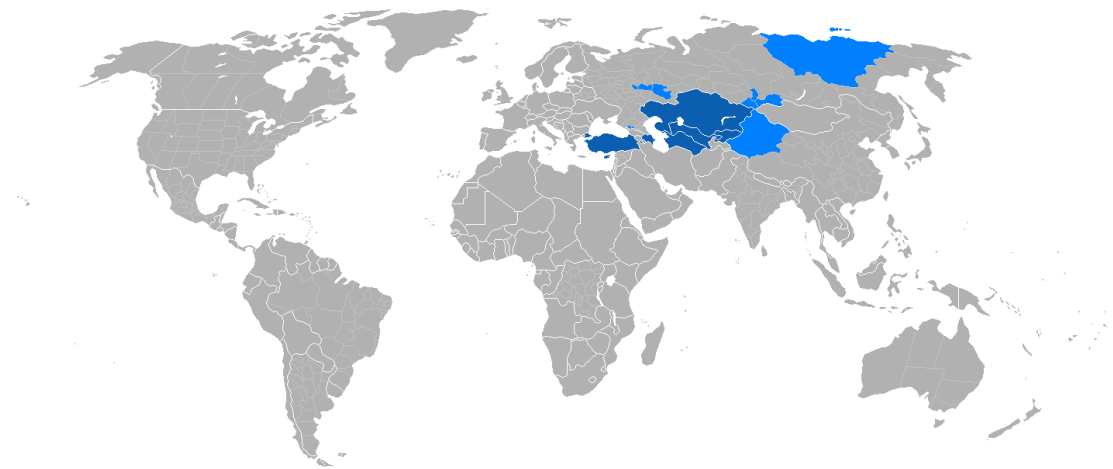


Van 8 November tot en met 29 November is in Artmosfer de foto expositie van het NVI lid Maurice Arts "The land of the Turkic people" te zien. De leden van de NVI worden speciaal en van harte uitgenodigd bij de openings cocktail op zondag 8 November 17.00 – 20.00 aanwezig te zijn. De opening zal officieel plaatsvinden door de consul-generaal in Istanboel de heer O. Kervers. De avond zal worden verzorgd met drankjes en hapjes o.a. Italiaanse wijnen van Dolce Vita.

De foto expositie is tevens te bezichtigen tijdens de openingstijden van Artmosfer. Maandag tot en met zaterdag van 11.00-19.00 en zondag van 12.00-18.00.

# Land of the TURKIC PEOPLE

Turkestan, literally meaning `Land of the Turks`, is a region in Central Asia, which today is largely inhabited by Turkic peoples. Turkmens, Uzbeks, Kazakhs, Khazars, Kyrgyz and Uyghurs are some of the Turkic inhabitants of the region who, as history progressed, have spread further into Eurasia forming such Turkic nations as Turkey and Azerbaijan. Altogether Turkestan is an area where some 200 million Turkic people live.



The idea behind this photo exhibition is to show interesting similarities within this region, which covers the area between Istanbul and Turpan. Turpan is a city in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region in China.

Turkestan acquired its `Turkic` character from the 4th to 6th centuries AD with the beginning Turkic expansion. This makes it a historic region and numerous similarities are still prominent in this region. One of the similarities is the language, which can be indicated by the Wikipedia description of Turpan: “**Turpan** (Uyghur: تۇرپان, *Turpan*; Turkish: *Turfan*; Modern Chinese: Tūlǔfān)”. Other examples of similarity are religion, architecture, food, customs as well as outer looks of its inhabitants.

The exhibition shows photos of wonderful Turkestan. Wonderful by its beauty, and wonderful by its history that should not be forgotten. How many people nowadays know where the name Turk comes from? The name Turk was first applied to a clan known as Ashina. The Ashina gradually emerged as the leaders of the early Turkic confederation, known as the Göktürks. It rose to prominence in the mid-6th century and founded the nomadic Göktürk Empire (`Empire of the Celestial Turks`). These nomads roamed in the Altai Mountains and on the steppes of Central Asia: a picture perfect place.

# Photographer

## maurice arts

Dutch, age 37, living in İstanbul for 2.5 years and employed as financial director at LeasePlan Turkey, a joint venture company between Doğuş Otomotiv and LeasePlan Corporation.

In 2002, he travelled the roads from İstanbul to Shanghai. He got captured by the beauty of this overland route; the beauty of the peoples, landscapes, architecture and history. In 2007, back in business life for some years, he took the opportunity to live in İstanbul, the starting point of his travels.

Unfortunately, many people are not yet quite familiar with striking beauties of Turkestan despite its relative close vicinity of İstanbul and Turkey. This made him to decide to organise a photo exhibition of Turkestan.

Of course he would not decide to organise a photo exhibition if photography was not a passionate hobby of him. Some 11 years ago Maurice became fascinated in `writing with light`. The simple beauty of a sunbeam, vertical lines, a combination of colours, the expression of a face, or the flipside of a known story can inspire him to take a photo.

# Artmosfer

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Please be referred to the below enclosed site of Google Maps:  
<http://maps.google.nl/maps/ms?hl=nl&source=hp&ie=UTF8&msa=o&msid=111653158263364912742.00046241be2a68724e765&z=16>

By public transport:

By ferry (or bus) to Kadıköy (iskele). Walk along the pink building towards the busy street. Cross this street and take the large uphill street (Söğütlü Çeşme Caddesi). This is a street with tram rails. At `the Bull` (Boğa), Kadıköy`s famous meeting place, turn right and follow the highstreet (Bahariye) and take the 3rd alley at your left after the Opera building.