



# MUSEUM AND EXHIBITION AREAS FROM AKÇAKOCA TO KAPANCA



T.C.  
İZMİT  
MUNICIPALITY



THE HEART  
OF KOCAELİ IS İZMİT

FATMA KAPLAN HÜRRİYET

— MAYOR OF İZMİT MUNICIPALITY —

Smile  İZMİT "







**T.C.  
İZMİT  
MUNICIPALITY**

# History, Culture and Art...

The most important elements that form the identity of a city.

Izmit is an ancient city that bears the traces of civilizations with its deep-rooted past and has a different story in every corner. We work with great effort to protect, keep alive and carry this unique heritage to the future.

As Izmit Municipality, while protecting our history, we also see contributing to the development of art and culture as one of our most important responsibilities. With our museums that carry the traces of the past to the future, our venues where art and literature breathe, our memorial houses that reflect the memory of the city and our areas that strengthen social life, we protect, keep alive and bring the cultural texture of our city to wider audiences.

Many special venues in this catalog, from the House of Poetry and Literature to Traces of Izmit Memorial House, from Atatürk and National Struggle Memorial Museum to Zübeyde Hanım Mansion Women's Life Center, open their doors to all visitors to contribute to the cultural heritage and social life of our city. We keep our coffee culture alive in Süleyman Paşa Bath, shed light on our city's press history with the Museum of Press, and touch the imagination of children in Izmit Toy Museum. We continue our work to make our city a culture and art center with our historical baths, streets, and events such as Kapanca Street Festival.

Izmit is a city that lives not only with its past, but also with the values it carries into the future. Preserving this historical and cultural heritage and bringing you together with the areas that reflect the spirit of our city is our greatest pride. Together, we will continue to make Izmit a more livable, more cultured, and stronger city.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the preparation of this valuable work and invite you to discover these unique venues.

Best regards.



**Att. Fatma KAPLAN HÜRRİYET**  
The Mayor of Izmit Municipality

# THE HOUSE OF POETRY AND LITERATURE

The House of Poetry and Literature was opened on June 1, 2022, in memory of Ruşen Hakkı, one of the valuable writers of Izmit. Serving under the Directorate of Culture and Social Affairs of Izmit Municipality, the House of Poetry and Literature hosts poetry recitals, writing workshops and art talks.

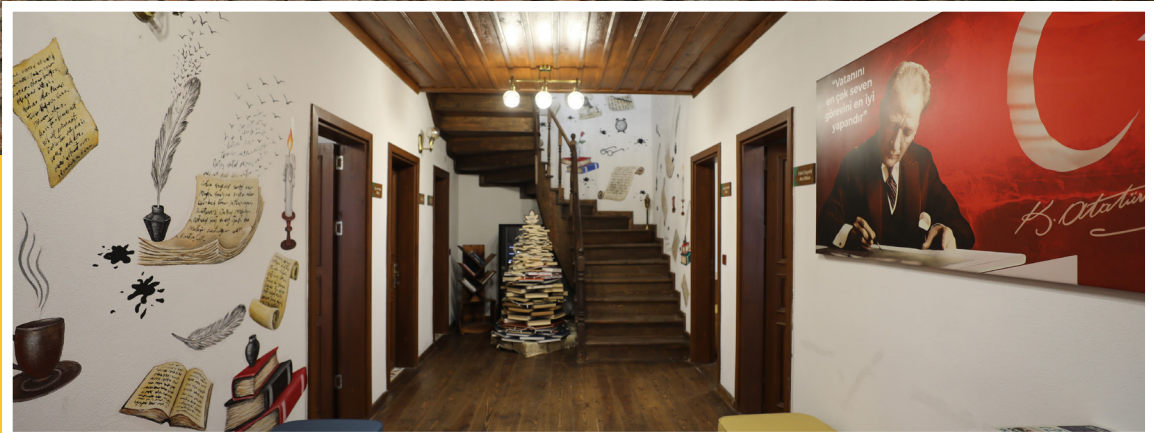
It has become the meeting point for literature lovers who want to read books and do their work. It is located on the street adorned with the historical houses of Izmit and is admired by those concerned due to its location overlooking the sea.

