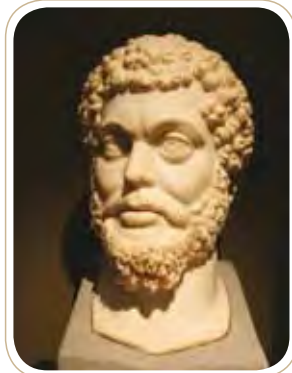


SAGALASSOS Favourite City of Emperors

Sagalassos is one of the best preserved ancient cities in the Mediterranean. Sagalassos is 39 km to the centre of Burdur, 155 km north of Antalya, 7 km to Ağlasun County of Burdur Province. The ruins of the city are dramatically sited in the Taurus Mountains, offering magnificent views on the landscape as well as the ancient monuments. Recently Sagalassos was placed on Turkey's UNESCO tentative World Heritage List. The site is open throughout the year. It can be best visited from March till November.



Emperor Hadrian



Emperor Marcus

WHO LIVED AND RULED IN SAGALASSOS?

During the 3rd millennium BC, the Luwians, a people related to the Hittites, settled in this region, which in Classical times became known as Pisidia. Under the successive political powers ruling over Anatolia, the population of the town went through various cultural interactions.

During the Phrygian and Lydian periods, the site gradually developed into an urban centre. Pisidians lived up to their



Public Baths and Lower Agora

reputation as good warriors when Alexander the Great arrived in the region and fiercely resisted his armies. However, Sagalassos fell in 332 BC after this battle, and Pisidia changed hands many times among the successors of Alexander.

The city seems to have adopted the urban institutions and the material culture of the Hellenized world. From 133 BC on, Sagalassos becomes a part of the Roman Empire. Sagalassos people are Pisidian people, who come from Luwian tribes. Sagalassos came under the power of Seleucid (Seleukos) and Attalid (Attalos); in 25 BC it was annexed to the lands of the Roman Empire by the King Amyntas and later by Augustus.

The town received an economic boost during the reign of Augustus (BC 27 - AD 14).

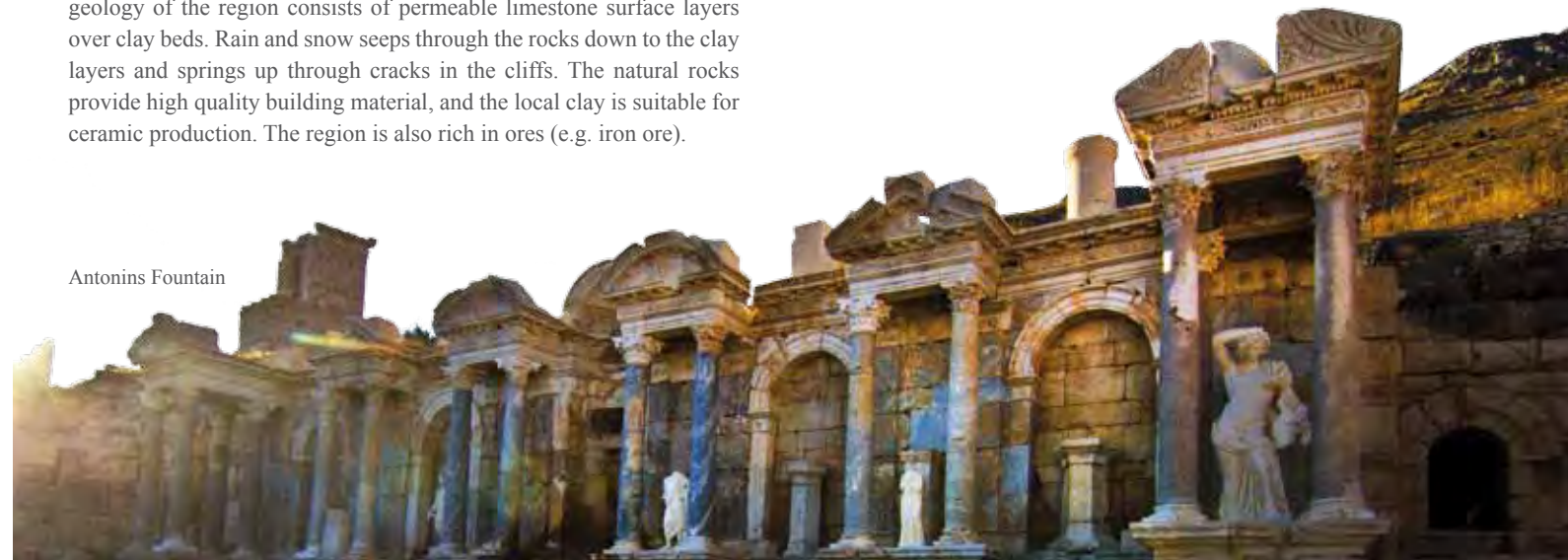
The prosperity initiated during this long period of peace reached its peak during the reign of Emperor Hadrian (AD 117- 138).

Sagalassos was officially recognized as the 'first city of Pisidia, friend and ally of the Romans'. It was also the location of the emperor cult for the region, another privilege granted to the city by Hadrian.

