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FINAL REPORT TENDER FOR ECOTOURISM EXPERTISE

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GOVERNORSHIP OF ŞİLE



T.C ŞİLE
KAYMAKAMLIĞI

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1. Introduction

Şile is a district of Istanbul with 34.241 inhabitants. Its population is mostly rural, with %65 of the population living in 57 villages. During the summer season between June and September the population rapidly increases due to vacationers. The principal income generating activities of Şile district are tourism, forestry, agricultural production, fisheries, trade and small scale textile production nationally branded as Şile fabric. With the sea and historical values "Tourism" is the most important source of income in Şile's economy. Since there's an unregulated demand now is the right time, to introduce the ecotourism approach and induce a sustainable and nature friendly way of tourism in Şile.

Since the ecotourism potential of the district is far from being systematically managed, the infrastructure is insufficient, and diversification of ecotourism activities is poor and local, mostly based on individual efforts. There're clusters of locations favored by campers, hikers, bikers and rock climbers. At that point, it's still the right time to improve the visitor experience through establishment of ecotourism infrastructure along with the know-how that must accompany the facilities, which will lead to higher visitor satisfaction, benefit the local community and conservation of nature values/resources.

Şile district has recreation and tourism areas for the conservation, improvement and development of the region and Istanbul's natural values, providing protection-usage balance, integrated with its environment and for entertainment, relaxation and vocational needs of the guests.



Photo 1: The team is working on the ancient trade road.

2. Project activities

2.1 Overview of activities

The Oma oma team generated the eco tourism routes, presented in this report along with locations of marking the place of signboards. Although we had previous project experiences in the area and were familiar with the site we found the opportunity to rediscover astonishing parts of Şile with this project. The team had produced the routes after a small workshop within the team then tested the feasibility of the routes and customized the routes through self-examination. While creating routes and locations, we also considered the safety of the guests. During SSI work proposals like site arrangements, signboards, and portable infrastructure the safety remained as a priority. These details were all noted down in the relevant Annexes and ready for the investment GA, to be put in the technical specifications for tenders. After the finalization of the draft route, we did a focus group exercise with participation of minimum three people from tourism agencies and discussed the outputs with the colleagues from the district governorship within the third month of the project.

Our approach could be summarized as below;

We have identified some of the historical trademarks of Şile. Since our primary target groups are mainly cyclers, hikers, birdwatchers and nature enthusiast, we have focused on least explored parts of the province along with regular tourist attractions. In order to have a functioning route there must be good transport to the start and end points. We identified the historical sites connected with the theme in that area, such as Sarıkavak Castle, Tahlışane Buildings, Ocaklı Kale. We also identified possible accommodation and services. Before we designed the final routes, we also checked out any future infrastructure and development plans. Since we design hiking roads through valleys, the planned water levels of proposed dam projects should be incorporated to the plans. We have also collected information about old roads, viewpoints, fountains, waterfalls and caves. Considering these data sets we have drafted routes on Google Earth. Once these routes were confirmed by the contracting authority we made GPS files with key points on the intended route and distance between the points until the best route found which links them in the most interesting way.

In this draft final report, location suggestions for other small scale investment items such as bird watch towers, stands, outdoor furniture, photo banks, will be presented to the district governorship as described in the terms of reference.

In the second and third month of the work we prepared the content for the touristic information about the surroundings, once the routes are confirmed by the administration of district governorship and have collected the required information. We have documented all the work at the suggested locations photographically until the final stages of the project. After the field works, Oma Oma team has generated the requested information for the tender. The team has already finalized 2 cycling, 2 hiking routes and 2 bird watching routes, has made suggestions for 6 recreational locations and designated the locations of outdoor furniture, identified 12 photo bank



Photo 2: Bünyad Dinç chatting with the elders

locations with two of them to be kept provisional and 2 local marketing points.

The project team submit the final report as of 30th of November 2019, which is the end of the project period.

Table 1: Activity time table

Activity time table (2019)	August	September	October	November
1.1. Literature research				
1.2. Field surveys				
1.2.1. Cycling routes				
1.2.2. Hiking routes				
1.2.3. Birdwatching routes				
1.2.4. Other infrastructure				
1.3. Compiling the outputs				
1.3.1. Focus group survey				
1.3.2. Preparation of final suggestion				
1.3.3. Consultation on final suggestions				
1.3.4. Consultation meeting				
1.3.5. Preparation of the content				
1.3.5.1. Sign boards				
1.3. 5.2. Brochures				

1.4. Final report				
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2.2. Progress of Activities

2.2.1. Literature research

We have studied the literature on Şile. Most of the resources were related with geography and wildlife, since the history of Şile is poorly studied, which is surprising as the district is located very close to Istanbul. We have identified significant historical locations such as the ancient trade road from Gebze to Şile, which is controlled by Sarıkavak Castle and dates back to Byzantine Empire, which was introduced to archeological community by Bunyad Dinç. Wildlife and biology of the Site is well studied and documented. Şile is located at a peripheral raptor migration route and hosts seabird colonies, namely the second largest colony of shags (*Phalacrocorax aristotellis*) in Istanbul and have suitable vantage points for watching seabirds in sea. Please see references to see a detailed list of literature. The progress is according to the activity timetable.

2.2.2. Field work

We have conducted 14 days long field work in August 2019. On the 08.08.2019, we have visited Saklı göl area to evaluate the feasibility of cycling route in this part and the region around Darlık Dam with Yılmaz Korkmaz and Halim Bilgin.



Photo 3: Fieldwork in Saklıgöl

Oma Oma Team later conducted several surveys both as a group and individually during August. Süreyya İsfendiyaroğlu has studied the coastland from Sahilköy to Ağva to study the birdwatch locations between 12-15 of August. Oktay Uludağ, Bünyad Dinç and Süreyya İsfendiyaroğlu did a joint survey on 23th and 24th of August. Bünyad Dinç has surveyed the forest landscape around Gebze and İstanbul borders, 25th to 30th of August.

In September, Bünya Dinç has studied the cycling tracks in September 9 th to 12 th and walking trails from September 21 st to 25 th. On October 9 Süreyya İsfendiyaroğlu, Halim Bilgin visited the recreational sites and talked with the stakeholders. On October 26 and 27, Süreyya and Oktay visited and contacted the stakeholders around the market places. Süreyya, Oktay and Bünyad studied photobank locations in September and October on various occasions. A small focus group meeting was organized at OMAOMA with participation of NGOs and tourist guides, where the hiking and cycling routes were discussed, on 14th of November 2019.



Photo 4: Focus group meeting organized at Oma Oma headquarters.

3.Evaluation, suggestions and lessons learnt

3.1.Cycling Trail

Since Şile is close to İstanbul, there're lots of recreational tourists already using the area. For instance there're biker gatherings and trails that are used by them. In order to avoid intense motorbike traffic, we have drafted a route that goes through the pristine forest areas and have scenic photographic values. We had to modify yazımanayır- ağacdere- sortullu- osmankoy route, we modified it to cover a longer route that intensifies the experience of Şile.

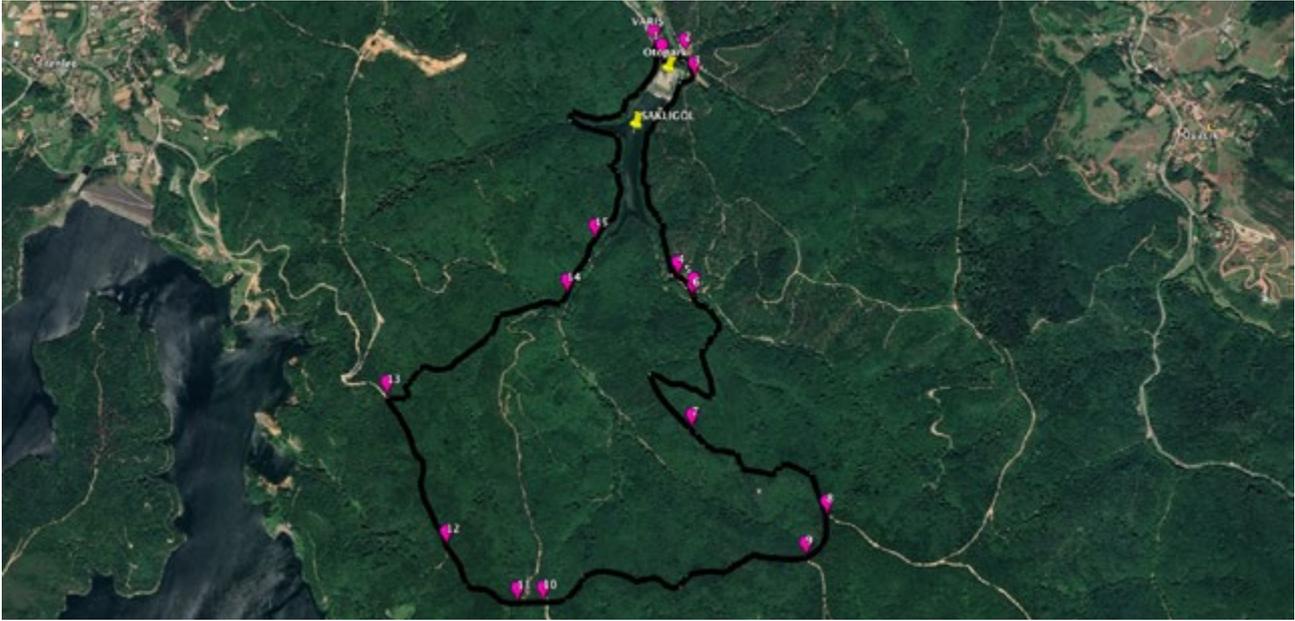
Our proposed route starts from Teke village, where is easily accessible by Harem- Ağva bus and cars, makes a circle covering Osmanköy, Sortullu, turning West from Hacılı and crossing mildly inclined hills from Ağaçdere to Sarıkavak returning back to Tekeköy. The route has several fountains for bikers to fill their water containers and covers asphalt tracks with low traffic intensity. The exact coordinates of the junctions and resting points will be provided following the approval of the administration. There will be two wooden information boards explaining the routes in Tekeköy and Darlık villages and 21 signage posts are required. The track is 45 kilometers long and the endurance level is medium. See Annex-1 for details.



Map 1: Tekeköy Cycling trail.

The latter cycling road is proposed by the western part of the coast, where is less frequented by tourists, but after careful evaluation we have reconsidered the Saklıgöl route, therefore the proposed route in the inception report is no longer valid and we made no modifications in the initial SSI feasibility. The route begins from Saklıgöl heading North, then west and makes a circle back to Saklıgöl. The track is 7,77 kilometers long and the endurance level is easy. As it was mentioned 5,4 kms in the SSI feasibility report, it is considered that tourist /visitors should have a

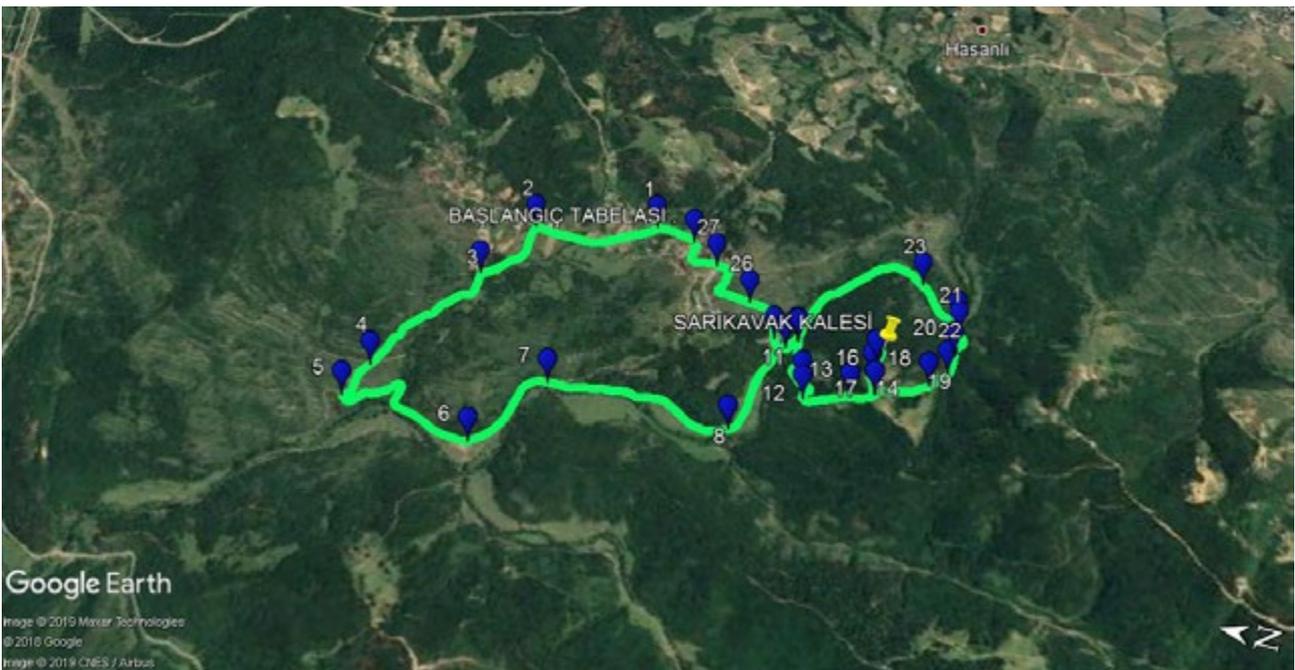
more longer route to circle around the lake and see more natural beauties with an hour cycling.



