

WHV - The Colours of Cappadocia

Göreme National Park and the Rock Sites of Cappadocia, Turkey

Mixed property inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1985

22/07/2019 - 05/08/2019

Göreme National Park is one of the most visited World Heritage sites in Turkey. Most of the tourists visiting Cappadocia also visit Göreme National Park, and the number of visitors reach approximately 2,500,000 every year. In Göreme National Park, there are shelters built into the valleys and this became widespread in other areas and covered with fairy chimneys during the early Christian period. There are churches, chapels, monasteries and living areas carved into the rocks and it offers visitors the opportunity to visit ten museums. In the churches carved into the rocks, there are some scenes from the Bible and the Torah telling the life of Jesus. In this respect, Göreme National Park is also an important centre of faith.

Project objectives:

The volunteers will learn and become more aware about the World Heritage site, and improve their personal and social skills by being a part of a good and effective team. They will have contact with locals, the site management and the authorities in order to get them involved in the activities and the work effectively, share their ideas and learn about cultural differences in the World Heritage. Finally, the volunteers will learn and practise various methods of maintenance, conservation, rehabilitation and improvement on the site.

Project activities:

The volunteers will undertake general maintenance of the churches of the Göreme open-air museum and the valley next to it, and will support the restoration of the ancient remains of the archaeological site Sobessos Ancient City. In addition, they will carry out cleaning works on several walking routes at the World Heritage site, reassemble rocks from the walking routes, renovate the information system, detect endemic plants in archaeological sites and undertake other similar tasks.

Partners:

Ministry of Youth & Sports of Republic of Turkey; Ministry of Culture & Tourism of Republic of Turkey; Damla Volunteers.

GSM – Genclik Servisleri Merkezi (Youth Services Centre)

Mehmet Arslan

mehmet@gsm.org.tr