GENERAL INFORMATION

Kuşadasi is one of the most popular seaside resorts in Turkey, attracting a large number of tourists each year. It has a population of approximately 50,000, and its close proximity to the many ancient cities, archaeological sites, villages and parks makes it an advantageous port of call.

Kuşadasi means “bird island”, a name derived from the small island of Güvercin Ada (Pigeon Island) which is now connected to the city by a causeway. Güvercin Ada is home to a famous defensive castle built to protect against enemy attack, a monument that can easily be seen as your ship sails into the harbor.

Twenty minutes outside of Kuşadasi, close to the town of Selçuk, is the well-preserved ancient city of Ephesus, one of the best examples of ancient Roman architecture. Also within the vicinity are the ruins of St. John’s Basilica, the religious shrine of The Virgin Mary’s House, and the single remaining column of the temple of Artemis, which was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

The port of Kuşadasi was very active for several centuries, however, the Kuşadasi of today was founded by the Venetians. Two hundred years after the Conquest of Constantinople the port became a major trading post with Europe and Africa. The Ottomans fortified the harbor and built many new buildings and mosques that are still intact. Today, Kuşadasi is a haven for shoppers, home to excellent beaches, and is best known for its historical and archaeological sites.

SHORE EXCURSIONS

To make the most of your visit to Kuşadasi and its surrounding areas we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing consult your Shore Excursion Brochure or contact the Shore Excursion Desk.

LOCAL CUSTOMS

Bargaining: Bargaining is a common practice almost everywhere in Kuşadasi. However, it is important to note that it is considered bad manners to make a counter-offer with no intention of buying the good(s).

Tipping: If not included on the restaurant bill, 10% gratuity is a good guideline. Generally, if a service is provided, a small gratuity is expected.

A strict dress code is enforced when visiting mosques in Turkey. Short pants, tank tops and revealing clothing are not acceptable. Women should have their shoulders and legs covered and should have a scarf available to cover their heads when entering. Visitors will be required to remove their shoes before entering all mosques. The wearing of socks is highly suggested. All mosques are closed to non-Muslims during scheduled prayers, which occur five times a day following the ritual prayer call from the mosque’s minaret. Outside of the mosques liberal dress is common in the resort area and in around Kuşadasi.

LOCAL CUISINE AND DRINK SPECIALTIES

Fish (especially in the Aegean region), soups, rice dishes and stews feature predominantly on Turkish menus. Further, Sis Kebap (lamb grilled on a skewer) is another favorite. Pistaschio, almonds, dried apricots and raisins are served as snacks throughout the day, and are also common ingredients in Turkish cuisine. For dessert try uşulac (baked rice pudding), aşure (fruit and nut pudding) or local melons.

Fruit juices, special Turkish wines (red or white) are relatively inexpensive and plentiful. The fierce aniseed raki is much like Greek Ouzo. Beer is also popular with Efes Pilsen leading the pack. Turkish tea is served in small glasses, sweet and without milk. Turkish coffee is legendary. Bottled water is recommended.

LOCAL CURCACY

The unit of currency in Turkey is the new Turkish Lira (TRY). Notes are now available in the following denominations; 100, 50, 20, 10, 5, 1 and coins of 5, 10, 50 and 100. Major currencies can be changed at the numerous banks, exchange offices, shops and hotels. Rates for cash are better than for traveler’s checks. Major foreign currencies and credit cards are accepted.

POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES

The PTT Office is located halfway up Barbaros Hayrettin (400 meters). Stamps, telegraphs, long distance telephones and banking facilities are available. A limited number of credit card phones are also available.

TOURIST INFORMATION

The Tourism Information Office is located at Iskele Meydani in the port area.

TRANSPORTATION

Taxis are available outside of the pier area, however, the town of Kuşadasi is within walking distance of the pier. Buses frequently run to areas outside of the main town area. Schedules can be obtained at the Tourism Information Office.

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Yes • Evet
No • Hayır
Good Bye • Attaha ismarladık
Good Day • Güzaydın
How Much? • Ne Kadar?
Thank You • Teşekkür ederim
You’re Welcome • Bir sey de gir!
The SIGHTS and SHOPPING in KUSADASI

PIGEON ISLAND is a tiny fortified islet with more tourists than pigeons. The island is connected by the causeway to Kusadasi and houses a 16th century castle.