Map 2: Saklıgöl cycling trail

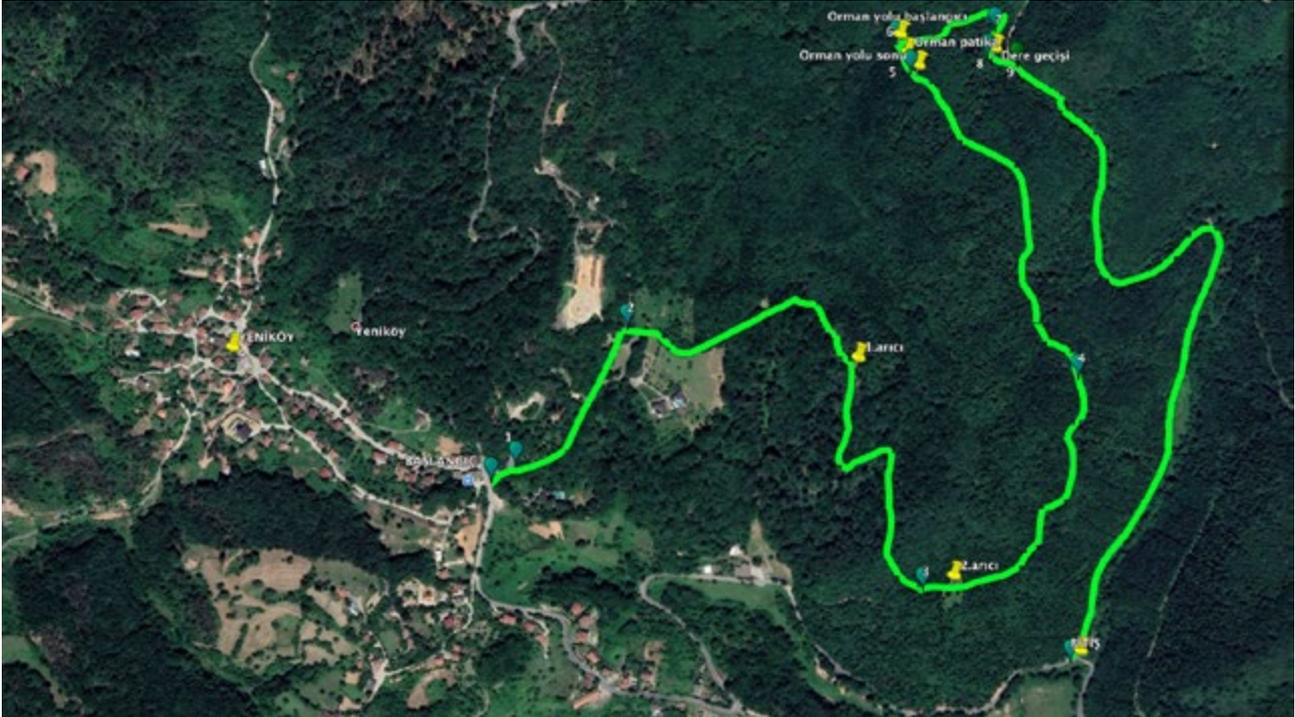
3.2. Hiking trails

The Hiking trails should also circular or should have good connection with the public transport. The earlier hiking trail in Hacilli has been moved to west, since Hacilli and Gökmaslı area will be flooded by a reservoir, which is planned to be constructed, soon. We have a circular route, which is roughly 6 km long around the Sarıkavak village. The Sarıkavak trail starts from the village, intersects with an ancient roman trail, visits the Sarıkavak Castle makes a circle and reaches the old watermill and returns back to the village. The detailed instructions and location of the signage posts can be found in the Annex 2.



Map 3: Sarıkavak hiking trail

The hiking trail starts in Yeniköy as proposed in the original SSI feasibility. The route starts from Yeniköy square follows the ridge on the northern eastern part of the village and reaches to Yeniköy Asphalt road, where is on the main bus trail. The instructions and location of the signage posts can be found in the Annex 2.



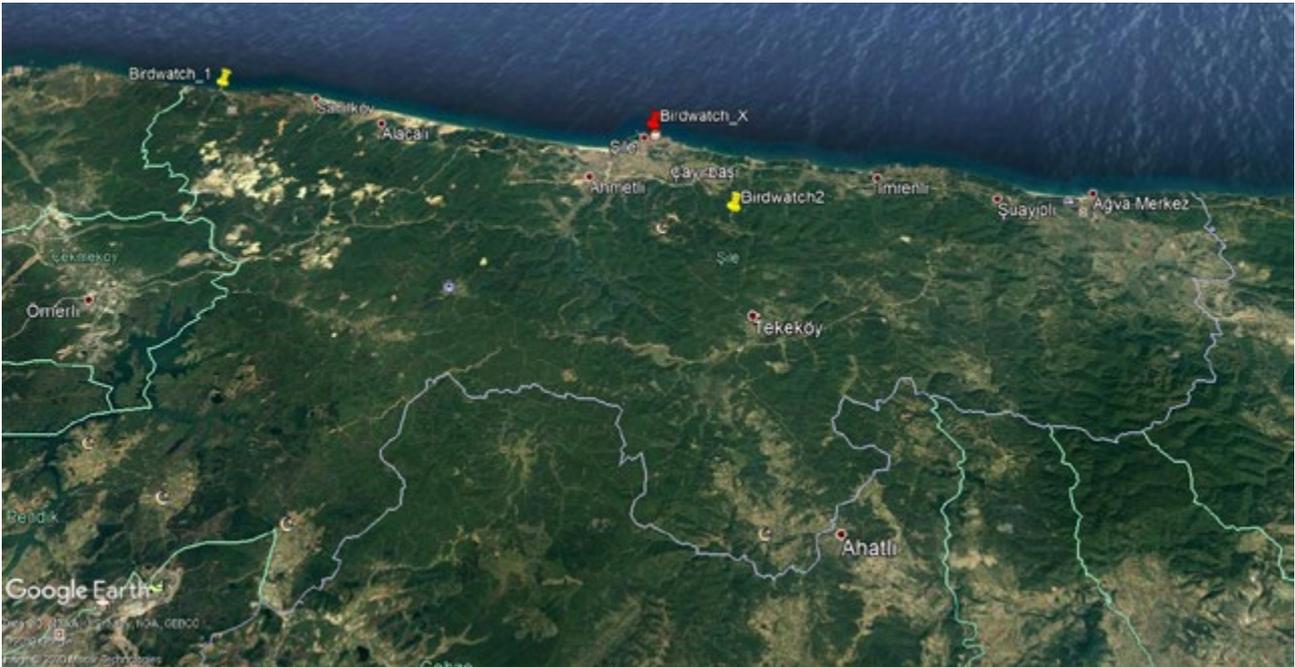
Map 4: Yeniköy hiking trail

3.3. Birdwatching infrastructure

Turkey is located on a major Palaearctic migration way for soaring birds and other species with its bottlenecks in the country. Bosphorus is one of the most important congregation sites, Şile located near the North of Bosphorus, receives a significant number of migrant birds. Passerines crossing the Black Sea use the coastland uses the coastal scrubland for fueling up their fat storage before they continue migration. It's also possible to see numerous soaring birds and storks during migration time.

After careful evaluation of literature and fieldwork we have chosen two locations in Şile, which are both located by the seacoast. We have proposed the park on the hills near the ladies bath, where was a suitable vantage point for watching Mediterranean shags in Şile. Although we will keep this location as a photobank, building a bird watching tower is not possible due to the heritage conservation status of this site. As it was written "Kumbaba" for the second birdwatching tower in the SSI feasibility report it would be difficult to protect the tower where no public facility exists. Therefore we have proposed an alternate location as an hawk-watch point, especially for watching soaring bird migration. The proposed location is Kaletepe recreational site near Yeniköy Village, where the tower is planned to be placed on one of the highest peaks of Şile. The latter location is the Küpelitaş recreational site

near Kurna Village, this is a good vantage point for sea watching and watching flocks of migrating raptors, there's already an established recreational facility operating in the site, There are other visitor infrastructure in place such as zipline and walking trails so it would improve the visitor experience to have a bird watch tower here. There will be two signage posts installed for each infrastructure. Detailed coordinates and photos for of the infrastructure is presented in Annex 3.



Map 5: Proposed locations for Birdwatching infrastructure

3.4. Recreational sites

The recreational locations of the project is planned to be in Ağaçdere, Osmanköy, Yunuslu stream, Çapan stream, Hacılı, Gökmaslı. All these locations were forestry area and non public facility exists so it would be easy to loose the outdoor furnitures in a short time as there is no available security opportunity.. We have carefully evaluated the each of the recreational sites with Halim Bilgin from the Ministry of Forestry and Agriculture. We have consulted the managers of those areas and reached a pre agreement. Each of the sites are to be provided 6 sets of fixed wooden outdoor furniture, constituting of four chairs and one table, adding up to 36 sets in total. We have chosen 6 recreational sites, namely Çamaltı, Sülüklü Göl, Kocakuş, Kaletepe, Meşe kır gazinosu and

Kabakoz. These recreational sites are all daily used facilities under forest canopy, established and owned by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.



Map 6: Proposed recreational sites in Şile

Each location will have an information board providing the background story of the area. The pictures and coordinates of the locations for the furniture is provided in the Annex 4.

3.5. Photobanks

Photobanks are chosen in close cooperation with the district governorship. We have assessed each of the location based on accessibility, safety, visitor attraction and light availability. We have evaluated 9 locations in harmankaya east, harmankaya west, maşatlık, şile port, zeytin island, istavrit hill, kilimli, kabakoz, akçakese, akkaya. Then we proposed 12 sites in the scope of this project, which can be seen in the map below. The detailed evaluation and pictures of these sites could be found in Annex-5 along with coordinates.



Map 7: Photobank locations

3.6. Marketing Stands

Furniture with Market stands should be placed in Teke, İmrendere villages where both locations are on the busiest routes of tourists travelling to Agva and south villages. On the other hand these villages are two of the most crowded villages where many locals produce food and ornaments for tourists. It is planned to distribute five wooden stands to each of the locations. İmrendere and Teke will also have an information board providing the background story of the agricultural production in villages, the locations and photos are provided in Annex 6.



Map 8: Market stand locations.

