

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 February 2008 16:13
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: visit

[REDACTED]

During the dinner party at [REDACTED] we were discussing the possible areas of interest for the visit.

I do not know the exact dates of the visit, but I thought the following might be of interest to you anyway.

[REDACTED]

GAPFEST 2008

GAP PROVINCES CULTURE AND TOURISM FESTIVAL
MAY 2008
16-20 - ISTANBUL
21-25 - GAP REGION

During the festival, concerts, exhibitions will be organised, documentaries will be shown, there will be folk dancing, lectures. Each province will have a stand of their own where they will display goods specific to their areas.

The aim of the festival is to attract attention to international investors and also to attract tourists to the area.

WHAT IS GAP? -http://www.gap.gov.tr/gap_eng.php?sayfa=Flash/Ing/contact.html

The South-eastern Anatolia Project (GAP) is a multi-sector and integrated regional development effort approached in the context of sustainable development. It's basic objectives include the improvement of living standards and income levels of people so as to eliminate regional development disparities and contributing to such national goals as social stability and economic growth by enhancing productivity and employment opportunities in the rural sector. The project area covers 9 administrative provinces (Adiyaman, Batman, Diyarbakir, Gaziantep, Kilis, Mardin, Siirt, Sanliurfa and Simak) in the basins of the Euphrates and Tigris and in Upper Mesopotamia.

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[REDACTED]
We were also talking about Capadocia [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I found this web page of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry's "ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR SPECIAL AREAS " - (EPASA) which might be of interest, as environment is one of our top Strategies

<http://www.ockkb.gov.tr/EN/lcerik.ASP?ID=133>

and, should you require more information, I will be happy to do some more research

[REDACTED]
IHLARA

Ihlara Special Environmental Protection Area; consists of 2 sub-districts and 2 villages annexed to Guzelyurt Town, Aksaray Mamasyn Dam Lake in the North, Il'su Town in the southeast of Ihlara Valley, Guzelyurt Town in the East and Uzunkaya Village in the West form the general borders of the region apart from The Special Environmental Protection Area.

The region, possessing geological, archaeological, ethnographic, biological, agricultural, tourism features and activities, has a vast amount of natural and cultural values.

- located on an area completely covered with volcanic rocks, with the influence of atmospheric events, complicated and proximate valleys, cliffs, interesting cleavages and caves and mounds with flat and sharp stones have been formed.

- thermal water, at measured temperatures of about 60°C and with a 1501t/sec flow,

- the intense and variant flora: In the researches conducted in Ihlara Valley 364 taxons, consisting of 54 families and 218 species, have been defined and recorded. Because the interior of the valley is not much used for grazing and because there are plenty of shadowy areas, the number of species in the

valley is high. 43 of these species are endemic and this clearly highlights the importance of natural flora in the region.

- 35 bird species belonging to 21 families have been defined in the region.

- cultural heritage: The records show that there were more than a hundred churches, 16 monasteries, plenty of religious education centres and the number of people living in more than 1500 settlements was between 80-100 thousands.