

## ABOUT AYVALIK

Ayvalık is a coastal town of Balıkesir Province, located on the Aegean Sea coast. The district is known for its natural beauty, historical texture and olive oil production. The district features a rich architectural landscape with stone houses, bay-windowed structures, and narrow streets that date back to the Ottoman and Greek periods.

The region encompasses numerous bays and islands, making it a prominent spot for maritime activities. Cunda Island (also known as Alibey Island) is one of Ayvalık's most famous landmarks, connected to the mainland by a bridge. Visitors often explore its historic churches, windmills, and cobblestone streets. The hill known as Şeytan Sofrası is another key attraction, offering a panoramic view of the surrounding islands and the Aegean Sea. Sarımsaklı Beach, with its fine sands and clear waters, is among the most popular beaches in the area.

Ayvalık is surrounded by olive trees and the region is internationally recognized for its high-quality olive oil. In addition, olive oil dishes, seafood and the iconic Ayvalık toast are featured prominently in the local cuisine. Olive oil festivals and culinary events held throughout the year celebrate this heritage, attracting both locals and visitors.

Ayvalık is also a rich region in terms of nature and outdoor activities. Boat tours allow visitors to explore the turquoise waters and hidden coves. The walking routes between the olive groves and the hills are ideal for those who want to be alone with nature. Ayvalık is a significant diving destination as well, with its underwater treasures appealing to diving enthusiasts.

With its rich history, stunning landscapes, and gastronomic offerings, Ayvalık is not only a popular tourist destination but also a cultural and natural treasure. It offers a harmonious blend of history, nature, and leisure, making it a unique and multifaceted place to visit.