The GRAND BAZAAR is located a short distance from the pier and is a great place to utilize your bargaining skills. Here you will find the typical Turkish goods such as leather goods, rugs, copperware and brass. (Shops within the bazaar remain open throughout the day.)

The KALECI MOSQUE is off Barbeque Hayrettin Bul. The minaret can be seen from the pier. The structure was originally built by Grand-Vizier Öztürk Mehmet Paşa in 1618, and later repaired in 1630. Open daily but closed during Muslim prayers. Muslim prayer times are based on the position of the sun and change throughout the day.

The TURKISH BATHS near the mosque offer a traditional bathing experience. Sauna, liofa scrub and a short massage are included in the fee. Men and women are welcome, but may be separated. Changing facilities are available.

KAROVALAPIL and YAŞLANIO PLAJI are two of the most popular sandy beaches and are considered the best. Both beaches can be reached by taxi or public bus. Bus schedules are available at the Tourist Information Office.

MATIS - 13 / 14 Atatürk Blv. Matis is the premier outlet in Kusadasi for an enormous range of fine handmade carpets and jewelry crafted to highest standards. We also carry an extensive selection of leather gifts and gift items. Matis specializes in local artisanal rugs and is the exclusive outlet for numerous historic Turkish workshops such as Hereke, Cinar and “Ottomfa.” The carpets we offer are regular winners of the prestigious “America’s Magnificent Carpet Award.”

This honor is the highest global award for oriental rugs featured at the annual America’sMart trade show. Shopping at Matis is completely tax-free for international customers. We have a highly experienced, multilingual staff and provide complimentary, guaranteed door-to-door delivery worldwide. Conveniently located, Matis is just a short walk from the cruise pier.

MUSKARAI CARPETS & JEWELRY - 3/4 Mah. İskilim Sok. Muskurai Carpets & Jewelry has a long standing reputation for quality. We offer a large and unique selection of fine new and antique silk and wool rugs. Our Immense collection of carpets is available to public at direct-from-the-knorr prices. You are always invited and welcomed to visit our carpet weaving school. Muskurai also has a marvelous selection of handmade jewelry. We take pride in our after-sale service and the loyalty of our countless satisfied customers.

OCTAVIA - 8 Gökçener Ada Yolu Üzeri Belediyeler Dükkanları Octavia is proud to offer a wide variety of the finest carpets. We carry world famous brands which have always been admired and appreciated by royal- eggible collectors. We also carry a wonderful selection of glistening jew- elry. In fact, we are the official retailer for the 24k curbil Komart Collection. Come shop in the warm and friendly atmosphere of Octavia.

MEHITABEL CARPET & JEWELLERY - 20 / 1A Camilek Mah. Ataturk Blv. Majestic Carpet & Jewelry is located across from the statue of Turkey’s first President, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. Majestic offers a wide selection of quality, handmade Oriental rugs, carpets, and kilims. Whether you select diamonds, emeralds or rubies, Majestic has jewelry exclusively designed and created by Turkey’s master artisans. We had the honor of demonstrating our carpets for our clients, surrounded by the rich history and craftsmanship of carpet weaving with you.

FABERCE CARPET - 3 Dağ Mah. Şoförlü Sok. Faberce is located in the heart of the Grand Bazaar. Shoppers can browse four floors of fine handmade carpets, kilims and jewelry. Our carpet collection includes four floors of fine Ulusak, silk on silk, sehzahit silk, woven carpets and kilims. Our jewelry department includes diamonds and other gemstones, special designs, 24k Ottoman and Byzantine collections. Receive a free 3x5’ rug with any 8x10’ carpet purchase.

BAROK ART CENTER - 3 Barbaros Hayrettin Paşa Bulvarı Cad. CARPETS-JEWELLERY-WATCHES-CERAMICS The Barok Art Center offers the highest quality, hand-woven carpets and kilims. We are specialists in create carpets from pure wool, wood, wool on cot- ton, and pure silk. We can produce special order carpets in any shape and size. All of our carpets we have an exclusive jewelry collection. We are an authorized distributor for Rolex, Cartier, Longines, Maurice, Lacrosse, Tag Heuer, Tissot and Jacques Lemans. The Barok Art Center also offers a won- derful selection of handmade and hand-painted ceramics, tiles, vases and museum quality pieces.

