

BODRUM



**“If you come to the top of this hill,
you will see Bodrum.
Do not think that you’ll leave as
the person you arrived.”**



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Embraced by endless horizons of blue, adorned with bougainvillea draping softly over its whitewashed houses, and enriched by an ancient heritage interwoven with a vibrant culinary tradition, Bodrum has, for centuries, held a treasured place in the hearts of those who have wandered its shores.

These shores, shaped by civilizations that rose and faded in turn, remain a cradle of tolerance and heritage. They form a legacy not merely inherited, but deeply felt, a testament to the countless lives, stories and dreams that once met under this luminous sky.

From Herodotos, the Father of History, to Artemisia I, the pioneering female admiral; from the indomitable Admiral Turgut (Dragut) Reis to the poetic spirit of the Fisherman of Halikarnassos, Bodrum has been shaped by extraordinary figures whose legacies continue to define its character. Today,

with its luminous seas, generous sun, spirited urban life and its devotion to culture and the arts, Bodrum offers itself like a beautifully bound volume, inviting every visitor to read, reflect and become part of its story.

It is with this sentiment that Bodrum Municipality presents this thoughtfully prepared guide. We hope it will illuminate the city's soul, rooted in its past, alive in its present, and ever-reaching towards its future, and serve as a meaningful companion to all who visit.

Upon your arrival in Bodrum, the city of dreams, endeavour, freedom and life, you shall sense the dreams of the Fisherman of Halikarnassos whispering through the breeze, the truths recorded by Herodotos echoing in its stones, and the timeless affection that binds so many to this unique corner of the world.

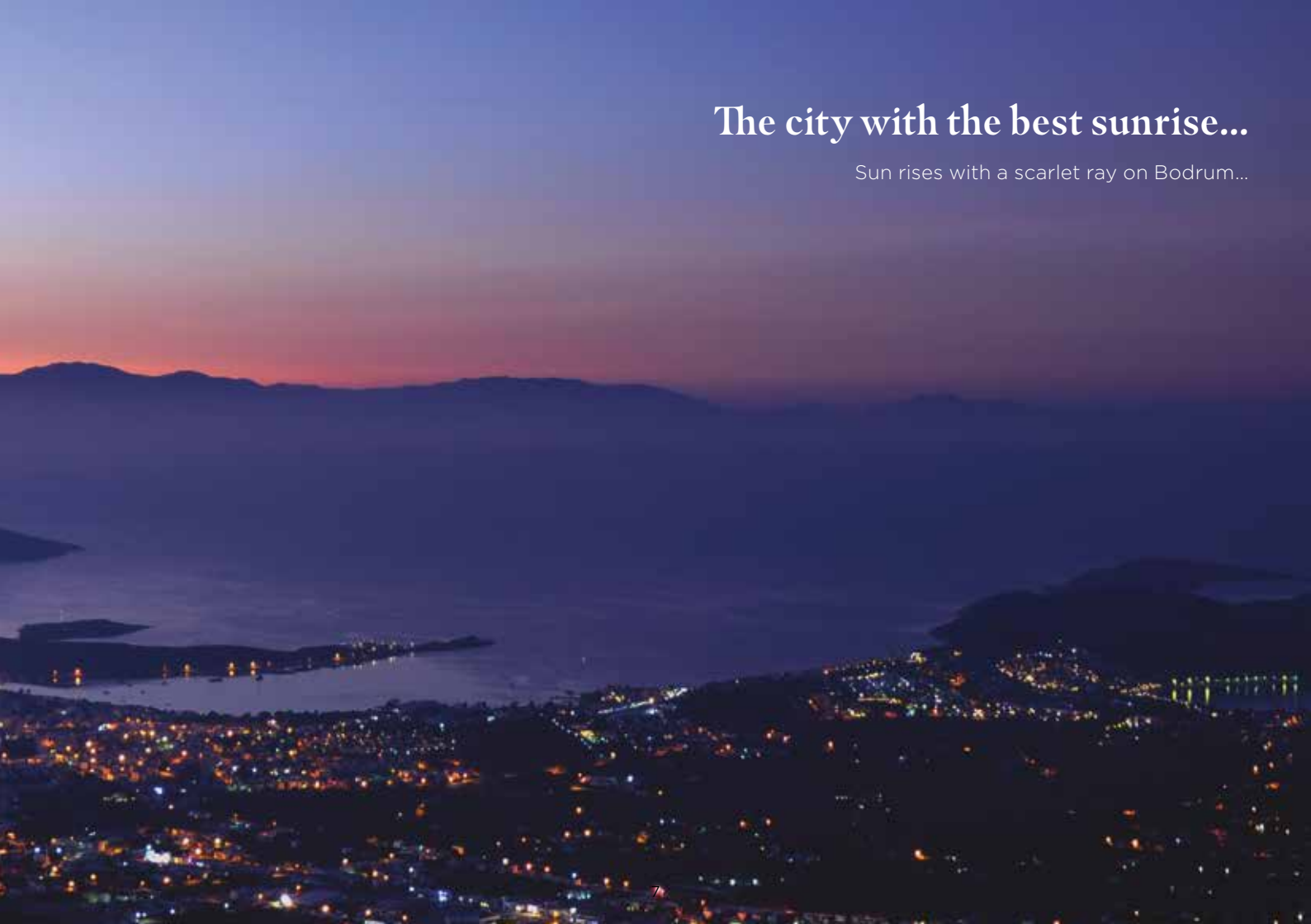
With my warmest Regards,

Tamer Mandalinci
Mayor of Bodrum



The city with the best sunrise...

Sun rises with a scarlet ray on Bodrum...





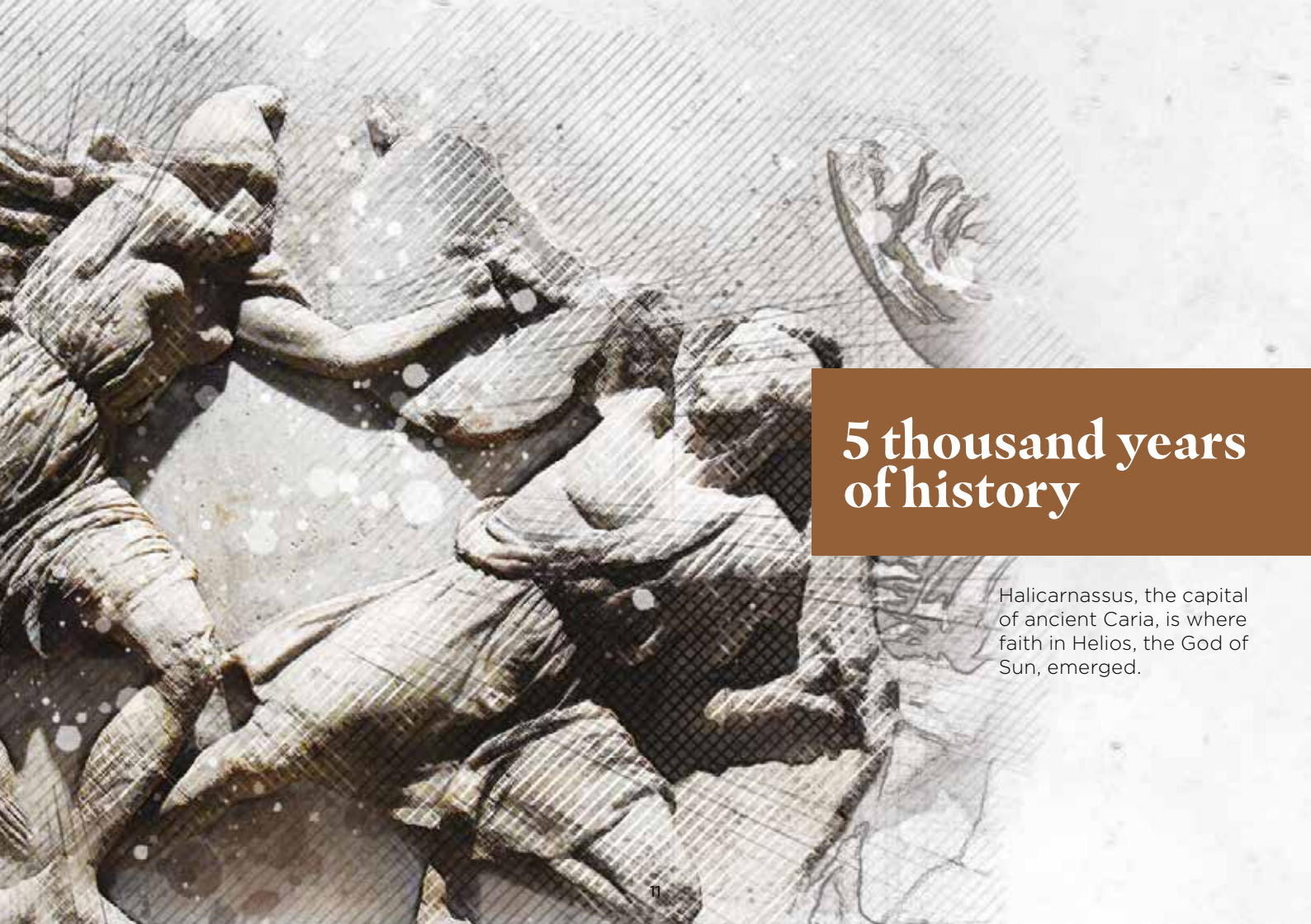


“

**The land of eternal blues
Homer**

Bodrum, the favourite city of tourism, is a heaven on earth with its blue sea, lace-like bays, slate stone streets, colourful bougainvillea symbolizing peace and love, ancient corners of historical and cultural heritage, touristic facilities, entertainment centres, handcrafts, authentic cuisine, seafood, fascinating sunrise and sunsets, healthy climate, international festivals and universal art culture.





