

## Turkish holiday honors first president



Bain News Service

*Ataturk Memorial, Youth and Sports Day*

By **Jeanne Cooper**

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### Holiday

**Turkey:** Revered first President Kemal Ataturk didn't know his exact birth date, but he favored May 19, tied to his start in 1919 of the war of independence from the Ottoman Empire. Today, the original Young Turk and a holiday he later created are jointly celebrated as Ataturk Memorial, Youth and Sports Day.

### Peak point

**Tennessee:** At 6,643 feet, Clingmans Dome marks not only the highest point in the state and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, but also along the Appalachian Trail. A steep half-mile path leads to the summit observation tower, offering spectacular views. [www.nps.gov.grsm](http://www.nps.gov/grsm).

### New activity

**Malaysia:** Learn about the colorful heritage and diverse architecture of Kuala Lumpur's Merdeka (Independence) Square on free, 2.5-hour guided tours led by English-speaking guides. They're offered three mornings a week from City Hall; e-mail [pelancongan@dbkl.gov.my](mailto:pelancongan@dbkl.gov.my) to register.

### New tour

**Botswana:** Scenic game drives in specially equipped 4-by-4 vehicles and wheelchair-accessible excursions and luxurious lodgings allow those with limited mobility (but not limited means) to join a new 11-day safari that also promotes conservation efforts. The Extraordinary Journeys itinerary starts at \$6,360 per person, quadruple occupancy. [www.extraordinaryjourneys.net](http://www.extraordinaryjourneys.net).

### Landmark

**Rio de Janeiro:** The beautiful game has a beautiful new home. After three years' remodeling, the 80,000-seat Maracana Stadium has reopened in time for its first international soccer match, Brazil vs. England June 2. It's also the site of the 2014 World Cup final and 2016 Olympics ceremonies.

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