

Apollo Temple of Didyma





Apollo Temple of Didyma Visiting Hours

1 April-31 October

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday 9.00 9.00 9.00 9.00 9.00 9.00 9.00 19.00 19.00 19.00 19.00 19.00 19.00 19.00

1 November-31 March

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday 8.30 17.30 17.30 17.30 17.30 17.30 17.30 17.30 ☐ TurkishMuseums ☐ officialturkishmuseums ☐ TurkishMuseums ☐ TurkishM

Address Aydın ili, Didim İlçesi sınırları içerisinde, Yenihisar Mahallesi sınırları içerisinde yer almaktadır.

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Brankhid (Priest) Sculptures

According to the myth, Titan Leto had been made pregnant by the chief God Zeus for Apollo at this holy area that was to become a divination centre later on. Apollo had later designated the shepherd, called Brankhos as the protector of holy spring granting him the competence to prophecy. Didymium had been administered by the clerics of Brankhid as an autonomous prophesy centre from the 8th century BC until the lonian Rebellion in 494 BC.



Temple of Apollo

It is deemed among the best protected temples of the Antique age: Since it has the row of double pillars surrounding the temple, it exhibits Dipteros (double pillared) type plan. Construction of the structure had been started 4th or 3rd century BC. It had been destroyed by the Persian in the begining of 5th century BC. Naiskos (small temple) in the middle yard had been demolished during 5/6th century BC and replaced by a Christian Basilica which is destroyed in the earthquake.



Temple of Artemis

Despite a temple had been discovered at the North of Hisar Mosque with foundations directed toward east, it has not been possible to determine certainly the foundation plan of the temple. According to the knowledge we have today, it is assumed that it had been constructed probably during the late Hellenistic Age. It is possible to correlate this new cult structure with Artemis, sister of Apollon because of the similarity between structural elements with Apollon Naiskos (small temple).

There are three pillars in Pronaos (prechamber) and the number of the pillars are 120 with these. Average height of the pillars is 19.7 m. Marble and limestone were used in the construction of the temple. The architects of the temple were Paionis and Daphnis from Ephesus.

Medusa Reliefs

Sthenno, Euryale and Medusa were the names in the Greek mythology given to three sisters with snake head (hairs) and horrifying face petrifying the persons who look at them. Therefore, the Greeks had embroidered head of medusa on their shields, their articles that they wished to protect, their temples and their armors.