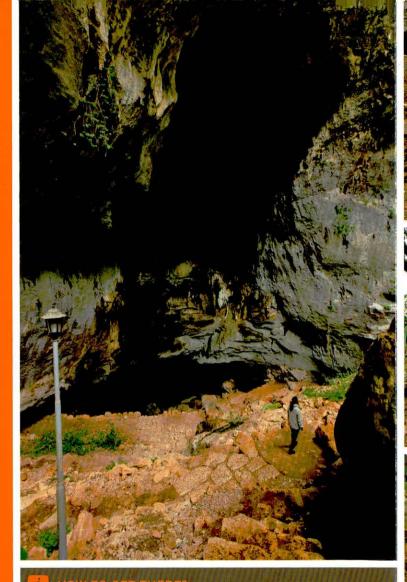
The Heaven and Hell Caves are located 25 km east of Silifke district, 2 km northwest of Narlikuyu Town.

Heaven Chasm

It is a large pit formed after the collapse of the ceiling caused by the chemical erosion of a ground river. The diameters of its elliptical mouth are 250 m and 110 m, and it is 70 m deep. There is a big cave mouth at the southern edge of the collapsed ceiling that is 200 m long and 135 at its deepest point. There is a small church at the mouth of the cave, which was dedicated to Virgin Mary by a religious person called Paulus in the 5th century, according to the 4-line epigraph at its entrance. The descend to the cave is through 450 stone stairs. The church is at the 300th step. At the end of the cave the sound of the mythological ground river can be heard.

Hell Pit

The Hell Pit, which is 75 m north of the Heaven chasm was formed like the Heaven chasm. The diameters of its mouth are 50 m and 75 m, and the depth is 128 m. Due to the concave structure of its mouth, the pit is not accessible. According to they mythology, Zeus defeats Typhon, the fire-flashing, hundred headed dragon and imprisons him in the Hell pit for a while before burying him under the Etna Volcano for good.



It is 65 km east of the city center and 2 km northwest of Narlikuyu town.



The Heaven Cave (sink-hole) is one of the two natural wonders known as the Korykos Cave during the Antique Period which consists of two large and deep pits. According to they mythology, Zeus defeats Typhon, the fire-flashing, hundred headed dragon and imprisons him in the Hell pit for a while before burying him under the Etna Volcano for good.

Editors: İlhame Öztürk (Silifke Museum Director), Filiz Kerem (Archeologist), Doğukan Bekir Alper (Archeologist) Design: Kültür İşleri Tasarım Photograph: © Hande Göksan Silifke Museum +90 324 714 10 19



Published by METAB (Mersin ve Çevresi Turizm Alanı Altyapı Hizmet Birliği).