

Visiting Hours

April 1 - October 31

Opening Time: 09:00
Closing Time: 19:00
Ticket Office Closing Time: 18:00

October 31 - April 1

Opening Time: 08:30
Closing Time: 17:00
Ticket Office Closing Time: 16:00

Open everyday.

Address: Mersin İli Erdemli İlçesi Kumkuyu Mahallesi

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

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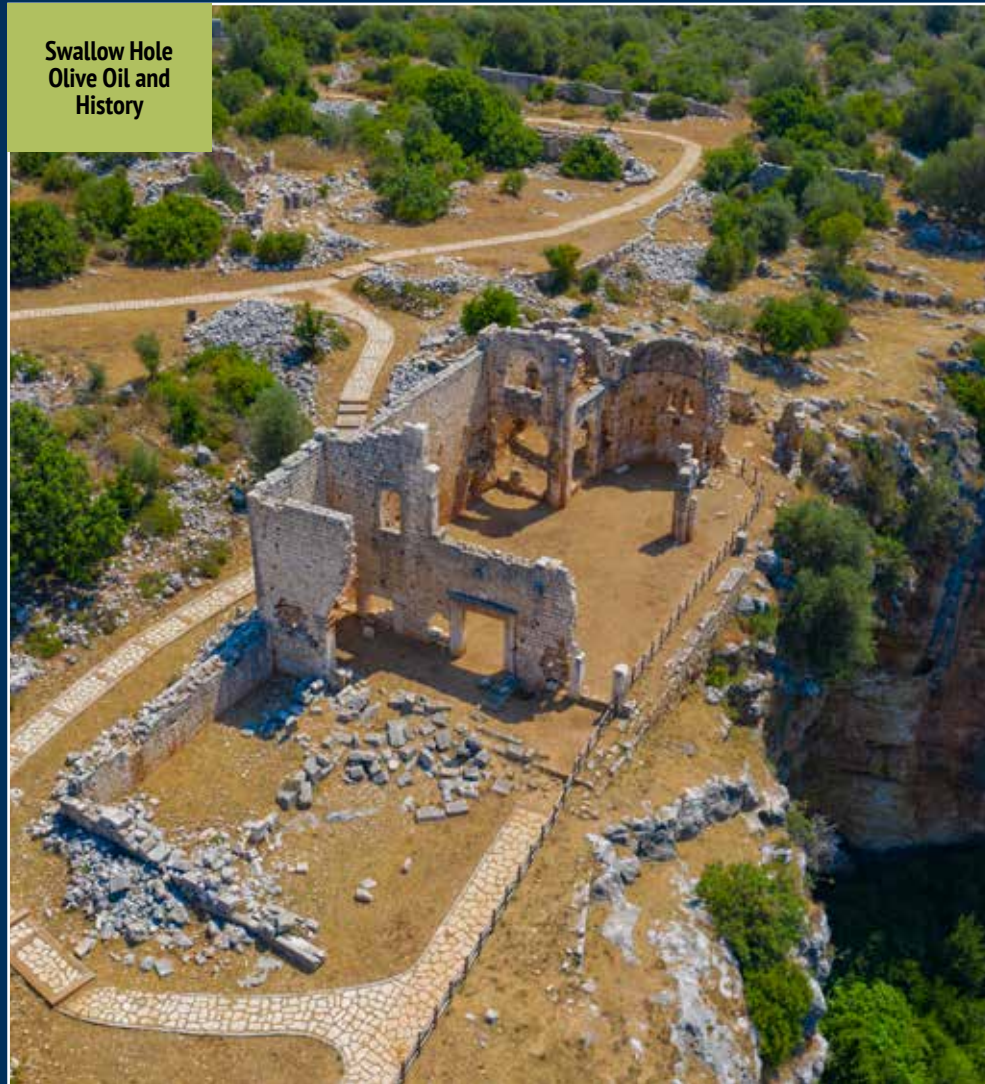


GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR
CULTURAL ASSETS AND MUSEUMS

