



Visiting Hours

April 1-October 1 Opening Time: 09:00 Closing Time: 19:00 Ticket Office Closing Time: 17:00	October 1-April 1 Opening Time: 08.30 Closing Time: 17:30 Ticket Office Closing Time: 17:00	Open everyday
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Address: Balat Mahallesi Milet Sokak. No:7 Didim/Aydın • Phone: 0256 875 55 62

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GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR
CULTURAL ASSETS AND MUSEUMS



MILETUS MUSEUM

The Best Land Under The Best Sky



Miletus Museum was opened for the first time in 1973 in the Ancient City of Miletus, near Balat Village in Aydın Province, Didim District, and the museum was reopened in 2011 with a usage area of 1200 m².

Artefacts unearthed with the excavations in the ancient cities of Miletus, Didim and Priene are exhibited in the Museum.

Exhibition Halls in the Museum:

In Miletus Hall, Minoan cuisine, ceramic pots belonging to Minoan and Mycenaean cultures, Aphrodite Sanctuary finds in Zeytintepe, Kazartepete tomb finds from Hellenistic and Roman Periods,

In Didim Hall, Brankhids and sphinxes unearthed in the excavations of the sacred road between Miletus and Didim, the vessels found in the Didim excavations and the finds of the Temple of Apollo,

In the Priene Hall, small finds dating to the Hellenistic Period from Priene houses and architectural fragments of the Temple of Athena,

In the Central Hall, pots, terracotta figurines, bronze works, glass, jewellery, and coin section belonging to the İlyas Bey Complex.

The museum garden is an outdoor display, where large marble artefacts, inscriptions, sarcophagi, and architectural pieces are exhibited.



According to a rumour, the Ancient City of Miletus was founded by a group of immigrants who came to Anatolia from Crete under the command of Sarpedon, the brother of the Minos King, in the 2nd millennium BCE. Archaic, Classical, Hellenistic, Roman, Byzantine, Menteşe Principality and Ottoman Period City ruins can be traced in the ancient city, including the Minoan and Mycenaean colonial periods. An important trade centre and port city, Miletus lived its golden age in the Archaic Period. It was also the capital of the Ionian confederation in this period. It lost this importance over time as its harbours were filled with alluviums carried by the Menderes River. After 1261, Orhan Bey, one of the Menteşe Beys, minted coins in his name in Miletus and had the city written as Palatia. The city was thereafter called Balat. Village settlement continued in Balat until the Söke earthquake in 1955.