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MAGAZINE

**Are you ready to explore the secrets of Gobeklitepe,
the zero point of human history,
with Konuk Travel?**



Zero Point of Human History: GOBEKLITEPE

Many civilizations rose and fell in the fertile lands of Mesopotamia. It is the first place where complex urban centers grew. And the latest highlight of the region is Gobekli-tepe. The home of the oldest man-made place of worship in the world, dating back to 10,000 BCE.



Gobekli-tepe (Potbelly Hill) is listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. It is located sixteen kilometers from Sanliurfa in the Southeastern Anatolia Region which is a part of Mesopotamia. After its discovery by German archaeologist Klaus Schmidt, Gobekli-tepe upended the conventional view of the rise of civilization, predating Stonehenge by 6,000 years. Gobekli-tepe is adding an important chapter to the history of humanity, a chapter we did not know that it existed before.

EXPLORE

Zero Point of Human History: GOBEKLITEPE

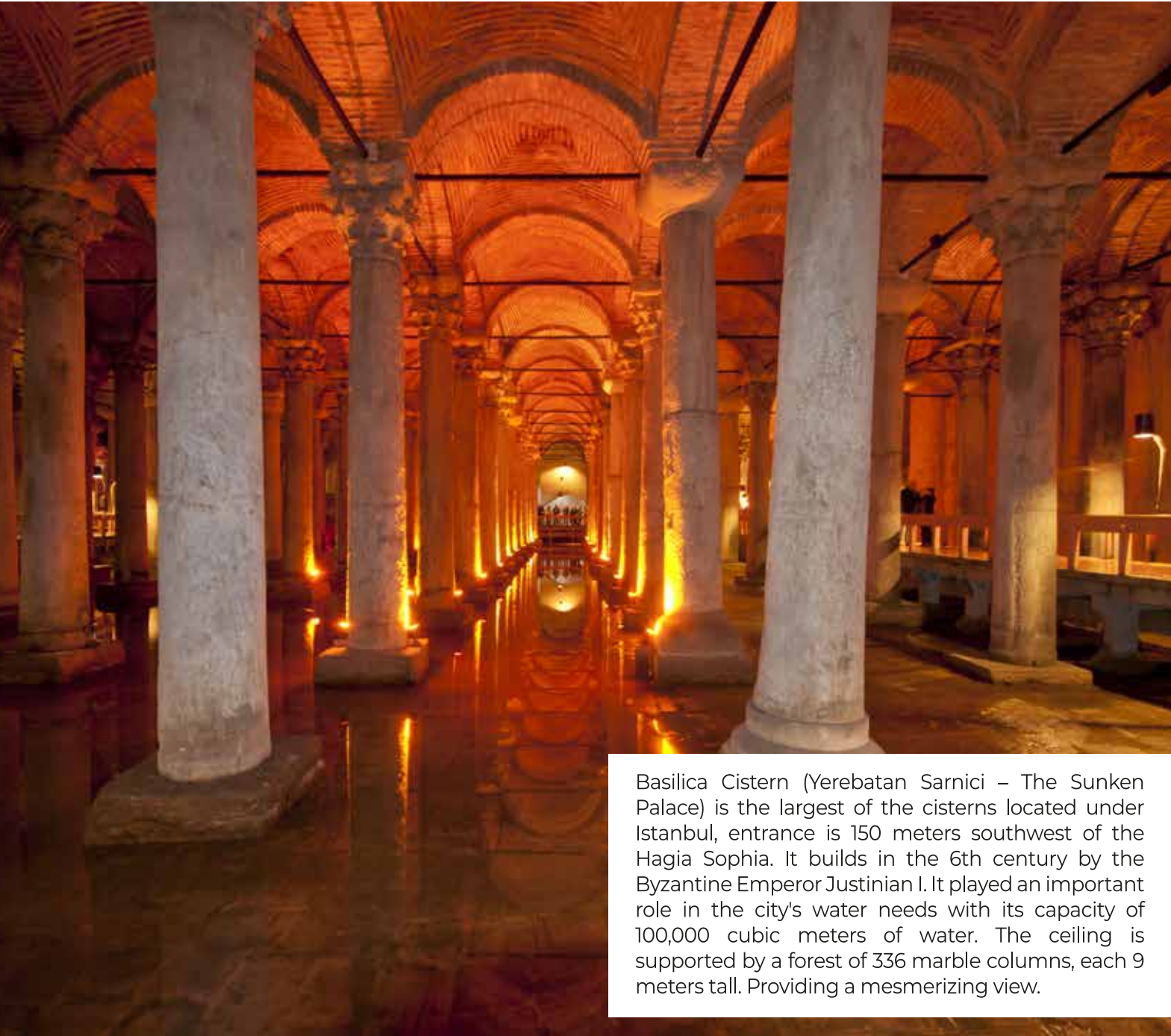
Gobeklitepe is one of the most startling discoveries of our time: massive carved stones about 11,000 years old, crafted and built by prehistoric people from the Neolithic Age who had not yet had metal tools or even pottery. The megaliths are the oldest known human-made worship structures. The stone pillars are T-shaped and unlike in other sites, many of the pillars are carved. Most carvings depict animals: serpents, foxes, and boars for the most part. And there are also smaller carved objects in different animal shapes. The hunter-gatherers who built the temple lived in a time when many scientists believed religious practices of this kind did not yet exist, which makes this an even more interesting discovery.



