

# Akyaka-Gökova Yürüyüş Rehberi



# 18

Gezi



Walks



Wanderungen



## **Yayımlayan**

Gökova-Akyakayı Sevenler Derneği  
Nail Çakırhan Sok. 9 Akyaka/ULA  
www.akyaka.org  
dernek@akyaka.org



## **Metinler**

Mustafa Ateş, Mehmet Bildirici, Bahar Suseven

## **İngilizce Çeviriler**

Hale Ottolini

## **Almanca Çeviriler**

İrene Cantez

## **Redaksiyon**

Nurhan Kavuzlu, Jane Patterson, Thomas Schmitz

## **Harita ve Krokiler**

Mustafa Ateş, Jane Patterson, Thomas Schmitz

## **Grafikler**

Svetlana İnaç, Zühra Kırımgeri,  
Dineke Mühürdaroğlu, Bahar Suseven

## **Kapak Fotoğrafı**

Thomas Schmitz

## **Yayın Hazırlık**

Thomas Schmitz

## **Baskı**

Esin Ofset, Muğla

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Zühra Kırımgeri and Dineke Mühürdarođlu

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## ***Walk with an open mind!***

(Some proposals...)

**Your holiday can make a real difference to your destination. It can help protect the natural environment, traditions and culture – the things that make your visit special.**

**Using public transport, bicycles and walking are environmentally friendly alternatives and a great way of meeting local people.**

**Interact with locals in a culturally appropriate manner (e.g.: do not go walking in rural areas wearing shorts, bathing costumes etc.).**

**Ask permission before taking photographs of people or their homes and don't be offended if they decline.**

**Respect the environment and do not cause unnecessary disturbances.**

**Do not flush, approach or even try to catch birds or other wildlife, enjoy the sight from far by using binoculars. Leave bird nests untouched.**

**Don't break twigs, pick flowers or other plants, seashells and archeological remnants (strictly forbidden and prosecuted!). Leave them for others to enjoy. Avoid waste by taking packing back home, have your own water bottle with you and do not throw used batteries. Ensure proper disposal of human waste**

**Fire is a serious hazard. Be extremely careful with cigarettes and matches and take your cigarette stubs with you.**

**If you leave ways or footpaths, be aware that you may walk on planted fields. Trampling seeds or plants may cause hazards for the farmers.**

**Be careful not to pollute cisterns. They are mostly still used and not swimmingpools.**

**Thank you...**

**You can start enjoying your holiday before you go by doing some background reading on the people and places you'll be visiting. Your welcome will be warmer if you take an interest.**

**Try [www.akyaka.org](http://www.akyaka.org) for a start!**

## *Foreword*

What does living in Akyaka mean for us? It means to see its beauties, to be aware of nature and to live with it. Besides that we consider it our duty to work for it and engage ourselves in the protection of it. And we try to fulfill this task as a human being, a resident of Akyaka and as a member of the association.

We noticed that many people share the same values; they like to walk, enjoy the nature of the Gökova basin and they see its beauty. They walked with us; together we set out to discover the area. That is how the idea for this guidebook developed and we saw that these people do not only want to walk, but also to work and share their ideas with us and thus, with the participation of members and non-members alike the book you are holding became a real team product.

This group has contributed to this book with the dust on their feet, the ink on their fingers, time spent on computers, compass in their hands and with walking under all weather, rain or shine.

With this guidebook, we want to let you feel that in the Gökova area the main merits are not sea and beach or other summer tourism activities, but other values for those who want to be more active, who want to walk and benefit directly from nature.

With the hope that we fulfilled this ambition and will be able to realize future projects in the same warm atmosphere I want to express my sincere gratitude, respect and affection to all participants.

Bahar Suseven  
(Heike Thol-Schmitz)  
Chair of the Association  
of the Friends of Gökova-Akyaka



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## *To begin with...*

Up to now an alternative to beach and sea has never been proposed to visitors or people living in our area, despite the fact that this region with its beautiful nature only waits to be discovered. The Gökova basin offers a home for about 200 bird, 25 mammal and 30 reptile species recorded up to date. Species like White-breasted Kingfisher, European Otter and Cormorant are also living here, some of them are globally protected. Besides that we have woods of endemic Incense Trees (*Liquidambar orientalis*) of which world wide only 3000 hectares remain.

In addition we know that the region has been populated for at least 2600 years by the Karians and that Alexander the Great and Suleyman the Magnificent passed through here. How many visitors notice the near by Medieval castle or the rock tombs? How many people know about the 'Tırnaklı' footpath that once connected the villages of Akyaka and Kuyucak? Even locals have forgotten about it. Or the much neglected and thus heavily damaged but still used 'Ancient Road'?

We, the Association of the Friends of Gökova-Akyaka, have prepared this guidebook to introduce natural and cultural richness to our visitors and to promote sustainable tourism as a part of the Bio-Gökova Project, funded by the UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme.

The guidebook contains walks of various difficulty levels. All walks have been tried out and explained in detail by us. The set times are average walking times from Akyaka and back.

Especially for walks with a 'difficult' grading, we advise to hire a guide. For some roads we also suggested to use a bicycle, however, even these roads sometimes get steep and difficult. They might get particularly muddy in winter due to rainfalls.

Already existing guidebooks have been generally prepared to introduce the Muğla Region. We, in contrary have developed this book for our vicinity as a possible alternative source. This guidebook has been a team product from the first idea up to its publication.

Any water source mentioned in the book can be dry next year or a path might get completely unusable. We hope to be able to include these changes in future editions. Therefore, we would like you, the users of this guidebook, to forward any criticism and your recommendations to us.



As much as we want you to get somewhere, as much do we want to inspire you to take to the road and walk. We believe that each of you will discover different wonders on the same road. We invite you to be more than a spectator, but to get to know the life and life style of the region you are visiting and to establish an organic relationship with them.

*There are many more roads to walk on...*



## ***From Idyma to Gökova-Akyaka***

### **A brief history of the area and its environment**

#### **The Karian City of Idyma**

In the area, in which today's Akyaka is situated, the city of Idyma was founded. The settlement of Idyma extended east of today's Akyaka up to the village of Gökova (3km) and the quarters of İnışdibi and Yazılıtaş up to the port which was nearby the forest. The old rock graves show that İnışdibi and the Medieval castle in the proximity are very old settlement areas. It is proven that the castle has been inhabited from the Antique up to Medieval times but been abandoned at an unknown date. The Byzantine castle, also mentioned as Ceneviz castle is well worth a restoration. From the castle an underground tunnel leads to the south banks of the Kadın Azmağı. The Nekropolis (rock tombs) and the Akropolis are situated on the mountain-slopes of Gökova.

Idyma was founded as a Karian city. The name is originated from the Karian language. The area, where Muğla is today, has been the South of Karia. The Karians were the earliest known settlers of the area. Their customs and way of life are known but, since no documents have been found, the Karian language remains unsolved.

In 546 B.C. the Persian army conquered the area under the command of Harpages. Under Persian rule the customs and the religion remained unchanged.

Between 484 and 405 B.C. the federation of Delos under the leadership of Athens took over the administration. Idyma too, was affected by that. Idyma is already mentioned in the tax lists of the years 453 - 452 B.C. . These are the earliest document concerning the city of Idyma. Additionally a leader named Paktyes is reported. It is assumed that the city has been governed for a long time by the family of Paktyes.

The city minted coins: one side showed Iaimion (Idymion), the other side the head of a young man (Pan). It is a well known fact that the cult of Pan, the god of the shepards, has been of great importance in the region.

