

RULES OF CONDUCT IN CULTURAL HERITAGE PLACES IN TURKEY

Please follow the rules below in order to improve your experience and preserve cultural heritage areas in Turkey and pass them on to future generations.

RULES OF CONDUCT IN NATURAL AREAS

- Nature tours are organized activities with the purpose of visiting, seeing, getting to know and introducing all natural areas of our country; In order to ensure the sustainability of resources, effective management and protection, visitor safety and the guidance of visitors, and to meet visitor needs and expectations, all event organizers must obtain permission from the administration. Permission applications are made in person and by mail, fax, e-mail to the General Directorate of Nature Conservation and National Parks or Provincial Directorates, applications are finalized within 10 (ten) business days
- Rare, endemic, endangered or endangered natural plant species cannot be harmed in any way within protected areas. These species cannot be collected, dismantled and some parts cannot be cut, eggs of wild animals cannot be collected and their nests cannot be disturbed.
- Tours cannot be allowed in areas where species in danger of extinction are under strict protection and in areas and places where it is dangerous to enter in terms of general security.
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- Activities that will harm birds cannot be carried out during tours (Individuals cannot be disturbed, nests and nestlings cannot be

touched and tissue and blood samples cannot be taken for any reason). Bird observation cannot be done and images cannot be taken during the breeding periods of birds.

- Photographs and films for professional purposes cannot be taken without the necessary permissions from the Ministry.
- Travel agencies that will organize hunting tours, photo and film shoots and hunting wild animal observation tours in Turkey for foreign visitors must obtain a hunting tourism certificate from the Ministry. (Article 15 of Law No. 4915)
- The fees and periods to be applied for photography and filming during tours are determined and announced by the General Directorate at the beginning of each year
- Wild animals seen or encountered during tours cannot be frightened or followed. If the tour route is in the direction of the animal seen, an appropriate period of time is waited and the route is continued at a slower pace, taking care not to get too close to frighten or disturb the wild animal.
- The Administration makes the necessary warnings for visitor safety and other necessary measures are taken by the event organizers.
- In any case, visitors must take back the garbage they produce.
- It is forbidden to make noise and listen to loud music during tours
- Fires cannot be lit in the areas.
- Wildlife cannot be destroyed.
- Any intervention that may cause or may cause the loss or change of the characteristics of protected areas, and any work or process that may cause soil, water and air pollution and similar environmental problems cannot be carried out.

- In the event that there is a certified “Area Guide” in protected areas, visitors are required to visit the site with the area guides. However, daily use areas and areas outside the absolute protection zone defined in the plan can be visited within the framework of the defined rules.

- Since it is envisaged that natural resources in areas requiring absolute protection and in absolute protection zones included in the plans will be left in their natural state without human impact, the use of areas without the knowledge of the administration and the random wandering of visitors in the area are strictly prohibited.

- In protected areas, visitors cannot go outside the designated areas and routes (This is important both for the protection of resource values and visitor safety).

- The conditions and level of use and utilization of the areas are determined by the Administration and the “carrying capacity” cannot be exceeded.

- In planned areas, visitor management, visitor uses in the area, etc. applications are implemented within the scope of the prepared plans and plan decisions cannot be exceeded.

- The way the tour route can be visited (vehicle, pedestrian, etc.) is defined in the long-term development plans and management plans of the areas. Vehicles other than those in the plan decisions cannot be used. Vehicles that will not harm the environment and are deemed appropriate by the administration can be used in areas that do not have a management plan.

- In protected areas, services and facilities for protection, management, research, visitor information and guidance are planned to be carried out in a way that will create minimum negative impact in line with the plans made for these areas and are carried out with implementation plans.

- No activity can be carried out in wetlands that will affect the water regime.

- Alien species cannot be opened or released into wetlands for any purpose and species cannot be collected from wetlands.
- Purchase of illegal products / souvenirs produced from threatened wildlife species should be avoided.
- Polluting the environment and nature is strictly prohibited. If detected, it is subject to punishment.

These rules were prepared in accordance with the Circular No. 2007/1 of the General Directorate of Nature Conservation and National Parks, and those who act contrary to the provisions of the circular are subject to the penalties stipulated in the Environmental Law No. 2872. If the acts prohibited by the Forest Law No. 6831 and the Fisheries Law No. 1330 regarding travel agencies and other legal entities are committed in places where the National Parks Law No. 2873 is applied, the penalties are applied double. It is important that the above-mentioned rules are fully implemented in terms of sustainable hunting and wildlife management and the sustainability, effective management, protection, transfer to future generations of the resources of protected areas, visitor safety, monitoring and directing visitors to protected areas, and defining visitor needs and expectations.

RULES OF CONDUCT IN MOSQUES, PLACES OF WORSHIP AND MUSEUMS

- At the entrances of places of worship; wearing clothes that are exposed above the knees such as shorts and skirts and that leave the shoulders exposed, and talking loudly, listening to music are prohibited in sacred places.

- Please ask for permission to take photos and videos with religious leaders, children and people you do not know. Unauthorized shooting is prohibited.

- In areas where there are monuments and historical artifacts - It is prohibited to sit and lean on carved and fragile surfaced artifacts and monuments.

- It is prohibited to move, carry, touch and sell archaeological artifacts.

- Consumption of alcohol and cigarettes is prohibited in areas where smoking is prohibited.

- Giving money or candy to children encourages them to beg. If you want to help children, please donate to well-known charities.

- Exposing the genitals in public areas is strictly prohibited and is subject to punishment.

- Museum rules must be followed during museum visits

- In group visits, it is mandatory not to separate from the group and to show ID if requested by the authorities.

