









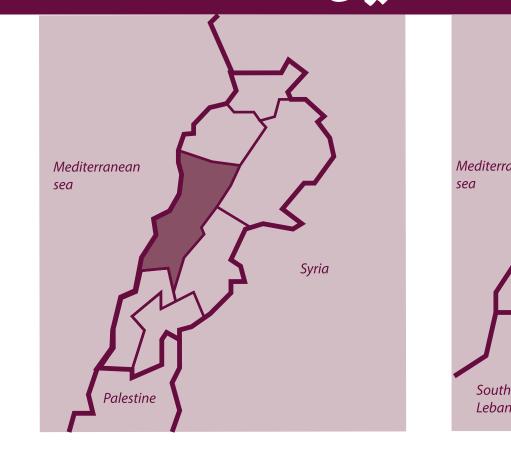




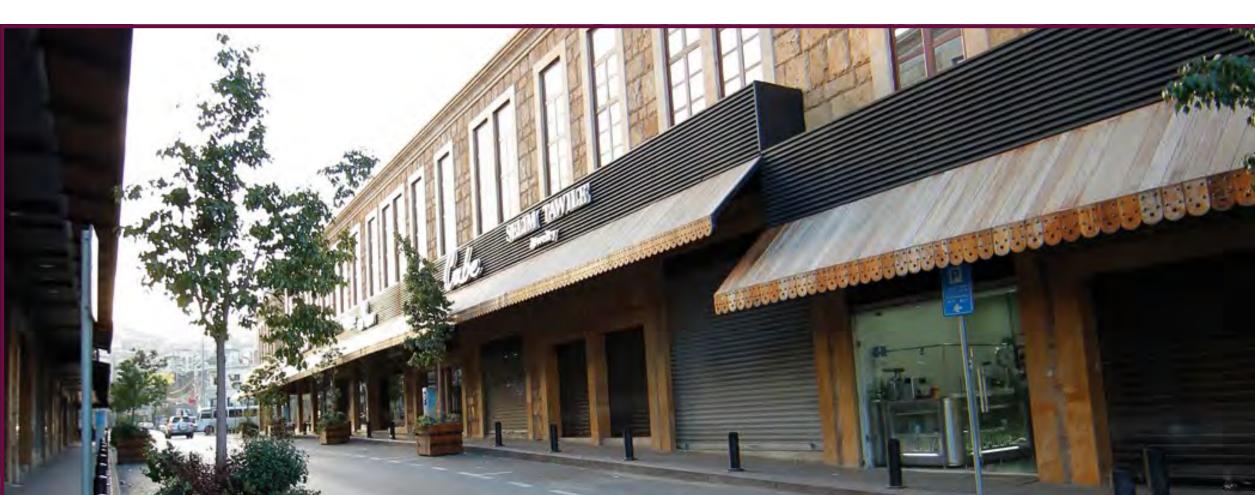
### THE PHOENICIANS' ROUTE

INTRODUCTION Jbeil (ancient Byblos) is known for its historical port that hosted the trade between Ancient Egypt and the Eastern Mediterranean. Byblos is considered one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world and, according to the Phoenician writer Sanchuniathon, Byblos is the first city of the Phoenicians. Today, it is a typical Middle Eastern city (with its enchanting souq and Medieval port near the Phoenicians). nician port) visited mainly for its archaeological area, accessible through a castle built in the 12th century with stone blocks retrieved from Roman buildings. It preserves the remains of the ancient Amorite city, the famous Temple of Obelisks of the Phoenician era and a Roman amphitheatre.

Byblos is a heritage site inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List (1984).