HAREM - 3 / A Dağ Mah. Mahmut Eski Bostuk Cad. Hayaret is located in the center of the Grand Bazaar. The Harem Bazaar remain open throughout the day.)

GALLERY OTTOMAN ART - 12 Dağ Mah. Şoförlü Sok. Gallery Ottoman Art is located in the Grand Bazaar. We offer an exclusive selection of jewelry including pieces from the renowned designer, Şevan Biçakcı. The gallery also has unique, high quality and naturally dyed, hand-woven, antique carpets and kilims.

HERILLOM (OTTOMAN HALI) Dağ Mah. Şoförlü Sok. No. 21 Kuşadası – Aydın Herilom is a fabulous store with a relaxing yet stimulating atmosphere. We carry a magnificent collection of handmade rugs, kilims, tapestries together with unique mod- ern, antique and oversized carpets. We have an exclusive selection of high quality jewelry including pieces from the renowned designer. Şevan Biçakçı. Herilom offers worldwide, door to door delivery service at no additional charge.

HARBOR DESIGN CARPET - 9 Güvercinada Cadde 5 When you exit the port gates take a right turn on the first street you reach and you will find Harbor Design Carpet. We are conveniently located and carry a famous selection of 14th and 15th century Handwoven rugs and authentic silk Hereke carpets.

DESIGN CARPET - 11 Orient Bazaar Design Carpet is located next to the historic Caravanserail in the Orient Bazaar. We offer a wide variety of carpets and kilims which have been care- fully selected from throughout Turkey. Our multilingual staff is ready to help you browse through the many different sizes of high quality nomadic and sophisticated decorative carpets.

ARTHEUS CARPET MERCHANTS - Dağ Mah. Liman Cad. As Artemis Carpets Merchants our fine carpets are created by the Master Weavers of Anatolia, Turkey. We have a wide variety of designs, colors and sizes to fit the needs of your home or office. Visit us and watch our weavers as they produce the beautiful carpets. You will appreciate the skill of our arti- sans when you take the opportunity to try your hand at weaving. This is sure to be an experience you will never forget.

CARAVANESRAL Özkül Mehmet Paşa Kervansarayı Dağ Mah. Ataturk Blv. Caravanserai is a wonderful store with a relaxing yet stimulating atmosphere. We are honored to be well known for the superb quality and craftsmanship of our fine carpets, ceramics and jewelry. We have a friendly, professional and multilingual staff. We are the exclusive representatives and authorized distributor of many of the world’s top Leather products. Caravanserai offers worldwide, door to door delivery service at no additional charge.

ARTEMIS CARPET MERCHANTS - Dağ Mah. Liman Cad. As Artemis Carpets Merchants our fine carpets are created by the Master Weavers of Anatolia, Turkey. We have a wide variety of designs, colors and sizes to fit the needs of your home or office. Visit us and watch our weavers as they produce the beautiful carpets. You will appreciate the skill of our arti- sans when you take the opportunity to try your hand at weaving. This is sure to be an experience you will never forget.

SAAKARA - 1 / 1 Camilek Mah. Şoförlü Sok. Since 1977 the Natural Leather Company has been manufacturing top quality leather products at affordable price. Natural focuses on superior quality and superb customer service. We have branches in Antalya, Istanbul, İzmir, Efes, Kuşadası and Bodrum. Natural Leather has welcomed more than 500,000 guests from around the world. All products produced by Natural Leather come with a one year, unconditional guarantee.

NATUREL MRK Camilek Mah. Türkist Sitemezen Kat No : 1 Since 1977 the Natural Leather Company has been manufacturing top quality leather products at affordable price. Natural focuses on superior quality and superb customer service. We have branches in Antalya, Istanbul, İzmir, Efes, Kuşadası and Bodrum. Natural Leather has welcomed more than 500,000 guests from around the world. All products produced by Natural Leather come with a one year, unconditional guarantee.

FASHION - 15 Yard Cad. Fashion is located at the Orient Bazaar 12/3. We offer high quality leather goods, silks, silk skirts, trousers, coats, jackets and scarfs. We also have a wonderful collection of carvansaries in a very wide variety of designs. We recommend that you visit specially from select handmade kilims, bags, shoes, sou- venirs and handmade-carpeted with the Ottoman touch.

