

ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES



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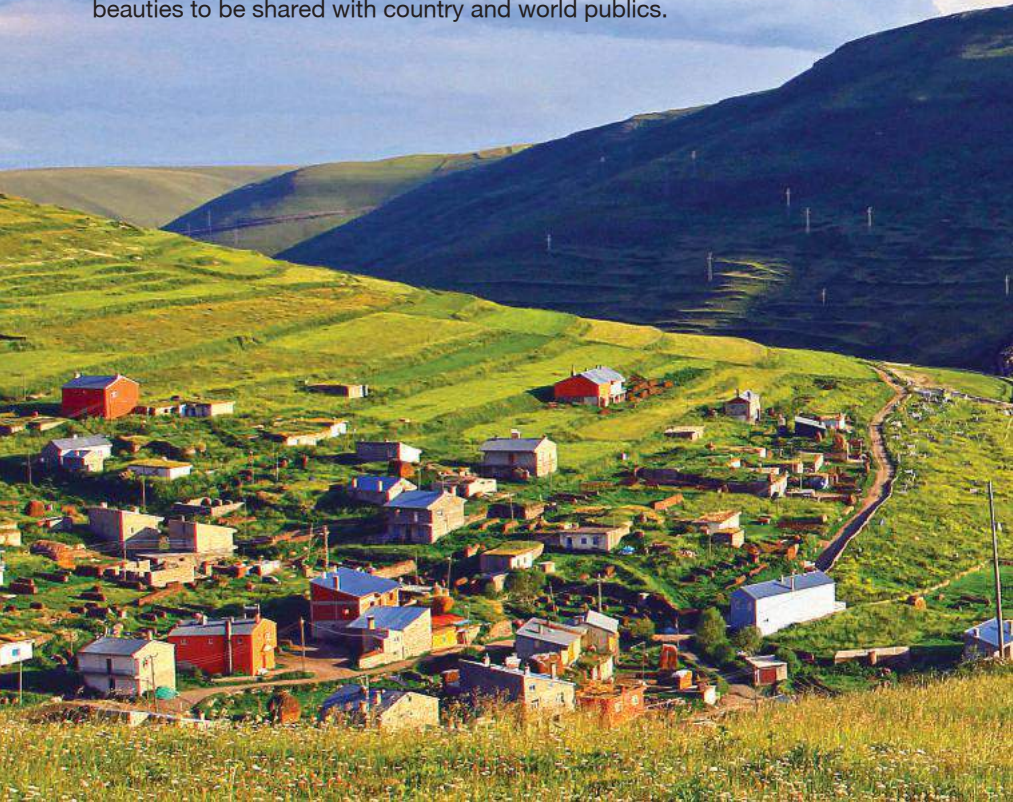
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PRESENTATION

The earth is undergoing perhaps one of its fastest and most dazzling eras with regard to economical and social changes. Rapid advances in science and technology made the countries more connected and allowed the emerging information to rapidly spread and be utilized. One of the most efficient methods developed recently for innovative and sustainable development is the conception of regional development.

Within the frame of this new approach, today “Regional Development Agencies” operate in several countries. The objective of these organizations is to invigorate the region’s economy through the policies developed taking into account the potentials, advantages, problems, opportunities of regions as well as the relevant threats in order to enhance the local competitiveness and contribute to the alleviation of developmental inequalities amongst regions.

Operating in TRA2 Level II Region which covers Ağrı, Ardahan, Iğdır and Kars, our Agency aims to locate the resources and opportunities, thus enhance the socio-cultural and economic welfare of the people in accordance with regional development objectives, as well as allowing region’s beauties to be shared with country and world publics.



It is targeted to make use of eco-tourism potential as including the branches such as historical city tours, camping, mountain climbing, trekking and mountain biking by observing the exploitation-protection balance of historical and social structure bearing the traces of ancient cultures as well as geographic beauties and also to present it to today's people who are in search of self-recognition.. In this context, the book titled "Ardahan Trekking Routes" constitutes the third leg of the mission that started with Sarkamış Trekking Routes and continues with Kars Expedition Guide. Additionally, there will be works for Ağrı and Iğdır provinces.

In this context, this guide book is prepared for use by people with the intent to utilize historical, cultural and natural beauties in our region without destroying the natural life, and I would like to express my gratitude to Mr Ersin DEMİREL for his devoted efforts, to our agency's head of Research, Strategy Development and Planning Unit Dr. Ugur Çalışkan for his opinions, efforts and contributions, and to our agency's expert İsa Süren.

Dr. Hüseyin TUTAR
General Secretary of Serhat Development Agency



Ramazan Bastion and City Center




ABOUT ARDAHAN

The realm of the highlands, Ardahan, has a distinct geography that offers the glories of the past and treasures of the nature together. It is at the same time an unexplored tourism center with its steep mountains, uplands covered with endemic flowers, glacial lakes on the foothills of majestic peaks, yellow pine forests, castles and towers, almost extinct churches, mysterious border towns, and a cultural abundance that reflects the mosaic of its diversity.

Ardahan, which used to be a district of Kars and gained the provincial status in recent years, land borders with Georgia and Armenia in the north and northeast, has provincial boundaries with Kars and Erzurum in the south and southeast, and with Artvin in the west. The city, which maintained its importance in the history due to its location on the passageway of old trade roads, is surrounded by high mountains and plateaus. Lying on a basin surrounded by Allahuekber and Yalnızçam mountain chains, the highlands of the city is colored by alpine meadows. Most significant ridges of the city can be listed as Kısır (3197 m.), Arsiyan (Göze) (3167 m.), Allahuekber Mountains-Kabak Hill (3055 m.), Keldağı (3033 m.), Akbaba (3026 m.), Cin (2957 m.), Ilgar (2918 m.), Ahaşen (2812 m.), Uğurlu (2806 m.) and Yalnızçam (2715 m.) mountains. The peaks, which are covered with snow for most of the year, embellish the city's silhouette.

On the foothills of these high mountains, there are the uplands that huddle all kinds of colors within the nature into one place and emerge as orchards. Almost all of the villages in Ardahan have upland, and their dwellers migrate to these highlands in company with their herds as of June. Especially the foothills of Yalnızçam, Kısır, Uğurlu, Arsiyan and Keldağı are covered with uplands, that are swarmed by tents or houses with roofs made of bushes, which are peculiar to this locale. Uplands such as Yalnızçam, Bülbülan and Okçuoğlu are also prominent with regard to tourism. The most prominent valley among the mountains that reach to 3000 meters is the corridor that the bed of Kura River passes through. The valley that deepens in some regions and extends into the straits surrounded by high walls has an enchanting view with its savage beauty.

Certainly one of the most prominent rivers of Ardahan is Kura River. Posof, Karaçay, Değirmendere, Hanak, Kayınlıkdere, Türkmeneresi and Ölçek can be listed as the other local rivers with miscellaneous dimensions. Kura River that contributes to the formation of the historical memory of the city and vitalizes its niches for hundreds of years passes throughout the province in southwest-northeast direction.



Kura River, which results from merging in the district of Göle waters of Kayınlıkdere, Türkmenderesi, Gür (Kür) Stream that rises from the snow and thermal spring reserves of Allahuekber Mountains, , completes its journey within Ardahan boundaries after 118 kilometers. The river flowing into Türkeşen Strait through Uğurlu and Kılıç Mountains virtually passes through a verdant tunnel. Afterwards it extends into the depths of Ardahan and carries on being the mainstay and food source of dwellers. After embodying Karaçay that comes from Çıldır Lake, it leaves our country through Miyalashor Strait in Kurtkale town. Kura, with a total length of 1364 meters, merges with Aras River in Azerbaijan lands and then flows into the Caspian Sea.

Çıldır Lake, which is the tenth biggest river in East Anatolia region and second biggest river in the country in terms of acreage, and Aktaş river on Georgia border, are among the significant lakes of the province. Landslide and glacial lakes also take place within Posof district. Çıldır, which is also referred to as “Crying Lake” by native population, has 18 kilometers length and 30 meters depth. This enormous water body with 18.764 hectares of acreage lies on an average altitude of 2100 meters. The lake, which scatters blue-green shimmers, wraps itself in a distinct view with its frozen surface in winter months.



16 fish species live in the lake, feeding with the thermal spring waters flowing from its surroundings. Sports such as horse-sleigh and ice skating are available in winter months in Çıldır, as well as swimming and line fishing in summer months. The second biggest lake of the province, right in the north of Çıldır Lake, is Aktaş Lake, which defines our border with Georgia. The floating islands on the lake with 22 km² acreage and carbonated water draw attention with their shifting positions.

We can list the little lakes within Posof district in two categories. Arile (Balık) Lake in Süngülü Village, Sagre's Lake between Algöl and Çambel (the one closer to Alköy is known as Sülüklügöl, and the one closer to Posof Stream is known as Kamışlık Lake), Kallıgöl Lake between Eminbey and Gümüskavak villages, Ayazgöl also in Eminbey Village on Türkgözü road, Nebahdiev Lake between Gümüskavak and İncidere villages, Kelorman Lake between Gümüskavak-Kayınlı and Armutveren Lake in Armutveren Village, are located in the east and northeast of the district. The lakes on the uplands in the west of Posof are; Öküz and Çürük lakes in Günlüce Village, Kızıl (Balık) Lake between Yolağzı-Günbatan villages, Karagöl (Vakla) in Alabalık Village and Ayı Lake on Cin Mountain. Surroundings of these blue lakes, which can be regarded as the amulets of Ardahan, serve as recreation and camping areas.

On the vast basins among the mountain chains are Ardahan, Çıldır, Posof and Göle plains. Since the main source of living for the province is stockfeeding, generally crops and feeds are planted on these vast lands. The general plant cover of Ardahan consists of pasturelands, meadows and forestlands. Birch, yellow pine, aspen, oak and wilding nut trees are among the most prevalent trees in the forests that reach to an acreage of 30 thousand hectares. Due to its geography which consists of highlands and alpine meadows, it has a very diverse flora. Around 1500 plant species, 85 of which are endemic, is an indicator of this diversity.

Continental climate prevails in Ardahan, which is located in East Anatolia region. The summers are hot and the winters are severely harsh. Black sea climate is prevalent in the region that defines the Artvin boundary of the province. Especially Posof's peculiar climate is remarkable. The region is convenient for winter sports due to long snowing periods. Cemal Turan picnic area ski facility nearby the city center, partly meets the region's demands with Yalnızçam-Uğurludağ ski facilities, which are partly completed with ongoing project works.

Main source of living for the province is stockbreeding. Both climate conditions and pasturelands and rich meadows as a consequence of geographic conditions are the main factors that contribute to the development of stockbreeding. Dairy products which are obtained from stocks bred by modern methods in recent years, as well as cheese making, beekeeping and honey production are among the leading economic activities of the province. Caring to support traditional values regarding handicrafts, Ardahan is known for Damal doll, carpet-rug weavings, and ecological toys. The Damal doll, which is entitled to international rewards and became a symbol of our country, is the ornament of souvenir stores' shelves.



Ardahan Castle



lekder



HISTORY

Ardahan region, which was used as the migration road by the tribes, has a historical and cultural background. Especially the castles and towers laying on or nearby deep, long and successive valleys, are among the most significant details that convey the traces of the past to present day. These structures, which were built to defend the old migration and trade roads, also reflect the role of Ardahan in history. The region which was occupied by several tribes and nations, still bear the traces of Hurrians, Urartians, Cimmericians, Scythians, Persians, Sassanians, Bagradians, Byzantians, Seljukians, Karakoyunlu, Aqqoyunlu, Mongolians, Georgians, Ottomans, Russians and Turks.

Akçakale island city located near Çıldır Lake ranks first in the list of archeological sites in Ardahan. Ruins belonging to the prehistoric period at a 27 kilometers distance to Çıldır city center consist of castles, chapel, tower and monogramous stones. You may see rock settlements at the edge of stream beds and deep valleys in Ardahan wide. Harosman caves located at 6 kilometers distance to Ortakent (Büyük Nakala) town-at 10 kilometers distance to Hanak district-poses the best example of it. Interconnected caves worked on a large rock were occupied as houses and chapel once upon a time. Due to construction of Sevimli Dam Kura River will turn into a lake within this region, which poses a submerge threat against the historical site. Other rock and cave settlements within the city borders include Övündü Caves 2 kilometers to Kurtkale, Kurtkale caves and Bağdeşen Konsula Taşı Caves.

As a city of castles and towers, Ardahan is surrounded by magnificent stone buildings. With most of them concentrated in Kura River Valley, these magnificent buildings are situated on cliffed hills. Constructed during Yavuz Sultan Selim period, **Ardahan Castle** is situated by Kura River. With its walls and polygonal towers, it is one of the buildings that have survived to our day. 9 kilometers to the city center, **Kazan Castle** is behind the new university complex by Kura River. Only one tower from the castle survived to our day.

Şeytan Castle in Yıldırımtepe Village 1 kilometer to Çıldır county becomes prominent as one of the most magnificent buildings of the city. This enormous building erected over Karaçay Valley bears architectural characteristics of Urartu period. 31 kilometers to Çıldır county center, **Kurtkale** is constructed by Kura River as well. Reached through a 1.5-hour walk from Çıldır-Kurtkale Village highway, the castle is situated on a peninsula facing the river. Another castle erected on the old trade and migration route between Ardahan and Artvin is Kinzi Castle. With its close location to Bağdeşen (Kinzodamal) Village and dominant position, the castle was constructed to ensure security of Yalnızçam-Bülbülan-Ardanuç road used for centuries.



Göle Kalecik Castle

Located in Altaş (Ur) Village, which is 18 kilometers away from Ardahan city center, the castle with the same name was constructed on a hill out of the settlement. There is a tower in the middle of the round-shaped walls of the castle erected at the point, where Kura River enters into a narrow valley. Situated in Çayağzı Village, which is at 3 kilometers distance to **Altaş Castle**, **Kırnav Castle** was constructed by Hanak Stream to protect the old trade route. Constructed around Hanak as well, **Avcılar Castle** is by Hanak Stream, 2 kilometers north of Kışlahanak Village. Another castle in Kura River Valley şs **Sevimli (Vel) Castle** in Sevimli Village 20 kilometers to Hanak county. Situated between Yeniköy in Göle county and Budaklı Village, **Kalecik Castle** was constructed on a green hill, where Kura River unites with the forest.

Posof county is one of the regions rich of castles. **Mere**, 5 kilometers to the county center on Ardahan-Posof road, was constructed on a dominant location facing Posof Stream Valley. Situated by Cak Suyu 2 kilometers to Yurtbekler Village, **Cak Castle** is erected on a cliffed hill. Only a single tower survived to our day from **Savaşır (Cancak) Castle**, situated in Cak Suyu Valley and bearing the same name as the village. The last castle in Posof is **Kol Castle** constructed in Posof Stream Valley in Kolköy.

In addition to aforementioned castles, the city also hosts such buildings as **Ölçek**, **Dedeşen**, **Çıldır Karakale**, **Hanak Karakale**, from which only a few ruins survived to our day. To strengthen the security and communication network among the castles, towers were constructed in various periods. Those that resisted time can be seen in central county Sarıyamaç



Village, Göle county Yeniköy and Posof county Söğütlükaya (Hunemiş) Village. Unfortunately only ruins of Tepeler, Yiğitkonağı, Çakıldere, Börk (Uğuz) and Uğurlutaş towers survived to our day.

The city's buildings of defense constructed during Ottoman time turned from castles into bastions in time. In particular Ramazan, Ahali, Kötemelik (Kül) and Senger bastions constructed to strengthen eastern frontier during Russian wars survived to our day. With its location facing the whole Ardahan Plain and city center, Ramazan Bastion must be visited due to its visuality.

Having hosted several tribes and ethnic groups, Ardahan region offers examples of civil architecture. Ruins of an old church can be seen in almost all villages. As one of the best examples of cultural mosaic, this geographic region embraces the whole population with its tolerance, while preserving its valuable resources. You may visit Övündü (Vaşlop), Sensop, Budaklı (Cicor), Kotanlı (Sikheref), Kurtkale and Börk churches as well as Mevlid Efendi, Arap (Yanık), Müderris İbrahim Efendi, Derviş Bey, Ölçek Village, Dedeşen Village, Posof mosques and Gölbelen (Urta), Kayabeyi (Yerli Çayıs) church mosques in the city. Moreover, Kasap Derviş's Building in Ardahan city center, Congress Building (Hamşioğlu Rasim Bey Mansion), Dursun Soylu House, Karakadioğlu House, Abdullah Öğüt House, Akkoş's Building and Kamil Ağa Masion and Celal Çevik House in Çıldır are among the noteworthy examples of civil architecture.



Çıldır - Kayabeyi Church-Mosque

ARDAHAN EXPLORATION ROUTE

It is a wekkly exploration route where you can visit almost all natural and historical places within the boundaries of province of Ardahan by car.



Kartalpinar - Kura River



ARDAHAN EXPLORATION ROUTE

1st day

Göle-Kura River - Budaklı Church - Kalecik Castle - Türkeşen Valley - Bağdeşen - Kinzi Castle Bülbülân flatland (67 km)

Our travel starting from Göle, the green district of Ardahan sets sail for historical and natural beauties guided by Kura River. In Bağdeşen Village, we leave Kura and climb the Bülbülân Flatland where old caravanserais are located. If it is not twilight of evening, you may take photos of Karagöl lake from a distance. We stay in Bülbilan Flatland in the evening.



2nd day

Bülbülan Flatland- Yalnızçam Ski Facilities - Sarıyamaç Tower- Ardahan Castle and City Center (98 km)

After storing plenty of oxygen in Yalnızçam Ski Facilities surrounded by pine forests on the second day, we stroll around Sarıyamaç Tower that was controlling Kura River once. We end the day with tour around Ardahan city center where a castle and samples of civil architecture may be observed.



ARDAHAN EXPLORATION ROUTE

3rd day

Ardahan - Putka Lake - Kazan Castle - Devil's (Seytan) Castle - Çıldır Lake - Akçakale - Çıldır (115 km)

Following the bird watching we made at Putka Lake in the morning, we visit Kazan Castle. Then, Devil's Castle, which certainly deserves the title of the most beautiful castle of Ardahan, waits for its guests. Our next stop is Akçakale Island with its impressive ruins and the Lake Çıldır. After having a fish feast at lakeside, we stay in Çıldır borough at night.



4th day

Çıldır - Aktaş Lake - Kurtkale - Övündü Cave Settlement and Church - Sensop church - Sevimli Castle - Börk Church- Ortakent Harosman Cave Settlement - Hanak - Damal - Posof (111 km)

On fourth day, history intensive tour waits for you. We will first watch the blueness of Aktaş Lake and then will start to a nice travel towards history with tour of castles and churches. After sightseeing at Kurtkale and Sevimli castles, Övündü cave settlement and Börk Church, we end this long and exhausting day at Posof.



5th day

Posof - Cak Castle - Savaşır Castle – Eminbey Kanlıgöl and Ayaz Lakes - Alköy Sagre's Lakes (Sülüklü and Kamışlık) - Arile Lake - Balık Lake – Kol Castle - Mere Castle (121 km)

The landslide lakes and defense castles protecting historical trade routes located at Posof district center will be travel points of today. First, we move towards eastern part of the district and visit Cak and Savaşır castles and lakes that are fascinating though small. After lunch, we go on an exciting excursion in Posof Brook Valley and travel through Mere and Kol castles and return to district center.



6th day

Posof -Atatürk's silhouette in Yukarı Gündeş village – Damal baby exhibition- Hanak Avcılar (Kışlahanak) Castle- Kırnav Castle - Atlas Castle - Ardahan (81 km),

If you are lucky, you can take photos of the "Atatürk's Silhouette" created by the shadow of the mount reflecting on the slopes of Mt. Karadağ especially on sunny days of summer in Yukarı Gündeş village. Then, you can stop by Damal district and purchase Damal babies that became a brand for your lovely ones. After walking around Kırnav, Atlas and Avcılar Castles on the route, we complete Ardahan exploration route.





Bülbülan Flatland – Karagöl



ABOUT ROUTE

In fact, Ardahan is one of the significant trekking regions of our country with its summits reaching up to three thousand meters, particular plant types, alpine grass, Kura River Valley, lakes and flatlands. Especially, Yalnızçam and Arsiyan mountains bordering Artvin city has a number of alternative trekking routes. During the activities, you will walk on paths covered with numerous plant types which you do not know or will get astonished due to beauty of. Self-confident and experienced trekkers may try Kısır, Ilgar, Uğurlu and Arsiyan summit climbing.

Ardahan Trekking Routes, which you may step on during periods other than harsh winter months, represents the second leg of Kars-Ağrı-Ardahan-Iğdır tourism project. The length of Ardahan walking routes with total 19 routes determined reaches to 197 kilometers. If you want, you can complete walking route of 51 kilometers at the end of a 5-day (4 nights accommodation or camping) activity by enjoying it and visiting natural and historical beauties on the surrounding.

Ardahan Walking Routes project was performed by taking similar walking routes, which became common recently and created based on international standards, as example. A meticulous selection was made amongst the best routes throughout the city. Kolköy Arsiyan Flatland, Gölebakan-Kısır Mountain-Lehimli Flatland, Seyitören Flatland-Ilgar Mountain-Çamyazı and Bülbülân Flatland-Karagöl- Geçitli Flatland routes, which contain summit climbing and reach to 3200 meters, were not marked to protect the environment and only GPS coordinates thereof were taken. All of the other routes were marked with red-white markings at distances of 50 meters in paths and 200 meters in earth roads. You can find GPS coordinates of the walking routes with signposts placed at starting and end points on the internet page of www.ardahantrekking.com. Besides the detailed maps attached to the book will contribute to your activity planning.

In addition to Ardahan Walking Routes project, biking, landscape highway, jeep-safari routes and cultural routes were created to increase tourism potential of the region. Total length of biking routes generally passing through villages, flatlands and forest roads reached to 540 meters. Providing opportunity to explore hidden corners of Ardahan for the ones seeking for an alternative holiday, jeep safari and scenic motoring routes reaches to totally 519 kilometers.

ESSENTIAL MEASURES AND WARNINGS FOR TREKKERS

- Ardahan Trekking Routes may be divided into two categories. Routes suitable for every trekker and the routes for the experienced nature lovers. Routes consisting of Ilgar, Kısır, Uğurlu and Arsiyan mountains contains small risks even in summer months given that weather conditions may change at any time due to altitude of the region. In this respect, the ones to walk on risky routes (routes no.8, 11, 12, 16 and 18) must review the conditions and be accompanied by a local guide.

- Winter season is long and harsh in Ardahan. Due to altitudes of mountains reaching to 3000 meters, the period between November and March is the coldest period of the region. You may walk on routes with ease during May-October.

- Follow route signboards and signs; never leave the route.

- During trekkings, make available a bin liner with you and make sure that you return all your garbage with you.

- You may see bear population on the forestry regions between Yalnızçam, Yeniköy Valley and Altaş-Dilekdere. We recommend you to be careful and make sounds or noise while walking. You may find detailed information on this issue at www.sarikamistrekking.com.

- Never do harm to historical texture while walking around archeological sites and displace anything. Please do keep in mind that all the remains we have constitute common heritage of mankind.

- Do not pick flowers, some of which are endemic, you see in Alpine meadow. Only content yourself with taking photos.

- Note that there is no cell phone coverage at some sections of Arsiyan hills, Kısır Mountain, Ilgar Mountain and Kura River Valley.

- For those who intend to walk on the route at the beginning of winter season or under harsh winter conditions, it is a must to have all necessary equipment in pack. The backpacks should especially include survival blankets, an extra pair of socks and full set of underwear as well as waterproof matches and spikes.

