

BATMAN



Area :4.654 km²

Population :406.000

Traffic Code : 72



Districts : Beşiri, Gercüş, Hasankeyf, Kozluk and Sason.

Batman province and the ancient city of Hasankeyf is founded on the land where Dicle River flows and was able to protect its rich historical background and these cities are the wonders of the nature with their historical monuments and caves exceeding a thousand in number.



- One of the southeastern Anatolian cities, Batman is a little province which takes its name from the river flowing on its west. The Batman river, spanned by the old Malabadi Bridge, draws the province's border with Diyarbakir, and then joins Tigris (Dicle) River passing through the land. The southeastern extensions of the Taurus Mountains on the other hand, stand on the eastern side of the region, together with the 1288 m high Raman Mountain.



The history of the province reaches back to antiquity, and the land saw numerous dynasties throughout its long history. Experiencing Arab invasion around 700 AD, Batman was later dominated by [Seljuks](#) first and then by the Mongolians. It was annexed by the [Ottoman Empire](#) in 1514 after being under the influence of the Akkoyunlu and the Safevid throughout the 15th century.

In the early years of the Republic, Batman was attached to the province of [Siirt](#) and known as “Iluh”. It first became a district in 1957, changing its name to Batman, and then a province centre in 1990. Once a part of the province of [Siirt](#), the district was especially eminent during the time of Abbasid [Caliphate](#).

Here is one of the main crude oil production centers of Turkey, and the refinery at Batman was the first founded one in the country. Oil extraction and processing characterize the industry of the province.



Batman enjoyed a rapid development thanks to its oil reserves. The modern refinery was established in 1955 to process oil extracted from Raman and Garzan areas. The most important development which took place later was the completion of the 494 kilometers long pipeline between Batman and Iskenderun.



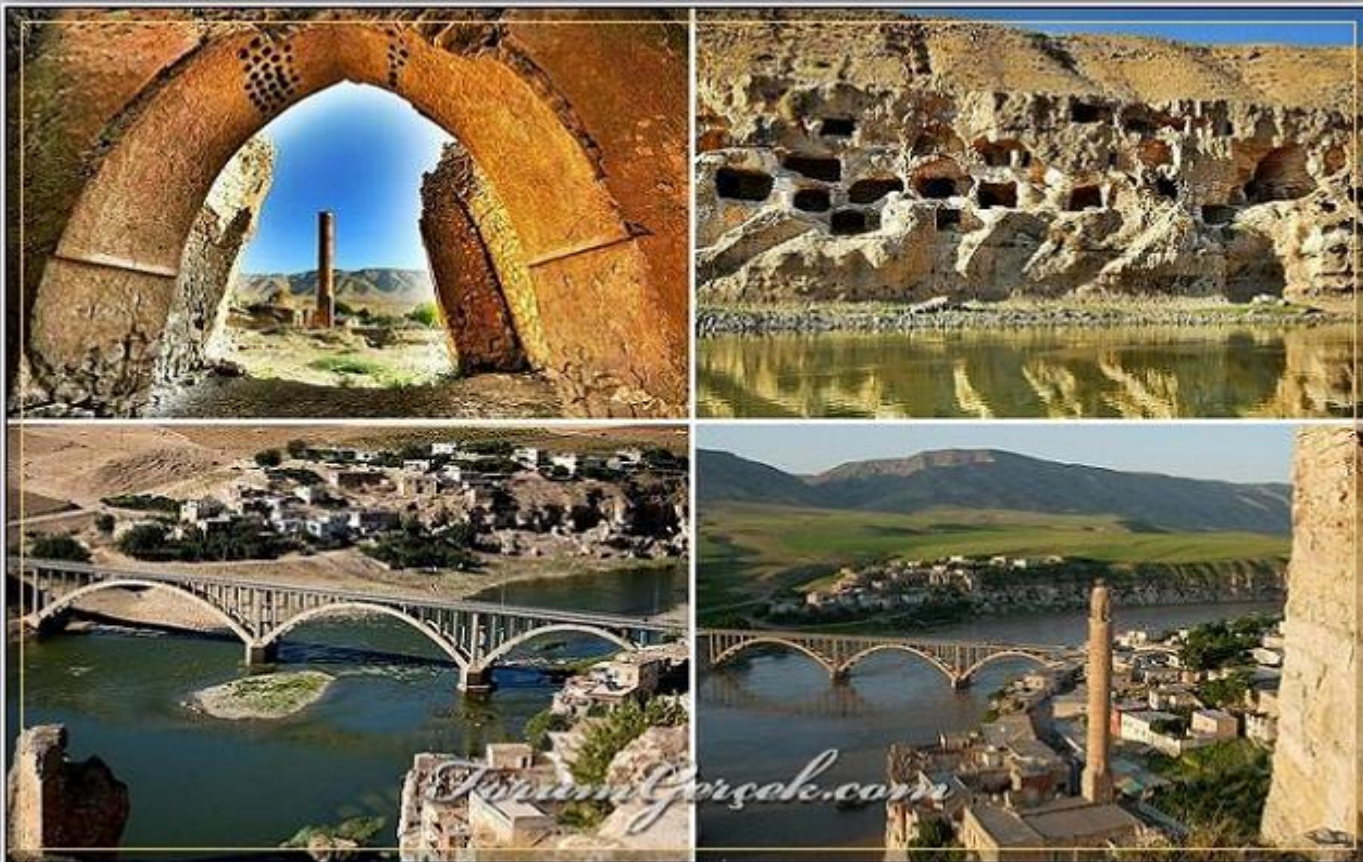
- The railway which connects the town of Kurtalan near Batman to Istanbul was important in terms of transportation for a time. However, highways gained weight after 1950. With the help of the Batman Airport, highways and railway, transportation is possible all around the world.



- Batman has a semi-arid continental climate. Winters are temperate and humid, with much precipitation. Summers are hot and dry. Dicle River, which gives life to the region, also effects its climate. It makes winter much more temperate. Average temperature is 25°C , and highest average temperature varies between $40 - 43^{\circ}\text{C}$, and lowest average temperature varies between $6 - 8^{\circ}\text{C}$.



HASANKEYF



- Hasankeyf was the capital of the Artuklu [Seljuks](#) in the period 1102-1232. It is well known for its structure and remains belonging to various [Islamic](#) reigns. Remains on both banks of the [Tigris](#) (Dicle) river will be submerged upon the completion of Ilusu Dam nearby. Salvation works were started in 1988. Though the original founders of the settlement are not known, scholars state that nearby caves were inhabited since prehistoric times. The settlement is cited as “Hesna Kephā” in Syriac sources while it is known as Hisn Kayfa in Arabic which means “rock fortress”.



- Hasankeyf enjoyed a rapid development in the past since it was located at the junction of two historically important routes, the “[silk road](#)” and “kings’ way”, and near an important waterway as the [Tigris](#). Its fortress, built by the Artuklu in the 12th century, is placed on a massive rock 100 meters high from the [Tigris](#). The Grand (Ulu) [Mosque](#), built in the 14th century is at the top of this hill. The bridge on the [Tigris](#) could survive to our times with its three pillars. This impressive bridge is known to be 100 meters long. It used to have, on its arches, human relieves holding unidentified objects in their hands as once seen in other bridges in the area such as Malabadi and Cizre. Other important structures in the town include [Imam](#) Abdullah Lodge, Zeynel Bey’s tomb, Rizk [Mosque](#), Koc [Mosque](#) and Eyyubi Tomb.