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Annex-1 Cycling Routes

Cycling

Cycling, also called biking or bicycling, is the use of bicycles for transport, recreation, exercise or sport. They are the principal means of transportation in many parts of the world. Cycling is widely regarded as a very effective and efficient mode of transportation optimal for short to moderate distances. Bicycles provide numerous benefits in comparison with motor vehicles, including the sustained physical exercise involved in cycling, easier parking, increased maneuverability, and access to roads, bike paths and rural trails. Cycling also offers a reduced consumption of fossil fuels, less air or noise pollution, and much reduced traffic congestion. These lead to less financial cost to the user as well as to society at large (negligible damage to roads, less road area required). By fitting bicycle racks on the front of buses, transit agencies can significantly increase the areas they can serve. In addition, cycling provides a variety of health benefits. The World Health Organization (WHO) states that cycling can reduce the risk of cancers, heart disease, and diabetes that are prevalent in sedentary lifestyles.

Mountain bike is a type of bike which is more commonly used than other bike types. The use of mountain bikes which became popular due to such features of it as high road holding, balance and controllability was started to increase particularly after 2000's in Turkey and there is a wide range of mountain bike brands and accessories available at present.

The mountain bike which is used at more challenging conditions in winter in comparison with summer requires the performance of the maintenance works in parallel with such challenge.

One of the major problems, oil decrease between the chains, should be considered important. Furthermore, the replacement period of the brake shoes is shorter in winter. Accurate adjustment of the brake, gear and rims is highly important in terms of safety. In addition, the controls of tire inflation as well as the selection and adjustment of the seat should be regarded as the settings which need to be attached importance in all seasons

The Narrative and Technical Assessment of Teke Köy Cycling Route

Asphalt paved cycling route begins from the military police station, where is located at the crossroads of Teke Köy Square. The starting point links the bikers to the main road between Teke Köy and Ağva, they follow the main road until the bikers reach the fifth direction sign. During weekends, intense traffic may be encountered within the first section. This part of the route covers an 11 km long section with tiny slopes. It leaves the main road after the Ubeyli Village. The 6th direction sign takes the cyclers to Denizli Village later to Sigilli and Göksu Villages. The first long slope of the route begins right after Göksu Village until the 7th direction sign. The distance from the sign 5 to sign 7, is 7 km. From this point, the route reaches without encountering any challenging

slopes, to Hacilli village square, where the direction sign 8 is located.

Hacilli is an adequate settlement for buying supplies and refreshing, with facilities such as tiny village market and coffee house. After Hacilli, the cyclers encounter another challenging slope from direction sign 9 to 10. The distance between the signs 8 to 10, accounts for 4 km long part of the route. The sign placed at the Tepemanayır junction, directs down to the Ağaçdere village.

After the village of Ağaçdere, the road flows straight for a while, ending with a steep ascent to the junction, where sign 13 is located. The distance between the signs 12 and 13 accounts for 2 km. This part is followed by an easy part of the route, descending and flat sections between the 13th and 14th. The route follows the main highway between Tekke Village and Gebze, between signs 14 and 15. So an increase in traffic intensity could be expected. There are descending slopes from the direction sign 15 to the 16th and the 17th sign in Hasanlı village square. There is a small market in the village of Hasanlı and a coffee house. After the village of Hasanlı, the flat track will later ascend up to Sarıkavak village square where the sign no. 18 is located. The distance between signs 17 and 18 is 2 km. After Sarıkavak village, the road to Demircili village is flat or a low slope. After Demircili village, the bikers ascend slightly up to the junction, where sign 20 is located. From the sign no. 20, to the destination in Teke village, the bikers follow on the main road between Teke village and Gebze, where they could face a busy traffic.

The Teke Köy Cycling route accounts for 45 km in total the endurance level is medium. The level of difficulty varies from person to person depending on the internal factors such as personal performance, fitness and external factors such as weather conditions. This route is well shielded against the winds, since it covers river valleys and forest roads. It doesn't have any section of soil/dirt tracks. The traffic intensity is mostly low, outside those sections addressed in text, that overlaps with the main roads, where traffic can be relatively busier compared to the other sections of the route. The main roads could be frequented by many vehicles especially at the weekends, during spring and summer seasons. For those bikers, who wishes a shorter experience, it is possible to make smaller loops from the direction signs 7 and 10 over Sortullu Village, heading back to Teke Köy. The route covers rural a landscape with villages, where traditions are still well conserved in many ways. This landscape also presents a selection of the most well preserved forests and river valleys of Istanbul.

Justification for modification of Tekeköy

The route has been extended in order to provide a larger circle, connecting to the starting point, for the cyclers and also alternative infrastructure such as road side fountains are also considered while redirecting the parts of the route. This modification can extend the journey two hours but making a whole circle provides better connection with the public transport and a more satisfactory

Way points of Teke Köy Cycling route

Starting point information plate – Teke köyü meydanı . 41 degrees 04' 07.71" North – 29 degrees 39' 48.58" East

1. DIRECTION SIGN - Yazımanayır junction. Direction sign indicates Ağva : 41 degrees 04' 24.97" North – 29 degrees 40' 59.74" East
2. DIRECTION SIGN – Sevişli köyü junction . Direction sign indicates Ağva: 41 degrees 05' 08.45" North – 29 degrees 42' 50.24" East .
3. DIRECTION SIGN – Osmanköy , Sortullu ve Hacılıllı villages junction . Direction sign indicates Ağva : 41 degrees 05' 28.28 " North – 29 degrees 43' 38.58" East
4. DIRECTION SIGN - Karabeyli köyü junction .Direction sign indicates Ağva. 41 degrees 05' 41.01" North – 29 degrees 44' 04.73" East
5. DIRECTION SIGN – Ubeyli village entrance . Denizli , Sığılıllı , Göksu villages junction . Direction sign indicates Denizli , Sığılıllı , Göksu villages : 41 degrees 05' 48.01 " North – 29 degrees 46' 51.42" East
6. DIRECTION SIGN – Denizli Village junction . Direction sign indicates Sığılıllı – Göksu villages : 41 degrees 05' 29.52 North – 29 degrees 47' 08.04" East
7. DIRECTION SIGN – Hacılıllı – Sortullu villages junction. Direction sign indicates Hacılıllı köyü . 41 degrees 03' 28.35" North – 29 degrees 45' 48.84 " East
8. DIRECTION SIGN – Hacılıllı town square. The sign indicates the villages Ağaçdere and Tepemenayır : 41 degrees 02' 43.34" North – 29 degrees 46' 09.30" East
9. DIRECTION SIGN - Hacılıllı village exit . The sign indicates the villages Ağaçdere and Tepemenayır : 41 degrees 02' 46.87" North – 29 degrees 46' 03.03" East
10. DIRECTION SIGN – Crossroads of Sortullu , Osmanköy ile Tepemenayır villages . Direction sign indicates Tepemenayır, Ağaçdere villages : 41 degrees 02' 51.88 North – 29 degrees 43' 53.58" East .
11. DIRECTION SIGN – Tepemenayır ve Ağaçdere split . Direction sign indicates Ağaçdere köyü: 41 degrees 01' 44.84" North – 29 degrees 43' 23.43" East
12. DIRECTION SIGN – Ağaçdere village square . Yazımanayır villages ile Çengilli villages split . Direction sign shows Çengilli village: 41 degrees 02' 29.79" North – 29 degrees 42' 25.30" East
13. DIRECTION SIGN – Yazımanayır and Çengilli villages split junction . Direction sign indicates Çengilli village : 41 degrees 02' 28.25" North – 29 degrees 41' 50.19" East
14. DIRECTION SIGN – Çengilli and Teke villages split junction. Direction sign indicates Teke village : 41 degrees 00' 44.12" North – 29 degrees 40' 50.35" East
15. DIRECTION SIGN - Hasanlı village junction. Direction sign indicates Hasanlı village. 41 degrees 01' 15.58 " North – 29 degrees 40' 25.68" East
16. DIRECTION SIGN – Hasanlı village square . Çengilli and Sarıkavak split junction. Direction sign Sarıkavak köyü yönünü gösterecek : 41 degrees 01' 04.26" North – 29 degrees 39' 53.94" East
17. DIRECTION SIGN – Hasanlı village square. The sign indicates Sarıkavak Village . 41 degrees 01' 04.94" North – 29 degrees 39' 53.71" East
18. DIRECTION SIGN – Sarıkavak village square. Direction sign indicates Demircili village : 41 degrees 01' 34.89" North – 29 degrees 38' 58.46 " East
19. DIRECTION SIGN – Exit from Sarıkavak village . Direction indicates Demircili village . 41 degrees 01' 39.91" North – 29 degrees 39' 00.19" East
20. DIRECTION SIGN – Teke village ile Çengilli village , Gebze split . Direction sign indicates Teke village . 41 degrees 02' 26.88" North – 29 degrees 39' 31.92" East
21. DIRECTION SIGN – Darlık village junction . Direction sign indicates Teke village . 41 degrees 03' 24.07" North – 29 degrees 39' 30.03" East

Arrival to Teke Köy

Total: 45 KM .



Starting point- Teke Village



Direction Sign 1 - Yazımanayır junction



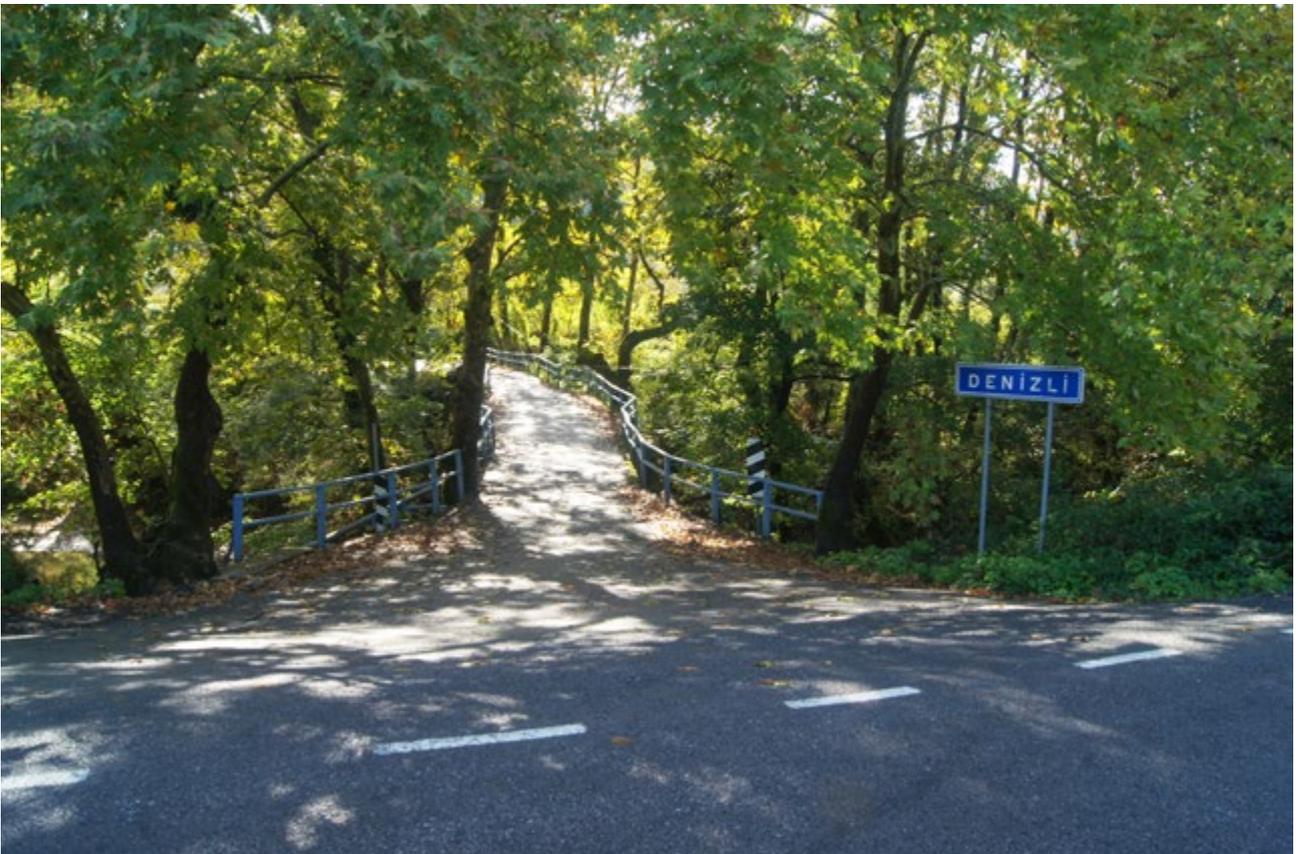
Direction sign 2 – Sevişli village junction



