

# Treasure in Lake Van Akdamar Island and Memorial Museum



# Van Museum



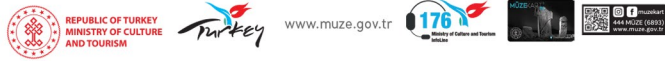
## Van Museum

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Closed	8.00 17.00	8.00 17.00	8.00 17.00	8.00 17.00	8.00 17.00	8.00 17.00

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## The Window Opening to History of Van





The main reason of the cultural wealth of Van City, which is located at an intersection point of civilizations, is the inheritance of many civilizations that it embraced. However, there is one civilization between these civilizations that maintain culture on handicrafts of Van City and continues to ornament the works, crags and immense lands. The Urartians that emerged in this region in 9th Century BC, and chose Van City as the Capital City, had succeeded to become a civilization onward of its age in Architecture, Technology, Arts and Mining.

Van Museum which enable the Urartians to be known more closely and with its all aspects, awaits the visitors who want to see the inheritance of all civilizations that made an impression on the thousands year history of ancient Van City and especially the spectacular civilization.

With each of the 23 Exhibition Hall in Museum built on an 13 thousand square meter area with modern museum perceptive, the visitors go for a journey at history of Van City, one of the rich cultural inheritance city of Turkey with its thousands of precious monuments. The Urartians are the focus of the works in the Museum, which has passed visitors through a time corridor beginning from the Paleolithic Period, which was lived about 500 thousand years ago.

It is possible to obtain all kinds information about arts, social life and culture of Urartians with parallel the findings discovered at archeological digs in and around Van City. Naturally, Van City did not end with Urartians. It continued to be a significant and a strategic settlement at the each period of Roman, Byzantine, Seljuk, Akkoyunlu, Karakoyunlu and Ottoman. You can also see the works, coins and ethnographic works that shed light on the Van folk culture in the Museum.



## MAGNIFICANT CIVILIZATION OF ANATOLIA: URARTIANS

The Urartians, with the extant monuments and traces they left; they accomplished both their military and commercial successes and became one of the most magnificent civilizations of history with the level they achieved in architecture, technology and art. Although they generally reigned in mountainous areas, they created water canals and dams and fertile farmland. Thus, they developed a civilization ahead of the period. Fortresses, palaces and temples are proof that they have succeeded in creating a superior civilization in architecture. Besides, some buildings which were built with stone blocks weighing almost 30 tons, increase admiration to this civilization.



The Urartians that came to an advanced level in art decorated their walls with paintings and demonstrated their mastery in terms of motifs and style both in architectural decoration and jewelry. They had reached an advanced level especially in the art of mining; they processed mines with the methods that even today continue to exist, and decorated with figures and motifs, which require craftsmanship



with great skill, fine and patience. Moreover, all these works not only give information tips about Urartian art, but also their religious beliefs, culture and daily lives. For instance, maybe it makes you can surprised to learn that jewelry is not only for purpose of ornamentation, but also some of them determine wearer's class and are used only by upper class and also some of them are carried in faith-based.

Van Museum, which offers a summary of history with its both modern architecture and exhibition methods and works, is one of the places where you can build a bridge between the past and future. This ancient land which has been homeland to civilizations that led the history of civilization in architecture and art has always significant place in history and will continue to be.