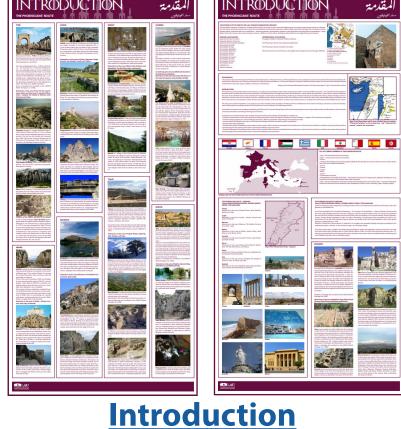






THE PHOENICIANS' ROUTE – LEBANON

Lebanon, the ancient Phoenicia, with a surface area little bigger than the Abruzzo's one, is one of the smallest countries in the world, but its territory has ancient and glorious roots, result of numerous civilizations that have contributed to shape the complex identity of this region. The precious archaeological sites convey the suggestion of a still palpitating past; the medieval sug appears suspended in an ancient and indefinite time, cities pulsate for life at any time of day or night, Islamic mosques and Byzantine churches continue to convey an eternal sense of the sacred that always attracts devotees and pilgrims. The landscape offers mountain reliefs, covered by dense forests of cedar, pine and eucalyptus trees, sinuous coastline lapped by the Mediterranean, lush plains crossed by the most famous rivers in history.





Byblos

Baalbek



The Phoenicians' Route Map - Lebanon







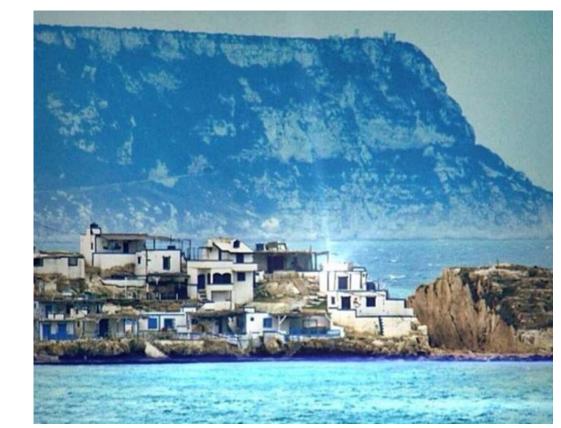


Beirut



Jounieh









Batroun

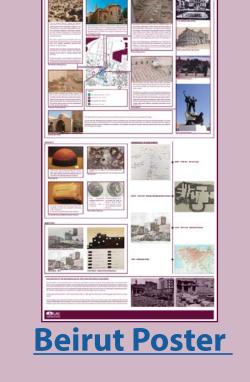








The trip on the Phoenicians' Route in Lebanon starts from **Beirut**, the capital, curious mixture between East and West, able to offer multiple faces to travelers. The colonial-style palaces, restored with great mastery, and the city's mosques show the triumph of rebirth on destruction. Riddled buildings and traces of the Green Line talk about a place of sad memories from the gloomy past. The city is characterized by pedestrian streets in the central districts, here are the Roman baths, integrated into an urban landscape dominated by the great seraglio, built by the Ottomans in 1849. From the corniche, a fashionable promenade, you can admire a picturesque outcropping in the surf called "Pigeons' Rocks", one of the most famous symbols of Beirut. From the cultural point of view, the National Archaeological **Museum** stands out, that among its collections preserves the well-known sarcophagus of king Ahiram, which bears the oldest known inscription in Phoenician alphabet.





