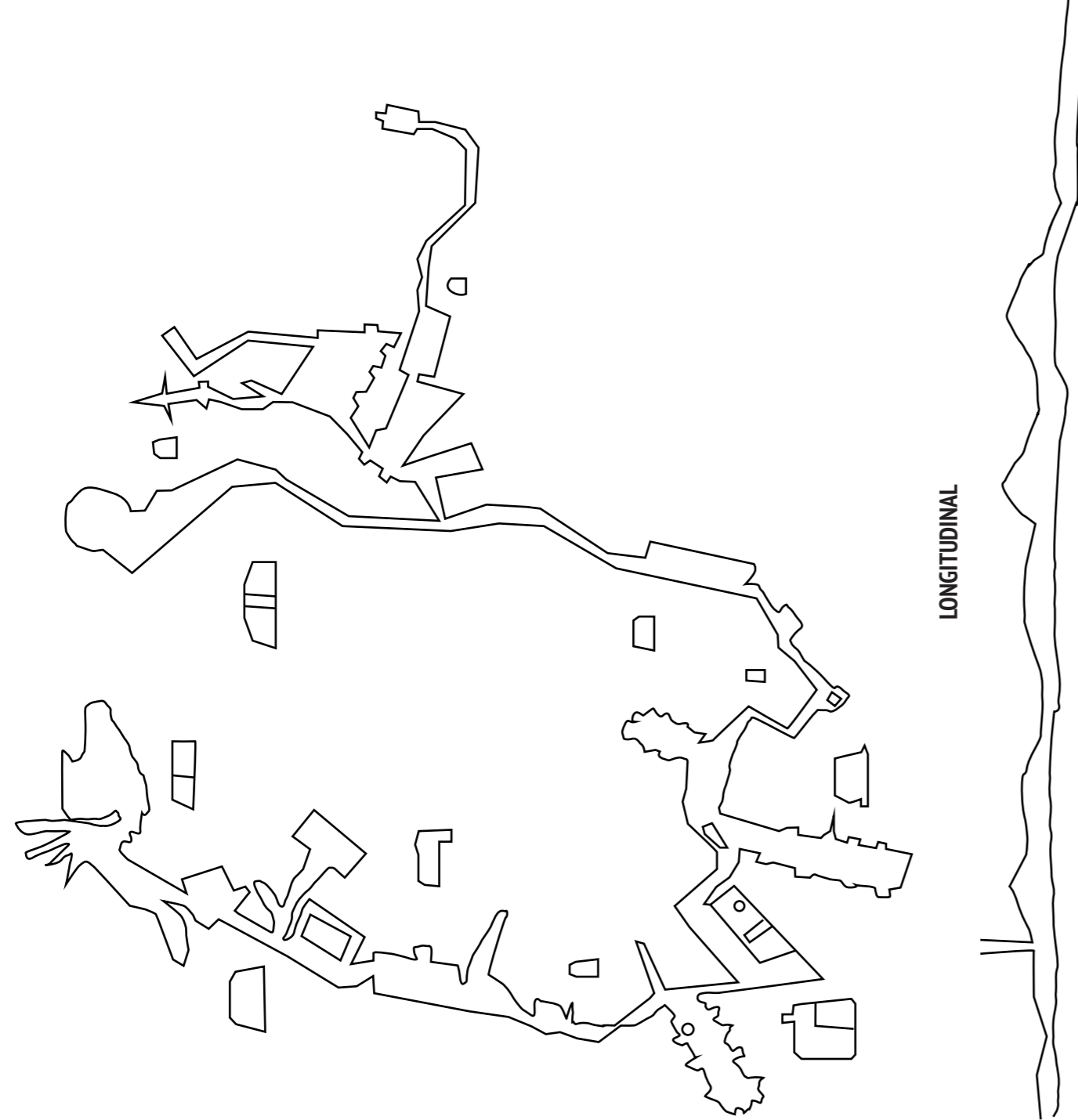


MUCUR UNDERGROUND CITY (KIRŞEHİR-MUCUR)



LONGITUDINAL



Visiting Hours

Opening Time: 08:00
Closing Time: 17:00

Closed on Monday.

Address: Solaklı Mahallesi Çimentepe Sokak No: 1 Mucur/Kırşehir • Phone: 0386 213 33 91

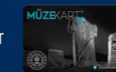
Please visit the web site for up-to-date information.