KANLIDIVANE

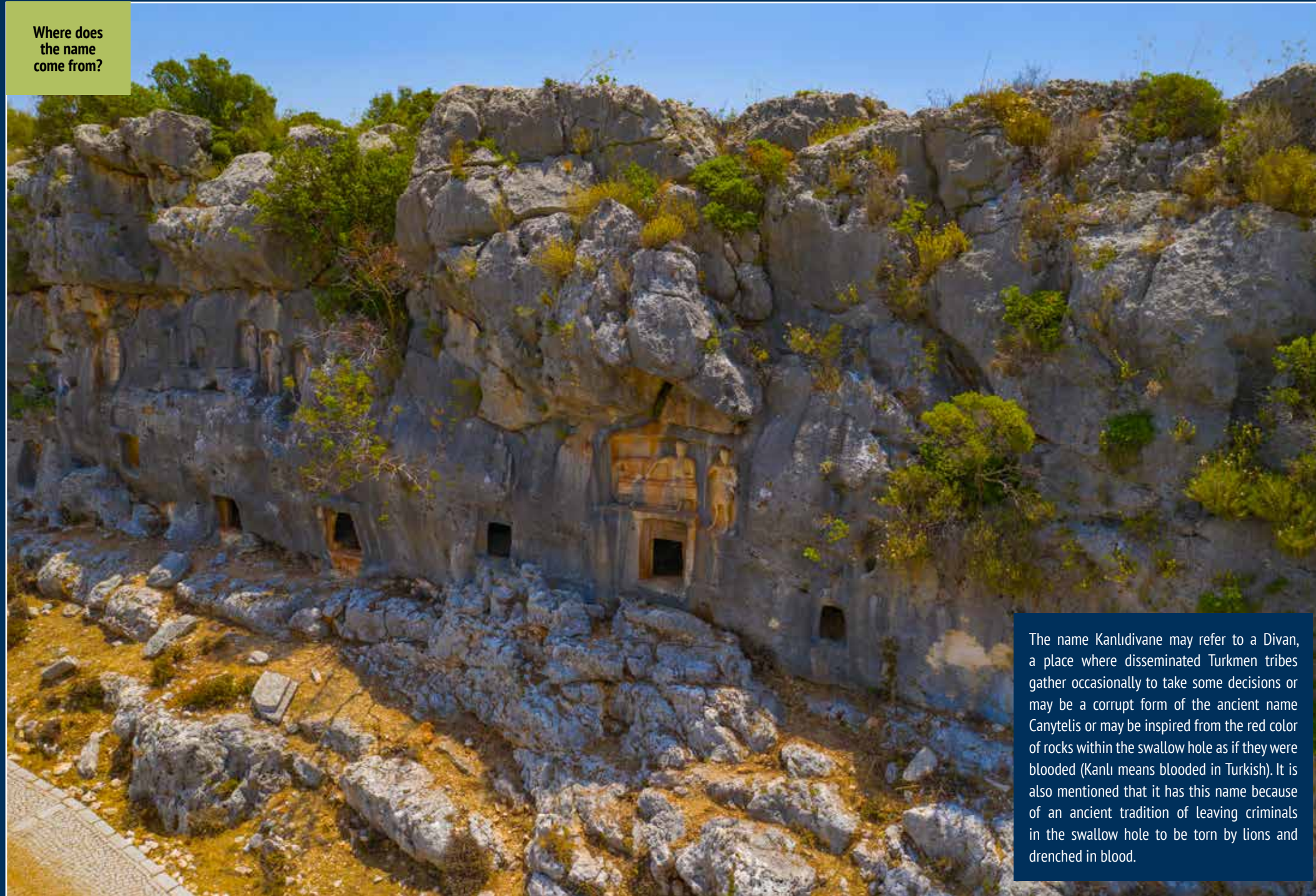
FROM THE OLIVE TREES TO OLIVE
WORKSHOPS

Swallow Hole Olive Oil and History



Canytelis, with in its ancient name, is located at a point dominating maritime trade, 50 km west of Mersin Province and 3 km north of Mersin-Silifke highway. It is a sacred settlement developed around a natural swallow hole within the borders of Olba Kingdom. While there is an inscription on the tower built in the Hellenistic Period stating that the tower was built by Teukros, the son of Tarkyaris, the four churches around the swallow hole show that its sacredness continued during the Late Ancient Period as well. Kanlıdivane, which has been inhabited continuously until today, had used Akkale Port for its olive oil exports.

Where does the name come from?



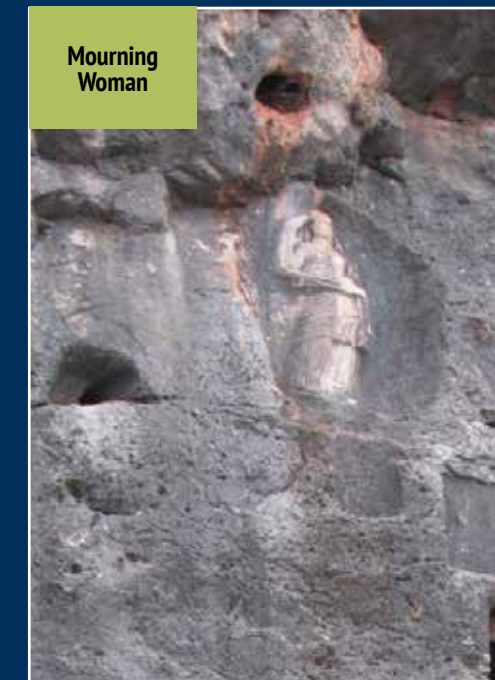
The name Kanlıdivane may refer to a Divan, a place where disseminated Turkmen tribes gather occasionally to take some decisions or may be a corrupt form of the ancient name Canytelis or may be inspired from the red color of rocks within the swallow hole as if they were blooded (Kanlı means blooded in Turkish). It is also mentioned that it has this name because of an ancient tradition of leaving criminals in the swallow hole to be torn by lions and drenched in blood.

Inscription



Hermias commissioned relief depictions of his father Armaronzas and his wife and children on the inner surface of the swallow hole. The inscription says "Hermias erected the statues of his father Armaronzas and his wife and children. Anybody damaging the statues shall pay 1000 drachmae to Zeus as a punishment." It is dated to the 1st century CE.

Mourning Woman



There are relief depictions of tomb owners on Çanakçı rock tombs on the rock mass about 1 km southwest to the swallow hole.

Among these reliefs, the relief of a mourning woman is reflected with her right hand grasping her himation over her head. It is dated to the 1st BCE - 1st centuries CE.