

Built on a high, steep hill, İshak Pasha Palace covers an area of 7600 square meters in east-west direction. The palace, which approximately occupies an area of 115x50 meters overall excluding the private garden surrounding the Harem section from three sides, is known to be built gradually despite the integrity of the plan.



Visiting Hours

April 1-October 2

Opening Time: 10:00
 Closing Time: 19:00
 Ticket Office Closing Time: 18:30

October 2-April 1

Opening Time: 09:00
 Closing Time: 17:00
 Ticket Office Closing Time: 16:30

Closed on Mondays.
 * Hours and off days may vary due to pandemic.

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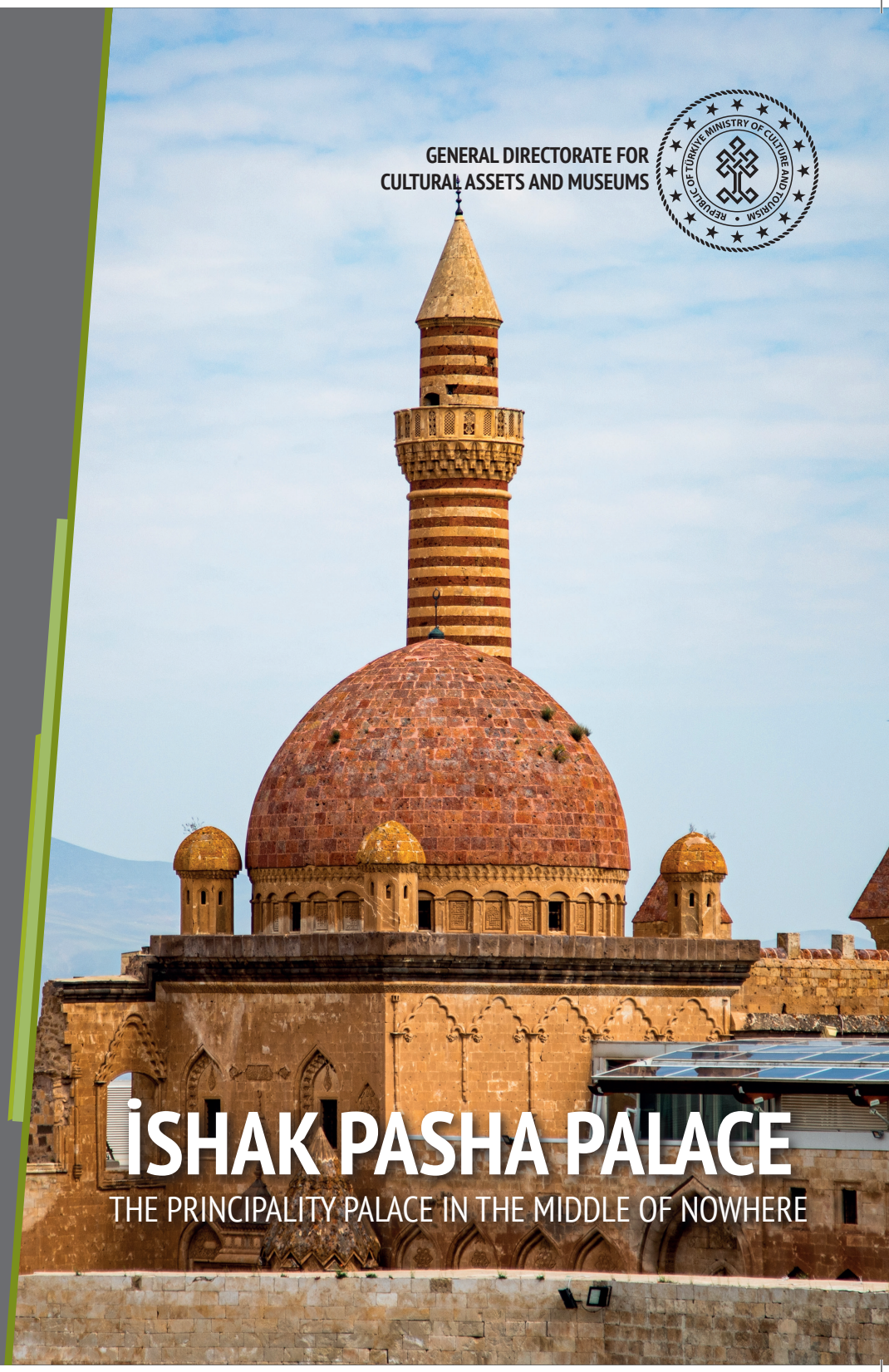
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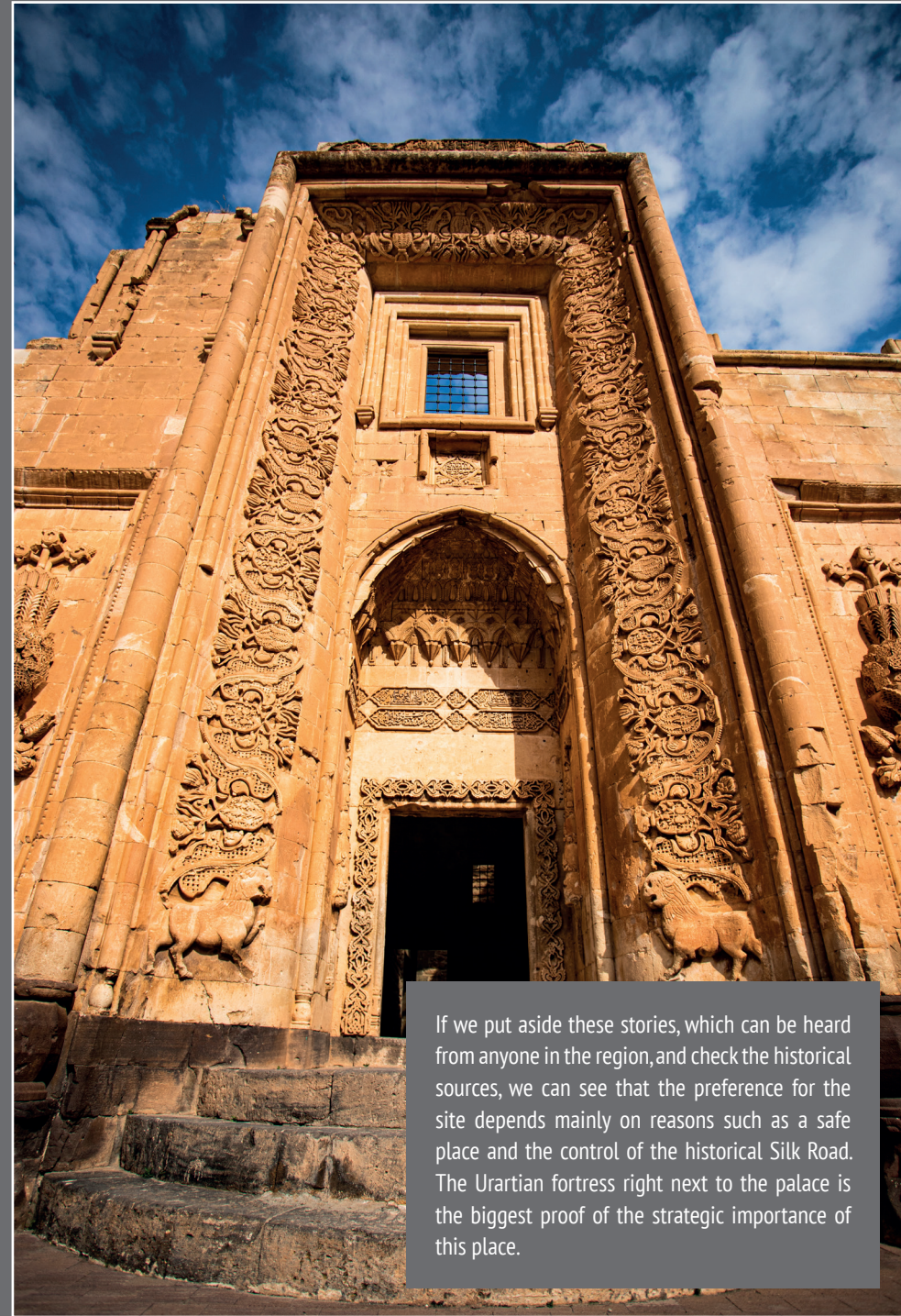
İSHAK PASHA PALACE