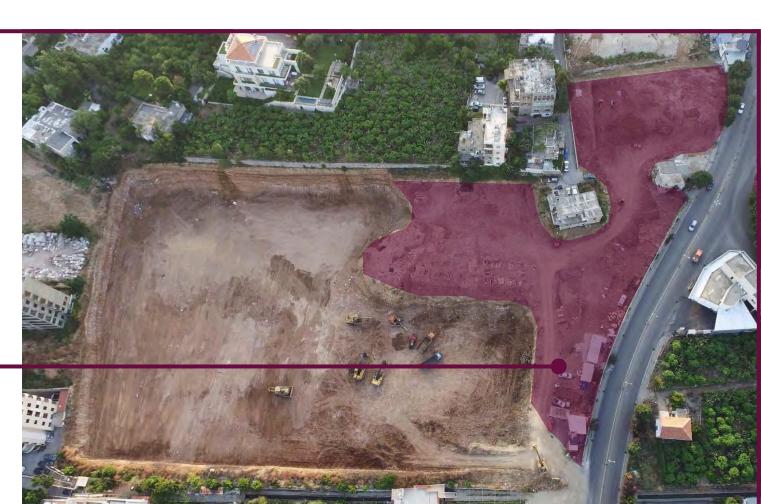
#### HISTORICAL MAPPING



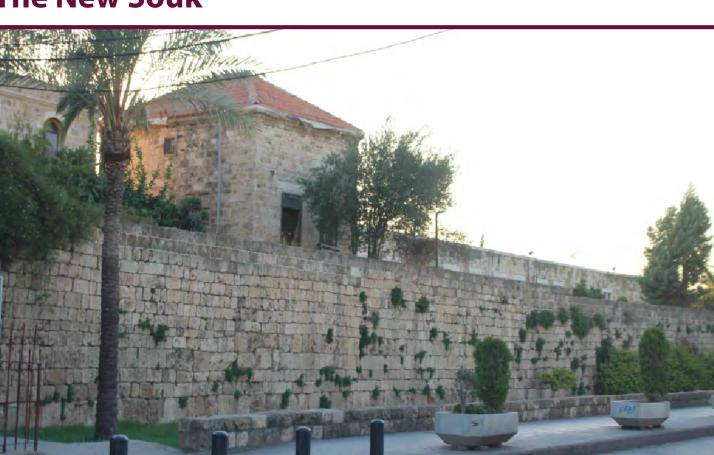
The new renovated souk complements the local architecture of the city. Some more recent elevations built with old patterns (stone...) also exist. The buildings are mainly used as retail and office space.

This site is rich in having a Roman necropolis, around 150 sarcophagus were found during the excavation. The sad fact is that this necropolis has been completely removed in order to build a mall "Le Mall".

The area where the Directorate of General Antiguities (DGA) worked and found the necropolis is around 5000 m<sup>2</sup>.

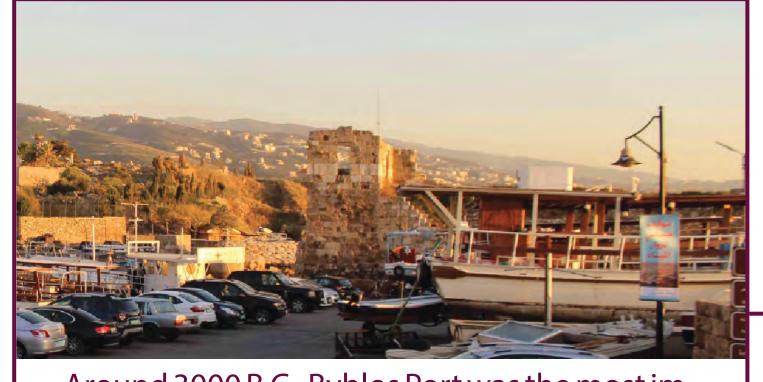


**The New Souk** 



The medieval city of Byblos is surrounded by the Crusader wall, running about 270m from east to west and 200m from north to south. The north section of the wall is the best preserved. The wall was constructed by the Crusaders in the early 12<sup>th</sup> century, when the Crusader Castle was built. Since that period, the wall has been restored many times, and most parts of the visible upper structure date from the Mamluke and Ottoman period.

#### **The Medieval Wall**



Around 3000 B.C., Byblos Port was the most important timber shipping center in the eastern Mediterranean. It was used by the Phoenicians to ship their local wine, Cedars of Lebanon and other wood to the Pharaohs of Ancient Egypt to be used in tomb construction and shipbuilding. The harbor is sheltered from the sea by a rocky headland. Nearby are the excavated remains of the ancient city, the Crusader castle and church and the old market area. Currently, it is limited to touristic and fishing activities.

