



Visiting Hours	
Opening Time: 08:00	Open everyday.
Closing Time: 17:00	
Ticket Office Closing Time: 16:30	
Address: Kayadibi, 28400 Sarıyer Köyü/Şebinkarahisar/Giresun	
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GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR
 CULTURAL ASSETS AND MUSEUMS
 

VIRGIN MARY MONASTERY
 THE LAST STOP OF FAITH TOURISM IN
 ŞEBINKARAHİSAR



Virgin Mary Monastery is located in a large cavity in the middle of a steep rocky cliff in the Kayadibi quarter of Sariyer village, 11 km east of Şebinkarahisar, a district of Giresun Province. It is a building complex consisting of several structures such as cafeteria, dormitory, classroom, church, etc.

There is water cistern to the left and a fountain made of cut stone in front of the monastery. The church carved in the rock is located at the top level. With the approval of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism in 2014, restoration and repairs were carried out, and then it was designated with archaeological site status and brought to tourism. The monastery was laid into a solid rock by carving it. A 26-step staircase leads to the low, round-arched entrance of the monastery.

It has four floors. The fourth floor is the church. There are 32 rooms for various services in the first three floors. According to the sources the Monastery, which was built in the Middle Ages, was destroyed by fire and was completely rebuilt in the 19th century. It is also stated in the sources that Greeks from Giresun, Ordu, Trabzon, Gümüşhane and other circles came and worshiped for three days every year until the 1940s.

The Virgin Mary Monastery is reminiscent of the Sumela Monastery with its location and architecture and attracts attention with its elaborate stonework in all units. According to the data provided by the Ministry of the Culture and Tourism, following Sumela Monastery in Trabzon, this is the second biggest monastery built within a rock by carving it. In this respect, Şebinkarahisar District has an important place in terms of faith tourism.