



ANTALYA  
METROPOLITAN  
MUNICIPALITY



# ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES of ANTALYA

Antalya Metropolitan Municipality  
ANTALYA INTRODUCTORY BOOKLETS  
**Archeological Sites of Antalya**

PREPARED BY  
**Antalya Metropolitan Municipality**  
**Department of Urban History and Publicity**

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## Archeological Sites of Antalya

**Muhittin BÖCEK**  
Mayor of Antalya Metropolitan Municipality

**I**n addition to being unique in terms of natural beauties, Antalya also stands out with its cultural and historical beauties brought by being home to many civilizations for thousands of years. From the first inhabitants of Antalya, who used the Karain Cave as a settlement, to today's society, people benefited from the fertility of these lands and preferred to establish their cities in this region. Antalya has the Lycia, Pamphylia, Pisidia, and Cilicia regions of the Ancient Period, and hundreds of city-states were established in these regions in the past. Antalya, with its richness of ancient cities and settlements in the status of ruins, is the province with the most ruins in Turkey.

This booklet aims to introduce the sixteen archaeological sites with the status of ruins, and the museums where archaeological artifacts unearthed from these areas are exhibited in Antalya.

With our sincere wishes that you enjoy your visit while discovering the abundant natural, historical, and cultural beauties of our city with this guide...





# ALANYA CASTLE





**A**lanya Castle is located in the Alanya district, 130 km from the Antalya city center. The castle is on a peninsula that rises approximately 250 m from the sea, and it is one of the greatest symbols of the city. The total length of the castle walls, which were built in the Hellenistic Period, is 6.5 km. It was built by Seljuk Sultan Kayqubad I, who conquered and rebuilt the city in 1221. The castle consists of 83 towers and 140 bastions. In the Middle Age, more than 1200 cisterns were built to meet the water needs of the city within the walls. Some of the cisterns

are still functioning. Byzantine, Seljuk and Ottoman artifacts can be found together in the inner castle section. Churches and chapels from the Byzantine Period, the trade center bazaar, the masjid and tomb from 1230, the Seljuk Palace in which Spolia materials were used in its construction, the Turkish baths, dungeons, the Süleymaniye Mosque, which was a work of the 13<sup>th</sup> century but has been rebuilt by Suleiman the Magnificent, the Lantern from 1720 and the Greek village are just a few of the artifacts you can discover.







# Alanya Castle



**Opens:** 08.00

**Closes:** 17.00

**Ticket Office**

**Closes:** 16.30

**Open Every Day**



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# ALANYA MUSEUM





**A**lanya Museum is located in Alanya district, 130 km from Antalya city center. Alanya Museum was opened to visitors in 1967. It exhibits the collection of the findings from the excavations in the area, along with the artifacts of the Bronze Age and the Urartian, Phrygian and Lydian civilizations; which are brought from the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations. The oldest work exhibited in the museum is a Phoenician stone inscription from 625 BC, which was found in the region. The most famous work of the museum is the bronze Heracles statue, known for his dramatic story in mythology. The work, dated to the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, is exhibited in a special section.

Archaeological artifacts made of bronze, marble, terracot-

ta, and glass from the Archaic, Classical, Hellenistic, Roman, and Byzantine periods; mosaics; rich ash containers; coins, and Turkish-Islamic artifacts of the Seljuk and Ottoman Periods, constitute the museum collection.

In the Ethnography section, where the folkloric artifacts of the region are found; objects such as nomadic rugs, slabs, saddlebags, clothes, embroideries, weapons, pots, jewelry, manuscripts, and writing sets collected from the Alanya region and a daily room of an old Alanya house are exhibited. In the garden of the museum, stone works from the Roman, Byzantine, and Islamic periods are exhibited. There are 14 indoor and 1 outdoor exhibition halls.



