



#### Visiting Hours

**April 15-October 1**

Opening Time: 10:00

Closing Time: 19:00

Ticket Office Closing Time: 18:30

**1 October-15 April**

Opening Time: 09:00

Closing Time: 17:00

Ticket Office Closing Time: 16:30

Open everyday.

**Address:** Kesmeburun Köyü/OSMANIYE

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GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR  
CULTURAL ASSETS AND MUSEUMS



# ANCIENT CITY OF KASTABALA





The city of Kastabala-Hierapolis, one of the important cities of the Ancient Cilicia Region, is located within the borders of the Kestabuna, Bahçe and Kazmaca Villages today.

The city was established near the Ceyhan (Pyramos) River overlooking a small plain. Research carried out to date has revealed that the borders of the ancient city included the fertile plain that expanded between the Ceyhan River in the south, Karatepe in the north, and Kırmıtlı in the west. The buildings in the city center, surrounded by a city wall built in the 4th century CE, are spread over the northern and eastern slopes of a small valley dominated by the castle hill.

Kastabala Hierapolis is the cult center of Artemis-Perasia and the existence of this sacred area is also mentioned in written ancient sources. In recent years, scientific excavations in the city have yielded important scientific data that will reveal the existence of the cult center.



The city is first seen on the city coins minted under the name of Hierapolis during the reign of Antiochus Epiphanes IV, one of the Seleucid Kings. Antiochus IV named the city "HIERAPOLIS", which means holy city, related to the goddess Artemis Perasia, who was worshiped in the city for many years.

As a result of the excavation and scientific studies carried out by a team headed by Karadeniz Technical University Lecturer Prof. Dr. Turgut Hacı ZEYREK between 2009-2019 with the permission of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and in 2020 under the scientific consultancy of Korkut Ata University Lecturer Dr. Faris DEMİR under the Presidency of Osmaniye Museum, it has been determined that the ancient city was inhabited between the Late Neolithic-Early Chalcolithic Age (5-1 century BCE), 1-6 centuries CE and 13-15 centuries. In 2021, the status of the excavations in Kastabala Ancient City was changed into excavation with Presidential Decision headed by Korkut Ata University Lecturer Dr. Faris DEMİR.

All of the ruins that remain in the city today belong to the Roman Imperial Period. Water was supplied to the city from the Karagedik town of Düziçi through open water channels.