In this area, where we want to highlight the works of local artists of Izmit and transfer their works of art to future generations, each room is named after an artist who is important for our city.

At the House of Poetry and Literature; a total of six rooms exist which are: Fahri Seyrek Memorial Room, Poet and Writer Room, Creative Writing Room, Şakir Balkı Creative Writing Room, Ruşen Hakkı Room and Naci Girginsoy Reading Room.









# SÜLEYMAN PASHA BATH (ŞEHR-İ İZMİT)



Süleyman Pasha Bath is one of the oldest Ottoman buildings in Izmit which was built by Prince Süleyman Pasha during the reign of Orhan Gazi in the 14th century. This historical building, located in Akçakoca District, has the feature of a double bath and consists of cold, warm and hot sections. The bathhouse, which has defied centuries, was restored in 2010 and taken over by the Izmit Municipality in 2014, and today it started to serve citizens as the name of Sehr-i Izmit Cafe.



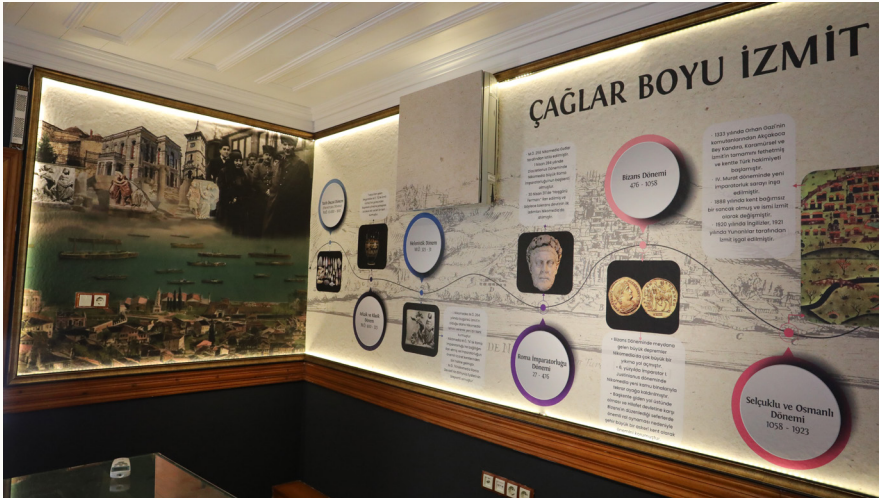


# AND **SIX CENTURIES** OF MEMORY: **TURKISH COFFEE EXHIBITION**



This unique place is more than just a coffee shop, it is a cultural point that carries the traces of the past to the present. "Six Centuries of Memory: Turkish Coffee Exhibition", which continues in the interior of the cafe, introduces the history and cultural journey of Turkish coffee to its visitors. Antique cups, finely crafted coffee grinders and elegant pitchers in the exhibition reveal the centuries-old tradition of Turkish coffee.







# TRACES OF IZMIT MEMORIAL HOUSE



Traces of Izmit Memorial House, which was opened on October 28, 2023 on Historical Kapanca Street with the aim of keeping the values that form the city's identity alive and instilling urban awareness, takes visitors on a nostalgic journey by reviving the city's important symbols, forgotten professions and daily life habits. This historical building, consisting of three floors, offers its visitors the opportunity to discover the changing face of Izmit from past to present.

Along with chronological narratives shedding light on the city's iconic structures, important figures who left their mark on the city, and historical events, there are also reenactments of traditional professions and the tradition of tradesmen such as drapers, photographers, coppersmiths, and bagels that have left a mark on the city's memory, along with details reflecting the atmosphere of the period.

