

First Wonder in a Breathtaking
Journey

Ayavarvara Church

Don't Miss

Sümela Monastery



Sümela Monastery Visiting Hours

May 27 - September 15

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

September 16 - October 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00

October 3 - May 26

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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Address Altındere Vadisi Maçka, Trabzon

Please visit the website for current information.



www.muze.gov.tr



Hidden Sanctuary in Clouds





The monastery, built in the name of the Virgin Mary and known with this name by the local people, was founded in the 4th century AD as the dream of two monks named Barnabas and Sophronios, who came from Athens and built a small church here. It was expanded into a monastery during the Byzantine Empire; has become a science and culture center with its rich library. It continued to exist after the conquest of Trabzon by the Ottomans; even the Ottoman sultans sent many gifts to the monastery, which continued to be used uninterruptedly until 1923.



Sümela Monastery, built into a natural cave has a section, covering the mouth of the cave, is dated to mid-1800s and early 1900s. The inner parts of the cave are dated to the Middle Ages. Apart from the church building, chapels and monks' rooms in Monastery that is spread to a very large area; there are libraries which were used once bookcases where valuable manuscripts were kept, cellars where food was stored, kitchens, divisions used as ayazma (holy spring of orthodox greeks) that is believed to have sacred water and bathroom. The old photos prove that these divisions are interconnected with a complex system with wooden staircases, balconies and bridges. In addition to the architecture of the Sümela Monastery, which is an important cultural treasure that continues to fascinate its visitors with its appearance, although it was destroyed in a fire in the 1930s, it also has a number of frescoes that draw attention from the Bible.



Sümela was the most magnificent and hierarchical of the many monasteries that once functioned in this region. As it was in the past, it is the most well-known and most visited of the monasteries today. However, if you are a history enthusiast and are willing to cross steep roads, you can visit all of the nearby monasteries. Kuştul Monastery is on a cliff that is similarly difficult to reach. The Vazelon Monastery, dated 270, which was once considered the second most important monastery after Sümela and the Kaymakli Monastery are also within the boundaries of Trabzon.

The Sümela Monastery has a richness that cannot be explained in a few pages. Besides the historical value, architecture and artistic features, those who can enjoy the magnificent views from the monastery will be the ones who will not be contented with what they read but those who visit Sümela on si