**Opens:** 08.30

**Closes:** 17.30

**Ticket Office Closes:** 17.00

**Open Every Day**



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# ANTALYA MUSEUM





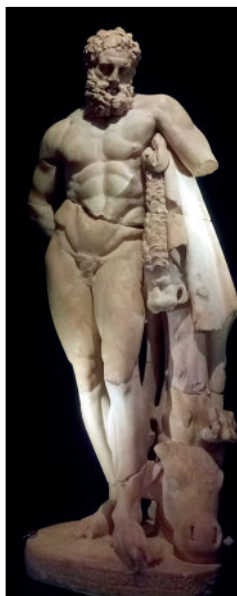
**A**ntalya Museum is located in the Antalya city center. With the purpose of protecting the historical pieces of the city during World War I, the Teacher Süleyman Fikri Erten applied to the Antalya governorship and appointed himself as an honorary Âsâr-ı Âtika officer (historical artifacts officer). Erten established the museum, with great efforts to collect primarily the historical artifacts of the local region, in 1922. The museum operated in the Alaaddin Mosque in Kaleiçi for a while, and then in the Yivli Minaret Külliye after 1937, until it was moved to its current building in 1972. It was selected as the “Museum of the Year” by the Council of Europe in 1988, and was awarded the “Excellence Award” in 2016. Antalya Museum has an area of 30

thousand square meters. It has 14 exhibition halls, a children’s section, and open-air galleries, as well as a beautiful garden. The museum exhibits: a natural history and prehistory collection, statues of gods and emperors, artifacts from the tomb cults, coins, mosaics, and icons. Especially with the Roman Period sculptures of Perge, and the discoveries unearthed from the museum recovery excavations, Antalya Museum has an invaluable collection.

Artifacts such as the Tired Heracles, Brooklyn Tomb, Elmalı Treasure, and the Perge Sculptures exhibited in the museum, make this museum world-famous. The museum welcomes tens of thousands of visitors from all over the world, every year.











## Antalya Museum



**Opens:** 08.30

**Closes:** 17.30

**Ticket Office**

**Closes:** 17.00

**Open Every Day**



Bahçelievler Mah.

Konyaaltı Cd.No: 88

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# ARYKANDA



**A**rykanda archeological site is located in the Arif village of the Finike district. The ancient city's name comes from the "Ary-ka-wanda" word, which means "the place next to the high cliff" in the Lycian language. The city, which was partially repaired after the great earthquake in 240 AD, was also called "Akalanda" and "Orykanda" during the Byzantine rule.

The structure at the top of the city is the watchtower, and it's on the southwest skirt of Şahinkaya.

The triangular acropolis to the south of the tower is thought to be the first settlement of the city. To the east of this area is the bouleuterion (the place where the Assembly of 500s was gathered in Ancient Greece), and to the north of the three shops to the east of the area is the temple built in the name of the Sun God Helios, in the 4<sup>th</sup> century

BC. The second highest building in the city after the watchtower is the stadion built in the 1st century AD. One long side of the stadion has a sitting area, while the other opens to the slope. On the terrace just below the Stadion is the small but best preserved theater of the region. On the lower terrace, the odeon, which also functions as an agora and a parliament building, can be seen. There is also a gymnasium in the southeast of the city, right next to the bath, and it gives the appearance of a bath-gymnasium.

In the burial area called the eastern necropolis of the city, there are mausoleums from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, many of which have survived, and there is a bath on the terrace below the burial area. At the origin of Aykırıçay Stream, the four-leveled canal system carved into steep rocks was the backbone of the system that brings water to the city.







**Opens:** 08.00  
**Closes:** 17.00  
**Ticket Office Closes:** 16.30  
**Open Every Day**



Arif Mahallesi  
FİNİKE



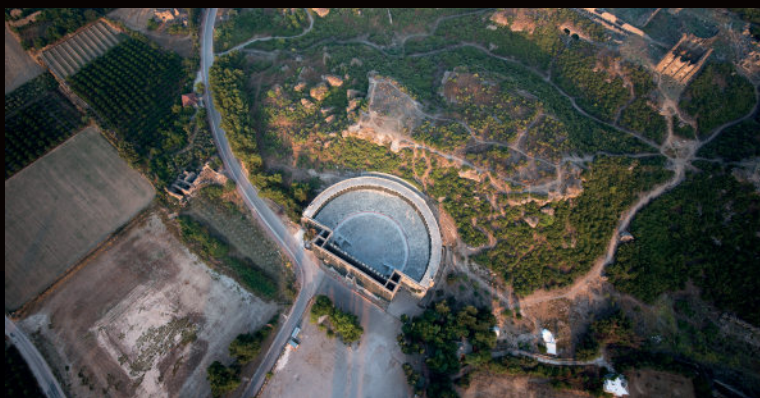




# ASPENDOS







**I**t is located in the town of Serik, 50 km from the Antalya city center. The ancient city of Aspendos is famous for having the best preserved Roman theater in the world. Aspendos, with its temples, aqueducts, ramparts, and many other ruins besides its theater, is an