### **The Old Port**



The church is dedicated to St. John Mark, the patron saint of the town, who is said to have founded the first Christian community of Byblos. The church itself was built in 1115 AD by the Crusaders, originally as the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist.

## St. Jean-Marc Church



This typical Lebanese house founded in the vicinity of the Castle and the only one which was kept in place after the expulsion by the French explorers of the owners of those houses in the late twenties of the 20th century. Today, this house is being renovated to be a museum open to the public.

Al-Houssami House Within the Archaeological Site



French Mandate 1920 - 1943 A.D.

Crusader Period 1090 - 1099 A.D.

Ottoman Period 1516 - 1917 A.D.

**Roman Necropolis** 

The Armenian Orphanage "Birds' Nest"

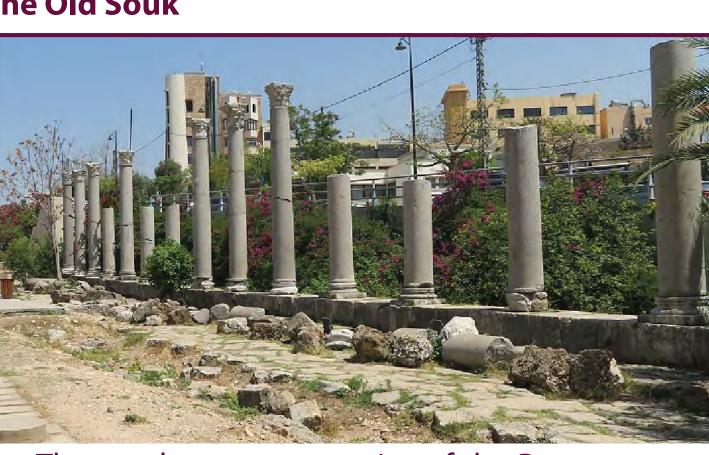


**Near East Relief orphanage complex with Nicol Hall** which still stands today (1924).

The Armenian Genocide Orphans' "Aram Bezikian" Museum is a place of memory, promoting the common values and principles of humanity: concern for others, friendship and tolerance, peaceful coexistence and respect for

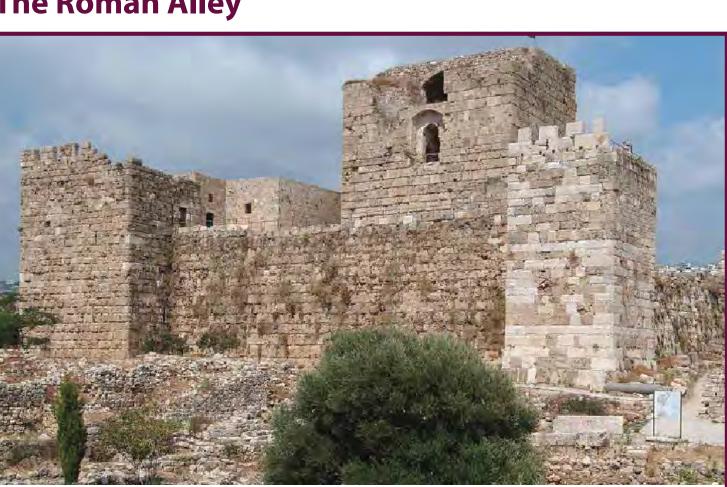
## The Old Souk is an old marketplace, built on an old Roman road, and sell souvenirs of the city and other heritage sites of Lebanon (Baalbeck, Tyre and many more). The buildings there reflect the age of this ancient city.

#### The Old Souk



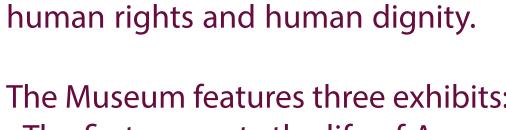
These columns are remains of the Roman era in Byblos. Perhaps 5 meters higher than the Neolithic settlements excavated around the ramparts, it shows how much had to be excavated to get to the earliest inhabitants of the city. The columns are Corinthian in style, and made of marble, with Greek style friezes. The roman colonnade is an active public space and an urban path connecting the old city to the new municipal headquarter.

