

UNESCO World Heritage List-Turkey

Turkey became a party to the UNESCO Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 1983. There are 1199 heritage sites declared as World Heritage Sites in the World Heritage List determined by the World Heritage Committee (WHS). Of these, 933 are cultural, 227 are natural and 39 are mixed (natural and cultural) heritage sites. Turkey has 21 heritage sites on this list, 19 of which are cultural and 2 of which are mixed.

- Divriği Great Mosque and Darussifa (Sivas) 1985
- Historical Sites of Istanbul (İstanbul) 1985
- Goreme National Park and Cappadocia (Nevşehir) 1985 (Mixed Heritage Area)
- Hattusa: Hittite Capital (Çorum) 1986
- Mount Nemrut (Adıyaman) 1987
- Hieropolis-Pamukkale (Denizli) 1988 (Mixed Heritage Area)
- Xanthos-Letoon (Antalya-Muğla) 1988
- Safranbolu City (Karabük) 1994
- Troy Archaeological Site (Çanakkale) 1998
- Edirne Selimiye Mosque and Complex (Edirne) 2011
- Çatalhöyük Neolithic Site (Konya) 2012
- Bursa and Cumalıkızık: The Birth of the Ottoman Empire (Bursa) 2014
- Bergama Multilayered Cultural Landscape Area (İzmir) 2014
- Cultural Landscape of Diyarbakır Castle and Hevsel Gardens (Diyarbakır) 2015
- Ephesus (İzmir) 2015
- Ani Archaeological Site (Kars) 2016
- Aphrodisias (Aydın) 2017
- Gobekli Tepe (Şanlıurfa) 2018
- Arslantepe Mound (Malatya) 2021
- Gordion (Ankara) 2023
- Anatolia's Medieval Wooden Hypostyle Mosques (Konya-Eşrefoğlu Mosque, Kastamonu-Mahmut Bey Mosque, Eskişehir-Sivrihisar Mosque, Afyon-Afyon Great Mosque, Ankara-Arslanhane Mosque) 2023

[Click the link](#) for the full list of places designated on the UNESCO Tentative List of World Cultural and Natural Heritage in Turkey.

OUR CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

Didim

Didim is one of the most important holiday resorts of Turkey, located 1 hour away from Aydın province center, with a rich cultural texture, golden beaches and natural wonders. In Didim, you can visit the Temple of Apollo, one of the largest and most important temples of the ancient world, swim in Altınkum, one of the most popular beaches of the Aegean and in beautiful bays by taking boat tours, and explore the ancient cities and natural beauties around.

Didyma Ancient City and Temple of Apollo



The Temple of Apollo is one of the important buildings in the ancient city of Didyma. Located in Didim district of Aydın, this place bears traces from the Ancient Roman and Greek periods. The Temple of Apollo is known as the 3rd largest temple in the world. One of the first two is the Temple of Heraion located on Samos Island. The other is known as the Temple of Artemis in Ephesus. This temple, built in the 8th century BC, was used as a divination center for a long time. People used to come here by spending large sums of money and enduring a long journey to get information about the future.

For Detailed Information; [Didim Apollon Tapınağı \(muze.gov.tr\)](http://muze.gov.tr)