The federation of Delos ended in 405 B.C., Idyma separated already around 440 B.C. from this federation.

The Spartan rule began. The Spartan general Lysandros destroyed the city Cedrai (Sedir Island) in 405 B.C.

#### **Idyma under the rule of Halikarnassos (Bodrum)**

Between 387 - 334 B.C. the Persians regained the leadership in the area. King Mausolos of Halikarnassos (377-353 B.C.) maintained good contacts with the Persians and governed as a free king. He changed the capital from Milas to Bodrum. Idyma was situated in the east of his kingdom.

This era ended, when Alexander the Great with his army penetrated the area. It is known that fortresses in Thera and Callipolis existed at this time.



### **Idyma in Hellenistic Time**

With Alexander the Great the Hellenistic period began in Anatolia and the Near East. Greek culture and language spread rapidly. The area had a difficult time from 334 B.C. on until the peace agreement of Apama was reached in 189 B.C.. A variety of contradictory Hellenic governments lead to confusion in the region.

### **Idyma and the Influence of Rhodes**

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> century B.C. Idyma came under Rhodeian leadership and was called Rhodeian Peraea (the „Opposite side of Rhodes“). Idyma liberated itself temporarily from this rule; but has been reconnected in 200 B.C. to Rhodes by Nicagoras from Rhodes, together with Pisi (Pisi Village) and Killandos (Yenice Village) according to a stone inscription on the island of Karpatos. Under the peace of Apama in 189 B.C. the city of Idyma fell to Rhodes and remained so until the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD.

About 10 stone inscriptions prove this era as very lively and state that a council, the “Union of Idyma” has been founded.

### **The Roman Idyma**

At the end of the first century A.D. Idyma became a Roman city. In the year 48 B.C. Julius Caesar travelled the area around Rhodes. The Egyptian queen Cleopatra passed by the coast and visited the city of Ephesus in the year 41 B.C. The city of Idyma maintained its significance and reputation in Roman times. The only known written prove dated of that time, a board written in honour of Imperator Vespasian (69-79), is unfortunately lost. Excavations in the year 1922 discovered mosaics from Roman time in the castle ruins in İnışdibi.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> century B.C., when the Roman Empire was weakened from inside, destroyed by strong earthquakes and a devastating plague, the area fell into oblivion. Idyma and the cities of the environment were deserted. Paved roads, some remains do still exist; intact cisterns and channels were left to their fate. In the time of Imperator Diokletian (284-305 B.C.) Karia became a Roman province.

### **Life in Byzantine time**

For a time the area has been connected to the Menteşe principality, whose capital was Milas. In the year 1420 A.D. it became part of the Osman Empire. Muğla became capital of the province and Ula administrative centre.

The highlight of the Osman era has been the crossing of the area by Suleiman the Magnificent and his army in order to conquer Rhodes. They arrived in the region in July 1522 and returned in 1523. Rhodes was defeated and attached to the Osman Empire. The occupation of Rhodes brought temporary welfare to the province, but it would take until the 1970's that tourism brought new life and economic welfare back to the Gökova area.

**Mehmet Bildirici**

## *Birdwatching in the Area*

As in most wetlands the birding year is divided into two very different parts which are separated by the spring and autumn migrations: the summer half and the winter half. Summer brings a variety of small birds: passerines, song birds, warblers, shrikes; many of them breeding in Gökova. Winter gives us the chance to watch bigger wintering birds like herons and egrets, ducks, geese, sandpiper and plover species and raptors, which are more commonly seen during the wet season as well. A good variety of migrating birds use the plain as a resting point during their long journey: Glossy Ibis, Cattle Egret, Spoonbill, Bee Eater, Roller and some vagrants like Red-footed Falcon and Lesser Kestrel can be observed in April/May and September/October. There is also an old colony of white stork in one of the Gökova villages. Gökova gives shelter to 192 species of birds and over 60 breeding species; amongst them rare and protected species like White-throated Kingfisher and Barn Owls.

In Akyaka itself, especially along the river and in the pine forest between the municipality and the “Forked Tree” where undergrowth is still prevailing, birdsong is a real feature during breeding time. Nightingales, Blackbirds, Redstarts, Tit species and Warblers give song while Middle and Lesser Spotted, Syrian and Green Woodpeckers provide the percussion. Krüper’s Nuthatch supply the solo parts on your walk from Akyaka to İnişdibi (See: İnişdibi Walk) At night, coming back from a fish dinner on the river, look out for Barn, Scops, Tawny and Little Owls. In winter the forest rings with the twittering of robins and various warblers, but at that time prevailing birds are the jays.

For a variety of walks (See: Birdwalk) you will follow the river towards the plain, watch out for garden birds like Black Redstarts, Robins, Blackcaps, Tits and Buntings on the way. Nearer to the plain you’ll have the chance to see a variety of Shrikes and Wheatears, Linnets and Siskins. Raptors like Common and Long-legged Buzzard, Marsh and Hen Harrier, Sparrow and Goshawks and vagrant eagle and falcon species can be seen along the walks.

Turning right into the plain, the bushes on the side of the path are inhabited by Black Redstart, Whinchat, Stonechat, Wren, Whitethroat, Chiffchaff, Blackcap and Spanish Sparrow. On the fields you can watch Calandra:- Short-toed and Lesser Short-toed, Crested and Wood Lark together with Isabellina, Northern and Black-eared Wheatear, Collared and Spotted Flycatcher, Red-backed, Lesser Grey, Woodchat and Masked Shrikes, Hooded Crows, Starlings, Buntings, Finches and the odd raven. On the cables you’ll find Rollers, Collared and some Turtle Doves, Swallows and Red-rumped Swallows, Magpies, Hoopoes, Black-headed Buntings and Bee Eaters. The sky is filled with Swifts and Alpine Swifts, Crag Martins and Skylarks.

Walking into the heart of the plain along the ‘Araplar Deresi’ canal, the bushes and trees are teeming with warblers like Cetti’s, River, Sardinian, Olivaceous and Willow Warbler, Tit and Bunting species beside Gold and Greenfinches, Whitethroats and Chaffinches. The canal is inhabited by Coots, Moorhens and Water Rails. A variety of mainly warblers awaits you in the Tamarisk belt and the reed beds; the prevailing sound in summer is, of course, the never ceasing chat of the Great Reed Warbler and the Reed Warbler. Here you have the chance to see vagrants like Icterine and Grasshopper Warblers, Cirl and Cinereous Buntings. In winter you will find duck species like Wigeon, Gadwall, Garganey, Mallard, Pintail, Pochard etc. in the fresh water pools between the reeds and Tamarisks.

Turning back to the main track, the old road cuts through the wetland and leads to the right towards the Akçapınar end of the plain. There you will come to the road fork leading to one of the main birding sites in winter - the flood plain meadows to the right of the road leading to the Akçapınar beach. The undergrowth along the road offers a variation of species, among them vagrants like Greater Spotted Cuckoo, Rufous Bush Robin and Fan-tailed Warblers.

In the wet season and during spring migration, provided the meadows are flooded, bird watching from the road towards the reed beds is a real pleasure: Bittern and Little Bittern can be seen on the edges of the reeds and the pools are teeming with waders like Black-tailed Godwit, Ruff, Plover and Sandpiper Species, Snipe, Curlew, Whimbrel, Red- and Greenshank. On the sides of the pools you find Little and Great White Egret, Cattle Egret, Grey, Night and Purple Heron, Spoonbill, Ruddy Shelduck and Glossy Ibis. If the winter gets really cold a second migration wave may bring Mute Swans, Shelduck and the odd Dalmatian Pelican. The non flooded parts of the meadows are teeming with lark, pipit and wagtail species.