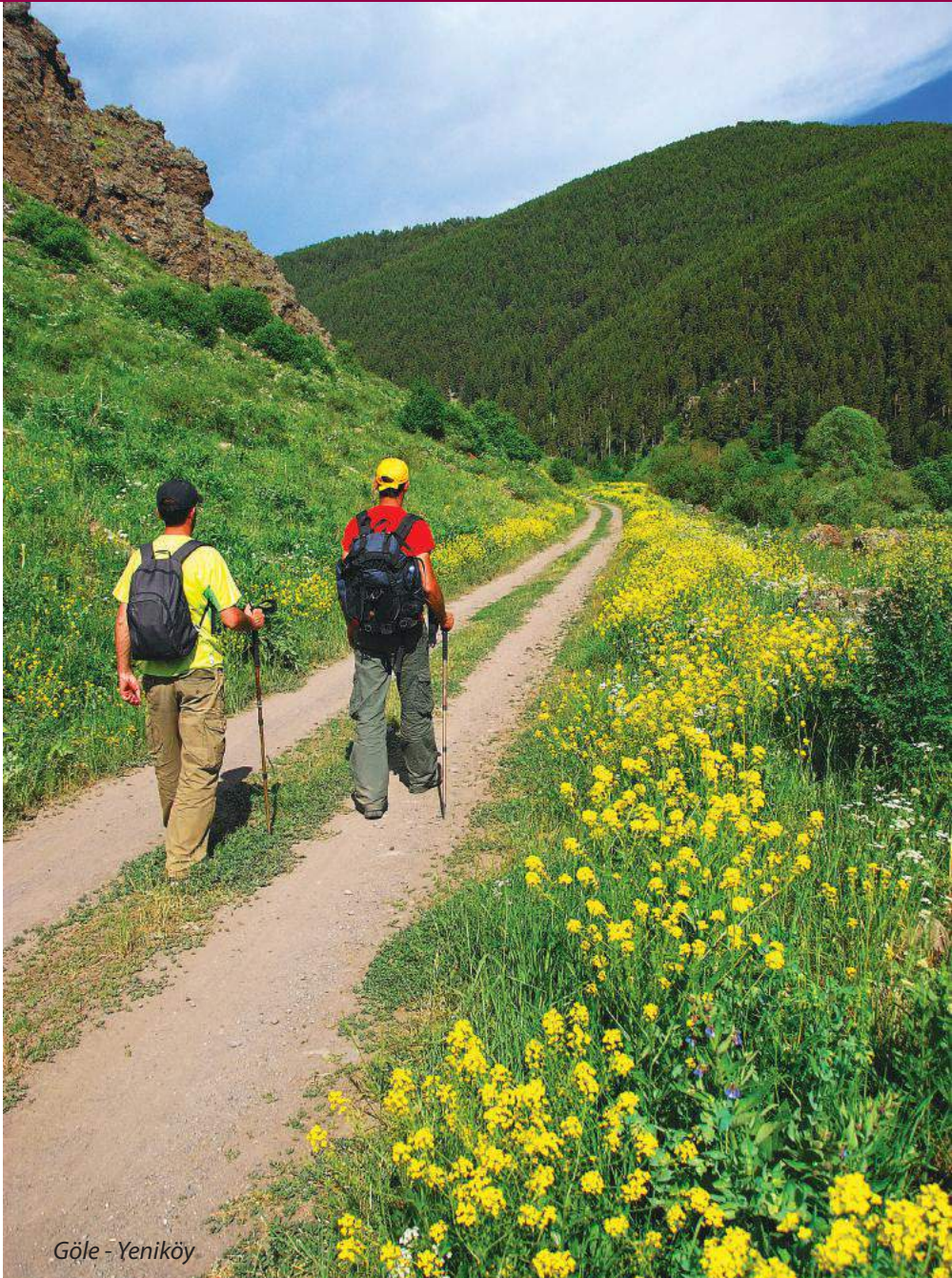
- Always hire the services of a travel guide who knows the territory well, in order to minimize all kinds of risks.



Departing from Sevimli Village located on the coast of Kura River Valley, our route starts from near mosque. First, we follow the tractor road running downwards to river bed. Shortly after, we will enter the path that goes to the castle located in Koroğlu Hill at left. Sevimli Castle rising at a location where river bed makes a steep U turn is an impressive site with the ramparts and building complexes.

After the journey around the castle, we return to tractor road and turn our steps towards the valley bed. It may cause problems to walk across the Kura river that flows with a high flow rate in spring. You must use the pedestrian bridge in these periods. The path rising across the water will bring a magnificent landscape behind you. Sevimli Castle built on the hill rising behind Kura River that forms a wide arch will come into your view.

The walking path will arrive in a flatland covered with farms and meadows. You may watch the castle rising behind you from this point once more again. Start following the tractor road lying through farms. Onwards, you will see houses of doğankaya village at the western side of Kura Valley. Arriving at another valley after about five hundred meters, the tractor road first will make a short landing and then re-climb and intersect with the highway that connects the residence to Ardahan at the front of water reservoir in entrance of Doğankaya village.



Göle - Yeniköy

326000

327000

328000

Paşayatağı Hill

Dilekdere

İtkayan Hill

Çarkıfelek

Çot Stream

İsabeyyurdu Hill

Teyyaredüşen Hill

Elikyatağı Hill

Göl Hill

ARDAHAN TREKKING

Doğank

Kayınlık Locu

Kazanni Hill



1/25.000

326000

327000

328000

4561000

4560000

4559000

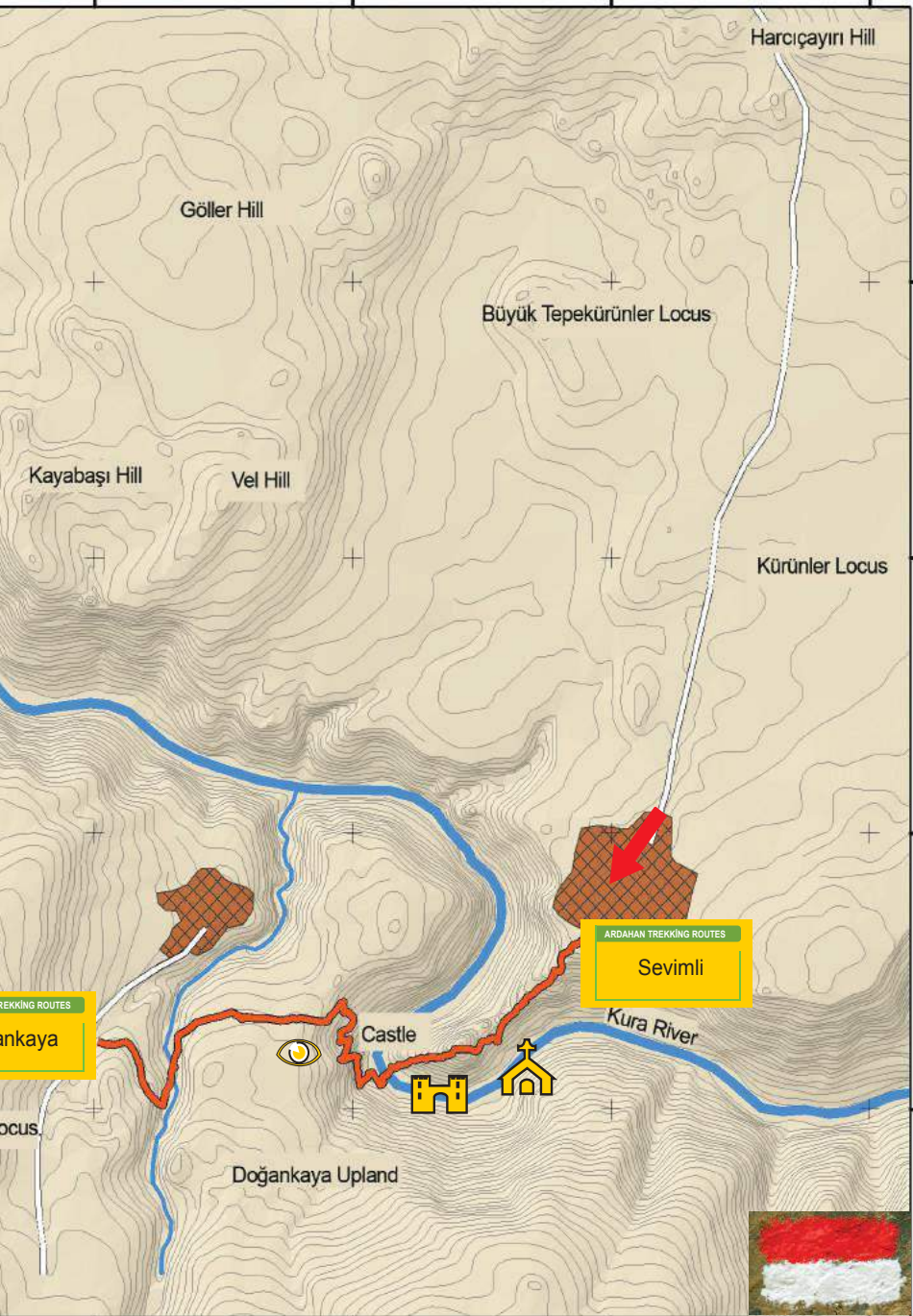
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This route visiting another castle on Kura River is a one-day walking activity suitable for everyone. We start the route in front of “Kalecik Castle” signboard located on the Bulaklı-Kalecik road. When we arrive in the castle built on Kule Hill to protect the former trade route over Kura River, we will encounter with a wonderful landscape; the Kura river flowing calmly in its bed below and a green forest consisting of yellow pine on the opposite slopes.

After walking around the castle, we return to the path and continue to walking. The valley, where a small stream from Kalecik settlement flows, takes us to the river. We will cross to the other side and follow an enjoyable forest path. Since winter months have levels of rain in the region, flow rate of Kura River may be high during Spring. You must be careful while crossing the river particularly in April-May.

Forest path following a straight line in the cool environment created by the trees and water is a very nice trekking route. The spot, where you see the first houses of Yeniköy settlement, is also an area, where valley basin widens. The trekking ends at the beginning of the bridge, in the middle of the settlement.



Kura River Valley

283000

284000

285000

286000

4541000

4540000

4539000

4538000

Mount Gazanfer

Simo Hill

Alabalık River

Düzçam Crest

ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES

Yeniköy

Siyahçadır Hill

Akgeleş Locus

Kumlugeç Hill

Kür S...

Kömüryan Hill



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283000

284000

285000

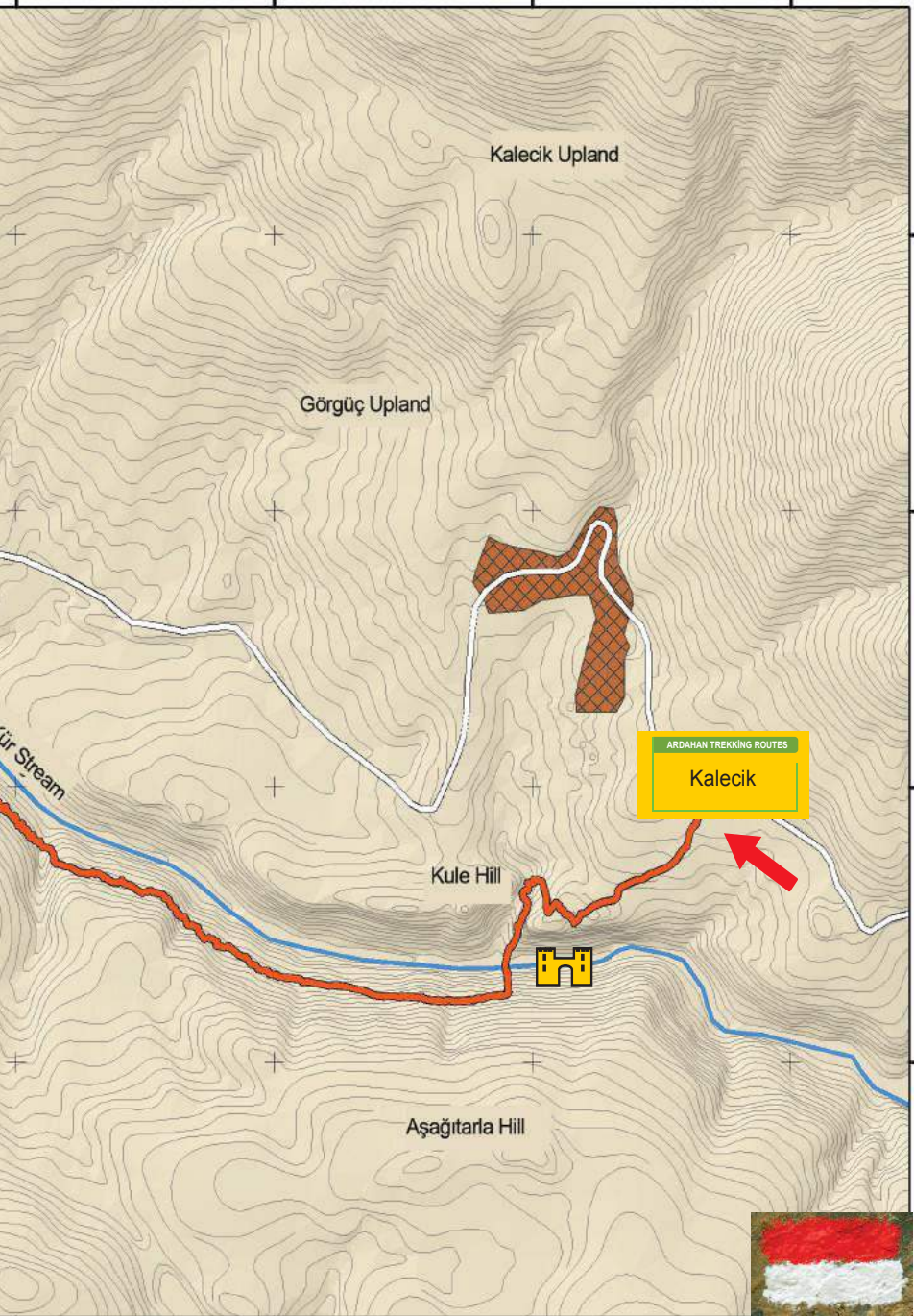
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Situated in strategic positions and constructed to defend the region during Ottoman time, bastions are notable military spaces that undertook the duty of castles in 20th century. As one of them, Ramazan Bastion is on our trekking route starting from Ardahan center. Starting by the signboard on the road to Kartalpinar Village, the activity continues with an earth road. The route draws a wide bow behind Kızılgüney hill erecting ahead of us. We leave the route at the second crossroad towards right, and enter into another road. The earth road we left continues towards the transmitters on the opposite side.

We pass the watering holes used for the animals' water needs and keep trekking. Soon, we will see the spot, where we started trekking and a view revealing Ardahan Plain. Gradually rising route offers a different Ardahan panorama to the passengers at each crossroad. When we reach the climax, Ramazan Bastion erects ahead of us with all its magnificence. You can take a beautiful Ardahan city center photograph from this spot, which is always windy and cool. On the way back, those who wish may use the same route and those in hurry may climb down a steep path and shorten the route for around 1 kilometer.



Ardahan Ramazan Bastion

305000

306000

307000

4559000

4558000

4557000

4556000

4555000

Kızılgüney Hill

Tekneçik Locus

Çadırcı Locus

Abupınar Locus

Paşalıkçıyırı Locus

ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES

Ardahan

Ardahan



1/25.000

305000

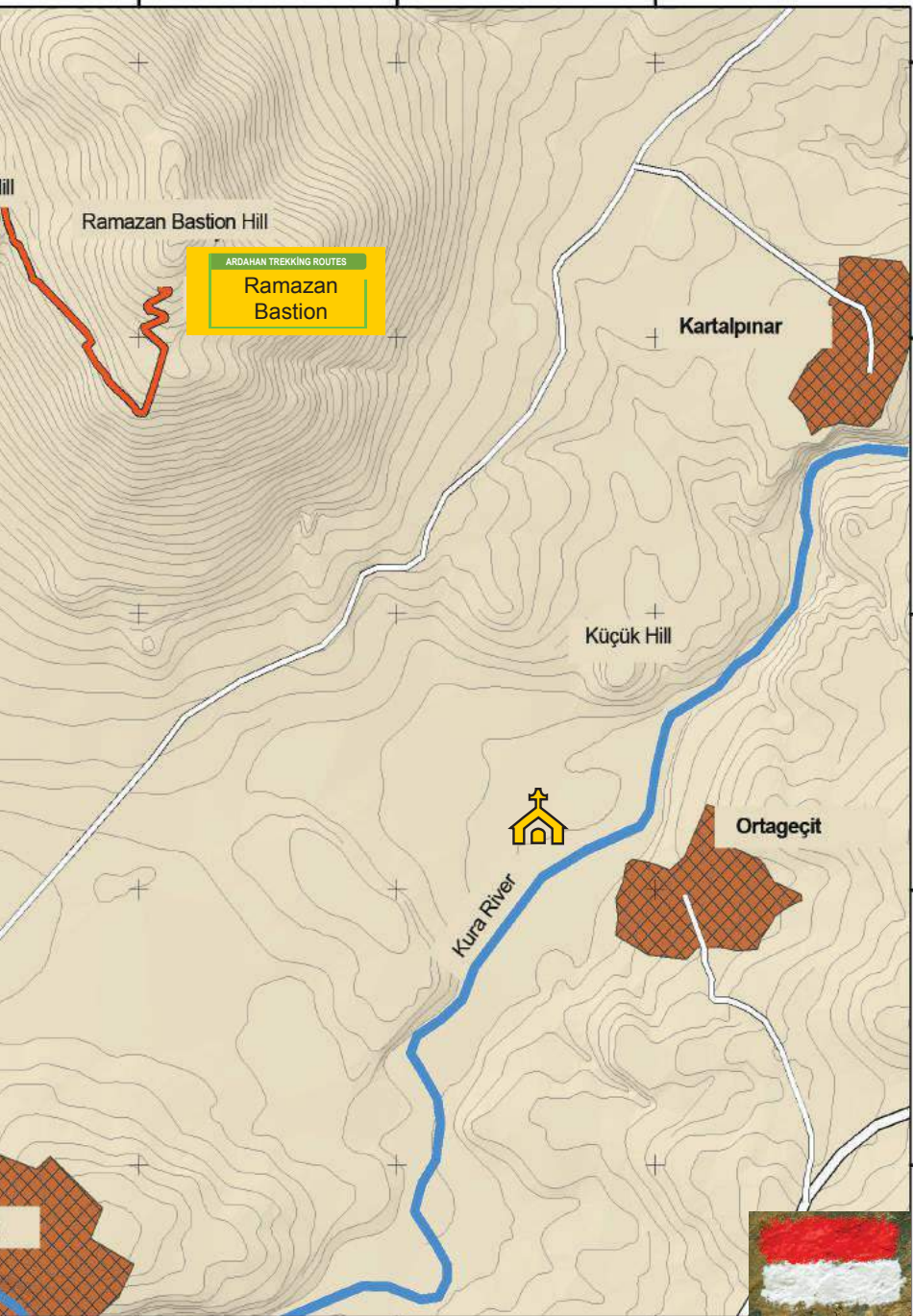
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Kura River flowing into Ardahan city center brings different visually to the settlement. Our route follows a straight line along Kura River and reaches Kartalpinar Village. Trekking starts from the signboard by the bridge. We pass Ardahan Castle and old cave settlements carved in the rocks on our left, and reach Kilise area close to Tabya Tepe. You may see ruins of an old church right at your leftside. After passing the farm buildings, you will trek along the river basin, only with the sounds of the nature. Located at the coast opposite, Ortageçit Village is one of the spots, where Kura River is passable. In this section, where valley widens, we continue trekking with the accompaniment of the sound of flowing water. Activity will end by the road going down from the village to the river.



Pedicularis comosa

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Kızılgüney Hill

Tekneçik Locus

Çadırcı Locus

Abupınar Locus

Paşalıkçayırı Locus

ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES

Ardahan

Ardahan



1/25.000

305000

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4558000

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4555000

Ramazan Bastion Hill

ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES

Kartalpinar

Küçük Hill

Ortageçit



Kura River

n

308000

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TREKKING ROUTES



Route 5

Putka Lake — Kazan
Castle — University
(6 km)

Difficulty Level: Easy

Maximum Altitude: 1994 m

Minimum Altitude: 1900 m

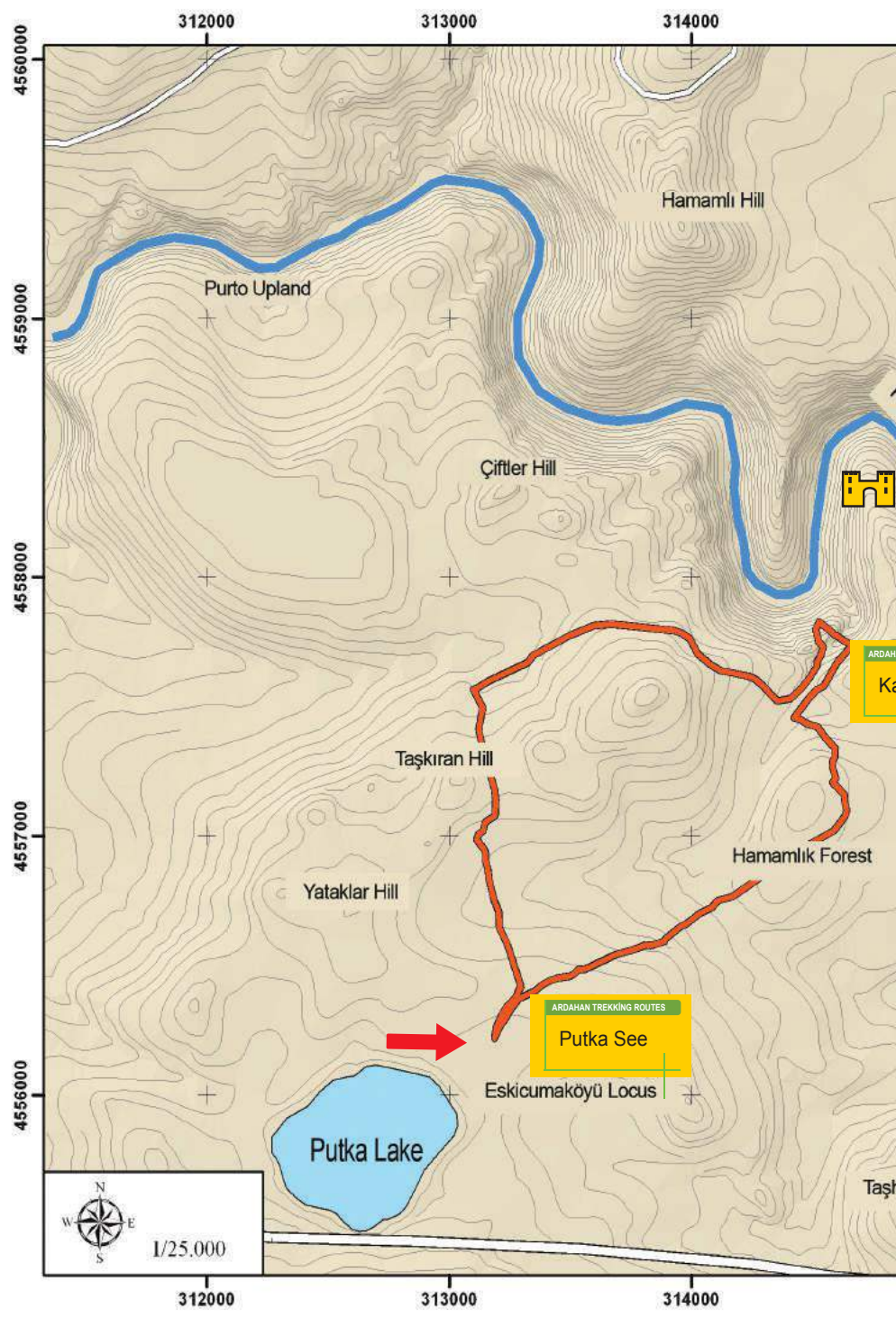
Kazan Kale is one of the important castles erected along Kura River Valley. Our route returns to the starting point through a different way after visiting the historical place. No matter which direction indicated by the signboard you follow, you will arrive at the same point.

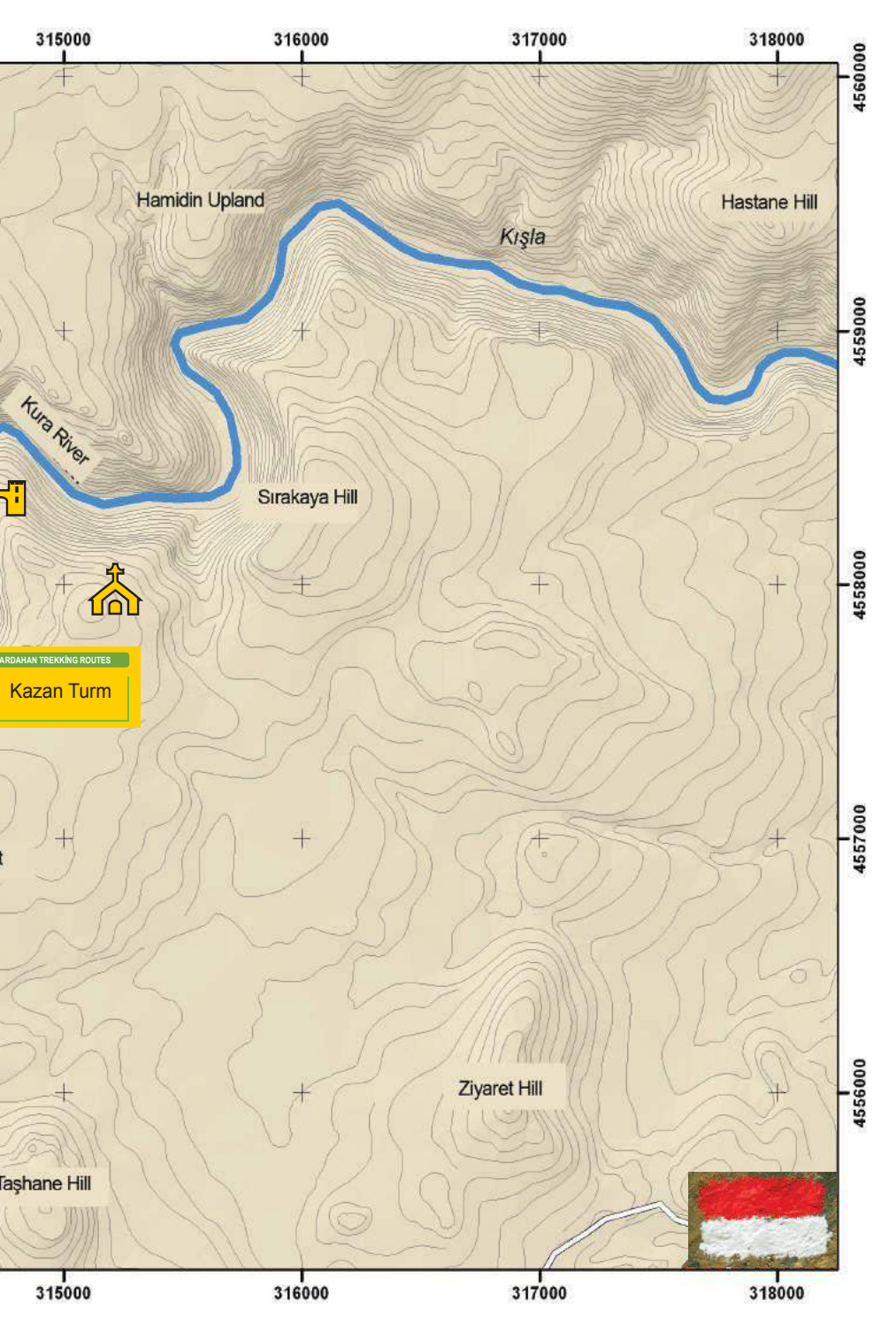
As one of the important watery areas of Ardahan, Putka looks more like a marshy area than a lake. We start trekking from the end of this watery area, which the birds gradually left due to the university building constructed nearby. Called Gölbaşı Lake once, this region is now under the threat of fading away. Tractor road on the left goes downwards after a short rising. When you reach the meadow between Taşkırın Hill and Piçlik Hill, you will see a crossroad. You have to turn right from this point. The wide flat area surrounding you ends surprisingly, and you reach a region with Kura Valley view. We keep on trekking with the river basin on our left and forest texture on our right. Soon on the left, you will see Kazan Castle with a surviving tower.

