Apollonia was a city located at the southernmost part of Albania, known as the "City of the Sun". Its geographical position, given its geographical position, Apollonia today still boasts a magical atmosphere of the Mediterranean world that took the name of the god Apollo. Given its geographical position, Apollonia today still boasts a magical atmosphere of the Mediterranean world that took the name of the god Apollo.

Since 2006 the area has been proclaimed as an archaeological park, giving an impetus to tourism and reaching a significant level of protection. The archaeological park of Apollonia is nowadays the largest archaeological park in Albania. The site is situated between two small hills, the north of them being inhabited for the majority of the time and the other being inhabited from the 11th to the 13th centuries. The remains of the city were first recorded by early scholars, but it was not until the 20th century that systematic excavations began.

The city was founded in the 7th century BC by the Ionians from Miletus, and it prospered as a commercial center. It was known for its fine schools of arts and sciences, and it was the birthplace of a number of famous philosophers and scientists, including Pythagoras and Thales.

The city was almost completely destroyed by the earthquake of 168 BC, which also caused the destruction of many of its monuments. However, during the 1st century AD, the city was re-established and it quickly recovered, becoming a major center of commerce and culture. It was the home of a number of famous scholars, including the philosopher Cicero, who lived there for a time.

The city was finally abandoned in the 5th century AD, and it was not rediscovered until the 19th century. Since then, it has been an important center of archaeological research, and it is now a major tourist attraction.

The city was located on a hill, with a large port facility that was destroyed by the earthquake of 168 BC. The city was surrounded by a wall that was destroyed in the earthquake, and the remains of the wall are still visible today. The city was also located near the river Vjosa, which was dammed by the earthquake to form a lake.
Welcome to Apollonia, the ancient Gateway of Albanian History and Culture.

1. Monumental Centre
   - The monumental core of Apollonia was the centre of cultural and political life.

2. Street of the Greek Town
   - The main street of Apollonia, where you can find the prytaneion and the bouleuterion.

3. The triumphal Arch
   - A monumental gateway, typical of the Roman period, marking the entrance to the city.

4. Library
   - A building dedicated to the storage of books and knowledge, typical of the Hellenistic period.

5. Bouleuterion (Agonothets)
   - The seat of the city's highest officials, used for decision making and judicial proceedings.

6. Odeon
   - A large hall used for performances of music and poetry, typical of the Hellenistic period.

7. Sanctuary by the Odeon
   - A sacred space dedicated to the worship of a deity, often located near the Odeon.

8. Temple of Diana
   - A temple dedicated to the worship of the Goddess Diana, located near the Odeon.

9. Nymphaeum
   - A public water supply facility, typical of the Roman period.

10. Stoa B
    - A large covered walkway, typical of the Hellenistic period, used for trade and commerce.

11. Temple B
    - A temple dedicated to a specific deity, located near the Nymphaeum.

12. Stoa A
    - A covered walkway, similar to Stoa B, located near the Nymphaeum.

How to get there:
- By car: You can reach Apollonia Archaeological Park by car from the exits of the A1 highway (Tirana-Karceve), taking the Durrës University exit (on the right).
- By bus: Buses from Tirana to Durrës stop in the town of Medarë, from where you can take a local bus to Apollonia.
- By train: The nearest train station is Durrës, from where you can take a local bus to Apollonia.

Exhibition:
- Apollonia Archaeological Museum: The museum displays artifacts and finds from the excavations, providing insights into the history and culture of Apollonia.

Opening hours:
- Monday to Saturday: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- Sunday: 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Entrance fee:
- Adults: 500 lek
- Children (under 12 years): 250 lek

Services:
- Free Wi-Fi is available at the visitor center.
- Sanitary facilities are available near the parking area.
- Refreshments can be bought at the snack bar near the exit.

Your support is needed:
- The Apollonia Archaeological Park, like any other archaeological site, relies on the support of visitors. Please help us to preserve this unique cultural heritage by following the rules and regulations of the site.

Design: © Apollonia Archaeological Park 2011

For more information, please contact:
- Apollonia Archaeological Park, PO Box 612, Fier-Albania
- Tel. +355 38 320 464, Fax. +355 38 320 337
- E-mail: parku.apollonia@yahoo.fr
- Website: www.apolloniaark.com

The project was supported by the Republic of Albania, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the French Ministry of Culture, the Albanian Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Tourism, and the University of Toulouse (France). It was also supported by the French Ministry of Culture through the Cultural Affairs and Heritage in Albania (CAHA) program and the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Tourism of Albania. The project was managed by the Albanian-French Archaeological and Epigraphic Mission. The designations employed and the presentation of material are consistent with the policies decided by the United Nations Committee on National Education. The text reflects the views of the author and is not in any way binding on UNESCO or on the United Nations. The text is provided for informational purposes only and is not to be considered as a source of legal advice or expertise.

Other photo credits: Marin Haxhimihali, Jozef Barta, Taulant Kajtazi, Valdrin Kameraj, and the Media Management Office.