

WHV – CULTURAL HERITAGE: BRIDGE TO THE PAST

Pergamon and its Multi-Layered Cultural Landscape, Türkiye

PROJECT DATES

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (2014)

01 – 11 September 2025

THE SITE - This site rises high above the Bakırçay Plain in Turkey's Aegean region. The acropolis of Pergamon was the capital of the Hellenistic Attalid dynasty, a major centre of learning in the ancient world. Monumental temples, theatres, stoa or porticoes, gymnasium, altar and library were set into the sloping terrain surrounded by an extensive city wall. The rock-cut Kybele Sanctuary lies to the north-west on another hill visually linked to the acropolis. Later the city became capital of the Roman province of Asia known for its Asclepieion healing centre.

OBJECTIVES - The project aims to actively contribute to the conservation and preservation of the World Heritage Site. It seeks to raise awareness among local and international participants about the cultural, historical, and natural significance of Pergamon. The project also promotes community engagement, fosters a sense of shared responsibility for heritage protection, and provides volunteers with hands-on experience in heritage conservation and sustainable tourism practices.

ACTIVITIES –The project incorporates workshops designed to raise awareness, covering topics such as heritage conservation, the preservation of local culinary traditions, the importance of collaboration among institutions, and sustainable development goals. The volunteers will participate in hands-on tasks, including cleaning pathways to improve site accessibility and visitor experience. They will also have the opportunity to learn about and participate in the preparation of traditional dishes, fostering an appreciation for local culture and gastronomy. Additionally, volunteers will contribute to documenting the project's activities by creating a video book, showcasing their efforts in preserving the cultural landscape.

PARTNERS – UNHCR; Pergamon District Office; Pergamon Chamber of Commerce; Local Authorities; Universities / High schools.

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