After visiting the castle facing the valley from the top and destroyed church right next to it, with the direction of the signs, we walk towards Hamamlı Forest located on our right. This earth road among the trees will take us to the beginning point through a different route.



Karacay Kura River Meeting





315000

316000

317000

318000

4560000

Hamidin Upland

Hastane Hill

Kışla

4559000

Kura River

Sırakaya Hill

4558000

ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES

Kazan Turm

4557000

Ziyaret Hill

4556000

Taşhane Hill



315000

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318000



Route 6

Yalnızçam Skiing Facilities
- Kura River (7 km)

Difficulty Level: Easy

Maximum Altitude: 2010 m

Minimum Altitude: 1865 m

Northern side of Uğurlu Mountain, one of the highest mountains of Ardahan, is adorned with yellow pine forests. How about a trekking activity to discover the natural beauties hidden by the green cover displaying a different face of the city?

We complete our preparations and begin trekking from Yalnızçam Skiing Facilities. We will follow an old forest route covered by grass and not used often. We trek with the highway to Ardanuç through Bülbülalan Highland and Yalnızçam Village on our right and concentrated woods texture on our left. At the fifth kilometer of this nice trip to the heart of nature in a deep silence, we reach the earth road connecting the central villages to the highlands. At this very point, first we turn left and then, take the first right.

After a while, we see an old settlement in Ekemet direction. Two church ruins in this place used as highland in the past will attract your attention. After visiting the ruins known as Yalnızçam Chapels, we keep on trekking. At a point where we approach Kura River, we take the marked path heading towards right, and reach the river. We cross to the other side, and when we arrive at the signboard on the forest road between Çatalköprü and Yeniköy, the activity ends. The ending point is also the beginning of another route of 14 kilometers heading towards Yeniköy.



Ardahan - Bağdeşen

286000

287000

288000

4550000

4549000

4548000

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4546000

Çatalköprü

Değirmenki

Erdenek Locus

Kura River

Kavgalı

Berezo

Samanyolu Locus

ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES
Kura River

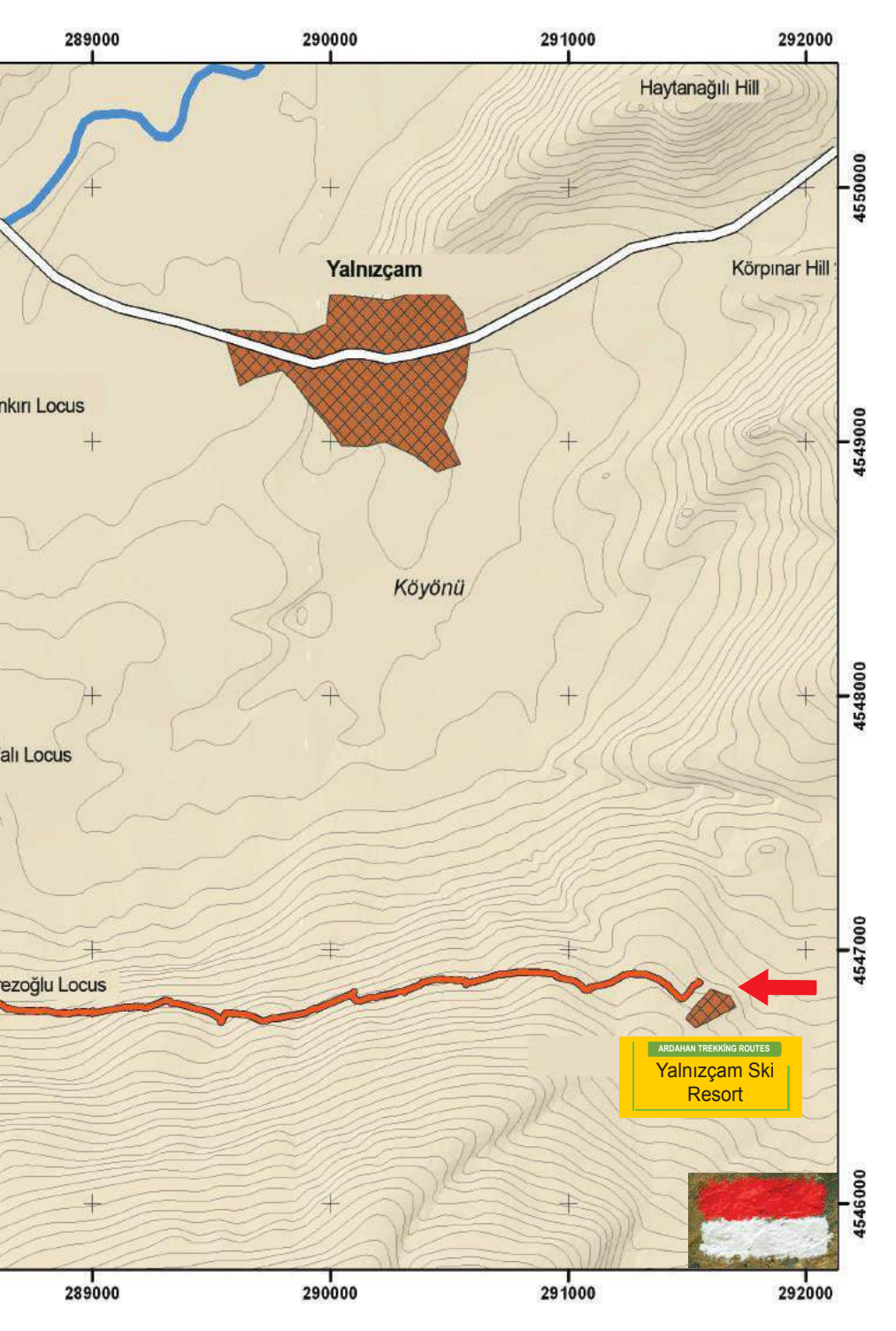


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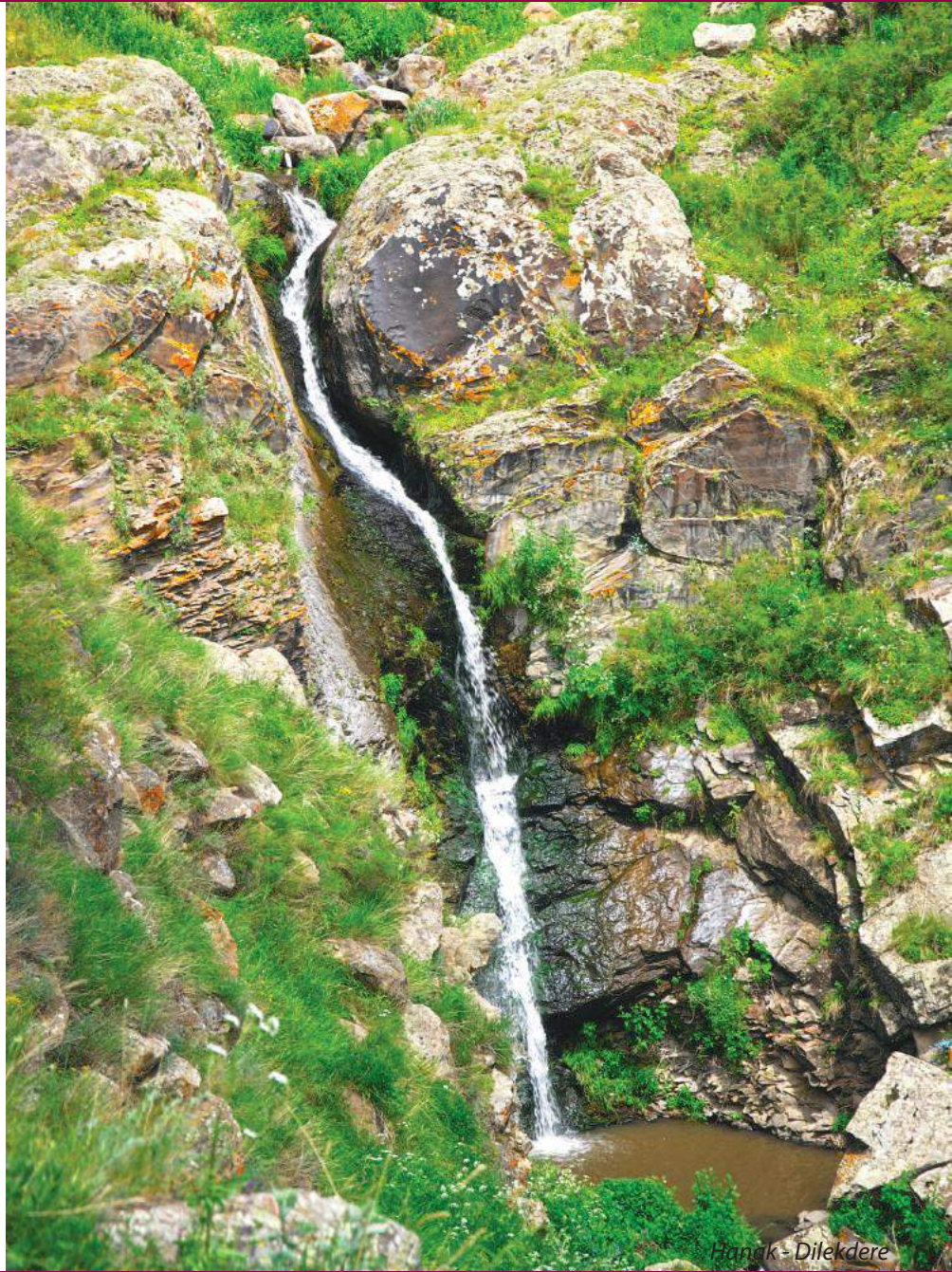




Bülbülalan Highland used jointly by Artvin and Ardahan villages consists of the vicinities spread on the planes on Yalnızçam Mountains. This highland region drawing the shared borders of three cities including Erzurum has been used as a market during summer months since the ancient times. The trekking route we are to explain is an old highland route used by the inhabitants of Bağdeşen Village to go to Bülbülalan.

We cross the road from the highland with coffee shops and hotels, and head towards the valley, where stream basin flows. The route we take by following the right side of the water in general rapidly lose altitude. First we reach the patch crossroad towards Hasköy Highland. Then, we pass the ruins of a church. At this very point, you may see Kinzi Castle constructed to defend the historical road. Erected on the hill at your left and situated at the side of Ardahan-Ardanuç road, the castle is on a hill seeing a wide area.

We cross to the stream's left bank. Soon you will see the first village houses. When you arrive at Bağdeşen settlement, you may follow the first street to reach the bridge in the center.



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Yaylacık Upland

Boncuklu Upland

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ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES
Bülbülan Upland

Kinzodamal Upland

Tavget Upland



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Kinzodamal



Kuleli Crest

ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES

Bağdeşen

Meydan

278000

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TREKKING ROUTES

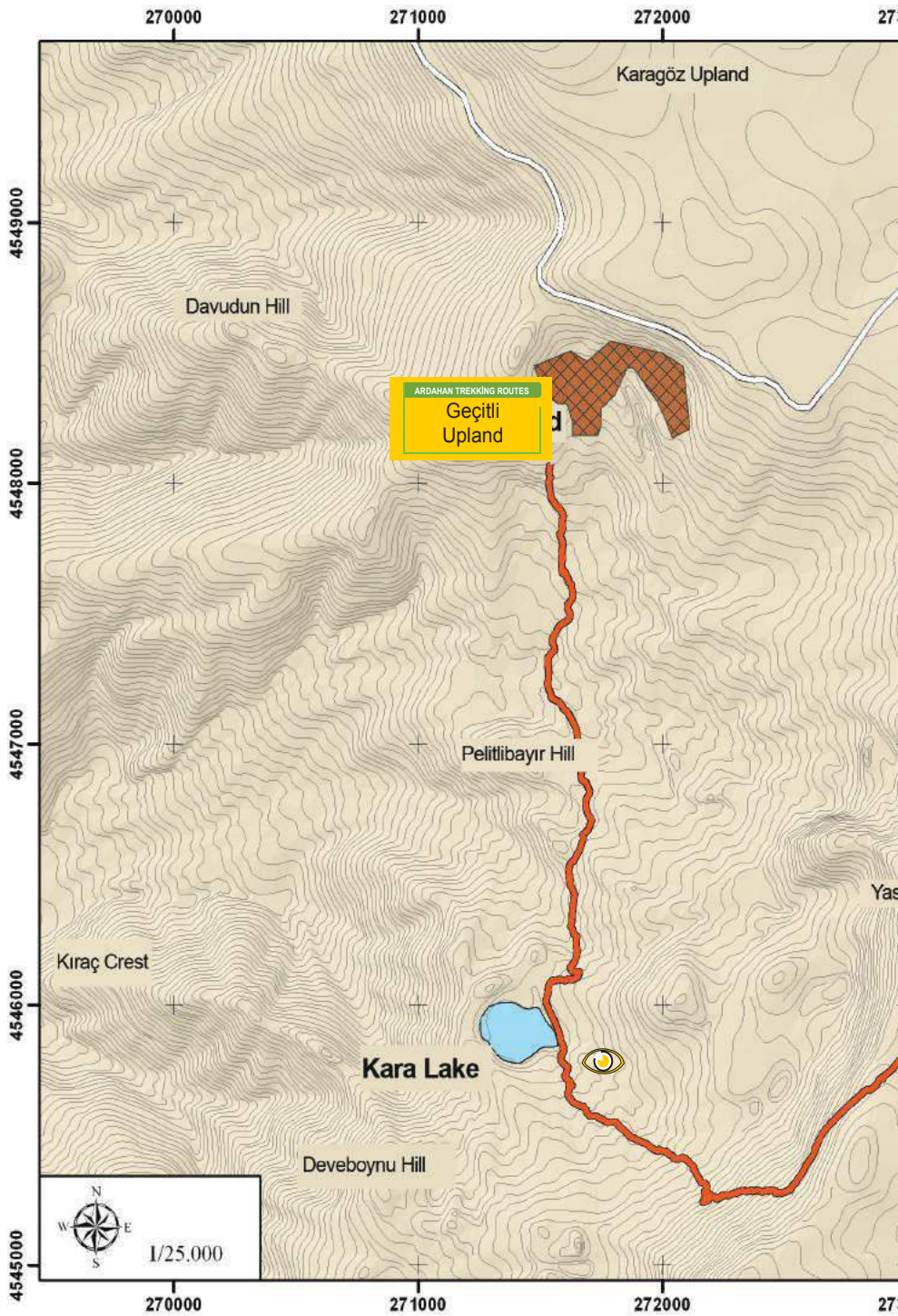


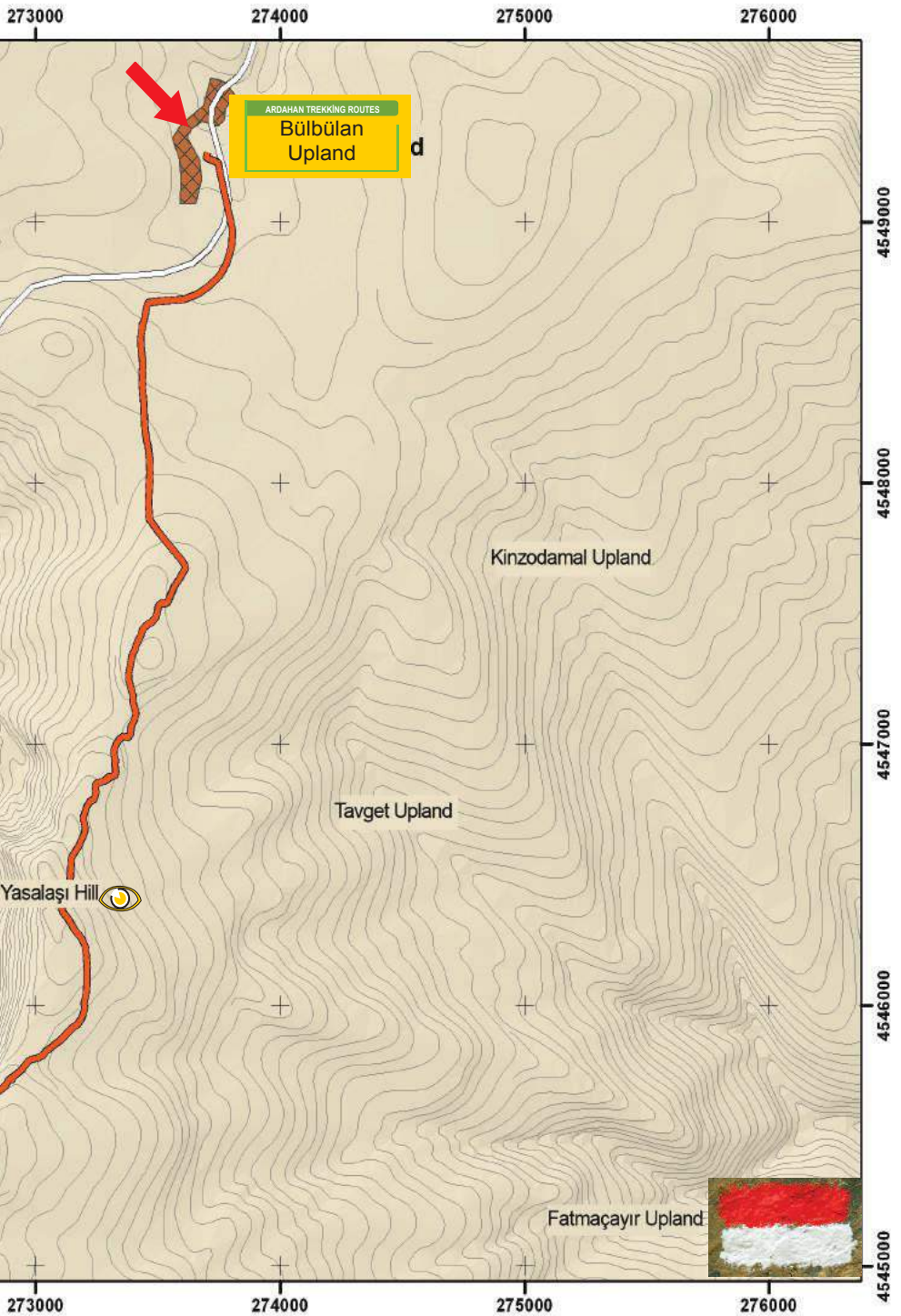
Having too much snow during long winter months, Yalnızçam Mountains host many glacial lakes. The route we recommend is an enjoyable trip visiting Karagöl, the region's pearl as well as a few nameless lakes.

Bülbülan Highland's Ardanuç exit is the starting point of our trekking. When we arrive at the transmitters at the left of the highway, we will complete the first phase of the route. Yalnızçam climaxes consist of relatively wide plateaus. Hills are adorned with ways to the highland. And we follow the earth road towards the transmitters. After passing the base station, our target is Yoşataşı Hill at right. When you head towards the summit, suddenly you will see a breathtaking scene; Karçal and Kaçkar Mountains ahead of your, blue lakes and a deep valley hosting Ardanuç county down below.

Soon you will reach the historical hinny road used to reach Tavget Highland. Below you will see four beautiful lakes. Karagöl that you are to reach after approximately 45 minutes will wink at you. Through the hinny road adorned with white forest roses, you will descend towards west. Remember that this route will freeze during winter and only professionals can cross it. At the point, where forest roses end, you leave the migration route and take the path on the right heading towards Karagöl. With a small part covered with nutgrass, the lake is also a beautiful camping area. During your long break, you may enjoy the lake and its surrounding area. The next part of the route arrives at Geçitli Highland with tiny ups and downs and stream crossings. Because highland houses at the north compared to the point where you reach the lake are on a higher altitude, you will see them throughout the last phase.





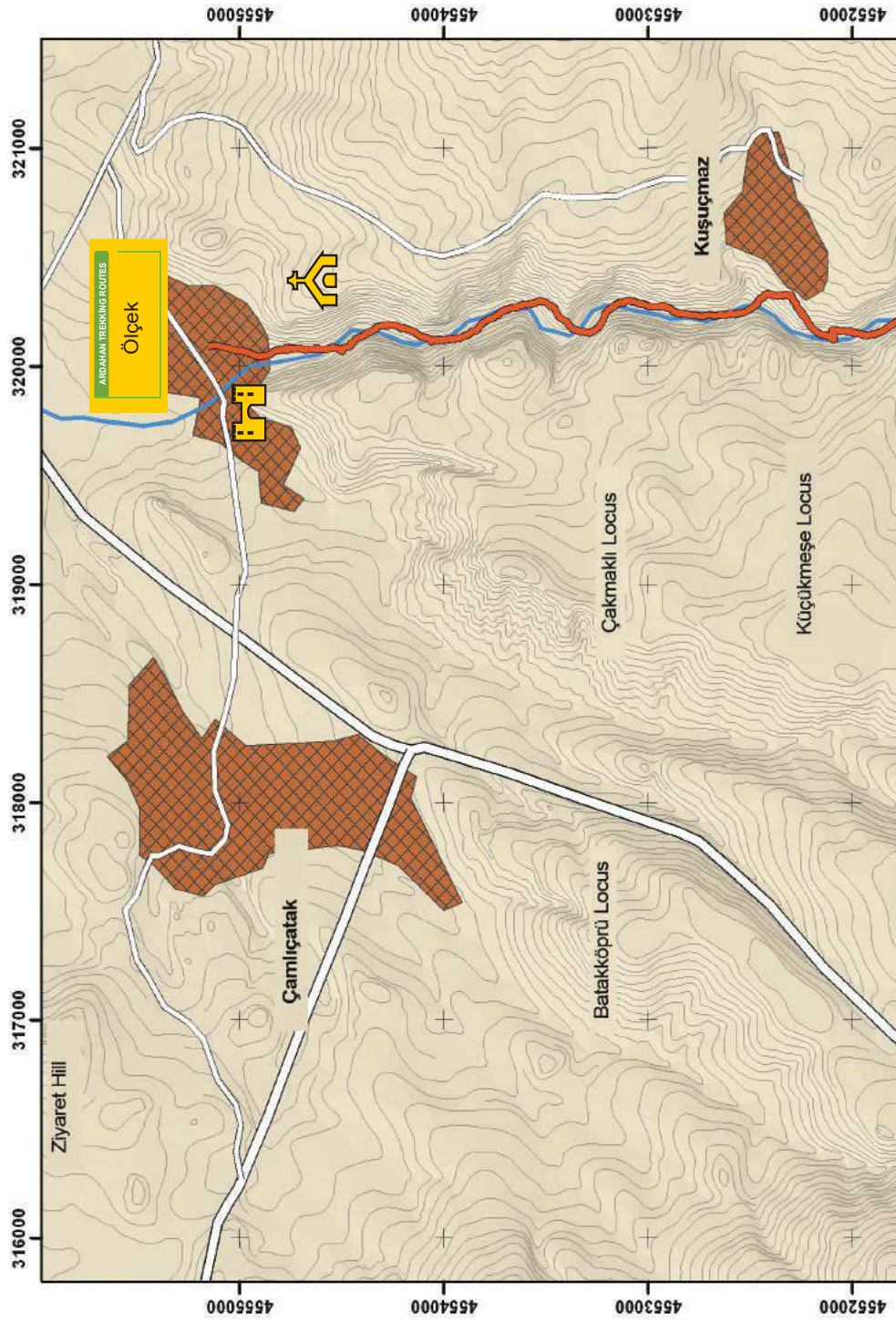


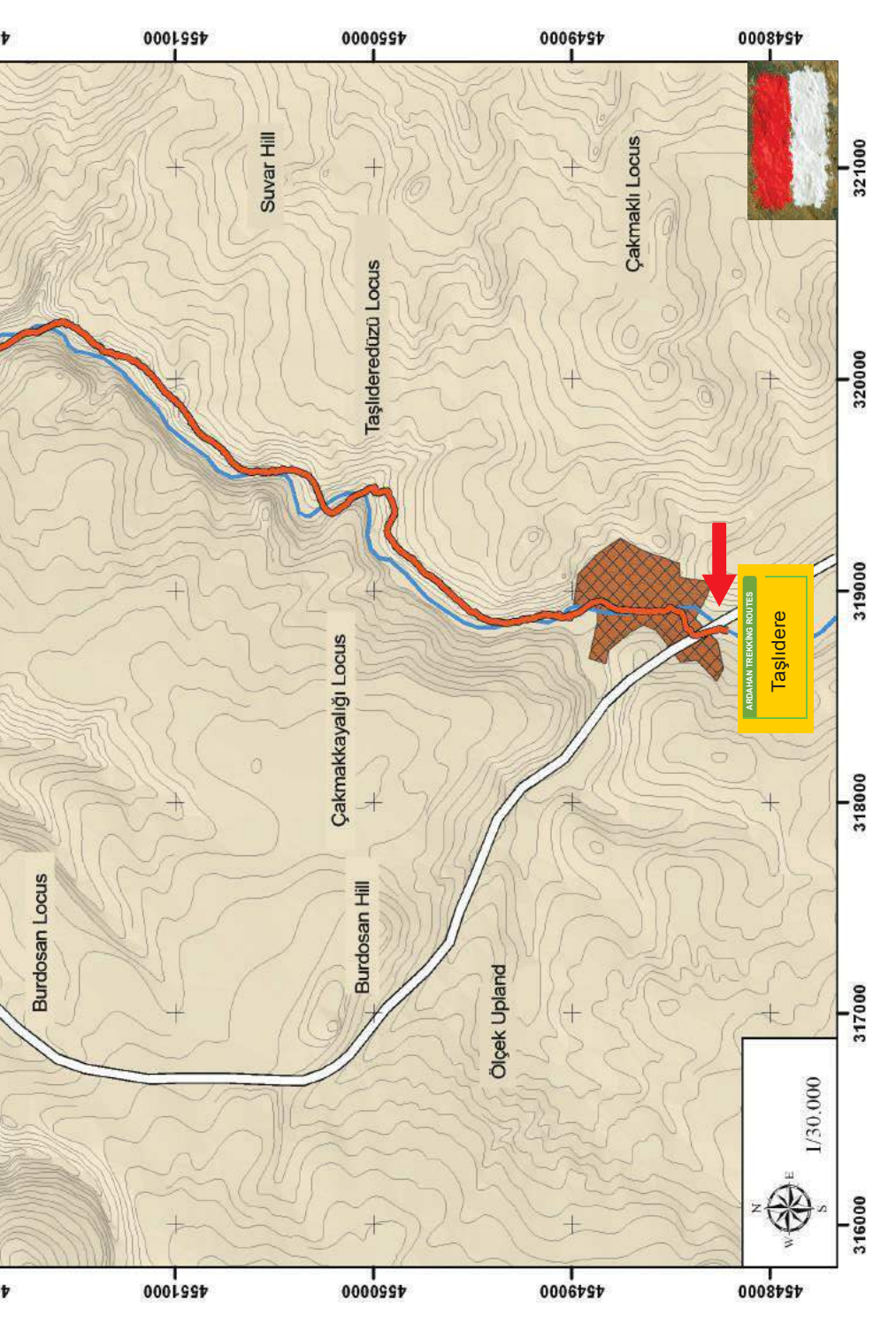


Starting from Taşlıdere Village on Susuz-Kars road, the route follows the valley basin. First we cross the bridge and reach Taşlıdere exit. Then, the trekking continues towards the flow direction from the right side of the stream. After a while, we enter into a channel with rocks on both sides. At this point a few rock caving will attract your attention. As you progress along the valley, bare areas on the hills at the left side are replaced by forest texture. We enter into a narrow channel again. As the valley widens at the meeting point with another stream basin coming from left, our path turns into a tractor road and begin rising. When we reach the crossroad, we follow the path on the left. The road going up reaches Kuşuçmaz (Güzelyurt) Village. We keep on trekking along the stream aligned through a relatively straight line. When the valley begins to narrow at the end of the route descending from 1850 meters to 1800s, you will see the first houses of Ölçek Village. While heading towards the village center, you will see a church ruin at the right and castle ruins on the hill at left. Caves situated in the rocky area right below the castle give us important clues that the village was an old settlement. After the activity, you may return Ardahan which is 18 kilometers away, with a car you arranged beforehand.