ancient city where one can easily imagine what it was like to live in this city 2000 years ago. Aspendos became an important trade and art center during the Roman Period, especially in the 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries AD, and was known for its extraordinary wealth, at the time.













## Aspendos

**Opens:** 08.00

**Closes:** 17.00

**Ticket Office Closes:** 16.30

**Open Every Day**



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# ST. NIKOLAOS

## Memorial Museum



**S**t. Nicholas Memorial Museum is located in Demre district. The mausoleum church was built for St. Nicholas, also known as “Santa Claus”, who was born in the ancient city of Patara and died in the ancient city of Myra, where he was a bishop. The St. Nicholas Memorial Museum is one of the most important symbols of Demre. St. Nicholas, known as the “Saint of Miracles”, was loved a lot by the people of Myra, since he was helping the poor and distributing gifts. The St. Nicholas Church, which was built in memory of St. Nicholas,

is one of the rarest examples of the church architecture of the Middle Byzantine Period that has survived to the present day, in terms of its decorations and architectural style. Decorated with wall frescoes and floor mosaics, the basilica has been open to visitors since 1994 and has been on UNESCO’s World Heritage Tentative List since 2000.

Myra (today’s Demre) and Andriake were ports visited by the pilgrims going to Jerusalem by sea in the Middle Ages. Thus, Church of St. Nicholas is known as one of the pilgrimage places. The death anniversary of St.

Nicholas (6<sup>th</sup> of December) is commemorated every year in the church that now serves as a memorial museum in Demre, as well as all over the world. Every year, thousands of foreign guests visit the St. Nicholas Church to show their love and respect to the “Saint of Miracles”, pray at his sarcophagus and perform the duty of the pilgrimage.

*Source:*

*“Noel Baba Müzesi”,  
Dünden Bugüne Antalya  
II. Cilt, Antalya İl Kültür  
ve Turizm Müdürlüğü  
(2012)*