Following the road to the sea your best place to put up your telescope is the crest of the wave breaker on the left end of the beach. You have a good view of the 'Kanlı Azmak' river, the habitats you have crossed and the sea with its shallow sand spits, where you can watch Cormorants, the odd Flamingo, Grebe species, Mediterranean, Little, Black-headed, Yellow-legged Gulls; Little, Black, Common, White-winged Black and Caspian Terns. Look out for vagrants like Audouin's Gull, Yelkouan Shearwater, Kittiwake, Red-breasted Merganser, Gull-billed and Sandwich Tern. The fringe of the sea is usually full of small waders like plover and sandpiper species. In spring this is a good point for scanning the hillsides for partridge species and quail; you have a good vantage point from the 'Çalca' Hill into the habitats described, too. (See: Çalca Crest)











From this point you have two choices for your return; either you take the path following the beach back to Akyaka, or you turn back towards the direction you came from, turn right at the road fork and follow the road heading towards Akçapınar. There you have the chance of seeing an old colony of White Stork nesting in the middle of the village (See 'Stork Walk'). The White Stork population arrives March/ April, starting their elaborate nest building activities. They start to breed at end of April. You have the chance to watch young storks in their nests in May. The fledglings are taken to the plain for their "training" coming back to roost at nightfall. They finally leave for their journey south in the middle of August.

If you chose to walk in the forest, you will notice that the woods, being mainly Red Pine monoculture, do not provide us with the variety of a multicultural or a primary forest but they still give interesting birding: Middle and Lesser Spotted, Syrian and Green Woodpecker, Jay, Krüper's Nuthatch, Sombre, Coal, Blue and Great Tit, Chaffinch, Wryneck and at nightfall Barn, Scops, Tawny and Little Owl are worth looking out for. Where undergrowth prevails or the habitat changes into olive groves or deciduous trees you will find Nightingale, Blackbird, Redstart, Robin, Blackcap, Sardinian, Olivaceous, Willow Warbler, Flycatcher species and Shrikes.

The routes that follow the rivers partially will give you a chance to watch Moorhen, Coot, Little Grebe, Water Rail, Kingfisher and our famous White-breasted Kingfisher which does make Gökova a new Important Bird Area (IBA) of national IBA standard.

**Bahar Suseven**

## Legend:

 2-3	Duration of walk		Public Transport available
	Level Easy		Water available
	Level Medium		Interesting for Birders
	Level Difficult		Arceological Site
	Suitable for Bicycle		Beach



### *Forest Walk*



#### **Akyaka-Eski İskele-Akyaka**

From the Atatürk Square we walk towards the post office. At the fountain opposite the post office we turn right, walk across the market place towards the sports ground. Leaving the sports ground behind us we walk for 150 m on the left path. Here we cross the small dry river bed and turn left into the forest.

When we walk on this very distinct path for about 10 minutes, we are welcomed by a beautiful sea view. There is also a fountain on the right. Going downhill from this low hill the path nearly disappears, but to see the narrow path in our direction is not very difficult. This path goes on for 250-300 m and takes us downhill to a place with taller pine trees. Here the path widens again and takes us to the asphalt road at the bottom.

Reaching the road we turn left and come to the Iskele quarter after 300 m. We can either rest by the sea or at the fountain by the mosque which is a pleasant place for refreshment.

After resting we turn back to the main road and turn right up the hill. The distance from here to the Atatürk Square is about 2 km. Going uphill there is a fountain on the left in front of the graveyard. We pass the graveyard and the Forestry Camping Ground on our right and come to the Atatürk Square.

## İnişdibi



### Akyaka-İnişdibi-Akyaka

From the Atatürk Square we go uphill towards the main road to Muğla. After passing the last houses about 300m further on, we turn right onto a dirt road. 500 m on we have a beautiful view of the valley. This point is suitable for watching the birds in the plain with a telescope or binoculars. The bends of the Kadın River, the wetland and the reed beds can be easily observed from this point.

From here we go downhill to the lower part of the forest. Here the road divides in two. If we take the one on the right we go downhill to the İnişdibi quarter. 200m below the mosque is an ornamental cistern. The writing on this cistern is believed to be the epitaph of Ümmügülsüm, wife of Osman Aga from Tavas. Right opposite the cistern, on the other side of the road and part of the garden wall, the very last stone on the left of the gate has an antique inscription of unknown origin. The well in the garden was drilled by Italians during World War II, but unfortunately the original irrigation channels are completely damaged.

If we continue right of the cistern uphill, we come to Akyaka's biggest and oldest tree surrounded by a small cluster of houses. On the chimney of a nearby house we can see the last Stork nest of Akyaka. If we continue on the main road towards Akyaka, the Kadın River on our left, we notice the ruins of a medieval castle on top of the hill on the right. Parts of a tunnel leading from the top of the castle to the river still remain. About 30m before the boatyard, on the right of the road there is a sun dial carved out of a big rock, but you'll have to look hard to spot it!

Right after this place, on the side of the river, we come to the Kadın Spring. The famous Turkish seaman Piri Reis is known to have visited here. This is one of the oldest water sources of Akyaka.

Leaving the beautiful scenery of the river and the nearby restaurants behind, turning to the left, we come to another tomb about 500 m further on. This one is located at the bottom of a garden wall. After

another 500 m, where the road forks round a pine tree in the middle of the road, there is a chapel ruin in the bushes on the right and the grave of a person locally called Eren Dede. This place is still used by people as a 'wishing tree'. Stripes of cloth tied on the branches symbolize a wish each. Tie one as well, maybe your wish will come true!

If you retrace your steps back towards the river and turn sharp left up hill towards Akyaka village on Akasya Sokak you will get back to the Atatürk Square.



## Bird Walk



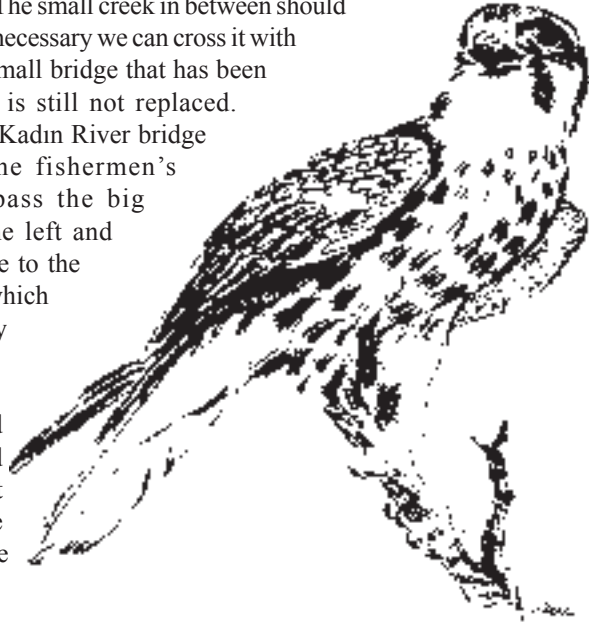
### Akyaka-Gökova Plain-Akyaka.

From the Atatürk Square we go a little way uphill and turn right at the roundabout. We walk down past the restaurants along the Kadın River and turn right at the transformer opposite the İnışdibi graveyard. We then cross the Araplar Creek, which is dry in the summer and has normally so little water in the winter that it does not hinder walkers. The half-hour walk on the riverside towards the sea is also an interesting one for birdwatchers. Among the bushes and in the fields are various species of birds. Returning to the point where we crossed the Araplar Creek we continue south into the plain. After ca 1 km we start walking on an old stone-paved road which was damaged in the 1990's while laying the water pipes for Akyaka. This road is believed to have been paved for the Ottoman Sultan Suleyman the Magnificent during his Rhodes campaign.