Direction Sign 3 – Osmanköy , Sortullu ve Hacıllı villages junction



Direction Sign 5 – Ubeyli village entrance



Direction Sign 6 – Denizli Village junction



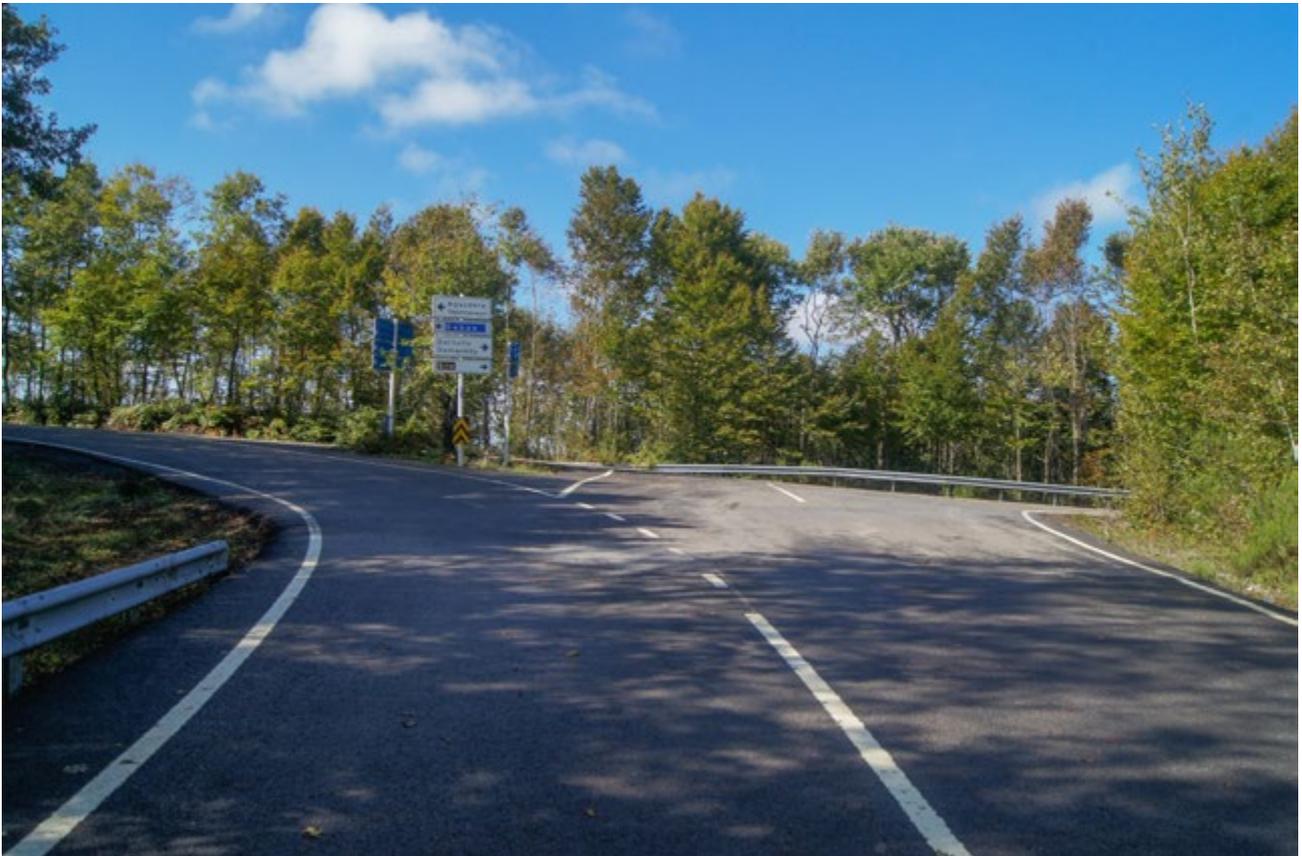
Direction Sign 7 – Hacilli – Sortullu villages junction



Direction Sign 8 – Hacilli town square



Direction Sign 9 - Leaving Hacılı village



Direction sign 10 – Junction of Sortullu , Osmanköy ile Tepemanayır villages



Direction Sign 11 – Tepemanayır ve Ağaçdere split



Direction Sign 12 – Ağaçdere village square



Direction Sign 13 – Yazımanayır and Çengilli villages split junction



Direction Sign 14 – Çengilli and Teke villages split junction



Direction Sign 15 - Hasanlı village junction.



Direction Sign 16 – Hasanlı village square



Direction Sign 18 – Sarikavak village square.



Direction Sign 19 – Exit from Sarikavak village



Direction Sign 20 – Teke village ile Çengilli villages split junction

The Narrative and Technical Assessment of Saklıgöl Cycling route

Cycling Route in Saklıgöl The starting point of the route is the parking lot of a motel and restaurant, which is situated at the main entrance of Saklıgöl park. There is an inefficient signboard- that shows the map of the route- at this entrance. Especially during the weekends, this area becomes very busy and without proper regulations for this signboard, it will remain in vain. Only after making certain arrangements, the exact locations for the signboards, which are referred as "1" and "2"- and if necessary "3"- can be determined. Apart from the regular passenger cars, big tourist buses use this area as well. In such a busy location, installed signboards may not be easily followed. The suggested coordinates for the possible points to install signboards may need to be slightly moved after applying these modifications.

The starting point of the route is the dirt road in the east, which also used as a hiking route by the visitors. The cyclers using this route will share this path with hikers until the sign board 5. The proposed Sign board no 4 could be removed as it was seen that practically, it makes little difference for the visitors. After the direction sign 5, the most challenging part of the route starts with a steep slope that lasts for 200 meters. The slope gets milder while following the route via direction signs 6, 7 and 8. Once the cyclers reach the ridge, the route becomes flat and allows comfortable riding through the forests until the direction sign13. After this point, the route descends steeply until the direction sign 14., where the estuary of the reservoir is found. When the cyclers reach the side of the reservoir and follow the western shore of the dam, they make a circuit and complete the loop at the parking lot.

The cycling trail follows a wide dirt road and has a flat surface with few rubbles and stones. Some of sections of trail might get muddy during the rainfall. The steep climb after the sign post 5 may trouble the cyclers. The cyclers should also be aware of the occasional vehicles using these roads. Between the signposts 8 and 13 the fascinating views of Darlık dam lake, could be seen depending on the canopy of the forest. The route is suited especially for mountain bikes and could be challenging for other types of bikes. Since this's a short route, it could be used as a daily sports and leisure activity. Although it's an easy route, the hardness level of the route may vary depending on weather conditions. The ridge between the sign posts 8 to 13 could prove to be challenging during powerful winds. Yet, This route can be assessed and classified as an easy route. The route has been extended to provide a better understanding of the geography and offer better views of the forest and wildlife around the region. Since saklıgöl is already visited by many tourists, the route has been redesigned to as an alternative exploration route, to manage and direct the existing visitor demand to less frequented destinations.

Way points of Saklıgöl Cycling route

Starting point information plate at the parking lot- then turn right . 41 degrees 07' 14.22" North – 29 degrees 35' 38.02" East.

1. DIRECTION SIGN – Direction Sign. Turn right . 41 degrees 07' 14.93" North – 29 degrees 35' 41.93" East
 2. DIRECTION SIGN - Direction Sign. Turn left . 41 degrees 07' 11.81" North – 29 degrees 35' 43.42" East
 3. COLOUR MARKING –pointing forward. 41 degrees 06' 46.36" North – 29 degrees 35' 41.04" East
 4. COLOUR MARKING - Direction Sign, pointing forward. 41 degrees 06' 44.32" North – 29 degrees 35' 43.43" East
 5. DIRECTION SIGN – Direction Sign at the road split. Turn left . 41 degrees 06' 43.55" North – 29 degrees 35' 43.36" East
 6. COLOUR MARKING – Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing forward. 41 degrees 06' 27.17" North – 29 degrees 35' 43.08" East
 7. COLOUR MARKING- Direction Sign at the road split. Turn right . 41 degrees 06' 16.47" North – 29 degrees 36' 05.26" East
 8. DIRECTION SIGN – Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing the right lane. 41 degrees 06' 11.17" North – 29 degrees 36' 01.87" East
 9. DIRECTION SIGN - Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing the right lane 41 degrees 06' 05.74" North – 29 degrees 35' 18.77" East
 10. COLOUR MARKING – Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing forward. 41 degrees 06' 05.64" North – 29 degrees 35' 14.44" East
 11. DIRECTION SIGN – Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing the right lane. 41 degrees 06' 12.62" North – 29 degrees 35' 02.75" East
 12. COLOUR MARKING – Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing the right lane. 41 degrees 06' 31.26" North – 29 degrees 34' 52.72" East
 13. COLOUR MARKING – Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing forward to the left hand side. 41 degrees 06' 44.37" North – 29 degrees 35' 22.28" East
 14. DIRECTION SIGN – Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing forward to the left hand side. 41 degrees 06' 51.23" North – 29 degrees 35' 26.74" East
- Arrival – 41 degrees 07' 15.95" North – 29 degrees 35' 36.66" East

Total distance = 7.77 km



DIRECTION SIGN 5 – Direction Sign at the road split. Turn left



COLOUR MARKING 6 – Colour Marking at the road split. Pointing forward.



COLOUR MARKING 7 – Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing forward.



DIRECTION SIGN 8– Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing the right lane



DIRECTION SIGN 9- Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing the right lane



COLOUR MARKING 10 – Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing forward



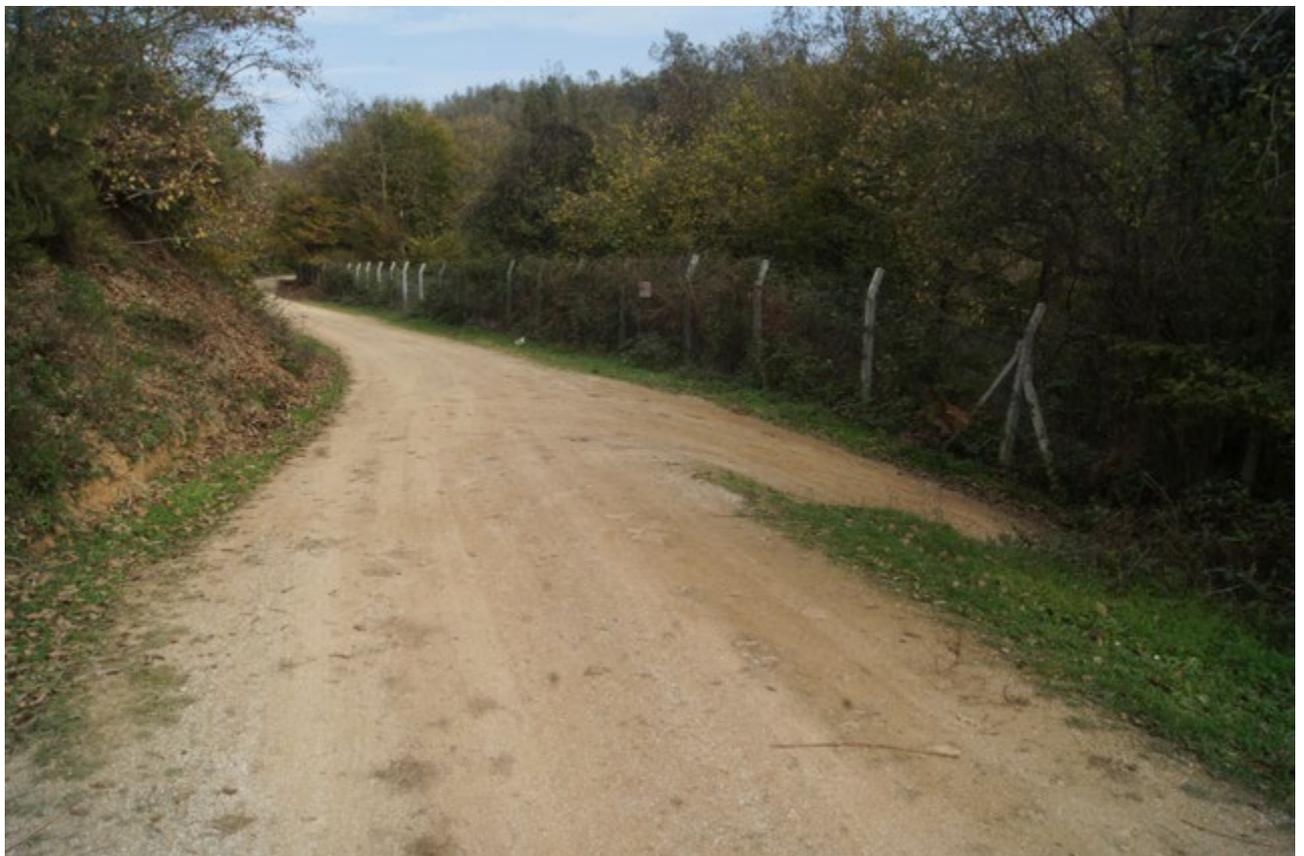
COLOUR MARKING 12 – Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing the right lane



