



A Contemporary Beauty: Izmir

And here you are, the last stop on your journey. The one and only Izmir. Now you can take a walk in the famous Kordonboyu and see the modern beauties of Izmir. While walking around here, you can take photos at the Pasaport Pier, taste the local food of the city, visit the museums around you, and explore the colorful streets full of music and entertainment. Thus, the 8500-year journey is completed!

visit izmir



8500 YEARS IN A SINGLE DAY

Your city guide with all the up-to date information about Izmir will help you plan your perfect trip. Exploring the city with Visit Izmir, the promotional face of Izmir, is both simple and fun. Visit Izmir, which contains detailed information about innovations, places to see, accommodation and activities in the city, shows you how to reach all these points on updated maps. You can send your comments and suggestions about Visit Izmir to the e-mail address

visitizmir@izmirvakfi.org

Within merely a single day and in the very same city, one can relive 8500 years of history. You may think that this statement sounds quite bold, and that is understandable, yet, this is indeed the reality of Izmir. So buckle up and prepare yourself for a journey of 8500 years!

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The City of Myths and Legends: Old Smyrna-Bayraklı Höyük

The Old Smyrna - Bayraklı Mound is the first place where the ancient city of Smyrna, which gave its name to İzmir, was founded. The settlement, which started in Bayraklı around 3000 BC, was located here until the city moved to its new place on the foothill of Kadifekale. Old Smyrna has an important place as it is known as the homeland of the ancient poet Homer and as the city of the legendary King Tantalos, as well as living up to modern times with İzmir name. Although no one truly knows where he specifically lived, Old Smyrna comes forward as one of the strongest candidates for Homer's hometown.



A Humble Beginning: Yeşilova Höyük

Archaeological evidence suggests that around 6500 BCE, the first residents of the city flourished in this specific area; within the historical period called the Neolithic Age. These are transitioning to permanent settlements from hunter-gatherer nomadic lifestyles and domestication of animals and plants. A location that directly opens up to the Aegean Sea was undoubtedly as mesmerizing as it is today and was definitely an ideal place for maritime and trade-related developments. Yeşilova Höyük Visitor Center, located next to the excavation field, is an education-oriented experimental archaeological site where visitors are taught the 8500 years old history and culture of the first people of İzmir.



A Helleno-Roman Wonder: The Agora of Smyrna

Roman Emperors showed a great interest in the city, so much so that Smyrna was given the title of decorate twice, first by Tiberius and later by Hadrian. It was an honorary title earned by cities that established good relations with the Emperor by building a temple exclusive to his cult. Hadrian, one of these emperors, visited the city with his entourage. In other words, Smyrna was a city that was worthy of the emperor's visit.



Kemeraltı

Kemeraltı is one of the world's largest historical open-air bazaars and has been İzmir's commercial center since the 17th century. The current Kemeraltı Bazaar, which was formed by the filling of the sea, was used as a harbor in the past. You can find everything you are looking for in Kemeraltı and do a lot of shopping. This magnificent bazaar hosts an important cultural heritage waiting for you to discover, as well as colorful and different shops.