5 thousand years of history

Halicarnassus, the capital of ancient Caria, is where faith in Helios, the God of Sun, emerged.

Pedasa Ancient City

It was founded by the Lelegians. It is the most sheltered ancient city in terms of architecture. It is named as "*Gökçeler Castle*" by the local people.

Pedasa Ancient City, which attracts attention with its platform tombs, is still home to archaeological excavations. "*The Lelegian Ancient Way*", which is approximately 185 km long, has today been used as a biking and hiking trail.





Myndos Ancient City

Myndos, dating back to 2000 B.C, was established at the intersection of the Aegean and Mediterranean and means "*Worship to the Goddess*" in the Luwian language.

Myndos resisted and did not surrender to Alexander the Great who invaded Anatolia in 334 BC. Myndos was also the hiding place of Brutus, the adopted son of the Roman Empire Ceasar, who had to flee Rome in 44BC due to this role in the assassination of Ceasar.

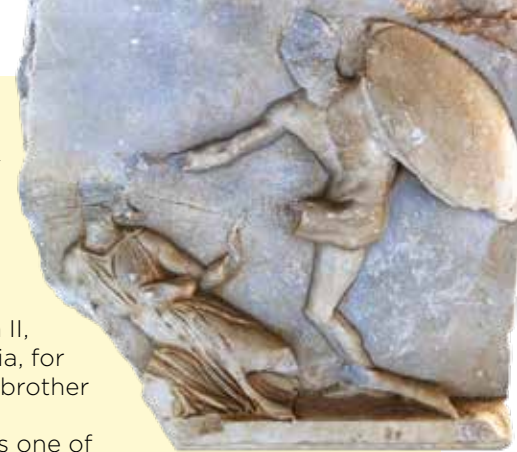




Mausoleum Open Air Museum

Mausoleum was built by Artemisia II, the Queen of Caria, for her husband and brother Mausolos, and considered as one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Considerable parts of this 36 column monument was brought to England and is currently exhibited in the British Museum.

Today in world languages the word “Mausoleum” has still been used to define memorial tombs.



Peynir Cicegi Cave

Peynir Cicegi Cave, which is estimated to have a history of at least 5 thousand years from the finds of Chalcolithic and Old Bronze Age, is also the centre of attention with its stalactites formed in thousands of years.



Telmissos Ancient City

Telmissos Ancient City is within the borders of Gürece Village and as per the statements of Herodotus, the father of history, this city was home to the Temple of Apollo, which was famous for its prophecies. Nevertheless there are no traces of the temple to the present day. On the hill above the village it is possible to see the remains of the Hellenistic bastion.



Temple of Aphrodite and Hermes, Salmakis Fountain

Due to the sea level rising in the last two thousand years, both temples have been inundated and no extensive excavation has yet been conducted. The remains of the Salmakis Fountain can still be seen in Gumbet Military Beach today.

30 Column Stoa and Gymnasium

Only the column bases of the Stoa and Halikarnassos Gymnasium still remain today.

Late Roman Villa

The Late Roman Villa, located in the area between Eskiçeşme and Yeniköy within an area of 1500 m² is estimated to date back to 450 years A.D. Some of its mosaics are today exhibited in the British Museum.

Salmakis (Bardakçı) Bay

This is the bay where nymph Salmacis and Hermaphroditos, legendary beautiful son of God Hermes and Goddess Aphrodit, joined together as half man and half woman. In medical literature, the concept of "*Hermaphrodite*" is used to define androgynousness.



Temple of Mars (Ares)

The Temple is named after Ares, the God of War. Today, only 105 meters wide terrace ruins of the temple remains. The column with floral motifs exhibited in the British Museum is believed to belong to this temple.

Salmakis Inscription

This inscription was discovered by Danish and Turkish archaeologists during a military construction in Bardakci Bay and named as Salmakis Inscription.

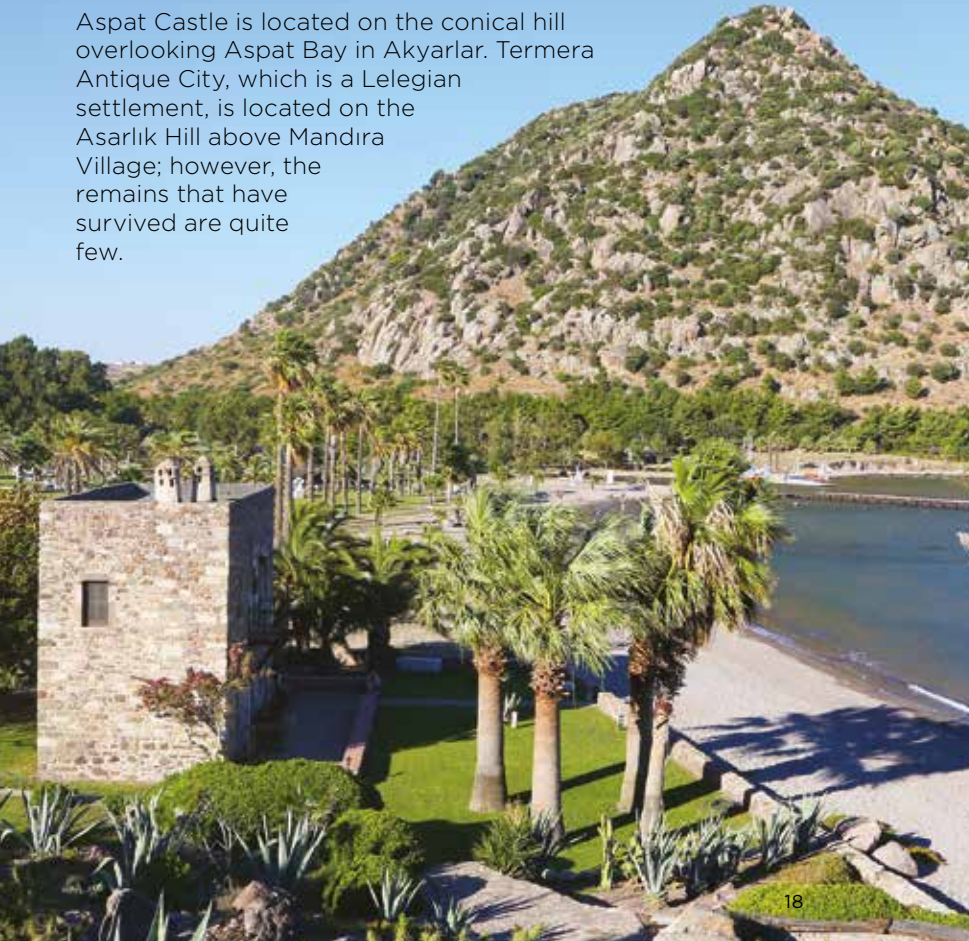
"Reputable writers and poets born in Halicarnassus, Artemisia is proud of" were narrated in an epigraph discovered among ruins of Roman walls and mosaics.

*"Tell me Aphrodite, tell me
You sacred balm-smelling, myrrh-breathed
Aphrodite
What makes Halicarnassus so proud?
I have not heard for myself, why this proud boast?"*



Aspat Castle and Termera Ancient City

Aspat Castle is located on the conical hill overlooking Aspat Bay in Akyarlar. Termera Antique City, which is a Lelegian settlement, is located on the Asarlık Hill above Mandıra Village; however, the remains that have survived are quite few.



Ancient Tombs

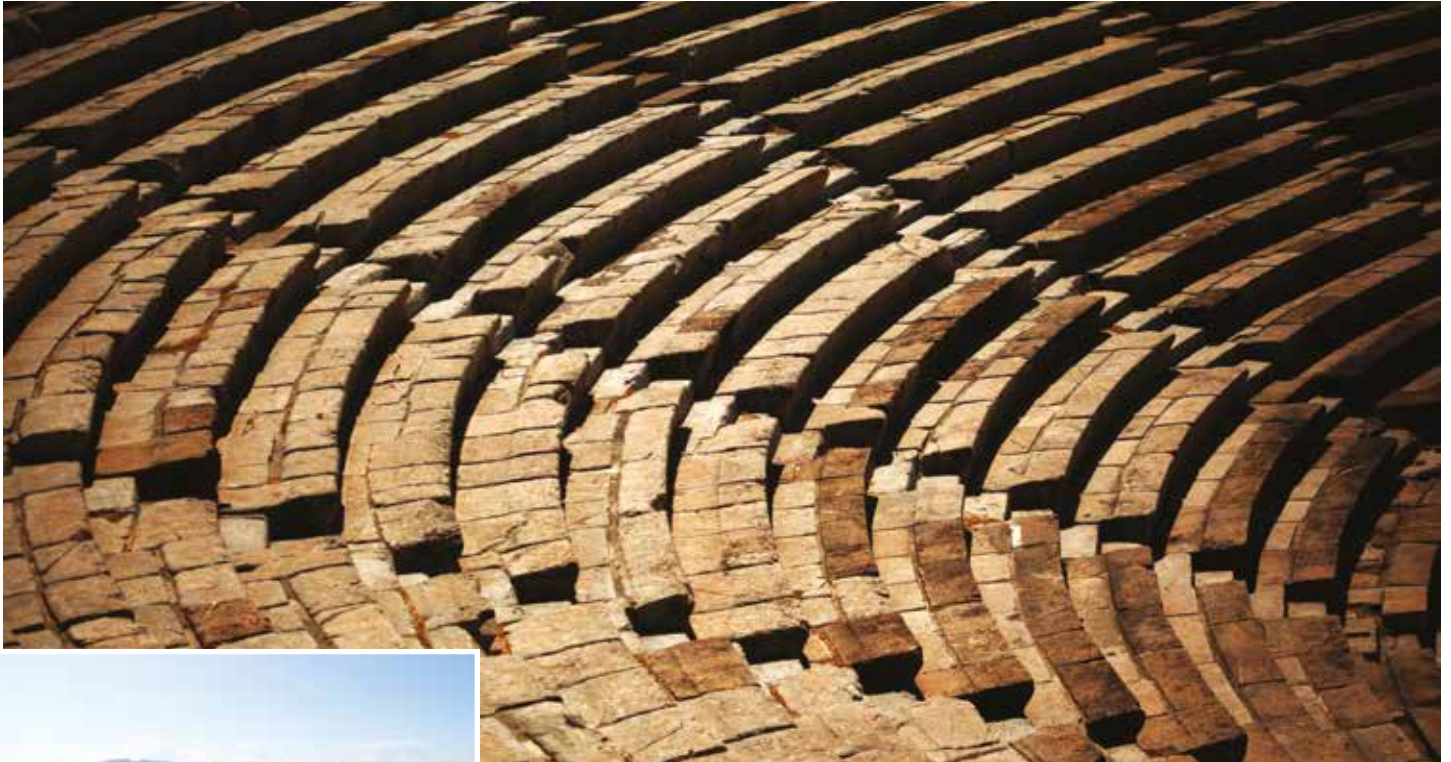
The two ancient cemeteries of Halicarnassus are located near the gates of Myndos and Mylasa. However, it is possible to see many ancient tombs throughout the peninsula. One of them is the tomb of Carian Princess Ada, which is exhibited in Bodrum Underwater Archaeology Museum.