#### **The Roman Alley**



It was built by the Crusaders in the 12<sup>th</sup> century from indigenous limestone and the remains of Roman structures. The finished structure was surrounded by a moat. It belonged to the genoese Embriaco family, whose members were the Lords of Gibelet (as Byblos/Lebanon was called during Middle Ages). Saladin captured the town and castle in 1188 and dismantled the walls in 1190. Later, the Crusaders recaptured Byblos and rebuilt the fortifications of the castle in 1197. In 1369, the castle had to fend off an attack from Cypriot vessels from Famagusta.

## **Byblos Castle**



) Scale 1/1000

Byzantine Period 300 – 635 A.D.

Lebanese State 1943 - Present

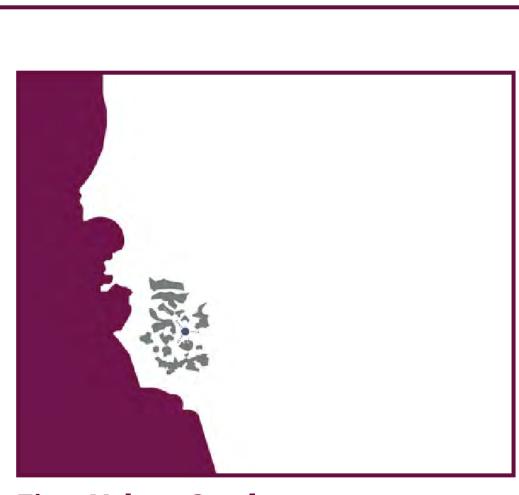
Municipal Boundaries

The Museum features three exhibits: • The first presents the life of Armenians in the Ottoman Empire on the eve of the First World War and the genocide perpetrated against the Armenians by the Ottoman Turkish government in 1915 and 1916.

• The second dramatizes the role of the various non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and western missionaries that helped resettle the surviving orphans in the Middle East, particularly in Lebanon.

• The third exhibit shows the rehabilitation and settlement of the orphans into their new home in Lebanon. A specific scene is dedicated to the story of Maria Jacobsen, the "Mama," who devoted her whole life to the thousands of orphans in the "Birds' Nest."

## **URBAN METAMORPHOSIS**



**First Urban Settlement** 3200 B.C.

Growth around the spring, known as Ain Al-Malak, located today inside the archaeological site.

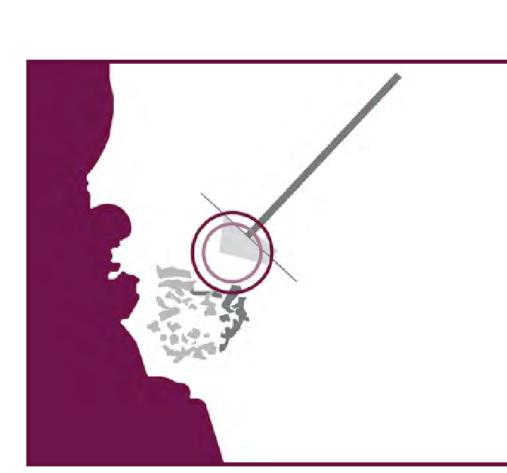
**Mamlouk and Ottoman Era** 

Expansion of the roads outside the

Medieval wall as well as souks and

1289 A.D. - 1918 A.D.

residential units.



Legend

Palaeolithic Age 1,400,000 – 24,000 B.C.

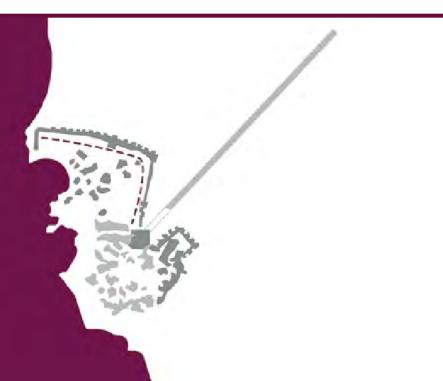
Greek - Roman Period 333 B.C. – 300 A.D.

Phoenician Civilization (Iron Age) 1200 – 333 B.C.

Bronze Age 3000 – 1200 B.C.

**Byzantine and Roman Era** 63 B.C. - 637 A.D.

Appearance of the Roman Axis with a parallel developement around the city center.