Ardahan - Çatalköprü



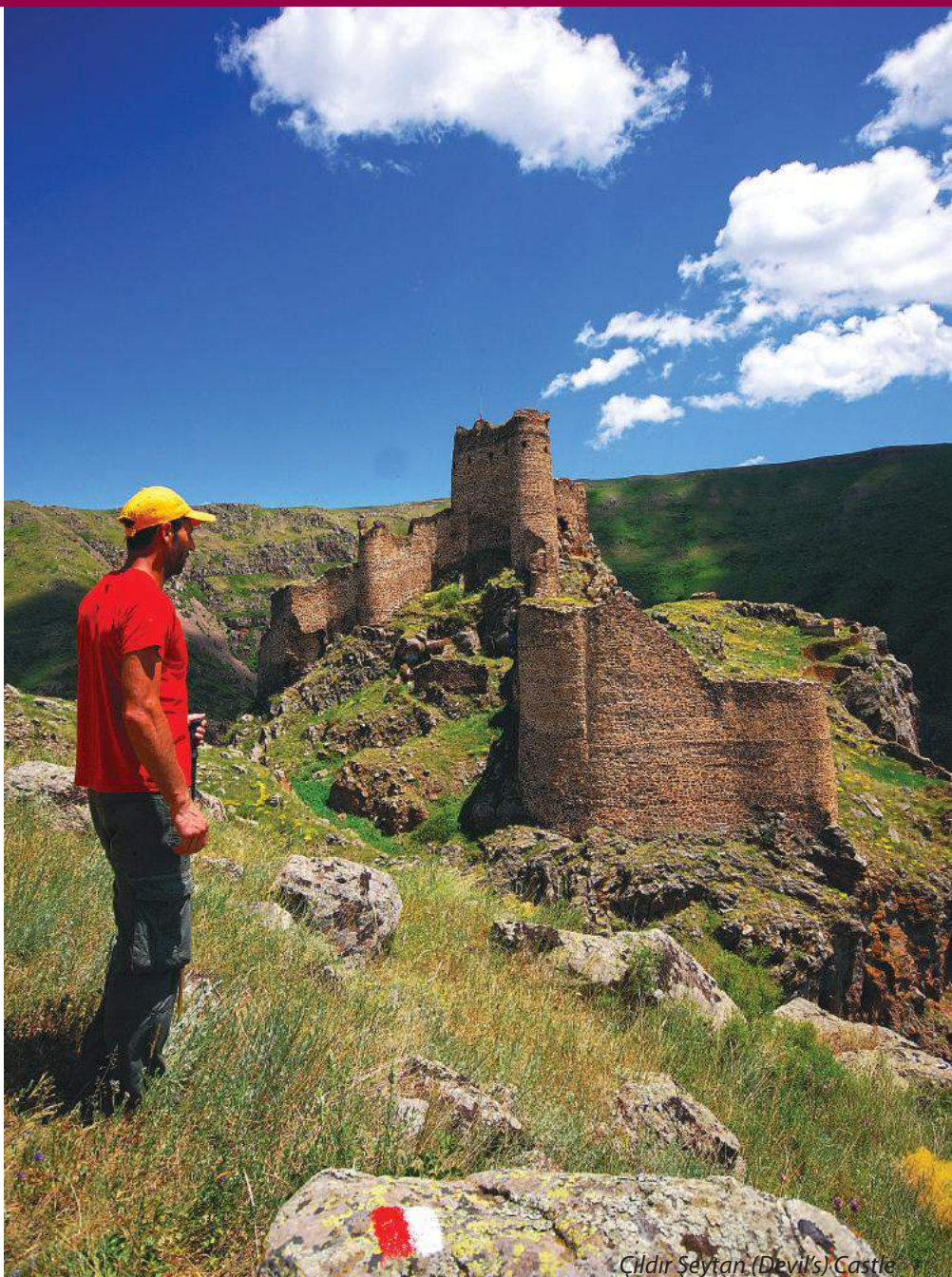




Offering bountifulness to humanity for thousand years, Kura River Valley has been a settlement for many civilizations since old ages. Hosting castles, towers and cave settlements, the valley had been used as a trade road for a long time. One of the best evidences of this historical process is Şeytan Castle.

This route, where nature and history embrace each other is a great route continuously seeing Kura Valley from the top. Reached through Ardahan-Çıldır road, Kuzulaya is a typical East Anatolian settlement. Beginning from the village, the trekking goes along with the valley and river basin scene on your left. The river basin hosts Fakra and Güvercin caves. On the right lands colored by wheatears spread as far as the eye can reach. Proceeding in curves, Kura River meets Karaçay coming from Çıldır Lake, and at this very point, there is a steep and wild geography. Here our route goes towards right and turns from north to east. Now we leave Kura Valley and begin watching Karaçay Valley. You may climb the hill to appear soon and have a short break in Çıldır Lake and Kısır Mountain scene. In the valley, Şeytan Castle poses to photographers with its magnificent view. After the break, you may climb down towards the castle reminding of medieval castles and with a magnificent standing, raising respect due to its location.

The grass covered path you took will continue along the slope. But please note that the road may be slippery, particularly during rainy days. At the point where the path reaches a rocky area, castle's marvelous landscape will be below your feet. After a short while, you will reach the main path reaching the castle from Yıldırımtepe Village. Turning towards left, you may visit the castle area. You will return to the path and walk to Yıldırımtepe accompanied by Karaçay Valley on your left.



Cildir Seytan (Devil's) Castle

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4557000

4556000

Direkli Cave

Yer Cave

Yurt Cave

Kuzeydüz

Kura River

Kaşlıkaya

Pöğrekdibi Locus

Kuzukaya

Büyük Plain

Ceddah Locus

Lefti Plain

Gölleryurdu Locus

Kırmızıtaşlar Hill

ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES
Kuzukaya

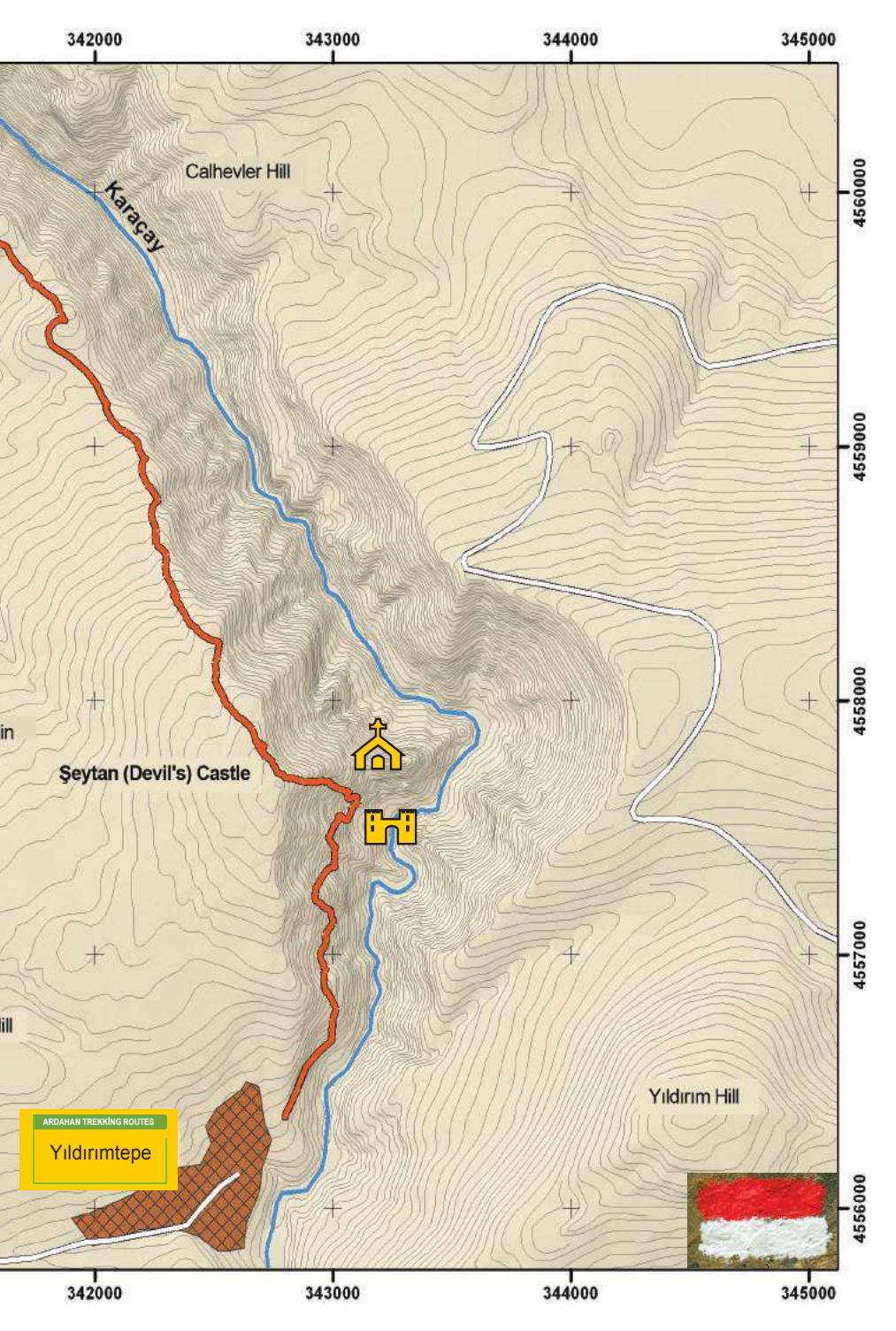


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Karaçay

Calhevler Hill

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4558000

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4556000

Şeytan (Devil's) Castle



Yıldırım Hill

ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES
Yıldırımtepe



342000

343000

344000

345000





Kısır Mountain Summit - Çıldır Lake



Route II

Seyitören Highland-Ilgar
Summit-Çamyazı (10 km)

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Maximum Altitude: 2924 m

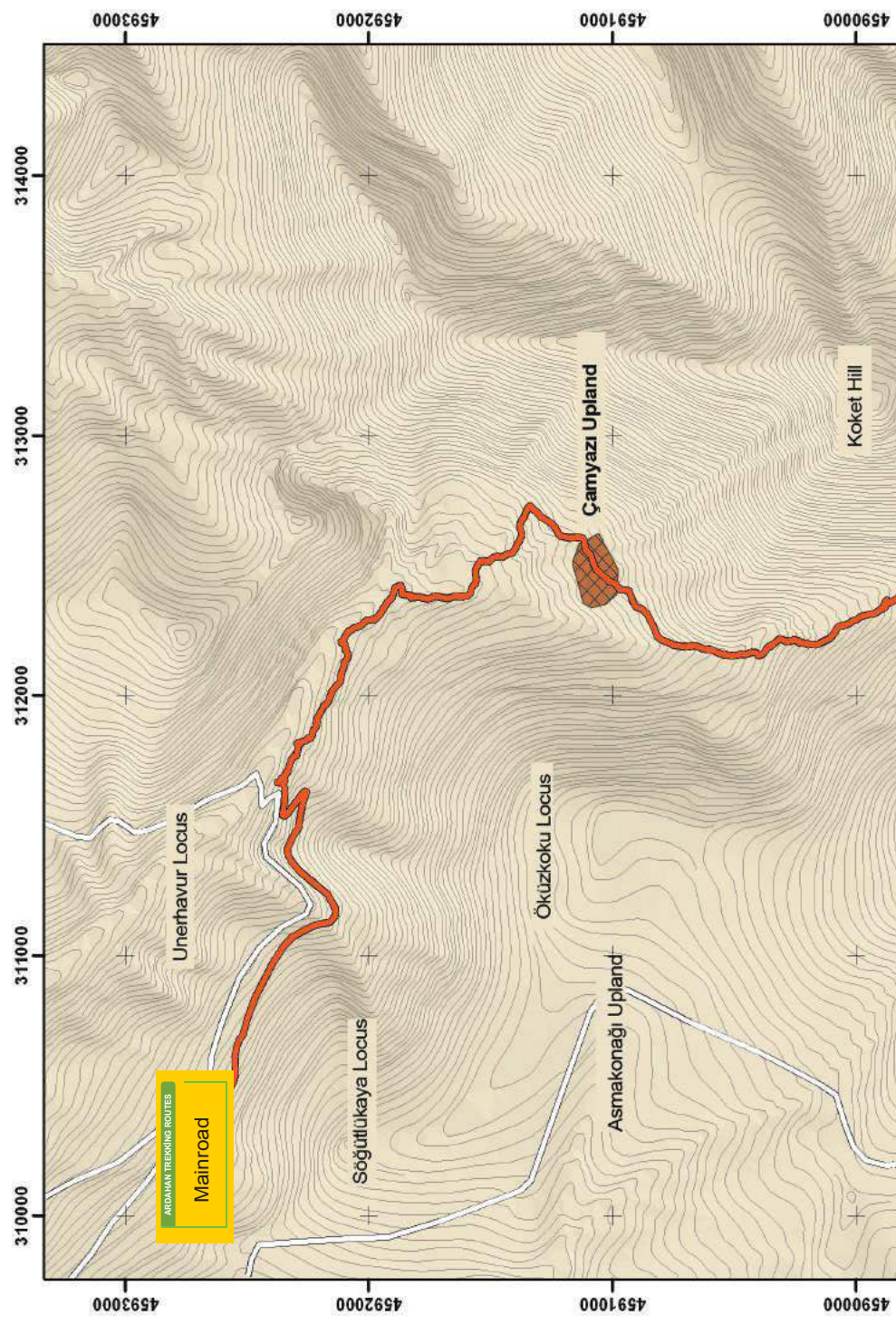
Minimum Altitude: 1869 m

Our route containing a climax climb to Ilgar Mountain, one of the highest hills of Ardahan starts at Seyitören Highland. Beginning to rise right behind the highland houses, the route goes towards the slope. When we arrive at the first plane, we head towards the slope on the right to reach the climax. A little sloppy outlet will make you sweat. However, the marvelous scene at the climax will make you forget your exhaust. If you climb in sunny weather, you will see Arsiyan and Kısır Mountains' climaxes as well as a panorama containing Georgian lands.

After a short break start descending by targeting a shack that you will see below. At the point of transmitter, you will see a hidden path. Now your route will pass through scree. Walk towards the valley below by drawing wide "S"s. When you reach the valley basin, you will see Çamyazı Highland's water tank building. Now the river basin will be at your left and you will follow an earth road. Soon, you will see the desolated settlement of Çamyazı Highland overshadowed by Koker Hill.

You will keep on trekking in an environment, where the valley deepens and is greened with the woods. You will follow the tractor road and reach the bridge after passing streams for a few times. If you take a right turn from this point, you may reach Çamyazı Village after 2 kilometers and Posof through a nice forest path, if you take a left side. In the meanwhile, note that Ilgar Mountain is generally under fog, and it may suddenly become misty during trekking.





