

## CULTURAL HERITAGE

Cultural heritage is a treasure that tells the members of a society about their common past and strengthens their sense of solidarity and unity. It ensures the continuity of the experiences and traditions that people have accumulated throughout history, and the correct building of the future. Cultural heritage should be protected not only for the universal values that give it its heritage character, but also for the fact that it offers new learning and development opportunities for young people, provides people with beautiful emotions and warm memories, nurtures creativity and the spirit of discovery, adds depth to our view of the world and of life, and we all have much to learn from our past. Cultural heritage is all the tangible and intangible values associated with our identity, culture and history. Historical cities and structures, cultural landscapes, monumental structures, archaeological sites, as well as living but intangible values such as language, tradition, dance, music and rituals constitute cultural heritage. By establishing a link between the past and the present, it provides a foundation for the culture and the world in which we live, enriching people's lives in a spiritual sense and providing a solid reference for creating the future.

The coverage of the definition of cultural heritage has expanded and enriched over time. The definition and understanding of conservation at the monumental level is broadened to include all human cultural assets.

Today's emphasis on human rights, cultural diversity and equality is fundamental to defining and documenting cultural heritage. Today, the categories of cultural heritage used in conventions prepared by UNESCO, ICOMOS and similar international institutions and organisations, international legal texts or laws and directives used at national level are as follows:

1. Tangible Cultural Heritage (It would be better to indicate directly the source of these definitions, such as according to UNESCO ...)
  - Movable Cultural Heritage (paintings, sculptures, coins, manuscripts, archaeological artefacts, etc.)
  - Immovable Cultural Heritage (monuments, archaeological sites, historical urban textures etc.)
2. Underwater Cultural Heritage (shipwrecks, underwater ruins and cities)
3. Intangible Cultural Heritage (oral traditions, performing arts, rituals, etc.)
4. Natural Heritage (such as natural sites with cultural dimension, cultural landscapes, physical, biological and geological formations etc.)

## **RULES OF BEHAVIOUR TO BE FOLLOWED IN CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES IN TURKEY**

Please follow these guidelines to enhance your experience and help preserve Turkey's cultural heritage for future generations.

- It is forbidden to wear clothes such as shorts and skirts that expose above the knees and shoulders and to talk loudly and listen to music at the entrances of places of worship and in sacred places.
- Please ask for permission to take photos and videos with religious leaders, children and people you do not know. Unauthorised filming is prohibited.
- It is forbidden to sit or lean on monuments and artefacts with carved and fragile surfaces in areas with monuments and historical artefacts.
- It is forbidden to relocate- move- touch and sell archaeological artefacts.
- It is forbidden to consume alcohol and cigarettes in areas where prohibited.
- Giving money and sweets to children encourages begging. If you want to help children, please donate to recognised charities.
- It is strictly forbidden and punishable by a fine to expose one's genitals in public places.
- The purchase of illegal products / souvenirs made from endangered species of wild animals should be avoided.
- It is strictly forbidden to pollute the environment and nature. If detected, it is subject to penalty.