COLOUR MARKING 13 – Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing forward to the left hand side.



DIRECTION SIGN 14 – Direction Sign at the road split. Pointing forward to the left hand side



Arrival

Annex 2- Hiking routes

Hiking

Most tourists enjoy sightseeing and learning about the history and nature, yet experiencing natural beauties singly or in groups hiking is a sport with an increasing popularity. Scientists claim that walks performed in nature are beneficial for the mental and physical health of people. People may burn 500 calories in average within an hour, during trekking. While performing the sports of hiking, fast drying and protective clothes should be preferred in a way to cover the body against such external factors as insects, ticks and sunburns. The shoes should have non-skid sole and prevent the spraining of ankle.



Exploration in nature may reveal surprises

The trails used in the sports of hiking have pre-determined standard difficulty levels. The preparations prior to the walk are made in accordance with such difficulty level. The difficulty levels classified from 1 to 6 are briefly explained below:

How can we explain the difficulty levels?

1st Difficulty Level: Total walking period does not exceed two hours. Paths are wide and the pitch is low. These are convenient trails for straight walks.

2nd Difficulty Level: The walking period is not more than 3,5 hours and the slope distance of the trails does not exceed 300 meters.

3rd Difficulty Level: Such level is intended for the inclined trails having a slope distance up to 500 meters over the routes which may take 5 hours in total . These trails have sections with narrow paths, wet transit areas and forested lands.

4th Difficulty Level: This level has a sharper slope Its slope distance, on the other hand is about 700 meter. They are 6,5 hours of walking trails that experienced at challenging paths, dense and rocky areas.

5th Difficulty Level: It is highly sloping and its slope distance reaches up to 1000 meters; the performers walk on challenging grounds such as dense forests and rocky areas by following a certain route. It lasts about 8 hours. For this reason, it requires the support of a professional guide.

6th Difficulty Level: These are long route walks requiring 8 hours and over and often complemented by accommodation. The slope distance may reach up to 1500 meters, in this trail there are challenging land conditions and frequent slopes.

The Narrative and Technical Assessment of Yeniköy Hiking Route

The route starts from the square in Yeniköy village, where Hrastova café is situated. Şile-Ağva highway also intersects with the route at this point. In Yeniköy, there are small markets and cafes, where the hikers can get supplies. From the starting point until the sign 2 covers a section inside the village. The sign 2 directs us to a dirt road, which covers an undulating landscape until the hikers reach the beekeepers' first establishment. From the bee hives the route descends until the direction sign 3. Since this section of the road is wide and well adjusted, it offers an easy hike until this point. The second establishment of beekeepers' is located in a small meadow with a tiny hut. The beehives are mostly placed at one side of the meadow's land. The hikers are directed through this distinct road and continue walking on the road that extends through the forest. The forest road meanders by the side of the hill with small changes in elevation until the direction sign 5. This forest road could be an abandoned one. If not, it's evident that it was barely used since it doesn't promise a certain destination. The road begins without any grass cover, later the vegetation gets taller, but it doesn't pose any difficulty for hikers.

Direction sign no:4 is located at the only junction with another forest road, between 3 and 5, therefore it's flat, direct and hard to mistake. There're tiny sections of route that could be muddy until direction sign 5, where also marks the end of the forest road.

The sign directs the hikers to a 40- 50 meters long steep descending trail, which is currently not suitable for hiking and has to be arranged. The entrance of the trail is quite evident but lower parts of the trail is partially covered by vegetation. Therefore this part should be modified for visitor's safety. The trail descends down the hill and some sections are covered by vegetation. This parts of the trail also has to be arranged and the vegetation should be trimmed. The junction point of trail and the dirt road, where direction sign 7 is located, is muddy and steep. Therefore this part must also be arranged for safer hiking experience.

The direction sign 7 is located at the floor of the valley, where yenikoy stream flows. The direction sign 8 shows the suitable crossing point at the stream. Outside the rainy season, crossing the stream is not challenging as the flow is weak. After the stream, walks the hikers a soil track which goes parallel to the stream. The direction sign 9 shows the hikers yeniköy direction where they can connect to the main highway at where they began their journey. But this dirt road is a less frequently used connection between two asphalt roads with one running through the forest, the other one parallel to the sea. So the left direction leads to Kabakoz and right takes the hikers back to Yeniköy. Yeniköy direction offers a straight route through the woods and along the river valley, without any junctions. The hiking route ends when the dirt roads connects to the main road. An extra 1 km long hike up the asphalt road leads to Yeniköy, however this section is too steep and it's recommended to complement this hike with public or private transport after the end of the trail.

This route is not a hard level one, without any steep climbing sections. It's a flat or undulating route with a single steep descent. This route proves to best for weekend hikers, who seek a route for a few hours. Although this route awakens a sense of wilderness, it's still located a few kilometers far from the main highway and village. Before and after hiking the facilities around yeniköy is sufficient to provide a location to rest. Moreover the chapel remains with spring and the Harabesihou church are additional sightseeing values of Yeniköy, which will surely complement the visitor's experience. The hiking route is specially designed for the daily tourists and to be offered complementary to their daily activities since 12 km long hike is a challenging activity which consumes the rest of the day, we have reduced this route to almost five km, which will give the end user, the satisfaction but will spare time for sightseeing, shopping and other activities.

Yeniköy hiking route

Starting point Information Plate – Yeniköy Square : 41 degrees07' 13.35" North – 29 degrees39' 17.15" east

1. Direction Sign - Right forward . 41 degrees07' 18.15" North – 29 degrees39' 18.86" east
2. Direction Sign – Turn right . 41 degrees07' 25.14" North – 29 degrees39' 26.45" east
3. Direction Sign – Dirt road junction . take the left . 41 degrees07' 11.64" North – 29 degrees39' 46.34" east
4. Direction Sign – Dirt road junction. Take the right . 41 degrees07' 22.74" North – 29 degrees39' 56.87" east
5. Direction Sign - End of dirt road. Beginning of forest path. 41 degrees07' 38.65" North – 29 degrees39' 45.60" east
6. Direction Sign – End of forest path . Beginning of dirt road . Head to right, downwards . 41 degrees07' 40.39" North – 29 degrees39' 44.75" east
7. Direction Sign – End of steep path, follow the stream Direction platesı . 41 degrees07' 41.18" North – 29 degrees39' 51.71" east
8. Direction Sign – Stream crossing sign . 41 degrees07' 39.70 North – 29 degrees39' 51.12" east
9. Direction Sign - End of dirt road. Take right . 41 derce 07' 39.28" North – 29 degrees39' 53.25" east

Arrival Info plate – Yeniköy arrival at the asphalt road . 41 degrees07' 07.95" North – 29 degrees39' 56.88" east

Distance = 4.18 KM



Starting point information board and direction sign yeniköy



Direction sign 2



Direction sign 3



Direction sign 4



Direction sign 5



Direction sign 6



Direction sign 7



Direction sign 8



Direction sign 9



Arrival- information board

The Narrative and Technical Assessment of Sarıkavak Castle Hiking Route

Sarıkavak castle gets its name from the modern sarıkavak village, near by. It is located in 19 km south from the sea and yet there's almost no documentation about the castle. Although asar means castle in Turkish, It's a common practice for local communities to call any ancient ruins as "asar" or " hisar". In this particular case it does not refer to any ruins but a castle ruin but it's massive and distinctive when seen on site. The sarı kavak castle appear as consumed by the forest itself at first sight. When inspected carefully, it reveals its four walls and its former borders clearly.

The castle is built on a hill, that proves to be a good vantage point for monitoring the landscape. Below the hill, flows the main branch of Şile river, that feeds the darlık dam. Moreover, there's an ancient trade road, that's clearly visible on the slope right below the sarıkavak village. According to the ancient texts, the road from Nicomedia, known as İzmit, and Dakibyza, known as Gebze, to Şile passes through here. The elders of the town remember the times where road was more frequently used, since it was a major destination up until 60 years ago, when this road was used for the trade and transport the charcoal, produced in the region.

The castle seems to be constructed all at once. The absence of reused stone blocks in the building indicates that there had not been any earlier, buildings at this location. The oval structure covers

an area of 150 X 70 meters radii. The western tower of the castle, which still stands today, shows that structure might had served for defensive purposes. The sarı kavak castle is by far the most distinctive Byzantine structure in ancient Bithynia. One might speculate that this massive structure was built to control the trade road below, the details should be investigated more thoroughly.

Some historians speculate that Selchuks had ruled şile and environs during 11th century based on Danişmendname, which is an epic text, that describes the conquests and victories of Turkish tribes in Anatolia. The official documentation of Turks in the regions dates back to Ottomans during the establishment of the ottoman empire. Ottomans had reached the Sakarya plain via Geyve river valley and initiated the first raids to the western direction. Akçakoca bey has settled in Kandıra and started raiding Kocaeli Peninsula from Northern and western directions. Back in those dates it was evident that the strong byzantine presence in the south of the peninsula had enabled the Turkish tribes to be more active in the north and middle regions of the kocaeli peninsula. Sarıkavak castle could be a fortress for defence of peninsula. The evidence that it served so well, lies in the fact that Şile was still byzantine soil, when Üsküdar was conquered by ottomans and şile was acquired in 1392 during Beyazid Era, when troops of Yahşi Bey conquered Şile.

The route starts from the village square, which the Sarıkavak village mosque is situated. The hikers follow the direction to the village of Demircili until the sinage number 2, on ashpaly road. After

sign 2, the soil forest road begins. The route follows goes direct and continues to descend into a large valley. At the point where the descent starts, signpost no. 4 directs to the left side, after a 50 meter distance, the hiking route rewards a discovery of a water mill, which is still intact and running. Right below it, there is an amazing waterfall with a powerful waterfowl, especially during the wet season. The water originates from a spring in the forest and flows down the valley. After visiting the nature view spot, the route goes go back to the point where sign 4 is located and continue down the main dirt road. At the point where the dirt road descends to the valley floor, a large river flows parallel to the road. This is the main tributary of the Darlık river that feeds the Darlık dam. After the Darlık dam pond, The River runs from the center of Şile and reaches the Black Sea. In this section, the dirt road forming the route continues parallel to the river along the valley. Until the direction sign 9, the river always stays on the right. Along the way, the route passes through wide meadows, where the road becomes unclear. From the bottom of the valley until the sign no 9, the river should remain on the right and the hikers must follow the opposite direction of the flow.