Milet (Miletos) Ancient City



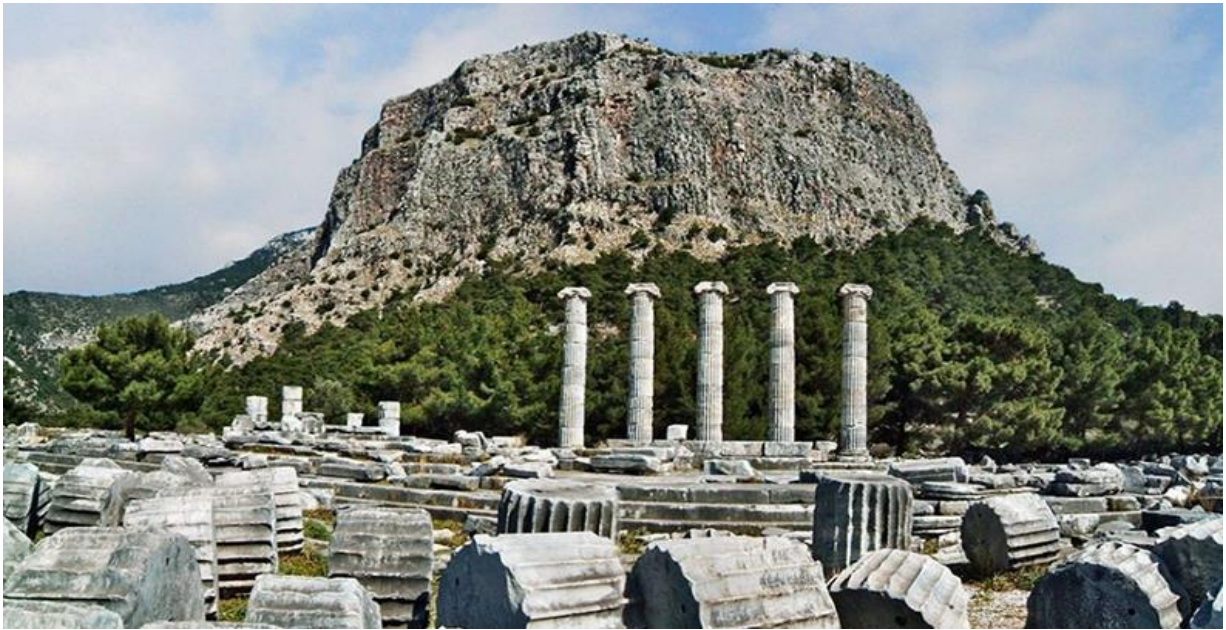
Miletus, near Balat Village of Didim, which you can visit on the Didim-Soke road, is famous

This information and visuals are taken from the web page of Didim Municipality, the web page of Aydın Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism and the web page of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

for the philosophers it has raised and has a very important place in history. The first among them is Thales, considered to be the pioneer of philosophy and science. Thales, who made important studies in natural sciences, astronomy, mathematics and geometry, correctly calculated the solar eclipse in 585 BC and discovered theorems in mathematics that are still used today. Anaximander, who grew up in Miletus, and his student Anaximenes were physicists and natural scientists who made important contributions to science with their ideas on the formation of the universe and their first thoughts on evolution. The ideas of the Miletus School, pioneered by these philosophers, were later taken as a basis by philosophers such as Socrates, Plato and Aristotle. Normally a port city, Miletus is now a few kilometers away from the coast due to the filling of the coast by the Büyük Menderes river.

For Detailed Information; [Milet Örenyeri \(muze.gov.tr\)](http://muze.gov.tr)

Priene Ancient City



Priene is an Ionian (Ancient Greek) city in Söke, Aydın, about 100 km from Selçuk-Efese. The city is 10 km north of the Menderes River. It is near the town of Güllübahçe in Aydın province. . Founded on a steep rock 370 meters high, it provided an advantage in resisting attacks. In addition, its high location allows the city to be seen from different directions. The first information about Priene, which is accepted to be a member of the Ionian Union like Miletus, is found in ancient sources in the middle of the 7th century BC. The theater with a capacity of 5000 people was built in 350 BC. In front of the temple built for the goddess Athena in the most dominant place of the city, there was a statue of Athena made of gold and ivory. Only a part of the temple altar is still standing today.

For Detailed Information; [Priene Örenyeri \(muze.gov.tr\)](http://muze.gov.tr)

Yoran Memorial and Exchange House



The house expropriated and restored by Didim Municipality is very close to the Temple of Didyma Apollo. The house is one of the Yoran Cluster houses in Yoran Neighborhood. The village where Hisar Neighborhood is located was a Greek village before 1924. It is thought that the house converted into a museum was used by the village priest. As a matter of fact, there is a church very close to the memorial house, which is used as Hisar Mosque today. The house was used by the merchant Mehmet Efendi and his family who came to Yoran village with the exchange after 1924. The house suffered significant damage in the 1955 earthquake, and in 1974 it was damaged by a lightning strike and fell into disuse. In the building called Aydoğan House, historical and ethnographic artifacts donated by volunteers are exhibited. Especially the days of the exchange years are tried to be kept alive.

For Detailed Information; [Yoran Mübadele Anı ve Kültür Evi \(didim.bel.tr\)](http://didim.bel.tr)

Hisarbey Kilise Camii



Hisarbey Mosque, located in Didim district, was built as an Orthodox Church by the Greeks in the 1830s. After the 1924 exchange, it was converted into a mosque after they left the region. After being converted into a mosque, the apse was demolished and flattened in the 1980s and three windows were opened on this facade. Inside, it was planned as a main and two side naves. In early 2020, its restoration started and it was reopened for worship in the same year.

