

Nemrut Archaeological Site

Arsameia
Archaeological Site,
King Antiochus'

Don't Miss



Nemrut Archaeological Site Visiting Hours

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King Antiochus Theos
I. King of Commagene
(69-38 BC)





Mount Nemrut Archaeological Site, which is on the UNESCO World Heritage List, is located on a hill overlooking the Euphrates River passages and the plain at an altitude of 2150 meters on the Eastern Taurus mountain range. A tumulus was formed with accumulation of crushed rocks on the monumental tomb built for the King Antiochus I of the Commagene, and a fire altar, giant sculptures and relief stelae in Persian-Macedonian style were made on the terraces around the tumulus. On the eastern terrace, there are statues of the king, goddesses and gods, sitting in rows on the 10-meter-high thrones. Behind the thrones, there is an inscription (Nomos) consisting of 223 lines. There are also relief stelae of Persian kings. There is a fire altar and a lion statue sitting next to it. On the west terrace, as in the other terrace, there are thrones, statues and reliefs of the King Antiochus I of the Commagene handshaking with deities. There are also relief stelae of Macedonian kings. Along with these reliefs there is a lion horoscope relief about astrology. The date of 7 July 62 BC is read from the moon and stars on the lion relief. This is the date when King Antiochus I ascended the throne.



Commagene

She is the goddess of fertility unique to the country of Commagene. She is depicted with a diadem decorated with fruits on her head. She is the only goddess known in the Commagene pantheon. She is considered to be related with the goddesses named Hera Teleia mentioned in the inscription at Arsameia Nymphaeis and Argandene in the Arsamia Euphrates.



East Terrace

It is the most magnificent and preserved one among the three terraces built by Antiochus I. Near Antiochus I statue, there is the mother goddess of the country, Commagene, in the middle is the chief god Zeus-Orosmasdes, near it is the Apollo-Mithras, on the far right is the Herakles-Artagnes statue and on both sides there are symmetrically placed guardian eagle and lion statues. There is also a fire altar. West Terrace: The statues same with those on the east terrace are made on here. There are also four reliefs of Persian ancestors. North Terrace: It was built between east and west terraces. It is considered to have been built as a ceremonial road. It is one of the best sites to watch sunrise and sunset in the world .