



Kaymakamlar House Museum (Kaymakamlar Museum House)

It is believed that this house was built at the beginning of the 19th century. The owner was Hacı Mehmet Efendi, master of Safranbolu barracks. He was known as Kaim-Makam, which means Lieutenant Colonel. So his house is known as house of Kaymakamlar. The town of Safranbolu has strenuously protected its architectural heritage, and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism developed a project to nationalize the house in 1979. It was reopened as an educational center on 16.12.1981. Today it has been repurposed as a museum house. The mansion has two parts, separated into Harem (for women) and Selamlık (for men). The wooden decoration of its ceilings are unique. The building is located on the slope of Hıdırlık. The structure, plan, texture of the house reflects traditional Turkish housing.
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City History Museum

Old City Hall (Mansion) was built by Kastamonu Governor Enis Pasha, Town District Governor Ahmet Bey and by the support of the citizens upon the area called "Castle" in 1906. The building was used as a Military, Civilian and Judicial Management Center. In the museum, there are Conference and Exhibition Halls on the ground floor, while on the top floor there is a hall called "Safranbolu with Photographs" and an Ethnography Museum. Finally, in the basement there is a "Miniaturized Trade and Craftsman Bazaar" (Market). The visitors can find a summary or brief of Safranbolu History from 9:00 am till 6:00 pm everyday except Mondays.



THE CLOCK TOWER

The Clock Tower was built in 1797 as a gift to all the inhabitants of Safranbolu by İzzet Mehmet Pasha, Grand Vizier of 3rd Selim. It has one clock face looking towards the City History Museum. The tower was restored in 1990 and can now be visited as a part of City History Museum tour.

MINIATURES OF CLOCK TOWERS OF ANATOLIA

At an Open Air Museum in Safranbolu; one of the cities of 20 World Heritage Cities and being visited by hundred thousands of people every year. Miniaturized versions of Clock Towers, have been built all around Anatolia so far, are being exhibited at the garden of City History Museum which Safranbolu Clock Tower was built in.



OLD PRISON

Located on the Castle, the old prison was built by the 2nd Abdülhamit in 1906. It was restored to its original form and is now used as a cafe and restaurant.



CINCI INN

This noble building was constructed by Cinci Hoca who was Kazasker (Chief Military Judge) at the time of Sultan İbrahim between 1640-1648. Cinci Han is being used as a hotel with a capacity of 65 people. The building belongs to the General Directorate of Foundations.

CINCI HAMAM

Today, this hamam which was built by Cinci Hoca, is functioning as a traditional Turkish bath. According to tradition, the hamam is separated into two areas of bathing for men and women. It is open from early morning till 11 P.M for men and till 10 P.M for women. The building belongs to the General Directorate of Foundations.

HIDIRLIK HILL

Hıdırlık Hill: Overlooking Historical Centrum; used as an open air prayer area for special festivals, an amazing panoramic view point. After occupying the region Turks settled down on this hill as a first settlement. Today visitors can have panoramic view of historical Safranbolu from the hill, especially shortly after the sunrise, beautiful panoramic photographs can be taken.



Other Worthseeing Places

ARCHEOLOGICAL AREAS

There are a lot of rock tombs at Hacılarobası, Çavuşlar, Üçbölük, Akören, Aşağı Güney Villages.

TREKKING AREAS

Tokatlı Canyon
Düzce and Sakaralan Canyons
Eflani Katır Yolu

Note: Visitors can take taxi tours to the places mentioned about.

Don't Leave Safranbolu Without !!!

Exploring City History Museum, Clock Tower and Old Prison
Giving an eye to Miniaturized Clock Towers of Anatolia,
Visiting Kaymakamlar Museum House,
Staying at a historical house,
Seeing historical guild bazaars,
Drinking coffee at the house with pool,
Getting around by mini golf cars in historical centrum,
Discovering İncekaya Aqueduct and Cristal Terrace,
Conquering Tokatlı and Düzce Canyons,
Flying over the Historical Centrum by microlight plane,
Tasting Safranbolu Delight, Kuyu Kebab, Bükme and Baklava.



Some Traditional Foods



SAFFRON

This plant gives its name to Safranbolu. It is used in the pharmacy, cosmetic and food industries. Saffron (Crocus sativus) is an autumn-blooming bulbous crop plant from the family Iridaceae, whose above ground part is annual, while the underground part is perennial. The subterranean bulb part of saffron creates the new plant by sprouting every year for three consecutive years. The above ground bulb part dries after the new plant blooms and creates the next year's bulb. The bulb part is spherical, slightly flattened from top to bottom, covered with a brown shell and sized 1-5 cm in diameter. There are needle-shaped, long and thin leaves on the above ground part of the plant.



Safranbolu The Museum City

Safranbolu is a town of Karabük Province, situated in the western Black Sea region of Turkey. It is a historical town famous for its wooden houses, mosques, baths, fountains, tombs, and guild bazaars. Most of the buildings have been protected and preserved in their original form. The region was formerly known as Paphlagonia in ancient times. Hittites, Phrygians, Persians, Ponds, Romans, Seljuks, Çobanoğulları, Candaroğulları, Ottomans and indirectly Lydians all wielded power in the region.

The cultural, economic and social structure of the city reached its peak between the 17th and 19th centuries. It is possible today to see many well-preserved structures built during those years, such as Cinci Inn, Cinci Bath, Köprülü Mehmet Pasha Mosque, Dağdelen Mosque, Tokatlı Bridge, İncekaya Aqueduct, Clock Tower, Historical Fountains, Hideyatullah Mosque, Guild Bazaars and numerous stone arches.