DESTINATIONS IN BEIRUT



Roman baths



Great Seraglio (Grand Serail) in the 1900's



Great Seraglio (Grand Serail) today



Corniche



Pigeons Rocks

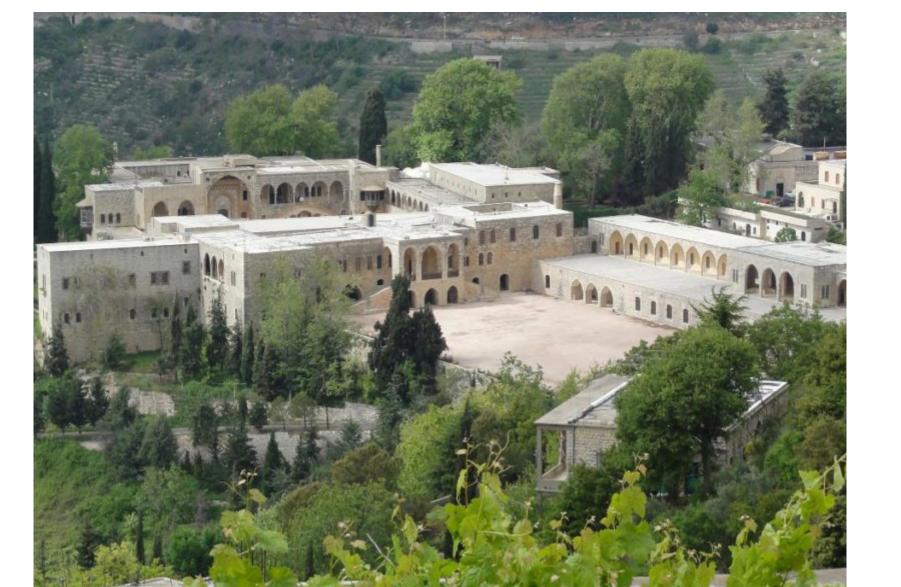
SURROUNDINGS: Deir El-Qamar and Beiteddine, The Beit Mery Ruins, Barouk and Hammana

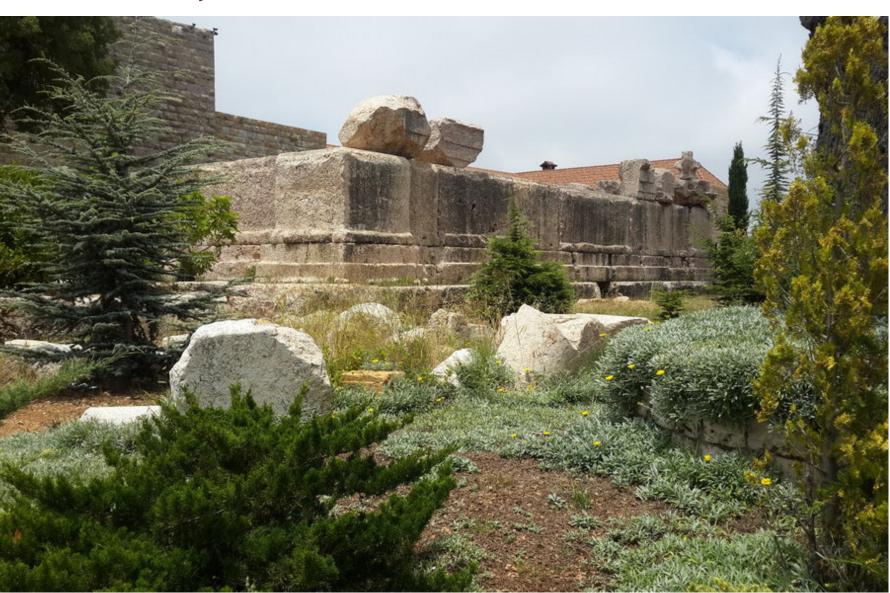


National Archaeological Museum



King Ahiram's Tomb in the National Archaeological Museum of Beirut









Deir El-Qamar and Beiteddine are known for the Mamluk-inspired Fakhreddine Mosque, the Yousef Chehab Palace, the Kharj Barracks, the Palace of Fakhreddine II Ma'ani, its Synagogue, Saydet el Talle Church and the Emir Bashir Palace. Rmeileh and Jiyyeh are known for their beautiful sandy beach resorts.

