

BALIKESİR

Tourism Investment Guide



GMKA

GÜNEY MARMARA
KALKINMA AJANSI
SOUTH MARMARA
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY





With its developing economy, Turkey is becoming one of the major centers of world economy. Global enterprises prioritize Turkey in their investment decisions and gain advantages thanks to elements such as Turkey's geographic location, natural resources, and trained labor force.

Trained labor force, land-sea-air transport with multiple alternatives, proximity to metropolises and many such advantages underline Balıkesir in hosting sustainable investments. This study aims to promote current investment environment in order to enable Balıkesir to take a bigger role in Turkey, which is becoming a center of attraction with new investments.

This Guide promotes the investment environment in tourism sector in Balıkesir and examines sub-sectors that are prominent for potential investments. All data regarding investment environment has been compiled by focusing on needs and demands of the private sector. Furthermore, the study has listed the technical and fiscal advantages of investors in tourism industry should they choose to invest in Balıkesir.

Apart from this guide to promote the investment environment of tourism, investment guides are provided also for other sectors such as agriculture and animal husbandry, industry, energy and mining sector. Support is provided as a solution partner for all your needs regarding all kinds of investments in Balıkesir.

While we hope that this guide proves useful to you; we would like to inform you that you can always benefit from the extensive support services our Investment Support Office gladly provides in order to help you realize your investments.



Four Seasons of Tourism in Balıkesir



Balıkesir, has a strong profile in tourism with its shores in Marmara and Aegean Seas, its geothermal sources, its biodiversity and its historical atmosphere.

Housing many forms of tourism from coastal tourism to thermal tourism, and from culture tourism to nature tourism, the province welcomes the tourists throughout the year.

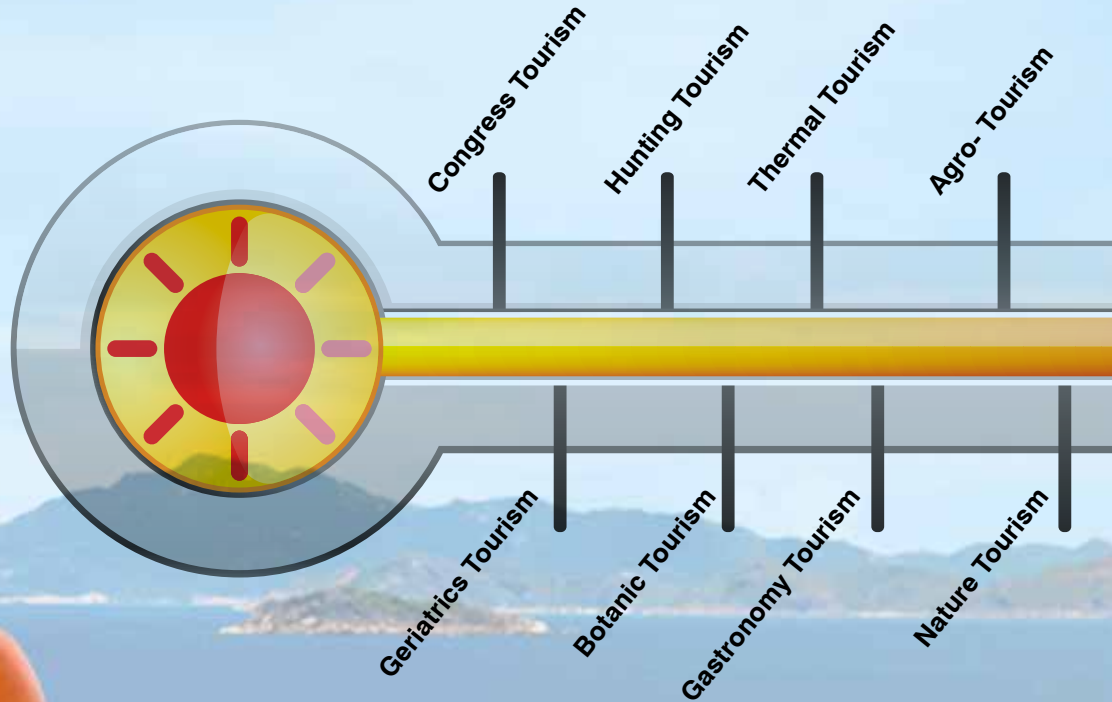




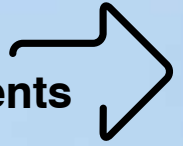
First Address of Tourism Investments

Balikesir provides significant opportunities with its location and nature as well as its rich heritage of historical and cultural values.

The province hosts many different tourism activities in line with its goal of “uninterrupted tourism throughout the year” along with its developing coastal tourism, enabled by its geographic location.

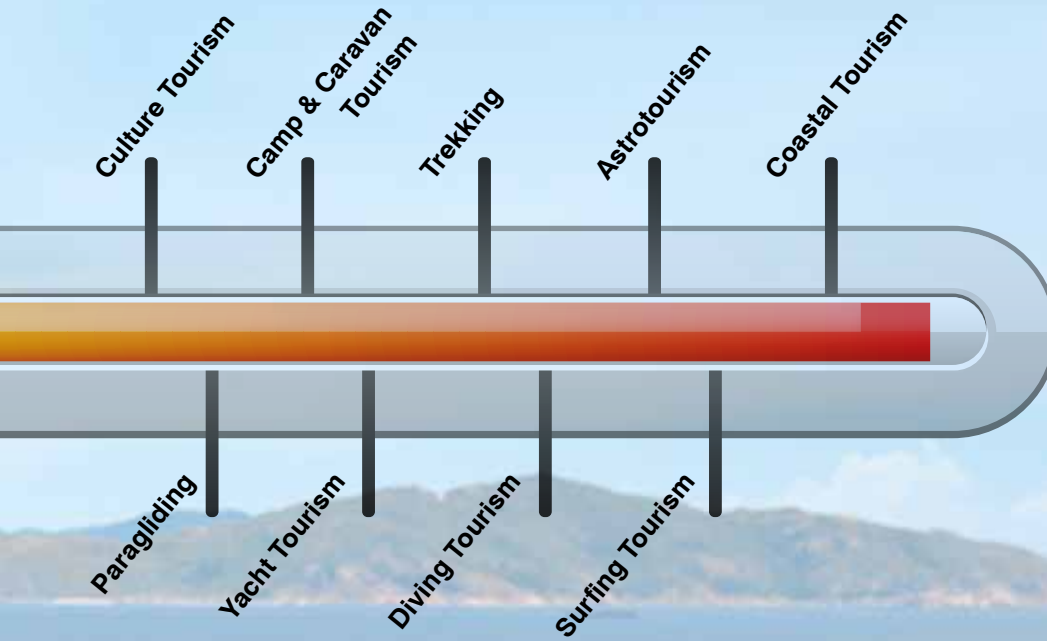


First Address of Tourism Investments



Balıkesir attracts the attention of tourism investors with its rich flora, wide forests, geothermal resources, unique cuisine, blue flagged beaches and long coasts.

