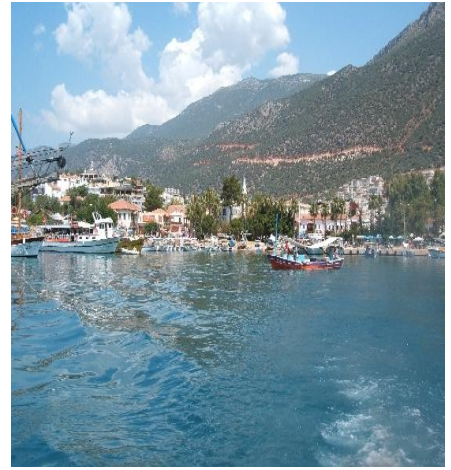


## ELLA International Social Inclusion Music and Art Festival - Background Information for Participants -

The Festival takes place in the small town of **Kas**, which is located directly at the Mediterranean Coast, right halfway between the region's bigger cities of Antalya (190 km) and Dalaman (180 km).



In fact, until just some decades ago, Kas (written *Kaş* in Turkish letters) has been a quiet small, rather self-subsistent fisher's and farmer's village. However, situated picturesquely on the hillside, with a great view on its clean beaches, terrific nature and many ancient sights to discover, the region started to develop rapidly after having once been discovered by the tourism industry in the early 80ies. Nonetheless, and although Kas is today quiet populated by hotels, restaurants, and a number of bars and boutiques, it has certainly not lost it's charm and romantic, natural scenery. With only about 7000 inhabitants Kas is still a very small town, where you can walk anywhere within about 10 minutes.



The biggest share of our Festival's activities (Workshops, Roundtables, Meetings) will take place at the areal of **AYDER Dreams Academy**, located in the small village of Cukurbag (in Turkish: *Çukurbağ Köyü*), about 10 km from the town centre. The Academy's building complex is situated in a 13 thousand hectares field and hence it comprises a lot of outdoor and indoor facilities for sports and arts activities in the middle of nature. For a first impression, please click here: <http://www.ayder.org.tr/en/Proje/dreams-academy-kas-antalya>.

Noteworthy, our festival just coincides with the festivities organized annually by the municipality in honor of October 29<sup>th</sup>, which is the Turkish Independence Day and therefore committed every year with a huge celebration in the town square. Therefore, some of our festival's larger and public events, the Final Festival Evening in particular, are going to happen in the centre of Kas.

### **Please Note:**

→ You may book your flight tickets to either Antalya or Dalaman Airport. There are several regular bus services, running between both cities and Kas. Both trips takes about 3-4 hours, with one-way tickets amounting up to max. 10 euros. For a most convenient trip we recommend, however, to book your flight to and from Antalya Airport, since buses via this line run more frequently and directly (which is not always the case for Dalaman). Of course we will assist everybody with organizing the trip to and from the airport as convenient as possible, and we further hope to cover a part of the costs for ticket fees. Please inform us in the case that public transport is not suitable at all to your or your group's specific needs. We will find a solution!

→ Most of the outdoor and indoor areal at AYDER Dreams Academy is barrier free. There are, however some stairs to climb when entering the houses, which are planned to be used for some activities and accommodation (see Website link above). Please inform us up-front whether you need special equipment (like ramps for roll chairs, etc.) or a certain kind of accommodation to be organized. Generally, we assure that our volunteers will be always around during the festival days, with a smile and helping hands.

**We will keep you updated !**