THE PRINCIPALITY PALACE IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE



Those who visit the Doğubeyazıt Plain, mentioned in historical sources as Bazid, come across a majestic building situated away from the settlements in the shadow of Mount Ağrı. This magnificent building is the Ishak Pasha Palace, which is one of the finest examples of Ottoman civil architecture... This palace, whose magnificence can be felt from a distance and which evokes admiration when its details are closely examined, is also a place for culture and history lovers to enjoy, thanks to its place in architectural history and the stories that are told about it.

Although the palace is named after Ishak Pasha, Çolak Abdi Pasha is the one who started the construction of this magnificent building. Çolak Abdi Pasha, who wanted to show his power and wealth to the entire world during his position as Çıldır Atabeg, ordered the construction of an unprecedented palace. There is a story about this that has been passed down orally from one generation to the next and has been passed down to the present day. According to it, the Pasha commands the architect of the palace, "You shall construct a building that is in keeping with the majesty and glory of Mount Ağrı. Mount Ağrı shall not be envious of the palace and the palace shall not be considered small and insignificant compared to Mount Ağrı." A tragic love story is also connected with the reason the palace was built. Çolak Abdi Pasha, who could not make his daughter give up her love for a shepherd wandering at the foot of Mount Ağrı, finds no way out and declares that: "I will build such a palace that my daughter will not see the shepherd or Mount Ağrı". We do not know the outcome of this story and whether the daughter of the Pasha saw the shepherd. However, although Mount Ağrı rises in full splendour right next to the palace, it is impossible to see it from there.



If we put aside these stories, which can be heard from anyone in the region, and check the historical sources, we can see that the preference for the site depends mainly on reasons such as a safe place and the control of the historical Silk Road. The Urartian fortress right next to the palace is the biggest proof of the strategic importance of this place.

Its Construction Took 99 Years, The Pasha Could Stay Only for 4 Years

This palace, which fascinates visitors with its magnificent architectural details and exhibits all the skills of the Meskhetian stone masters, was used as the administrative centre of the Bayazıt Sanjak until the First World War. Yet, Ishak Pasha, who gave his name to this palace, could only stay for 4 years in the palace, which took 99 years to build.

This palace, which was built in a location next to the Iranian border and could even be called zero point, served not only as the house of Ishak Pasha. It is a place where there is a mosque, a mausoleum, food stores, cellars and dungeons. The writings of foreign travellers who visited this place have a share in its reputation as the most beautiful Ottoman Palace after Topkapı and making it famous. Especially the stories about the flow of milk together with the water from its fountains reached İstanbul and aroused great curiosity even in these years.