When we continue south we come to a T-junction. The left road goes to a small resting place on the Mugla-Marmaris main road. We take the right one and come to another junction about 300 m further. The road on the left takes us again to the Mugla -Marmaris main road and crossing it, to Akçapınar Village.

We turn right towards the sea. Starting from the point where the fields stretch down towards the coast, in the Eucalypt Trees on the left and especially on the wet marshes on the right you can see many waterbirds in the winter and during the migration season.

Continuing we eventually come to the sea shore. Turning right we come after 30 m to an running artesian well. We can return to Akyaka along the coast. The small creek in between should not hinder us, if necessary we can cross it with bare feet. The small bridge that has been there for years is still not replaced. Going over the Kadın River bridge we come to the fishermen's harbour. We pass the big buildings on the left and continuing come to the large road on which the municipality building is situated. Taking this road uphill till the end and turning right we see the Atatürk Square again 250 m further on.



## Along the Coast



### Akyaka-Hayıtlı-Akyaka

We start our walk from the Atatürk Square in Akyaka and go west past the Post Office towards the Forestry Camping Ground and from there to the dock known as the Iskele Dock. In recent history, small vessels anchored here to load logs and chrome. Passing the mosque and the first houses we come to a big stone building which was then used as the Customs' Office. Behind the first houses, at the foot of the hill on the right we see a cistern.

We continue our walk going west, in the same direction. We have the sea on the left and the woods on the right. After about a 30 min walk we come to Çınar Beach, one of the most beautiful beaches of the Akyaka region. If the weather permits we can have a swim here. The asphalt road turns into a broad dirt road on the end of the beach. About 2 km later we arrive at Hayıtlı Wharf. Here big tour boats are pulled ashore for maintenance. Leaving the wharf to our left we turn right and continue for about 1 km up the steep road to the Hayıtlı area. Turning to the first path on our right we can easily see the well below the path. This is a good place to have a rest. We can drink the cool water from the well which is consumed by locals as well.

From here we get back to the road and continue to the right. There is a narrow path to the left towards the top of the hill after about 50-60 m. A 10 min. walk on this path brings us to ruins which are believed to be part of the Idyma culture. They are found on the east side of the hill we have climbed. From there walking to the south we have a nice view of the sea. There are two rock tombs on the side overlooking the sea, but they are very difficult to reach.

Descending the hill we pass the well and turning back to the dirt road we return to Akyaka on the same route we came.





## Turnalı Walk



### Akyaka-Turnalı-Akyaka

We start our walk at the Atatürk Square going west, pass the post office towards the Forestry Camping Ground reaching the Dock quarter, known as 'Old Dock' (Eski Iskele). In the recent past small vessels anchored here to load chrome and wood. The big stone building on the right after the mosque and the first houses, was then used as the Customs' Office. a An old cistern is situated behind the first houses, again to the right.

We continue in the same direction going west. To our right we have the sea and on the left the forest accompanies us. After about 30 minutes we reach one of Akyaka's most beautiful beaches, Çınar Beach. If weather permits we can go for a swim here.

Right after the beach the asphalt road finishes and the dirt road starts. About 2 km further we reach the Hayıtlı Wharf. Here big tour boats are pulled ashore for maintenance.

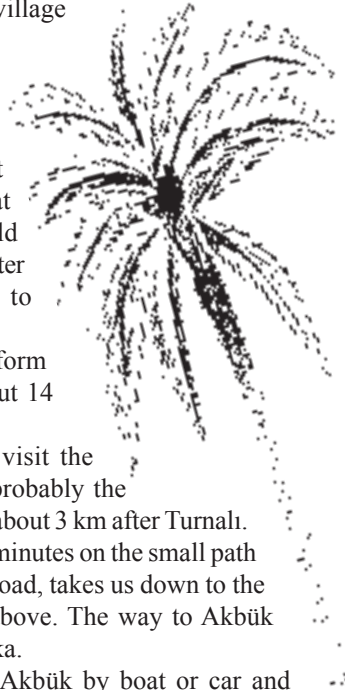
After about 5 km we come to the Kıran quarter. The road on the right leads quite steeply 8 km up to Kıran Village. Right at the entrance of the quarter, on the sea are two identical houses. Because of these the place is also known as 'Twin Houses' (Ikiz Evler). Fresh water is one of the biggest problems here. Passing this small settlement, a short distance further, we come to a restaurant with a splendid sea view. This place still preserves some of the village atmosphere.

After another 4 km along the sea we reach Turnalı. This village lives mainly of farming and partly of fishing. It is a very authentic village yet untouched by tourism. The fountain at the end of the village in front of the old school building is the only source of water on our way. This road continues up to Ören.

Until here we described the way from Akyaka to Turnalı, a distance of about 14 km.

If we want to continue, we can visit the remains of an ancient watch tower, probably the best preserved ancient site in the area, about 3 km after Turnalı. The site is called Asarcık. A walk of 5 minutes on the small path behind the old stone cottage near the road, takes us down to the secluded bay that we can see from above. The way to Akbük Village is a total of 23 km from Akyaka.

An alternative would be to visit Akbük by boat or car and afterwards walk back to Akyaka.



## Stork Walk



### Akyaka-Akçapınar-Akyaka

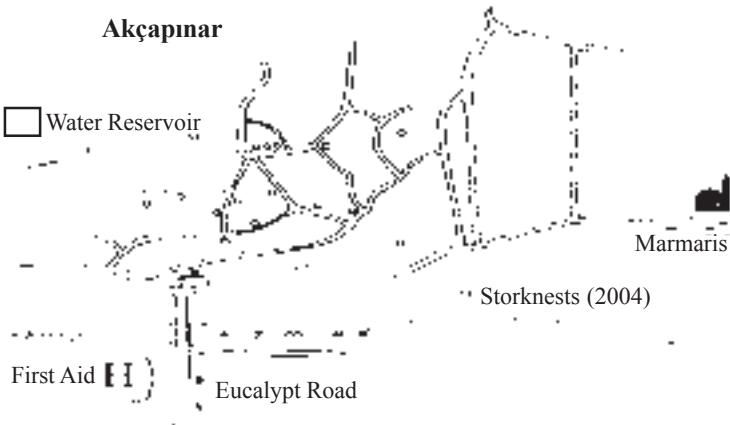
If we do not want to drive, we can cross the plain or follow the Eucalypt road to reach Akçapınar. To arrive in the village via the Eucalypt road is very pleasant. For a detailed description please read “Haşimbahçesi” or “Bird Walk”.

Therefore we did not feel the necessity to describe this walk as detailed as the others. All storknests are indicated on the sketch map (updated 2004) and can be easily visited. But we would like to add that the view from the water reservoir on the east of the village is quite spectacular and well worth the slight climb.

The White Storks (*Ciconia Ciconia*), by now a symbol of Akçapınar, are present from April to August. The prevailing thermal winds above the slope where the old part of the village is located, makes flying off especially easy for the young Storks. This is apparently why storks chose to nest on this slope initially.

Storks are probably the luckiest migrating birds of Anatolia. Storks are hunted in many countries along their migration routes, but they are called “Pilgrim Birds” in Turkish and welcomed with respect throughout Anatolia. In contrast to many other birds, they seek out houses, mosques and electric posts to build their nests. They also take to nesting possibilities provided by people on house roofs.

