



While the “evil eye” is seen all around the Mediterranean and Aegean, it is everywhere in Izmir. It protects against evil spirits.

I can take flight from this place to so many others. I feel free. I will not be caged again—by myself or anyone else. Also, I watch birds everywhere—seaside and at home. They make me happy, always.

The one star and the birds may look “empty” but they are yet to come into being—my future adventures, new friends, next loves.

Nature here is stunning, and my other passion. I love the sunrises AND the sunsets. The diversity of the **COLORS**—sun or moon on water, waves and wind on water. And the water is diverse—Aegean is different from Mediterranean, both are beautiful!

The moon is beautiful here—from the full moon over Lake Köycegiz, to the slice of moon in the Turkish flag. And the stars? All the wonderful friends I am making who bring sparkle to my life.

So much **HISTORY** here... You can't go anywhere in Turkey without encountering ancient ruins; I've seen some, and have more to see. History is a passion of mine.

Fish? Well, because it's a seaside place. I love living near a body of water.

I feel “anchored” — the seaside way to say I am setting my hooks in this place, or putting down roots. I feel grounded and at home here.

*All I love about Turkey—the place that was a soft landing for me after a very hard time.*