BIRIMAN TRICKING ROUTES
Mainroad

Unerhavur Locus

Söğütükaya Locus

Öküzöku Locus

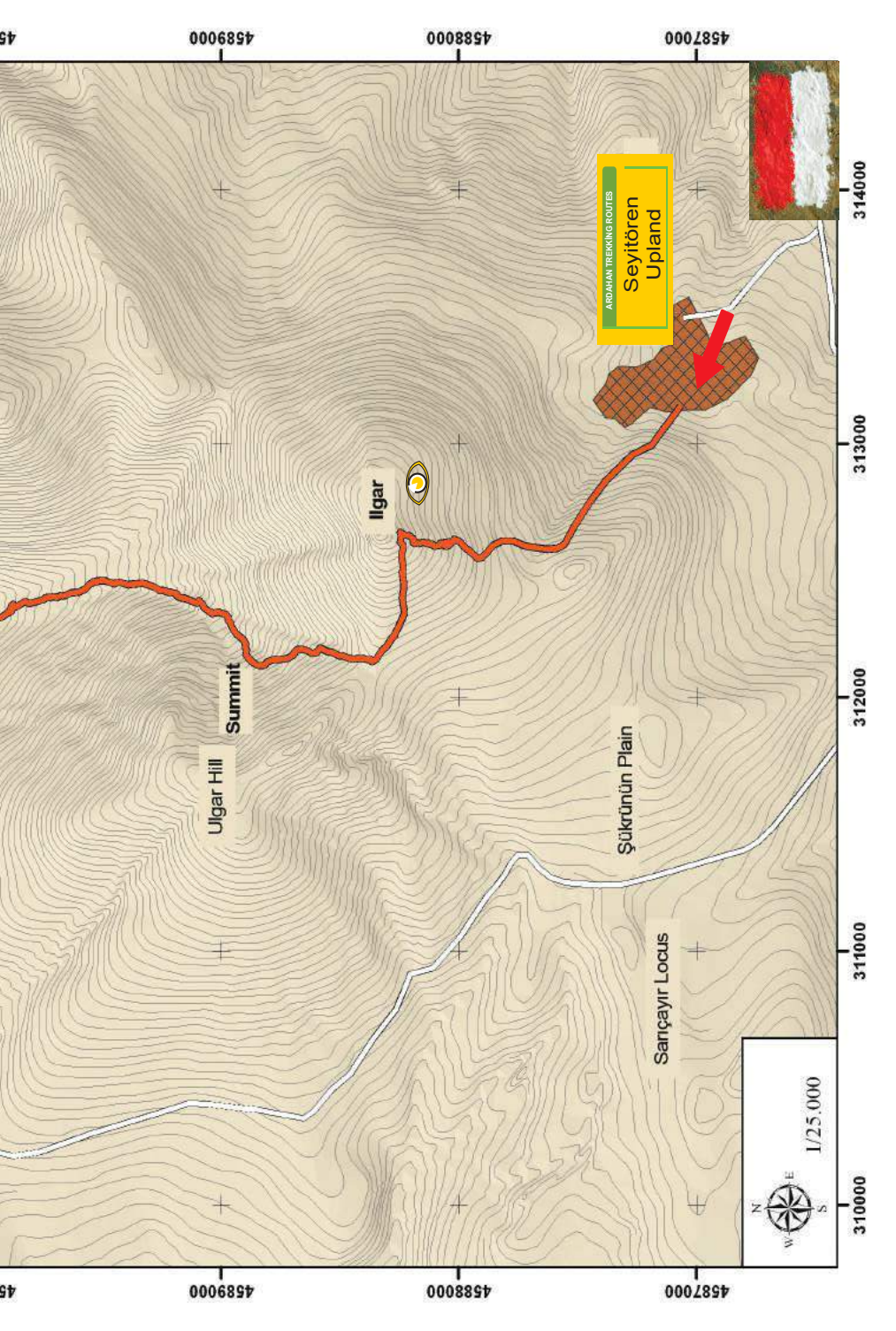
Asmakonağı Upland

Çamyazi Upland

Koket Hill

310000
311000
312000
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314000

4593000
4592000
4591000
4590000

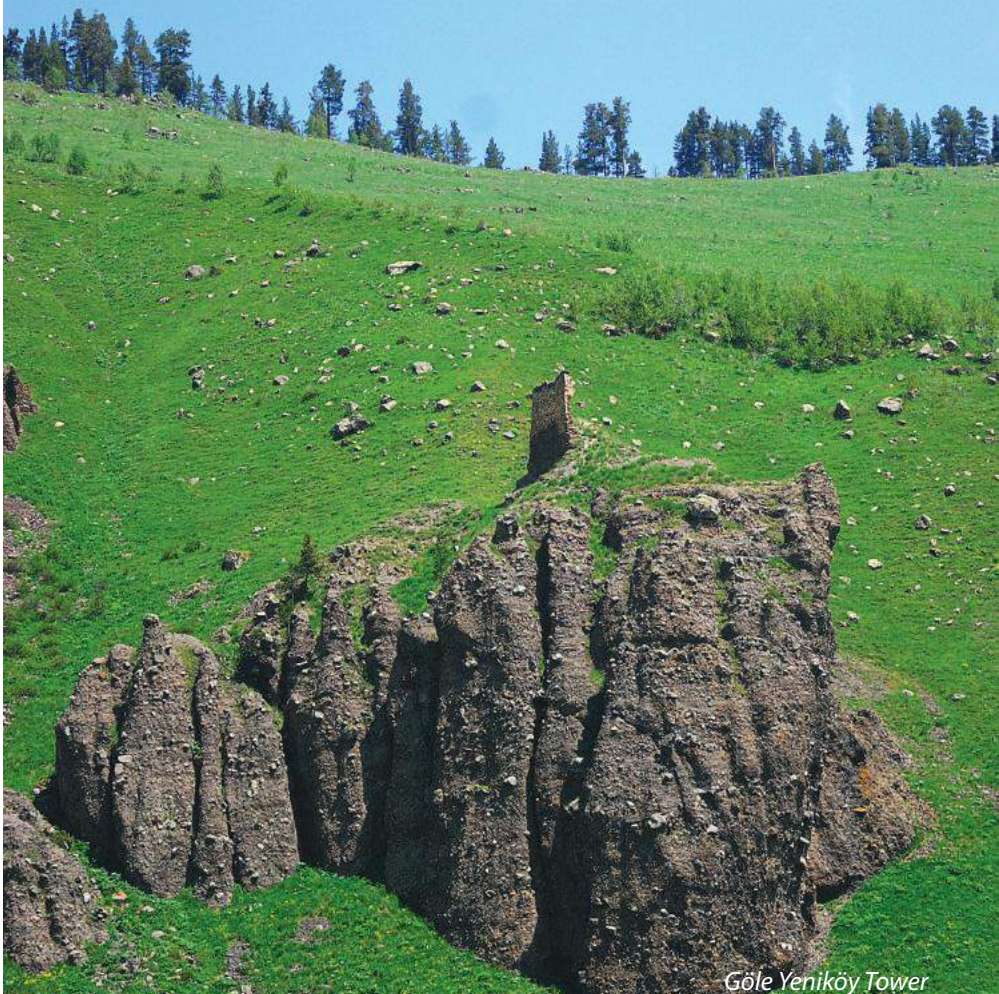




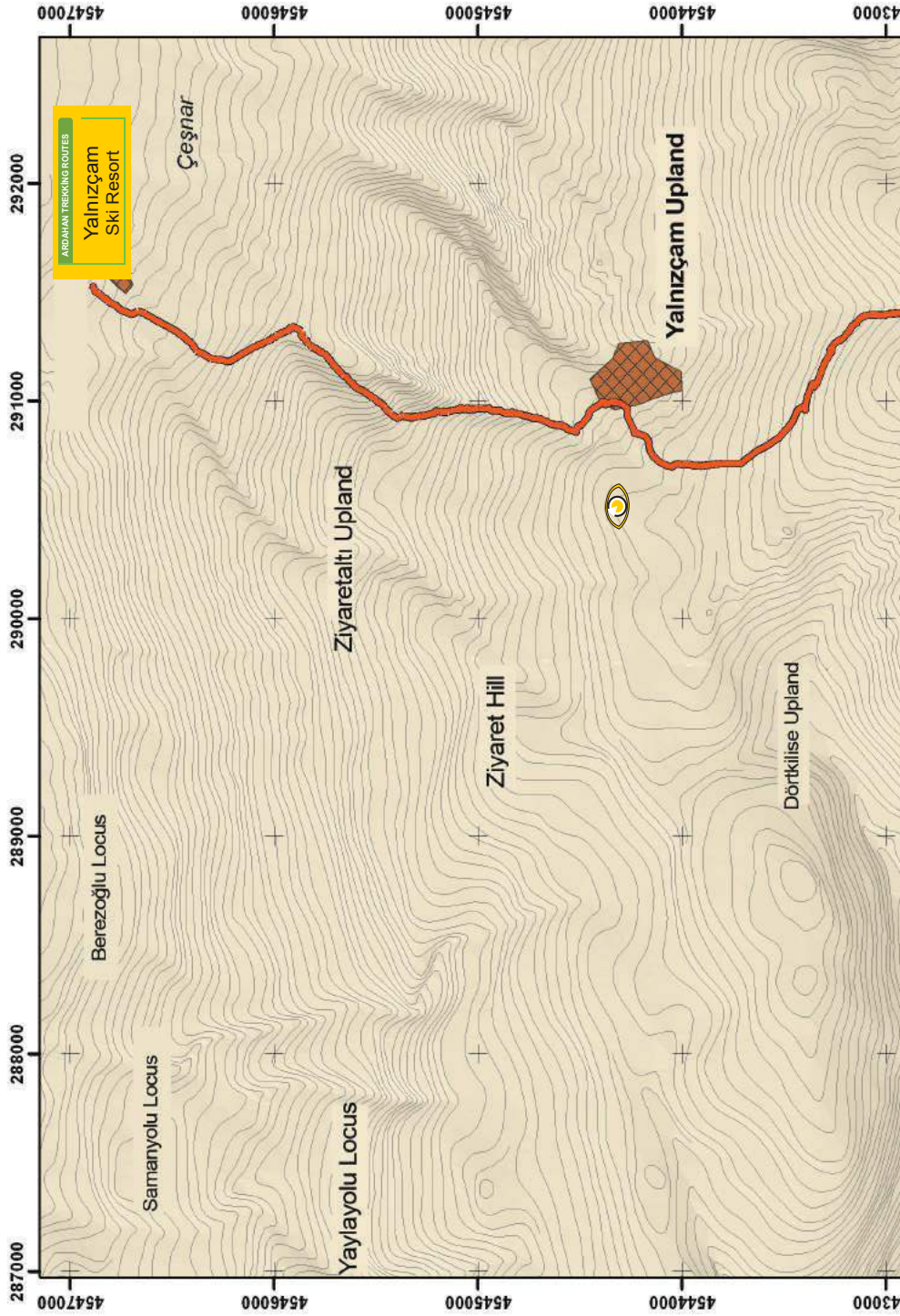
When speaking of Ardahan, the first thing that comes to mind is the castles. Hosting Kalecik Castle among these historical buildings, Kalecik Village is situated by Kura River. The route we will recommend starts from the villages, climbs to the climax of Uğurludağ, which is Ardahan's one of the highest mountains and reaches Yalnızçam Skiing Facilities.

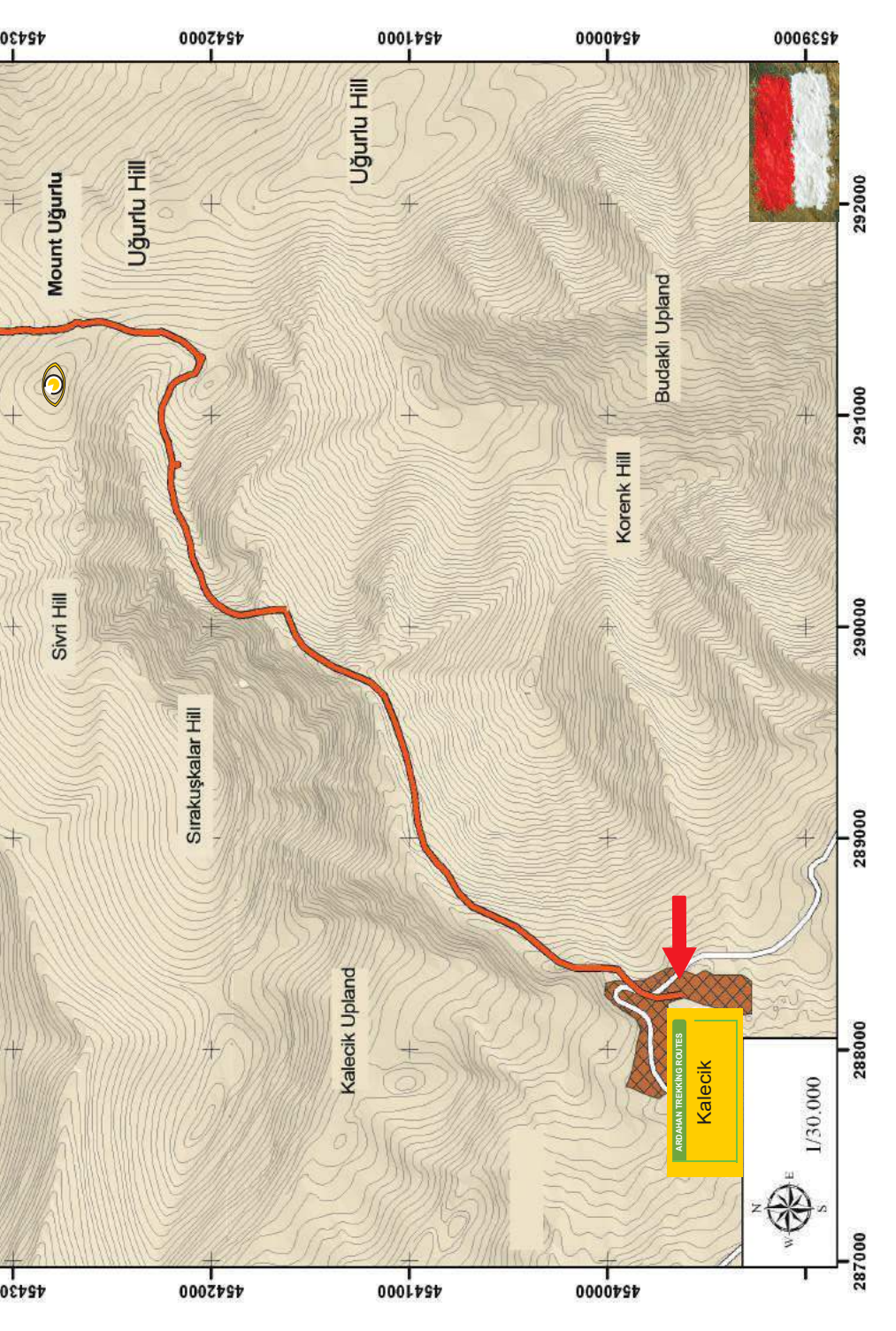
The signboard of Çataldere bridge, passing through right the middle of the village will be our starting point. We begin trekking along the highland road going towards the valley. We do not take the highland road turning left after about one kilometer, but keep walking at the reverse direction of the stream flow. The forest texture to be on our right after a while will be replaced by alpine meadows. With the guidance of the tractor road going along the valley, we keep on rising. On the first crossroad, we go straight and reach below the climax. You will take a left at the second crossroad you are to see, and reach the highest point of the trekking. In the plane between Çatal Hill and Uğurlu Hill, a marvelous scene is waiting for you. Below you may see Yalnızçam Highland and down below central villages, and on the opposite side, Yalnızçam Mountains.

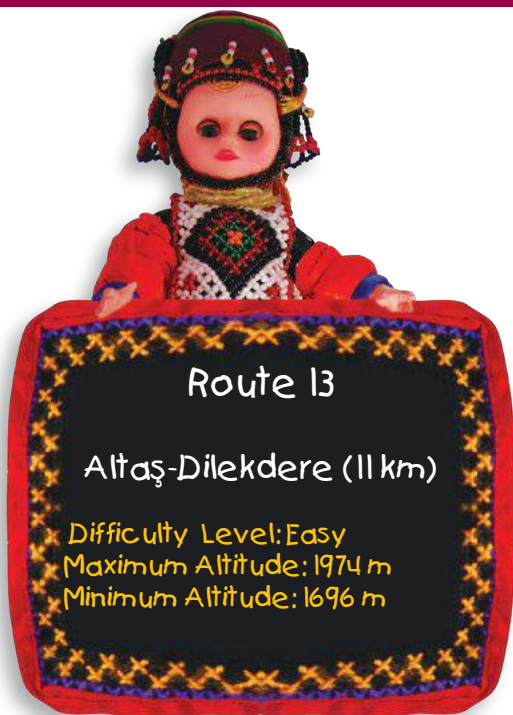
You can reach Yalnızçam Highland situated right below you by following the earth road, and also use the rocky and dried stream basin on your right. When you reach the highland, you deserve a short break by the fountain that is the lifesaver of trekkers with its cold water. When you start trekking again, first you will follow the earth road for 400 meters. Then with the signs' direction, you will enter into the stream basin at right and start descending. Leaving the stream basin in an area of trees, will draw a curve towards left, and make you reach highland road again. Skiing facility building you see ahead is the messenger indicating that the trekking ended.



Göle Yeniköy Tower







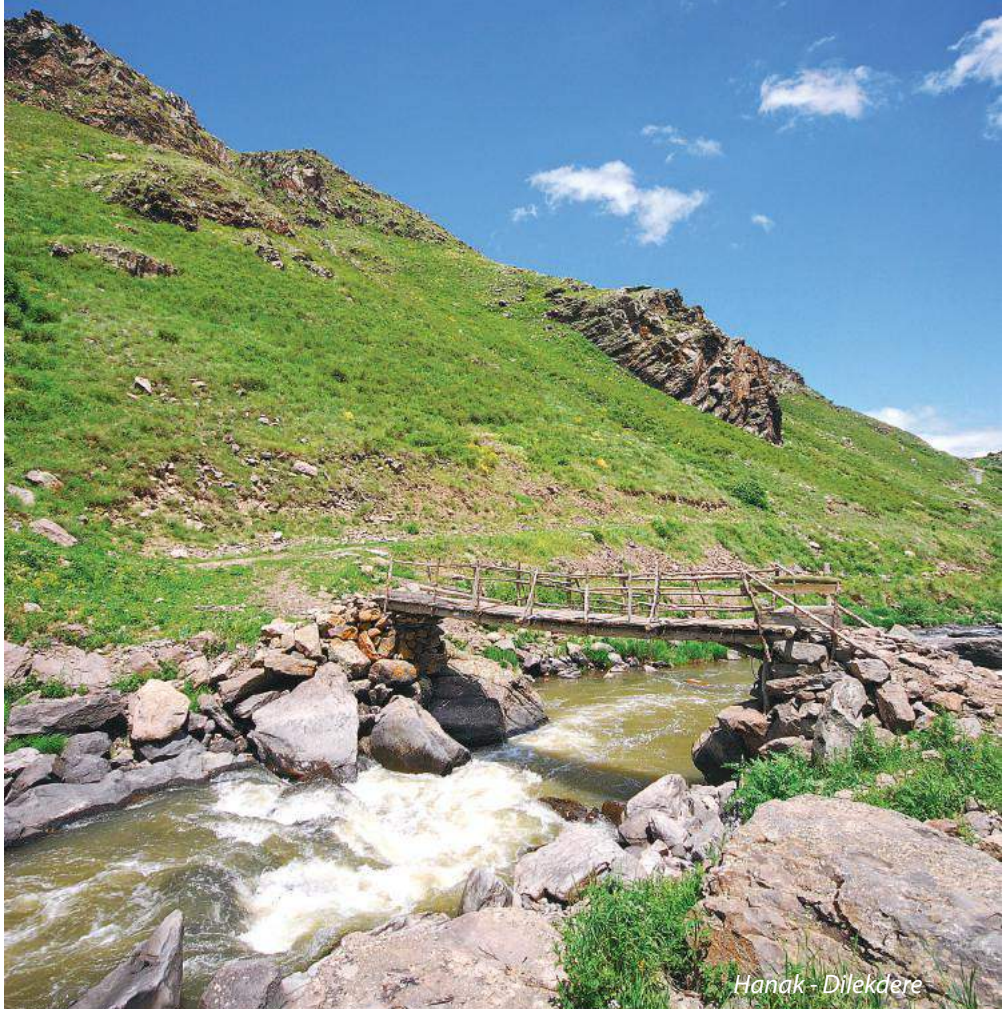
Situated in a point, where Kura River enters into a narrow valley, Altaş Village hosts a castle bearing the same name with the settlement and called Ur in some sources. Starting from the village exit, the trekking has its guests reach the castle with a short hike. Here you can take beautiful photos of Kura River Valley. Turn to the marked path and keep on rising. When you reach the forest, you will take the tractor road. You will pass the wide meadow ahead of you and meet the forest again. When you pass the second meadow, it means you arrived at the ramp. You will see a barn on your left and a lake becoming dry in summer below. Walk towards the lake from this area between Karaburun Hill and Kışla Hill. You can have a break by the lake, the birds' resort. After you pass the lake, do not take the forest, but the fences on your left. Marks on the stones and trees ahead of you will guide you. When you meet the fences once again, take the forest road ahead of you. Going downwards in wide curves, the road will pass woods and make you meet another forest road coming from Altaş Village.

Turn right and start ascending. In the plane where you see the fences, red and white marks will direct you towards left. Now you will start descending in the empty area among the trees.

When the path unites with another path coming from right, it will bend towards right. You will see İsabeyyurdu Hill and Harmanlık Hill ahead of

you, and a valley basin with sets made of lands on your left. Keep walking upwards. As the highland of Dilekdere Village in the summer, in this are you might see shepherds and tents. From the hilly area you reached, you might see Dilekdere settlement situated across the valley.

Do not let the closely situated houses cheat you. You have a long way to trek. First you have to make a steep decline from İtkayan Hill. When you reach Çotsuyu River's basin, you will cross a wooden bridge, and rise towards the village through a rocky road. As you rise, you can watch the great valley landscape, where Çotsuyu meets Kura River. Dilekdere's hospitable villagers will definitely offer you an ice-cold ayran.



Hanak - Dilekdere

322000

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Ihbet Hill

Mahmut Hill

Mağara (Cave) Hill

Cot Stream

Kel Hill

Sümeliler Locus

Haros

Eğriyo

Kumsallar Locus

İsabey Hill

Altaş

Ballıkaya Hill

Karaburun Hill



1/25.000

ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES



325000

326000

327000

ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES

Dilekdere



Paşayatağı Hill

İtkayan Hill

Çarkıfelek

İsabeyyurdu Hill

Topuzoğlu Hill

Kura River

Tayyaredüşen Hill

Danalık Hill

Elikyatağı Hill

Göl Hill



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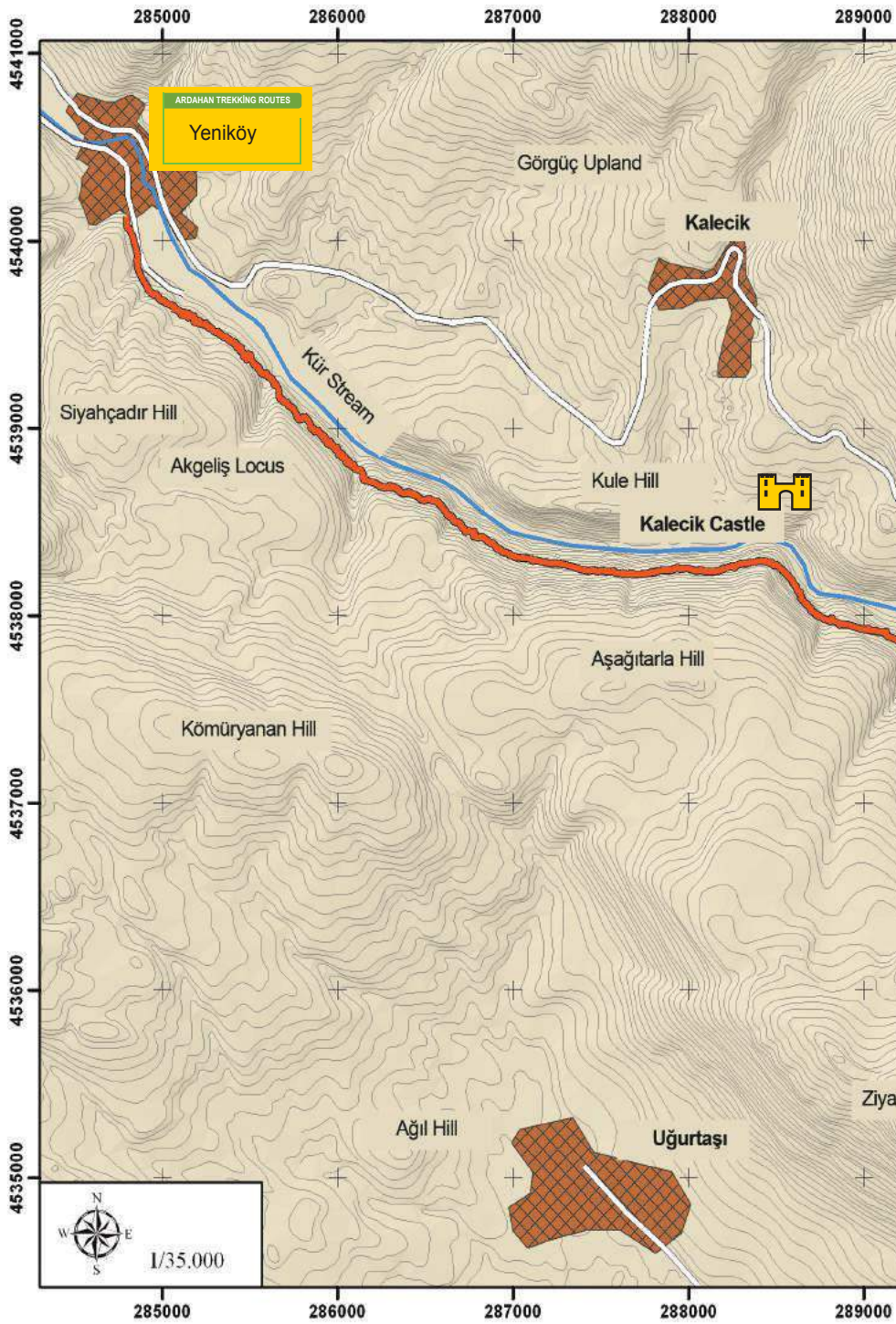
Hosting an old church Budaklı Village is another settlement in Kura Rive Valley. Our route starts from the area between Türkmençayırı and Emirçayırı, and goes towards Kura. After passing the river, we keep walking in the flow direction along the left bank. Due to the valley basin narrowing after a while, a difficult trekking is waiting for you in the area with long common reeds. After this difficult part, you will begin watching the forest road appeared on your left.

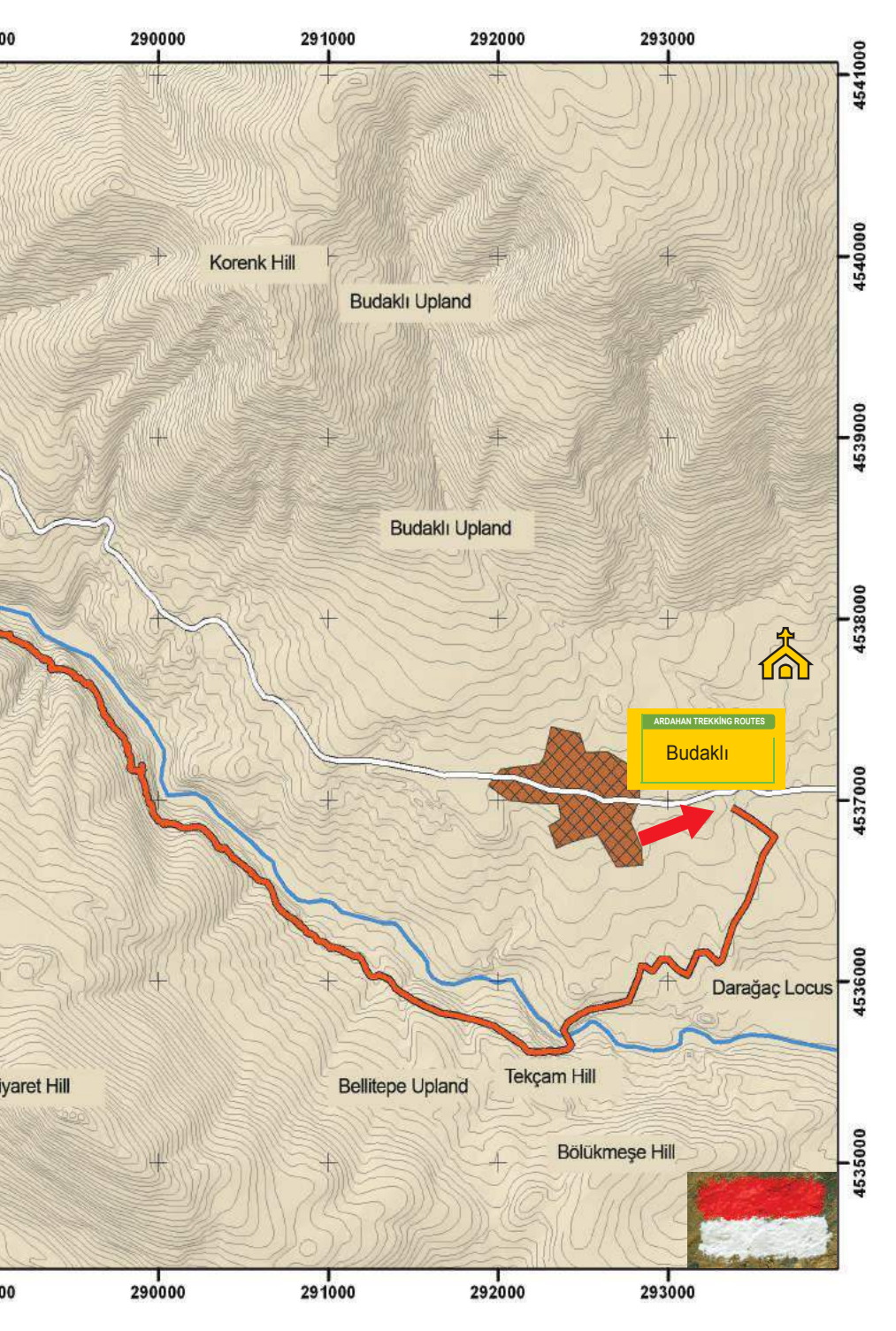
While you feel the freshness of the yellow pine forests on your left, a rocky hill will appear ahead of you. When you look carefully, you can see the outer walls of Kalecik Castle erecting above in all its magnificence and small caves right below it.

You will pass the castle and the point, where Çatal Stream coming from Kalecik Village meets Kura River. As the valley widens further on, first houses of Gölet Vicinity will appear. Along the route, where you will often see fishermen, you will keptrekking on the earth road within the woods, and reach Yeniköy.



