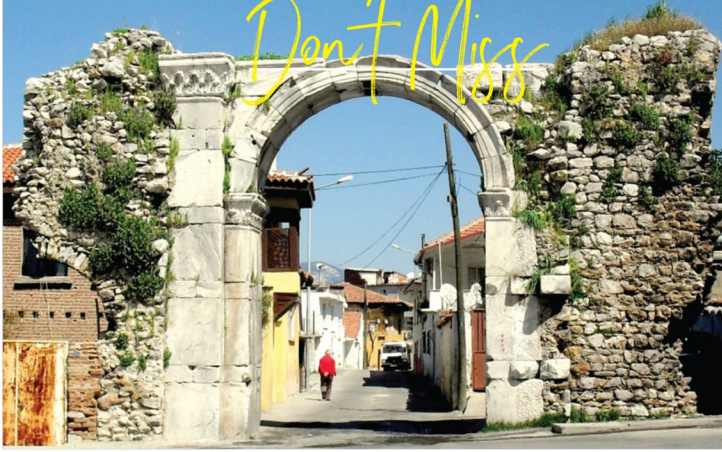


# The Axe Gate, Starting Point of the Sacred Way to Labraunda

*Don't Miss*



# Labraunda



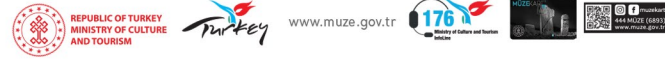
## Labraunda Archaeological Site Visiting Hours

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8.30 17.00	8.30 17.00	8.30 17.00	8.30 17.00	8.30 17.00	8.30 17.00	8.30 17.00

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**Address** Kocayayla Mevkii, Labraunda Ören Yeri Milas/Muğla

Please visit the website for updated information.



## Sanctuary of Zeus Labraundos





### Ideological and Architectural Landscape

Labraunda's most important time was 4th century B.C.. Especially the years when Maussollos and Idrieus ruled Caria. Before the Hekatomnid Kingdom, the sanctuary was in the state of a local cult area consisting of an archaic temple and Sycamore Grove. The Maussollos had at first built retaining walls for new and enlarged terraces and a stone-paved road up to Mylasa. He later built a stoa and an andron building for feasts as well. Idrieus built the new Zeus Temple and the oikoi building behind it, a second andron building, the southern Propylon, and the Doric building. Many structures seen in Labruna today date from these periods. The Hekatomnids had here transformed the opportunities given by Zeus Labraundos, the landscape and its mystical nature into splendour and political propaganda for themselves.



Zeus Labraundos is thought to have a mystical structure. On Hekatomnid coins Zeus is often depicted carrying sceptre in his hand and labrys on his shoulder. Thus, it offers a strong image. Thousands of people should have been attending the annual sacrifice festivities held in honor of Zeus Labraundos. The participants reached Labraunda via the Sacred Way and made seramonies and sacrifice presentations in honor of God..



### In labraunda it all started with a rift Rock

According to legend, the Sky God threw his labrys and cut this rock in two. As a result, the source of fresh water that burst from under the Rock gave life to Mylasa. You can drink this water, which is still flowing today!

### Are Monumental Staircases A Cult Theatre?

The 12-metre-wide stairs must have revived the myth of God in Labraunda for its ritual dramas. It was probably used as a cult Theatre during festivals