

# The Inspiring City

**AYŞE  
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MAYOR of ESKİŞEHİR  
METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY





Eskişehir, a city that was famous for its dust and mud in the past and suffered from the pains of underdevelopment, has become one of the rare cities in our country that has changed its ill fate. As the Metropolitan Municipality, thanks to the projects we have been carrying out without interruption, Eskişehir is now a city that is known, recognized and awarded nationally and internationally, and is a source of pride for all of us.

Becoming a city that lives in every aspect has only been possible together with my dear fellow citizens, who have given great support to continuous change and transformation. This change has added self-confidence to our city and increased morale and motivation of individuals of all ages by making them feel more comfortable.

Thus, Eskişehir has become a city where everyone not only wants to visit but also wants to live, with its quality of life that makes people happy.

I believe with all my heart that our beautiful Eskişehir, shining like a star in the middle of the steppe, will continue to be a hope for our country with its dazzling beauties in the second century of our Republic .

Eskişehir, a symbol of hope, peace and love, which is an inspiration to all cities in Türkiye with its cultural background, belief in the future, and its historical and cultural texture, as well as modern urbanism projects; will continue to be a city that we are proud of.



**Ayşe Ünlüce**  
**Mayor of Eskişehir Metropolitan Municipality**

## The city makes the civilization



With the light rail system project we implemented, we have covered all four corners of the city with a railroad network. We have made Eskişehir a pedestrian-friendly city by providing pedestrianized areas with a clean and modern transportation system. With the vision that what needs to be transported is people, not vehicles, we have integrated the new bike paths into the contemporary and integrated transportation system. Thus, we have reduced carbon emissions and identified with a system, that is sustainable, environmentally friendly, and civilized transportation system to our city.



## The city adds beauty



We have restored the Porsuk River, which divides our city throughout for 12 kilometers, to its former aliveness with rehabilitation works. We have turned the Porsuk River, which is located in the heart of the city, into a necklace that adorns Eskişehir with beautiful bridges over it, landscaping arrangements made around it. We have brought the Porsuk River, on which we organize tourist trips with boats and gondolas, to our city as a very special meeting place where still water sports, concerts, and shows are held, too.

## The city makes you gain



We have introduced the Historical Odunpazarı Houses, the oldest settlement area of Eskişehir, to visitors as a new tourism center thanks to the transformation projects we have implemented. With projects such as the transformation of historical mansions into boutique hotels, museum complexes, art streets, and touristic handicraft workshops, we have brought new functions to these structural values that are the memory of our city. We have ensured that the Odunpazarı Region, which keeps the spirit of the past alive with its old vitality, has captured today's spirit and embraced its visitors.

## The city keeps everything alive



We transformed the old and dysfunctional Vegetable and Fruit Market into a Haller Youth Center and restored the old slaughterhouse into a restaurant in Kentpark, thus providing Eskişehir with new centers of attraction. The Haller Youth Center, integrated with the Nation Monument and Nation Square, has become a popular hangout not only for Eskişehir residents, but also for hundreds of thousands of visitors every year in terms of adding value to the city.



## The city supports culture and art



Acting with the vision that the city raises, educates, and unites people, Eskişehir has become the Culture and Art Capital of Anatolia with its theater, opera, symphony orchestra, shows, exhibitions, concerts, and stages. In addition to the festivals, our city also hosts national and international events in halls where applause never ceases and has proven itself as a special city with the support it gives to art and artists.



## The city brings people together



In order to bring the people of the city together with different cultural backgrounds into the same feelings and common spaces, we have implemented two giant park projects as the first step.

## The city brings people together



The first of these projects, Kent Park, is renowned for its stunning landscaping and artificial beach, located in a city without sea borders in Anatolia. In addition, Kentpark has become the center of attention for both Eskişehir residents and visitors from outside the city with its horse riding arena, promenade areas, outdoor and indoor swimming pools, and event and sports areas. We continue to increase our green space and cultural meeting richness with our several new thematic park projects such as Anıt Park, Eskişehir Paju Friendship Park and Active Life Park.

## The city brings people together



The second of these Sazova Science Culture and Art Park, is another center of attraction with its amphitheater where various shows take place, the mini tour train, which travels throughout the park on the old narrow-gauge line that was revived, and the Museum Ship and Fairytale Castle. Sazova Science Culture and Art Park, which attracts everyone from age 7 to 70, has Turkey's largest Japanese Garden, Science Experiment Center, Planetarium, Underwater World and Zoo, is a popular destination for both Eskişehir residents and visitors from out-of-city. With the sports, culture and art festivals we organized in this park, we have turned Eskişehir into a common social meeting point that hosts special outdoor events.