Hosting many touristic activities, Balıkesir is among the prominent provinces of Turkey in tourism industry with its high number of visitors.





Coastal Tourism

22 Blue Flagged Beaches

Having a shore of 291 km on Marmara and Aegean Seas, Balıkesir has a developed tourism industry in Ayvalık, Gömeç, Burhaniye, Edremit, Erdek and Marmara.

Ayvalık has a strong potential for coastal tourism while 7 km long and 100 m wide Sarımsaklı beach and Altınova beaches add to the attraction of the province in summers.

Increasing population with Coastal Tourism active in summers

While Balıkesir boasts a population of **1.2** million, this figure reaches **3** million with the number of tourists added in summers.

Balıkesir is a Touristic Hotspot in Coastal Tourism with its 22 Blue Flagged Beaches.

Altınoluk

Sarımsaklı

Ören

Altınova

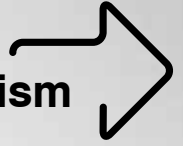
Cunda

Akçay

Avşa

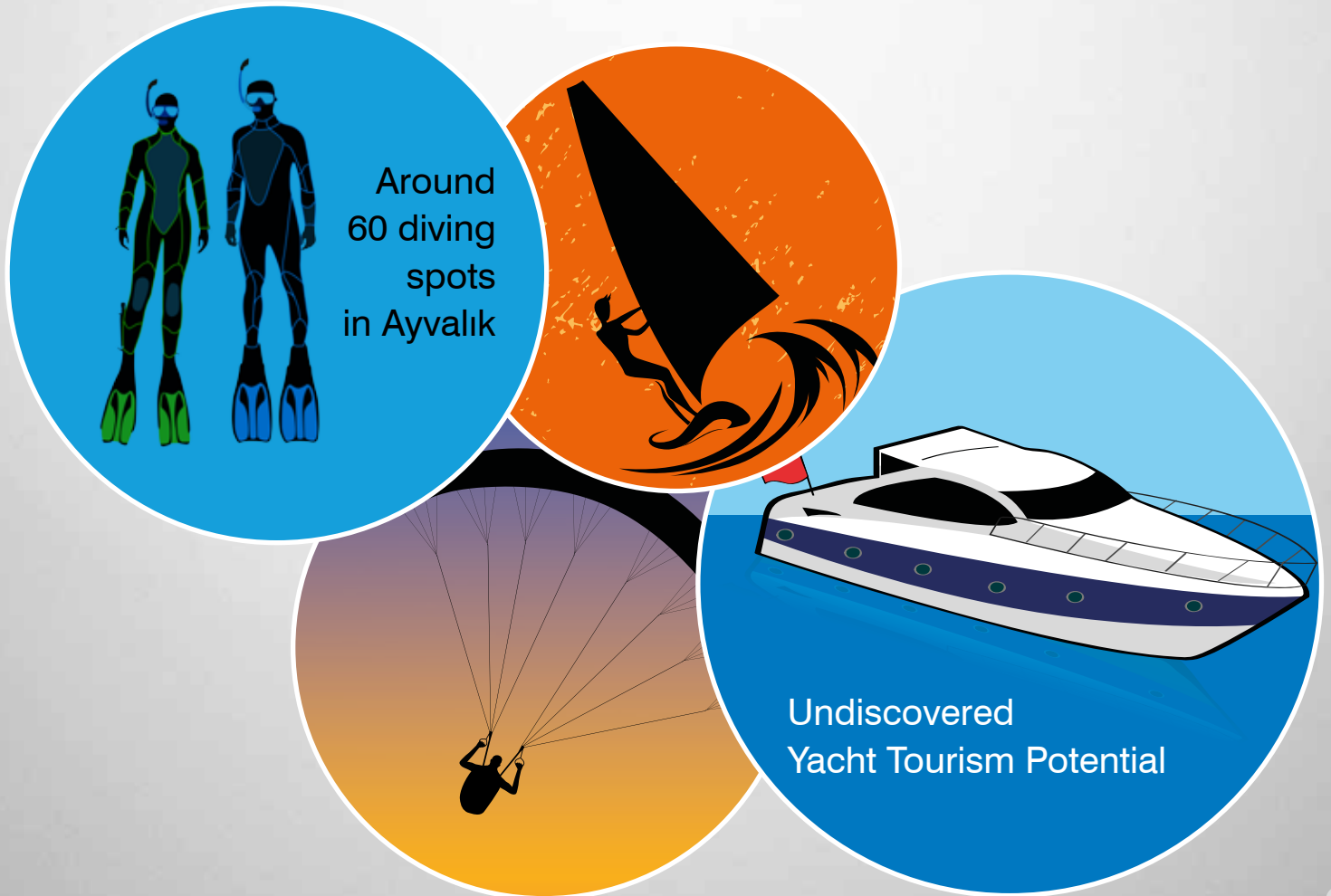
Kapıdağ

Rich Alternative Tourism Supported by Coastal Tourism



Ayvalık Islands, Edremit Bay and Marmara Islands are tourist hotspots with their unique coves and bays suitable for diving, paragliding and surfing.

Yacht tourism is especially common in Ayvalık-Burhaniye line. A blue flagged marina and yacht yard serves in Ayvalık. Additionally, marina in Burhaniye is a treasure awaiting discovery for yacht tourism.





The Right Address for Thermal Tourism Investments

Thermal tourism is a kind of tourism that is carried out in touristic locations with healing waters and that meets the accommodation, resting and recreation needs of people for the purpose of treating some diseases and protecting health.

Waters from geothermal sources with high flow rate and temperature are healing waters that have curative effects verified by tests and analysis conducted in accredited laboratories.

Balkesir is the province with the most thermal tourism centers in Turkey. There are 8 different thermal tourism centers in the province.



Flow Rates and Water Temperatures of the Geothermal Sources



- ▶ **Edremit-Güre**
Flow rate 4-50 l/sec, Temperature 33-68 °C
- ▶ **Edremit-Bostancı**
Flow rate 2-86 l/sec, Temperature 42-60 °C
- ▶ **Gömeç Karaağaç- Burhaniye Pelitköy**
Flow rate 5-30 l/sec, Temperature 33-35 °C
- ▶ **Gönen**
Flow rate 20-80 l/sec, Temperature 70-84 °C
- ▶ **Gönen-Ekşidere**
Flow rate 2-6 l/sec, Temperature 32-43 °C
- ▶ **Manyas Kızık**
Flow rate 10-15 l/sec, Temperature 42-58 °C
- ▶ **Balya-İlica**
Flow rate 2-27 l/sec, Temperature 59-61 °C
- ▶ **Susurluk-Kepekler-Yıldız**
Flow rate 2-24 l/sec, Temperature 46-74 °C
- ▶ **Altıeylül -Pamukçu**
Flow rate 7-18 l/sec, Temperature 53-58 °C
- ▶ **Bigadiç Hisarköy**
Flow rate 2-60 l/sec, Temperature 52-98 °C
- ▶ **Sındırgı-Hisaralan**
Flow rate 7-32 l/sec, Temperature 33-98 °C





Declared Tourism Centers

Culture Tourism Protection and Development Regions (KTKGB) and Tourism Centers (TM) are areas declared by the Cabinet for the protection and development of areas that have touristic value. Bureaucratic processes are eased in these areas for touristic facility investments enabling quick realization of investments. By preventing elements that are harmful to tourism in these regions touristic investments in such regions have the convenience of being able to operate without the impact of negative factors such as industrial pollution in the long run. Tourism investments made to KTKGBs benefits from “Region 5” incentives in the “6-region incentive system” of the Ministry of Economy.

