

## ANCIENT & LEGENDARY TROY (Duration: 3 hours)



Visit one of the most famous sites from antiquity while enjoying a scenic drive through the beautiful countryside. Homer's enduring story of Paris, Helen and Achilles will all come to life when you step foot in **Troy**, one of Turkey's most celebrated UNESCO Heritage Sites due to its firm hold in history and literature.

Excavations (on today's Hisarlik Hill) have uncovered layer after layer dating back over 4,000 years ago to the Bronze Age. Thus, the classifications of Troy 1 – Troy 9 have been put in place to designate the nine civilizations that have settled here. Being that Troy is at the mouth of the Dardanelles Strait, the only maritime passage to the Black Sea, it is no surprise.

It is believed that it was during the Troy 7 phase that was the time of the Achean Greeks' sack of the city that is mentioned in both Homer's Iliad and Virgil's Aeneid. More recently, Troy was in the spotlight in 1873 when the German archaeologist, Heinrich Schliemann, uncovered a cache of gold and jewels from the site. Schliemann reportedly smuggled the items out of the country. Miraculously, "Priam's Treasure" reappeared in the Pushkin Museum in 1993 are still the subject of an international dispute between Turkey, Germany and Russia.

Return to your ship upon completion of the tour.