Visiting Hours

April 1 - October 31	October 31 - April 1	
Opening Time: 09:00	Opening Time: 08:30	Open everyday.
Closing Time: 20:00	Closing Time: 17:00	
Ticket Office Closing Time: 19:00	Ticket Office Closing Time: 16.00	

Address: Kızkalesi Mah., Erdemli/Mersin

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

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MAIDEN'S CASTLE

NO BLUE IS MORE PLEASANT THAN THE MEDITERRANEAN

The Maiden's Castle is located 60 km southwest of Mersin. According to Herodotus, it was founded by Cypriot King Korykos (Gorgos?) While first findings in Korykos were from the Hellenistic Period, Roman period was its golden age. Coins were minted in his own name in the 1st century BCE. Architectural remains such as the harbor gate, the Great and the Small Temple, the churches lined up one after the other, the Colonnaded Street, the North Gate, the Great and the Small Baths are the indicators of the richness of the city. This city is the last point of the aqueducts and canals carrying water from the Lamas River. The city retained its significance in the Middle Ages. The Korykos Castle on the shore was built in 1099 by the Byzantine emperor Alexios I. The Maiden's Castle, on the other hand, was built on the island in 1199 by the Cilician King Leon I. It was conquered in 1448 by Karamanoglu Ibrahim II. After conquered by Ottomans in 1473-74 lost its importance in time.

"Once upon a time there was a king. He consulted a fortune teller to find out the future of his only daughter, whom he loved very much. When he learned that his daughter was going to die by being bitten by a snake, he had the castle built on the sea for the Princess. Thus, the king, who thought that he had secured her life, sent a basket of grapes to his daughter one day. However, the snake hidden in the basket killed the girl by biting."