In rainy season, parts of the road can be muddy. The route leads straight to sign 9, which will be installed at the meadow. At this point, there is a river crossing. Here, there used to be a wooden bridge 4 years ago, it was 50 meters from the narrow point that enables crossing of the river. It was destroyed by the flood and was not repaired back then. River crossing can be much easier if this bridge is repaired since the water in the river runs faster during rainy seasons. During the summer months, when water is low, the river can be crossed without assistance of further infrastructure. The route reaches the sign 10 right after the river. This section involves the most challenging part and a vertical hike to the castle. In rainy seasons, some parts of trail can be muddy and should be organized for visitor use. The first stage of the climb continues until sign 14. Sign post no. 14 is the last flat terrain on the way to reach the castle ruins at the top. There is a very steep 200 meters long climb from sign 14 to the castle. After visiting the ruins, the visitors should follow the same road back to the sign 14. The route ascends to the sign post 17, where a mild slope is encountered. The trail is partly covered by vegetation from 17 to 20, but after the signpost 20 the vegetation gets intense. The extending vegetation starts to cover the trails after the sign 20 and this section of the trails should be prepared for the hikers. The route leads down to the Darlık River, this section might be complemented with trails signs on the trees. The sign post 22 is situated by darlık river directs us to follow the river flow. The path leads us to river crossing point and the sign post 25 directs us to a final 500 m long, short climb up to Sarıkavak Village. The final part of the route follows the trail opened by forestry machinery. The trail floor is bumpy with stones, but not challenging.

The Route offers hard sections depending on the experience, performance and the time of year. The route could be challenging during harsh weather conditions such as rain and snow. Although the trail takes 5 hours to complete, it should be considered as a daily occasion. The hikers recommended to have sufficient food and equipment. The route has no clean water source, so the

hikers should have enough water for a day with them.

Starting point information Plate – Sarıkavak village square . 41 degrees 01' 34.44" North – 29 degrees 38' 58.79" east

1. Direction sign - Sarıkavak village exit . Junction to dirt road. Follow the path on the left . 41 degrees 01' 39.92" North – 29 degrees 39' 00.08" east

2. Direction sign - Junction . Turn left to dirt road . 41 degrees 01' 56.33" North – 29 degrees 38' 55.17" east

3. Direction sign- Take the dirt road to the left . 41 degrees 02' 01.79" North – 29 degrees 38' 43.47" east

4. Colour marking – Straight ahead . 41 degrees 02' 12.57" North – 29 degrees 38' 17.95" east

5. Direction sign – Down to the left . 41 degrees 02' 12.11" North – 29 degrees 38' 16.89" east

6. Direction sign - Dirt road junction. Follow the valley . 41 degrees 01' 56.13 " North – 29 degrees 38' 13.19" east

7. Colour marking – Follow the valley. 41 degrees 01' 48.56" North – 29 degrees 38' 26.84" east

8. Colour marking – Follow the valley . 41 degrees 01' 24.21" North – 29 degrees 38' 26.09" east

9. Direction sign - Stream crossing . 41 degrees 01' 19.13 " North – 29 degrees 38' 43.98" east

10. Direction sign - Signage post after crossing the stream, turn right, take the forest path . 41 degrees 01' 17.57" North – 29 degrees 38' 45.40" east

11. Direction sign - follow the path upwards, straight ahead . 41 degrees 01' 15.95" North – 29 degrees 38' 37.10" east

12. Direction sign – Forest path split. To the left up the hill . 41 degrees 01' 15.51" North – 29 degrees 38' 34.38" east

13. Colour marking-.Straight ahead . 41 degrees 01' 09.64" North – 29 degrees 38' 36.04" east

14. Direction sign - Direction sign showing Sarıkavak castle. Turn left. 41 degrees 01' 06.76" North – 29 degrees 38' 37.33" east

15. Direction sign - Direction sign showing Sarıkavak castle. Climb straight ahead. 41 degrees 01' 07.46" North – 29 degrees 38' 40.39" east

16. Colour marking – Beginning of the path to Sarıkavak Castle . Straight ahead . 41 degrees 01' 07.23" North – 29 degrees 38' 42.98" east

17. Sarıkavak Castle Information Board- 41 degrees 01' 07.10" North – 29 degrees 38' 45.17" east . Make circle and follow the same path down to 14th Direction sign .

18. Direction sign - left down to the valley . 41 degrees 01' 06.65" North – 29 degrees 38' 37.36 " east

19. Direction sign – Left down . 41 degrees 01' 00.06" North – 29 degrees 30' 41.36 " east

20. Colour marking - . 41 degrees 00' 57.92" North – 29 degrees 38' 44.39" east

21. Direction sign - . 41 degrees 00' 57.41" North – 29 degrees 38' 48.56" east

22. Colour marking - . 41 degrees 00' 57.00" North – 29 degrees 38' 53.13" east

23. Colour marking - Straight ahead 41 degrees 00' 57.41" North – 29 degrees 38' 55.34" east

24. Direction sign - Direction sign . follow the valley to the left. 41 degrees 01' 02.76" North – 29 degrees 39' 01.76" east

25. Direction sign – Direction sign. Stream crossing 41 degrees 01' 17.83" North – 29 degrees 38' 45.55' east

26. Direction sign – Direction sign leads to Sarıkavak village after crossing the stream. 41 degrees 01' 20.80" North – 29 degrees 38' 44.43" east

27. Direction sign – Direction sign. Straight ahead . 41 degrees 01' 25.45" North – 29 degrees 38' 49.82" east

28. Direction sign – Arrival to Sarıkavak village . 41 degrees 01' 30.67" North – 29 degrees 38' 55.07" east

Total distance = 7.77 KM



Direction sign 1 - Sarıkavak village exit



Direction sign 2- Junction



Direction sign 3 - Take the dirt road to the left



Colour marking 4 – Straight ahead



Direction sign 5 – Down to the left



Direction sign 6 - Dirt road junction. Follow the valley



Colour marking 7 – Follow the valley



Colour marking 8 – Follow the valley .



Direction sign 9 - Stream crossing



Direction sign 10 - Signage post after crossing the stream, turn right, take the forest path



Direction sign 11 - follow the path upwards, straight ahead



Direction sign 12 – Forest path split, climb up the hill on the left hand side.



Direction sign 13 - Signage post. Straight ahead



Direction signs and Colour marking-14,15,16 - Direction signs showing Sarikavak castle



Direction sign 17 – left down to the valley



Direction sign 18 – Left down



Colour marking 19 - Direction sign



Direction sign 20 - Direction sign



Colour marking 21 – Straight ahead



Colour marking 22- Direction sign. Straight ahead



Direction sign 23 - Direction sign. follow the valley to the left



Direction sign 24 – Direction sign. Stream crossing

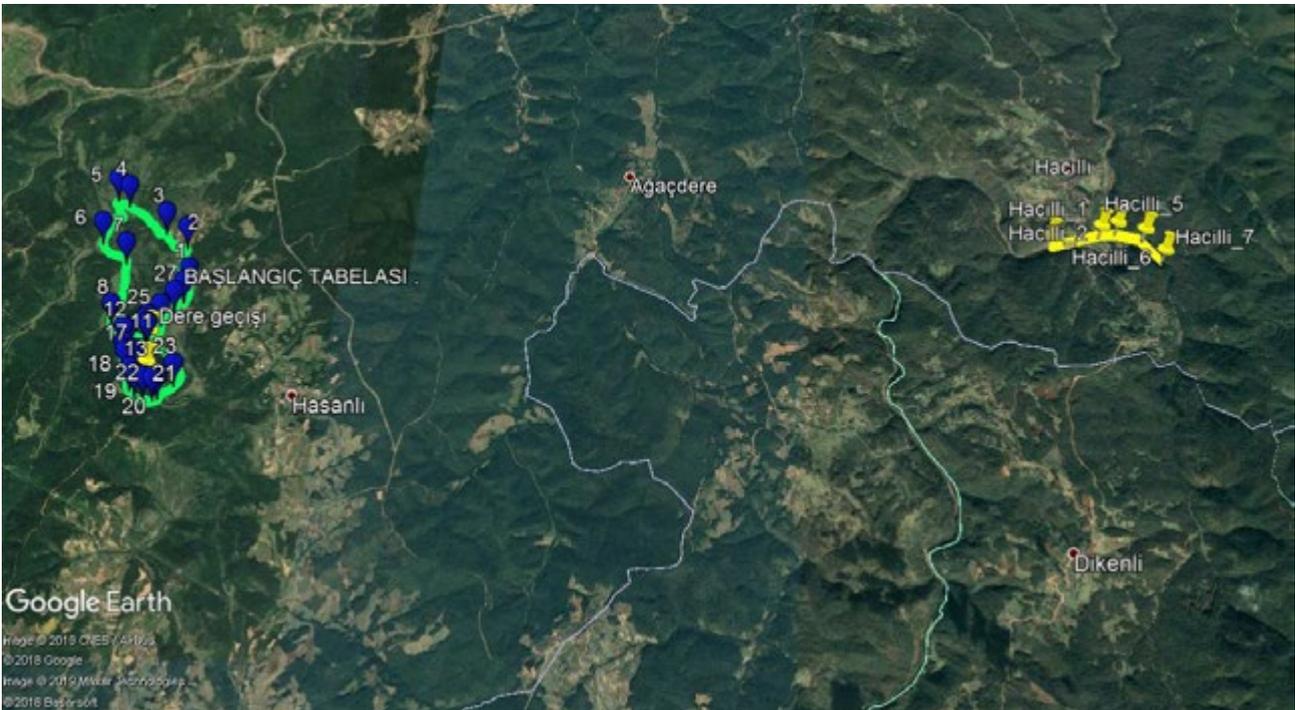


Direction sign 25 – Direction sign to Sarıkavak Village



Direction sign 26 – Direction sign. Straight ahead

Justification of Sarıkavak Route



Comparison of Hacilli route with yellow line and sarıkavak route with green line.

The Hacilli route proposed in the initial proposal has been replaced with an hiking route in Sarıkavak. The main reason for this modification is the on going construction process of a water

reservoir. This reservoir is part of a network of reservoirs providing water to İstanbul metropolitan city. It's already planned and occurs on official maps, although its construction has not yet begun. Sarıkavak hiking route is longer than Hacilli, but it has also historical visitor values, along with the beautiful nature views, which is also the case in Hacilli. Sarıkavak route's a circular route and well connected with the public transport. Therefore offers better logistical opportunities and the visitor experience is diversified with history and nature.

Annex-3 Birdwatching infrastructure

Type	Name	Planned Unit	Coordinates X	Coordinates Y
Birdwatch facility 1	Küpelitas near Kurna village	Birdwatch tower	41,210927	29,352419
Birdwatch facility 2	Kaletepe near Yeniköy village	Birdwatch tower	41,125567	29,656072



Location suggestion for Birdwatching tower



Suggested location for Birdwatch tower in İncekum



Alternate location for Birdwatch tower in İncekum

Kaletepe and Bird migration

The Eurasian–East African flyway is one of the most important migration corridors globally. It connects northeastern Europe and western Siberia to southern Africa, via the Middle East. In the Middle East, soaring birds concentrate at three major geographical bottlenecks en route towards Africa: the Bosphorus, Suez and Bab-el- Mandeb. The Bosphorus Strait stands out as the major bottleneck connecting Europe to Asia.

Migration is an annual seasonal movement between regular breeding and wintering grounds of birds. They cover large geographical distances over continents and this behavior is primarily caused by seasonal changes in food abundance. Migration in birds is recognized as an energetically demanding process due to the long distances covered in flight, thus the flight strategy adopted can influence survival directly.