An area above 28,160 hectares in Erdek, Avşa, Paşalimanı and Ekinlik in Balıkesir province are within KTKGB borders.

- ▶ Balya Şifa Thermal TM
- ▶ Bigadiç Hisarköy Thermal TM
- ▶ Edremit Güre Thermal TM
- ▶ Gönen Thermal TM
- ▶ Gönen Ekşidere Thermal TM
- ▶ Manyas Kızık Thermal TM
- ▶ Sındırgı Hisaralan Thermal TM
- ▶ Susurluk Kepekler Thermal TM
- ▶ Southern Marmara Isles KTKGB

Rich Historical and Cultural Heritage



Balıkesir is a center of attraction in culture tourism with its monasteries, museums and ancient cities. Housing many ancient cities such as Antandros, Daskyleion, Kyzikos and Adramytteion, the province has rapidly increasing excavations and restoration works in cooperation with Ministry of Tourism and Culture and universities.

Balıkesir hosts a great treasure of historical and cultural heritage; Ancient Greece, Rome, Byzantium, Seljuk and Ottoman Empire. 8 museums serve to promote and introduce the handcrafts and historical social structure prominent in these ages, along with a great number of historical buildings.

- ▶ Turkish Revolutionaries Museum
- ▶ Tahtakuşlar Ethnography Museum
- ▶ Sıdika Erke Ethnography Museum
- ▶ Bandırma Archaeological Museum
- ▶ Bigadiç Museum and Cultural Center
- ▶ Gönen Mosaic Museum
- ▶ Saraylar Village Open-Air Museum
- ▶ Rahmi M. Koç Museum
- ▶ Zağnos Pasha Social Complex
- ▶ Saatli Mosque
- ▶ Hayrettin Pasha Mosque
- ▶ Horata Mosque
- ▶ Yıldırım Mosque
- ▶ Kurşunlu Mosque
- ▶ Şahinler Village Mosque
- ▶ Kasımpaşa Mosque
- ▶ Sındırgı Mosque
- ▶ Susurluk Burhaniye Mosque
- ▶ Taksiyarhis Church
- ▶ Aya Nikola Church
- ▶ Moonlight Monastery
- ▶ Leka Monastery
- ▶ Ayazma Church





Balikesir for Nature Lovers

The change in tourism preferences in recent years had an effect on development of alternative tourism along with coastal tourism. Its nature, rich flora and fair climate conditions have made Balikesir a unique region for nature tourism investments.

The environment is convenient for many alternative tourism investments such as tableland tourism, hiking and trekking, speleological (cave) tourism, bird watching, botanic and hunting tourism. With its biodiversity, flora and fauna, the Mount Ida in particular is a center of attraction in nature tourism. Dursunbey Alaçam Mountains are widely known and preferred by campers due to its ecologic value.

Trekking

Jeep Safari

Botanic Trips

**Wild Life
Watching**

Hunting Tourism

Agro-Tourism

**Bird
Watching**

Balıkesir for Nature Lovers



Trekking

Topographic features of The Mount Ida in Balıkesir, make it a center of attraction for tourists interested in trekking activities. Yayla Hill and Ayı Stream in the Mount Ida are significant stops while Sındırgı, Dursunbey, İvrindi, Edremit, Ayvalık, Erdek and Susurluk hosts trekking organizations.

Jeep Safari

Developing under favorable geographic features, jeep safari tours make the province a favored stop for nature lovers. Especially the Mount Ida area is highly sought area for jeep safari tours.

Bird Watching

With its diverse species Bird Sanctuary National Park in Manyas is the number one spot for bird watchers in Turkey. National Park houses many wild birds, especially water birds.

Additionally, thanks to the immense number of wild birds they naturally host, Gönen and Edremit have a good potential for bird watching activities.





Balıkesir for Nature Lovers

Agro-Tourism

Being an agriculture city, Balıkesir has a strong potential for agro-tourism activities. Ayvalık, Burhaniye, Gömeç, Havran and Edremit are the centers where agro-tourism flourish with their rural landscape, natural beauties and alternative tourism areas.

Botanic Trips

Balıkesir is a significant center of attraction for those interested in botanics with the rich flora and endemic plant species it accommodates. Edremit, Erdek, Marmara, Susurluk, Dursunbey and Bigadiç are major centers for botanic trips.

Hunting Tourism

Recreational fishing is developed in Ayvalık, Burhaniye, Edremit, Bandırma and Marmara Island while hunting is developed in inland areas of Balıkesir and in Dursunbey.

The province has 5 hunting areas;

- ▶ Narlı Wild Boar Hunting Area- Edremit
- ▶ Karal Chukar Hunting Area - Bigadiç
- ▶ Çamucu State Hunting Area - İvrindi and Balya
- ▶ Adaçalı State Hunting Area - Bigadiç and Sındırgı
- ▶ Misakça General Hunting Area - Bandırma and Gönen



Balıkesir: Province of Alternative Tourism



AstroTourism

Another rising trend of the 21st century is the dark observation spots where people can get away from crowded and illuminated cities and get rid of light pollution.

Balıkesir has numerous dark locations where the Milky Way and other stars present a fabulous visual feast. These dark locations provide opportunities to organize many activities such as astronomy education activities, amateur astronomer observations, astrophotography.

Especially Sındırgı, Dursunbey, Bigadiç, İvrindi, Savaştepe and Balya houses many locations that attract numerous visitors from across Turkey.

Stars are Brighter in Balıkesir





Balıkesir: Province of Alternative Tourism

Geriatrics Tourism

Also known as advanced age tourism, geriatrics tourism includes elderly care services, engagement tours, trips and special care for persons with disabilities.

Balıkesir is prominent in geriatrics tourism with its curing thermal sources. Geriatrics tourism is especially prominent in Gönen, Edremit, Sındırgı and Bigadiç counties with their hot springs with appropriate flow rates and temperatures as well as their healing physical and chemical compounds. Additionally, skirts of the Mount Ida are among the ideal locations for health tourism with their fresh air and microclimatic properties.



Balıkesir: Province of Alternative Tourism



Gastronomy Tourism

Balıkesir has a strong potential in gastronomy tourism with its agricultural product diversity, eating habits and its rich cuisine.

Ayvalık olive oil produced in the province has geographic marking and is used as a significant tourism symbol in the province.

