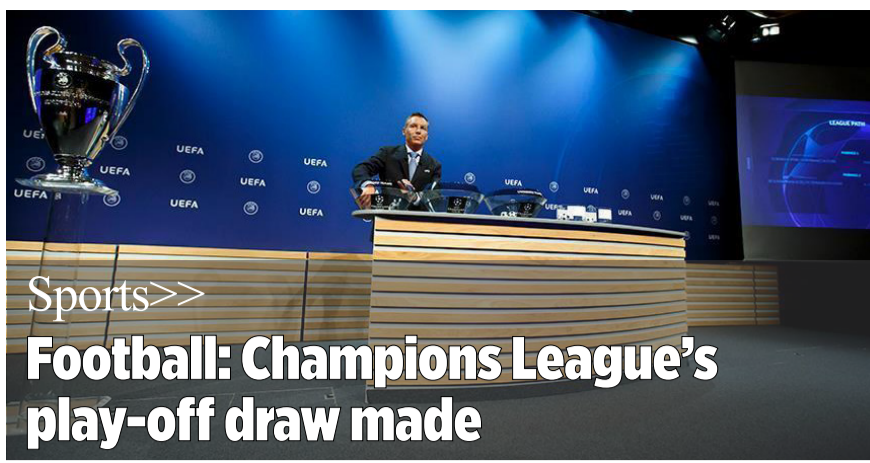




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98 YEARS



ANADOLU POST

Tuesday, August 7, 2018

WEATHER / ANKARA
Tuesday, Partly Cloudy 30°C

Domestic tourism spending up 25 pct

100-day action plan to be start of Turkish tourism sector's transformation, says association of travel agencies chair

By Muhammed Ali Gurtas

ANKARA - Turkey's domestic tourism expenditure rose 24.9 percent year-on-year in the first quarter of this year, according to the country's statistical authority on Monday. TurkStat reported that domestic tourists' expenditures -- including individual and package tour expenditures -- from January to

March totaled 6.3 billion Turkish liras (\$1.65 billion), compared to spending of some 5 billion Turkish liras (\$1.36 billion) in the same period last year. "In this quarter, while 94.2 percent of domestic tourism expenditure was individual with 5.94 billion Turkish liras, 5.8 percent of it was package tour expenditures with 364.6 million Turkish liras," the institute said.

According to Turkey's Central Bank, the average U.S. dollar/Turkish lira exchange rate was 3.82 in the first quarter of this year, while one dollar traded for 3.70 liras on average in the same period last year. "In this quarter, domestic visitors made 112.8 million overnights," TurkStat said, noting that the average number of overnights was 7.3 and the average expenditure per... [MORE DETAILS](#)



100-day plan to boost tourism

100-day action plan to be start of Turkish tourism sector's transformation, says association of travel agencies chair

By Elif Ferhan Yesilyurt

ISTANBUL - Projects in the government's 100-day action plan to supercharge Turkey's tourism sector will make the world sit up and see Turkey as a major destination, a top tourism official told Anadolu Agency on Monday. "These kinds of projects with cultural and art activities will bring Turkey to the global stage and make it a new destination for tourists with large disposable income," said Firuz Baglikaya, head of the Association of

Turkish Travel Agencies (TURSAB). The 100-day plan, unveiled last week by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, will be the start of the Turkish tourism sector's transformation, he added. Projects to boost Turkey's tourist draw are a major part of the action plan. The plan includes projects to attract more Chinese tourists, improved travel infrastructure investments, and opening Gobeklitepe, the world's oldest temple, in Turkey's... [MORE DETAILS](#)

7.0 quake rocks E. Indonesia; 98 dead



By Mahmut Atanur

JAKARTA - At least 98 people died while at least 200 were injured when a magnitude 7.0 earthquake shook eastern Indonesia on Sunday, said an

official. Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, spokesman for Indonesian National Agency for Disaster Management (BNPB), in a statement confirmed the death toll in the earthquake and aftershocks on the

island of Lombok. Nugroho said most of the casualties occurred on the northern part of the island. He also stressed that both domestic and foreign tourists... [MORE DETAILS](#)



Turkish FM meets envoys, discusses ties

By Diyar Guldogan

ANKARA - Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu on Monday separately met ambassadors of Kuwait, Jordan, Argentina, Qatar, Japan and New Zealand in the capital Ankara. "We exchanged views on our bilateral relations and regional developments with Ambassadors [Ghassan Yousuf] Al-Zawawi of Kuwait and [Ismail Issa] Rifaie of Jordan. Also conveyed our thanks to Ambassador Julian Luis

Tettamanti for his contributions to Turkey-Argentina relations, upon conclusion of his tenure," Cavusoglu wrote on his official Twitter account. Cavusoglu said he also met Salem bin Mubarak Al-Shafi, Qatar's Ambassador to Turkey, Akio Miyajima, Japanese Ambassador in Ankara and New Zealand's Ambassador Wendy Hinton. He added they separately "discussed the period ahead in the relations between our countries and as well as... [MORE DETAILS](#)

Defying US, EU vows to protect Iran trade

By Merve Aydogan

ANKARA - Amid U.S. plans to re-impose sanctions on Iran, the European Union and heavyweight members Germany, France, and Britain on Monday expressed "deep" regret and vowed to protect Europeans doing "legitimate" business with Iran. "We deeply regret the re-imposition of sanctions by the

U.S., due to the latter's withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)" -- the formal name for the Iran deal -- said a statement issued by EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini along with French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian, German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas, and British Foreign Minister Jeremy Hunt. "We are determined to protect

European economic operators engaged in legitimate business with Iran, in accordance with EU law and with UN Security Council Resolution 2231," statement added. Underscoring the significance of the Iran nuclear deal, the statement called it "a key element of the global nuclear non-proliferation architecture, crucial for the security of Europe... [MORE DETAILS](#)

Anadolu Agency Photo

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu