

## Karadonlar to Gökbel 'Sinsi Köpek' Memorial Walk/Ride

Walk/Cycle; Moderate to Easy; Approx 10kms Climb/Ascent 270mts;  
Time: approx 2½-3 hours. Total distances are shown in brackets ( ).

This is a really enjoyable walk or cycle ride on a recently created (Autumn 2011) and little used forest track. The route is obvious and easy to follow; there is only one climb which begins at the start point in Karadonlar and lasts for approx 2kms, thereafter the entire walk/ride is one of gentle undulations. The views from the top above Karadonlar towards Çal Dağ and the Taurus Mountains are spectacular, especially in winter. With a little pre-walk preparation the route can be covered in reverse, starting at Gökbel. At the time of planning this route the track was freshly created, as it matures and nature claims back the banks it promises to be a rich environment for plants and wildlife.

There is drinking water available near the start and towards the Gökbel end of the route. Remember to carry sufficient snacks and water, wear appropriate clothing and footwear (there can be sudden, heavy rain storms in winter – in summer carry and use sunblock). If you have a mobile phone bring it with you although you will not always have a signal. There is more general information about walking and cycling in our area, including year-round minibus timetables and emergency phone numbers, in 'Backways & Trackways' a guide to walking and cycling around Dalyan, Okçular and Çandır including Ölemez and Kösten Mountains. The book is available locally or from [www.okcular.net](http://www.okcular.net)

Cycle or make your way to Karadonlar using the information available from the Tour of Kösten Dağ in 'Backways & Trackways'. Karadonlar is an attractive village of two halves. Arriving from the direction of Ortaca make your way through the first group of houses and aim for the section of road below the white concrete water depot. On the road below the depot there is a lay-by with drinking water and close by the forest track that marks the start of this route.

Set off the track, you will pass the water depot after approx 350mts. The track climbs through a series of switchbacks until you arrive at a clear junction 2300mts from the start.  
(turning right will link you up with the Kösten Dağ walk map p24 Backways & Trackways' halfway between Bekir Acar Fountain and Hacı Mehmet Fountain)

At this junction turn LEFT, follow the track through various twists and turns and undulations. After approx 1600mts (4900mts) the track swings right into a valley and you will see a deep ravine on your left.

Continue on the track until approx 6500mts from the start you will emerge from the valley and arrive at a junction with a few houses in front of you. Turn RIGHT. Walk/Cycle for approx 150mts (6650mts) to a junction with a wall on your left. There is drinking water from a tap in the wall. (here you link up with another walk from 'Backways & Trackways' and if you have a copy with you there are various options open to you; if you don't yet have a copy then follow the directions below)

At this junction go directly AHEAD and follow the track for 300mts (6950mts) as it winds down to a junction. Turn LEFT and continue downhill for 400mts to a further junction, keep Left (7350mts).

Follow this rather broken asphalt road for approx 1250mts to a junction with a bus shelter (8600mts); turn RIGHT and walk the final approx 700mts to the junction with the Dalyan – İztuzu Beach road opposite Gökbel village school.

Here there are shops and gözleme/pancake places where you can buy refreshments and wait for the minibus. Alternatively, if you turn left you can continue on to İztuzu Beach or turn right and return to Dalyan (approx 7.5kms).

Alan Fenn, Okçular Book Project

Why the 'Sinsi Köpek Memorial Walk'?

Sinsi was a Dalyan street dog that adopted us when she was about three months old. Her name means stealthy, insidious or sly in Turkish and she was all of these as well as a loyal, and infuriating companion – she loved us and we loved her!

She was a fantastically enthusiastic guide and leader on all of our walks and explorations as we discovered the backways and trackways that led on to the book of that name.