Höşmerim Dessert

Manyas Mihaliç Cheese

Creamy Balıkesir

Susurluk Buttermilk and

Gönen Baldo Rice

Susurluk-Ayvalık Toast

Gönen Meat

Sea Products

Spicy Olive Oil

Edremit Green Scratched Olives

Aegean Herbs





Tourist's Choice for Diving Sports: Ayvalık

22 islands in Ayvalık enable formation of many bays in the coast. Şeytan Sofrası (Devil's Table) hill is an important vantage point to view the sea, the bays and the islands.

For diving, Ayvalık is a unique spot. Home to numerous fish and marine species as well as its colourful corals Ayvalık is an attraction for diving enthusiasts. The most favored diving locations are Kız Island, Güneş Island, Yuvarlak Island and Kerbela Stones.





National parks are ecological areas which have resting areas while nature and cultural resources are under protection by law. They allow people to be in touch with nature in a best setting.

Protected Areas and Their Features

- ▶ **Bird Sanctuary National Park**
Rich and varied bird populations, natural flora, bird watching stations, educational visits
- ▶ **The Mount Ida National Park**
Flora and fauna diversity, educational visits
- ▶ **Ayvalık Islands Nature Park**
Underwater topography, historical monasteries and churches
- ▶ **Ida Fir Nature Protection Area**
Endemic and endangered Ida Fir, rich wildlife and unique ecosystem
- ▶ **Balıkesir Wildlife Development Area**
Protected deer species
- ▶ **Darıdere Nature Park**
10 Hectares natural park area in Edremit
- ▶ **Sarımsaklı Nature Park**
2 Hectares natural park area in Ayvalık
- ▶ **Değirmenboğazı Nature Park**
Natural park area in Karesi serving as a recreation area houses 52 species of trees such as pines, cypress and willow
- ▶ **Ayazma Pınarı Nature Park**
A 6 hectares natural park area in Edremit serving as a recreation area is especially attractive for its natural beauties.





Rich Biodiversity: “The Mount Ida National Park”

Separating Aegean and Marmara Regions, the Mount Ida is also the highest mountain of Biga Peninsula.

Deep valleys and canyons of the Mount Ida is a must see nature tourism center with its rich flora and fauna. Şahinderesi Canyon in the area is a favourite of nature lovers with its geographical formations.

Declared a national park in 1994, the region spreads over 22,000 hectares and houses natural beauties in green and blue with 31 endemic species. Touristic area, where hunting is illegal, has a rich biodiversity in wildlife.

**31 Endemic Species
Rich Flora and Fauna**

Manyas Bird Watching Station “Bird Sanctuary National Park”



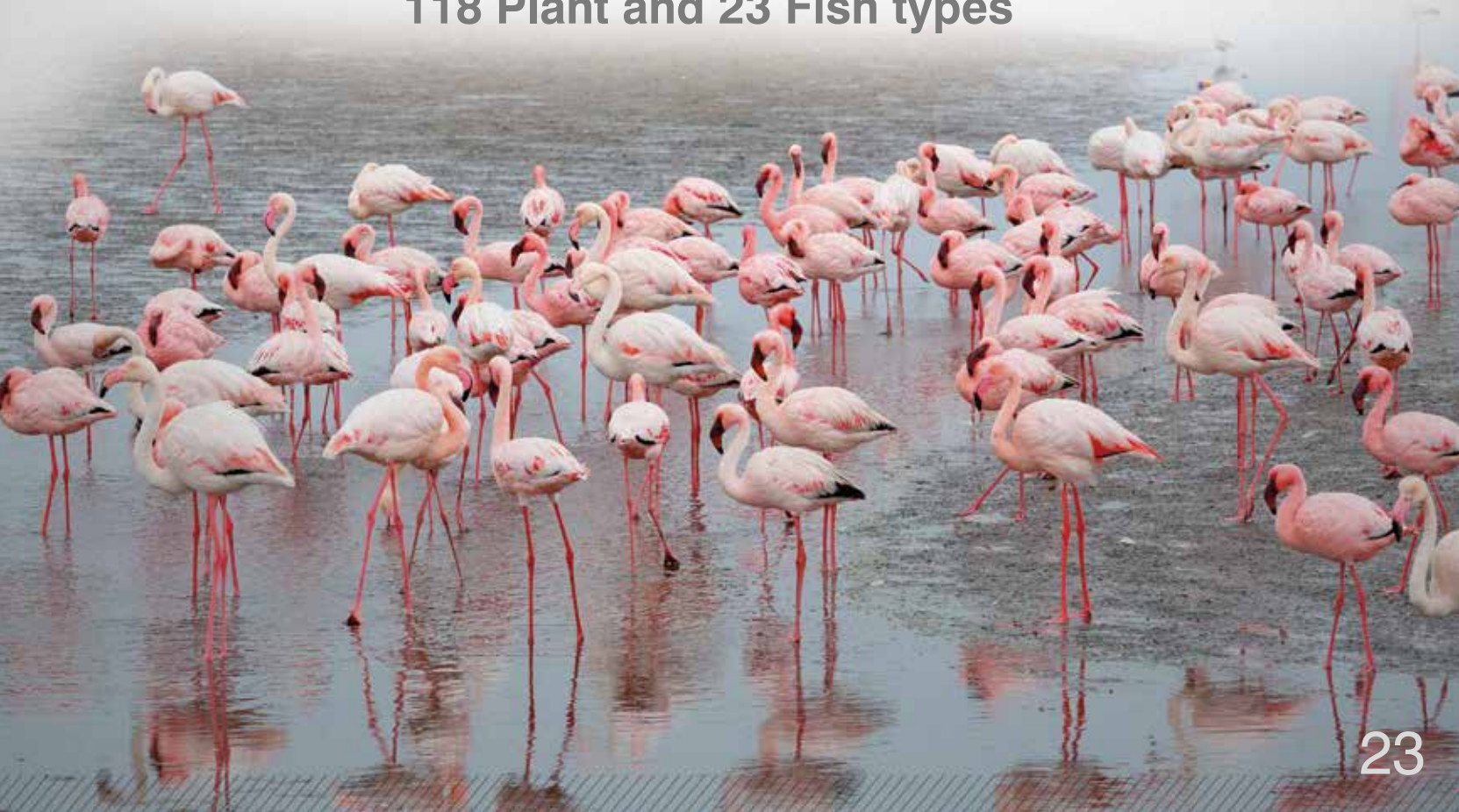
Bird Sanctuary National Park covers an area of over 17,000 hectares and has been declared a national park in 1959 due to its biodiversity (118 plant and 23 fish types) and especially 266 different bird species it houses. Located on the migration routes of birds, the national park has huge breeding colonies, where birds such as pelicans, kingfisher, spoonbill, cormorant, wild goose, wild duck and other passerines nestle in trees and reeds.

National Park is a center of attraction for bird watching societies with its wide range of wildlife.