Myndos Gate

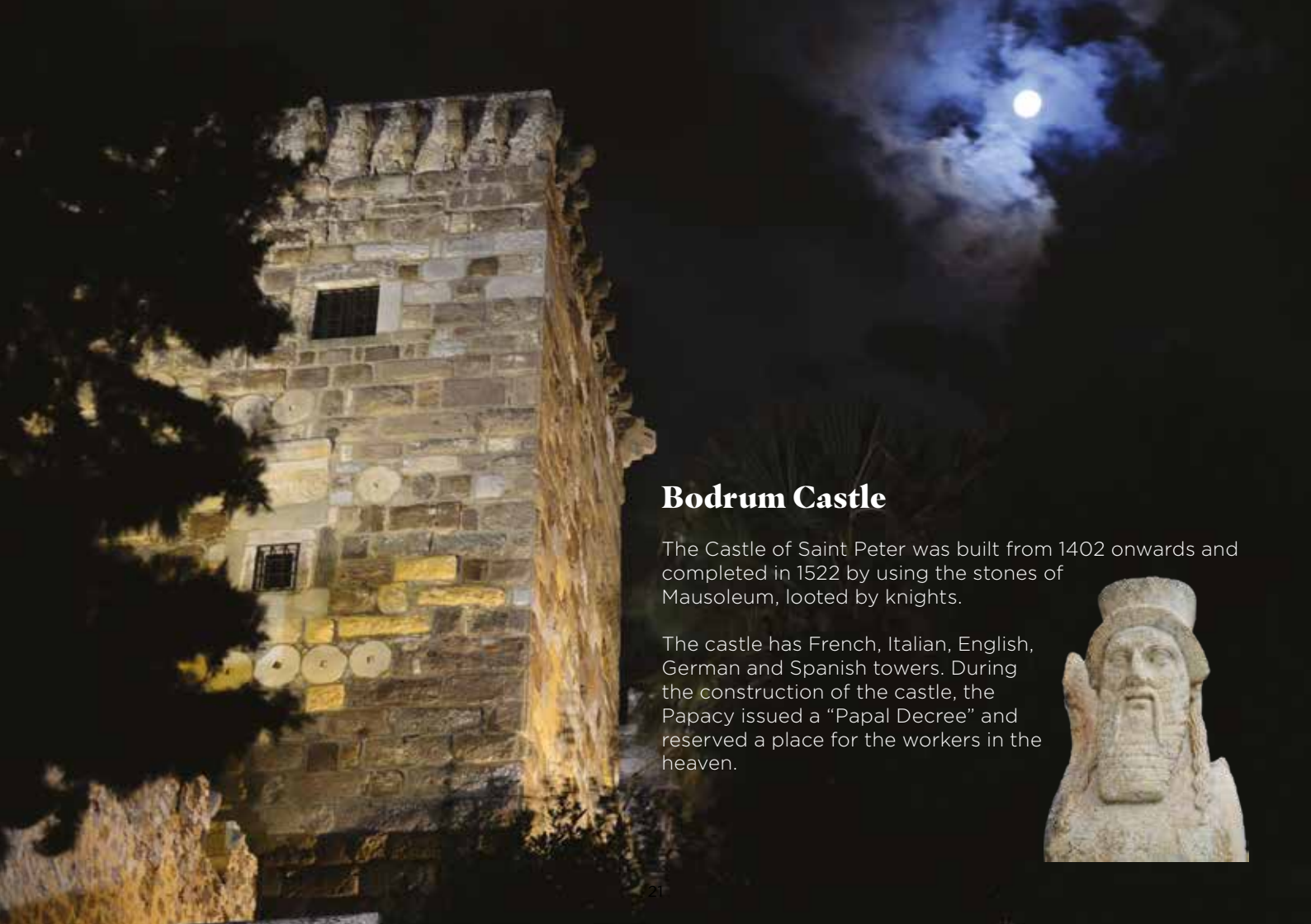
Myndos Gate, one of the gates of Halicarnassus, was built in the 4th century BC.





Bodrum Ancient Theatre

The Ancient Theatre, located in Göktepe on the Bodrum-Turgutreis road, is one of the first theatres in Anatolia and most important historical monuments from Halicarnassus to the present day. In ancient times, the theatre is thought to have a capacity of approximately 10,000 people.



Bodrum Castle

The Castle of Saint Peter was built from 1402 onwards and completed in 1522 by using the stones of Mausoleum, looted by knights.

The castle has French, Italian, English, German and Spanish towers. During the construction of the castle, the Papacy issued a "Papal Decree" and reserved a place for the workers in the heaven.





Ottoman Shipyard

Built in 1775, the Ottoman Shipyard is located on the northwest side of Bodrum Marina. The recently restored shipyard and its tower are among the most noteworthy historical places of Bodrum.



Churches, Chapels

Halicarnassus is the episcopal centre of the Christian period with six chapels and four churches scattered all over the peninsula, such as Aya Nikola Church, Kadikalesi Chapel, dedicated to the Patron Saint of Fishermen.





Kızılhisarlı Mustafa Paşa Mosque (Old Mosque)

The mosque, built in 1724, was damaged by the earthquake in 1927 and the lightning strike in 1957, but it survived as a result of the restorations.

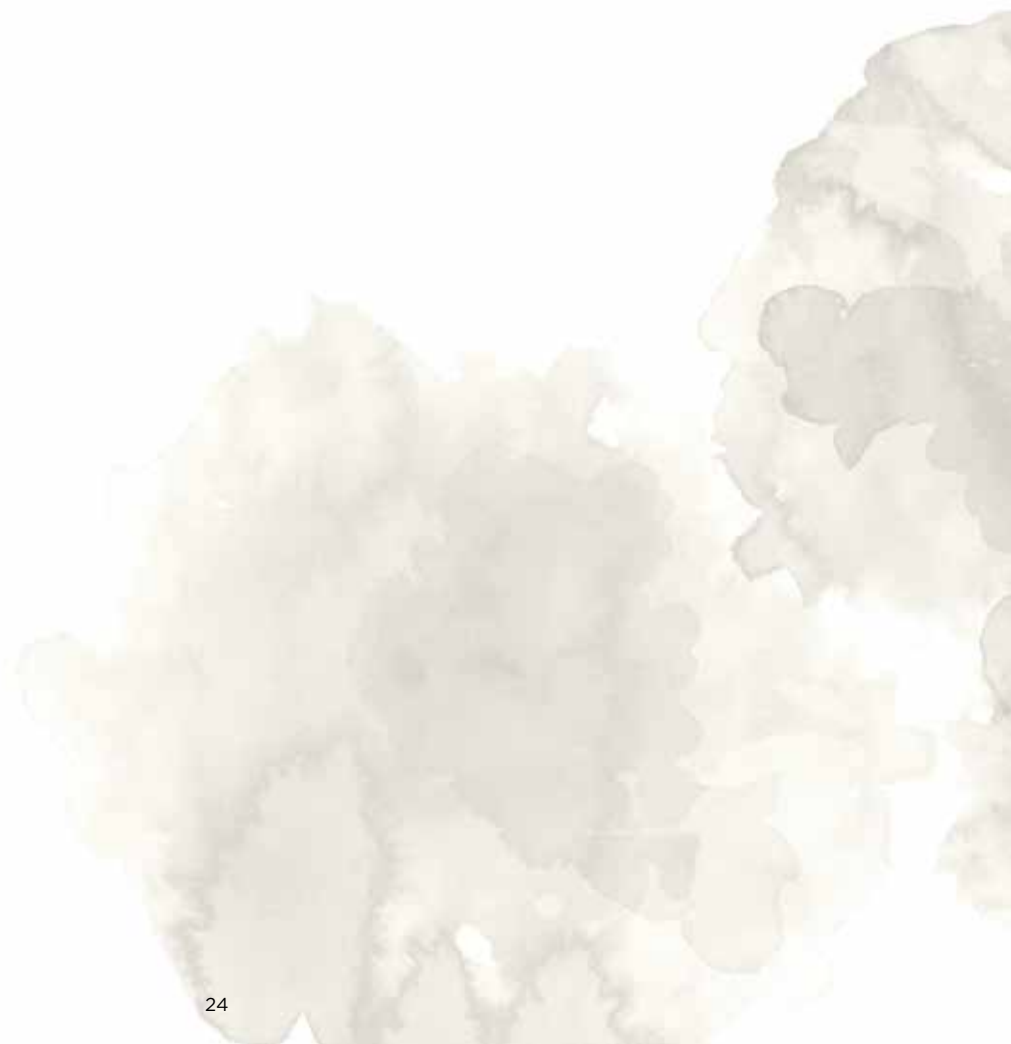
Tepecik Mosque (Hasan Hoca Mosque)

