

# Metropolis

Klazomenai Archaeological Site, The  
very First Town Where the Black Olives  
Turned Into Gold Liquid

*Don't Miss*



## Metropolis Archaeological Site Visiting Hours

April 1 - October 31

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00

October 31 - April 1

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30
17.30	17.30	17.30	17.30	17.30	17.30	17.30

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Please visit the website for current information.



[www.muze.gov.tr](http://www.muze.gov.tr)



Meet The Mother Goddess  
in the Noble Seats of the  
**Metropolis Theatre**







The ancient city of Metropolis is located between the villages of Yeniköy and Özbey in Torbalı, İzmir, resting its back on the Mount Galesion which takes its name from the mother goddess named Meter Galesia. The traces of the early settlement around the Metropolis date back to the Neolithic Peirod covering the areas of Tepeköy, Dedicik, and Kuşçuburun.

In late antiquity Metropolis became an episcopal centre but began to shrink due to wars and economic reasons, and a defensive fortress was built around the city. Since the 14th century, the region was put under the rule of the Principality of Aydınöğulları, but could not maintain its former position any longer and was moved to Torbalı.

#### **The Theatre**

Built in the Hellenistic period, the theatre's floor was covered with marble in the Roman period and the stage building was expanded.

Restored between 2000 and 2001, the theatre has a capacity of about 4,000 spectators.



#### **The Peristillium House**

This house was discovered on the southern slope of the ancient theatre during the excavations to investigate the connection between the theatre and the city centre. The house with a peristillium-style courtyard has begun to shed light on the details of civilian life, which were not known until now. The large courtyard in the middle of the structure is covered with marble slabs and surrounded by four rows of columns at each edge. Many of the spaces surrounding the courtyard, with their colourful wall plasters and rich findings, show that the structure belonged to a wealthy Metropolis resident who lived in the Roman period.

#### **Acropolis**

Situated in a strategic and secure location, the Acropolis covers an area of 16,000 m2, dominating the entire the Torbalı Plain, from which it is possible to observe the surroundings very well. As a result of the excavations and sondages, it was determined that the Acropolis hill was inhabited from 3000 years B.C. onwards, and in the Hellenistic period its environs were surrounded by strong fortifications.

#### **Bouleuterion (Parliament House)**

Bouleuterion is a public building where assembly members elected by free citizens and gathered in cities governed by democracy. In this building, councillors would discuss every issue concerning the city and make decisions. The square-formed Metropolis bouleuterion, built in the middle of the 2nd century B.C, had a capacity of 350 people.



#### **Stoa**

The stoas were used in religious ceremonies, political and philosophical meetings, commercial and cultural events in order to protect people from rain and sun. The two Doric order columns would carry the stoa which was built in the 2nd century B.C. On the columns at the front, the names of the wealthy people who supported the construction of the building were inscribed, evidencing that this was the first example of a sponsorship institution.

#### **Upper Baths and Gymnasium**

Gymnasiums were the public structures where physical and intellectual education was given to young people in antiquity. The Metropolis Gymnasium was mentioned in inscriptions from the period of Augustus. According to an epigraph dated back to 2nd century B.C., a woman named Alexandra Mirton was mentioned as the administrator of the gymnasium.

#### **Lower Bath-Palaestra**

It belongs to the Roman Imperial Period with marble-clad interior facade and it is a magnificent bath building with specially designed stepped pools on the sides of the Central Hall.