

22nd March 2002

To Whom It May Concern:

I have great pleasure in recommending Alternatif Turizm to organise camping and outdoor activities for teenage school students.

Over the last three years we have worked closely with Vedat, Julie and Mustafa in setting up and organising a variety of outdoor adventure activities, including canoeing and white water rafting for our secondary students.

In September 2002 Alternatif Turizm organised a completely outdoor camp for us. 30 Years 9 and 10 students (13-15yrs), accompanied by six teachers from our school travelled to Denizli by train and then to the riverside camp site by coach. There we were met by Vedat and some of his team of guides.

Over the next three days students participated in a number of activities which were both fun and challenging. This was the first time many of our students had camped in tents or been involved in such a programme and it was great to see their adjustment and development over the three days.

On the first evening students had a great time becoming familiar with the river in inflatable canoes. On the second day Vedat and a second guide, along with the teachers, lead the group on a long hike beside and above the river. At the end of the day the students were able to look back on the hike with immense satisfaction as they had succeeded in rising to a new challenge. They had also enjoyed the lunch break which included a swim in the river.

For most of the students the white water rafting on the last full day was the highlight. Helmets and life vests were fitted carefully by the guides. Training in procedures, techniques and safety was given on-shore and in quiet water before the group set out on their four hour rafting trip during which the students learned a lot about teamwork. The guides (one in each raft of six paddlers) demonstrated their expertise in reading the river, directing their groups and getting the best out of them.

The camp site was also very well set up. Alternatif provided tents, sleeping bags and mats, and a wonderful "kitchen" crew kept the students well fed. A very effective and environmentally-friendly bush toilet was also constructed. As well as providing new experiences and challenges Alternatif Turizm helped our students to appreciate and care for the beautiful environment we were camping in.

Our students left the camp with more knowledge, more appreciation and a great sense of achievement. The accompanying teachers, all of whom were experienced campers, were most impressed with the camp and the interest, care, expertise and professionalism of Vedat and his team. We hope to maintain a long association with Alternatif Turizm in the years to come.

Yours faithfully



Jim Brough
Group leader