Bird Watching Station

266 Different Bird Species

118 Plant and 23 Fish types





Tourism Businesses

Balikesir has a total of 680 lodging facilities 80 of which are approved by Ministry of Culture and Tourism and rest by municipalities with a bed capacity exceeding 35,000.

Tourism businesses are generally concentrated around Edremit Bay and Erdek Area.

Distribution of Licensed Lodging Facilities by Counties



Number of Domestic and Foreign Tourists



Being a center of attraction for tourism investments and tourists, Balıkesir has taken its place among the most visited tourist destinations with the number of tourists it attracts.

In the tourist accommodation data ranking, Balıkesir is in top ten provinces.

3.3 million
overnight stays
in Balıkesir

COUNTIES	OVERNIGHT STAY		
	DOMESTIC	FOREIGN	TOTAL
AYVALIK	872,283	232,234	1,104,517
EDREMIT	748,114	16,752	764,866
GÖNEN	328,137	9,944	338,081
ERDEK	213,886	5,309	219,195
KARESİ	187,039	11,317	198,356
MARMARA	195,662	2,542	198,204
BANDIRMA	127,292	9,380	136,672
BURHANIYE	82,583	32,782	115,365
BİGADİÇ	73,555	359	73,914





Climate Conditions Allowing Four Seasons Tourism in Balıkesir

Balıkesir has shores both on the Aegean and the Marmara Sea. Three different climates can be observed in the province. Mediterranean climate is generally observed in Aegean coast. Temperature difference between summer and winter is generally not felt extensively.

The Black Sea province of the Marmara coast extending to pass under the influence of a cool summer climate. Interiors of the province are subject to continental climate.

Annual average temperature of Balıkesir is 14.5°C. The province experiences the hottest temperature in July with average 24.2°C and coldest in January with 4.7°C.

These values shows that province has mild climate conditions and climate diversity with mild climate structure enable non-stop tourism activities for 12 months a year.

Annual average temperature
14.5°C

Hottest temperature in July
24.2°C

Coldest in January
4.7°C



The Continuously Conducive the Structure of Tourism Climate in Balıkesir



**Non-stop tourism activities
for 12 months a year.**

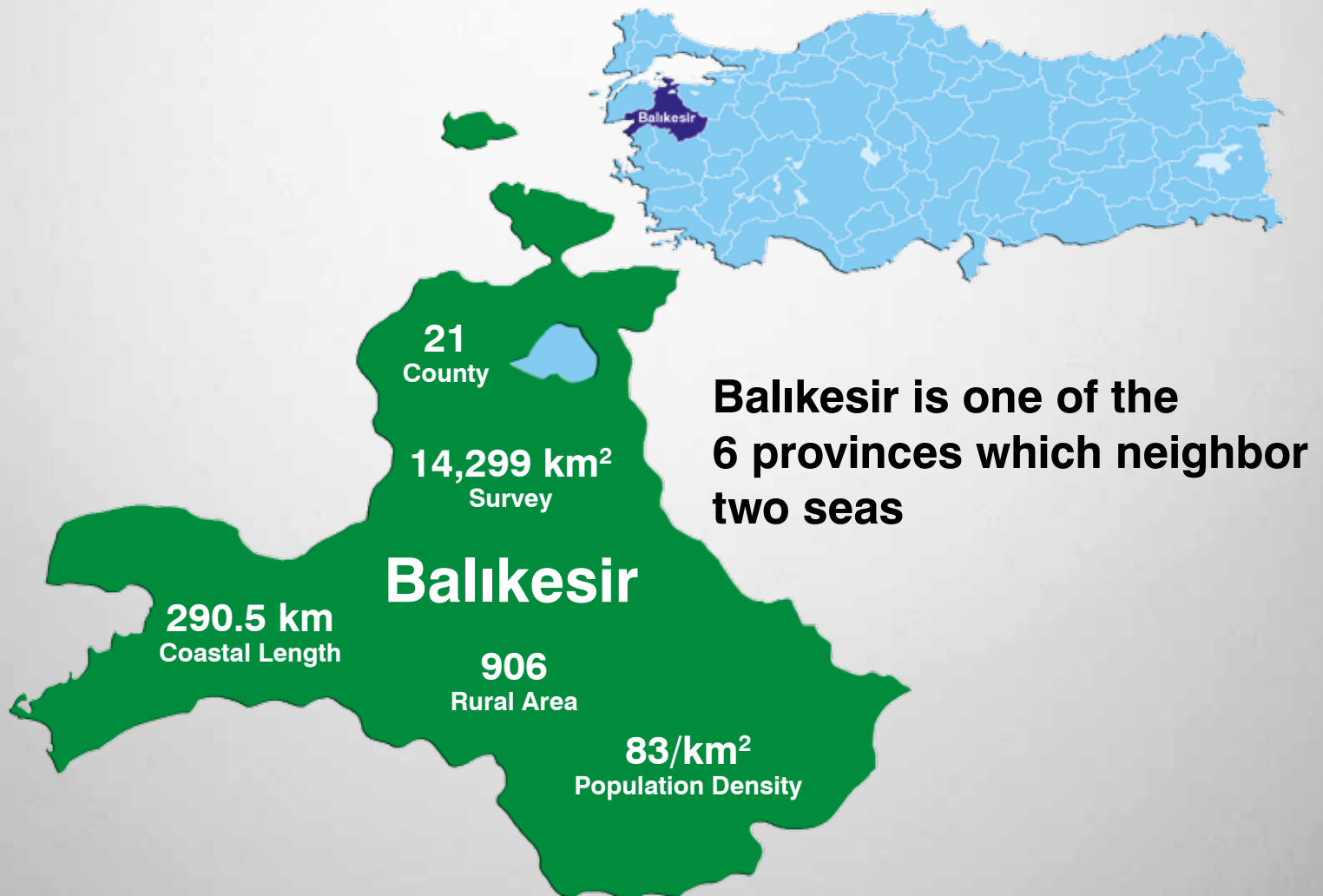




Geographic Location

Located in the south of Marmara Region, Balıkesir is renowned for its proximity to metropolises such as İstanbul, İzmir and Bursa. It is directly linked to all port cities of Turkey through Bandırma Port, which makes it the crossroads between Turkey and World markets.

Neighboring both Marmara and Aegean Seas makes Balıkesir one of the 6 provinces which neighbor two seas.



Population Dynamics of the Province



With a population of approximately 1.2 million, Balıkesir houses 1.5% of the population of Turkey.

Total labor force of
451,450 Persons

Expected population in 2040
3,280,000 Persons





Education in Balıkesir

With its education infrastructure, the province has the intermediate staff and qualified labor resources required by all sectors.

Balıkesir University and Bandırma On Yedi Eylül University provide education with 15 faculties.

The province has 1,200 pre-undergraduate education institutions.