The Beit Mery Ruins is a site rich with ancient Roman and Byzantine remains, as well as the historic Maronite Monastery of Saint John the Baptist which was built in 1750. Phoenician and Roman temples were erected in this same general area in what is now known as Deir El-Qala'a.

Barouk is a village in the Chouf District of Lebanon. Historically, the village is known for being the "land of good," by virtue of its fountain (Nabeh-el-Barouk). Barouk is crowned by its mountain Jabal el Barouk that stands at 1943 m above sea level. The mountain also has the largest natural reserve in Lebanon, the Al Shouf Cedar Nature Reserve, and boasts the oldest and most elegant cedar forest in Lebanon, the Cedrus Libani.

The word **"Hammana"** may have come from the name of the Phoenician Sun God "Hammon" or "Hamman". These two names are derived from the word "Hama" which means heat of the sun.

The village has multiple water sources like the Shaghour fall, Ain-al-Hosa spring, Al-Kadaneh spring, Ain Soltan spring, Ain Maytri spring and many more. Evergreen trees such as pines, firs, spruce as well as some cedar trees are found everywhere in the town.

BYBLOS

Byblos is considered the oldest inhabited city in the world and, according to the Phoenician writer Sanchuniathon, the first city of the Phoenicians. The name Byblos is of Greek origin, in Arabic it is called Jubayl derived from Canaanite Gubal used during the Bronze Age, which in turn is the combination of GB (source or origin) and EL, the name of the supreme divinity of the ancient pantheon of the city. In Phoenician *Gbl*. Today it is a typical Middle Eastern city (enchanting the suq and the medieval port) visited mainly for its archaeological area, which is accessed through the castle – built in the twelfth century with stone blocks of Roman times – and that preserves the remains of the ancient amorite city, the famous "Temple of Obelisks" of Phoenician era and a Roman amphitheater.



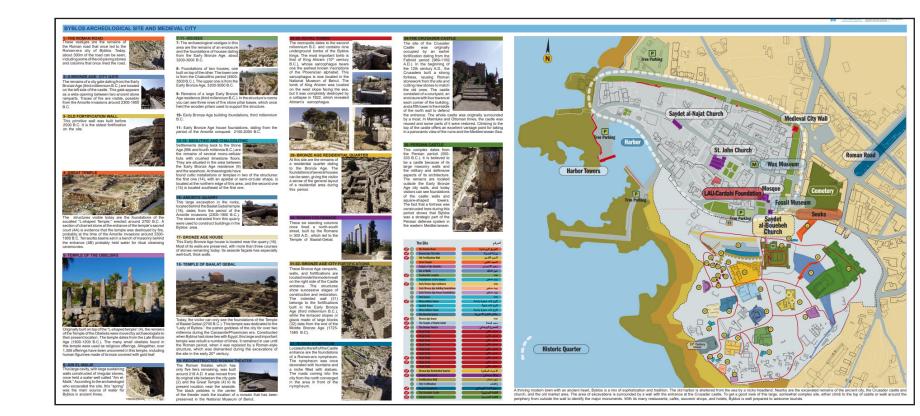
er 📷 🛐 😂 . . The second s **Byblos Posters**