Migrating raptors and other large birds such as storks, pelicans and cranes, minimize their energy expenditure and maximize their performance by employing a soaring–gliding flight style using thermals. Thermals are columns of rising warm air that form mainly over the land. Soaring birds exploit the uplifting force of the ascending warmer air mass, gaining height by circling up to high altitudes from where they can glide in their favored migration direction. Over the course of their migration, soaring birds follow established air routes where (1) the topography of the continent surface favors the development of thermals and (2) natural barriers, such as seas, deserts, ice fields or mountains, can be avoided or passed with minimum risk. Typically, natural barriers are traversed using geographical bottlenecks such as narrow land bridges or sea crossings, where large concentrations of migrating soaring birds can be observed.

Kaletepe recreation site in Şile may host thousands of raptors and storks during migration season. When the southern winds push flocks of migrating birds to the black sea coast and large congregations of soaring birds migrate over Şile. During migration time various species of raptors such as lesser spotted eagle, short toed eagle, common buzzard, honey buzzard and sparrow hawk can be spotted easily on their way to their final destination.

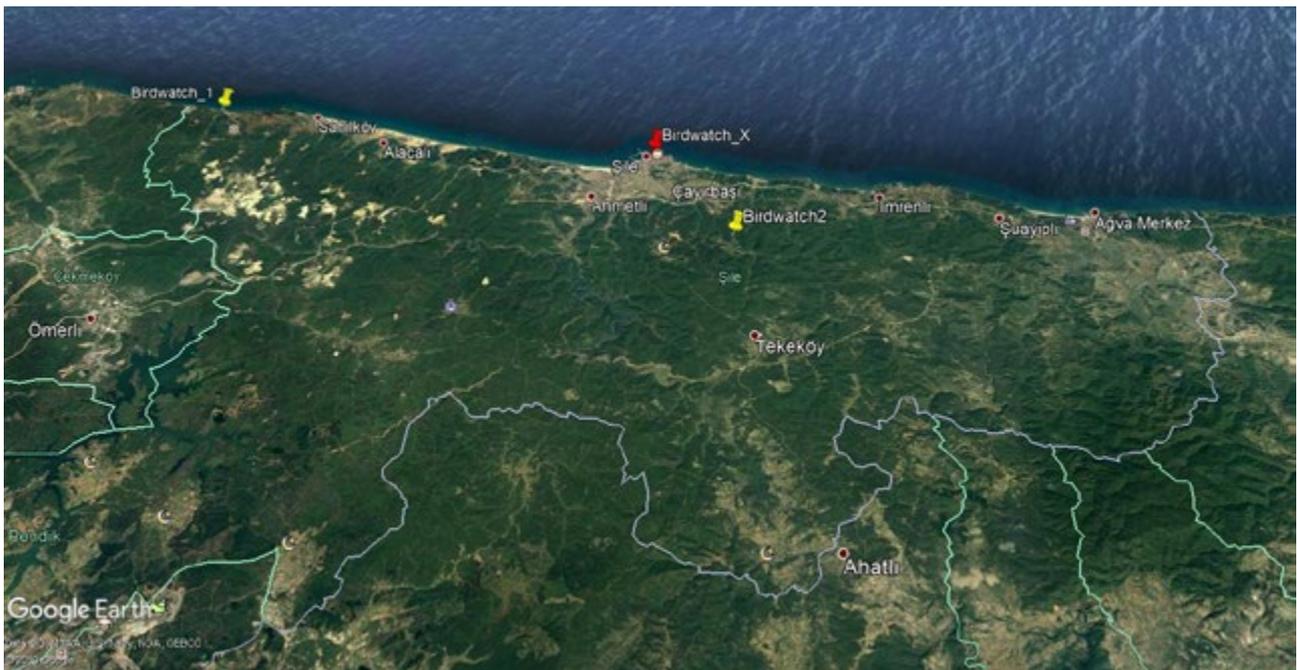
Incekum Bay, Sea watching and hawk-watching

Incekum bay, located northern edge of Bosphorus strait is located by the Black sea coast, host thousands of raptors and storks during migration season. The southern winds sweep flocks of migrating birds along the black sea coast and they congregate by the shoreline since the open sea forms a barrier for them. During migration time various species of raptors such as lesser spotted eagle, short toed eagle, common buzzard, honey buzzard and sparrow hawk can be spotted easily on their way to their final destination.

Incekum bay is also suitable location for sea watching. Many seabirds migrate over the black sea,

yellow legged and black headed gulls are the most common ones. Visitors may also encounter Mediterranean gull, lesser black backed gull, common gull and Pallas' gull, during migration and wintering seasons. Globally endangered yelkouan shearwaters roam the open sea all year long but they form giant flocks during February. Since the Black Sea remained as a landlocked lake during the geological ages, the waterfowl is also common. During winter time flocks of grebes and ducks can be found flying over the sea surface. The black throated divers can be spotted feeding off the coast.

Justification for relocation



Proposed locations for Birdwatching infrastructure

After careful evaluation of literature and fieldwork we have chosen two locations in Şile, which are both located by the seacoast. We have proposed the park on the hills near the ladies bath, where was a suitable vantage point for watching Mediterranean shags in Şile. Although we will keep this location as a photobank, building a bird watching tower is not possible due to the heritage conservation status of this site. As it was written "Kumbaba" for the second birdwatching tower in the SSI feasibility report it would be difficult to protect the tower where no public facility exists. Therefore we have proposed an alternate location as an hawk-watch point, especially for watching soaring bird migration. The proposed location is Kaletepe recreational site near Yeniköy Village, where the tower is planned to be placed on one of the highest peaks of Şile. The latter location is the Küpelitaş recreational site near Kurna Village, this is a good vantage point for sea watching and watching flocks of migrating raptors. there's already an established recreational facility operating in the site, There are other visitor infrastructure in place such as Zipline and walking trails so it would complement the visitor experience to have a bird watch tower here.

Annex 4- Recreational Sites

Justifications for modifications

The recreational locations of the project is planned to be in Ağaçdere, Osmanköy, Yunuslu stream, Çapan stream, Hacılı, Gökmaslı. All these locations were forestry area and non public facility exists so it would be easy to loose the outdoor furnitures in a short time as there is no available security opportunity. We have carefully evaluated the each of the recreational sites with Halim Bilgin from the Ministry of Forestry and Agriculture. We have consulted the managers of those areas and reached a pre agreement. Each of the sites are to be provided 6 sets of fixed wooden outdoor furniture, constituting of four chairs and one table, adding up to 36 sets in total. We have chosen 6 recreational sites, namely Çamaltı, Sülüklü Göl, Kocakuş, Kaletepe, Meşe kır gazinosu and Kabakoz. These recreational sites are all daily used facilities under forest canopy, established and owned by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

Çamaltı:

The Çamaltı recreational site is located under close canopy of stone pine (*Pinus pinea*) and Calabrian pine (*Pinus brutia*) forests and with pseudo maquis in the forest undercover such as bay laurel (*Laurus nobilis*) and mock privet (*Phillyrea latifolia*). Forest birds such as chaff finch (*Fringilla coelebs*), eurasian jay (*Garrulus glandarius*), syrian woodpecker (*Dendrocopus syriacus*) and sardinian warbler (*Sylvia melanocephala*) can be found in and around the recreational site.

Sülüklü Göl:

It is possible to come across stone pine (*Pinus pinea*) at lower parts of Sülüklü göl recreational site and oaks (*Quercus robur*) at higher parts.). Forest birds such as chaff finch (*Fringilla coelebs*), eurasian jay (*Garrulus glandarius*), syrian woodpecker (*Dendrocopus syriacus*) can be seen within the area. The wide sand dunes adjacent to the site, contains many rare sand dune flora. The shrubland may host sardinian warblers (*Sylvia melanocephala*).

Kocakuş:

Kocakuş is a large recreatioal site with a tiny stream running thorough it. European alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and the narrow-leafed ash (*Fraxinus angustifolia ssp. angustifolia*) grows in areas closer to the water in the forest, while the common oak (*Quercus robur*) Hungarian oak (*Quercus frainetto*), Linden (*Tilia argentea*) grows in the drier parts of the area. Forest birds such as robin (*Erithacus rubecula*), eurasian jay (*Garrulus glandarius*), syrian woodpecker (*Dendrocopus syriacus*) can be seen within the area, hawfinch (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes*) and siskin (*Spinus spinus*) can be found during the winter.

Kaletepe:

Kaletepe recreational site is established in a healthy forest stand with a fine mixture of deciduous

forest sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*), Oriental beech (*Fagus orientalis*), common hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) and sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*). Forest birds such as robin (*Erithacus rubecula*), eurasian jay (*Garrulus glandarius*), syrian woodpecker (*Dendrocopus syriacus*) can be seen within the area, hawfinch (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes*) and siskin (*Spinus spinus*) can be found during the winter.

Meselik:

Meselik recreational site is located in a healthy forest stand with a fine mixture of deciduous forest sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*), Oriental beech (*Fagus orientalis*), common hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) and sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*). The recreation site is located to an abandoned holy spring, where the ruins of a small orthodox chapel can also be found.

Kabakoz:

The Northern part of the Kabakoz recreational site is located under close canopy of oak forests. . European alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and the narrow-leafed ash (*Fraxinus angustifolia* ssp. *angustifolia*) can be found in damp areas and close to water. Forest birds such as chaff finch (*Fringilla coelebs*), eurasian jay (*Garrulus glandarius*), syrian woodpecker (*Dendrocopus syriacus*) can be seen within the area.

The list of coordinates

Type	Name	Planned Unit	Coordinates X	Coordinates Y
Recreational site 1	Çamaltı	Outdoor furniture 1	41,202027	29,400538
Recreational site 1	Çamaltı	Outdoor furniture 2	41,201999	29,400621
Recreational site 1	Çamaltı	Outdoor furniture 3	41,201961	29,400666
Recreational site 1	Çamaltı	Outdoor furniture 4	41,201912	29,400671
Recreational site 1	Çamaltı	Outdoor furniture 5	41,202095	29,400499
Recreational site 1	Çamaltı	Outdoor furniture 6	41,202008	29,400471
Recreational site 2	Sülüklü Göl	Outdoor furniture 1	41,191313	29,459859
Recreational site 2	Sülüklü Göl	Outdoor furniture 2	41,191258	29,459951
Recreational site 2	Sülüklü Göl	Outdoor furniture 3	41,191017	29,459999
Recreational site 2	Sülüklü Göl	Outdoor furniture 4	41,191099	29,460087
Recreational site 2	Sülüklü Göl	Outdoor furniture 5	41,191137	29,460176
Recreational site 2	Sülüklü Göl	Outdoor furniture 6	41,191003	29,459951
Recreational site 3	Kocakuş	Outdoor furniture 1	41,168976	29,521024
Recreational site 3	Kocakuş	Outdoor furniture 2	41,168989	29,521141
Recreational site 3	Kocakuş	Outdoor furniture 3	41,168954	29,521214
Recreational site 3	Kocakuş	Outdoor furniture 4	41,168381	29,521266
Recreational site 3	Kocakuş	Outdoor furniture 5	41,168542	29,521296
Recreational site 3	Kocakuş	Outdoor furniture 6	41,168577	29,521281
Recreational site 4	Kaletepe	Outdoor furniture 1	41,123628	29,654365
Recreational site 4	Kaletepe	Outdoor furniture 2	41,123659	29,654239
Recreational site 4	Kaletepe	Outdoor furniture 3	41,123554	29,654111
Recreational site 4	Kaletepe	Outdoor furniture 4	41,123531	29,654186
Recreational site 4	Kaletepe	Outdoor furniture 5	41,123542	29,654342
Recreational site 4	Kaletepe	Outdoor furniture 6	41,123413	29,654321
Recreational site 5	Meşe Kırgazinosu	Outdoor furniture 1	41,121529	29,654772
Recreational site 5	Meşe Kırgazinosu	Outdoor furniture 2	41,121557	29,654752
Recreational site 5	Meşe Kırgazinosu	Outdoor furniture 3	41,121603	29,654732
Recreational site 5	Meşe Kırgazinosu	Outdoor furniture 4	41,122778	29,653602
Recreational site 5	Meşe Kırgazinosu	Outdoor furniture 5	41,122733	29,653689
Recreational site 5	Meşe Kırgazinosu	Outdoor furniture 6	41,122728	29,653634
Recreational site 6	Kabakoz	Outdoor furniture 1	41,141181	29,680235
Recreational site 6	Kabakoz	Outdoor furniture 2	41,141029	29,680094
Recreational site 6	Kabakoz	Outdoor furniture 3	41,140938	29,680126
Recreational site 6	Kabakoz	Outdoor furniture 4	41,140819	29,690756
Recreational site 6	Kabakoz	Outdoor furniture 5	41,140793	29,680821
Recreational site 6	Kabakoz	Outdoor furniture 6	41,140923	29,680902