Still the Stork population in Turkey has been noticeably decreased since the 1960's. The number of empty nests in villages raises from year to year. The most important reason for the reduced number of Storks is the rapid destruction of their breeding places and the drainage of wetlands for agriculture use. Another significant cause of the decreasing Stork population in Turkey is the ever increasing use of pesticides. Developing technology and electrification of nearly all villages lead to many Stork casualties. A great number of storks get tangled and die in cables close to their nests.



## Village Walk



### Akyaka-Akçapınar-Gökova-Akyaka

From the Atatürk Square we go uphill for a bit and turn right at the roundabout. We pass the restaurants along the Kadın River and turn right at the transformer opposite of the İnışdibi graveyard. We cross the Araplar Creek which is dry in summer and has so little water in the winter that it does not hinder our passage. Continuing for 1 km into the plain, we reach remnants of an old paved road which was damaged while laying the water pipes for Akyaka in the 1990's. This road is believed to have been made for the Ottoman Sultan Suleyman the Magnificent during his Rhodes campaign.

When we continue south we come to a T-junction. The left road goes to a small resting place on the Muğla-Marmaris main road. We take the right one and come to another junction about 300m further. Taking the road on the left we cross the Marmaris Main road and, walking along the Kanlı River, reach Akçapınar. This village hosts many Storks from April to August (See "Stork Walk").

The food places and the teahouse at the square are offering delicious snacks if we want to rest. We then pass the policlinic on the left and walk along a nice path between fields and woods, offering interesting details of village life. After 2500m we reach the Mugla- Antalya main road.

We cross this road and pass the Gökova policlinic. After 1500 m we get to the centre of Gökova. Here we can find small shops, teahouses and even a restaurant. Around Gökova you can visit the rock tombs and the acropolis of the antique Karian settlement (See "Idyma Acropolis").

We cross the bridge and stay on the road, walking between olive groves on the right and the river bed on the left. About 300m after the last houses, we pass through a tunnel. 200m further on the right we see Karian rock tombs.

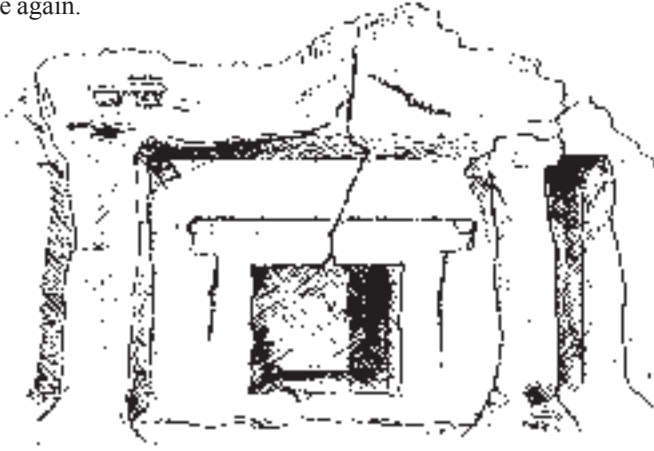
After about 1000m we reach a cistern of the Ottoman period with an old inscription of H.1250. This writing is believed to be the epitaph of Ümmügülsüm, the wife of Osman Aga from Tavas. Right opposite of the cistern, on the left bottom of the stone wall is a 115x50x30 cm sized stone of unknown origin with Hellenistic writing. The well and the connected irrigation channels in the adjacent garden were made by Italians during World War II, but nowadays they are completely damaged.

Back on the road towards Akyaka, the Kadın River to the left, we can see a Medieval castle to the right on top of the hill. Parts of a tunnel leading from the castle down to the river are still intact. About 30m before reaching the little boatyard, on the right side of the road is a sundial carved out of a big rock, but to find it you have to look hard!

Right beyond this place on the river is the Kadın Spring, which even the famous Turkish sailor Piri Reis has visited. This is one of the oldest water sources of Akyaka.

Leaving the beautiful scenery of the river and the restaurants behind and keeping always to the left, we come to another tomb about 500m further. It is situated below a garden wall and we have to descend to it via a small stairway. After another 500 m, where the road forks round a pine tree in the middle of the road, there is a chapel ruin in the bushes on the right and the grave of a person locally called Eren Dede. This place is still used by people as a 'wishing tree'. Stripes of cloth tied on the branches symbolize a wish each. Tie one as well, maybe your wish will come true!

Coming back to the road and turn right up the hill, we reach the Atatürk Square again.



### *Sakar Tepe*



#### **Akyaka-Sakar Pass-Fire Watchtower-Akyaka**

On clear days the Islands of Kos and Rhodes can be seen on this walk which starts from Akyaka by public transport. We get off at the "Sakartepe Geçidi" sign (the top of the Sakartepe passroad). We cross over the road and turn into the broad dirt road going uphill. This road is about 3 km long and climbs from 600m to 900 m. 700m after the turn we come to a junction. We go straight ahead. The road leads us through typical mediterranean maquis, shrubs and stunted pine trees, about 1200m further on we reach another junction. The road on the right goes to Kuyucak village. We take the left one. Getting to the top, we arrive at the fire observation station inhabited during the summer season by forestry workers. This place is one of the most delightful places for a look around. If you visit Akyaka we highly recommend coming up here. The paragliding platform is situated directly west of the station.

Kuyucak village is about 5 km east from here. Descending the mountain from here to Akyaka is possible but very difficult. If you want to do so, we advise the company of a local guide. The easiest way to get back to Akyaka is the way we came. You can take the Akyaka bus/ dolmuş or any bus that goes to Marmaris or Köyceğiz, get off at the Akyaka junction and walk back to the village.

## Çalca Crest



### Akyaka-Akçapınar-Gökçe-Akyaka

To get to the starting point of our walk we take public transport from Akyaka to Gökçe Village. At the bridge in Gökçe centre we turn right. We walk along the Ferek canal. After approximately 30min we pass a Eucalypt wood on the right. There the road divides into three.

The path to the right takes us directly to the Çalca Hill, which has a beautiful view. The best choice now is to return to the path you came on and take the middle way at the junction, which will then lead you to the southern edge of the Kanlı Azmak River. From here you will have to return again, but the site is worth a visit, because only few people come here and you will see various habitats and a wide range of birds. This path is not very well cared for, so it is a good idea to wear trousers. In former times you could follow the edge of Çalca Hill and reach the Marmaris road. Nowadays the path is very overgrown and has nearly disappeared.

Now we follow the road on the left which takes us along the Akçapınar River to the fishermen's landing and from there directly to the shore. Especially in winter you can watch from here many seagulls and waders. The wetland on the left usually inhabits plenty of herons etc.

If you are lucky, you will be able to rent a boat at the landing. You can either make a boat trip on the sea or up the Kanlı Azmak River to Akçapınar. The historical arched bridge on the river can best be seen like this. On the way back get off the boat on the Akyaka side of the Kanlı River. From here you can reach Akyaka in 30 minutes.

If there is no boat or you want to walk, you can take the dirt road towards the Marmaris main road. This path is about 2km long and after 30 min. of walking you arrive again at the main road in Gökçe. Cross the road and take a bus direction Mugla. Get off at the Akyaka junction and enjoy 20 minutes of a short and beautiful walk downhill to the Atatürk Square.

