A hotel in Anatolia in the last period of the Ottoman Empire: Hotel Tadia (1892-1922)

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Case study
A hotel in Anatolia in the last period of the Ottoman Empire: Hotel Tadia (1892-1922)

Aysel Yılmaz a, Nazmi Kozak b

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Highlights

- Istanbul-Eskişehir route of Berlin-Baghdad railroad was completed in 1892.
- The passengers had to stay overnight in Eskişehir, a need for hotels arose in the town.
- Hotel Tadia was the most modern hotel in the middle of the moorlands of Anatolia.
- The reputation of Hotel Tadia spread throughout Europe via travelogues and travel notes.
Abstract

A quiet and underdeveloped town, in the last quarter of 19th century, Eskişehir in Turkey began to liven up with the arrival of the Berlin-Baghdad Railway. Since train rides took two days and the passengers had to stop and stay overnight in Eskişehir, the city became in need of a hotel, and the visitors began to stay at hotels, along with inns and public houses. Upon this need, Madame Tadia, a Bohemian lady, turned a large house near the station into a hotel. Within this context, Hotel Tadia has an important place in the tourism history of Eskişehir. The purpose of this study is to create a microhistory of Hotel Tadia, which paved the way for the concept of modern hotel business in Eskişehir, and to reveal the sense of modern hotel business that it brought to Anatolia between 1892 and 1922.

Keywords

Hotel Tadia; Madame Tadia; Berlin-Baghdad railway; Microhistory; Tourism history of Eskişehir; Eskişehir; Turkey
Aysel Yilmaz is working as a lecturer at Anadolu University, Faculty of Tourism in Tour Guiding Department since 2005 and she is doing her Ph.D on the Tourism and Hotel Management in Anadolu University.

Duyg u Yet gin is a lecturer in Tour Guiding Department in Faculty of Tourism at Anadolu University since 2011 and she received her Ph.D in the Tourism and Hotel Management from Anadolu University in 2017.

Nazmi Kozak is a professor of Tourism Management Department in Faculty of Tourism at Anadolu University. He received both his Master's and Ph.D degrees in Tourism Management.
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