INTERNATIONAL GEM CENTER Daj Mah. Liman Cad. No : 5 Kuşadası – Aydın International Gem Center offers an exclusive selection of diamonds, pre- cious stones and jewelry, including a special collection by Sevan Bicakci. International Gem Center is the official representatives and authorized retailers for watches by Breitling, Longines and Rado.

DIVAN - 12 / C Camilek Mah. Şehzade Sok. Divan offers an eclectic selection of souvenirs, antiques and collectibles. We have traditional and contemporary-carvansaries and porcelain, Ottoman-ware, miniatures, calligraphy, original 15-16th century European illuminated manu- scripts, prints, maps, engravings, inlaid arts and ethnic jewelry. Divan offers Specials for RCCI and Celebrity Guests. We also have Ephesus Guide Books available for $4 (valid for 1 person).

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More SHOPPING in the SURROUNDING AREA!

CARPETIUM (YÜKSEL HALI)
Selçuk Kuşadası Yolu Üzeri 1. Km. Selçuk – İzmir
Customers have always relied upon Carpetium for handmade Turkish carpets of superb quality at reasonable prices. The authenticity of each rug is confirmed by a certificate of origin. Our weaving center also runs a licensed educational course where visitors can see the ancient art of carpet weaving being passed on to the next generation. We provide free, fast and reliable shipping worldwide.

ALTERNATIF/ THE HALI VILLAGE - 2 Atatürk Bulvarı
At Alternatif shoppers can choose from approximately 4,000 old and new carpets and kilims. Our carpets are “Collector Quality” with designs inspired by the best of nomadic tradition. We offer a Free Shuttle Service for our customers who would like to take a short ride to visit the certified weaving center in the village of Hali. Our store also carries an exclusive selection of high quality jewelry and watches.

BULBUL MOUNTAIN LOOMS
3 / A Dağ Mah. Şoförler Sok.
We would like to welcome you to the Bulbul Mountain Looms, a family tradition dating back generations. Today the workshop, school and showroom are a collaborative effort between local nomadic weavers and creative artists. According to folklore Bulbul Mountain was the final home of the Mother Mary. And here, on the way to Ephesus, visitors will find that the ancient craft of carpet weaving has been reborn and passed on to the next generation. Visitors have the opportunity to watch tiny silk-worms spin their magical cocoons while our artisans blend the hundreds of natural dyes which are used to create the colorful carpets and kilims. The process has not changed for centuries. We invite you to come see our wonderful collection of select carpets and kilims and we will be pleased to answer all your questions.

TOL & AR - Atatürk Mah Atatürk Cad N.47 Selçuk
The well trained, multilingual sales staff will be happy to assist you as you browse our multiple showrooms. On display you will see the finest selection and latest fashion trends in leather garments and accessories. All of our products are produced using state-of-the-art technology. You won’t want to miss the fashion show presented by our beautiful models.

POPULER LEATHER FACTORY
Arvalya Mevkii Pamucak Kavşaği Yakını Selçuk
The Popular Leather Factory has the finest quality leather available at factory prices. All leather garments are handmade and come with a guarantee and certificate of authenticity. We offer insured shipping with UPS and DHL. Don’t miss the fashion show, including leather items for everyone visiting the factory. The Popular Leather Factory is located on Pamucak Road, in the direction of Ephesus.

KIRCILAR LEATHER
Arvalya Mevkii 10261 Parsel Selçuk
Kircilar Leather had been producing exceptional leather jackets and coats since 1945. Our Ephesus-Selcuk location serves cruise guests who have Ports-of-Call in Kusadasi and İzmir. With quality products combined with a talented and experienced, multi-lingual staff, Kircilar Leather continues to be one of the region’s leading companies.

K JEWELRY GOLD CENTER
Keşişyan Ve Gümüş Gerdan.
Providing quality service and reliability, K Jewelry Gold Center has been taking care of their many customers since 1954. We offer the widest choice of gold and silver jewelry and Turkish Ottoman art. We are manufacturers and exporters of precious stones so come visit us and watch as our skilled artisans create beautiful pieces of jewelry. K Jewelry Gold Center stands behind the quality of our work with free repair and exchange as well a Certificate of Identification and International Guarantee. Shopping at K Jewelry Gold Center is Tax Free.