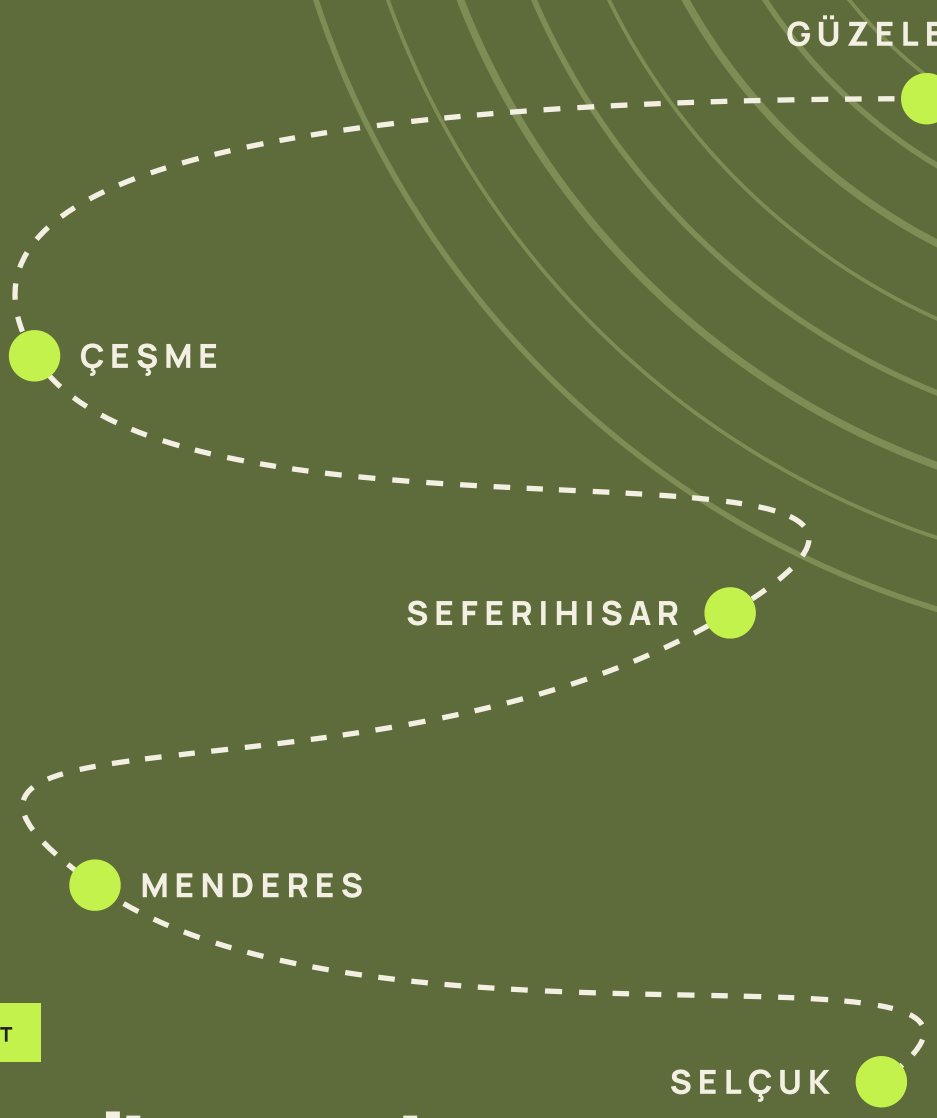
Olive Route



PROJECT SNAPSHOT

An olive culture route across the İzmir Peninsula

Güzelbahçe · Çeşme · Seferihisar · Menderes · Selçuk

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About the project

Valued both economically and culturally, the olive has been one of the İzmir Peninsula's most important crops since antiquity. The world's first known modern olive oil press lies in the ancient city of Klazomenai in Urla, and the area is estimated to hold 68 monumental olive trees aged between 300 and 2,000 years.

The Olive Route was created for the Peninsula, focusing on İzmir's historic bond with the olive. Completed through the work of Zeytince, the route brings together monumental trees, olive oil presses, water sources and factories.

Connecting travellers with producers, the route links to the Delice Network of gourmet cities, which İzmir joined in January 2015 through a partnership of İzmir Metropolitan Municipality and the İzmir Chamber of Commerce.

KEY FACTS

FRAMEWORK
İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Travel Routes project

FIELDWORK
75 villages in 6 districts

ROUTE
7 stages

MONUMENTAL TREES
68 trees, 300–2,000 years old

COORDINATION
Prof. Dr. R. Funda Barbaros, Ertan İplikçi

WEB
zeytince.org

ZEYTINCE'S ROLE

- Mapped the Peninsula's olive inventory with volunteers.
- Completed the route and made Olive Academy one of its stops.
- Recorded monumental trees, traditional presses and ancient mills.
- Runs route walks and monumental tree tours.

A cultural route linking the İzmir Peninsula's monumental olive trees, ancient presses and producers.

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