**Crusaders and Medieval Era** 

Growth inside the Medieval Wall and the construction of the fortress on its end located inside the archaeological site today.



1098 A.D. - 1289 A.D.



in two sections (old Jbeil and new

Jbeil), it is a man-made barrier.

**Present** Construction of the highway cuts through the city and divides Jbeil

# **CHRONOLOGY OF MAIN EVENTS**

# 3200 B.C. - Urban Settlement

• First step towards infrastructural interventions. • Execution of the first urban plan Baalet-Gebel.

## 539 B.C. - Persian Period

• Jbeil covered with a dense network of construction. • A fortress puts Jbeil in defence.

 Reconstruction of the temple of Baalt-Gebel and the rampart.

Period of prosperity.

#### 64 B.C. - 635 A.D. - Roman and Byzantine **Period**

• New urbanization, a new urban canvas and urban footprint. • Its suburbs extend to the foot of the mountain. • The old temple of Rechief was reconstructed with new monumental proportions.

• Reconstruction of the theatre and colonnades. Vast use of sand.

Jbeil becomes an inhabitant city.

#### 1516 - 1917 A.D. - Ottoman Period • Souk Al-Khan.

New spatial order of the city.

24,000 - 3000 B.C. - Neolithic Age • First Phoenician settlement: A small Neolithic fishing community settled along the shore of Byblos.

## 1580 B.C. - Egyptian Domination

• Appearance of the first documents written in alphabetic script. • Discovery of a royal necropolis of this epoch of 9 tombs all

rich in offerings and sculptures.

#### 332 - 64 B.C. - Hellenistic Period • The city encountered its first huge attempt of extension in

the age of Romans.

 They left the hill and fortified the lower side of the city. • Thus bringing more prosperity to the city.

## 637 A.D. - Umayyad Period

 Moawiya attached the city to Damascus. • Trade was banned through the sea.

 Jbeil became a frontier of war between Muslims and Christians.

## **EVALUATION OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND HISTORICAL BUILDINGS**

fabric.

Mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Jbeil is the only archaeological coastal site with a protected natural environment. Thanks to the implementation of the development plan No.8645 (February 1962). The old town of Jbeil, which is included in the Medieval ramparts, was restored and protected from anarchic urbanization. The natural-historic complex is surrounded to the north and south by sand dunes and threatened with destruction by development projects. It includes the archaeological settlement, overlooking a picture sque harbor, traditional Lebanese houses, gardens blooming with Mediterranean vegetation, narrow lanes and old staircases, souks and historic buildings like the mosque and the churches.

Construction of the railway cutting

through the city with a dense expan-

sion of streets creating a new urban

The old city houses, a medieval pedestrian staircase network, connecting the port to the rest of the city through a series of shortcuts, which are at present, frequently interrupted by fence walls or other secondary constructions. The urban grid and the commercial activity would much benefit from the reconstitution of these secondary pedestrian circuits.

Visitor experience in Jbeil an overall quite positive. The well-conserved urban environment, spectacular views of the Mediterranean Sea, good restaurants, and the fish fossil stores, all make for a unique visitor experience.













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## THE PHOENICIANS' ROUTE

#### BYBLOS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

It is attractive to archaeologists because of the successive layers of debris resulting from centuries of human habitation. It was first excavated by Pierre Montet from 1921 until 1924, followed by Maurice Dunand from 1925 over a period of forty years. The site first appears to have been settled during the Pre-Pottery Neolithic B period, approximately 8800 to 7000 BC. Neolithic remains of some buildings can be observed at the site.

#### PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

The site is protected by the Lebanese Antiquities. The conservation and management of the site of Byblos are ensured by the Directorate General of Antiquities (DGA). Targeted conservation projects are underway within the property. All restoration and other permits in the intra-muros zone must be submitted for approval to the DGA. A protection and enhancement plan for the site is being prepared to ensure a better presentation of these unique ruins and to develop a new protection system for the site while respecting international charters. Cooperation with specialists in the restoration of historic monuments is primordial. The plan should coordinate all those specializations involved in the property and also treat the subject of underwater remains.



Panoramic View of the Archaeological Site



times.

(6) Ain Al-Malik

well-built, thick walls.