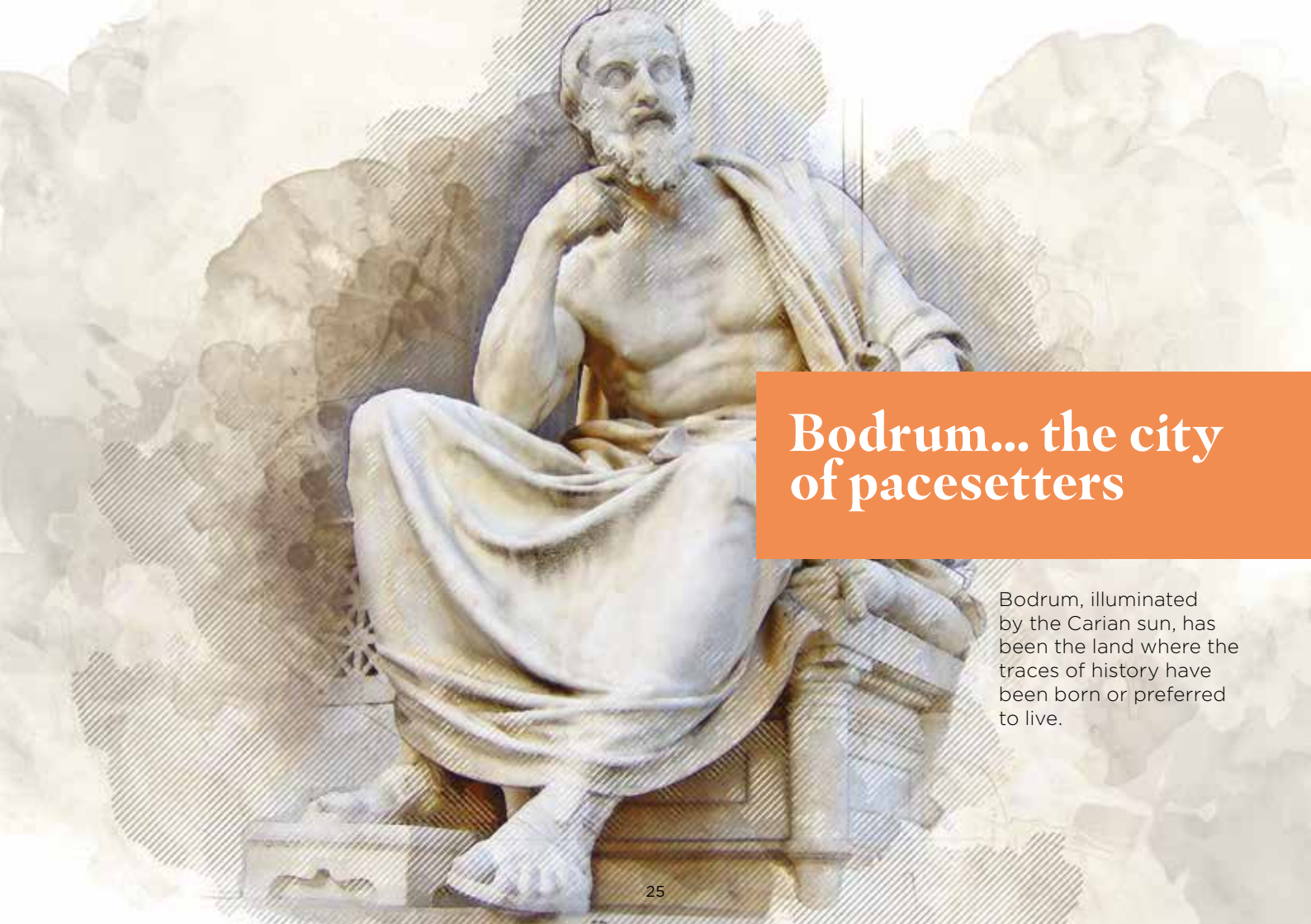
Located in the middle of the Bodrum inner harbour, the mosque was built between 1740 and 1741 as a "*Yali style mosque*", which is rarely seen in Ottoman architecture. The mosque was damaged after the fire opened by the French cruiser in 1915 and later restored.



Türkkuyusu Mosque

It was built between 1767 and 1768 by people of Bodrum using cut stone. The historical cistern and fountain, integrated with the mosque, are one among the important examples of Ottoman architecture.





Bodrum... the city of pacesetters

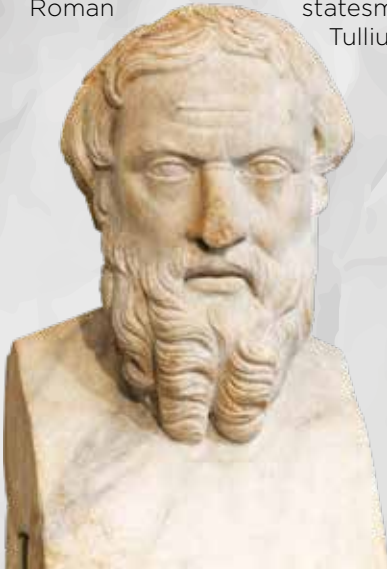
Bodrum, illuminated by the Carian sun, has been the land where the traces of history have been born or preferred to live.

Herodotus

Herodotus, who had started his journey 2400 years ago with his love and curiosity towards life and the world, wrote about the traditions and lifestyles of the tribes from India to Egypt. He was born in Halicarnassus in the 5th century BC.

The concept of Historia, which he named as the name of his book, is used in the meaning of history in world languages today.

Herodotus was given the title of "*Pater Historiae*" (Father of History) by the Roman statesman Marcus Tullius Cicero.



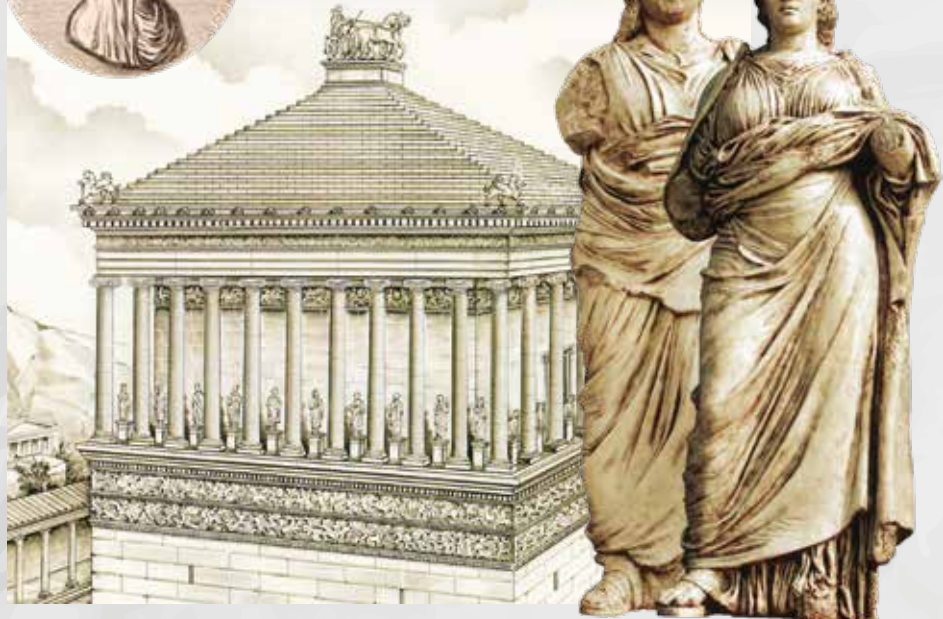
Artemisia I of Caria

Artemisia I, the Queen of Halicarnassus, was the first woman admiral in history and has been portrayed in Hollywood films.



King Mausolos and Queen Artemisia II

King Mausolos and Queen Artemisia II, who rendered Halicarnassus the city of power and glory and made it the capital of Caria, created Mausoleum, one of the seven wonders of the ancient World with their legendary love.





Professor Avram Galanti Bodrumlu

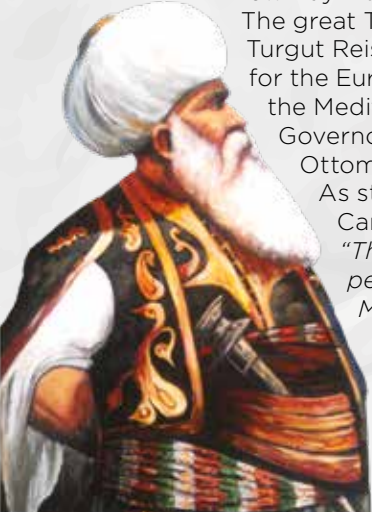
He is a historian, linguist, journalist, writer and political person who is known for his history studies covering a wide period starting from Sumerians.

The Conqueror of the Mediterranean Turgut Reis

Turgut Reis was born in the district of Turgutreis (Karatoprak), which is known by his name today.

The great Turkish sailor Turgut Reis, aka Dragut for the Europeans was the Mediterranean Governor of the Ottoman Empire.

As stated by King Carlos I of Spain
"There is no peace in the Mediterranean for us unless 'Dragut' is captured."



Neyzen Tevfik (Kolaylı)

Neyzen Tevfik, the open-hearted and barefoot ruler of ney, is from Bodrum.