- ▶ 100% schooling rate in primary schools
- ▶ 70% schooling rate in secondary education



Education Develops with Universities which have over 40,000 students in total

More qualified generations grow in Balıkesir with education institutions providing vocational education in each county

- ✓ 2 Universities
- ✓ 15 Faculties
- ✓ 5 Graduate Schools
- ✓ 16 Vocational Graduate Schools
- ✓ 64 Departments

Health in Balıkesir

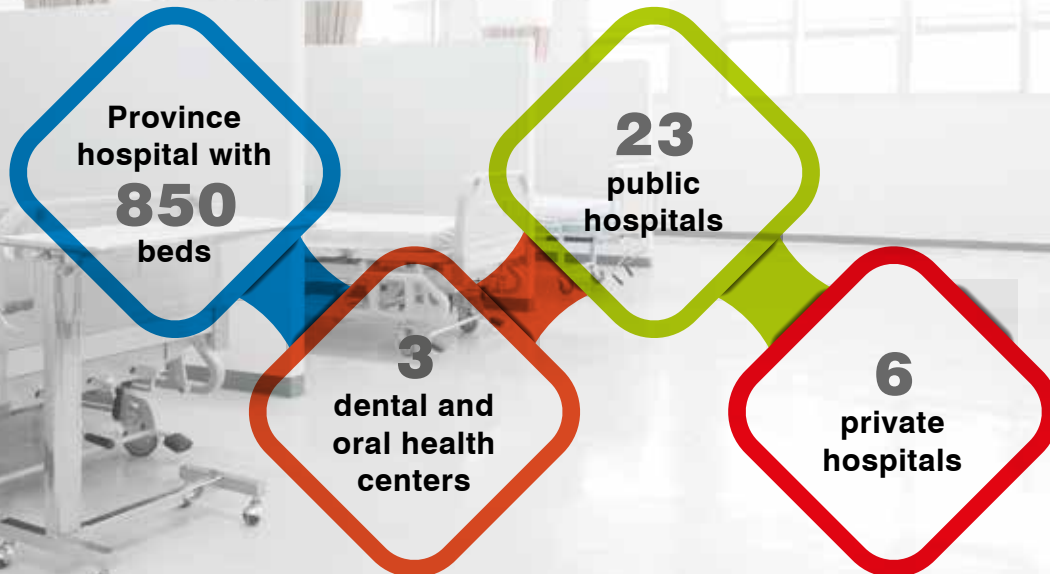
There are 30 hospitals spread all over the province, 23 of them being public hospitals, 6 private hospitals and 1 research and training hospital. 3 of these hospitals are also dental and oral health centers.

Additionally, the construction of a Province Hospital with 850 beds is continuing. It is expected to be fully operational in 2017.

In Balıkesir

- ▶ 20 Community Health Centers
- ▶ 336 Family Health Centers
- ▶ Integrated Public Hospitals in 4 counties
- ▶ 1 Community Health Laboratory

are in service.





An aerial night view of a city, likely a metropolis, with numerous glowing lights in yellow and orange against a dark blue background. The lights are concentrated in the lower half of the image, forming a dense urban area. The upper half shows a large, dark blue area, possibly a body of water or a large open space, with some scattered lights along its edges.

Crossroads for Metropolises

**Strong Logistic
Infrastructure Advantages**

**Total of 25 Million Population
in Neighboring Provinces...**



Koca Seyit Airport

Built in 1997, Koca Seyit Airport enables transportation from metropolises such as Ankara and İstanbul to every location in Balıkesir.

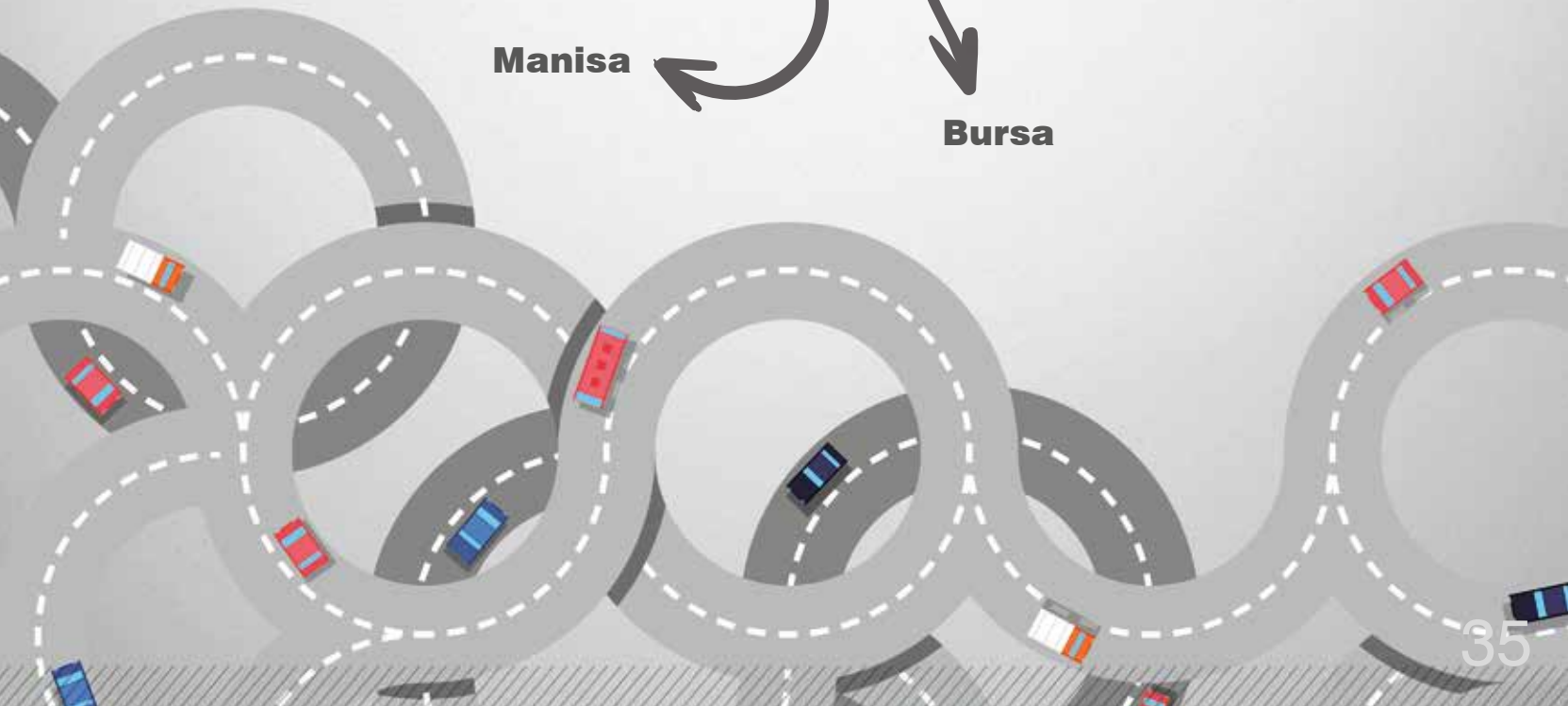
- ▶ **23,600 m² terminal**
- ▶ **2 Aprons with capacity of 6 planes**
- ▶ **Quick service with 21 Counters**
- ▶ **Over 8,000 Flights with 120 International Flights**
- ▶ **Over 300,000 Passengers in Domestic and International Flights**
- ▶ **Accessible and Green Airport Certified**



4-Hour Transportation Ring



The “4-Hour Transportation Ring”, which will make Balıkesir a Logistics center, will enable traveling around the Marmara Sea in 4 hours; integrate with new transportation projects and together with the BALO project, will facilitate Balıkesir’s open up to Europe.