(17) Bronze Age House

This large cavity, with large sustaining walls constructed of

irregular stones, once held a water well called "Ain Al-Malik."

According to the archaeologist who excavated the site, this

"spring" was the main source of water for Byblos in ancient

This Early Bronze Age house is located near the quarry (16).

Most of its walls are preserved, with more than three courses

of stones remaining today. Its seaside façade has especially

The Roman theater, which has only five tiers remaining, was

built around 218 A.D. It was moved from its original site be-

tween the city gate (2) and the Great Temple (4) to its present

location near the seaside. The black pebbles in the center of

the theater mark the location of a mosaic that has been pre-

served in the National Museum of Beirut.

(19) Reconstructed Roman Theater

**Byblos Archaeological Site Plan** 



Originally built on top of the "L-shaped temple" (4), the remains of the Temple of the Obelisks were moved by archaeologists to their present location. The temple dates from the Late Bronze Age (1600-1200 B.C.). The many small obelisks found in this temple were used as religious offerings. Altogether, over 1,306 offerings have been uncovered in this temple, including human figurines made of bronze covered with gold leaf.

## (5) Temple of the Obelisks



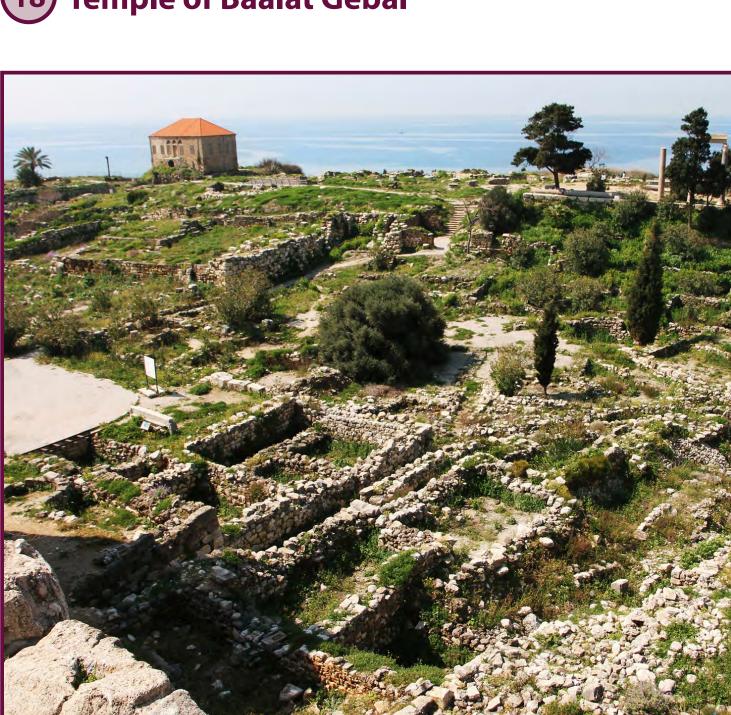
This large excavation in the rocks, located behind the Baalat Gebal temple (18), dates from the period of the Amorite invasions (2300-1900 B.C.). The stones extracted from this quarry were used to construct buildings in the Byblos area.

(16) Amorite Quarry



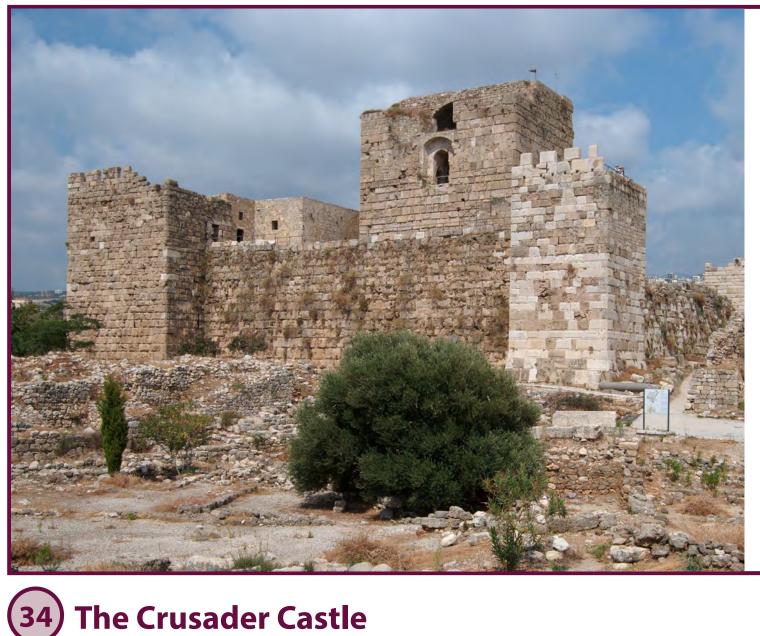
Today, the visitor can only see the foundations of the Temple of Baalat Gebal (2700 B.C.). This temple was dedicated to the "Lady of Byblos," the patron goddess of the city for over two millennia during the Canaanite/Phoenician era. Constructed when Byblos had close ties with Egypt, this large and important temple was rebuilt a number of times. It remained in use until the Roman period, when it was replaced by a Roman-style structure, which was dismantled during the excavations of the site in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