In addition, important documents regarding the municipality's history, tools and equipment used in the past and elements reflecting the city's administrative memory are also exhibited. One of the city's unique flavors, Izmit Cotton Candy, is explained in a special area where the production process is animated, while traditional home life and everyday items are presented to visitors in a nostalgic atmosphere.

# ZÜBEYDE HANIM MANSION WOMEN'S LIFE CENTER







Zübeyde Hanım Women's Life Center aims to provide an environment where women can develop themselves, discover their potential and increase their self-confidence, thus supporting their spiritual and physical well-being, with the aim of empowering and supporting women.

The Women's Life Center includes the Lace Exhibition Room, Fatma Belkis Derman Aromatherapy Room, Safiye Ali Danışan Room, and Halide Edip Adıvar Women's Works Library. Various workshops are organized in the Life Center, providing women with a living space and the opportunity to socialize.







# İZMİT TOY MUSEUM

The private İzmit Toy Museum, opened by the İzmit Municipality on December 21, 2024, features a rich collection of toys spanning from the past to the present and offers an enjoyable visiting experience for both children and adults. Consisting of 14 rooms and a total exhibition area of 460 square meters, İzmit Toy Museum brings together historical and modern toys. Visitors to the museum take a pleasant journey through time by closely examining toys from different periods.

The toys on display bring to life the child inside not only children but also adults. The museum offers its visitors the opportunity to take a historical journey, while also organizing educational events, workshops and interactive experiences for children.

The museum has a three-story structure, and each floor offers visitors a different experience:

- **Ground Floor:** There is a café area where visitors can spend time comfortably. This section allows parents to have a pleasant break while waiting for their children.
- **Second Floor:** It hosts toy exhibition areas. In this area, various toys from the past to the present are exhibited, each of which has a historical meaning.
- **Third Floor:** There are workshops and activity areas specially designed for children. This floor is ideal for children to develop their creative skills and spend time with fun activities.

Izmit Toy Museum appeals to visitors of all ages, offering both an entertaining and educational experience. The museum, which offers an enjoyable activity alternative for children and their families, is open to visitors every day except Mondays and offers its services to the public free of charge.



# THE MUSEUM OF PRESS



Another important place identified with the historical texture of Izmit, the Museum of Press is located on Historical Kapanca Street. This historical building, which bears the elegant traces of 19th century Ottoman architecture, was revived in accordance with today's conditions with the restoration carried out in 2012.

The Museum of Press, which sheds light on the local journalism history of Izmit, was opened to visitors on January 16, 2014 with the contributions of the Turkish Journalists Federation and Izmit Municipality. The ground floor of the museum, which has four rooms, is used for administrative purposes, and the other sections contain important objects reflecting the history of the press, such as cameras that bear traces of the past, press machines used in the printing house, typewriters, old newspaper clippings and photographs. This unique collection has been meticulously brought together in order to carry the traces of Izmit's press history to the present.









# ATATURK AND NATIONAL STRUGGLE MEMORIAL MUSEUM







The Green Mansion, dating back to 1927, is a family mansion that lived here under the surname Akköseoğulları. The mansion fell into disrepair after its owners abandoned it over the years, but it was restored to its former glory. The mansion has three floors above the basement, and two of them currently serve as the Atatürk and National Struggle Memorial Museum.

Atatürk and National Struggle Memorial Museum was opened to visitors to keep alive the memories of Gazi Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder of the Republic of Turkey, during the years of the National Struggle and in Izmit. The museum also exhibits a number of objects and documents that reflect the spirit of the National Struggle period experienced in Izmit.

Visitors will encounter original documents, photographs and important objects used during the War of Independence in the museum, and will gain a deeper understanding of Atatürk's life and the Turkish nation's struggle for independence.







# THE NEW BATH

It dates back to the 18th century Ottoman period and was built by Hamalzade Hacı Hasan. Its architectural structure draws attention with the cold room section covered with a dome and the seclusion sections covered with vaults on the sides with a dome in the middle.