Europe



North Marmara Highway
Yavuz Sultan Selim Bridge

TEKİRDAĞ

İSTANBUL

Tekirdağ-Çanakkale-Balıkesir
Highway Project
Çanakkale Bridge

Marmara Sea

YALOVA

KOCAELİ

Tekirdağ-Çanakkale-Bandırma
Railroad Project

Gebze-Orhangazi-İzmir
Highway Project
Osmangazi Bridge

Bandırma

BURSA

ÇANAKKALE

BİLECİK

Bandırma-Bursa-Bilecik
High Speed Train Project

BALIKESİR

Küçükkuyu

Bay Light Rail
System Project

Aegean Sea

Altınova

Bandırma-Balıkesir-İzmir
High Speed Train Project

İZMİR

- Bandırma-Bursa-Bilecik High Speed Train Project
- Bandırma-Balıkesir-İzmir High Speed Train Project
- Tekirdağ-Çanakkale-Bandırma Railroad Project
- North Marmara Highway - Yavuz Sultan Selim Bridge
- Gebze-Orhangazi-İzmir Highway Project - Osmangazi Bridge
- Tekirdağ-Çanakkale-Balıkesir Highway Project - Çanakkale Bridge
- Bay Light Rail System Project

Grand Transportation Projects Connected to Balıkesir



► **Gebze-Orhangazi-İzmir Highway Project - Osmangazi Bridge**

The Project that will reduce travel time between İstanbul and İzmir to 3.5 hours is 433 km long. With Balıkesir located in the center, the completion of the project will reduce İstanbul-Balıkesir to 2 hours and İzmir and Balıkesir to 1.5 hours. Opened in 2016, 2,682 meter long Osmangazi Bridge, which is a part of the Gebze-Orhangazi-İzmir Highway Project, has a central span of 1,550 meters and is the 4th bridge with largest central span around the world.

► **Tekirdağ-Çanakkale-Balıkesir Highway Project - Çanakkale Bridge**

This project will create routes alternative to Bosphorus crossing for transportation from Aegean and Inner Anatolia Regions to Thrace and Europe.

Connection of Tekirdağ-Çanakkale-Balıkesir Highway to Gebze-İzmir Highway near Balıkesir will create an additional momentum for tourism and other sectors.

► **Bandırma-Balıkesir - İzmir High Speed Train Project**

The project will act as the passenger and cargo line connecting Aegean Region to Europe through Bandırma and Tekirdağ ports. It will also connect to Ankara-İstanbul route on Bursa connection.

► **Northern Marmara Highway - Yavuz Sultan Selim Bridge**

Widest suspended bridge of the world with its 59 meters width and the longest bridge with rail transport on the world with its 1,408 meters of main span.

► **Bandırma-Bursa-Bilecik High Speed Train Line Project**

With the completion of the 215 km project, Bandırma will be connected to Bursa, which is a metropolis with a fully developed industry, through railroad.

► **Tekirdağ-Çanakkale-Bandırma Road Project**

Railroad project that will serve passenger and cargo transport between Bandırma and Çanakkale will start from Bandırma and reach Tekirdağ through Çanakkale, over Biga and Karabiga, covering Bandırma Organized Industrial Zone and Gönen Leather Organized Industrial Zone.

► **Bay Light Rail System Project**

With this project planned between Altınova and Küçükkuşu, a comfortable and rapid transportation will be provided at Bay Line that has a high tourism potential.

A complex network diagram with nodes of various colors (red, blue, orange, purple, cyan) connected by thin grey lines. Some nodes are highlighted with dashed circles. The background is a light grey grid.

Incentives

**The most advantageous incentive region among
the provinces neighboring the Aegean or the Marmara Seas**



Ministry of Economy provides incentives for investments in order to reduce regional development differences, increase value added investments, improve production and employment figures, and expand R&D efforts which increase international competitive power.

REGIONAL INCENTIVE PRACTICES

► Customs Tax Exemption

Machinery and equipment to be imported for the investment which will benefit from this incentive are exempt to customs tax.

► VAT Exemption

Machinery and equipment to be purchased for the investment which will benefit from this incentive are exempt from VAT.

► Insurance Premium Employer Share Support

Insurance premium employer share accrued as a result of additional employment created within the scope of the investment is paid by the Ministry; not to exceed minimum wage at the time per employee.

► Tax Reduction

In investments subject to incentives, income and corporate tax are paid with reductions at rates stipulated separately for regions the investment is made in.

► Investment Site Allocation

In investments realized with incentive certificates, free site allocation can be made in order to hasten the investment in some cases.

► Interest Support

In investment loans with at least one year maturity to be used within the scope of regional investment incentive, interest reduction support is provided.

Balıkesir is region-3 in regional investment incentives while thermal tourism facilities are considered region 5. Touristic accommodation investments made in KTKGB areas of Erdek, Avşa, Paşalimanı and Ekinlik are considered region 5.



Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution (TKDK)

Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution provides non-repayable grants for hostels, “bed & breakfast” facilities and restaurant services, establishment and development of farm tourism facilities, facilities built for touristic recreational facilities (such as sport activities, nature trips, hobby gardens, riding, mountaineering, biking path, fishing, etc.) established by micro entrepreneurs or farmers within scope of Rural Tourism Program.

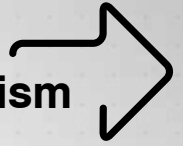


Development Bank of Turkey

Development Bank of Turkey provides medium and long term credits to joint stock companies to direct them to development oriented investments, to ensure profitability and efficiency of the business, to improve partnership structures and to help improve capital markets.



Supports under the Law for Encouragement of Tourism



► Allocation of Entailed Lands and Forest Areas to Tourism Investments

Under the Law for the Encouragement of Tourism, lands in Culture and Tourism Protection Areas and Tourism Centers are allocated to investors by Ministry of Culture and Tourism for a payment of lands' market value.

► Installments to Forestry Fund Participation Fee

The fee which facilities built in forest areas with tourism investment licenses have to pay under the provisions of Forestry Law is paid by the state; starting in the third year of the allocation of the land, in a five years term in five equal installments.

► Discounts in Electricity, Coal Gas and Utility Prices

Investors with tourism investment or business license can pay their electricity, gas and water fees at the lowest rate applied to industrial and domestic subscribers at the region.

► Communication Benefits

Each application for telephone and telex for the businesses with tourism license have priority over other applications.