## ST. NIKOLAOS Memorial Museum



**Opens:** 08.30

**Closes:** 17.30

**Ticket Office Closes:** 17.00

**Open Every Day**

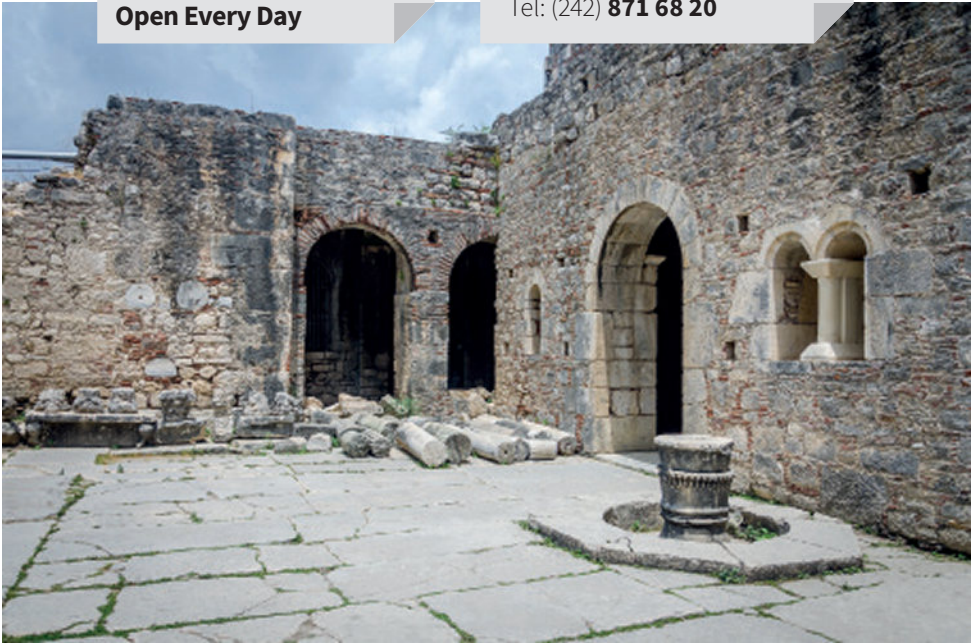


Gökyazı Mahallesi

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# ELMALI Museum



**E**lmalı Museum was established in 2011 by reorganizing the old government building and turning it into a museum. The museum has a rich collection of artifacts unearthed in the Elmalı region, especially from mounds around Elmalı. Late Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age artifacts, and the reconstructions of burial chambers unearthed in Karaburun, Kızılbey, and Karabayır tumulus excavations are exhibited. Coins of the Lycian region and the Roman Period, artifacts

brought to light in the Arykanda excavations, imitation samples of Elmalı treasure from the 5th century BC, and wall paintings are among the exhibitions.

Grave steles, column fragments, and architectural elements from the Hellenistic, Roman, and Byzantine periods, as well as a “bee spawn” that sheds light on the traditional methods of beekeeping in the region are exhibited in the backyard of the museum, which is used as an open display area.



**Opens:** 08.30

**Closes:** 17.30

**Ticket Office Closes:** 17.00

**Open Every Day**



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**KARAIN**

Cave





**I**t's located in Yağca neighborhood, 5-6 km away from the Antalya-Burdur highway, and 27 km away from Antalya. It is approximately 430-450 meters above sea level. Karain Cave is one of the largest natural caves in Turkey. It is also a karstic cave, in terms of formation. In addition to its historical importance, the cave also attracts attention with its stalagmites and stalactites that took hundreds of thousands of years to form. Moreover, remains of wild animals that are extinct in Anatolia today, such as rhinoceros, elephants and hippopotamuses were found. The cave was discovered by Kılıç Kökten in 1946. His research on the formation of the cave proves that the cave was formed as a result of the combination of thin cor-

ridors and three rocks.

The cave has always been used by people in protohistoric ages, such as Paleolithic, Neolithic, Chalcolithic, Old Bronze and in the Classical Age. The archaeological findings obtained from the excavations in Karain Cave, contributed greatly to the archaeological studies of Anatolia with the traces of settlement from the Lower Paleolithic to the Late Roman Period. Its use in the Classical Periods was more like a temple, and there are Greek inscriptions and niches on the cave's forehead and outer walls. Karain Cave is one of the most visited tourist attractions in Turkey, and is also listed on the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List, due to its importance in human history.

# Karain Cave



## Summer Period

April 1 - October 1

Opens: 08.00

Closes: 19.00



## Winter Period

October 1 - April 1

Opens: 08.30

Closes: 17.30



## Ticket Office closes

Summer Period: 18.00

Winter Period: 17.00

**Closed On Mondays**



## Address / Communication

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DÖŞEMEALTI

Tel: 0242 **423 13 34**









# LYCIAN CIVILIZATIONS

Museum





**T**he Lycian Civilizations Museum is located in Andriake, the port of the ancient city of Myra, in the Demre district of Antalya. The museum halls are named after the six largest cities of Lycia, with 3 voting rights. Artifacts discovered during research and excavations in the cities of Myra, Patara, Xanthos, Tlos, Pınara, Olympos and Arykanda are exhibited, each of which gives clues about the religion, language, art, beliefs, and the socioeconomic life of the Lycian people.

After the archaeological excavations and restoration works carried out between 2009 and 2014, the Lycian Civilizations Museum was opened to visitors in 2015 in the area where the

port of the ancient city of Myra was located.

The Andriake Granarium (granary), which is a structure from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, was turned into a museum. The port of Andriake was actively used until the 7<sup>th</sup> century AD, and it is still one of the most important ports in the region.

Today, a ship with its amphorae, in accordance with its original form, is exhibited in the dock of Andriake port to demonstrate what the commercial ships of the period looked like. The Lycian Civilizations Museum exhibits the original civilization of the region with a modern museology approach, and offers its visitors a short visit to the ancient period.