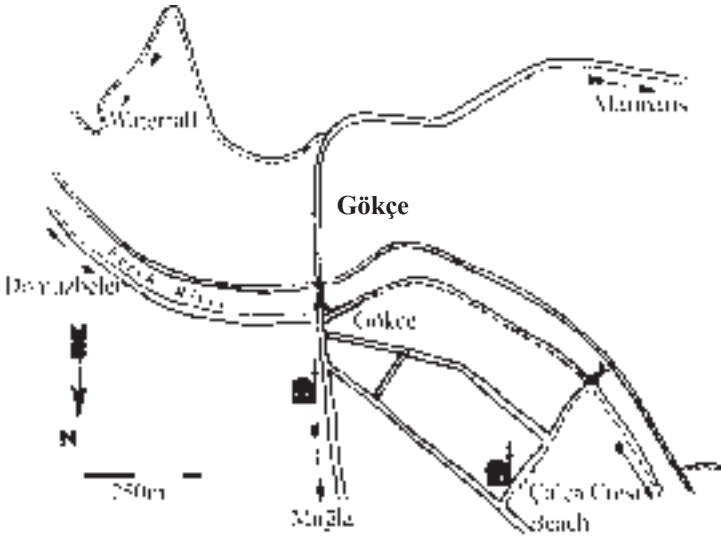
## Gökçe Waterfall



### Akyaka-Gökçe-Akçapınar-Akyaka

To get to the starting point of our walk we take public transport to Gökçe. 200 m on the left after Gökçe on the Marmaris side is a dirt road. On this dirt road we soon reach a junction. The steep path on the right takes us to the top of the valley in 1 km distance. The Amber, Plane, Oleander and Bayleave Trees and different rock formations along the way make the quite difficult climb worthwhile.

Where the path ends we can go further up into the valley. If the rocks are wet they can be quite slippery. In about 5 minutes we get to the main waterfall where the water cascades from a height of 30m. The altitude here is 120 m.



From here we can either descend into the valley, which is a little difficult, take the path on the other side of the valley or go back the same way we came. We recommend the valley route to return to the dirt road. Whichever way we take, when we get down we turn right.

After a short walk on this road we can see the sea at the feet of the Sakar Hill and below us the village of Gökçe. Straight ahead we come to a point close to the Domuzbelen junction near the Ferek Creek, from where the path continues on the other side of the valley. If the creek is running the only possibility to cross is to wade through. From here we can continue to Domuzbelen.

If we do not chose to go to Domuzbelen but to turn left, we go downhill and come to the edge of the valley and cross a small canal where waters flow even in summer. The water is a good chance for refreshment in the hot season. We turn left after the football pitch and go further until we see a big metal pipe crossing the creek. If the creek is dry we can cross here. After the last houses we go up the path to the road. If the creek is flowing and we do not want to get wet, we can go further another 500m and take the bridge. From here we have to walk back to the beginning of the dirt road.

This road goes on the slopes of the Ferek Creek and comes to a junction in an olive grove. We turn left and straight ahead at the next junction 1 km further on. Along the road we can look down into the fields on the right. Our trek takes us first to the Şirinköy-Akçapınar junction and then past the first houses of Şirinköy to the Şirinköy- Akçapınar asphalt road. After 10 minutes we are back to civilization.

After passing the last houses of Şirinköy on the right, we go across a small bridge over the Kanlı River. Turning left we follow the river and reach Akçapınar Village.

From here we can either walk back to Akyaka or go on to the main road and take a bus in the direction Muğla. Get off at the Akyaka junction and walk downhill for 20 minutes back to Atatürk Square.

## Hayıtlı Hill



### Akyaka-Obrukalan-Hayıtlı-Akyaka

This trek is approximately 15 km long and partly difficult.

We start our walk from the Atatürk Square, and head westwards to the Forestry Camping Ground. From there we reach the Iskele quarter, formerly known as the 'Old Dock'.

Opposite the mosque on the left at Iskele Square, we take a turn to the right and go uphill through the Pine forest on a rather rough asphalt road.

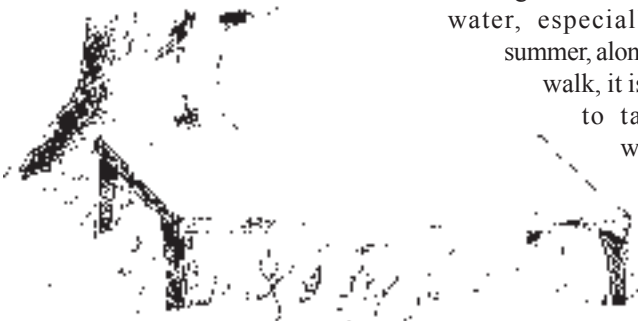
Directly in front of us we see two fountains. The first is on the bend turning to the left and the other is 600 m further on, again on the left. The area to the left of the second fountain is called Obrukalan. Instead of turning left into Obrukalan, you can continue on the road, after about 1 km you come to a junction. The road to the right goes to Kuyucak village but our walk continues on the left hand dirt road. The valley on the left leads down to the Çınar area. Our trek descends into the valley through olive groves on both sides. We pass some small cottages and catch our first sight of the sea. The altitude here is about 270 m.

Climbing up again, after a sharp bend, we see small village cottages. Here we are at roughly at the same level (337 m) with the Hayıtlı hill on the left. It is possible to descend from here, but you have to look out for the path which is little used these days. As you go downhill in direction south- west you come to Hayıtlı district. Look out for the three Mastic trees (*Pistacia atlantica*) and a well right next to them. With its cool breeze in the summer months, this place is like a high pasture. The water of the well is safe to drink and makes it a good place to rest awhile.

After reposing we go uphill direction of the sea and turn right. On the other side of the hill the sea welcomes us again. Nearby we can look at some ruins, probable remains of the Idyma civilization.

We return the same way but instead of turning towards the well, we continue walking downhill along the valley to the right. After a 1km walk, we come to a place on the coast known as Hayıtlı Wharf. If the weather permits we can have our first swim here. We continue east along the coast to Çınar Beach, come into the Iskele quarter and finally, after passing the entrance of the Forestry Camping Ground, to Akyaka.

Since it might be difficult to find water, especially in the summer, along the 15km walk, it is advisable to take water with you.





## Domuzbelen



### Akyaka-Gökçe-Akçapınar-Akyaka

The 14km trek, starting from the main junction in Gökçe and ending in the village of Akçapınar, is especially impressive from November to May, when the waters along the Ferek River are running and offer a rich variety of wild plants. In the summer you need to take plenty of water with you. This long trek can be also done by car, but is not advisable in winter because of road floods and muddy roads. But it does make a wonderful cycling tour.

To get to the starting point we drive to Gökçe Village from Akyaka. At the bridge in Gökçe we turn left and walk for 1 km. Where the road ends we continue on the path to the left uphill for 5 minutes. There we come to a dirt road. We continue to the right. From this point on the Ferek river can only be seen occasionally from above, until we come to the deserted village of Domuzbelen. We walk along the river with the fields to our right and Pine forest to the left. Olive groves on both sides of the road indicate a junction to a short cut to Şirinköy and Akçapınar without touching Domuzbelen. However staying on the path and turning left on the Ferek river we start climbing towards Domuzbelen Village. Along this way another valley joins us and eventually we reach Domuzbelen. At the entrance of the village, downhill to the right, we can find water except from May to October. The village has been deserted due to its agricultural land restrictions and the limitations to animal husbandry brought by forestry laws. The inhabitants left to settle in Şirinköy and Akçapınar. The village is 190m above sea level and during our walk we reach an altitude of 220m at its highest point.

