

Akdamar Monument Museum



Sardurihinili Castle

Don't miss.

Akdamar Monument Museum Visiting Hours

April 1 - October 31

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8.00 19.00	8.00 19.00	8.00 19.00	8.00 19.00	8.00 19.00	8.00 19.00	8.00 19.00

October 31 - April 1

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

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Address Yalı Mahallesi Kale Sokak No. 2 İpekyolu/VAN

Please visit the website for current information.

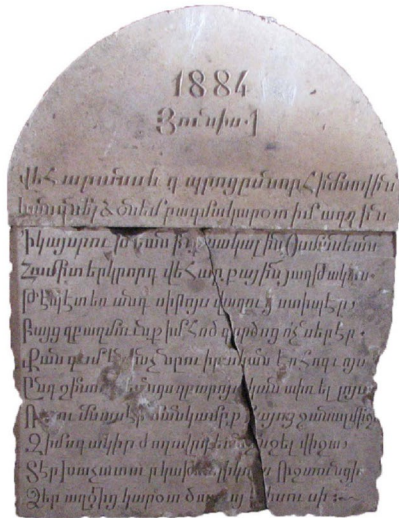


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A monument museum of
historical and natural beauty





A document dated 1884, that states that Abdul Hamid II supported the construction of the Catholicos Palace and the seminary, unearthed as a result of excavations by Van Museum in 2006.



Akdamar Island and the Church of the Holy Cross

Akdamar Island and the Church of the Holy Cross are undoubtedly one of the important centers of Van, which hosts significant historical and touristic attractions. The church on Akdamar Island has a special importance among the Orthodox Armenian Churches thanks to its architectural features. It was built by Monk Manuel appointed by King Gagik I of the Kingdom of Vaspurakan between 915 and 921.



The Legend of Akdamar

A Muslim shepherd falls in love with Tamara, the daughter of a monk. And Tamara becomes infatuated with the young Muslim. The young shepherd swims to the island every night to see Tamara and Tamara shows her location by a lantern, so they meet. The monk notices the situation and tours around the island on a small boat with a lantern, causing the Muslim shepherd to get exhausted and drown. The young shepherd cries out



"Ah Tamara" as his last words before drowning. The young girl who finds out about this situation cannot stand it and immerses herself in the waters of Lake Van. After that day the island is named "Ahtamara", which has become Akdamar today.

Facade Ornaments

The facade fascinates those who see it thanks to its reliefs in four rows of borders. The church, which attracts attention in terms of

figured stonework, is waiting for its visitors with many embossed figures, including Prophet Jonah jumping into the sea, Mary and Jesus in her arms, fight between Adam and Goliath, Samson and young Palestinians, Eve's removal from heaven, David and Gagik presenting a model for the Church of the Holy Cross to Jesus, and four Bible authors each of which on a facade.