## Lycian Civilizations Museum



**Opens:** 08.00

**Closes:** 17.00

**Ticket Office Closes:** 16.30

**Open Every Day**



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# LİMYRA



The ancient city of Limyra was founded in the 5th century BC and gained importance as a bishopric center during the Byzantine Period. On the side of the road where visitors enter the ancient city, there is an ancient theater. A little ahead of the theater are the Xatabura Mausoleum, hillside houses and rock tombs, the acropolis and the acropolis church, the Perikle Heron (mausoleum) and the city walls.

At the lower part of the road, there is a huge column head.

Another important structure in this section is the cenotaph (a monumental tomb) built in 4 AD in memory of Gaius Caesar, the adopted son of Emperor Augustus. This work was built here since Gaius Caesar died in the ancient city of Limyra, while returning from Jerusalem to Rome.

The tomb of the Khorasanian dervish Kafi Baba, who lived in the same period with Abdal Musa and known as “The Watcher of Abdal Musa”, is also present in the ancient city.



**Opens:** 08.00

**Closes:** 17.00

**Ticket Office Closes:** 16.30

**Open Every Day**



Yuvalılar Köyü

Turuçova

FİNİKE





# MYRA (DEMRE)





**T**he ancient city of Myra is located in Demre district, about 140 km west of Antalya. Most of the ruins of the ancient city have been under the alluvium carried by the Myros Stream (Demre Stream). Myra is one of the six big cities with 3 voting rights, and one of the four cities with the title of “metropolis” in Lycia. It is known for certain that the city has existed since the 5th century BC, according to the ruins and epigraphic data. In addition, the excavations carried out in recent years, showed that the city was, in fact, used as a settlement long before the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC.

Lycian type rock tombs, which are built on the slopes of the hill where the Acropolis (upper city) is located, are the most qu-

alified rock tombs of the region. Moreover, the Roman theater, which was built on the same slope, is the largest theater in the Lycian region with a capacity of approximately ten thousand people. The cavea section (seating section) and the stage section of the theater have survived to the present, well-preserved. The defensive walls on the top of the Acropolis are also in good condition.

Myra is famous for being the city of St. Nicholas, who lived in the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD and established his episcopacy center in Myra. Nicholas is one of the most important saints of Christianity and his miracles are believed to have been performed in the Myra ancient city.

Today, hundreds of thousands



of tourists perform their duty of pilgrimage in the St. Nicholas Church. The church was built in the 6<sup>th</sup> century AD and has been well preserved with modifications and additions made in various periods.

The port settlement of Myra, Andriake, was established on both sides of the river in Çayağzı region where the Myros Stream (Demre Stream) meets the sea. The prominent structures in the port settlement are: the Granarium (Imperial silo) which has been the Lycian Ci-

vilizations Museum since 2015, agora/placoma, honor monuments, port structures, synagogue, baths, and churches.

The river, which has turned into a swamp today, is under protection as the Santa Claus Bird Sanctuary and is visited by 149 different bird species every year.

With its religious, historical and natural beauties, the ancient city of Myra is a popular tourist attraction.

## Myra (Demre)



**Opens:** 08.00

**Closes:** 17.00

**Ticket Office Closes:** 16.30

**Open Every Day**



Alakent Mahallesi

Dağ Dibi Mevkii

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# OLYMPUS and YANARTAŞ







**I**t is located on the southern coast of the Teke peninsula, approximately 85 km from the city center of Antalya, in the Beydağları-Olympos National Park. It takes its name from Tahtalı Mountain. Although the exact date of its foundation is unknown, “Olympos” was mentioned on the Lycian coins minted in 167-168 BC. Olympos was one of the six cities with three voting rights in Lycia. The layout of the city was shaped by the Olympos Stream flowing through the middle of the city.

Most of the city ruins belong to the Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine periods and are covered with trees and bushes in the forest. Temple gate and Eudomus Sarcophagus are the most remarkable structures of the city. On the sarcophagus,

there is a poem attributed to Captain Eudomos.

