

A Gate Opening to Lycian History Lycia Civilizations Museum

Don't Miss



The Church of St. Nicholas Memorial Museum Visiting Hours

April 1-October 1

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 1- April 1

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

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Please visit the website for current information.



www.muze.gov.tr



St. Nicholas Memorial Museum

A Site for Christian Pilgrimage





Patara within the borders of Antalya in the middle of the 3rd century AC and he worked as a bishop in Myra, in other words today's Demre, after his education. During these years, Myra was the capital of the Lycian Province and the bishop who served there was considered the second largest religious authority in Anatolia. After his death, a monumental tomb and then a church were built in the name of Nicholas, who won the love of the people of Myra with his good deeds and his important place in the Christian world. Events under the name 'Call for World Peace with Santa Claus' are organized in Demre every December 6, which is the date of his death, in order to honor the memory of the Saint, who still has an important place in world of Christianity. In these events, people from different religions attend peace prayers, ceremonies are held and Anatolia, where thousands of different cultures and religions have lived together brotherly, once again becomes the meeting point of religions and cultures.



From a Pilgrimage Site to a Museum

St. Nicholas Church was a pilgrimage site during the Middle Age. Pilgrims traveling to Jerusalem by sea visited Andriake, the port of Myra, on their way and reach the Church of St. Nicholas from there. Although the church has undergone many modifications since its first construction, its present form is largely the work of Constantine IX, the Byzantine Emperor, in 1042. In 1862, it was repaired and the bell tower that has reached today has been added by Alexander II, the Russian Tsar. In addition to being an important example of Byzantine architecture, 11th-century wall paintings are also noteworthy. These wall paintings, which depict the council scenes, which were religious meetings where decisions about Christianity were taken, are considered among the most beautiful examples reflecting the style of the period.

From St. to Santa Claus

Santa Claus, portrayed as a person who brings gifts to children in red-white clothing all over the world, was actually Bishop Nicholas who became a saint over time thanks to what he did, and the places where he born and lived are within the boundaries of Turkey. The memory of St. Nichols who devoted his life to doing good, shared what he had with the poor, provided the poor with aids by secretly leaving gifts from windows or chimneys continues to live in Demre. The church, built in the name of the Saint in this place where he served as a bishop for many years and died, is used as a memorial museum and is visited by nearly 1 million people every year. St. Nicholas was born in