Altinkum Plajı



Altinkum Beach is one of the most beautiful places to swim in Turkey. The only element that makes Altinkum a world brand is its long and golden yellow fine sandy beach. Altinkum Beach is constantly clean due to the current of the sea, which is a natural wonder. For this reason, it has received the BLUE FLAG award many times. The beach, which is preferred by families with children due to its shallow and calm sea without waves, has a long and wide sandy beach.

For Detailed Information; [Altinkum \(didim.bel.tr\)](http://didim.bel.tr)

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Tavşanburnu Nature Park



In Tavşanburnu Nature Park, which is located within the borders of Didim District of Aydın Province under the responsibility of Aydın Regional Directorate of Forestry, recreational activities for daily use and tent-caravan accommodation are offered to our visitors.

For Detailed Information; [Tavşanburnu Tabiat Parkı \(didim.bel.tr\)](http://didim.bel.tr)

Lake Bafa



Bafa Lake Nature Park is only 16 kilometers from Didim. In fact, it is a fertile area that people have chosen as a living space for thousands of years. Ancient cave paintings found in the caves around the lake prove that the beginning of settlement in the region dates back to at least the prehistoric period.

For Detailed Information; [Bafa Gölü \(didim.bel.tr\)](http://didim.bel.tr)

Akbuk



Akbuk, a neighborhood of Didim, combines green and blue strikingly on a coastline of about 11 kilometers. Named after Akbük Bay, the neighborhood has dozens of virgin bays, large and small. It has Saplı Island, one of the most remarkable natural formations. There are various theories about the formation of Saplı Island, one of the hidden beauties of the Aegean. One of them is that it was formed as a result of a huge volcanic eruption in the 1500s BC. It is possible to see the traces of ash from the big explosion here.

For Detailed Information; [Akbük \(didim.bel.tr\)](http://didim.bel.tr)

Local Public Markets in Our Region

Local public markets are held on certain days of the week. In these markets; Vegetables, fruits, ornaments, household items and many other products produced by local people are sold. Public market days may vary depending on the district. Visiting hours of the public markets you want to visit, whether they are in service, etc. You can confirm the information from the hotel you are staying in and visit Didim Municipality websites to get more detailed information. Mavişehir Public Market, which stands out for being open 24 hours a day during summer days, is one of the favorite places that we frequently recommend to our hotel guests as a shopping destination to support local people and marketers. By using the directions defined in the transportation section, you can easily access the public markets by public transportation.

Traditional Handicrafts and Crafts

Handicrafts; It is defined as the transformation of raw materials into processed products using manual dexterity and simple hand tools. Handicrafts, which can be for hobby or commercial purposes, are based on traditions that have been valid for centuries. You can support both our economy and our local people who try to keep traditional handicrafts alive by purchasing the products you like in various regions of Aydın.

Handicrafts, which emerged in line with people's needs and varied with factors such as natural conditions, living conditions and climate, are among the important cultural characteristics of

Aydın and its surroundings. Some of the handicrafts; Needle lace, weaving, bellows boot making, pottery - earthenware production, saddle making.

For Detailed Information; [Aydın İl Kültür ve Turizm Müdürlüğü \(https://aydin.ktb.gov.tr\)](https://aydin.ktb.gov.tr)

Weaving



Although the weavings used in clothing have lost their importance as a result of industrialization, the hand-woven carpets, rugs and saddlebags of the region are famous for their unique embroidery and colors. Yoruk sacks woven with the sumac technique also have unique characteristics of the region. Another example of traditional weaving in Aydın is the production of hair tent covers, which are suitable for all climatic conditions.

Needlework



Needle lace, known as "Turkish lace" in the world literature, has a very long history. Some sources state that needle lace knitting spread from Anatolia to the Balkans and then to Europe via Italy in the XIIth century. Oya is defined as a handicraft whose technique is knitting and which is also used as a means of communication with the messages it carries. Today, in addition to its traditional uses, it is also used in women's clothing accessories.

