



DRAFT INFO-PACK

“Let’s Act Against Violence”

15-21th May 2016 KASTAMONU, TÜRKİYE

Where will we be?



History

It is not definitely known when Kastamonu was first founded. However, some sources dating back to the Early Middle Ages refer to the province. There are also some archeological findings dating back to about 100,000[citation needed] years that suggest the region was inhabited then.

There are theories that the word Kastamonu derives from Castra Comnenus, the Latin name of the Byzantine castle built by the Comnenus dynasty.

With the weakening of the Macedon kings, the whole Paphlagonia and Bithynia regions were engulfed by the newly formed Pontus kingdom. After the fall of the Pontus kingdom in first century BC, the area was incorporated by the Roman Empire by joining Paphlagonia with Bithynia. The capitol center of this new city-state was Pompeiopolis, of which the remains still stand near Taşköprü District in Kastamonu.

The region went then under the hegemony of the Seljuk dynasty 11th century CE, followed by the Danishmends, the Byzantines during the crusades, Çobanoğlu and Çandaroğlu beyliks. The Ottoman sultan Beyazid I conquered the province in 1392 however, following his capture and death in Battle of Ankara, the area was granted back to the Çandaroğlu by the Mongol warlord Timur Lenk. Ottoman sultan Mehmed II incorporated the region back to the empire in 1461.

During the Ottoman reign, the province boundaries were expanded up to reach Istanbul. The sultan’s heirs were often sent to rule the province as governors to gain experience.

After the First World War, during the battles of the Turkish War of Independence, Kastamonu played an important role in the supply of ammunition and troops to the İnebolu-Ankara front, transporting the war machines that would arrive to İnebolu by sea from Istanbul and the Soviets. When the Greeks noticed this activity, the İnebolu port was bombarded from the sea on June 9, 1921.

Highlights

The province is mostly covered with forests, thanks to the mild Black Sea climate. The Ilgaz National Park where a micro-climate dominates due to the mountainous terrain and numerous streams is 63 km south the province center Kastamonu. There is also a ski-center with accommodation facilities located near the park.

Ilgaz Mountain (highest peak 2587 m) dominates the south of the province where hiking and whitewater rafting is possible at the Ilgaz Stream. The Ilgarini cave at Cide, the Alınca underground cave at Kure, and the International Equestrian Tourism Center of Daday are other attractions worth seeing.

There’s a 12th-century Byzantine castle, the 13th-century Atabey Mosque and the İbni Neccar Mosque also located in the province. The Mahmut Bey Mosque, located in the village of Kasaba is known for its elegant wood carvings. Gideros Bay, 13 km to Cide is a holiday resort with pensions and fish restaurants. The ruins of the Roman city-state Pompeiopolis are found near Taşköprü.

Kastamonu also has many mansions, which are traditionally built with an architectural style unique to this region. Many of these mansions have been restored following a declaration by the local government in 2000, in order to preserve the historical texture.

To get more information about Turkey: <http://www.kultur.gov.tr/> and about Kastamonu: <http://www.kastamonu.gov.tr/>

Who will be there?:

The Program is organized by Young Voices of Kastamonu. Combination of project partnership contains Association for sustainable development SFERA MACEDONIA-Bitola (Macedonia), Asociatia Tinerii 3D (Romania), European Youth Centre Breclav z.s (Czech Republic). There will be six participants from partner countries, and ten people from hosting organization and in total there will be 28 people. We might pay a visit to local governor or mayor if they are appropriate on the related dates.

What will we be doing?:

The draft program

WILL BE SENT VERY SOON☺

What to bring?:

First of all, we of course would like you to bring your enthusiasm and smiles with you☺... Besides, we would like you to bring:

1. Presentations about your organization and activities. (Technique is up to you. You can use ppt or other creative techniques for your presentations)
2. Some food, drinks and local products from your country to use in intercultural event
3. Resources to share with others (*There will be a resource table at this seminar to act as an informal 'library'. So you have the opportunity to bring some resources to share with others. These could be booklets, CDs that relate to life style in your community etc. If you don't want people to take your resources away with them, please put a big sticker on the front, which says your name, your organisation and FOR CONSULTATION ONLY. We hope the resources area will be a useful way to learn and share with others*)
4. Materials about your organization and/or your work/projects about the theme – posters, brochures, etc... (*You will be able to share about your organization/work/projects about the theme during the informal time in a structured way organized by you*)

Where will we sleep, work & eat?:

The whole group will be staying in a farm house. The participants will be staying in rooms for two/three. You will have breakfasts and dinners at the accommodation.

The meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) as well as the coffee breaks are covered by the program. If you would like to eat and drink during the day, except the program, then you should cover these extra costs by yourself.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION:

Weather: The weather will probably be warm in project period but you need to bring some overcoats in case it gets cold in the evening, unfortunately we cannot check the weather forecast for the project days from now on... Please check this to get the latest and most accurate information about the weather before you come.

Currency: The currency is TL (Turkish Lira).

Pricing: The pricing for some basic things are as the following. Please note that the prices can change according to where you buy or where you are!

0.5 Lt Water = 50 K

1 pack of cigarette (Marlboro, Camel, etc..) = 11 TL

1 cup of coffee/tea in a cafe = 3- 5 TL

1 can of juice or coke = 1.5 - 2 TL

Exchange Rates: The current exchange rates are as the following:

1 USD = 2.93 TL

1 Euro = 3.32 TL

These rates might be a little bit higher or lower when you are here depending on the situation in the market. Only USD and Euros could be used as an exchange.

We would recommend you to change money in certain exchange offices or banks, where the rates are better and there are no commissions charged. If you need money urgently, you might try to change in the airport as well, but as in the other parts of the world, the rates in the airport are usually lower in Turkey as well.

Travel Details:

Maximum Travel Costs Per Person Planned in Project Budget:

Romania: Total Amount= €170

Macedonia: Total Amount= €170

Czech Republic: Total Amount= €170

The amounts above include all transportation beginning from your home to Kastamonu and back.

We have an airport in Kastamonu. So You can fly to Kastamonu via Istanbul (it takes 1 hour from Istanbul by plane)

Unfortunately There aren't any railway connections to our city. For flight time tables you can check <http://www.turkishairlines.com/tr-tr/> and <https://www.flypgs.com/>

