



Visiting Hours

April 1-October 31 Opening Time: 08:30 Closing Time: 18:30 Ticket Office Closing Time: 18:00	October 31-April 1 Opening Time: 08:30 Closing Time: 17:30 Ticket Office Closing Time: 17:00	Open everyday.
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TEOS
THE LARGEST TEMPLE BUILT IN ANATOLIA FOR THE
GOD OF GRAPE-HARVEST

GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR
CULTURAL ASSETS AND MUSEUMS





Teos Antike city is located in the vicinity of Sığacık Quarter in Seferihisar District of Izmir Province. Antique authors, Strabon and Pausanias, recorded that Teos was founded by Athamas and therefore was named by the Lyric Poet Anacreon as Athamantis. Archaeological explorations and excavations conducted in the ancient city revealed that there had been a settlement in the area since 1000 BCE. Teos had been conquered by Persian Commander Harpagos as had been the entire Anatolia. According to Herodot, as a consequence of the failure of Ionian League formed by 12 cities including also Teos in breaking oppression of the Persian King Kyros II in western Anatolia, the entire people of Teos had abandoned the city in 543 BCE and had founded Abdera city (near İskeçe) in the Nestos Delta in Thrace region.

The city which had become a member in the Delian League had been paying 6 Talent annual tax to this League. With the Peace of Antalcidas signed between the Greeks and Persians (387/6 BCE) Teos had been put again under Persian Rule. It had been liberated again in 334 BCE by Alexander the Great. The city entering under domination of Seleukos Kingdom in 281 BCE., had maintained its importance especially by the privilege and rights granted to Temple of Dionysus. Teos, which was under domination of Pergamon Kingdom during Attalos I, (241 to 197 BCE) had been transferred to the Roman empire by the will of the King in the period of Attalos III (138 to 133 B.C.), and it had been annexed to Roman lands in Asia Province of the Romans. The diversity of the architectural features of buildings found in the entire city indicates that the importance of the city had continued. Thanks to the importance of the Dionysus cult in and around the city, the Ionian-Hellespontine Guild composed of artists such as poets, musicians, singers and actors had been formed in Teos in the second half of the 3rd century BCE. The Guild was first visited Ephesus (selçuk), followed by Myonnesos (Doğan bey) and finally Lebedos (Urkmez).



Temple of Dionysus built inside city walls just to the east side of western walls dating back to the Hellenistic period has drawn the most attention in studies on Teos. Vitruvius noted that the architect of the temple was Hermogenes in his Ten Books on Architecture. The temple constructed with three sections in Ionic order has 6x11 pillars. Despite the theatre at the southeast skirt of Acropolis was built in Greek theatre tradition, any archaeological data from the period before the Romans has not been found yet. Seat rows (steps) of bottom cavea built on Opus Incertum foundation and the upper cavea built on a foundation structure with vaults and vault pedestals bear characteristics of typical Roman Period. The cavea with rectangular foundation plan of the Bouleuterion, whose existence is known since Hellenistic period, is in semicircular shape and has 16 rows of seats.

The cavea with 5 rows of steps had been divided into 4 kerkides crossing the rows of seats vertically. Hellenistic fortification walls were constructed of local lime stones in isodomic fashion with double walls and header-and-stretcher masonry. Fortification walls of approximately 4 m thickness were completely determined to the west and south and partially to the north. The length of the fortification walls, which surrounds an area of 65 hectares, is about 3.7 km. There were two ports of the Teos which was one of the important port cities of the Ionia region. The pier of the southern port is one of best preserved piers in Anatolian coasts. The church located to the eastern end of the port and constructed adjacent to breakwater structure draws attention by its double apses.