"He is not only blowing, but also composing."
Kurt Schtringler
Opera
Manager of
Dresden



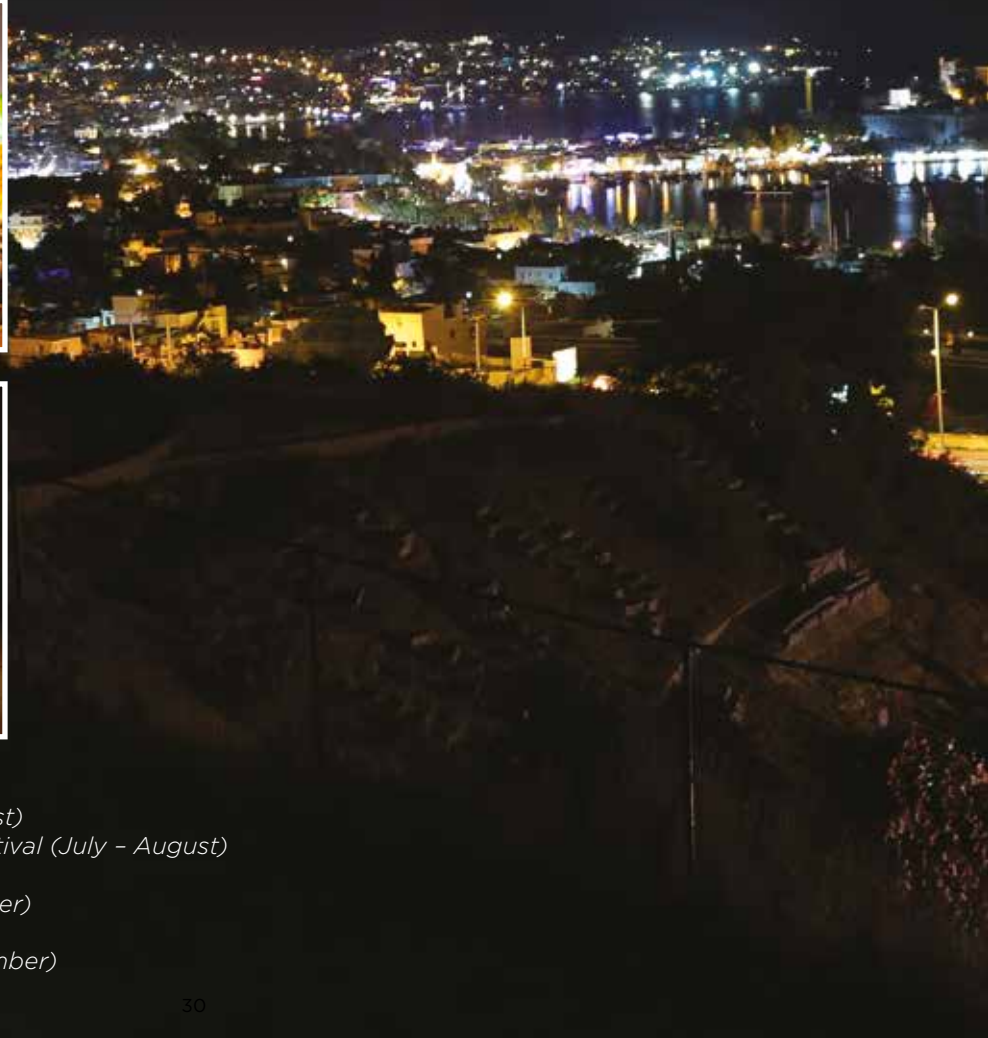
Fisherman of Halikarnasos (Cevat Şakir Kabaağaçlı)

He is one of the latest representatives of the philosophers rooting from Anatolia. He is a writer, historian and painter who narrates the human perception of the past and the search for the future from a historical and mythological perspective and via using the metaphor of the sea.
"Ask the Fisherman to Halicarnassus and ask Halicarnassus to the Fisherman."
Saying from Anatolia





culture and art



Bodrum Dance Festival (May)
International Bodrum Ballet Festival (August)
Gümüşlük International Classical Music Festival (July - August)
Bodrum Music Festival (August)
Karsanat Baroque Music Festival (September)
Bodrum Turkish Films Week (September)
Bodrum International Jazz Festival (September)

Bodrum is a city of culture and art...

Bodrum offers you a life of full of international activities where plenty of festivals, exhibitions and concerts take part in its culture and art calendar throughout the year.







Culture and art centres and galleries play an important role in city life: Şevket Sabancı Culture and Art Centre, Hakan Aykan Culture and Art Centre (Trafo), Herodot Culture Centre, Nurol Culture Centre Bodrum Castle Haluk Elbe Art Gallery, Ottoman Shipyard Art Gallery, Dibeklihan, ARThill, Zai, Zefirya and more than 40 other privately held art galleries exist in Bodrum.





Rice with Octopus

Cuisine in Bodrum: Gastronomy

Bodrum cuisine, which has carried its traditional heritage to the present day, is an important cultural cuisine created by the people coming to Bodrum from the islands of Crete, Rhodes and Kos, as well as the local people of Bodrum.

Inspired from the Aegean and the Mediterranean Cuisine, Bodrum Cuisine is an important and appetizing spot with its original dishes such as gambilya broad bean, Bodrum peksimet, noodle with nettles, lokum pilav, rice with octopus, stuffed kenker and specific local herb and vegetable dishes.



Stuffed Artichoke



Bodrum Peksimet

Bodrum peksimet is a kind of a rusk, which are baked with a dough slightly harder than bread dough, for 10-12 hours and obtained by fully absorbing the water. It preserves its first day flavour even after six to seven months.

Bodrum peksimet became the food of the spongers who stayed in the seas for a long time and preferred by plenty of sailors through Cesme to Chios.



Bodrum Peksimet Salad



Bodrum Tangerine

Bodrum Tangerine, also known as “fragrant tangerine”, has been considered as a quality species due to its high water content and unique aroma and registered with geographical sign. It is also an important raw material of the pastry and cosmetics sector with the end-products such as confectionary, Turkish delight, oil, vinegar, cologne, jam, marmalade, Turkish delight with biscuits, soda water, chocolate and soap.





Bodrum Bitter Herb Festival and Gastronomy Festivals (March-May)
Karaova Grape Harvest Fest (August-September)
Bodrum Tangerine Fest (December)

Herb Culture and Festivals in Bodrum

Bodrum is famous for its abundance of the green vegetables in its bazaars in every season. In the Bodrum region, 143 species of 136 natural plants and 7 mushrooms are used as food. In the district bazaars set up every day of the week it is possible to find freshly cut vegetables and fruits from branch. Bodrum bazaars are feast for shopping.

Bodrum markets are the tables of the world and a feast for shopping.

Distribution of traditional Bodrum bazaars by day:

Monday– Türkbükü, Kumbahçe, Güvercinlik Bazaars

Tuesday – Bodrum Merkez (Clothing), Yalıkavak (Vegetables), Gölköy Bazaars

Wednesday – Gündoğan, Ortakent, Gümüşlük, Akçaalan, Bodrum Natural Products Bazaars

Thursday – Yalıkavak (Clothing), Akyarlar and Bitez Bazaars

Friday – Bodrum Center (Vegetables), Konacık, Mazi and Yalı Bazaars

Saturday – Turgutreis Bazaar

Sunday – Gümbet, Kızılağaç, Karaova (Mumcular) Bazaars

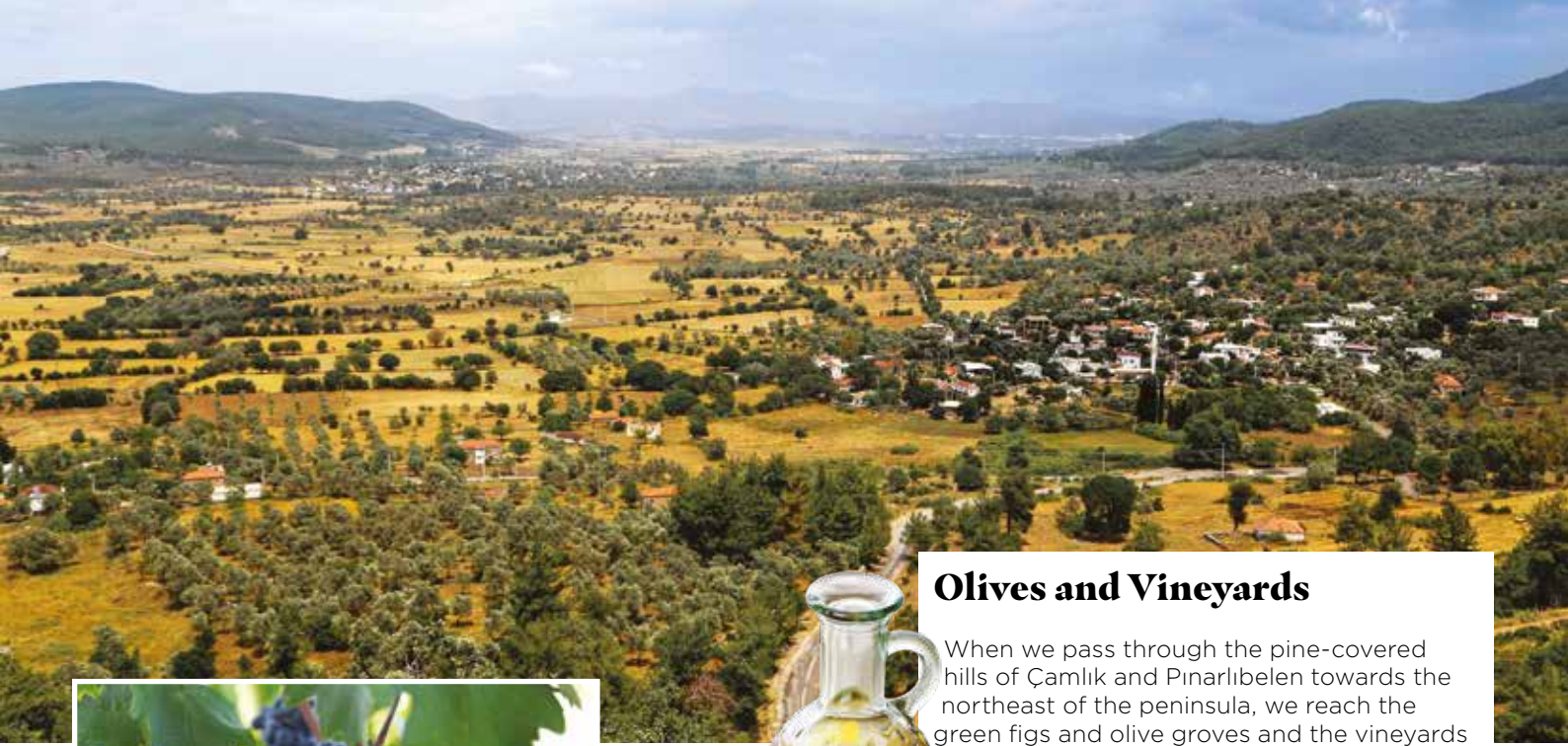


Carpet Business

Carpet and rug weaving reflecting the unique examples of Anatolian weaving culture with its color and models, presents examples of root dyeing and hand-woven on carpet looms passed from father to son.