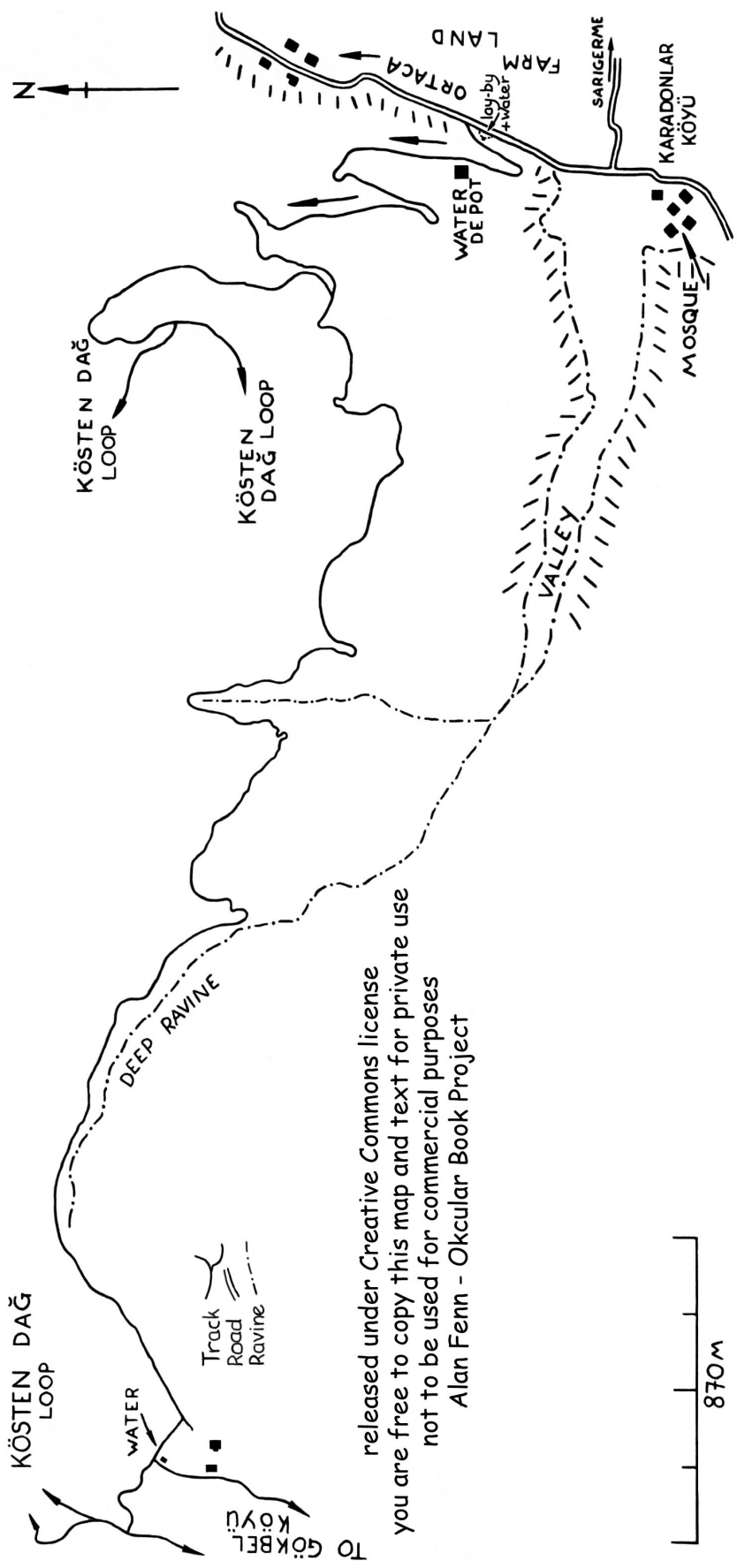
She died on Christmas Day 2010.

On Christmas Day 2011 Janet and I found, followed and mapped this route that we have named for her – we hope you enjoy it.

If you do then please support the Okçular Book Project by buying your own copy of 'Backways & Trackways' or 'Okçular Village a Guide'. All of the money raised goes towards environmental and community projects in our village.

Happy walking and cycling.

Karadonlar to Gökbel - The Sinsi Köpek Memorial  
Walk or Ride



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Alan Fenn - Okcular Book Project