Here, the road to the right goes to Çıtlık. We continue walking on the left road. From here on we see into fields below on the right and hills in front of us. Our path brings us first to the Şirinköy junction, from here we pass the first houses of Şirinköy on to the Şirinköy-Akçapınar mainroad. In 10 minutes we reach civilization. Turning right after the houses on our right, we can pass over a bridge. A walk along the Kanlı River on our left will bring us faster to Akçapınar Village.

From here we can either walk back to Akyaka or go on to the main road and take a bus in the direction of Muğla, get off at the Akyaka junction and have a pleasant 20 minute walk downhill to the Atatürk Square.



## *Haşimbahçesi*



### **Akyaka-Haşimbahçesi-Gökova-Akyaka**

This approximately 20 km tour is especially well suited for cycling. You can get impressions of the archaeology and local life of the area.

From the Atatürk Square we go uphill for 20m and turn right at the roundabout. This road takes us to the Kadın River. Passing the river restaurants and commencing slightly downhill for about 600m, we come to two well preserved rock tombs of the Karian culture. Left of the road at the tombs is a good place for a short rest.

We proceed through the tunnel and after about 300m we turn right over the bridge and commence on the “Eucalypt Road” (the former Marmaris road). We cross the Muğla-Antalya-Marmaris mainroad and continue on the “Eucalypt Road” on the other side. We have now fields on the left and at the end of the road we arrive at Akçapınar.

A former Governor of Muğla initiated planting these trees in 1938. The people of Akçapınar planted 2 trees per family. To protect the trees a guard was appointed, because at that time camel caravans were still passing on the road and the animals would have damaged the saplings.

Akçapınar is an ideal place for a rest. There are many places at the square where you can get a snack. The village is also well known for its many stork nests (See “Stork Walk”).

After the rest we cross the bridge over the Kanlı River and turn left into a narrow street. This part of Akçapınar gives a good sample of local village life.

After about 1500m we come to a junction. We take the road on the left. The houses here are the first houses of Şirinköy. After another 200m we arrive at another junction, where again we take the left road. We stay on the asphalt road for 2km until we see the second mosque. This is the Haşimbahçesi quarter.

Right opposite the mosque on the other side of the road is a graveyard, columns and a lot of carved stones, leftovers of an old church or monastery. East of the graveyard, below an irrigation pipe and washed out by the water are the remnants of some floor mosaics, believed to have belonged to a church. They are well worth to look at.

Our walk continues in the same direction towards the Muğla-Antalya mainroad which we reach 1000m further on. Turning left we get to the entry of Ataköy Village about 750m further. Here we turn right and reach soon the village square. We can have a short tea break in one of the teahouses on the square where we also find some shops.

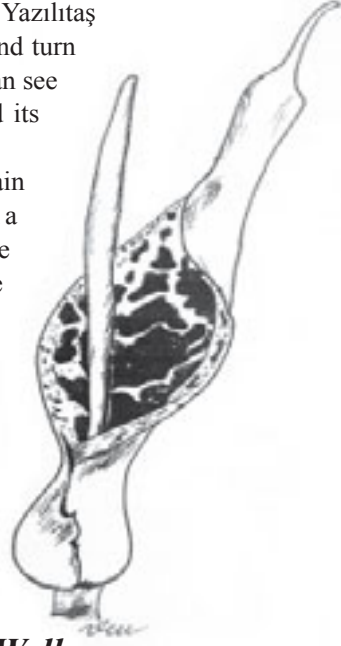
After the break we continue east. We leave the village and start going uphill. Soon we see a graveyard on the left. This is the Kırıkköy quarter. The ruin in the middle of the cemetery belongs to the oldest mosque of the Gökova region. Entering the mosque, you see the steps to the elevated place where the Imam stood during prayers and from where he addressed the congregation.

After about 1km we arrive in the Yazılıtaş quarter of Gökova. We go downhill and turn right at the junction. In Gökova you can see rock tombs of the Karian culture and its acropolis (See “Idyma Acropolis”).

Within 5 min we arrive at the main square with small shops, teahouses and a simple restaurant. We cross the bridge and after 500m from the last houses we arrive again at the tunnel.

The road between tunnel and Atatürk Square has already been well described on the beginning of the tour.

For the historical remains see: “İnişdibi Walk”



### ***Tırnaklı Walk***



#### **Tırnaklı-Kuyucak Road-Akyaka**

From the Atatürk Square we walk west as far as the sports ground. Turning right after the sports ground we walk uphill along the edge of the forest. Here above the last old house in Zeytin Street we continue uphill to the right. Almost the entire lower end of the Tırnaklı path is paved with stones, so it is easy to keep on the right track.

After approximately 5 minutes walk we come to a junction and take the road to the right.

On the left there are a few old cottages in an olive grove. Passing the cottages we continue again to the right. A short distance further the path becomes narrower and makes a sharp turn to the right. Our walk commences through Pine forest accompanied by beautiful sea scenery. From here the road curves in east-west direction, always heading uphill. After about two hours walking we have finished the first part of our trek. We have now reached the broad dirt road to Kuyucak. Approximately 5km further lies the village of Kuyucak.

Here we turn left and go downhill. During the descent we are facing the sea and we might get an excellent view of the Dağça Peninsula. After about 3 km, we reach the first houses of the Obrukalan quarter. The only chance to get water on this walk is from the two fountains here following each other in a few 100m distance. Another 3 km on we reach the asphalt road to the old dock.

At the mosque in İskele we turn left and get back to the Atatürk Square after another 2 km walk.

## *Papazlık Valley*



4-5

### **Akyaka-Kuyucak Road-Akyaka**

A 5 minute walk uphill from the mosque opposite the Atatürk square, takes us to the last houses. From here we go north, the creek bed to our right. To our left is a slope with Pine trees and to the right the beginning of an Olive grove. A square shaped water collector in the Olive grove is a good landmark. This spring is one of Akyaka's oldest fresh water sources and known as Papazlık Water. Being still in use hoses and pipes come out of it everywhere. The iron pipe going uphill from here shows us our way.

The path along the iron pipe takes us up on the left side of the valley and in about 30 minutes we come to an Olive grove surrounded by a stone wall. This nice place deserves a rest to enjoy its beautiful view. Afterwards we follow the path again.

The water pipe is always somewhere close to us and guides us. A walk of about 40 minutes among Olive groves, Pine and Sandal trees takes us to cave like rock facade on our left facing east. In front of the bare rock we can see some wall remains. This building and the remnants of its apsis are believed to be of the late Byzantine period.

Our walk now commences into the valley. The path is lost here, but we continue and come to a ruin of an old building situated on a huge rock.

Since the water pipe is anchored in the steep rocks from now on, we can not follow it anymore. We cross to the other side of the valley and climb up west. After a short ascent we find the pipe again. We follow the pipe and come to a second concrete water collector. This is the actual beginning of our pipe; from here it continues for a short distance and then disappears completely out of view into the rocks. The red earth slide and the open place we are standing on now, can even be seen from Akyaka.

At the water reservoir we go west. After a short distance we find the path again. We follow it for 25 minutes, reach first a larger road and finally fields. 10 minutes further we are on the Kuyucak road.

It is possible to return either the same way or to turn left on the Kuyucak road. A cistern to the left in the woods 500m further on is worth a rest. After another 500m we reach the Tırnaklı path another possibility to return (See "Tırnaklı Walk"). Following the bends on the map, it is not difficult to find the beginning of th path. If we want a more comfortable but longer way back, we can return to Akyaka on the same path via Obrukalan and Iskele.