Göle - Kalecik Castle





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4536000

4535000

Korenk Hill

Budaklı Upland

Budaklı Upland

ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES
Budaklı

Darağaç Locus

Yayret Hill

Bellitepe Upland

Tekçam Hill

Bölükmeşe Hill



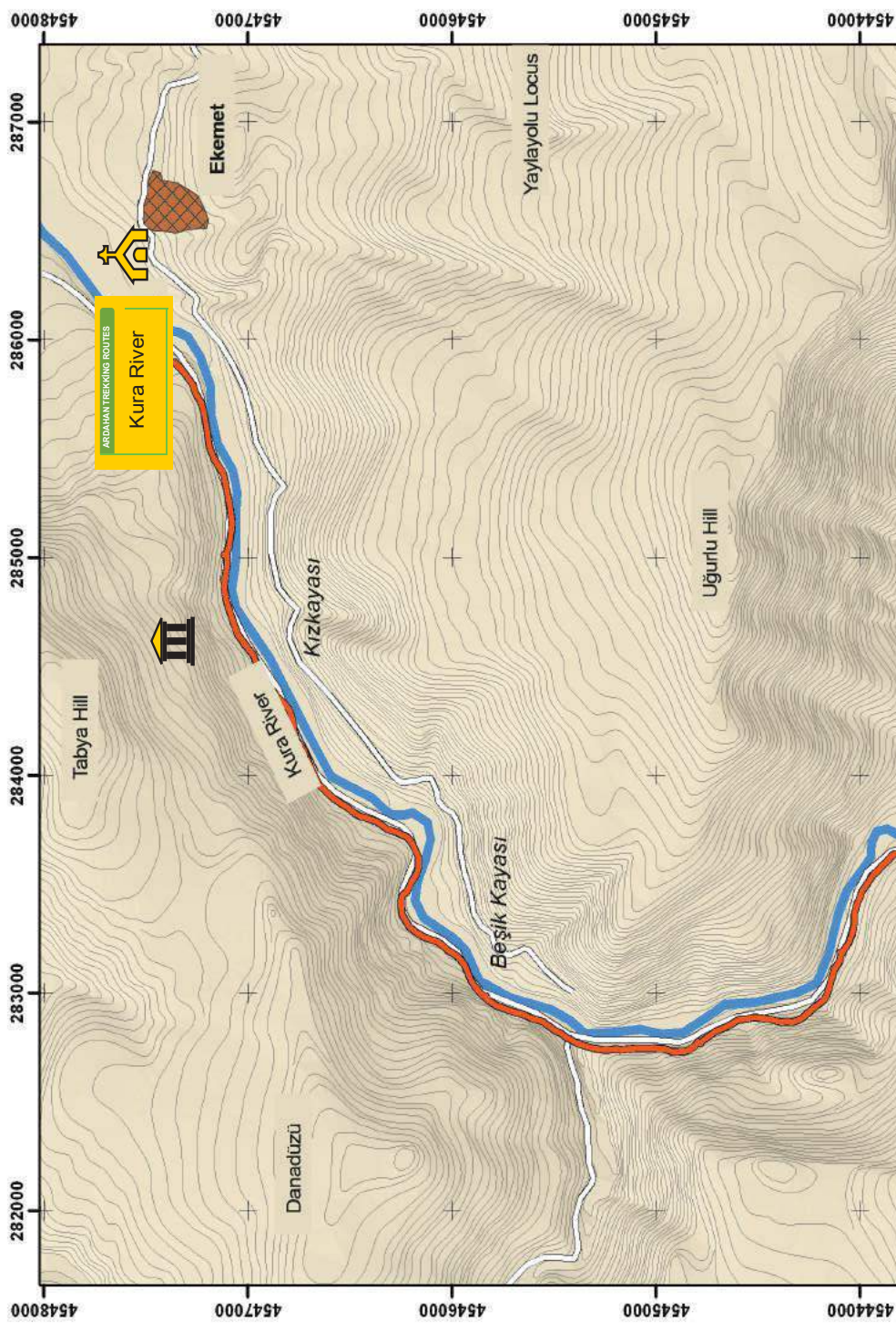


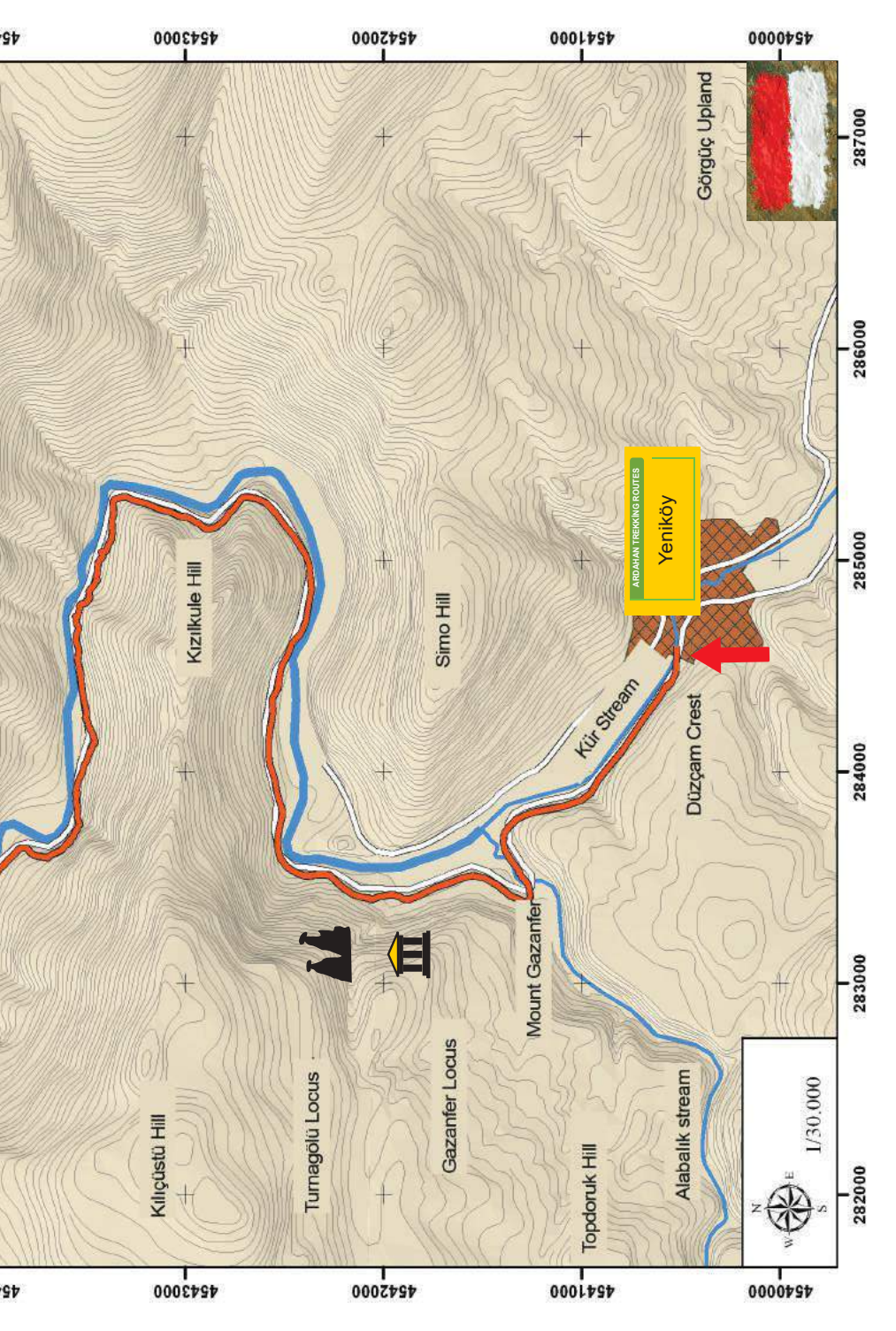
Situated within Göle county, Yeniköy is in a geography surrounded by strong forest texture, where yellow pines are dominant. Passing through the settlement, Kura River gives life to Yeniköy, as it does to the whole city. Our route follows a great forest road going along Kura Valley.

You will not turn any crossroad throughout this route, but keep walking in the river's flow direction. At the point, where the valley begins narrowing, a tower on your left and fairy chimney formations will attract your attention. Ahead of you, you will see an agricultural field and an old highland settlement. After you pass Beşik Kayası, you will see a new crossroad. Bending left, the earth road forms the route of Bağdeşen Village, which is one of the routes.

After a while, you will reach Konsula Taşı area hosting ruins of an old church and rock settlements. Our route will end in front of the signboard at the end of the valley. Signboard on the right marks Yalnızçam route continuing across Kura River. To reach Ardahan road, you have to walk for additional 2 kilometers.









Route 16

Kaleönü Highland-Lakes-
Arsiyan Highland (14 km)

Difficulty Level: Difficult
Maximum Altitude: 2596 m
Minimum Altitude: 2090 m

How about a route passing through many lakes, with a terrific landscape and some difficulties due to the mist rising from the valleys or clouds covering climaxes? Route starts from Kaleönü Highland. At the end of 4-kilometer earth road, we cross Haylak Stream. You will see two valleys among three hills at the skirts of Arsiyan (Dikilitaş, Kartepe and Beşiktepe). Head towards the valley at the left and direct to the right skirt of the valley. Take the forest fence you will see there on your right and start rising through the path. The valley beneath you hosts the basin of Kırmızı Stream.

When you reach 2600-meter mountain pass, the landscape behind you will take your breath. Soon you will pass Artvin border. You will meet the route's first lake on the plane you will reach. Then, you will see large and small lakes among the small hills, and Boğa lakes, as the biggest ones among them.

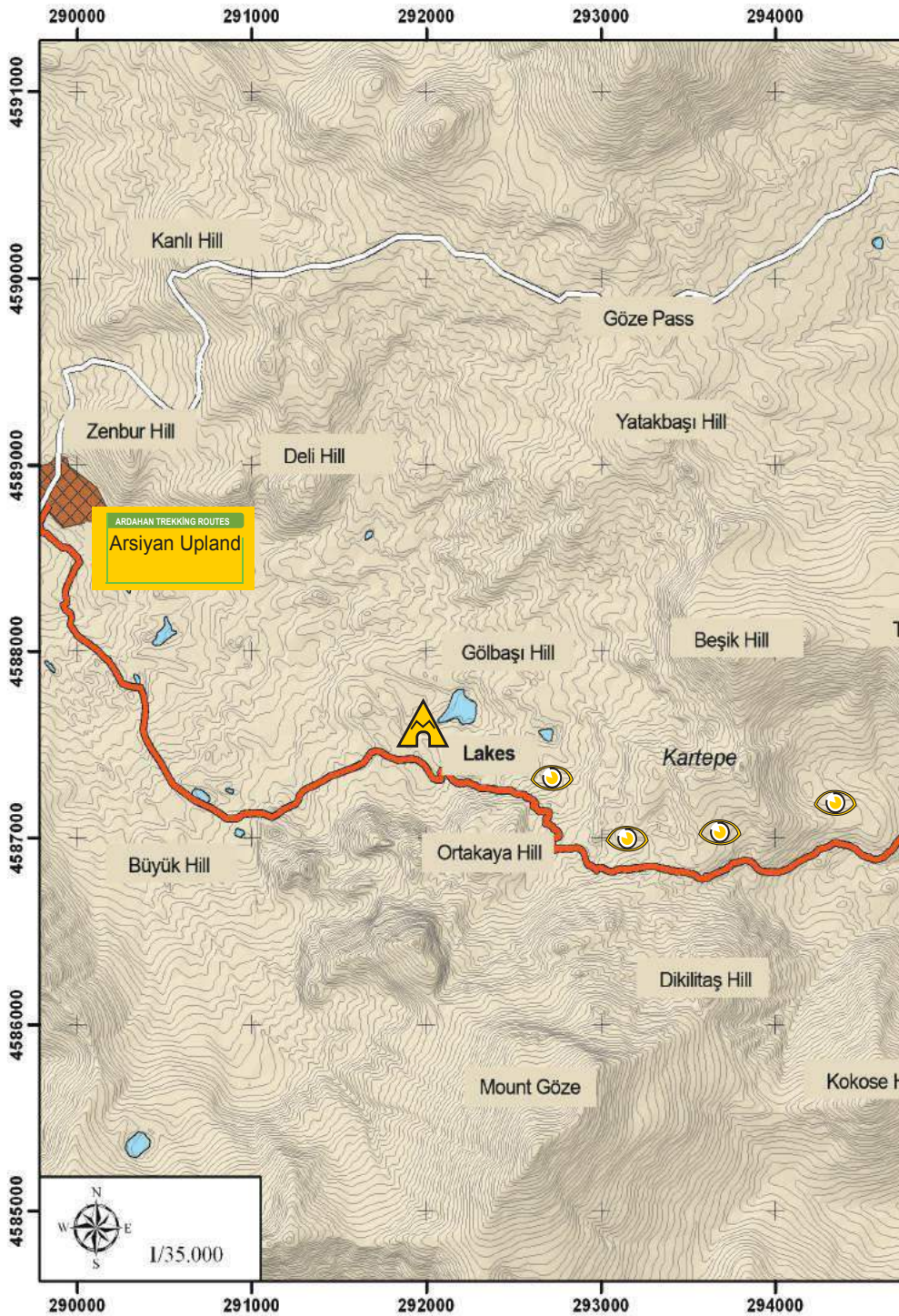
Now we start descending. You will see two reedy lakes at the right. You can refresh your water from the stream providing water to Arsiyan Highland. You cannot help but admire the raw beauty of Boğa, Davar and Sedeva lakes overshadowed by Ortakaya Hill stuck among the mountains. Here will be your break spot as well. When you hit the road again, first you will reach

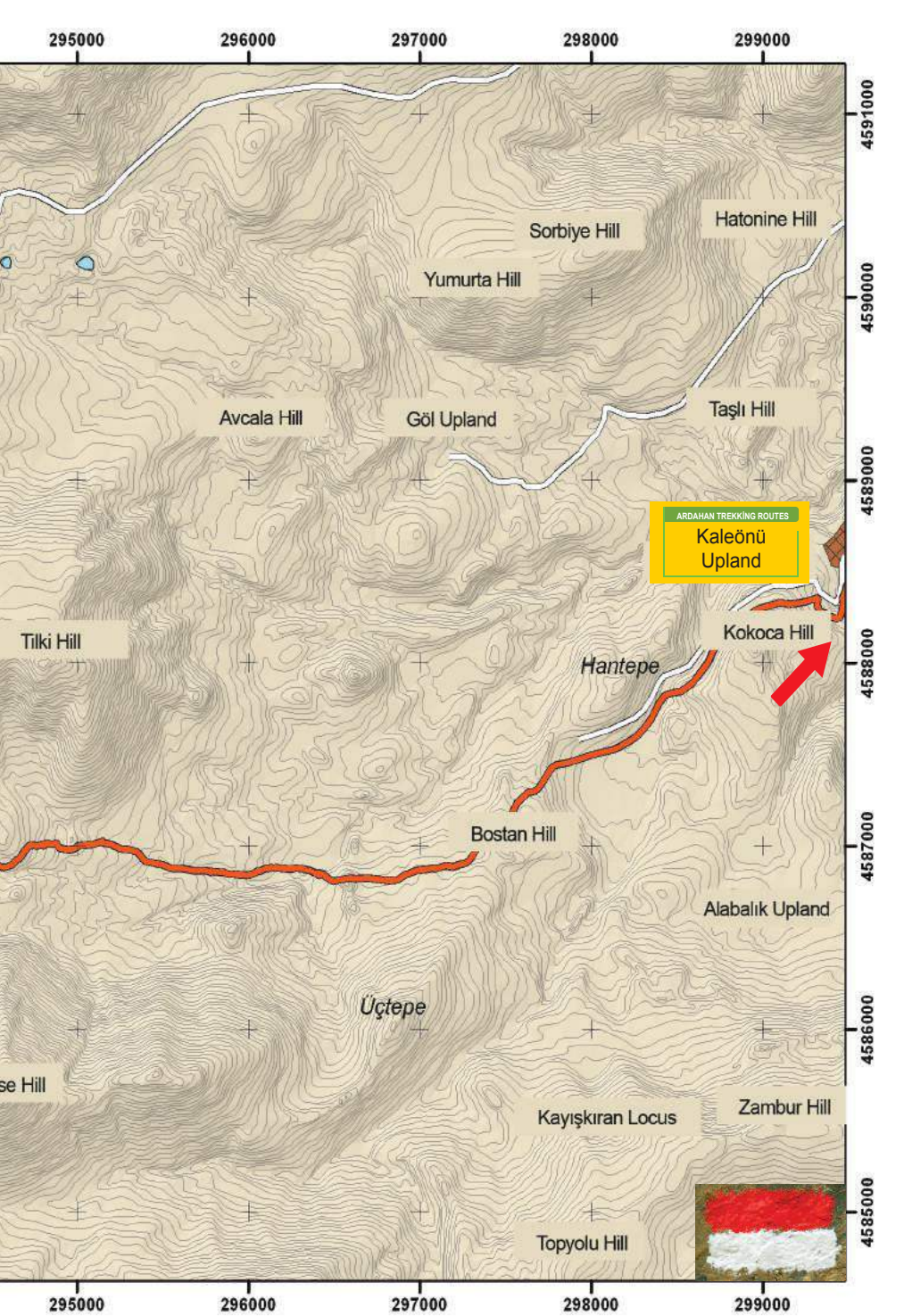
Posta (Karakol) and Deve lakes, then Muğoul Lake with Arsiyan Highland view. With its wooden houses, Arsiyan, one of the most beautiful highlands of Artvin, is your last stop.

Those who have time may add two more days to climb to Arsiyan Mountain climax and for Kız Lake route.



Arsiyan Boğa Lake







Route 17

Yeniköy-Bağdeşen (16 km)

Difficulty Level: Easy

Maximum Altitude: 2030 m

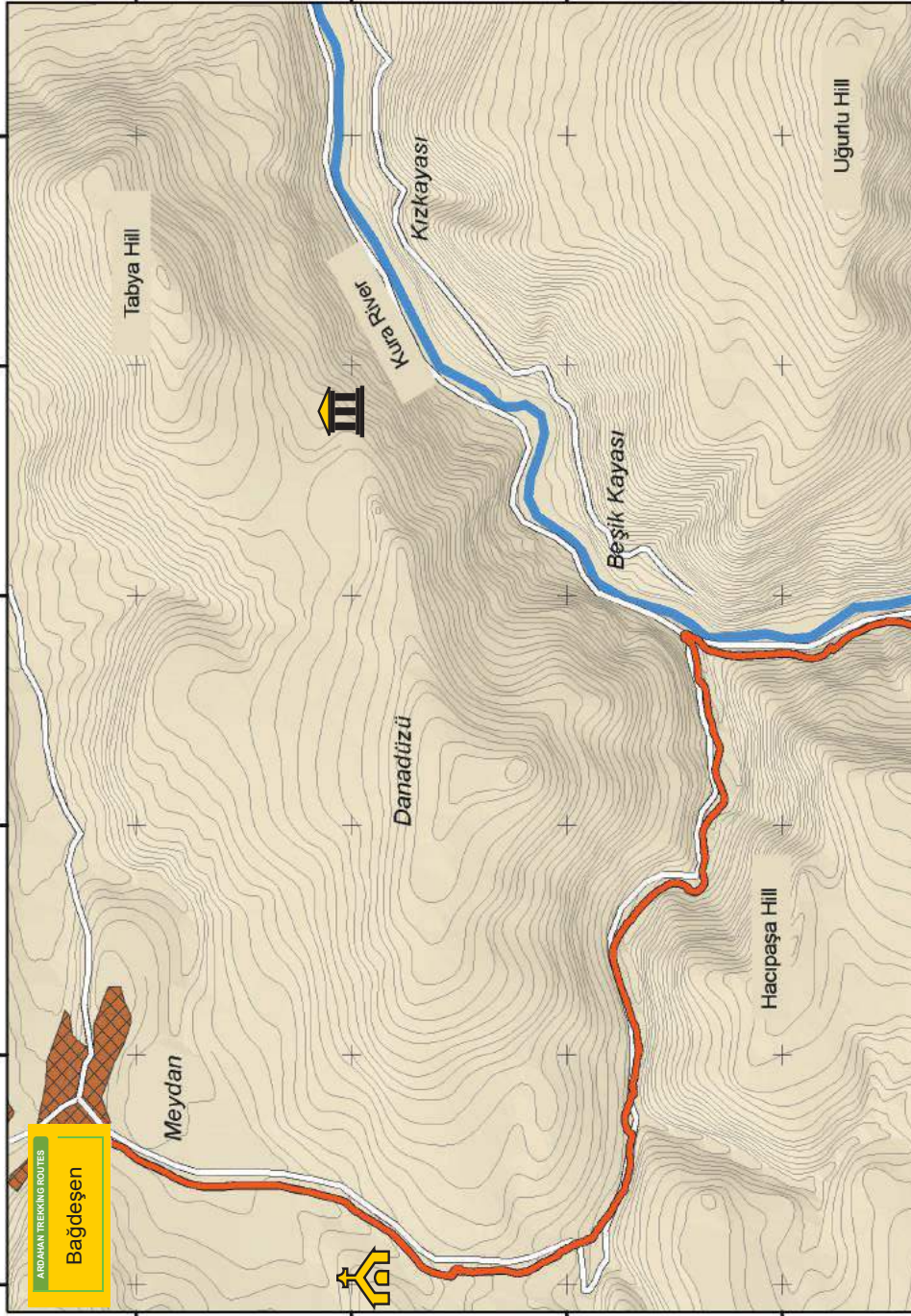
Minimum Altitude: 1932 m

As another version of Route 15, this route offers an enjoyable journey among the natural and historical values of Kura Valley hosting human settlements since old ages. The route follows the same route with route 15 until Konsula Taşı locality. Here, you will take left turn from the crossroad and start rising along Tavget Stream. You will leave the forest road at the bridge, and enter into the path. Ahead of you, the signs will make you leave from the stream basin, and direct to another path continuing towards right. When you reach the plane, you will see the ruins of a church. Then, you will reach an earth road again, and reach Bağdeşen Village.



4548000 4547000 4546000 4545000

285000 284000 283000 282000 281000 280000



ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES
Bağdeşen

Tabya Hill

Danadirtzi

Hacipaşa Hill

Uğurtu Hill

Kızkayası

Beşik Kayası

Kura River

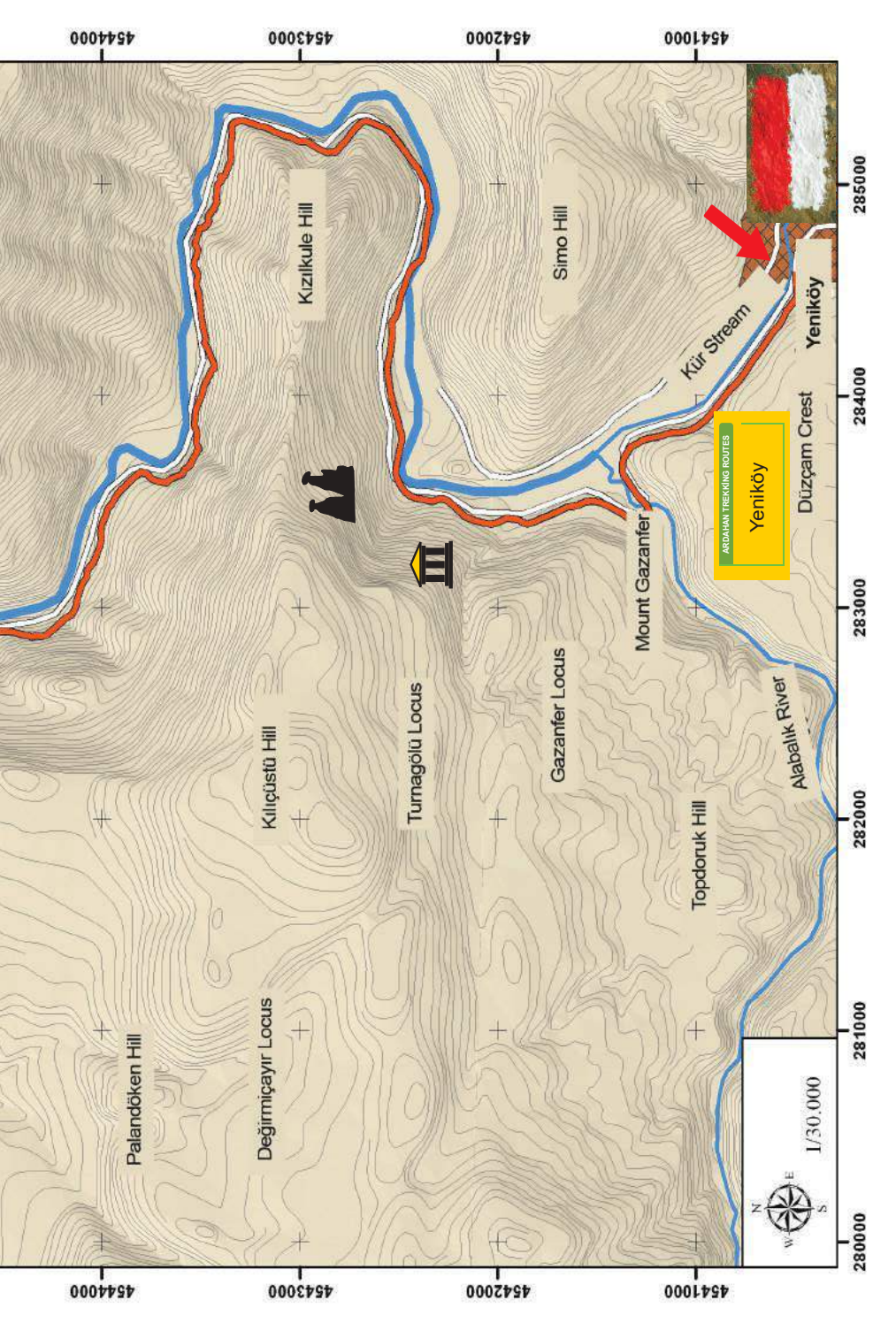
Meydan

4548000

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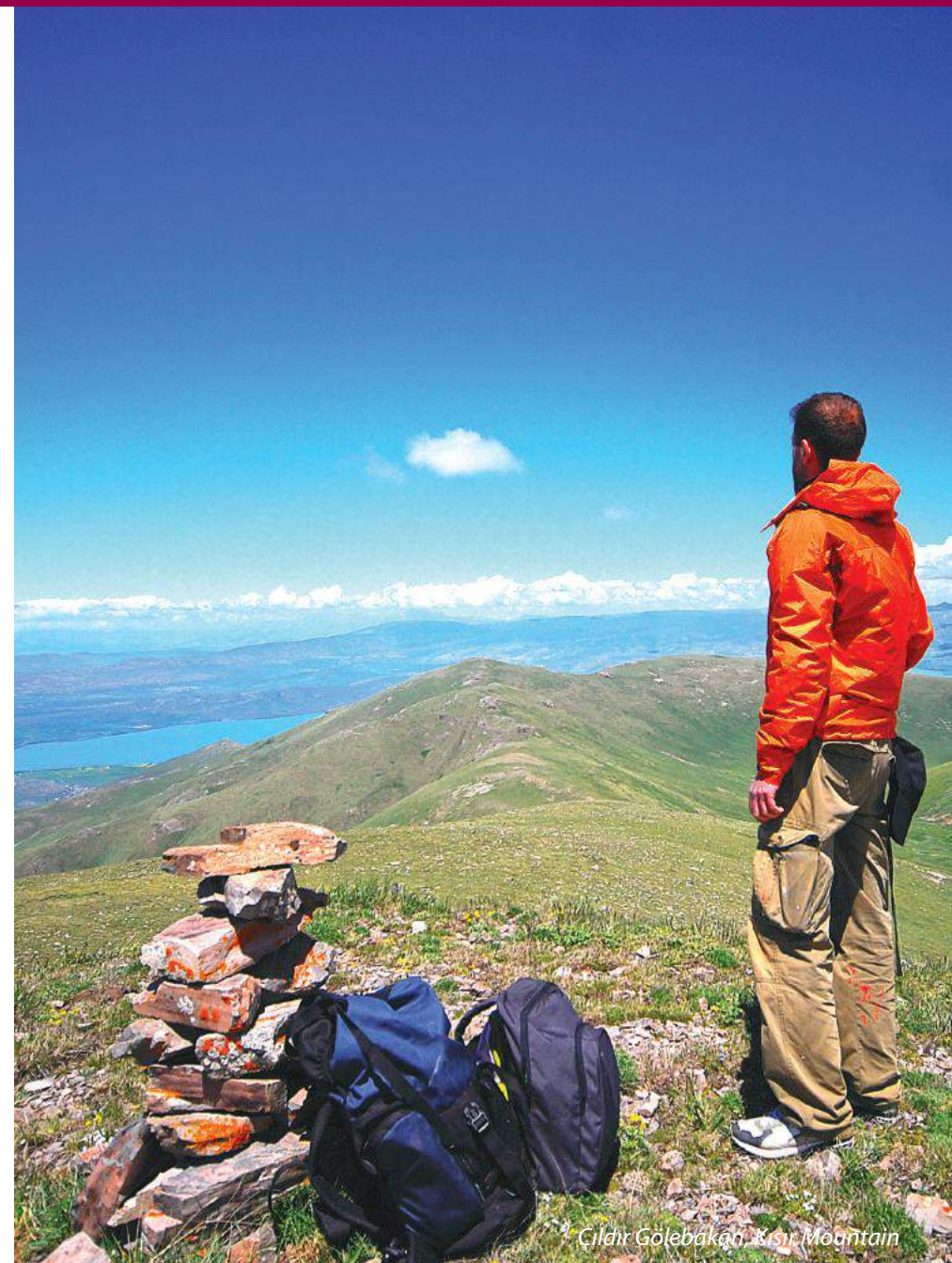
4545000