The central part of the seclusion is covered with a large dome supported by columns, while there are closed private washing areas in the four corners and open washing areas in between.

In order to preserve the historical texture of the bath and make it usable again, restoration work was started in 2016. During this process, both the original architecture of the structure and the details appropriate to the Ottoman bath culture were carefully restored. After the restoration, it was opened to visitors with the work completed in 2018.

Today, events and exhibitions are organized both as a historical place and as a modern cultural area. It was opened to the public in order to keep the traces of the past alive and to contribute to the culture of the city.





# INTERNATIONAL KAPANCA STREET FESTIVAL



Cities are not just buildings, streets and avenues. The true spirit of a city is shaped by the cultural heritage, art and human stories lived on those streets. With this understanding, we are holding Kapanca Street Festival as a tradition and bringing together the historical texture of İzmit with art and literature.

In the first festival we held with great enthusiasm last year, we all saw how this ancient street was revived while preserving the spirit of time. Kapanca Street took on a completely different atmosphere with the music echoing in its narrow streets, events carrying every color of art and children's laughter.

This year, the festival focuses on literature and poetry. We will host valuable literary figures from five different European countries, come together with our local and national poets and writers, and be enchanted by literature. Kapanca Street will present a cultural feast by bringing together traces of the past and contemporary art. We will adorn this street with art once again with poetry readings, literary talks, creative writing workshops, and many events related to art.

The festival is becoming more than just an event; it is becoming a tradition that touches



# KAPANCA SOKAK FESTİVALİ'NE GİDER



the cultural life of izmit and breathes life into the city. While keeping our history alive, we will carry Kapanca Street into the future with the transformative power of art. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude in advance to all the artists, writers, and everyone who contributed to the organization of this festival.

Hoping to meet you on the art-filled streets of izmit!

Best regards.

**Att. Fatma KAPLAN HÜRRİYET**  
The Mayor of Izmit Municipality







# KAPANCA STREET MAP

- 
1. Atatürk Statue
  2. Clock Tower
  3. Kapanca Street
  4. Chamber of Industry
  5. Old Church  
(Akçakoca Primary School)
  6. The Museum of Press
  7. Izmit Toy Museum
  8. Traces of İzmit  
Memorial House
  9. İzmit Boutique Hotel
  10. Zeliha Kadın Fountain
  11. Water Cistern
  12. Yumurtacı Mescidi Mosque
  13. Atatürk and National  
Struggle Memorial Museum  
(Green Mansion)
  14. Ferdane Hanım Mansion
  15. New Bath
  16. Tüysüz Fountain
  17. Ali Ağa Fountain (New Fountain)
  18. Akçakoca Observation Terrace
  19. Zübeyde Hanım Mansion  
Women's Life Center  
(Purple Mansion)
  20. Akçakoca Bey Statue
  21. Akçakoca Square
  22. Süleyman Pasha Bath  
(Şehr-i İzmit Cafe)
  23. The House of Poetry and  
Literature
  24. Historical Akçakoca Bey  
Dere Mosque
  25. Elbeyoğlu Mansion
  26. Portakal Mosque

# ONGOING PROJECTS

We plan to implement projects that will deepen the cultural heritage of our city and carry it into the future, while also bringing art together with the public;

- 1- International Nikomedia Festival**
- 2- International Cotton Candy Festival**
- 3- International Kapanca Street Festival**
- 4- International Folklore Museum**
- 5- Wax Museum**
- 6- Yeşilçam Museum**





# 2<sup>ND</sup> International Kapanca Street Festival

16 - 19 MAY



T.C.  
İZMİT  
MUNICIPALITY



THE HEART  
OF KOCAELİ IS İZMİT

FATMA KAPLAN HÜRRİYET  
— MAYOR OF İZMİT MUNICIPALITY —

Smile  İZMİT



# Smile *you are in* **İZMİT**



**FATMA KAPLAN HÜRRİYET**  
— MAYOR OF İZMİT MUNICIPALITY —

