dessert in the beginning, this dessert was first produced in Mustafakemalpaşa County in 1930s, then it spread out to the country. This dessert is made of sheep's cheese. Cheese, flour, farina and egg are kneaded, made into 3-4 cm cookie rolls and then cooked in the oven. Then it is sold in packets. It is put into the boiling syrup and made into the dessert.



MILKY KADAYIF

As you can get from its name, it is made by adding hot milk to shredded wheat dessert in syrup. Filled with crushed walnut and milk, this dessert is heavenly.



MIHLAC CHEESE

This cheese which is produced in Karacabey, Bursa is made by mixing ewe and cow's milk. It is very spongy, very salty and it has a unique taste.

OLIVE AND OLIVE OIL

Olive and olive oil production has a wide range in Bursa. Especially the counties of Mudanya, Trilye and Gemlik are the famous ones where olives are produced of the best quality. According to the 2017-2018 statistics of world producing and exporting of olive and olive oil, Turkey is one of the top countries in the rank.



CANDIED CHESTNUT

Candied chestnut is made by boiling the famous chestnut from the foot of Uludağ in sweetened syrup. The varieties of candied chestnuts are typical desserts of Bursa.



VELVETY FRUIT OF BURSA: PEACH

The City of Bursa is famous for its peaches. There are many varieties of peach in Bursa and it is one of the most popular fruits during the summer months. Thought to be spread throughout the world from China, the peach is seen as the symbol of long life and immortality. The kernel of the peach that is easily removed is called 'yarma(split)' and the one that is stuck to the pulp is called clingstone peach. Split peach is usually consumed as fresh fruit. Clingstone peach is canned. There are two types of peaches known as one with white flesh and one with yellow flesh in our country. Since Bursa plain has been opened for construction, peach production is decreasing little by little.



Cultural Heritage of Bursa



Koza Inn



Grand Mosque



Pirinç Inn

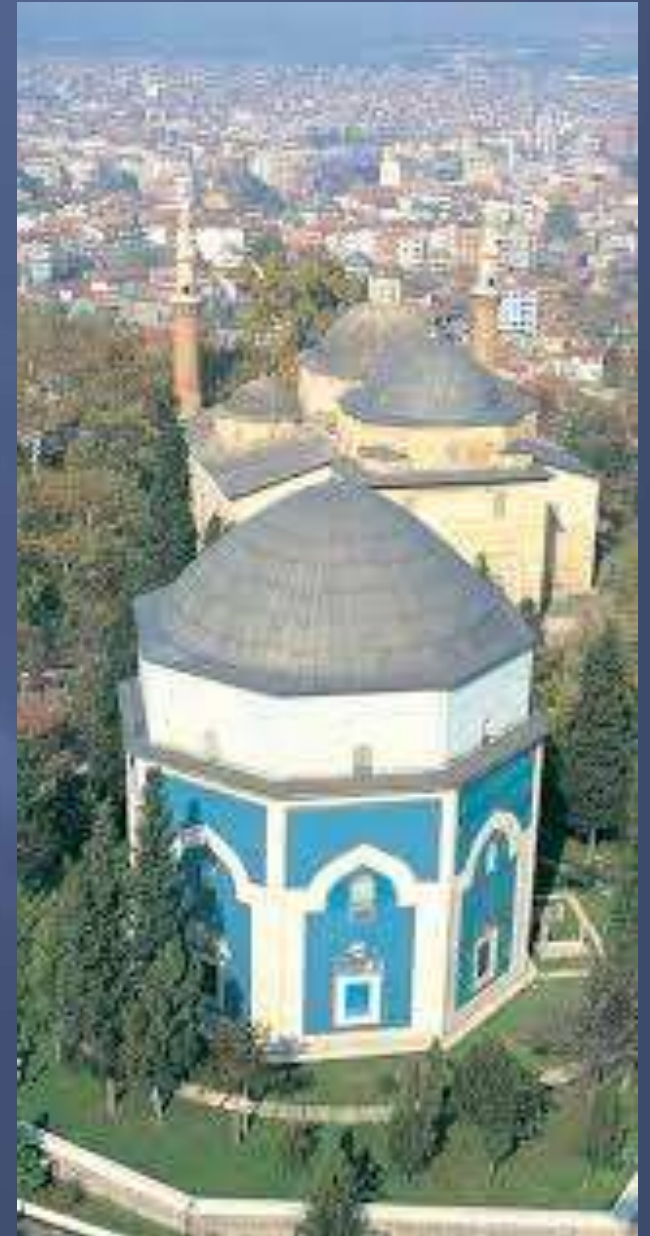


Silvered Dome



Muradiye Islamic Ottoman Complex

Green Tomb



Mudanya Province

Established as an Ionian colony in the 7th century B .C., Mudanya was first named Mirleia, then Apamia and finally Montania. The name 'Mudanya' came from a change of Montania. Being a village attached to Kite/Ürünlü for many years, Mudanya became a district center in the 19th century. Becoming well-known from the Armistice that put an end to our War of Independence on 11 October 1922, Mudanya has been an important port city. Serving as the port of Bursa for centuries, Mudanya is similarly functioning today as the most important port of Bursa. Its main source of livelihood is olive growing. The industry is well developed in the district.





Because of its proximity to Bursa and its seashore, Mudanya is the holiday resort of Bursa



Predominantly Christians lived in the city center of Mudanya, Trilye, Sighi/Kumkaya and Dereköy until 1922. The historical houses in Mudanya are the most important examples of the civilian architecture of Bursa. The Greek Church that is in use today as Uğur Mumcu Cultural Center is the strongest church of Bursa that has managed to survive to this day.





AYA YANI MONASTERY

Resembling a small fortress, Aya Yani Monastery is still extant on a private land, located 5 km away from Tirilye. You can reach the monastery by an earth road through olive groves and sunflower fields... The church is named after Aya Yani, one in trio of priests after whom Tirilye is named. The building, located one kilometer to the east of ancient port of Kapanca, is known as Orthodox site of pilgrimage. Today, only a small part is extant because of years of degradation and devastation. As the church within Aya Yani Monastery was devastated, it was rebuilt by Hagios Ioannes Theologos in 709. During Byzantine period, it was set to flames at the behest of Emperor Constantine V, and the abbot was taken to the capital. In 755, the church was restored once again, this time by Leon Pelekiti IV. A document prepared by Bursa Archbishop Klemendos in 1652 includes a resolution about the church. According to another record from 1794, the rights of church were under protection. The church partially burned in 1880, before being repaired and put into service. It remained active until 1922, the year Rums left for Greece. Due to neglect, it became derelict and ruinous

AYDINPINAR CHURCH

A beautiful district in olive groves, Aydınpinar adds up to cultural mosaic of Mudanya with Hagios Apostoloi Church... The church was reportedly constructed in the time of Bursa Metropolitan Bishop Konstantios between 1846 and 1870, is still standing after two centuries. Aydınpinar was actually a Greek settlement called Misebolu. After 1922, the church was transformed into a mosque and belfry was employed as minaret. This historical monument underwent several reparations in various periods. Eventually, the belfry was demolished and a minaret was erected instead between 1952 and 1956. Upon the construction of a new mosque in 1980, the old building was abandoned. 1901 dated epitaph on the gate indicates the year of reparation. The church is still an important asset for Mudanya.