► Foreign National Employment Permit

Tourism businesses can employ foreign nationals with permit from Ministry of Labor and Social Security limited with up to 10% of the total employees of the business.

► Official Holidays, Weekend and Lunch Break

Tourism businesses can continue to operate in official holidays, weekends and lunch breaks without need for any permit.

► Tourism Credits

Development Bank of Turkey, can provide credit support for investments in culture and tourism protection development regions and tourism centers from foreign resources.



KOSGEB

(SMALL AND MEDIUM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION)

The organization provides various supports to support small and medium sized enterprises.

These supports are granted to increase investments of enterprises, increase their technology utilization rate and increase their R&D capacity.

Providing grant and credit opportunities at various rates depending on the support type, KOSGEB creates serious advantages to investments in the region.

**Coordination
Collaboration
Support Program**

**Credit
Interest Support**

**SME Project
Support Program**

**Developing
Enterprises Market
SME Support
Program**

**General Support
Program**

**Entrepreneurship
Support Program**

South Marmara Development Agency Supports



South Marmara Development Agency (GMKA) provides grants to SMEs registered to Çanakkale and Balıkesir through “Call for Proposal” method.

Call for proposal is a support type where SMEs within a specific support program can submit project proposals within specified subjects and conditions. The support programs, which can be applied for at certain times of the year, have so far provided enterprises with support in developing alternative tourism services and subjects and sectors to be supported can change each year depending on the program.

The projects sorted by the scores, are provided grants according to the program budget. Successful projects are provided 50% grants. Part of the grant is paid in advance to the companies to relieve financing problems. Active grant programs and current information on grant programs can be checked at www.gmka.gov.tr/destekler.





South Marmara Development Agency is by Your Side with Balıkesir Investment Support Office

South Marmara Development Agency Balıkesir Investment Support Office operates to improve investment environment of the province, attracting investment by promoting investment environment through various media and to support investors that decided to invest in the province in investment processes.

Within the scope of these activities Investment Office;

- ▶ Informs investors in areas they need
- ▶ Conducts analyses, reports, inventory studies on business and investment environment of the province and share these studies with investors
- ▶ Supports investors in finding lands suitable for investment
- ▶ Follows permit and license processes for investments
- ▶ Organizes events promoting investment environment
- ▶ Prepares and practices strategies to improve business and investment environment of the province and improve coordination between the agencies the investor deals with undertakes studies

SOUTH MARMARA DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

www.gmka.gov.tr

**Strong Communication
Network Between
Institutions**

Qualified Staff

**Strong Institutional
Structure**





Investment Support Office Services

Balıkesir Investment Support Office

Works to improve business and investment environment of the province, promote investment opportunities to investors to attract more investments and to direct and inform investors.

Balıkesir Investment Support Office serves the investors with;

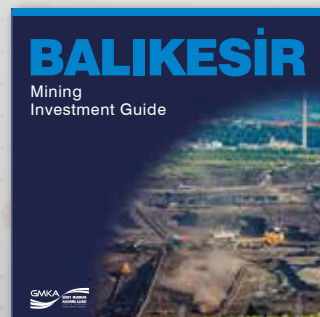
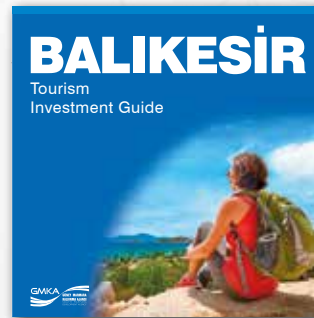
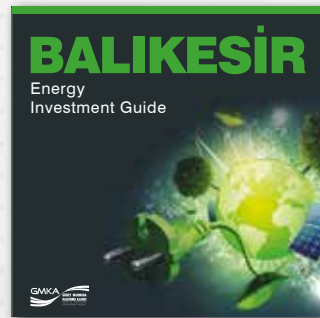
Qualified staff

Strong institutional structure

Strong communication network between institutions

Introducing the Provincial Investment Climate

In order to promote business and investment environment of the province, and to attract investors, events such as domestic and international conferences, fairs, seminars, meetings, business trips are organized and participated in. Written or visual materials are prepared to promote investment opportunities of the province to investors.





Inventory of Land Available for Investment

Via geographical information systems established within the Agency, investors are supported in finding suitable lands for their investments. Information on lands are gathered and continuously updated online in accordance with the protocols signed with agencies and institutions. Furthermore, landowners who wish to sell or rent their lands to investors visit the Agency and enrich the inventory.

PUBLIC LANDS

PRIVATE LANDS

TOURISM CENTERS

Informing-Guiding Services at Investment Support Office



Balikesir Investment Support Office informs and guides investors in issues such as priorities, scope, eligibility conditions, application documents for fiscal and technical supports by public and private sector at local or central level.

Additionally investors are provided with information and guidance services they need before and during investment processes, as well as during operation phase.

Researches are conducted on prominent sectors in the province; data is gathered on topics which influence investment decisions such as raw materials, energy, logistics, and labor force; and put into the use of investors.

Various trainings are provided under supervision of qualified trainers in line with the needs of the enterprises operating in Balikesir.



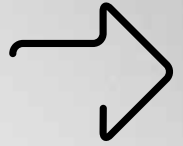
Investments Followed Centrally

By following the bureaucratic processes centrally in the name of investors, permits and licenses for the investors are obtained as quickly as possible.



Tourism Investment Certificate

Tourism Operation License



Master Plan

**Implemmentary
Development
Plan**

Business License

Relevant Institutions

Ministry of Culture and Tourism



Telephone: (0312) 212 83 00

Web address: www.kulturturizm.gov.tr

Balıkesir Governorship



Telephone: (0266) 245 13 01

Web address: www.balikesir.gov.tr

Balıkesir Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism



Telephone: (0266) 245 13 35-36

Web address: www.balikesirkulturturizm.gov.tr

Balıkesir Metropolitan Municipality



Telephone: (0266) 239 15 10

Web Address: www.balikesir.bel.tr

Southern Marmara Development Agency



Telephone: (0266) 246 10 00

Web Address: www.gmka.gov.tr

Balıkesir Chamber of Commerce



Telephone: (0266) 244 68 68

Web address: www.bato.org.tr

Relevant Institutions

Balıkesir Provincial Directorate
of Environmental Planning



Telephone: (0266) 224 47 15
Web address: www.csb.gov.tr

Ministry of Economy



Telephone: (0312) 204 75 00
Web address: www.ekonomi.gov.tr

Agriculture and Rural Development
Support Institution - Balıkesir Provincial
Coordinator



Telephone: (0266) 245 58 61
Web address: balikesir.tkd.gov.tr

Balıkesir University



Telephone: (0266) 612 14 00-08
Web address: www.balikesir.edu.tr

Small and Medium Industry Development
Organization- Balıkesir Directorate



Telephone: (0266) 244 20 33
Web address: www.kosgeb.gov.tr

Bandırma Onyedi Eylül University



Telephone: (0266) 717 01 17
Web address: www.bandirma.edu.tr

