

1. SOUTH ROMAN GATE
2. SOUTH FRONTINUS GATE
3. GYMNASIUM
4. COLONNADED CHURCH
5. GREAT BATH
6. NYMPHAEUM
7. TEMPLE OF APOLLO
8. PLUTONIUM
9. THEATRE
10. CATHEDRAL
11. BYZANTINE BATHS
12. NYMPHAEUM OF THE TRITON
13. NORTH BYZANTINE GATE
14. FRONTINUS ROAD
15. AGORA



16. LATRINA
  17. TEMPLE OF ZEUS
  18. ANCIENT STONE MILL
  19. NORTH NECROPOLIS
  20. MEDIEVAL SELJUK CASTLE
  21. ST. PHILIPPE MARTYRION
1. SOUTH GATE
  2. WALKING TRAIL
  3. NORTH GATE
  - a. ANCIENT SPRING
  - b. PAMUKKALE TRAVERTINES



#### Visiting Hours

##### April 1-October 1

Opening Time: 06:30  
Closing Time: 23:00  
Ticket Office Closing Time: 21:00

##### October 1-April 1

Opening Time: 08:00  
Closing Time: 18:00  
Ticket Office Closing Time: 17:30

Open everyday.

Address: Pamukkale/Denizli

Please visit the web site for up-to-date information.

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# HIERAPOLIS (PAMUKKALE) ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

HISTORY IN THE NATURAL WONDER

GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR  
CULTURAL ASSETS AND MUSEUMS





**Sacred City and Pilgrimage Centre**

In the district of Pamukkale in the province of Denizli there is a natural wonder which at first sight might be thought unreal. The source of this miraculous image, which resembles a petrified waterfall with its white appearance and consists of steps reaching 6 meters high and a series of pools in terraces, is the waters containing calcium carbonate. The whiteness formed by the sediments generated due to the contact of the water from the Gelinhamami, İnciraltı and Jandarma Pool springs with the air is the result of a process of thousands of years.

Attracting nearly 3 million visitors every year with its appearance, which resembles a surrealist work by a sculptor, a couple of instances of this formation called "travertine" exists. However, one as magnificent as Pamukkale is not available anywhere in the world. Moreover, visitors have the chance to see the monuments remaining from a 2700-year-old historical settlement, as well as enjoying this miracle of nature. The fact that it is on the UNESCO World Heritage List with its natural and cultural value is proof that it has managed to find itself in the international platform in both aspects.

Hierapolis is called the "Holy City" because it hosts many temples. The ruins of the temples dedicated to Leto, Artemis and Apollo in Hierapolis can still be seen today. The Temple of Apollo, dated to 3rd century CE, was established near the area where the cave called Ploutonion is located. Religious ceremonies were held in the cave, which was once believed to be the Gate of Hell. The death of the animals entering the cave due to the leaking carbon monoxide gases led to such a belief. Plouton, the source of the name, is one of the names of Hades, believed to be the god of the underworld.

The city, which was a cult center in its early periods and continued to be a sacred settlement with the construction of temples in the Roman Period, did not lose this feature in the Byzantine Period. It became a pilgrimage center due to the murder of St. Phillippus, one of the apostles of Christ, here and from the 4th century onwards it became the episcopal center. In the name of St. Phillippus, a Martyrium, that is, a mausoleum, dated to the 5th century was built.



**The city Born Out of Healing Waters**

Although Pamukkale is generally known for its travertines, an ancient city hidden behind travertines takes its visitors on a time journey with its monuments and stories. The reason for the establishment of a city here is the belief that the waters that form the travertines are healing since ancient times.

The growth and development of the city takes place during the Roman Period. In 133 BCE, the Kingdom of Pergamon came under Roman rule and began to experience its heyday. In this period when it became a health center, patients from different parts of Anatolia come here to find healing. Since the thermal springs and baths were used as a social gathering and entertainment center in the Roman period, rich people flock to Hierapolis in order to have fun as well as patients. Some of them come here temporarily, while others settle in the city. In this way Hierapolis, growing richer and more developed, becomes a great city. It is known that the number of baths in Hierapolis and its surrounding is more than fifteen and thousands of people visited these in those years.