## The city brings people together



Fairy Tale Castle, which develops children's imaginations, brings them together with fairy tale heroes, and lays the foundations for a happy future with the workshops, trainings and concerts it organizes, has been an essential address for children since the day it was opened.

The Museum Ship is similar in size to the expedition ship named Santa Maria, with which Christopher Columbus discovered America. The 25-meter-long Museum Ship, made entirely of chestnut wood, introduces its visitors to a different world with its captain's cabin, dormitories, dungeons, and booty chests.



## The city brings people together



The Science Experiment Center, which contributes to developing individuals of all ages and training creative scientists by awakening the feeling of discovering science, prepares our children and youth for the future. The center, which we opened for service with the slogan "The Future will Pass through Eskişehir", offers a great contribution to the development of science tourism in the region by attracting a new national and international tourist group engaged in science and working in this field to Eskişehir.

Eskişehir Metropolitan Municipality Sabancı Planetarium, one of the largest and most state-of-the-art planetariums in Türkiye, which has been equipped with internal equipment with the support of the Sabancı Foundation, has been designed with the aim of understanding the dynamics of the universe and developing a scientific thinking system. Our center, which takes its visitors on a journey through the universe, has undertaken an important mission by attracting an influx of visitors since its opening.

## The city brings people together



The Zoo, which is a full member of the European Association of Zoos and Aquariums (EAZA), is the first and only one of its kind in Türkiye with its wild-life protection projects. The creatures here are housed in areas designed to be as close to their natural habitats as possible, offering a different experience to their visitors.

## The city is loyal to its past



Türkiye's proud deep-rooted history and the historical heroes, characters, political leaders, artists, journalists, scientists, athletes, and successful business people in the process extending from their upbringing to the present day, Yılmaz Büyükerşen Wax Museum welcome their visitors as a gesture of loyalty and respect in our museum. Yılmaz Büyükerşen Wax Museum, which hosts many valuable people's wax sculptures from local to foreign celebrities, including the footballers who were part of the legendary squad of Eskişehirspor, the first Anatolian club to shake the throne of Istanbul clubs in football, to the Red Lightning legend Amigo Orhan, who introduced Turkey to the tribune culture, has become one of the attraction center of Eskişehir opening up to the world.



## The city is active in sports



We are taking strong steps to ensure that Eskişehir, which has a deep-rooted sports culture, preserves its sports spirit. By supporting amateur sports clubs, we attach great importance to the establishment of facilities so that individuals of all ages from 7 to 70 can engage in sports in outdoor and indoor areas in different branches. We provide children and adults with opportunities to engage in sports by organizing sports trainings in numerous branches such as swimming, basketball, volleyball, football, tennis, canoeing, and sailing optimist in summer and winter periods. In addition to the sports events held in our thematic parks, we ensure that Eskişehir is remembered as a real sports city with the sports events we organize in many areas, especially national and international championships, races, festivals, tournaments, festivals, workshops, interviews and celebrations.



## The city is a living entity



Cities are alive and should maintain this vitality. Eskişehir, which has 24-hour public transportation, has become an example to the provinces in its region with its relentless energy by moving all over the city with its social life. We are determined to maintain our identity as a city that looks forward to the future with hope and with the principle that 'women, young people and children should be able to walk freely and without fear'.

## The city adds aesthetics



From local seeds to flowers and trees, from green area afforestation works that will increase urban biodiversity by reducing the effects of climate change to artistic and functional urban furniture and aesthetic bridges, we continue our work for a beautiful Eskişehir in every field. By creating new parks all over the city, we consider a healthy and aesthetic environment as a priority in achieving high living standards for the people of the city. We provide financial savings by producing our urban furniture in our art workshops for many years, while millions of flowers we grow with great effort in our greenhouses every year turn Eskişehir into a flower garden.

## The city brings tourism



Eskişehir is a leading city in many areas in Türkiye with the transformation and change projects we have implemented. In addition to being an example in terms of urbanism, Eskişehir has become one of the first cities that comes to mind when it comes to urban tourism other than the well-known cultural, heritage and beach tourism. The fact that visitors put Eskişehir at the top of their list to discover the beauties of the city also reveals the strong tourism potential of our city.

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