(18) Temple of Baalat Gebal



At this site are the remains of a residential quarter dating to the Bronze Age. The foundations of several houses can be seen, giving the visitor a sense of the general layout of a residential area during this period.





The site of the Crusader Castle was originally occupied by an earlier fortification dating from the Fatimid period (969 -1169 A.D.). In the beginning of the 12th century A.D., the Crusaders built a strong fortress, reusing Roman stonework from the site and cutting new stones to match the old ones. The castle consisted of a courtyard, an enclosure with four towers at each corner of the building, and a fifth tower in the middle of the north wall to defend the entrance. The whole castle was originally surrounded by a moat. In Mamluke and Ottoman times, the castle was reused and some parts of it were restored. Climbing to the top of the castle offers an excellent

vantage point for taking in a panoramic view of the ruins and the

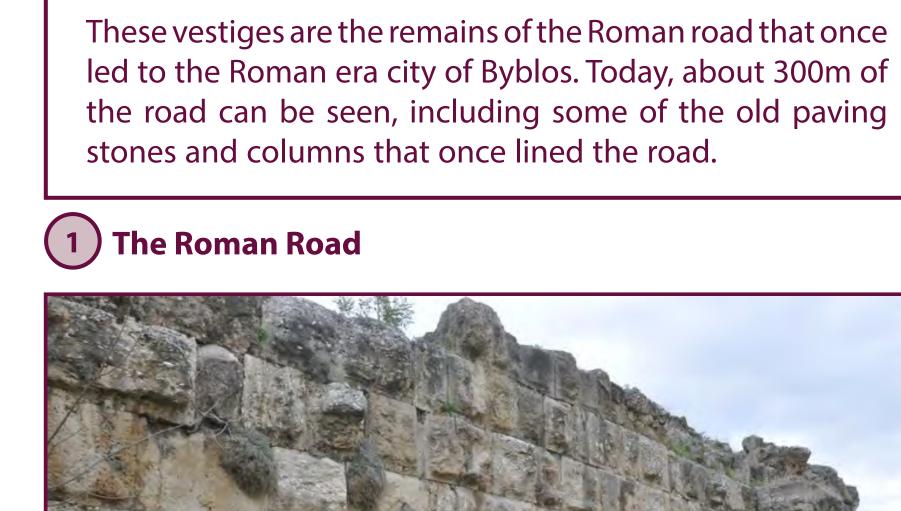
(30) Roman Colonnade

Baalat-Gebal.

Mediterranean Sea.

These six standing columns once lined a north-south street,

built by the Romans in 300 A.D., which led to the Temple of



This primitive wall was built before 2500 B.C. It is the oldest fortification on the site.

## (3) Old Fortification Wall



7- The archaeological vestiges in this area are the remains of an enclosure and the foundations of houses dating from the Early Bronze Age, about 3200-3000 B.C.

8- Foundations of two houses, one built on top of the other. The lower one is from the Chalcolithic period (4500- 3500 B.C.). The upper one is from the Early Bronze Age, 3200-3000 B.C.

9- Remains of a large Early Bronze Age residence (third millennium B.C.). In the structure's rooms you can see three rows of five stone pillar bases, which once held the wooden pillars used to suport the structure.