Olympos is an archaeological and natural protected area, with its historical and natural beauties. It is also one of the natural spawning areas of *Caretta caretta* and a frequent destination for passenger boats, thanks to its fascinating blue sea.

## **YANARTAŞ**

Olympos, which means “high mountain”, is also called “the city of unquenchable fire”. It is said that the flames coming out of the stones have been burning for 2500 years in the Yanartaş (eng: burning stone) place, which is located within the national park, at a height of 250 meters, 5 km north of the Olympos ancient city. This fire has been the subject of myths

and it is believed that the fire's source is Chimaera.

In the myth, the war of Bellerophon with Chimaera is told. Chimaera is a mythological creature with the head of a lion, the body of a goat, the tail of a snake, and a flaming mouth. According to the myth,

Bellerophon's spear gets stuck in Chimaera, and the creature, which radiates flames from its mouth, dies there. The flames emanating from the Chimaera's tongue are associated with today's "Yanartaş". But today, this event is explained scientifically as a continuous, natural fire among the rocks in this region.

## Olympos



**Opens:** 08.00

**Closes:** 17.00

**Ticket Office Closes:** 16.30

**Open Every Day**



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# PATARA



The ancient city of Patara is one of the oldest settlements of Lycia. The name of the city is mentioned in the Hittite texts of the 13th century BC. It has been an important city in every age throughout history, as it is the only place to sail in the Xanthos Valley. Patara became one of the most developed cities of Lycia when it came under the rule of Ptolemy in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC, and was widely accepted as the capital of Lycia when it came under the rule of the Seleucid Kingdom at the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC. This situation became official in 168-167 BC, when Lycia

gained its autonomy against Rome and its independence against Rhodes, and Patara became the capital of Lycia. Even after Lycia became a Roman state, Patara maintained its importance as a naval base that connected Rome with its eastern states, as well as being a center where the Roman governors conducted their judicial affairs. The city kept its value in the Byzantine Period too and became an important center for Christians. St. Nicolaos, who is known as “Santa Claus” and founded his church in Myra and died there, was born in Patara.





Tourists visiting the ancient city can see: necropolis areas, city gate, Roman baths, Lycia parliament building, theater, street with columns, churches, Granarium, Corinthian Temple, and one of the oldest and best-preserved lighthouses of the Ancient Period, the Emper-

or Nero Period lighthouse.

In addition to its archaeological and historical value, Patara ancient city is also invaluable for being one of the rare beaches where the Mediterranean turtles, *Caretta Carettas*, lay their eggs and breed for millions of years.







# Patara



**Opens:** 08.00

**Closes:** 17.00

**Ticket Office Closes:** 16.30

**Open Every Day**



Gelemiş Mahallesi

Örenyeri Sokak

KAŞ

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# PERGE





**I**t is located in the east of Antalya, very close to the Aksu district center. One of the most important cities of the Pamphylia region in the Hellenistic and Roman periods, Perge, became an important center for Christianity during the Eastern Roman Empire Period. Perge is a valuable histori-

cal site with being the residence of one of the first female mayors in history, being a city visited by St. Paulus, and owning the Roman Period sculpture collection in the Antalya Archeology Museum today. Many of its structures are still standing and open to visitors.



The settlement in the city, whose name is referred to as “Parha” in Hittite sources (13<sup>th</sup> century), began much earlier, in the Chalcolithic Period (5-3 thousand BC, in the Stone Age - Copper Age). Large structures such as baths, theaters, stadiums, and colonnaded streets built during the Roman Period,

show that prosperity level was high at that time. Perge has been on the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List since 2009. Perge, can be easily accessed from Antalya city center by tram and is open to visitors all year.







## Perge



**Opens:** 08.00

**Closes:** 17.00

**Ticket Office Closes:** 16.30

**Open Every Day**



Barbaros

Mahallesi Perge

Caddesi AKSU

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# PHASELIS





**P**haselis is an ancient port city, about 55 km west of Antalya. It is learned from the ancient writers and geographers that the ancient city of Phaselis had three ports: north port, central port, and south port. These ports had been used for military and commerce. Founded as a Rhodes colony in the 7<sup>th</sup> century BC, the city was conquered by Alexander the Great in 333 BC.