After the Covid restrictions number of visitors skyrocketed in Gobeklitepe. Imagining the life of people who lived on this land over 12,000 years ago and their view of life is very captivating. Listening to the local legends relating to Potbelly Hill is also very entertaining and gives a mystical theme to the already magical experience. Gobeklitepe may not be rewriting history but it is sure adding an important chapter to the history of humanity, a chapter we did not know that it existed before.

THE BASILICA CISTERN

The Basilica Cistern Museum is reopened to visitors with the completion of the restoration process that started in 2017 for the earthquake strengthening works. In addition to strengthening, The entrance hall of the cistern was also redesigned while the lighting was renovated. The cistern now hosts visitors with an exhibition-themed "light."



Basilica Cistern (Yerebatan Sarnici – The Sunken Palace) is the largest of the cisterns located under Istanbul, entrance is 150 meters southwest of the Hagia Sophia. It builds in the 6th century by the Byzantine Emperor Justinian I. It played an important role in the city's water needs with its capacity of 100,000 cubic meters of water. The ceiling is supported by a forest of 336 marble columns, each 9 meters tall. Providing a mesmerizing view.

THE BASILICA CISTERN

Medusa Heads

There are two columns with Medusa heads in The Cistern, one upside down, the other sideways. Most probably, Medusa heads are relics from older buildings, but it is not known where they have been brought here from. There are lots of myths about Medusa heads. One of them is believed heads are protecting big architectural sites such as the Basilica Cistern.

The building, once a vital part of the city is serves as a museum since its 1987 renovations. Besides being a Museum, today it is also used as a concert hall or exhibition gallery. It is one of the most visited and admired historical places in Istanbul. Due to its new renovations, interest in this magnificent underground structure is its highest. Modern Art & History are perfectly in sync together under the streets of Istanbul.



Well-preserved town of Ottoman houses: **SAFRANBOLU**

Safranbolu, a town in Turkey's northern Karabük province, is famous for its Ottoman-era buildings that include frame houses, mosques, inns, Turkish baths, fountains and shrines. Over a million domestic and foreign tourists annually to visit its landmark structures.



Interior design of one of Safranbolu's historical houses

It has been intently preserved since it was declared a historical site by The Turkish Government in 1976. The area's abandoned historical mansions that are the most important building blocks of Turkish urban culture were given function, deteriorated cobblestones were rebuilt, monumental buildings were restored, and nearly-forgotten handicrafts were revived. Turkish government officially protects 1,125 of about 50,000 cultural and natural assets of Safranbolu. Thereafter, the spellbinding town was added to World Heritage List by UNESCO in 1994, which changed its identity.

Safranbolu's traditional Turkish houses were built in the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries and are the products of great cultural accumulation, material wealth and high levels of craftsmanship. The original structures have survived thanks to various efforts and the town has become one of "20 best-preserved historical cities" by UNESCO. Safranbolu Town is one of the best options where you may feel the local life and local tastes.

ASHURE

Ashure or Noah's pudding is a sweet pudding that is made of a mixture consisting of various types of grains, fresh fruits, dried fruits and nuts. In the Balkans and Turkey Muslims make it during the month of Muharram in which the Day of Ashura takes place.

It is claimed that when Noah's Ark came to rest on Mount Ararat (Ağrı Dağı), Noah's family celebrated with a special dish. Since their supplies were nearly exhausted, what was left (primarily grains, dried fruits and the like) was cooked together to form a pudding, what is now called ashure.

Traditionally, ashure is made in large quantities to commemorate the ark's landing and is distributed to friends, relatives, neighbors, pretty much everyone you have access to, no matter what is the religion of the receiver.

The dish has different recipes region to region but non of them includes animal products so its completely vegan. It is one of the most well-known and popular vegan desserts in Turkish cuisine.





KONUK

Concierge Services

**HOW ABOUT AN EXPERIENCE
ON A BLUE CRUISE WITH
A PRIVATE LUXURY YACHT?**

10 Guests - 4 Staterooms

1 Master Suit | VIP Cabin | 2 Twin Cabin

Dimensions

Length Overall: 88.65 ft

Max Draft: 6.99 ft

Beam: 21 ft



PERMANENT MAKEUP

Permanent makeup is the process of leaving natural dyes produced for use on the skin in the upper part of the skin by means of a needle. Feel yourself flawless every moment with the rising trend operations such as thick eyebrows, full lips, and silk eyelashes.

[Permanent Makeup \(Powdering\)](#)

[Microblading](#)

[Lip Blushing](#)

[Dipliner](#)

[Silk Eyelash](#)

[Dermapen](#)

Contact with Clinic Team

+90 534 261 65 05

info@konukclinic.com

konukclinic.com

konukclinic



Event Calendar

Musical

Queen of the People's Hearts
13th August
Zorlu PSM - Turkcell Sahnesi

Concert

Evgeny Grinko
10th August
Maximum Uniç Açıkhava, İstanbul

Festival

Dansın Ritmi
Between 2nd, August to 30th, August
Hodjapasha Gösteri ve Etkinlik Merkezi

Explore

Basilica Cistern
İstanbul, Sultanahmet



The playlists of Sura Hotels are now on Spotify