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www.turkishmuseums.com



www.muze.gov.tr

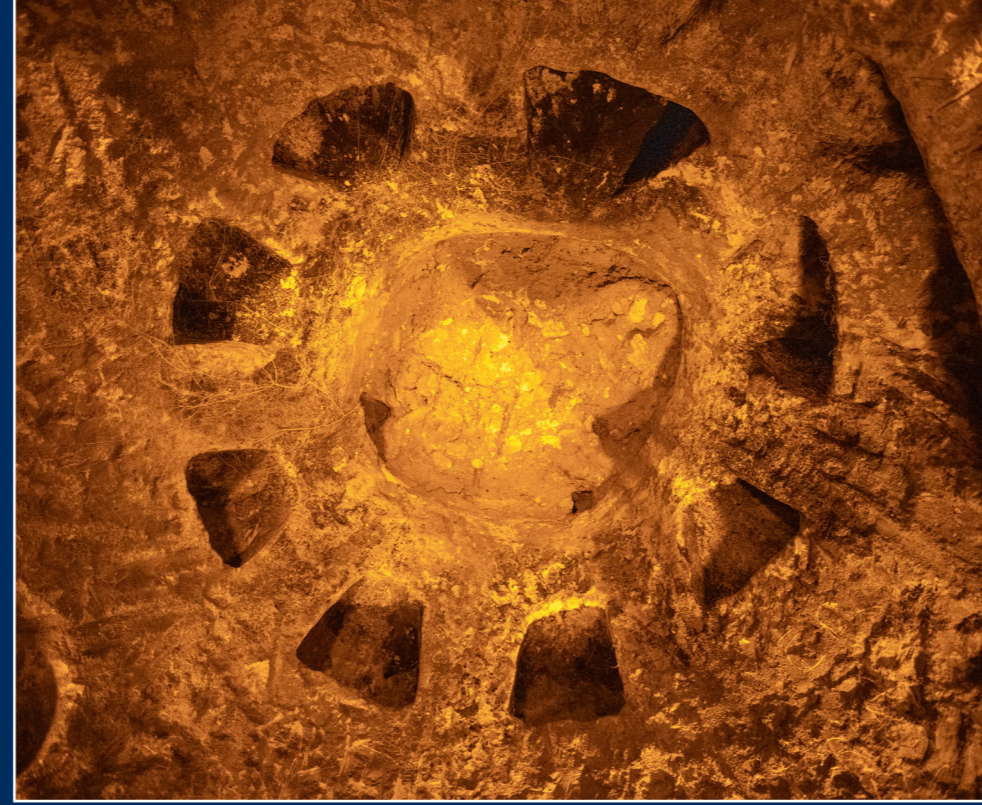


MUCUR UNDERGROUND CITY

THE ENTRANCE GATE OF CAPPADOCIA

GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR
CULTURAL ASSETS AND MUSEUMS





Mucur Underground City, which is assigned to the General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and serves as an archaeological site affiliated with the Kırşehir Museum; has been registered as an Archaeological Site to be Protected in the First Degree, with the decision of the Kayseri Cultural and Natural Heritage Preservation Board, dated 22.07.1989 and numbered 457.

The underground city is located in the center of Mucur District, a district of Kırşehir Province, 20 km from Kırşehir and through which the Ankara-Kayseri highway passes.

Although it is accepted that such underground cities were built by Christians to protect them from pagan kaisers during the Early Christian Period (3rd-4th century CE), it is also known that they were built in the Middle Byzantine Period (8th-9th centuries AD) to protect them from Arab raids. The underground city, consisting of two floors, built by carving the rocks on volcanic tuff land, consists of rooms and halls and corridors connecting these spaces. Ventilation is provided by chimneys.

Rooms: As of today, 42 rooms of the underground city are open to visitors, and in some rooms, large food and water jars buried in the ground, and niches on the walls and ceilings attract attention. The presence of a large number of niches in one of the rooms, especially in a circular plan, strengthens the possibility of this place being a small place of worship. Another possibility is that this place may have been built for homing pigeons used in communication.

Corridors: The approximate height of the corridors, which are built as narrow and low, used to pass from one place to another, vary between one and a half meters and their widths between half and one meter. The purpose of making corridors low and narrow in this way should be to prevent these attacks in case of any possible attack.

In addition, circular keystones with large volume, which were made to close the entrances of corridors, main passages and special sections, attract attention.

Ventilation Chimneys: The chimneys, five of which are open as of today, are air ducts opened above the ground to meet the need for oxygen underground.

The part of the underground city that is open to visitors today constitutes a small part of a rather large underground settlement spread over the main settlement of Mucur.