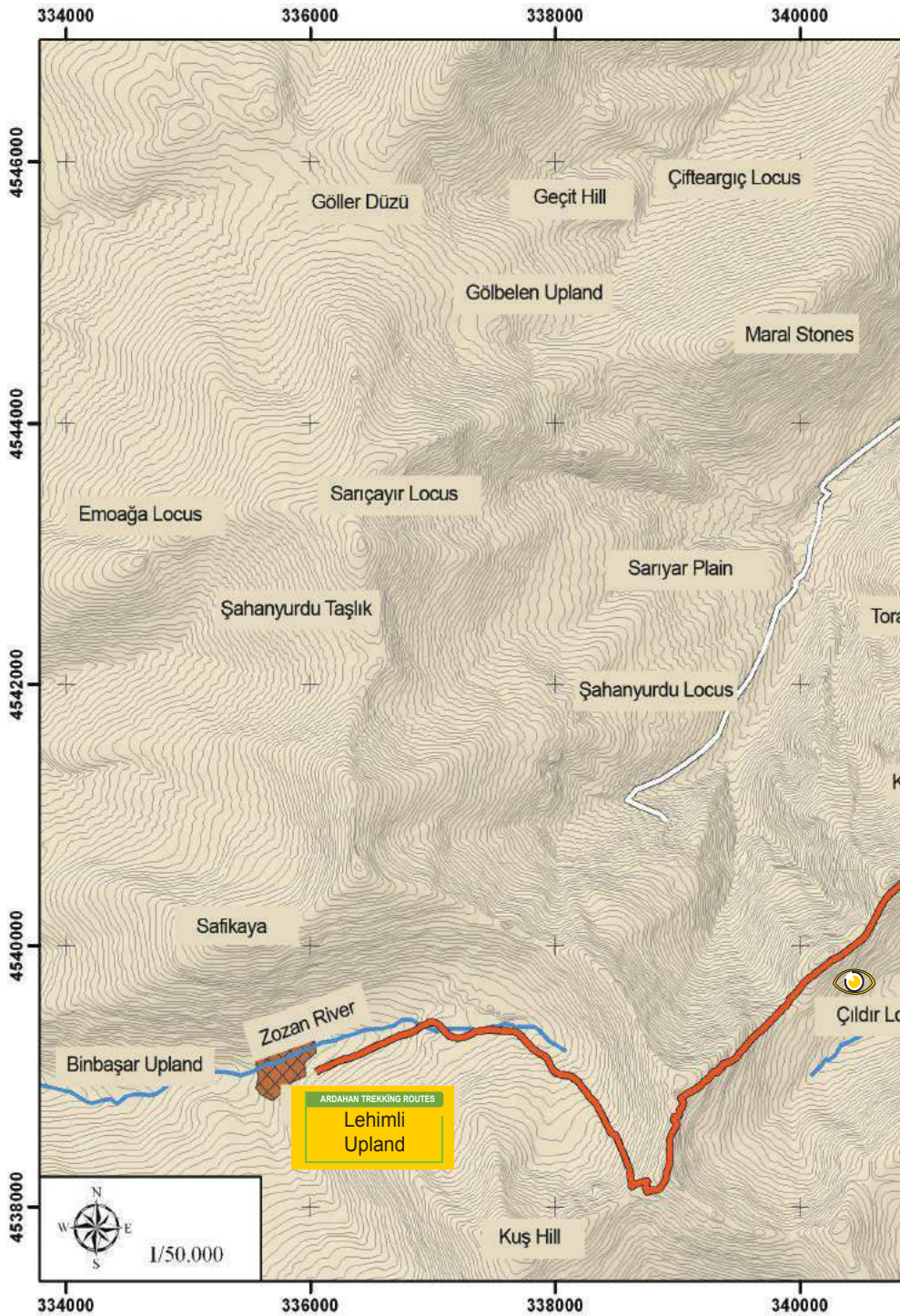


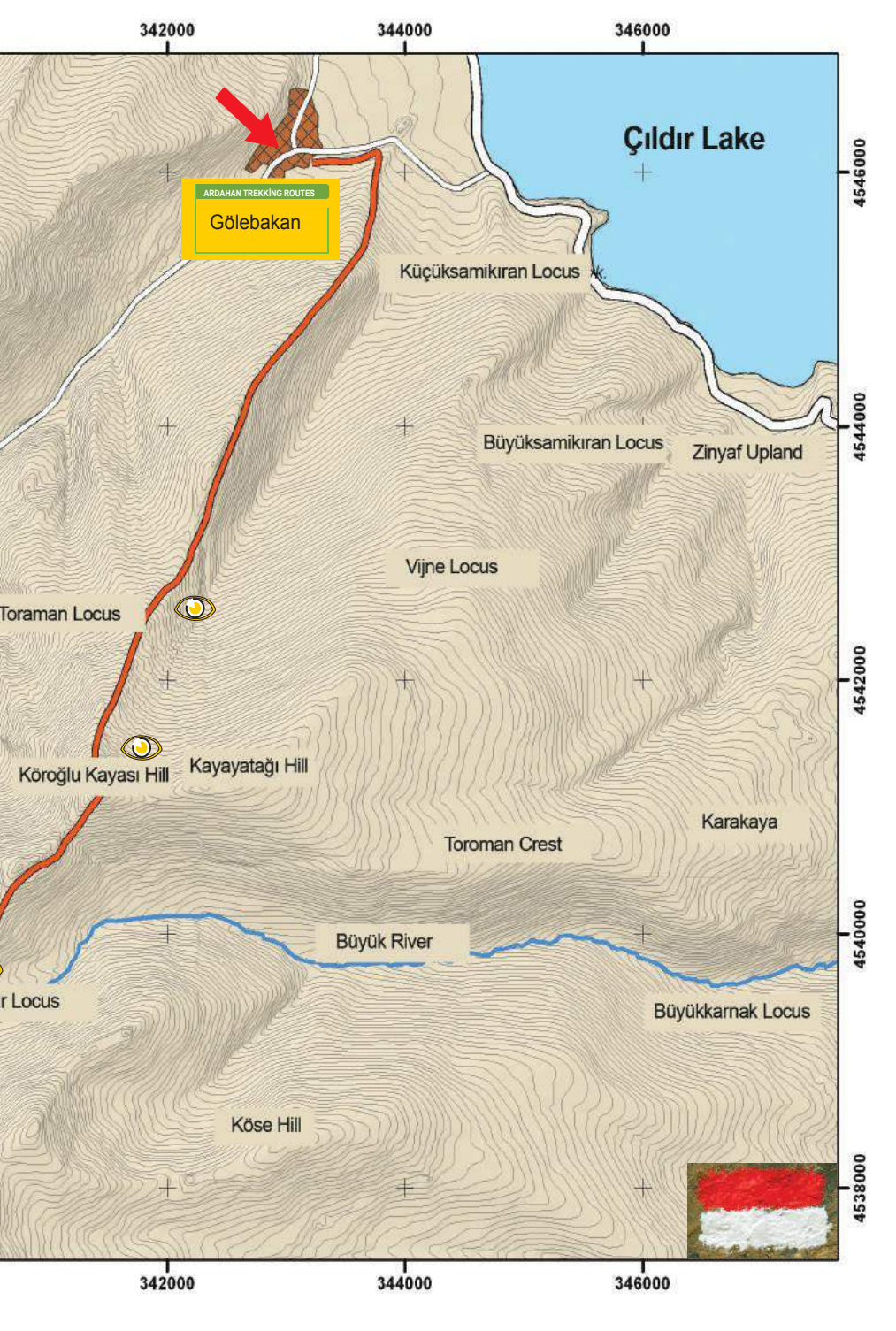
Situated by Çıldır Lake, Gölebakan Village is known for its mosque converted from a church. We start trekking from the mosque and gradually rise. Our first target is Haso Rock situated among the left sides of the valley facing the village. Çıldır Lake creates a different photograph frame by displaying its blue color.

The next target after Haso Rock is Koroğlu Rock. With a short decline at first and then rise, you move ahead by checking your breath. Now you reached 3000-meter hills. When you arrive at Koroğlu Rock, you will see all three valleys. The one on the left is Kars-Arpaçay, in the middle Kars-Susuz, and on the right valleys of Ardahan highlands. You will see 3197-meter Kısır climax ahead of you with all its glory. From this point to the climax you have 1.5-hour trekking. After the trekking to the climax, you can turn back, descend to Koroğlu Hill and arrive at Lehimli Highland.



Cıldır Gölebakan Kısı Mountain







Route 19:

Ardahan-Balıkçılar (21 km)

Difficulty Level: Medium

Maximum Altitude: 1790 m

Minimum Altitude: 1735 m

A route to be preferred by those who seek an adventurous journey along Kura Valley. You will follow the river in its flow direction, along Kura basin drawing wide curves, entering into narrow straits and widening sometimes. The route is quite easy until Kartalpınar Village. Drawing “s”s at the village exit, Kura will be difficult to pass with its corridor narrowing at some points. The probability to meet boars is quite high at these points, watch out.

While following the path continuing along the left side of the river, you will see Kazan Castle on one of the hills ahead of you. Gradually widening valley will cause the flow rate of the river to decrease. The path you follow will hit a tractor road, and continue until Balıkçılar Village. When you reach the settlement, you may cross the bridge and walk to the village center.



Göle - Budaklı

308000

310000

312000

Kışli Hill

Topkaya

Yıkıkbaşı Hill

Tekdoruk Hill

4560000

Evgenek Hill

4558000

Kızılğüney Hill

Ramazan Bastion Hill

Purto Upland

Çiftler Hill

Kartalpınar

Kura River

Taşkıran Hill

Teknecik Locus

Küçük Hill

Yataklar Hill

Çadırcı Locus

Putka Lake

4556000

Ortageçit

Eskic

Abupınarı Locus



ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES

Ardahan

Dengizoğlu Locus

4554000

Singertab



1/50.000

308000

310000

312000

314000

316000

318000

320000

Şahinbey Hill

Kızılgüney Hill

Harmanyeri Hill

Büyükdağ Hill

Karhane Locus

Hamidin Upland

Kışla

Hastane Hill

Topdorum Hill

Hamamlı Hill

Sırakaya Hill

Kura River



ARDAHAN TREKKING ROUTES
Balıkçılar

Hamamlık Forest

Ziyaret Hill

Çamlıçatak

Taşhane Hill

Ölçek

Uzunçayır Locus

Batakköprü Locus

Çakmaklı Locus

Mount Orta

314000

316000

318000

320000

4560000

4558000

4556000

4554000





With each route explained above in detail, this long route can be planned for 4 nights and 5 days, in camps.

- Day 1: Yalnızçam Skiing Facilities - Yalnızçam Highland (4 km)
- Day 2: Yalnızçam Highland-Yeniköy (13 km)
- Day 3: Yeniköy-Bağdeşen (16 km)
- Day 4: Bağdeşen - Bülbülan Highland (9 km)
- Day 5: Bülbülan Highland-Karagöl- Geçitli Highland (9 km)

Accommodation will be in village houses in Yeniköy and Bağdeşen and in a hotel in Bülbülan Highland.



Çıldır - Kuzukaya



Kisir Mountain Lehimli Highland



CYCLING ROUTES

Route 1: Ardahan-Eski Yol-Hanak (23 km)

Beginning from Ardahan Castle, the route turns left from Şavşat road and heads towards Koyunpınarı Village. Following the old road to Hanak, the route begins from 1800 meters, climbs to 2060 meters at first, and then descends to Hanak county in 1830-meter altitude.

Route 2: Ardahan-Çıldır (43 km)

Covered asphalt completely, this route begins from 1800-meter altitude, and reaches 2100 meters. The last part of the route, which is not very exhausting with its small ups and downs, contains climbing down to Çıldır county center located in 1930-meter altitude.

Route 3: Göle-Yavuzlar-Ardahan (55 km)

Containing many ups and downs and to exhaust your muscles, this route starts from Göle county center (2037 m.). Turning into an earth road after Yavuzlar Village, this part of route is a ramp climbing to 2310 meters. After Küçüksütlüce without pedaling you may descend towards the finish point in 1800 meters.

Route 4: Ardahan-Yalnızçam-Dedegül-Ardahan (55 km)

A route with most of it through a straight line, without any ramps and can be tried by almost all 'two-wheel fans'. Drawing a large circle around Kura River, the route reaches its starting point Ardahan through a different way.

Route 5: Ardahan-Sulakyurt-Yokuşdibi-Çetinsu-ÇeğilliÇatalkopru- Yalnızçam-Ardahan (57 km)

As another version of Route 4, this is a nice route without any ups and downs. Ideal for those, who want to do exercise.



**Route 6:
Ardahan-Şavşat Karagöl (70 km)**

A great route starting from Ardahan plateau and going through the beauties of Karagöl-Sahara National Park. The first part of the route climbs from 1800 meters to 2410 meters. Accompanied by green forests at the highest point, you climb down to 1045 meters. After relaxing the muscles that are exhausted in the long ramp, we take Veliköy ramp in 1286-meter altitude in Şavşat exit. The last part covers a downward route to emerald green Şavşat-Karagöl in 1570-meter altitude.

**Route 7:
Çıldır-Lake-Çıldır (71 km)**

This cycling route drawing a wide circle around Eastern Anatolia's 2nd biggest lake starts from Çıldır county center and surrounds Çıldır Lake. Passing small hills between 1900-2000 meters, the route has an earth road between Taşköprü-Gölebakan, and asphalt in the other parts. Note that a part of the route goes through Kars provincial borders.

**Route 8 :
Ardahan-Hanak-Damal-Posof (80 km)**

Used also by many cyclists from foreign countries, this cycling route starts from 1800 meters and climbs up to 2650 meters. After Ilgar Passage, you climb down without pedaling until 1370 meters, and forget your tiredness. To overstrain you with many ups and downs, this route makes you encounter with variable weather conditions particularly around Ilgar Mountain.

**Route 9:
Ardahan-Yalnızçam-Bülbülalan Highland-Ardanuç (86 km)**

One of the difficult routes to fascinate cyclists with historical and natural beauties. Climbing from Ardahan city center in 1800-meter altitude to Bülbülalan Highland situated in 2650-meter altitude and then, down to Ardanuç in 555-meter will exhaust you. During this difficult climb you will see not only historical places such as castles and churches, but also beauties hidden by the nature.



JEEP SAFARI – SCENIC VEHICLE ROAD

Route 1:

Ardahan-Eski Yol-Hanak-İncedere-Cenkelek Highland-Sarzap Highland-Meşeli Quarter-Çakırlı Vicinity-Şavşat Karagöl (62 km)

After visiting the highlands of Ardahan and Artvin situated on the hills of Yalnızçam, the route ends in Şavşat-Karagöl, which is one of the most beautiful lakes of Artvin, and promises an adrenalin-packed adventure. This trip to be realized between early June, when the highlanders migrate and snow begins to melt, and late October must be in high bumper vehicles.

Route 2:

Ardahan-Old Road-Hanak-Ortakent-Karakurt-Aktaş Lake-Çıldır (66 km)

To satisfy the guests not only with visuality, but also historically-culturally, the route stops by the tourism venues around Kura River Valley and villages, where you can observe the everyday life of the East. Note that in the route, between Ortakent and Kurtkale is earth, while the remaining is asphalt.

**Route 3:
Posof-Kolköy-Arsiyan Highland-Pınarlı-Veliköy-Şavşat Karagöl (71 km)**

Our route, the first part of which climbs from 1370 meters to 2585 meters, follows Posof Stream Valley. Then, after passing the passage between Arsiyan and Kızıldağ, it enters into Artvin borders. Accompanied by breathtaking landscapes ornamented with lakes, wild mountains and highlands, the journey ends in Şavşat Karagöl.

**Route 4:
Posof-Aşağıdeğirmenci-Kolköy-Posof (84 km)**

We will have a scenic journey covering both sides of Posot Stream Valley. Along the route to explore hidden beauties of Ardahan among nice villages and small lakes, you will have the opportunity to see unique flowers of Posof county, with its own microclimate.

**Route 5:
Ardahan-Göle-Esenboğaz-Bozkuş-Yaylacık-Bozkale-Kars (236 km)**

Passing Allahuekber Mountains aligned between Ardahan and Kars, this route does not allow passage during winter. Road is earth between Esenboğaz and Bozkale. We recommend you not to try Esenboğaz-Bozkuş part particularly during rainy days. After Bozkuş village, those who wish may go to Selim county instead of Kars city center.



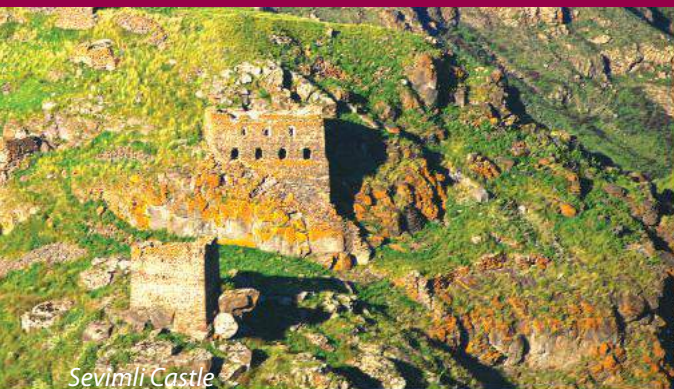
CULTURAL TOURS



Ardahan Center - Altas Castle



CULTURAL TOURS



Sevimli Castle



Kırnav Castle



Sarıyamaç Tower



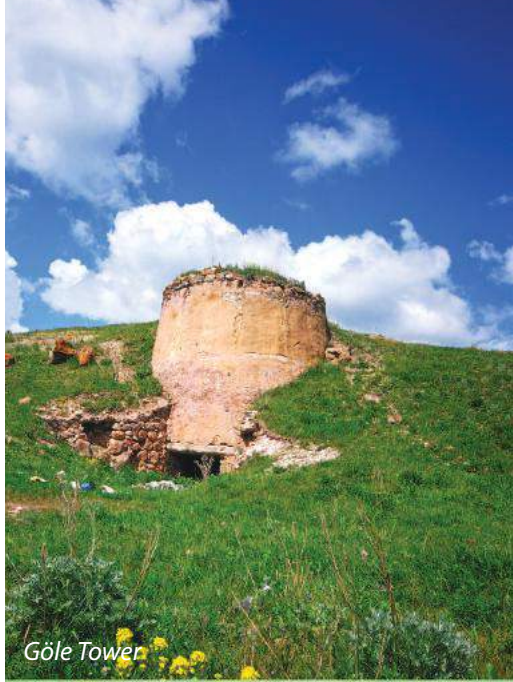
Savaşır (Cancak) Castle



Mere Castle

Castles Route

With its castles as the cultural memory of the history of thousands of years, Ardahan deserves the title 'City of Castles and Towers'. Exhibiting unique examples of architecture and art, castles and towers are the monuments carrying the past to today. These enormous buildings that were constructed for the purpose of defending the region as it is located on the old trade and migration roads spread throughout the city. Our route starts from Dedeşen in Göle county and continues with Kalecik Castle. Then, we stop by Yeniköy Tower, Kinzi Castle and Sarıyamaç Tower and arrive at Ardahan. Venues for the second day are Ardahan Castle, Kazan Castle, Ölçek Castle, Altaş (Ur) Castle, Kırnav Castle and ve Şeytan Castle. After the second day, when we will accommodate in Çıldır, you may visit Kurtkale, Sevimli, Avcılar (Kışlahanak), Mere, Cak, Savaşır (Cancak) and Kolköy castles as well as Söğütlükaya towers.



Göle Tower



Kinze Castle

CULTURAL TOURS



Yalnızçam Chapel



CULTURAL TOURS

Churches Route

With its past colored with a mosaic formed by multi-culturalism and different tribes, Ardahan's another tourism potential is churches. Churches and chapels situated by the roads, in settlement areas and in the middle of isolation spread throughout the city. Only a small part of the historical buildings that fail to resist against cruel history remained to our day.

Places and buildings to be seen on the route forming churches route are as follows:

In Göle county; Uğurlutaş (4 churches), Dedeşen Village, Budaklı Chapel, Sarne Bridge, Çakıldere Church

In Ardahan central county (2 churches); Yalnızçam Ekemet (2 churches), Kazan Castle, Ölçek Village (2 churches)

In Hanak county; Dilekdere, Börk and Sevimli churches

In Çıldır county; Sensop Church, Kurtkale (2 churches), Övündü (Vaşlop) Monastery, Gölbelen Church Mosque, Kayabeyi Church Mosque, Şeytan Castle, Kotanlı (Sikheref) Church

In Posof county; Cak Castle (2 churches), Çambeli and Alköy chapels

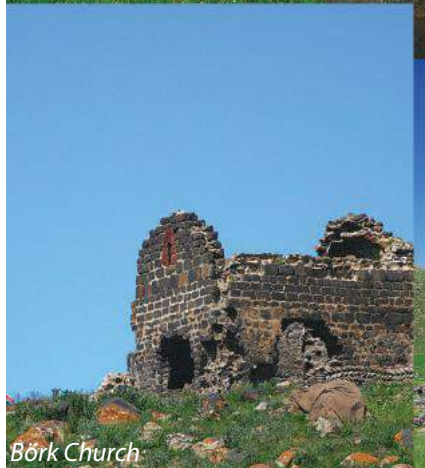
Among these buildings, those that are relatively in good condition are Budaklı, Çakıldere, Dilekdere, Börk, Sevimli, Sensop, Övündü, Gölbelen and Kayabeyi churches.



