Important Phone Numbers

If you have serious illness or you cannot get to a doctor yourself and when urgent assistance is required to prevent a dangerous deterioration of health or threat to life, please call free of charge: 112
In case of fire call: 110
When you need Police call: 155

Banking

If you decide to open a bank account in Turkey or if you need banking services, you can benefit from national and international banks in the city such as Halkbank, İYİ Bankası, Ziraat Bankası, Vakıfbank, Garantibank, and Akbank.

At the campus of Kilis 7 Aralik University, you will find 4 ATMs of different national and international banks. Bank working hours are generally from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday. All banks have ATMs (cash dispensers) and foreign exchange desks where you can exchange your money.

Mobile Services (Cellular Phones)

There are three main mobile telephone networks in Turkey. If you wish to have more information, please visit their website below:

Turkcell  www.turkcell.com.tr/site/en
Vodafone  www.vodafone.com

Some Ideas What to Bring

- All papers related to your exchange program
- Passport
- Visa
- Insurance documents
- Pocket money
- Medicine
- Alarm clock
- Driving license (if you have one)
- Camera
- Some snacks and drinks typical for your country
- A good sense of humor!...:)

Did you know?

- Over two thirds of the Turkish population is under the age of 30.
- The oldest known human settlement in Turkey is Göbekli Tepe (Southeast Anatolia) (10000 BC) (250 km from Kilis).
- St. Paul was born in Tarsus in the in South Turkey and Christianity was first bloomed in Anatolia with the first Christian Church dedicated to St. Peter. The Greek Orthodox Church is still located in Istanbul.
- Ağrı Mountain Ararat, with a height of 5,166 meters is said to be the place where Noah’s Ark landed.
- The seven churches of the Book of Revelation are all located in West Anatolia- Ephesus, Smyrna (modern Izmir), Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.
- St. Nicholas, in other words Santa Claus, was born in Patara and lived in Myra in South Turkey.
- Only in Istanbul, over 100 churches of Christianity are still active today.
- The oldest known shipwreck in the world was excavated in Kas.
- Many city names are actually originated in Anatolia such as Philadelphia, Paris, Antioch, Troy and the continental name “Europe”.
- Two of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World was located in Anatolia, Temple of Artemis at Ephesus and the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus at Bodrum.
- The famous words “Veni, vidi, vici” (I came, I saw, I conquered) were said by Roman Emperor Caesar when he came to Anatolia in 47 BC.
- The Lycian Union’s (in South Anatolia) federal system for governance with proportional representation was actually used as a model by the authors of the United States constitution in the 18th century.
- The famous Trojan War (Troy of Brad Pitt) took place in West Anatolia.
- The famous Dutch Tulip actually is originated from Turkey and was taken to Netherlands in the 16th century.
- The color of Turquoise comes from the clean see color on the Aegean Cost in Turkey.
- Kasikci diamond, one of the greatest piece of diamond in the world, is displayed in Topkapi Palace in Istanbul.
- Virgin Mary’s House, near Ephesus, where she spent her last years and died in, was visited by Pope the 6th Paul and Pope Jean Paul.
- The first known University in history is in Harran, Southeast Turkey (250 km from Kilis). Source: http://www.rorschach2014.org/?p=About_Turkey
Kilis 7 Aralik University is located in Kilis, Turkey where the population is around 90,000. This small and lovely “college” town is famous for its delicious black grapes (locally known Horoz Karası), pistachios, organic olives, Kilis tava, katmer, gergibi, kahke, lebeniyye soup, handmade Yemeni, and quilts. As a border city, the geographical position of Kilis opens the doors of multicultural atmosphere of Southern Anatolia and Middle East.

History
There is evidence of human occupation from 4,000 years ago, in the Middle Bronze Age. The region has been ruled by the Hurrians, the Assyrian Empire, the Hittite Empire, the Persian Empire, the Macedonian Empire, the Roman Empire (including the Byzantine Empire), the Armenian Kingdom and finally by Ottoman Empire. Places of historical interest include a number of burial mounds, castles, and mosques.

The name of Kilis is thought to be originating from two possible sources. First one the Arabic word for lime which is “Kil’seh”, was shortened and became Kilis. The reason is that the soil of Kilis contains high levels of lime. Second possible source is Turkish word for church, which is “Kilise.” Around 16th century Armenian pilgrims who traveled to St. Hovhannes Monastery in Kilis, caught the attention of nearby Turkish villagers. When Turks asked Armenians where they were traveling, they replied “Kiliseye gidiyoruz, Kiliseden dönüyoruz”; translates “We are traveling back and forth to church.”

Geography
Kilis is located in the southern foothills of the Taurus Mountains in the west of the Euphrates River on the northern edge of the Syria Plain. The district contains areas of good agricultural land, watered by small rivers and 68% of the land area of Kilis is planted. Almost 4% of Turkey’s grape production comes from Kilis. Other important agricultural products are olives, fruit, wheat, barley, and tobacco.

Climate
Kilis has a Mediterranean Climate in general. Summers are hot and dry, and winters are cold and rainy.

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Electricity
220 volts AC, all over Turkey. The voltage is clearly marked on all hotel outlets.

Tap Water
It is being chlorinated but we recommend you to prefer bottled water for drinking, which is sold in markets and shops.

Places to Visit
Ravanda Castle is near the Ravanda Village of Polateli province, 24 km from city center, and located in the north of Kilis. Its environment is clear and constructed on a steep hill of a mountain, which is reigning to the horizon. Remaining part of the castle, constructed via engraving of the peak of the mountain, is the internal castle.

Oylum Tumulus is one of the biggest tumuli in Anatolia, Syria, and Mesopotamia. Strategic position holding tumulus is settled during nearly all ages. Excavations performed on Oylum Tumulus shows definite settlement dating back to Chalcolithic Age. There are lots of tumuli other than Oylum that are waiting to be excavated.

Akpınar is a promenade in which clear waters are flowing in the middle of a land with limestone. It is surrounded by olive groves, vineyards, and orchards, and this unique natural beauty covered by grass land is full of picnickers during spring and summer months.

Soğluțüdere, where streams coming from north slopes, is another place used for entertainment and picnicking by the people of Kilis during spring and summer time.

What to Eat?
Regional foods reflecting traditional culture are highly impressive with their taste and appearance. Kebab sorts like Oruk, unique to Kilis, are served freshly with special spices. Horoz Karası (Kilis Grapes), Kilis Tava, Lebeniyye (A kind of soup), Kahke, Gergibi (A kind of cookie), and Kilis Katmeri (A kind of dessert) are the foods that you should definitely taste before leaving Kilis.

What to Buy?
Shopping centers contain lots of souvenirs, reflecting cultural texture of Kilis. Liquid and solid grape molasses exclusive to Kilis can be bought. Handmade quilts and Yemeni (A kind of shoe) are other important souvenirs and they reflect multicultural and social atmosphere of the region.

Quick Facts about Kilis