Important figures such as Kazasker, Cinci Hoca, Sadrazam (Grandvizier), İzzet Mehmet Pasha, Kapitan-Derya (Grand Captain) and Salih Pasha, who grew up in Safranbolu in this period and enabled close relationships between Safranbolu and the Ottoman Palace. Even Köprülü Mehmet Pasha who was very popular at that time, was sent to Safranbolu as an outlaw for a while. In particular, the building of Cinci Caravanseraı improved the economy of the city in terms of trade production and traditional handicraft, enriching the social life of the city.

Such developments formed the settlement of Safranbolu into two different sections, as winter and summer resorts. The winter houses were located in a valley so as to use the river flowing underneath as drainage both for household water and for the contaminated water of tanneries. This is the region in which the following occupations were put into practice: blacksmiths, coppersmiths, saddlers, packsaddle makers, timber traders. The shops were organized according to the guild system.

On the other hand, summer houses are located in "Bağlar" which is higher and consequently cooler than "Çarşı" and surrounded by vineyards and gardens. It is about 3.5 km north of "Çarşı" with an altitude difference of 350 m.

Safranbolu was declared an "Urbanized Site" by the Ministry of Culture in 1976 and taken under protection. It was included in the "World Heritage List" by UNESCO in 1994 in recognition of its exceptional and universal cultural values. The number of the Masterpieces under protection in Safranbolu is approximately 1500.

In the Carsi area, traditional Turkish Houses have adapted to tourism in the form of hotels, pensions, cafes and bars, while still maintaining their traditional architecture and cultural integrity.

Accommodation, food and beverage facilities, advisory services, boutique shopping, cultural and natural attractions, as well as other activities, are provided to domestic and foreign guests alike for four seasons.

It is possible to reach the town via Ankara(220km), İstanbul(410km), Kastamonu(110), Zonguldak(110km), and Bartın(97) by bus, and via Ankara and Zonguldak by train.

Mosques

KÖPRÜLÜ MEHMET PASHA MOSQUE

This masterpiece is the biggest mosque of Safranbolu, built by Köprülü Mehmet Pasha in 1661. The space of the dome looks like a helmet. The architecture and decoration of the dome is remarkable. "Muvakkithane", "Şadırvan" and "Sun Dial" are located in the courtyard of the mosque.

İZZET MEHMET PASHA MOSQUE

This mosque was built by İzzet Mehmet Pasha in 1796. It is like a small model of Nuruosmaniye Mosque in İstanbul with its elegant minaret, zinc covered dome and inner decorations. Its courtyard and minaret were built on arches over the river.



KAZDAĞLIĞIĞLU MOSQUE

This mosque was built in 1779 at the entrance of the Historical Bazaar. It is remarkable with its polygon shaped dome covered with tile. It gives its name to the square around it.

KAÇAK (LÜTFİYE) MOSQUE

It is located at Akçasu District. It was built on arches over Akçasu Stream in 1880.

ULU MOSQUE (AYESTEFENOS CHURCH)

It was built as a church in 1872 by Greeks living in Kiranköy. It has been used as a mosque since 1956.



Sundial (Praying Time Indicator)

The Sundial is thought to be built in the middle of 19th century. It was designed as a simple horizontal sundial for showing prayer time (from 6:40 am to 5:20 pm) It is a device that measures time by the position of the Sun. The sun casts a shadow from its style onto a surface marked with lines indicating the hours of the day. The style is the time-telling edge of the gnomon, a sharp, straight edge. As the sun moves across the sky, the shadow-edge aligns with different hour-lines.



YEMENİÇİLER GUILD BAZAAR

It was used as a guild bazaar where shoes (yemeni) were made. It consists of 48 wooden shops located next to Köprülü Mehmet Pasha Mosque. Since the restoration, the shops have been used as souvenir shops, and at one of the shops yemeni is still being made and sold to the visitors.

BLACKSMITH'S GUILD BAZAAR

This bazaar is located on both banks of Akçasu River, running under the İzzet Mehmet Pasha Mosque. It is the sole guild bazaar in which hot and cold blacksmiths, coppersmiths and tinsmiths continue to manufacture handicrafts to this day.



Yörük Village

This "museum village" is connected to Safranbolu by Safranbolu-Kastamonu highway. It is about 11 km from Safranbolu. This village has been taken under protection in 1997 by the Ministry of Culture. It is an original Turkish-Turkmen village. Its historical buildings are magnificent and most of the buildings have been protected in their original form. It is a small model of Safranbolu which has 93 registered masterpieces, including mosques, laundry and nomadic houses.



Bulak Mencils Cave

Bulak (Mencils) Cave, at 6042 m in length, is the fourth-longest explored cave in Turkey. Located on the border of Safranbolu and Karabük, it is most famous for its unusual geology, rare formations, and pristine condition. It is about 8.5km from Historical Centrum and 5km from Değirmenbaşı in Bağlar District. About 450 m of the cave is open to visitors everyday from 9:00 am till 6:00 pm in winter, and 9 am till 8:00 pm in summer.



İNCEKAYA AQUADUCT

It was built by İzzet Mehmet Pasha. It is about 7.5 km from the city center, located in İncekaya Village. It is a magnificent structure with 6 arches on the bridge by which water used to be carried from the source to the town of Safranbolu. Tokatlı brook, which is an amazing place for canyon trekking, flows underneath the aqueduct.

CRYSTAL TERRACE

It was built from steel and resistant glass with a bearing capacity of 70.000 kg, overlooking Tokatlı Canyon which is an amazing hiking trail. It was built just next to The Water Bridge: so you can also have a full view of the bridge.