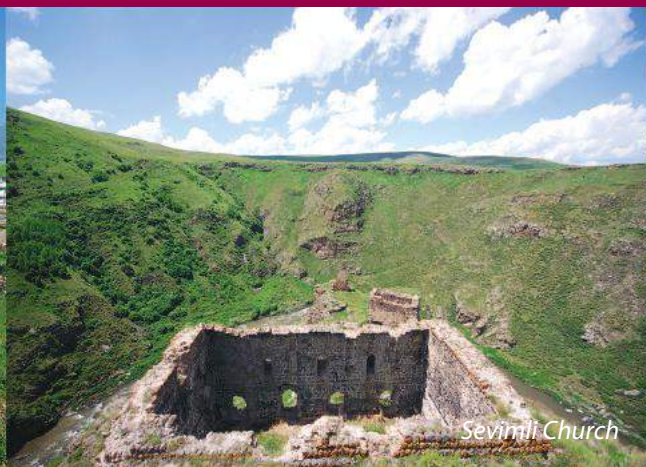
Ardahan



Budaklı Church



Börk Church



Sevinli Church



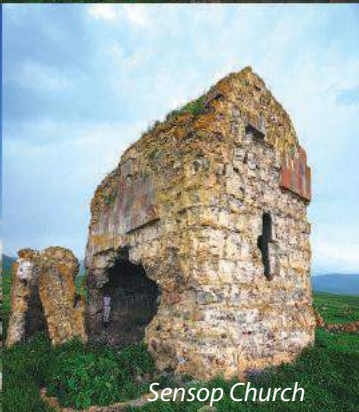
Övündü Church



Kotanlı Church



Dilekdere Church



Sensop Church

ARDAHAN WILDLIFE



Çıldır Lake

With its altitude, wetlands, yellow pine forests, meadows and location in intersection of Caucasia and Iran-Anatolia hot zones which are two of the 34 notable biodiversity zones of the world and in the world's most important bird migration routes, Ardahan is one of our country's most valuable regions. It is an important natural area of our country not only in terms of the richness of bird and plant variety, but also big carnivore species such as grizzly bear, wolf, fox and wildcat at the top of the food chain, which are ecological indicators and flag species.



Ardahan Bird Watching Areas

There are many options to watch wildlife in Ardahan. Containing natural areas that host many living species from birds to plants and from wolves to insects, this hidden paradise is waiting to be explored.



1. Çıldır Lake

When to go :

Can be visited throughout the year. It fascinates its visitors with its natural landscape during winter and summer.

How to go :

Situated on Ardahan-Kars road. Can be reached with a 40-minute bus or private car trip from Ardahan or Kars.

Common Bird Species :

In Çıldır Lake, which is located on bird migration routes, 101 bird species have been detected so far. Velvet Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*), which is hard to see in Turkey, is only one of them. Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*) and Little Grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*) are among the species that reproduce in the reeds by the lake.

Preservation Status:

Hunting reserve.

2. Aktaş Lake

The researches conducted in Aktaş Lake have revealed 42 bird species so far. Not exposed to research much, this lake and its surrounding are estimated to host more than 200 bird species.

When to go :

Between April-October.

How to go :

With private car, first get Ardahan, then Çıldır and then, towards north to Georgian border. Half of the lake is situated in Georgia.

Common Bird Species:

It was determined that the isles with different sizes within the lake are one of the three areas in Turkey, where Great White Pelican (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*) - (50 couples) incubates, and one of the seven areas, where Dalmatian Pelican (*Pelecanus crispus*) - (20 couples) incubates. The region is also the only wetland in Turkey, where these two species reproduce together. In the world, number of these areas is rapidly decreasing. Moreover, the lake is the only reproduction area of Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*) known in Turkey. In addition to this, thanks to Velvet Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) and Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*), it has the quality of "Important Bird Zone" (IBZ).

Preservation Status:

Military forbidden zone.



3. Lavaş Lake

Separated from Çıldır Lake, Lavaş Lake is a shallow and small lake. Despite high levels of water in spring, in late autumn, water level reduces. Birds use the lake more to feed and rest.

When to go :

Between April-September.

How to go :

You can reach the lake situated southwest of Ardahan only by private car.

Common Bird Species :

Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*) and Eurasian Coot (*Fulica atra*).

Preservation Status:

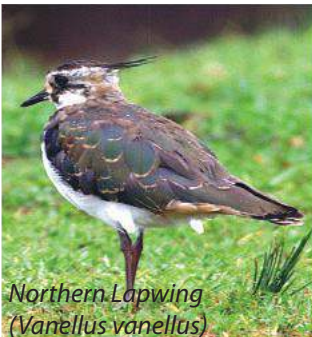
No preservation status.



*Long-legged
Buzzard (Buteo rufinus)*



White Stork (Ciconia ciconia)



*Northern Lapwing
(Vanellus vanellus)*



*Great White Pelican
(Pelecanus onocrotalus)*

4. Putka (Gölbası) Lake/Reeds

It is situated northeast of Ardahan, right next to Kura Valley, 5 km to the city center. A great part of Putka Lake in 1377-m altitude is covered by sedges, which are a species of meadow plant, with long and thin leaves with sharp edges, grown in wetlands. Putka Lake is surrounded by Ardahan forest at the north.

When to go :

Between April-October.

How to go :

You can reach by private cars or public transportation vehicles between Kars-Ardahan.

Common Bird Species :

In the lake 32 bird species have been detected so far. Among these species the most important one is Anatolian Common Crane (*Grus grus archibaldii*) thought to remain only 20 couples in the world.

Preservation Status:

No preservation status. The biggest threat in the area is that the new campus of Ardahan University is situated only 275 to the reeds.



Putka Lake

ARDAHAN WILDLIFE

5. Ardahan Forests

Starts from northeast Ardahan and follows Kura Valley. Current situation of the forests is in fragmented blocks.

When to go :

Between May-October.

How to go :

You can reach by private cars or public transportation vehicles between Kars-Ardahan.

Common Bird Species :

Black Vulture (*Aegypius monachus*) is known to reproduce in such parts, where the trees are old.

Preservation Status:

No preservation status.



Posof - Alabalik Village



6. Posof Forests

Situated 65 km north of Ardahan, these forests continue up to Georgian border. Posof Forests are covered with forest blocks consisting of trees grown in both Black Sea and East Anatolia regions. Spruce, fir, birch, oak and scotch pine can easily be observed in this forest, due to altitude difference.

When to go :

Between April-October.

How to go :

You can reach by private car or public transportation vehicles between Ardahan-Posof.

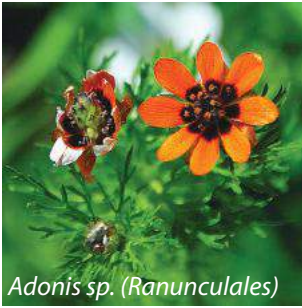
Common Bird Species :

The most important and common species in the area is Caucasian Grouse (*Tetrao mlokosiewiczii*) living only in Caucasia.

Preservation Status:

Wildlife Development Zone.

ARDAHAN FLORA and BOTANICAL TOURS



Adonis sp. (Ranunculales)



Gladiolus sp. (Fusariosis)



Papaver sp. (Papaver)

Ardahan is one of the natura or semi-natural areas of our country that shows an extraordinary richness in terms of plant diversity, containing populations of rare or endemic plants under threat.

According to the research studies, number of species constituting the city's flora is around 1500. This richness is stems from not only many plant species compared to the city size, but also 85 species with endemic quality. Ardahan is the place, where Caucasian plants (80 species) grow in Turkey. Many species are named after Caucasia. For example: *Philadelphus caucasicus*, *Antennaria caucasica*, *Anemone caucasica*.

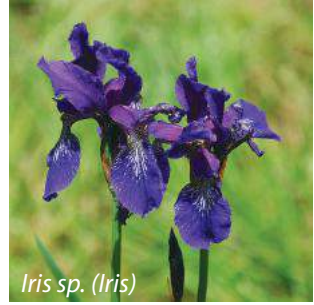
Wetland habitats in Çıldır Lake and its surrounding area host local and rare species in terms of flora. Most of Ardahan's species consist of grassy plants. Lake water hosts most *Eleocharis acicularis* plants found locally in Turkey. In the areas dries upon ebbing during summer and in the meadows around the lake, 10 plant species rarely seen in the country are seen.

To protect these rare species, namely *Liguria sibirica*, Caucasian lily, Artvin lily, mock-orange and Çıldır lilly, the works continue.

Ardahan geography hosts 5 Important Plant Areas (IPA). In addition to these IPAs, skirts of Kısır Dağı situated by Çıldır Lake (Bozyiğit Village) and Kısır Dağı's slopes at the side of Ardahan (Boğatepe Village) are the other areas to observe plant richness.

1- Yalnızçam Mountains IPA

They are situated in southeast of East Anatolian Mountains and their altitude reaches 3050 meters. Its flora consists of wide and humid eastern spruce (*Picea orientalis*) forest, mountain meadows containing rich plant species, subalpine meadows and open alpine pasturage lands. In the area almost 80 rare taxa which grow nowhere in Turkey are seen. These include *Bromus tometellus* subsp. *nivalis*, *Carex pseudofetida* subsp. *acrifolia*, *Centaurea dealbata*, *Delphinium flexuosum*, *Dianthus cretaceus*, *Doronicum macrophyllum*, *D. oblongifolium*, *Echinops pungens*. *Transcaucasicus*, *Hieradum radiatellum*, *Lilium kesselringianum*, *Luzula luzulina*, *Necranthus orobanchioides*, *Papaver monanthum*, *Paracaryum artvinense*, *Poa caucasica*, *Potentilla buchhneri* and *Verbascum drymophilum* can be added as well.



Iris sp. (Iris)



Polygonum sp. (Knotgrass)



Polygala sp. (Milkwort)



Lathyrus sp. (Pea flower)



Trifolium sp. (Trefoil)



Linum sp. (Linen)

2- Çıldır Lake IPA

Covering an area of 18,764 hectares, Çıldır Lake IPA contains oligotrophic lakes in Kars and Ardahan. The most important one among these lakes aligned in a high plateau at the northeastern edge of Anatolia is Çıldır Lake. In addition to Çıldır Lake with a size approximately 120 km², Putka (Gölbası) Lake and Çalı Lake are also included in IPA borders with the rare plant species they host. Plant species included in the rich flora of Europe and Asia's northern parts are found locally in Turkey. The most important examples include *Carex limosa*, *Potamogeton alpinus*, *Scholochloa festucacea* and *Sparganium minimum*, registered only in three places in Turkey.

3- Posof Birch Forests IPA

Consists of two sections within the borders of Posof county, with the one located in the northern sloped of Ucutepe (Kodivan Hill) and the other around Baykent Village and its highland. With continental climate being dominant, the IPA hosts subalpine and alpine vegetation. IPA is one of the rare areas, where birch trees form a forest. Growing in an area not under official preservation, *Ligularia sibirica* is a species included in Bern Convention Annexed List I and that requires preservation.

4- Ilgar (Çiçek) Mountains IPA

Ilgir Mountain IPA is a volcanic mountain situated at the south of Posof county, reaching 1500-2900 m. altitude from Posot River bed. IPA is the only area in Turkey, where rare species such as *Aconitum anthora*, *Philadelphus caucasicus* as well as endemic plants such as *Senecio integrifolius* subsp. *karsinus*, *Quercus macranthera* subsp. *sypsiensis*, *Tanacetum mucroniferum*, *T.coccineum* subsp. *chamaemelifolium* grow. In this not officially preserved IPA, a few woody and bushy plants are destroyed due to the need for wood.



Symphytum asperum
(Rough comfrey)



Papaver sp. (Papaver)

5- Göle-Kayınlık Stream IPA

Göle-Kayınlık Stream IPA is situated in Northeast Anatolia plateau, at the east of Ardahan's Göle county. Kayınlık Stream Valley hosts forest, stream and mountain steppe vegetation.

Valley's southern slope hosts a very healthy *Pinus sylvestris* stand. It is possible to see the best populations of *Onosma nigricaulis* species, which is not under protection and under risk in global scale.



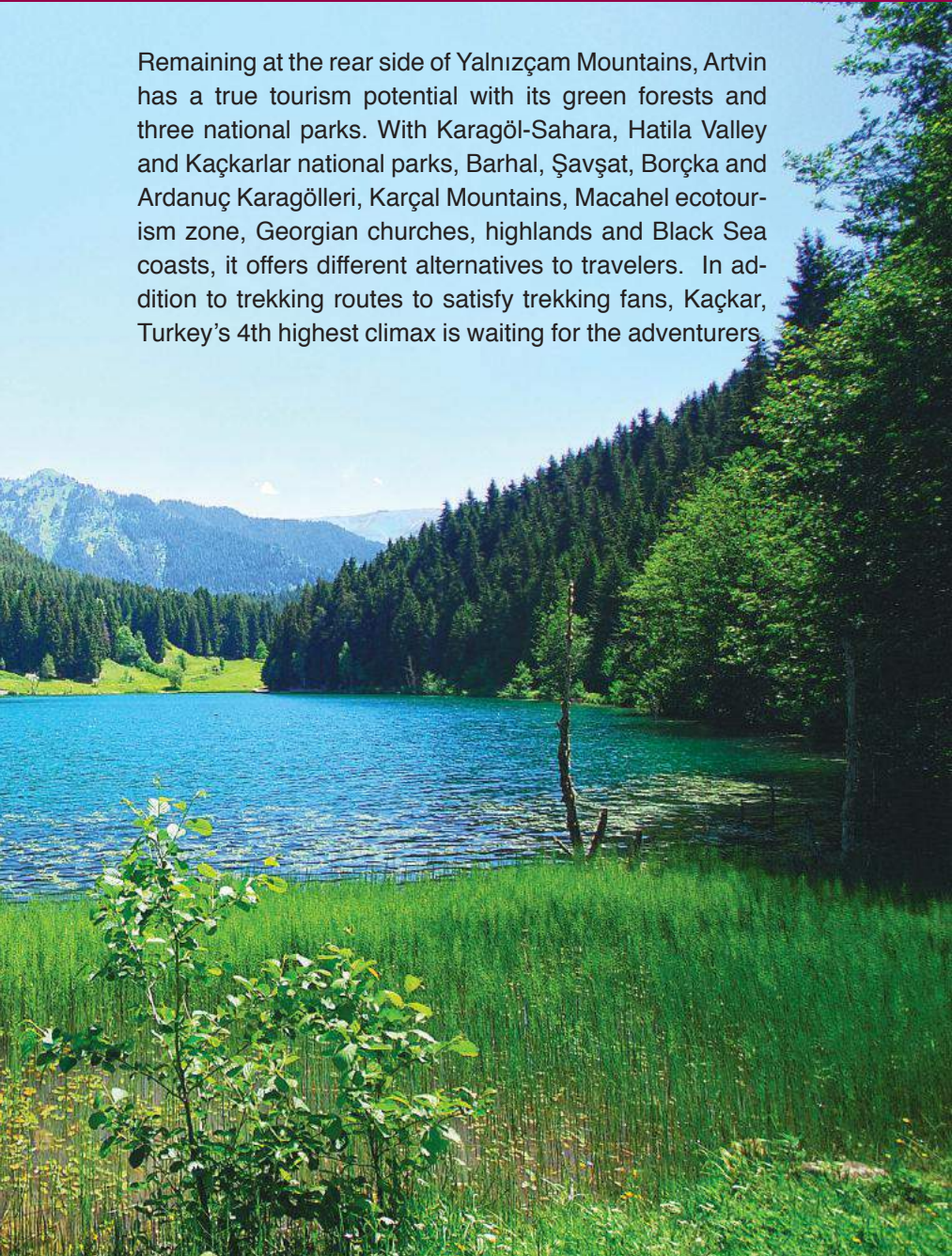
Trifolium sp. (Trefoil)

ARDAHAN - ARTVIN CULTURAL and ADVENTURE ROUTE



Artvin Şavşat - Karagözü

Remaining at the rear side of Yalnızçam Mountains, Artvin has a true tourism potential with its green forests and three national parks. With Karagöl-Sahara, Hatila Valley and Kaçkarlar national parks, Barhal, Şavşat, Borçka and Ardanuç Karagölleri, Karçal Mountains, Macahel ecotourism zone, Georgian churches, highlands and Black Sea coasts, it offers different alternatives to travelers. In addition to trekking routes to satisfy trekking fans, Kaçkar, Turkey's 4th highest climax is waiting for the adventurers.



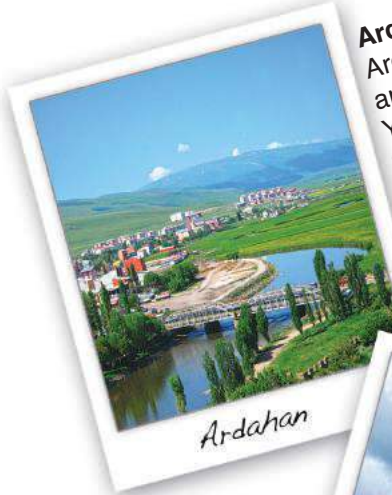
ARDAHAN - KARS CULTURE AND NATURE TRIP

Kars city center is full of works displaying elegant examples of civil architecture, in addition to the historical and cultural texture. City tour supported by the city center map and direction signs prepared with the project as a groundbreaking step in Turkey, makes the guests have enjoyable time. After a visit to Ani, nature lovers can make bird watching in Kuyucuk Lake or trek in Susuz Valley trekking routes. History lovers can have a mysterious journey to the past in martyrs' cemetery, castles, bastions or churches routes. In Boğaköyü Ecotourism Village, you can witness the processes of cheese making and healing plant drying. You can have an enjoyable time in Sarıkamış's worldwide renowned ski routes located in one of Kars' biggest counties or trekking routes.



Kars - Ani Ancient City





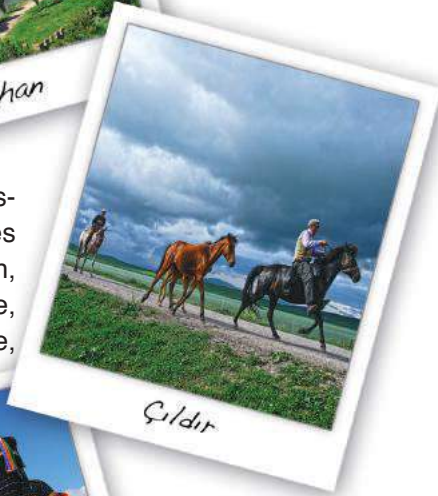
Ardahan

Ardahan Center

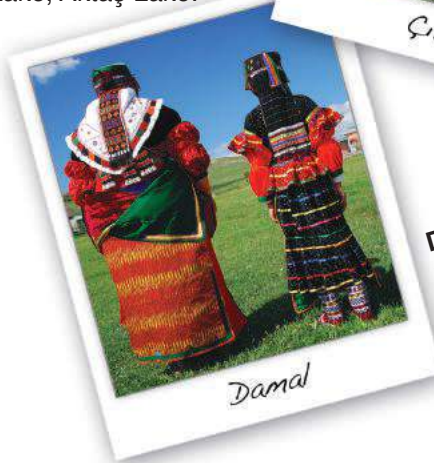
Ardahan Castle, bastions, examples of civil architecture, Yalnızçam Tourism Center, Kinzi Castle, Sarıyamaç Tower, Kazan Castle, Altaş Castle, Ölçek Castle, Putka (Gölbaşı) Lake, Kura River Valley, Cemal Tural picnic area, City Forest, Yalnızçam and Bülbülân highlands.

Çıldır

Akçakale sit area, Şeytan Castle, Kurtkale, Övündü caves and church, Sensop Church, Kayabeyi Church Mosque, Gölbelen Church Mosque, Çıldır Lake, Aktaş Lake.



Çıldır

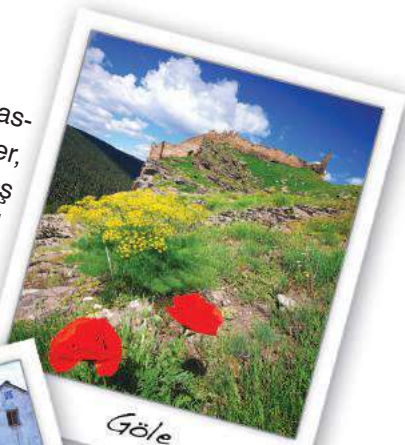


Damal

Damal

Yukarı Gündeş Atatürk silhouette, Damal doll exhibition.

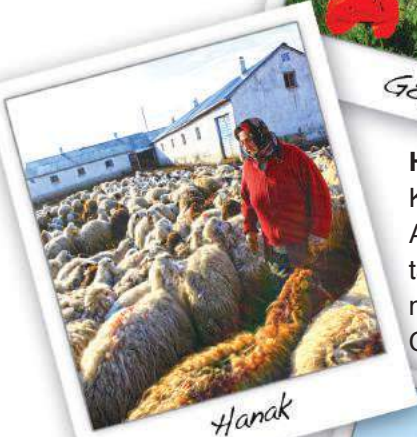
Göle
Kalecik Castle, Dedeşen Castle and Tomb, Yeniköy Tower, Budaklı Church, Uğurlutaş churches, Okçuoğlu Highland



Göle

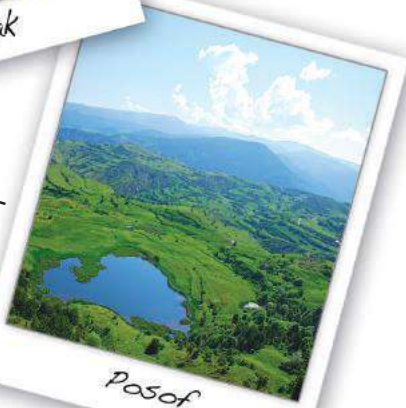
Hanak

Kırnav Castle, Sevimli Castle, Avcılar (Kışlahanak) Castle, Ortakent Harosman cave settlement, Dilekdere Church, Börk Church, Hanak highlands.



Hanak

Posof
Mere, Cak, Savaşır (Cancak) and Kolköy castles, Arile, Sülüklü, Kamaşlık, Ayaz, Kanlı, Nebahdiev, Kelorman, Kızıl, Ayı, Karagöl and Armutveren lakes.



Posof

WHAT TO BUY?



We recommend Damal dolls, carpets and rugs, honey and cheese varieties, as well as apple, plum, mulberry rollups and marmalade from Posof to those, who visit Ardahan.

Ardahan hosts several festivals throughout the year. These special days are golden opportunities for the travelers to get to know the city's culture and traditions and to buy local products.

Festivals

Çıldır Lake Festival	: July
Ardahan Honey Festival	: August
Damal Festival (In Yukarı Gündeş mountains)	: 15 June-15 July
Göle National Cheese Festival	: First week of July
Canibek Highland Festival (Göle-Köprülü)	: First week of July
Bülbülan Highland Festival	: 15-16 July
Hoçvan Highland Festival	: First week of July





Fishing in Çıldır Lake



Yalnızçam Ski Center

Distances of some cities to Ardahan;

İstanbul	1428	km.
Ankara	1110	km.
Trabzon	345	km.
Erzurum	239	km.
Artvin	119	km.
Kars	91	km

Distances of Ardahan's counties to the center;

Çıldır	55 km.
Damal	41 km.
Göle	63 km.
Hanak	26 km.
Posof	71 km.

Coach Firms

Özlem Ardahan : 0090 478 2113568 - www.ozlemardahan.com.tr

Karaca Ardahan: 0090 478 2113200 - www.karacatur.com.tr

Esadaş : 0090 478 2112103 - www.esadas.com

Air Transportation

There is no airport in Ardahan. For air transportation, Kars Airport situated 91 kilometers to the city center is used. Several firms have flights to and from Istanbul, and Ankara everyday and İzmir twice a week.



ACCOMMODATION

Centre

Kafkas Arı Hotel (3*)

Tel : 0090 478 2113680
Fax : 0090 478 2113677
e-posta : kafkasariotel@hotmail.com
Web Site : www.kafkasariotel.com

Büyük Ardahan Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 2116498
Faks : 0090 474 2116526
e-posta : ardahanoteli@mynet.com
Web Site : www.buyukardahanotel.com

Kura Hotel (2*)

Tel : 0090 478 2113458

Huzur Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 2112838

Sevimli Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 2112919

Başak Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 2113010-2113331

Belediye Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 2113717
Fax : 0090 478 2112309

Balcı Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 2116090

Marzı Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 2113165

Damla Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 2115003

Serhat Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 2114390

Avrasya Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 2112885

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Göle

Saadet Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 4112026

Akçay Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 4113904

Web Site : www.goleakcayotel.com

Damla Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 4113383

Posof

Klas Hotel (2*)

Tel : 0090 478 5112211

Ateş Hotel

Tel : 0090 478 5112818-5112578-511 26 59

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Police	155
Gendarmerie	156
Emergency	112
Forest Fire	177

Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism

Tel : 0090 478 2114858

Web Site : www.ardahankulturturizm.gov.tr

CAMPING SITES

City Forest, Cemal Tural picnic area, Gle picnic area, ıldır Lake, Posof lakes, Yalnızçam forest and highlands are among the camping sites in the region.



INFORMATION and LOCAL GUIDANCE

GPS coordinates and information : www.ardahantrekking.com
info@ardahantrekking.com

Zakir AKIN (Sarıkamış) : 0541 2103175
zakir-akin@hotmail.com

İshak ALASERHAT (Sarıkamış) : 0554 7684793
akademik_olgu@hotmail.com

CONSULTANCY ON NATURAL LIFE AND CONDITIONS

KuzeyDoğa Society : www.kuzeydoga.org
emrah@kuzeydoga.com

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1. Our Gateway to Caucasia: Ardahan
Provincial Directorate of Cultural and Tourism, 2012
2. City of Castles and Towers
Prof. Dr. Hamza GÜNDOĞDU, 2000
3. Hidden Garden of Snowy Highlands “Flora of Ardahan”
Neriman ÖZHATAY, Özgür EMİNAĞAOĞLU, Sezgin ESEN Ardahan
Governorate Provincial Directorate of Environment and Forestry
4. KuzeyDoğa Society Archive

LEGEND

	MARTYRDOM
	CASTLE
	HISTORICAL SITE and MUSEUM
	CHURCH
	WATERFALLS
	VIEWPOINT
	CAMPGROUND
	CHIMNEY ROCK
	RESTAURANT
	FOUNTAIN
	TOWER