According to ancient coins, the city remained under the control of the Ptolemies until 190 BC. Phaselis became a part of Lycia, which is one of the first federation systems in the world in 167 BC. The city had always been an important port city in the Mediterranean trade in history. It was also used as a military base by the Cilician pirates. The famous geographer Strabo spoke of this city with praise.



# Phaselis



**Opens:** 08.00

**Closes:** 17.00

**Ticket Office Closes:** 16.30

**Open Every Day**



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# Ancient City of Side



**A**ncient city of Side is located 80 km east of Antalya, in the town of Manavgat. It was founded by the Kymelians before the 7<sup>th</sup> century BC. Side spent its heyday in the Hellenistic and Roman periods, together with the other remarkable cities in the region such as Perge, and Aspendos. Structures of the an-

cient city such as the theater, the Nymphaeum (ancient fountain structure), the Temples of Apollo and Athena, the basilica, and the colonnaded street are still in good condition. Also known as the Old Side, the region is important in terms of its uninterrupted settlement since its establishment.

The name of the city means





“Pomegranate” in the Luwian language, the language of the region. Since pomegranate has been used as a symbol for abundance, this indicates that the city and its people were living in abundance and fertility. In

addition to Greek and Latin, “Sidean”, a language specific to the region, was also spoken in the Pamphylia region. Located on the coastline of this port city, the Temple of Apollo is famous for its sunset view.





Photographs:  
Selma GENÇEL



## Ancient City of Side



**Opens:** 08.30

**Closes:** 17.30

**Ticket Office Closes:** 17.00

**Open Every Day**



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# SIDE Museum



**B**y restoring the Roman bath in the ancient city and turning it into a museum, the Side Museum became the first museum established in a village, in our country. The museum collection consists of the findings brought to light by Ord. Prof. Dr. Arif Müfid Mansel, from his excavations in the ancient city of Side. The Roman bath was restored in 1959 - 1961 and opened to the public as a museum in 1962.

In the museum, marble statues,

sarcophagi, inscriptions, reliefs from the Hellenistic, Roman, and Byzantine Periods; vessels made of terracotta and glass, various figures, and coins made of bronze are exhibited. The visitors of Side have the opportunity to observe the cultural objects of the ancient city they visited, in the same cultural geography. The Three Beauties Statue, which symbolizes beauty, grace, and fertility, dates back to 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, and it is one of the most admired artifacts of the Side Museum.



**Opens:** 08.30

**Closes:** 17.30

**Ticket Office Closes:** 17.00

**HER GÜN AÇIK**



Side Mh. Liman Cd.

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# SİMENA

## Castle Village



**I**t is thought that the ancient city of Simena, located in Kaleköy between Demre and Kaş, was founded before the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC. It is famous for its castle which has been used until the Middle Ages, and its rock tombs, unique to the Lycian region. On the inscription of the bath ruins on the coast, there is the phrase “It was gifted to Emperor Titus by the people of

Aperlai and its council and other cities of the union”. Various tombs can be seen here, two of which are house-type tombs. The inscription in Lycian language draws attention in the house-type tomb to the north of the tower. Looking at Üçağız from the castle, it is seen how safe this natural harbor is. It is one of the indispensable stops of yacht routes.