Carpet business in Bodrum, deriving its name from Queen of Caria Ada, provides atelier and training opportunities to its guests





Olives and Vineyards

When we pass through the pine-covered hills of Çamlık and Pınarlıbelen towards the northeast of the peninsula, we reach the green figs and olive groves and the vineyards of Karaova.

With the advantage of micro-climate where Mediterranean and Aegean climate are seen together, Bodrum Peninsula generously presents the opportunities of the heaven not only in the moments when the sun shines, but also by the rain.





Bodrum Style in Architecture

The two-storey Bodrum houses, which attract attention with their white paint, bougainvillea surrounding, blue painted doors and windows, are unique examples of traditional stone house architecture.

These centuries-old houses with the smell of lime, which defy years are classified into three types: house with tower, house with mezzanine and sakız type houses.

The Bodrum architecture, with its windmills, cisterns spread over the peninsula, narrow streets and houses, takes care to preserve the natural texture of the city.





An artistic illustration of several sailboats on a blue sky background. The central focus is a large sailboat with a massive orange sail that features a stylized blue logo. To its left is a smaller sailboat with blue and white sails, and to its right is another smaller sailboat with white and red sails. The background is a light blue sky with soft, white clouds. A dark blue rectangular box is positioned on the right side of the image, containing the word 'maritime' in white text.

maritime



Blue Voyage

"It is a blue green path starting from Mediterranean at sunrise and reaching the violet Aegean Sea at the sunset."

It is a journey to Gökova where the wind carries the smell of sea, moss and pine, with its irresistible beauty, the taste of fish, the variety of trees and the mysterious past of ancient ruins.



Yacht Construction in Bodrum

Bodrum is the pioneer and driving force of the yacht industry with its gulet, mega yacht manufacturing, shipyards, maintenance and yacht sub-industry...



Bodrum is an important spot for Cruise Tourism

Daily Ferries connect Datça, Kalimnos, Leros and Kos Islands with Bodrum.



Daily Yacht Tours

Daily yacht tours offer an opportunity to visit the marvellous bays that has no land access and a joyful journey in the taste of either private tour or party entertainment.



Bodrum Marina

Bodrum Marina is the most preferred and notable marina of the Aegean and Mediterranean Sea with its unique location, modern infrastructure, equipment and facilities.



Yalıkavak Marina

It was built as a mega yacht marina with a mooring capacity of 620 yachts. The marina offers its guests exclusive and privileged facilities with its gourmet restaurants and world-famous brands.



Turgutreis Marina

Built as a marina campus with an elegant atmosphere, the marina was established as an integrated tourism facility to provide high standards of service to yacht owners.



Unlimited depth of blue: Diving

Diving, which is an important source of livelihood in Bodrum's sponge hunting and fishing history, has combined the diving tradition with diving sports and created a touristic attraction for Bodrum.

Bodrum is an important address for depth enthusiasts with its rich underwater life, geological features, reefs, underwater walls, caves and the blue depth that fascinates.



Bodrum is an important brand for regattas...

Sailing is the miracle of the sailcloth, the magic of ropes, the struggle of human discipline in the adventure of being creative and original, with gulets, tirhandils, ketches, schooners, and other local craft. It is the international brand of the wind and sea festival in Bodrum.

All abroad! Laçka skuta! Orsa alabandaaa!

Bodrum International Optimist Regetta (BIOR)

BIO, which carry the distinction of being the first optimist international competition of Turkey, is the dream of hundreds of sporters from different countries of the World where they can glide in the blue waters...





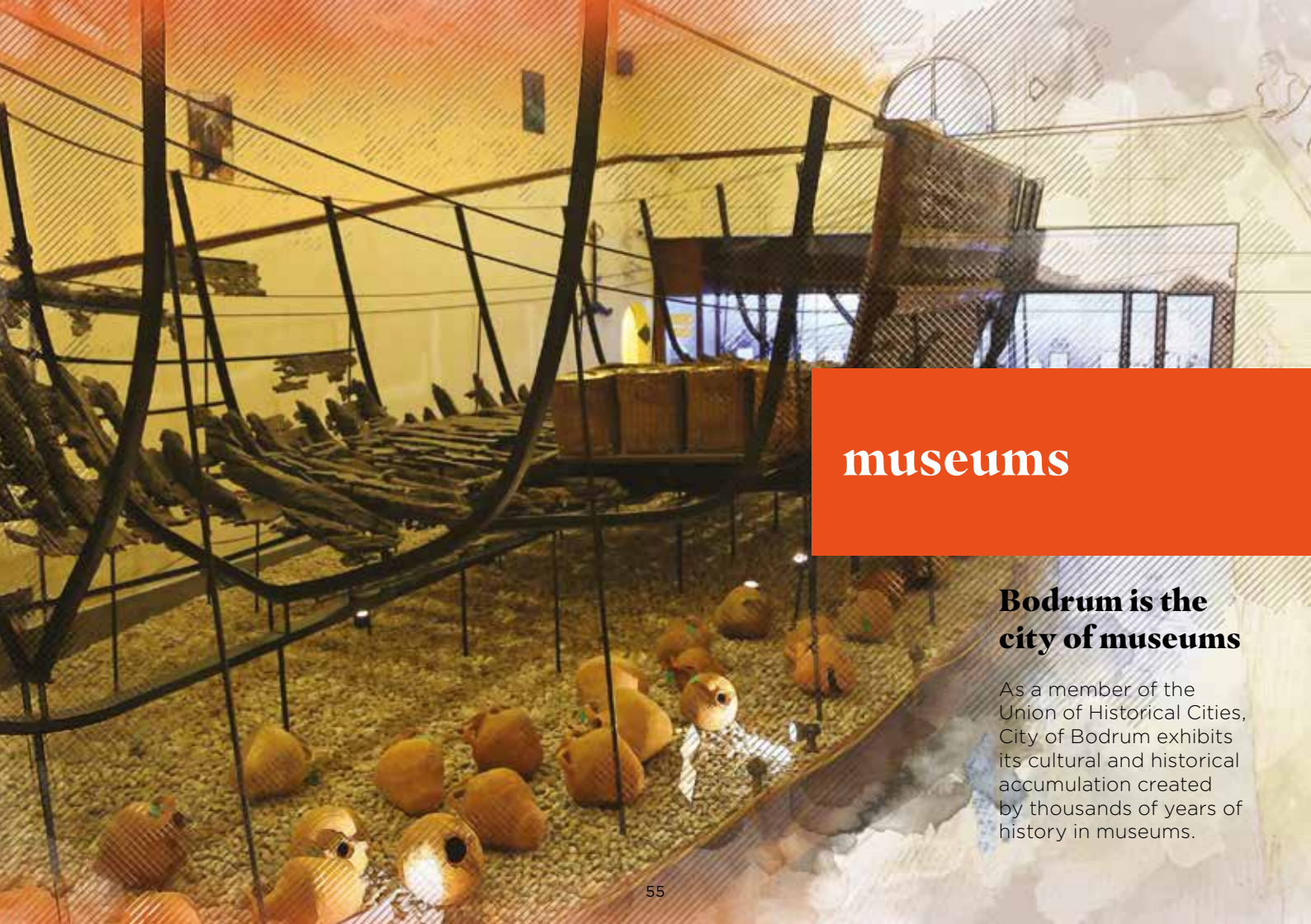


The Bodrum Cup Nautical Festival & Regatta

The Bodrum Cup is the love of those who love the sea and maritime with passion. It is the blue dream and breathless race of sea enthusiasts from all over the world.

This race is the biggest sea festival of the Mediterranean with its enthusiasm approaching half a century, the passion of those who challenge the wind with its keel, rudder and mast, where the winged nymphs of the sea compete in blue waters.

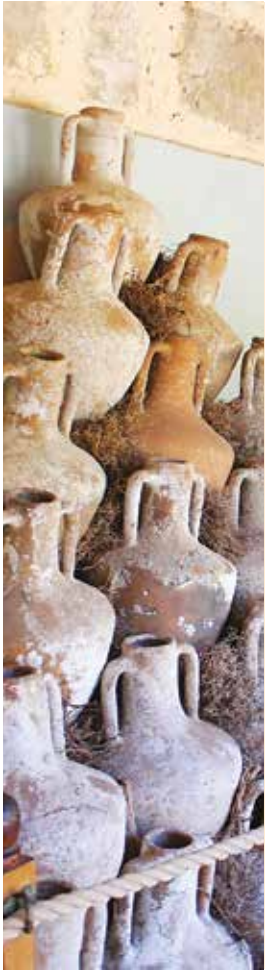




museums

Bodrum is the city of museums

As a member of the Union of Historical Cities, City of Bodrum exhibits its cultural and historical accumulation created by thousands of years of history in museums.



