



# Demre Lycian Civilisations Museum

A Gate Opening To The History Of The Lycians



## Demre Lycian Civilisations Museum Visiting Hours

### April 1-October 1

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30
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
8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30
17.30	17.30	17.30	17.30	17.30	17.30	17.30

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and democracy. Known to have been the first to have established a federal system, the Lycian Civilisation is regarded as the most unique culture in Anatolia and differs from the ones before and after it in history. They had their own art style and their own language which is still not completely understood. Named by the Hittites as Lukka (the Land of Lights), the Lycian lands is located on a peninsula between Antalya and Fethiye, in the southwest of Turkey. The visitors will certainly understand why the Lycians are so attached to their freedom, while discovering the traces of their cities built on a steep rocky area. The most remarkable artefacts in the region are the Lycian rock tombs reflecting their wooden structures. For the Lycian people, the tombs were so important that they enacted laws to protect their tombs and even created a council which is called 'minti'. The greatest contribution of the Lycian Civilisation to humanity is that they have implemented the earliest example of today's democratic systems. The Lycian League, which was formed by bringing together 23 cities in the first century BC, is considered the first democratic formation in history. Another important aspect of the region is that the Lycian people lived here until they disappeared from history. For keeping the memories of the Lycians alive, the Ancient Cities of the Lycian Civilisation are included in the UNESCO World Heritage Temporary List thanks to their historical importance and originality.



The museum is located in the ruins of Andriake Harbour of the ancient city of Myra, which is among the five largest cities of Lycia in Demre, Antalya. The museum building which was built as a granarium (granary) in 129 AD is itself a significant part of the Lycian history as well as the displays unearthed at the excavations of Lycian cities. Each artefact in the museum's collection gives clues about the religious beliefs, economic and social lives of the Lycians. The museum halls are named after the cities of Myra, Patara, Xanthos, Tilos, Pinara, Olympus, Arykanda and Antiphellos which constitute the Lycian League. Watching the informative video about the Lycian Civilisation will make the museum visit more appealing and interesting. In the open air section of the museum are the remains of the harbour, bazaar, public bath and church, all of which were unearthed at the excavation works which continued for long years. A Roman merchant ship, built in accordance with the original, attracts the attention of all visitors and the place setting, showing how goods were brought to the harbour in Ancient Age times, takes them on a journey in time.

#### **A Unique Culture In Anatolia: Lycian Civilisation**

As the cradle of civilisations, Turkey has hosted many great civilisations throughout its history. One of these is the Lycians who were renowned for their devotion to freedom