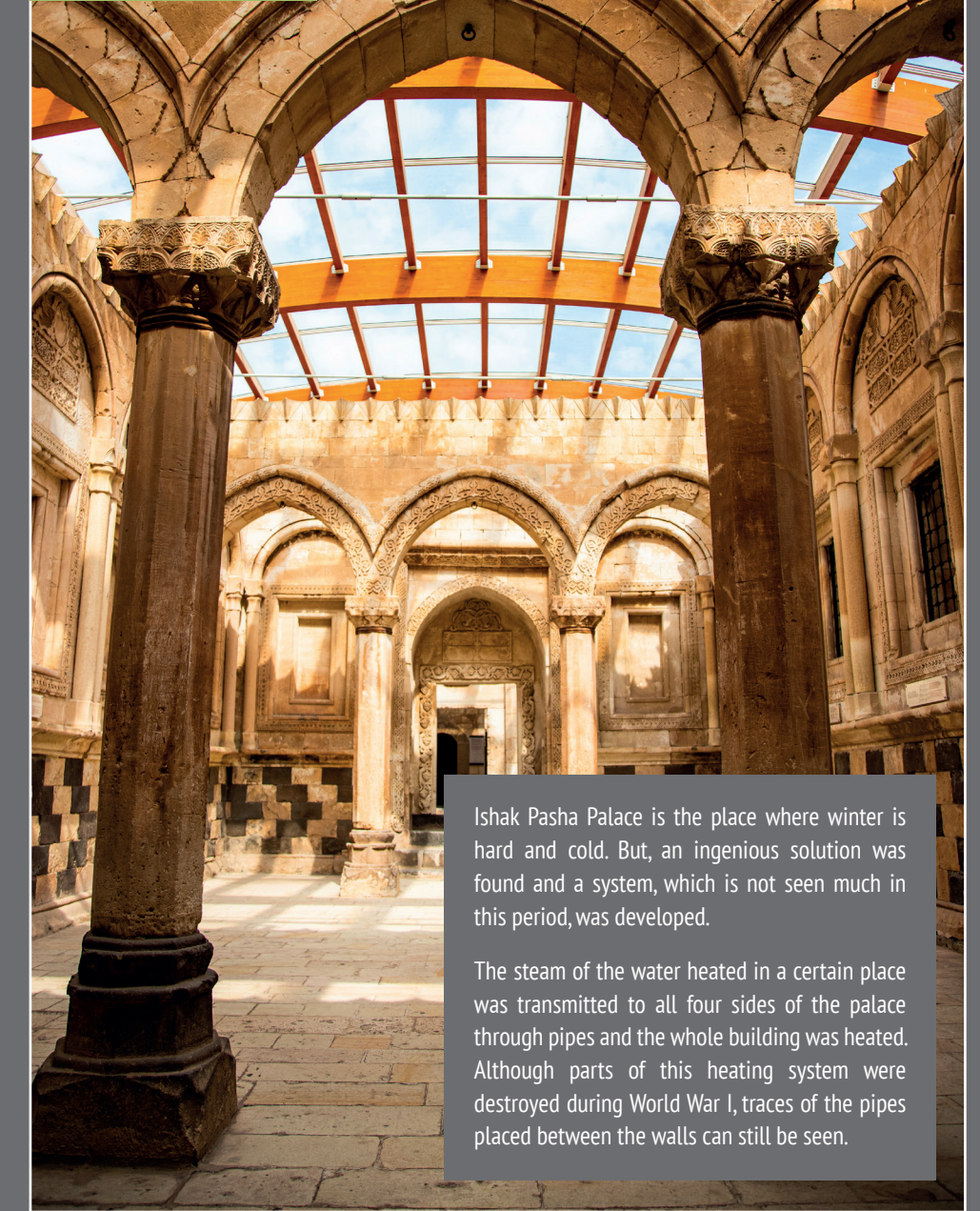


Magnificent Architectural Details

Although it is a work from the Ottoman period, the decorations, stone ornaments, motifs, stalactites, geometric and floral ornaments that adorn every part of the palace are a mixture of different civilizations and architectural styles. In addition to motifs specific to Turkish art, especially Seljuk architecture, Western-influenced architectural styles such as Baroque, Rococo and Empire are also included. At the same time, regional interpretations and skills of stonemasons of Iranian, Georgian, Muscovite and Caucasian descent can be seen almost everywhere from floor to ceiling.

Although it is far from the Ottoman capital, it rivals the dynastic palaces in İstanbul in beauty and elegance. Although the architectural details differ, Ishak Pasha Palace, which resembles Topkapı in its layout, has two courtyards, one inside and one outside, and the buildings were built around these courtyards. The courtyards are entered through the portals, which are admirable with their decoration. One of the most interesting parts of the palace, which gives its visitors the feeling that they are in an extraordinary building with every detail, is the water and milk fountain in courtyard I. This fountain, which is the product of a delicate thought, shows that once the guests were served when they take their first step into the palace.

A Genius Solution to Warming in a Cold Geography



Ishak Pasha Palace is the place where winter is hard and cold. But, an ingenious solution was found and a system, which is not seen much in this period, was developed.

The steam of the water heated in a certain place was transmitted to all four sides of the palace through pipes and the whole building was heated. Although parts of this heating system were destroyed during World War I, traces of the pipes placed between the walls can still be seen.