Bodrum Castle Underwater Archaeological Museum

The museum, which exhibits the oldest wreck of the world (Uluburun Wreck), features the Eastern Mediterranean Amphoras and the world's largest Islamic Glass Collection. The museum, which has 14 exhibition halls, received the European Special Praise Award.

Bodrum Maritime Museum

The museum exhibits examples of Bodrum type of boats that served as fishing boats, sponge boats, trawlers, gangava and passenger boats, and has a collection of 6 thousand seashells collected from various seas of the world.





Bodrum Municipality City Memory Museum

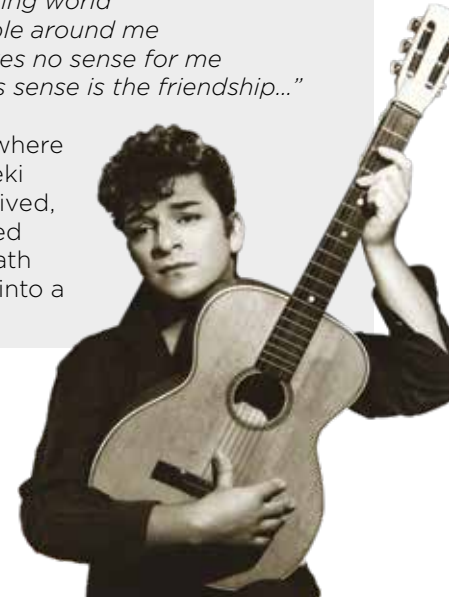
The museum, which was converted from the former district house, is being prepared to exhibit important examples of Bodrum's life and the periodic transitions of urban history.



Zeki Müren Art Museum

*"I have a loving world
All the people around me
Wealth makes no sense for me
What makes sense is the friendship..."*

The house where the artist Zeki Müren had lived, was arranged after his death and turned into a museum.







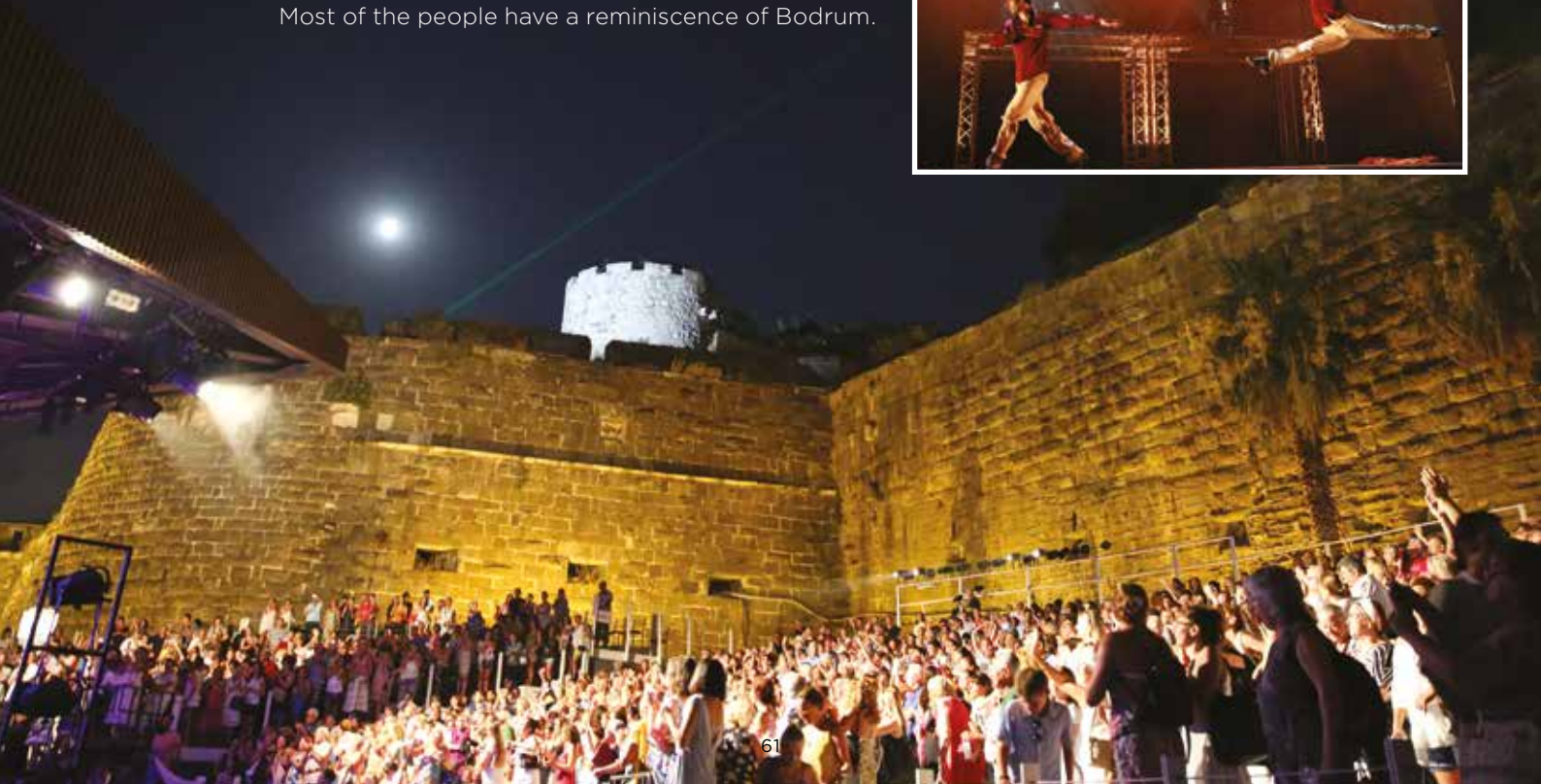
life



Bodrum is a 24/7 living city...

Bodrum is a famous entertainment centre and 24/7 living city where famous artists perform live music in authentic venues converted from Bodrum houses and the bars beach and night clubs carry music to the streets later in the night.

Most of the people have a reminiscence of Bodrum.







Sea, sand, sun...

Bodrum which has 60 Blue flag beaches amounting to 13.2 % of the whole blue flag beaches of the entire Turkey, is visited by 1.5 million tourists each year.

Bodrum, described by Homer as “the land of blues”, is an important spot for sea and sand tourism, capital for tourism and an international holiday paradise.







Cafe, restaurant, beaches

Bodrum Municipality, with its 16 elegant restaurants, beaches and cafes opened throughout the peninsula, serves for the future of Bodrum, respond to current customer demands, and provide easily accessible, sustainable, healthy, reliable products and services that have direct impact on the social life of Bodrum.

All restaurant, beaches and cafés of the Bodrum Municipality is certified by BIX with FSP Food Safety Points Certificate of Achievement hence the municipality has a goal to keep its high standards of service continuously.





Shopping in Bodrum is enjoyable...

Bodrum offers its visitors exclusive shopping opportunities with its local bazaars, traditional artisan ateliers throughout the peninsula and shopping malls with world-famous brands.

Bodrum's traditional handicrafts, special woven fabrics, carpets, wood carvings, jewellery, needle laces, pottery, evil eye beads, ornamental gourds, assorted sponges, sea shells and Bodrum sandals offer a rich variety to shoppers.





Social life

Bodrum, the favourite city of tourism, is a heaven on earth with its blue sea, lace-like bays, colourful bougainvillea symbolizing peace and love, ancient corners of historical and cultural heritage, touristic facilities, entertainment centres, authentic cuisine, international festivals and universal art culture.





Bodrum's air is a natural health resource with its sea, wind and low humidity. Bodrum provides its inhabitants and guests modern health facilities, medical guest houses, medical SPA and geriatric facilities in addition to suitable areas for handicapped people and elderly tourists. Bodrum also hosts renowned primary and secondary schools in its area thus provides every opportunity to live in four seasons.

Bodrum Faculty of Fine Arts and Bodrum Maritime Vocational School of Mugla Sıtkı Kocman University are located in Bodrum.





Bodrum offers regular course programs and training opportunities for sea activities such as windsurfing, kitesurfing, scuba diving and provides generous offers with activity packages including accommodation and tour packages.

Bodrum provides you with the opportunities to take golf and tennis courses in the unique facilities with international standards. You may also join tournaments and discover different biking routes in the unique setting of Bodrum.



