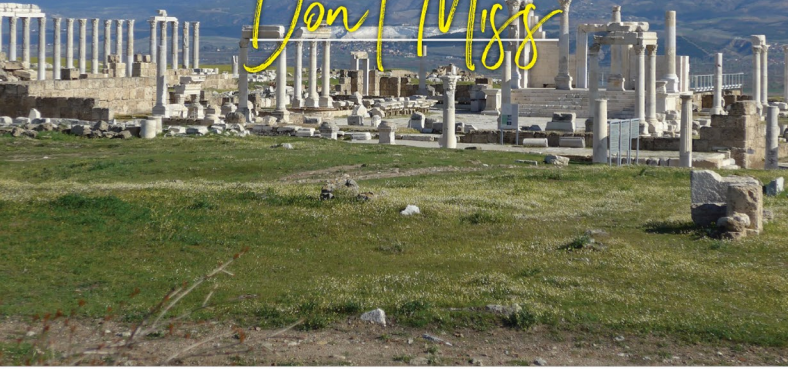


# The Unique Beauty in the Lycos Valley Ancient City of Laodikeia

*Don't Miss*



# Hierapolis Archaeological Site



## Hierapolis Archaeological Site Visiting Hours

	1 March-1 May	1 June-30 September	1 October-31 October	1 November-29 February
South Gate	6.30-20.00	6.30-21.00	6.30-20.00	6.30-18.00
North Gate	8.20-20.00	8.00-21.00	8.00-20.00	8.00-18.00
Walkway	8.00-20.00	8.00-21.00	8.00-20.00	8.00-18.00
Antique Bath	8.00-20.00	8.00-21.00	8.00-20.00	8.00-18.00

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## The City of Water and Faith Hierapolis







Ancient Hierapolis City was founded in 2nd century BC by Eumenes II, King of Pergamon. It can be said that the name Hierapolis is coming from Hieria, the wife of Telephus. Since the city was located in an earthquake zone, the structures standing today were built after the great earthquake in 60s AD and lost their Hellenistic character. When the city seized by the Byzantines in the 4th century AD, an octagonal church called Martyrium was built in the name of St. Philip. The city was destroyed by the great earthquake in the 7th century AD and lost its urban identity.



## Hierapolis Ancient Theater

It was replaced with the old theater in the northern part of the city and was built by using architectural pieces from the old theater. The first theater, which was belonged to the 1st century AD, was destroyed during the earthquake of 60 AD and completed during the Severus period (206 AD) after many construction phases. The theater was built leaning on the hillside and is Greek Theater type. It has a capacity of approximately 10 thousand people. The vertical cavea is divided into two parts from the diazoma. The ancient theater of Hierapolis, which is nearly 1800 years old, is the only example of Roman theaters in the Mediterranean Basin which was preserved with all its architectural materials.



### Martyrium of St. Philippus

The octagonal church was built on the top of the hill in the early 5th century. Eight rectangular buildings are opening to the central place with three arches carried by marble columns, which are decorated with acanthus leaves. The church has a wooden dome. The plan of the central place refers to the number eight, the symbol of eternity. The church is placed in a rectangular plan and opens to the outside with 28 places where pilgrims are welcomed.



### Ploutonion (Pluto's Gate)

It is one of the most famous temples in Asia Minor dedicated to Pluto, the god of the hell, and his wife Persephone. Ancient writers described the ceremonies as held in front of the cave where the water source that feeds Pamukkale Hot Spring emerges and toxic gas is emitted. For these reasons, the cave was accepted as the Entrance of Hell. In this area, a huge statue of Pluto, a statue of Cerberus (three-headed dog) who is the guard of the Hell Gate, and two snake statues which are the symbol of the underworld have been unearthed.