Çamaltı recreation site (recreational site 1), room spared for outdoor furniture



Çamaltı recreation site (recreational site 1), room spared for outdoor furniture



Sülüklügöl recreation site (recreational site 2), room spared for outdoor furniture



Sülüklügöl recreation site (recreational site 2), room spared for outdoor furniture



Sülüklügöl recreation site (recreational site 2), room spared for outdoor furniture



Kocakus recreation site (recreational site 3), room spared for outdoor furniture



Kocakus recreation site (recreational site 3), room spared for outdoor furniture



Kaletepe recreation site (recreational site 4), room spared for outdoor furniture



Kaletepe recreation site (recreational site 4), room spared for outdoor furniture



Meselik recreation site (recreational site 5), room spared for outdoor furniture



Meselik recreation site (recreational site 5), room spared for outdoor furniture



Kabakoz recreation site (recreational site 6), room spared for outdoor furniture



Kabakoz recreation site (recreational site 6), room spared for outdoor furniture



Kabakoz recreation site (recreational site 6), room spared for outdoor furniture

Annex 5-Photobanks

Harmankaya fener

Şile lighthouse is located at a 60 meters high cliff, at the northeast of Şile city center for over a century. The light house was commissioned by the Ottoman sultan Abdülmecid I and was constructed in 1859 by French engineers. In 1860, the lighthouse became operational.

The masonry lighthouse is built on a cliffy point at Cape Şile about 1 km northeast of the town. The 19 m tower with a gallery around the lantern room has the form of an octagonal prism. Reaching the tower of the light house requires 72 steps long climb. A masonry one-story keeper's house is attached to the tower. The lighthouse is painted white with narrow black horizontal bands. During the establishment and early years of operation, the lighthouse was lit by kerosene, however the light source was later replaced by Dalén light using carbide (acetylene gas). Since 1968, it runs on electricity.

The lighthouse's lantern has eight 925mm catadioptric cylindrical lenses and a 1,000 W light source. At a focal height of 60 m, it flashes white for 1.5s every 15 seconds, which is visible at a range of 37 km. The flashing is achieved by eight rotating panels that are still set in motion by a weight-driven mechanism inside the tower using anchor escapement. The falling weight on the chain reaches the bottom of the tower in two hours. For the operation's continuity, the lighthouse keeper has to pull it up by rewinding the chain

Harmankaya

Harmakaya is a karst bridge formation in north east of Şile City center. Karst is a topography formed from the dissolution of soluble rocks such as limestone, dolomite, and gypsum. When shaped by external factors, such as waves or streams, they might gain bridge like forms, through removal of the material by erosion and absorption. Harmankaya is a site of geological significance, located at the tip of karst depression and shaped by the sea waves. This site is among the little known geological inheritance of Şile.

Masatlik- Ladies bath

Masatlik park is situated next to the second largest colony of shags in İstanbul. This species shows a strong preference for cliffs, sea-caves and rocky islets with adjacent deep, clear water. The Mediterranean Shag (*Phalacrocorax arsitotelis desmarestti*) is the Mediterranean subspecies of the European Shag (*Phalacrocorax arsitotelis*) and is endemic to the Mediterranean Basin and Black Sea. It's a protected sub-species, listed in several international treaties such as Barcelona Convention, Bonn Convention and Annex-2 of EU Birds and Habitats Directive.

In Black Sea, The Mediterranean Shag breeds in scattered colonies. It's an indicator of healthy

coastal fish stock. As accomplished swimmers and foot-propelled divers, shags feed on benthic and pelagic fish. They can hunt successfully in coastal waters up to 80 m deep, which are usually located within a 20 km radius around the colony or roosting sites.

Şile islands constitute a remarkable seascape with rocky cliffs, ancient ruins and caves, which used to be occupied by endangered Mediterranean monk seals. This site is known to support 50 breeding pairs, regularly. Shags start mating in January, they can be found breeding until late May. Disturbance should be avoided during the breeding period as it may affect the chicks adversely. It's also possible to see a good selection of gulls wintering in Şile, Yellow legged and black headed gulls are regulars. You may also encounter Mediterranean gull, lesser black backed gull, common gull and Pallas' gull, during migration and wintering seasons. Black legged kittiwakes, chasing fish boats, may visit the harbour, where as yellow shearwaters roam the open sea. During winter time flocks of grebes and coots can be around the islets

Liman -1

Şile harbor is a large, rectangular pier, located next to the ladies bath in Şile. This harbor is primarily used by the commercial fishing boats and a small number of sailing boats can also be found docked at the harbor. To the North eastern part of the harbor, there's a small fish market and tiny restaurants that sell grilled fish. Behind the fish market, the islets of Şile rise from the sea like nature monuments. There are 7 islets, namely Ocaklıada, Zeytinada, Dış ada, Uzun ada, Yelken Ada, Aya anna I and , Aya anna II. Ocaklı ada is the largest among them with a Genoese Castle ruin, which was reconstructed (not renovated) by Şile Municipality in 2015. The tiny castle is thought to be used for surveillance rather than defensive purposes.

Sahilköy- Tahlisiye

Rescue stations are aid units, that help sailors at sea, who are in trouble during the bad weather. Blacksea rescue stations are among the oldest organisations of Directorate General of Coastal safety as the organisation was established during ottoman era in 1866. A series of rescue stations were built by British army to aid the sailors and do surveillance by the black sea coast. The rescue station buildings date back more than a century, today still stand as historical heritage sites. The rescue stations usually constitute of three major buildings called dormitory, rocket house and boathouse. Although dormitory and boathouse names speak for themselves, rocket house requires clarification. The rockets were the essential gadgets to throw ropes to the grounded ships, that were unreachable from land, so rocket houses can be considered as specialized warehouses.

Sahilköy-2

Sahil köy is an ancient settlement that dates back to byzantine empire. Turkmen tribes arrived this region after the 15 th century and two folks coexisted in the area for a long time with greeks

occupying the coastal and the Turkish residents using the inner parts of the landscape. These villages are named as riffle villages (ızgara boyu köyleri) in Şile, and their folks are thought to originate from Bolu, Kastamonu, Ordu migration route. Sahilköy's former name "domali" is speculated to refer to Damali sect of Yörükhan tribe. The settlement in Sahilköy dates back epipaleolithic era (7500 BC), where Paleolithic tools were found on Dereagzı hill next to Göztepe and Kazlar streams. The basaltic columns, the cellular shaped sea cliffs are outstanding geological formations by the sea coast. The long shore and dune habitats hosts important sand dune flora such as Sea daffodils (*Pancreatium maritimum*)

Kabakoz

Kabakoz, located 10 kilometers east of the town center, is an ancient Greek village founded during the Byzantine era. It is particularly famous for its sandy beach and 700-year-old oriental plane tree (*Platanus orientalis*). The hollow trunk of giant plane tree in village square can accommodate 3-4 people. Kabakoz coast is among the most well preserved shore lines of Şile and the bayments along the coast provides outstanding panoramic experience for taking photographs.

Akçakese

Akçakese is a settlement founded during the byzantine period and located on a hill viewing the villages at the immediate surroundings of it. The village has 800 meters long coast with bright white sand. Its name is thought to be derived from Akça Kilise, which means White church in Turkish. Although the remains of the church is not intact, columns and large stones from the original structure can be found in the eastern part of the coast if investigated. There're 60 houses, that are certified as heritage conservation sites in the village and should better be explored on foot.

İmrenli

Blacksea lies in the northern site of the village which is 18 km away from the county seat. Being found on a valley, the village comes into prominence with its traditional architecture and the beach. The mosque at the İmrenli village square is exquisite with its history dating back 1710.

Kilimli

Kilimli is a bay with enchanting rocks and islets. The effects of winds and waves carving out the limestone cliffs, caused the formation of those magical rock sculptures. One of the most famous natural structures in the area is the Bride Rock (Gelin Kayasi), even though the head of the bride is missing, the story of the bride still remains. According to elders, a legendary beauty living in agva was forced to marry a wealthy man instead of her lover. She jumped and disappeared in the cold waters of black sea, the search party couldn't find her body but this strange rock,, that rose from the sea, Some claim her cry could be heard during dark nights without any moonlight.

Justifications for changes

The proposed photobank locations are kept except for two of them, istavrit tepesi and zeytin adası are located close to the photobanks. Although they possess similar photographic properties, the photobank locations were intensified to the east of Şile center, in order to balance the distribution, two locations from the western part of the Şile city center were identified, it was ensured that the villages at the both sides of Şile had benefited from the project.

Type	Name	Planned Unit	Coordinates X	Coordinates Y
Photobank 1	Harmankaya Fener	Info board	41,177674	29,618901
Photobank 2	Harmankaya Yarımada	Info board	41,179692	29,623024
Photobank 3	Masatlik	Info board	41,180191	29,613074
Photobank 4	Liman 1- Abandoned lighttower	Info board	41,176993	29,602327
Photobank 5	Sahilkoy- Tahlisiye	Info board	41,213381	29,388676
Photobank 6	Sahilkoy- Fosilkumullar	Info board	41,190809	29,480111
Photobank 7	Kabakoz	Info board	41,161846	29,677915
Photobank 8	Akcakese	Info board	41,155094	29,732077
Photobank 9	İmrenli	Info board	41,156982	29,755961
Photobank 10	Kilimli	Info board	41,141394	29,871844



Photobank 1- Lighthouse view



Photobank 1- rock details and seaview



Photobank 2- View from Harmanakaya Peninsula



Photobank 3- View from Maşatlık



Photobank 4- Old lighthouse at the harbour



Photobank 4- View from the abandoned lighthouse at the harbour



Photobank 5- Sahilköy Tahlisiye



Photobank 6- Sahilköy view point



Photobank6- Details of geological heritage in Sahilköy



Photobank 7- Kabakoz coast



Photobank 8- Akcakese



Photobank 9 – İmrenli



Photobank 10- Ağva Kilimli Bay

Annex 6- Market Stands

Tekeköy

In the early times of Turkish Republic, Teke köy used to be an isolated Turkish village from Şile. It was located at an important stopover site on the charcoal trade route from Şile to İzmit. Historical documents state that Teke köy used to have closer relations with Gebze rather than Şile. Although the charcoal is not the main driver of the economy any more, teke located at the crossroads, still conserves its value as a trade stop. Since most major roads goes through Teke köy, the residents have a long tradition of marketing agricultural products. The folk of Teke köy is specialized in small scale farming and also selling their goods by the side of the road

İmrendere

İmrendere is one of the remainders of a larger settlement called kara mandıra, which was listed as a village in this region in ottoman documents . The kara mandıra name might have originated from the water buffalos, that are kept in this region or a large farm, that used to be in İmrendere. İmrendere is a location at the edge of şile plain and situated at the crossroads. Therefore this village is both suitable for farming vegetables and also marketing of these agricultural products. Since the vehicles should pass thourgh the village,. The folk of imrendere is specialized in small scale farming and also selling their goods by the side of the road.

Type	Name	Planned Unit	Coordinates X	Coordinates Y
Market Place 1	Teke köy	Market stand	41,070355	29,661671
Market Place 2	İmrendere	Market stand	41,149097	29,595588



Teke Köy, local product sales stand



Teke Köy, local product sales stand



İmrendere, local product sales stand

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