10- Early Bronze Age building foundations, third millennium B.C.

11- Early Bronze Age house foundations, dating from the period of the Amorite conquest 2150-2000 B.C.

## 7 till (11) Houses





Roman Sarcophagus

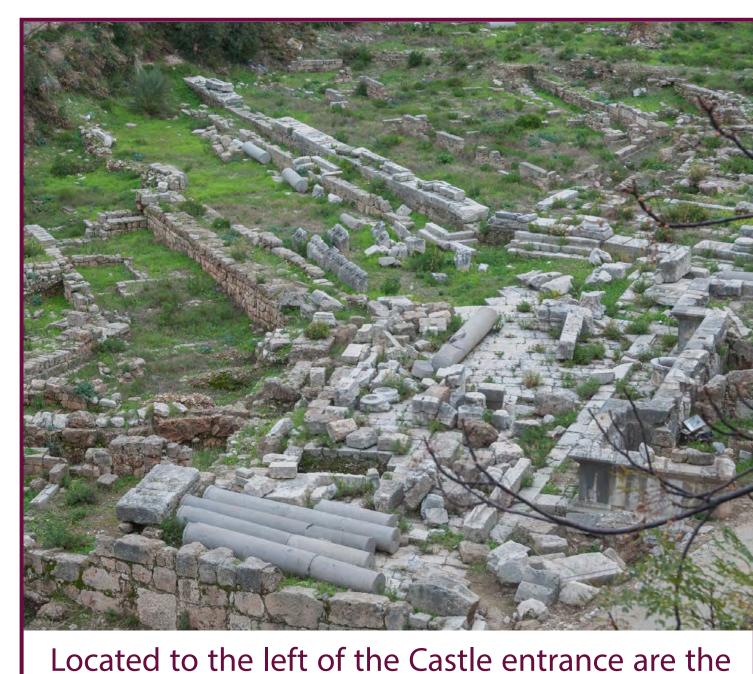
The necropolis dates to the second millennium B.C. and contains nine underground tombs of the Byblos kings. The most important tomb is that of King Ahiram (10<sup>th</sup> century B.C.), whose sarcophagus bears one the earliest known inscriptions of the Phoenician alphabet. This sarcophagus is now located in the National Museum of Beirut. The tomb of King Ahiram was located on the west slope facing the sea, but it was completely destroyed by a collapse in 1922, which revealed Ahiram's sarcophagus.

20 till 28 Royal Tombs



These Bronze Age ramparts, walls, and fortifications are located inside the modern wall on the right side of the Castle entrance. The structures show successive stages of construction and restoration. The indented wall (31) belongs to the fortifications built in the Early Bronze Age (third millennium B.C.), while the terraced slopes or glacis made of large blocks (32) date from the end of the Middle Bronze Age (1725-1580 B.C).

31) till 32) Bronze Age City Fortification



foundations of a Roman-era nympheum. The nympheum was once decorated with fountains and a niche filled with statues. The roads coming into the city from the north converged in the area



This complex dates from the Persian period (555-333 B.C.). It is believed to be a castle because of its large masonry walls and the military and defensive aspects of its architecture. The remains are located outside the Early Bronze Age city walls, and today visitors can see foundations of the castle walls and square-shaped towers. The fact that a fortress was constructed here during this period shows that Byblos was a strategic part of the Persian defense system in the eastern Mediterranean.

(35) Persian Castle



The remains of a city gate dating from the Early

Bronze Age (third millennium B.C.) are located on

the left side of the castle. This gate appears as a

the temple was destroyed by fire, probably at the time of the Amorite invasions around 2300- 1900 B.C. Terracotta basins set in a bench of masonry behind the entrance (4B) probably held water for ritual cleansing ceremonies.

(4) Great Temple



Settlements dating back to the Stone Age (5<sup>th</sup> and

4<sup>th</sup> millennia B.C.) are the remains of several mono-cellular huts with crushed limestone floors. They are situated in the area between the Early Bronze Age residence (9) and the seashore. Archaeologists have found cultic installations or temples in two of the structures: the first one (14), with an apsidal or semi-circular shape, is located at the northern edge of this area, and the second one (15) is located southeast of the first one.

(12) till (15) Neolithic and Chalcolithic