

Drawing 35-Özkonak Underground City Plan (by the Commission)



Visiting Hours

April 1 - October 31
Opening Time: 08:00
Closing Time: 19:00
Ticket Office Closing Time: 18:15

October 31 - April 1
Opening Time: 08:00
Closing Time: 17:00
Ticket Office Closing Time: 16:15

Open everyday.

Address: Özkonak Yeraltı Şehri Yolu, 50500 Avanos/NEVŞEHİR • **Phone:** 0384 218 25 00

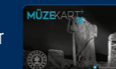
Please visit the web site for up-to-date information.

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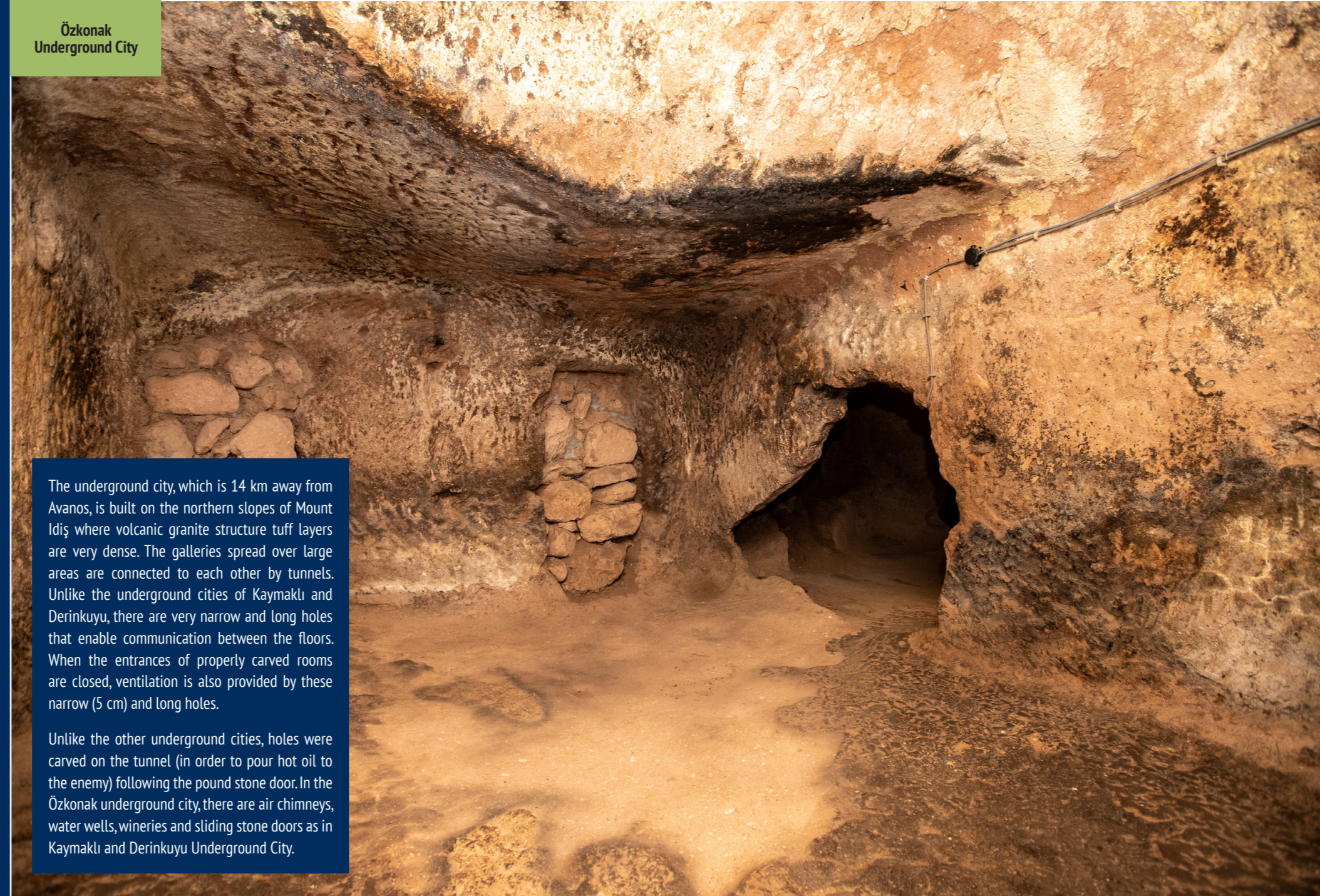
ÖZKONAK UNDERGROUND CITY

UNDERGROUND CITIES: THE UNSOLVED
MYSTERY OF CAPPADOCIA



Cappadocia
Underground Cities

There are about 150-200 of underground settlements of various sizes, which are one of the most interesting cultural riches of the Cappadocia Region. This number may increase even more since there are large and small rock settlements in all the towns and villages in the Cappadocia Region. Most of these rock settlements were built by carving down soft tuff downwards deeply. The reason for the construction of underground cities is for people to secure themselves. Hundreds of rooms in underground cities are connected to each other through long galleries and tunnels like labyrinths. The reason why galleries are low, narrow and long is to limit the movement of the enemy.



Özkonak
Underground City

The underground city, which is 14 km away from Avanos, is built on the northern slopes of Mount İdiş where volcanic granite structure tuff layers are very dense. The galleries spread over large areas are connected to each other by tunnels. Unlike the underground cities of Kaymaklı and Derinkuyu, there are very narrow and long holes that enable communication between the floors. When the entrances of properly carved rooms are closed, ventilation is also provided by these narrow (5 cm) and long holes.

Unlike the other underground cities, holes were carved on the tunnel (in order to pour hot oil to the enemy) following the pound stone door. In the Özkonak underground city, there are air chimneys, water wells, wineries and sliding stone doors as in Kaymaklı and Derinkuyu Underground City.