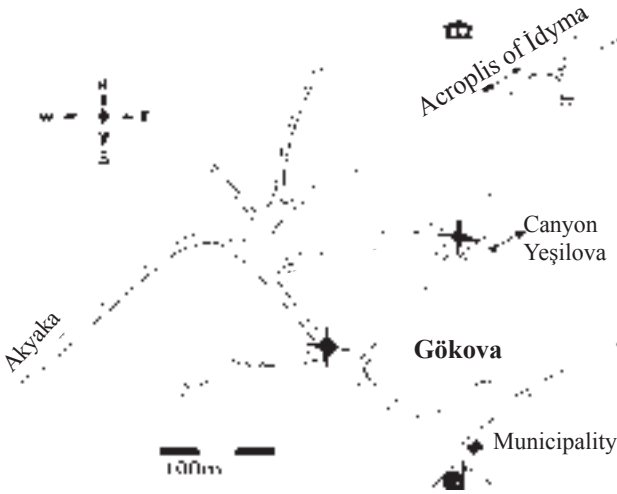


## *İdyia Acropolis*



### **Akyaka-İdyia Acropolis-Gökova**

For this trek we have to start from the village of Gökova, in 5 km distance from Akyaka. We reach Gökova either on foot or with public transport. 300m after the tunnel the road turns sharp right towards the Marmaris crossroads, but we go straight onwards to Gökova following the dry riverbed (which carries water in winter) on the right and Olive groves on the left.



After the road turns sharp right in Gökova three roads fork out on the left. Take the right one, approximately 200m further on a road to the right leads down to a house. From here we can see the lowest rock tomb. It is possible but quite difficult to reach some of the other tombs, because the few paths leading are fragmented. But if you really want to try, the paths are not too difficult to find.

To get to the acropolis, you need to find the footpath. East of the tombs we turn left towards the mountain slope. Walking through Olive groves from time to time and climbing over the ridge in front, we come to a dirt road after about 15 minutes. There is a ruin on the other side of the road. If we continue uphill the slopes are steep. We turn left into the Olive grove and start climbing. Immediately to the right we now see the remains of the outer wall of the acropolis. From here a short climb takes us to the acropolis on top of Küçüksakar Hill, dated 4<sup>th</sup> century B.C.. The view is magnificent. The remains of the acropolis can easily be seen. They consist of a cistern, covered with plants, in the centre and walls made of large, square stones of the Hellenic period.

Going back downhill from Küçüksakar Hill, take the dirt road. This road takes us back to the dry river bed. Where the road joins the river, we see the cistern on the right. From here we cross the river bed and come back to Gökova. We return to Akyaka by the same route we came.

## *Antique Road*



### **Akyaka-Ula-Yeşilova-Akyaka**

This historic road starts right below the graveyard of the Demirtaş quarter in Ula, 615m above sea level and ends in a farm yard in nowadays Yeşilova Village. The best way to get to the starting point is to drive to the Demirtaş graveyard. If you want to take the bus from Akyaka, get off at the T-junction to Kale after Kızılağaç and turn into the road from here. After a walk of approximately 2 hours you will see 6-7 houses on the slope to the right. The road here looks like a junction, because one road goes to the left. Turn right and walk for 500m. The graveyard is on top of the hill.

After getting water from the fountain, go left around the graveyard, over the slope and enjoy the beautiful scenery of mountains and valleys. The antique road can not be made out clearly, but a frequently used path can be easily seen. A 20 minute walk downhill to the left and the path takes us to the first cistern. The history of the cistern is unknown, but it contains water throughout the year. Villagers and shepherds still use the cistern water, so we should be careful not to pollute it. The shade of the tree next to the cistern is a good place for a rest. We can see a well preserved part of the antique road just below the cistern.

For approximately 2/3 of the way to the second cistern, the ancient road can only be seen in small sections. Going downhill the path divides into two. The road to the left goes to a cottage on the hill, easily seen and takes us to the upper part of the valley into which we are descending. From there we take the road to the right and turn right again from the ridge in front of us. Looking down from here we see the beginning of a small valley in front of steep rocks and the second cistern. This part takes 20 minutes.

As we go down, we notice on our left, 50m before reaching the cistern, a sheep pen and a small hut in a tiny valley inhabited by shepherds. In front of the cistern is another sheep pen with a Mulberry tree and a well next to it from which we can take water. This is also a good place for a rest. From here we turn right into a small valley. After the Olive trees in the dry riverbed we go across to the ridge. Finding the path in the undergrowth and following it for about 100m, we shall see remnants of the antique road again. After this easy climb we come to the last part of the trek. Here the antique road is well preserved and the big farmhouse (which can not be seen from above) at the bottom of the valley can be easily seen. Going down to the valley takes 30-40 minutes. The spot we reach in the valley is known as Mersin Pınarı. Here we find another cistern and a historical fountain but there is no water flowing anymore.

This valley and farm is private property and we can get fresh fruit here. If you started out with a private vehicle you can tell the driver to pick you up from the farm. To get there you have to go to Yeşilova Village and turn left at the fountain next to the big Plane tree in the village square. This road takes you to the farm after 300m. You can see another cistern right opposite this fountain.

## Canyon Trek



### Akyaka-Çaydere-Kızılağaç-Akyaka

To get to the starting point for this trek, 8 km away from Akyaka, it is advisable to drive from Akyaka. You drive over the bridge at the entrance of Gökova Town and turn left. Drive along the dry riverbed on the asphalt road to Yeşilova and after approximately 3 km cross another bridge. Continue on the road until you see houses on your right with stables in front of them. Opposite the houses on your left is a path leading into the forest. Walk along this path for about 5 minutes and coming to a junction, turn right into the dry riverbed. After about another 10 minutes walking, you reach the entrance of the canyon.

The canyon is about 5 km long and ends in Kızılağaç Village. At some places the canyon narrows down to a few metres. The entire sole of the canyon is strewn with fallen boulders. The walls are generally unstable so wearing a hard hat might be good advice.

After the first km on the right another river comes down from Ula. The water cascades down from approximately 50 m, but is not visible from inside the canyon.

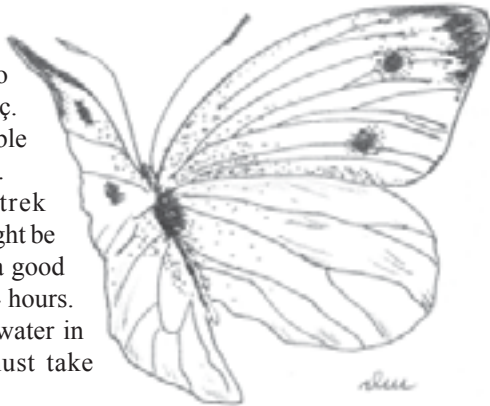
Another 30 minutes walk from here takes us to the most difficult point of the canyon and to one of its narrowest points. The water falls down from here about 3 m. It is much easier to pass when it is dry. Especially in the winter, even if there is no water, the pool underneath can be 1.5 m deep and makes ascending difficult. Climbing up requires professional help.

Having passed this point we have another 3.5 km in front of us. But from here it is not really difficult to reach the end of the valley after a good climb. At the end of the canyon you can see the waterfall of Kızılağaç, which cascades down a height of 40 m.

The ascend on the left is steep and the underground consists of loose gravel. Because of the loose ground the walk is difficult and one has to take great care. After reaching the top of the canyon we turn right to reach Kızılağaç Village. From here it is possible to return by public transport to Akyaka.

It is also possible to start this walk in Kızılağaç. In both cases it is advisable to have a guide with you.

It is a difficult trek especially after rain it might be flooded. If you walk at a good pace it takes you about 4 hours. It is impossible to find water in the summer, so you must take plenty with you.





# NOTES