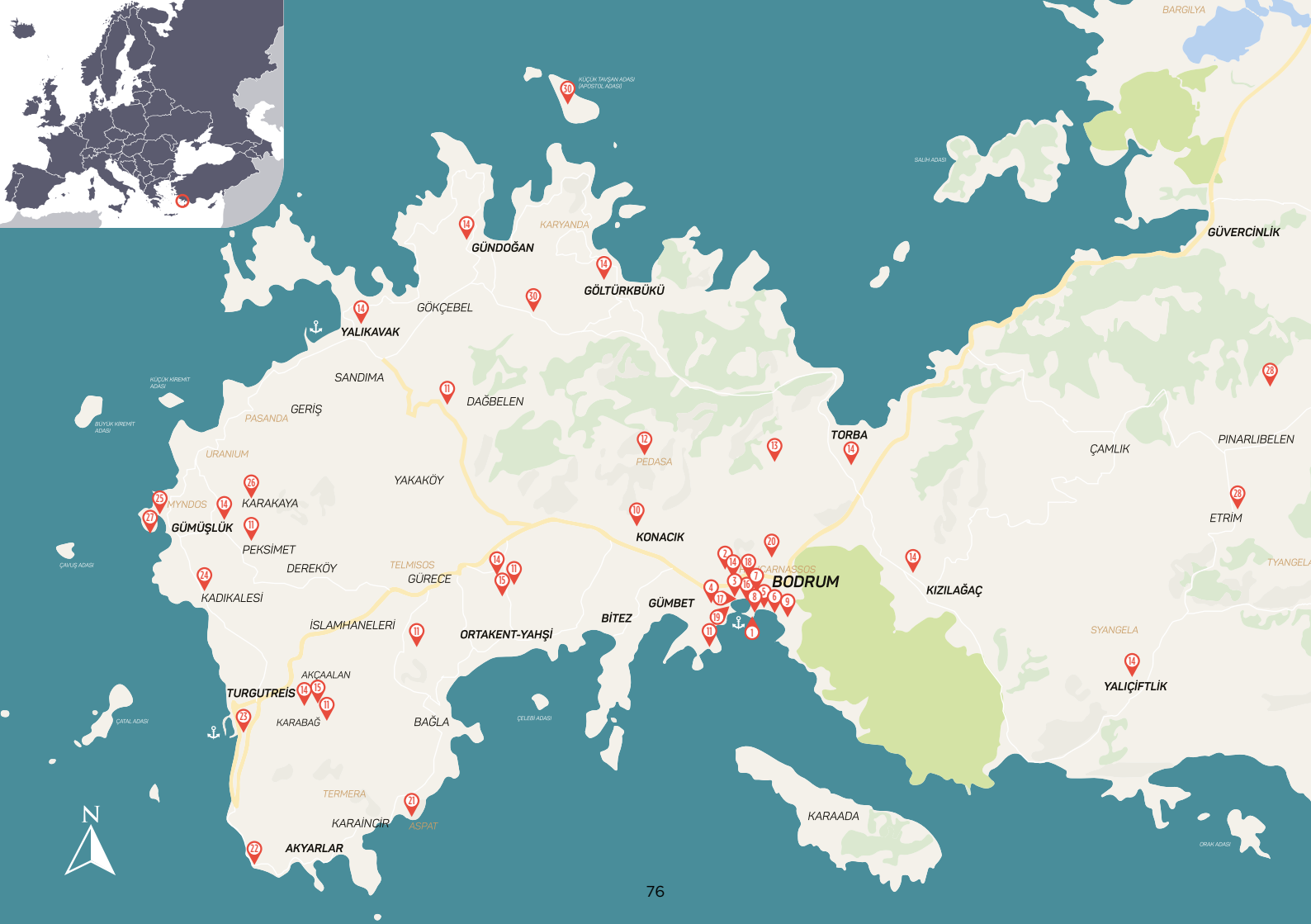


BODRUM LELEG YOLU

BODRUM LELEG ROUTE

If you want to observe Bodrum from the perspective of the Lelegians, you may experience the “Bodrum Lelegian Way” with your backpack and camera.

Pedasa Ancient City is the rising star of the culture tourism with the marvellous Bodrum panorama.





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- 30 Apostol Island



Ephesos
Efes

Hierapolis
Pamukkale

Aphrodisias

Laodikeia

KARIA

The region, which was formerly known as Ancient Caria, is located at the south western end of Anatolia, covering most of the provinces of Aydin and Muğla and the western end of Denizli.

Historians defined the Carians as the natives of Anatolia.

Halicarnassus (Bodrum) had been the capital of Caria since 368 BC. Bodrum is located right in the centre of a transport network where you can easily reach all the ancient Carian cities.

Samos

Priene

Amyzon

Alabanda

Miletos

Alinda

Latmos
Herakleia

Didyma
Didim

Labraunda

Euromos

Lagina

Iassos

Mylasa
Milas

Stratonikeia
Yatağan

Mobolla
Muğla

Bargylia

Hydisos

Halikarnassos

Keramos

Idyma

Kalymnos

Myndos

Bodrum

Theangela

Kedrai

Kos

Physkos

Marmaris

Kastabos

Kaunos
Dalyan

Kalynda

Knidos
Datça

Old Knidos

Amos

Nisyros

Sym

Loryma

Rhodes



Mylasa (Milas)



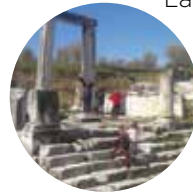
Mylasa had been the capital of Caria since 368 BC. Its history dates back to at least 5 thousand years with the Gümüşkesen Tomb Monument, ruins of the 27 ancient cities and the King's Road.

Stratonikeia (Yatağan)



The Stratonikeia Ancient City, also known as the city of Gladiators, is in the Temporary List of World Heritage.

Lagina



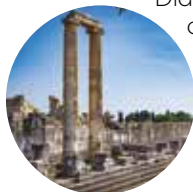
Lagina Ancient City, named after the mysterious Goddess Lekate holding key to the Hades the God and the King of the dead, has an important place in Anatolian mythology.

Iassos (Kıyıkışlacık)



Iassos, antic port city of Karia, is speculated to be established by Mycenaean. It means "Mother Earth's Settlement" in Luvi language.

Didyma (Didim)



Didyma is one of 12 cities of Antic Ionia. Didyma is reputed with its Temple built in the name of Apollo, twin of Artemisia who also has another famous temple built in her name in Ephesus.

Latmos-Herakleia



Named after the well-known mythological hero Herakles, it had been the hiding place of the Christian monks since 1st century BC.

Miletos



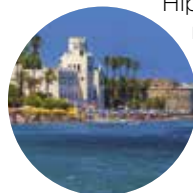
Miletos, the philosophers city, is home city of Thales, pioneer of philosophy and science, who calculated solar eclipse on 528 BC.

Knidos (Datça)



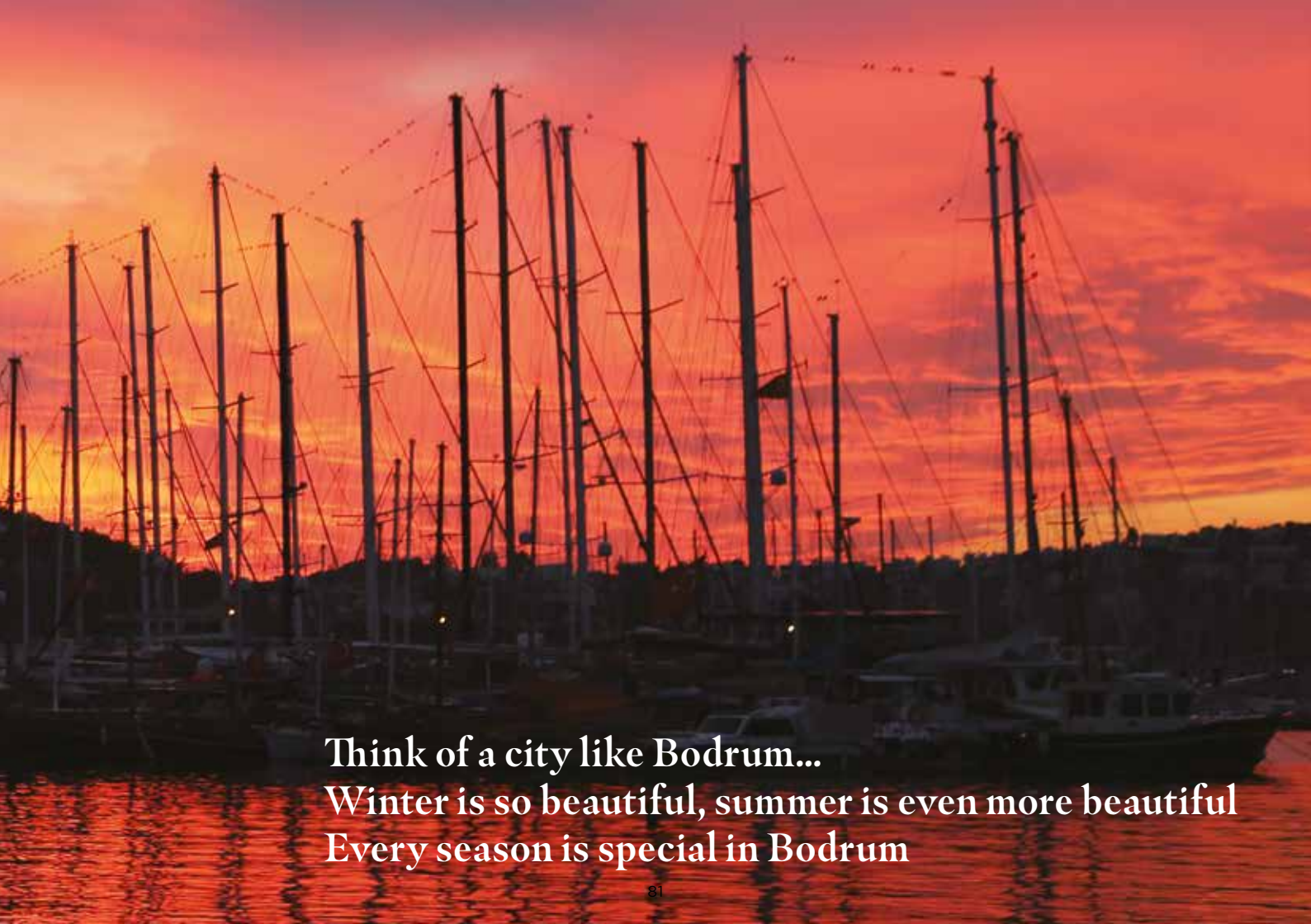
City of commerce, art and culture Knidos, where one of the first example of democracy arranged, was established where Aegean and Mediterranean sea met.

Kos (İstanköy)



Hippocrates, founder of medical science and person, who gave its name to oath of medical doctors, lived and was educated in Kos.





Think of a city like Bodrum...
Winter is so beautiful, summer is even more beautiful
Every season is special in Bodrum



**“The same happened to those
before you.
As they departed, they all left
their minds behind in Bodrum.”**

Fisherman of Halicarnassus



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