**Opens:** 08.30

**Closes:** 17.30

**Ticket Office Closes:** 17.00

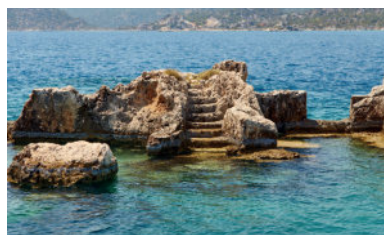
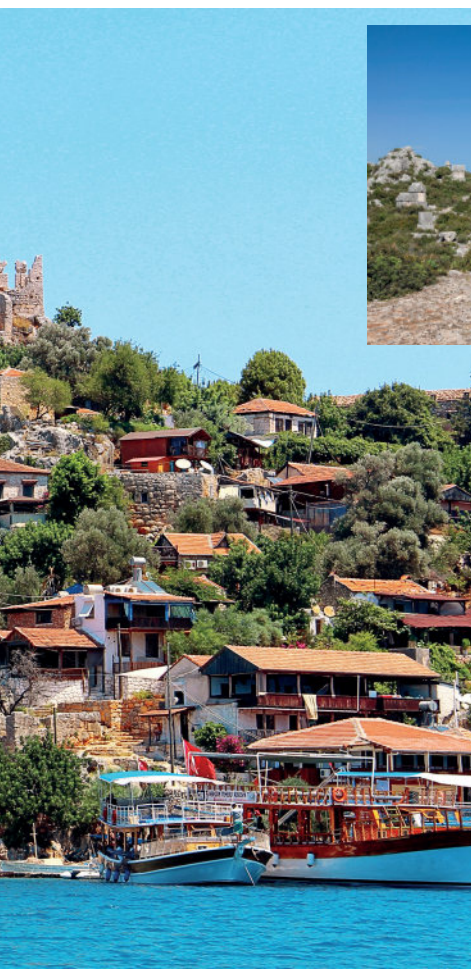
**Open Every Day**



Üçağız Mah.  
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# SYEDRA



**L**ocated in Alanya district, Syedra is the city on the western border of the Cilicia region. The history of the city goes back to the 9th century BC. According to the topographical features of the region, there are two settlement areas called the upper city and the lower city. The upper city is a sheltered area built on a slope about 400 meters above sea level. The lower city, on the other hand, is a port settlement built on the shore. Archaeological studies in the ancient city show that Syedra lived its heyday between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries

AD, and continued its existence until the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

Mosaics and inscriptions unearthed during the archaeological excavations in the lower city and the harbor, are exhibited in the Alanya Museum. The public buildings of the city are located in the sheltered upper city. The colonnaded street, heroon (mausoleum), bath, gymnasium, and cisterns in this settlement are well-preserved. Visitors of the ancient city can watch the structures built by terracing on the slopes, accompanied by a unique view.



**Opens:** 08.30

**Closes:** 17.30

**Ticket Office Closes:** 17.00

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# TERMESSOS







**T**he ancient city of Termessos draws attention with its distinguished architectural structures, despite its rough geography. Especially the theater leaning against the mountain is very special. The ancient city is located 30 km northwest of Antalya, 1150 meters above sea level, and is included in the national park. Termessos became famous as “the city that Alexander the Great could not get”. According to Strabo, the people of Termessos, who called their place “So-

lim”, stood out with their warrior character.

Termessos has numerous temples and vast cemeteries. The diversity and decorations of the tombs are quite rich. Among these, the tomb of Alketas (319 BC), one of the best commanders of the Alexander the Great Period, holds a special place. Next to the monumental tombs, many sarcophagi with shield motifs depicting their warrior characters occupy a very large area in the cemetery.



**Opens:** 08.30

**Closes:** 17.30

**Ticket Office Closes:** 17.00

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# XANTHOS



**I**t is one of the major ancient settlements that served as the capital of Lycia. Today, it has a dominant position on the edge of Eşen Stream in Kaş district. It came under Persian rule in the 6th century BC, and suffered a great fire disaster between 475-450 BC. Xanthos, which was the capital of Lycia in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC, came under the control of the Romans in 42 BC, and then remained under Byzantine rule as a bishopric center, until the Arabian raids in the 7<sup>th</sup> century AD. We get the first information about the city, from one of the greatest travelers of the 1900s, Ch. Fellows. The city's theater is located to the east of the Lycian Acropolis, one of the two

acropolises of the city. The tomb monument, which stands on a rectangular pedestal to the west of the theater and symbolizes mythological creatures with female bodies and bird wings, is also significant. Dating to the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC, this monument is currently exhibited in the British Museum.

Xanthos is extremely rich in tomb glyphs, and sarcophagi. The famous mausoleum "Nereids" built on the outskirts of Xanthos in the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC, depicts the Persian-Greek war. This monument is also exhibited in the British Museum. This center that sheds light on the history of humanity, was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1988.





# Xanthos



**Opens:** 08.30

**Closes:** 17.30

**Ticket Office Closes:** 17.00

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**#WeAreStrongTogether**



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Mayor of Antalya Metropolitan Municipality

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