During the Imperial period they continued developing their own culture with Roman influences. From the 4th century AD onwards, until the final occupation in the 13th century AD, they became Christianized and eventually became part of the Eastern Roman Empire. In the course of the 13th century they were absorbed into the Seljuk Empire.

HOW DID THEY MAKE A LIVING?

Defense must have been one of the main reasons to settle on these steep cliffs overlooking the valley. Water was also abundant here. The geology of the region consists of permeable limestone surface layers over clay beds. Rain and snow seeps through the rocks down to the clay layers and springs up through cracks in the cliffs. The natural rocks provide high quality building material, and the local clay is suitable for ceramic production. The region is also rich in ores (e.g. iron ore).



Antonins Fountain

The valleys of the region were even more fertile than today. The economy of the city was mainly based on farming, especially grain that was delivered to the Roman troops (both for market and as part of the taxation system), and during Imperial times, olive was also cultivated for the production of locally consumed olive oil. They also may have exported fir to Egypt to be used for architecture and ship building.

Another source of income, from Augustus (25 BC – 14 AD) onwards, was the industrial production of the so-called 'Sagalassos red slip ware', or locally made table wares, found in Western Anatolia and sporadically throughout the Eastern Mediterranean.

During the Imperial period, Sagalassos was connected to the harbours of the Aegean and the Mediterranean seas by a new road system, as well as to the new Roman colonies established in the region. The site was not an isolated mountain settlement, but rather had been well incorporated into the Imperial road network of Anatolia.

WHEN AND WHY DID THEY LEAVE?

The city continued to flourish until the middle of the 6th century AD. From 541-542 AD onwards the bubonic plague several times decimated the population and caused enormous damage to the economy. A very strong earthquake, most likely with its epicentre in the city itself, levelled it ca. 590 AD. After this catastrophe, survivors continued to inhabit dispersed, sometimes fortified hamlets amongst the ruins, until the Seljuks, in the mean time, settled in Ağlasun. In the middle of the 13th century AD the last mid-Byzantine stronghold on the Alexander Hill was destroyed.



Macellum

WHO IS EXCAVATING HERE?

Since 1990 the site has been excavated by the University of Leuven (Belgium) under the direction of Prof. Marc Waelkens, who is leading an international and largely Turkish team, made up of different disciplines, on behalf of the Republic of Turkey Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

WHERE DO THE RECOVERED FINDS GO?

All archaeological finds that are discovered during the excavations remain in Turkey and are in the possession of the Museum of Burdur. A selection of the finds is exhibited in this newly renovated museum, located in the city centre. The museum has been an official candidate for the 2008 European Museum of the Year Award.

WHAT DOES THE NAME SAGALASSOS MEAN?

Sagalassos is a typical Luwian name. However, its meaning is not known. Ağlasun is derived from the name "Agalassu" recorded as early as the 11th century AD, when one bishop of the city was called 'Bishop of Agalassu'.



Theatre



Antonins Fountain/Upper Agora and Herron

The Seljukid Turks living in Ağlasun adopted and adapted the name for their site in the valley below the ancient city. Thus, there is a clear connection between the two names.

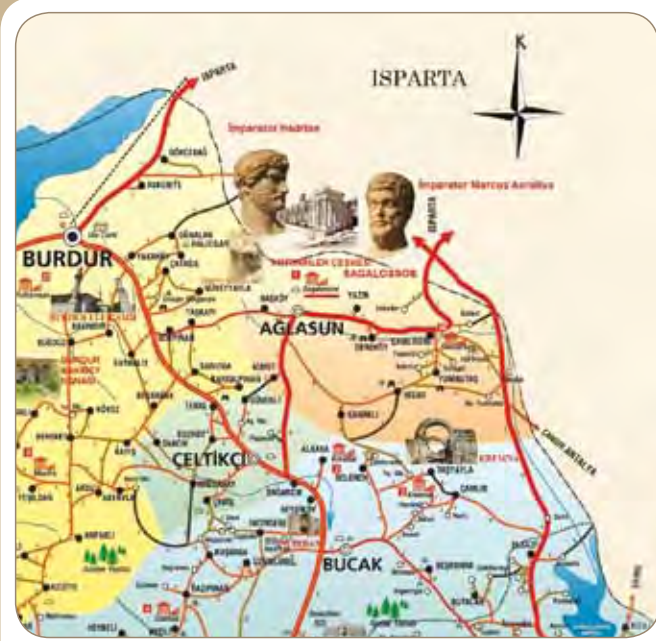
WHAT DO WE RECOMMEND?

We kindly recommend that you should taste delicious trout at the fish restaurants in Ağlasun County-Yeşilbaş Area and cherries as well, relax at the historical mill. Be sure to buy some souvenirs from pottery shops in Çanaklı Area, enjoy your tea under the 1000 year- old monumental tree, communicate with the townspeople, if you can find the opportunity you should also visit Karacaören Dam, Susuz Khan and İncir Khan in Bucak, İnsuyu Cave, Burdur Museum in the city centre, residences, all historical and natural beauties. Discovering the archaic cities will also add much to your pleasure.

We kindly invite you and your friends to Burdur to see the spectacular beauty of our city. People in Burdur will be glad to welcome you.



Ağlasun town-centre



Ağlasun Yeşilbaşköy Cherries



Trout

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