

GAZETTE

H o l l y w o o d & W e s t w o o d

THE BASILICA CISTERN

The Basilica Cistern was built in 532 by Emperor Justinian I. It served as an important water source that provided water storage and distribution to the city. The inside of the cistern consists of fascinating tall dark columns. It's so big that it takes you 45 minutes to tour it completely.

The Basilica Cistern is located right next to Sultanahmet Park, just behind the historical Horse Square, where the Serpent Column, the Obelisk of Theodosius, and the German Fountain are located. If you are going to Istanbul, you should definitely go to this place.

By Hatice





MIYAKO ISLAND

I think there are a lot of things that are rare in my hometown of Miyako Island in the Okinawa prefecture. It is a place with beautiful scenery and delicious, interesting food.

First, the beach is so beautiful. The sand is white, and the water is clear and blue. Sometimes, we can see turtles catching their breath. I recommend the scenery from the bridge. I like sunset because the blue color will change into orange and it's beautiful.

Second, there is a lot of delicious and interesting food on my island. I like miyako noodles, sa-ta-andagi (a kind of donut), and mangoes. Miyako is special to my island. It's a wheat noodle, which is very rare in other places in Japan. Other interesting foods include chiraga (pig's feet), mimiga (pig's ear) and habu-shu (liquor with snake). I haven't eaten them, but some people (especially elderly people) eat them.

There is also a weird little festival on my island. The "god of exorcism" (a person covered with mud) smears mud onto residents and houses. This mud is said to be sacred and brings happiness. For everyone except the residents, it is just stinky and the festival is funny. It's a traditional festival and it's registered with UNESCO as an intangible cultural heritage.

By Nanami



CAVES IN GERMANY

In Germany, we have a lot of caves such as stalactite caves and coal mines. I have been in a stalactite cave a couple of times and a coal mine as well. They were really nice and interesting experiences.

A total of around 50 show caves can be found in Germany. More than half of them are enchanting stalactite caves that have surreal formations. It's fascinating what nature can create.

You might have seen stalactites at theme parks before, but they are not real. What you can see 157 feet (47 meters) below the ground you cannot see anywhere else - the dripstones in these stalactites are thousands of years old. It's definitely worth seeing.

By Oliver





RICE

Back in Saudi Arabia, we have many types of rice. For instance, there's yellow rice with lamb meat called Mandy. We also have black rice that we eat with fish. We eat chicken with white rice and there are many ways to cook it. In fact, we have more than 10 names for white rice, depending on the way you cook it.

For me, the best type of rice is the one my mom cooks with chicken. It's white rice but she cooks it in a way that turns it gray. The best thing about it is that we eat it with crispy potatoes and ketchup.



By Mohammed

GELATO

It would take a few centuries before milk or cream were added to ice desserts, creating what we know today as gelato and ice cream. Just as with pizza, the Neapolitans created the first true ice cream, which appeared in an 18th Century cookbook. Once dairy was introduced, each nationality put their own stamp on it by creating their own flavorful explosion.

By Mattia