This information and visuals are taken from the web page of Didim Municipality, the web page of Aydın Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism and the web page of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

Pottery (Ceramics)



Pottery is known as one of the oldest arts in human history. Pottery is produced by turning soil, the oldest known and most useful raw material, into mud, sometimes mixed with clay and shaped by hand or with a device called a potter's wheel. Clay red soil with high iron oxide content is used in pottery making. There are 3 pottery kilns in arşıyaka, 3 in Cuma neighborhood and 25 in Büyükdağlı neighborhood and nearly 50 families earn their living in this way. Jugs, cups, casseroles, pots and various ornaments are produced. Need-based products are more popular than ornaments.

Gusseted Boots



This information and visuals are taken from the web page of Didim Municipality, the web page of Aydın Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism and the web page of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

The belled boot is a constant accessory of the Efe of Aydın and is black in color, made of leather and handcrafted by hand. The outside of the boot is made of calfskin and the inside of the boot is made of goatskin cooked (seasoned) with acorns called sahtiyan. Before the boots are sewn, the feet of the person who will wear the boots are measured and the gusset folds, each 3.5 cm. starting right above the ankle, are measured and prepared, and a mold is made according to the measurement. Then the sewing stage is started. The gusset on the ankle keeps the foot cool in summer and warm in winter by vacuuming the air inside.

Embroidery



Embroidery is a form of ornamentation obtained by embroidering many living, inanimate or geometric figures on the grounds of different objects for ornamental purposes. It is mostly used for decoration made with different colored threads on fabric type grounds.

Saddlery



This information and visuals are taken from the web page of Didim Municipality, the web page of Aydın Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism and the web page of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

Saddlery is one of the rare professions today. Saddle, in the most common sense, is an item that is sewn on a wooden skeleton by filling it with saddle grass between leather and felt and wrapping it so that the load to be carried by animals such as horses, donkeys and mules used as load and riding animals does not damage the back of the animal. Saddle is also called palan, saddle grass is also called palan grass. Saddlery or saddle making is an art that requires a lot of care. An unbalanced saddle will fall or cause injury to the animal's back. It is an heirloom profession that has been going on since time immemorial.

Public Transportation Alternatives for Touristic Trips

We have a suitable station in the parking area for you to charge your electric vehicle, if available. If you wish, you can charge your car here. You can rent bicycles in the shops area and tour the city using suitable routes with these bicycles.

Didim

There are public transportation vehicles going to the city center from the main gate of our facility. You can easily reach the city center using these vehicles.

Aydın

You can visit the surrounding area by taking minibuses departing from Didim bus station to Aydın city center. To go to Didim bus terminal, you can use the city buses that depart from the main gate of the hotel.

Selçuk

Minibuses departing from Didim bus station reach Selçuk. Ephesus Ancient City is located at the entrance of Selçuk. From Selçuk to Pamucak Coast, Şirince etc. You can reach many cultural areas by city public transportation.

Kuşadası

There are intercity buses departing from Didim bus station at certain hours to go to Kuşadası district. To go to Didim bus terminal, you can use the city buses that depart from the main gate of the hotel.

Considerations When Visiting Natural and Cultural Heritage

- Consideration of visiting hours,
- Choosing appropriate attire when going to the mosque,
- Wearing the galoshes provided for visitors when entering the mosque and leaving them in the garbage containers provided when leaving,
- Acting sensitively in areas where photography is not allowed,
- Care should be taken not to enter areas where restoration work is being carried out in ruins,
- In cases where scarves are required to be used in sacred areas, leaving the materials provided for visitors in their places after use,
- Avoid interaction with children to protect their physical and mental integrity,
- Being sensitive to the environment, not throwing garbage and similar items in natural protection areas,
- Do not engage in activities that harm animals and their natural habitats,
- Being careful when using fire and similar substances in forest areas.
- Complying with the rules of behavior while visiting historical and religious sites, not touching historical artifacts, not damaging the historical structure,
- Avoid damaging, polluting and destroying the originality of protected areas such as forests, beaches, caves, etc.
- Buying and selling historical artifacts should not be done without the necessary permits and documents. Illegal buying and selling should not be done.
- In the activities to be carried out (safari, paragliding, etc.), you must use all kinds of equipment and clothing recommended for your safety according to the rules.
- Wildlife, vegetation, animals and biodiversity, which are the basis of the balance and continuity of natural life, should be protected.
- With the MuseumKart, you can visit more than 300 museums and archaeological sites affiliated to the Republic of Turkey Ministry of Culture and Tourism and National Palaces unlimitedly for a year and take a pleasant journey through history.