Posters: The Interior Landscape of Byblos: **Layers of Civilizations**

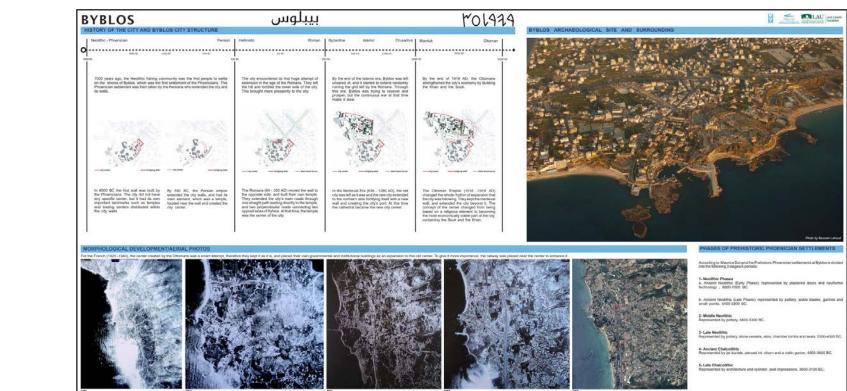
DESTINATIONS IN BYBLOS



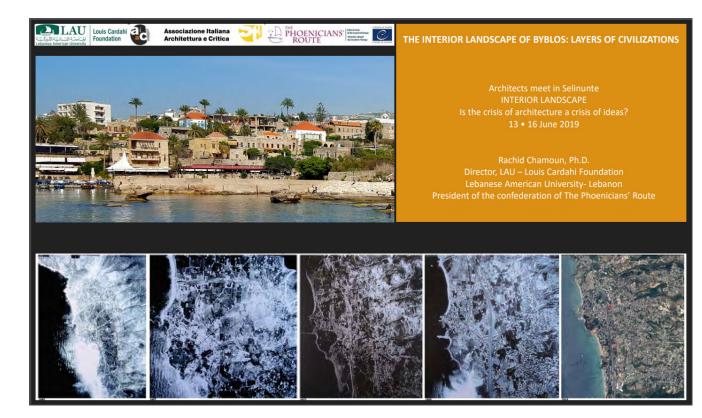
Byblos Webpage



Byblos Archaeological Site



History of the City and Byblos City Structure



Presentation: The Interior Landscape of Byblos: Layers of Civilizations (English - Italian)









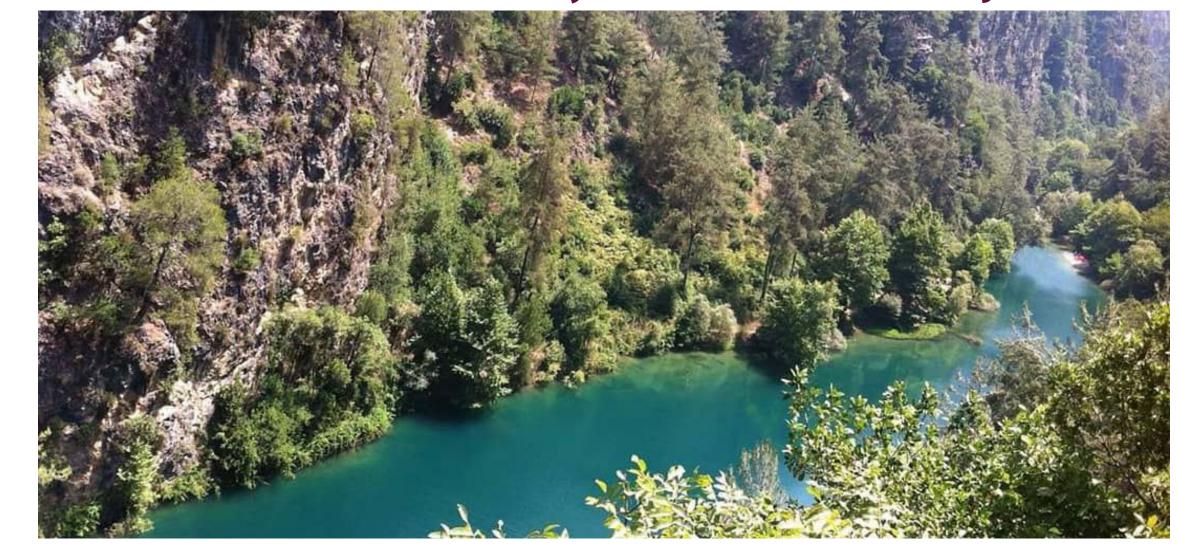


The New-Renovated Souk

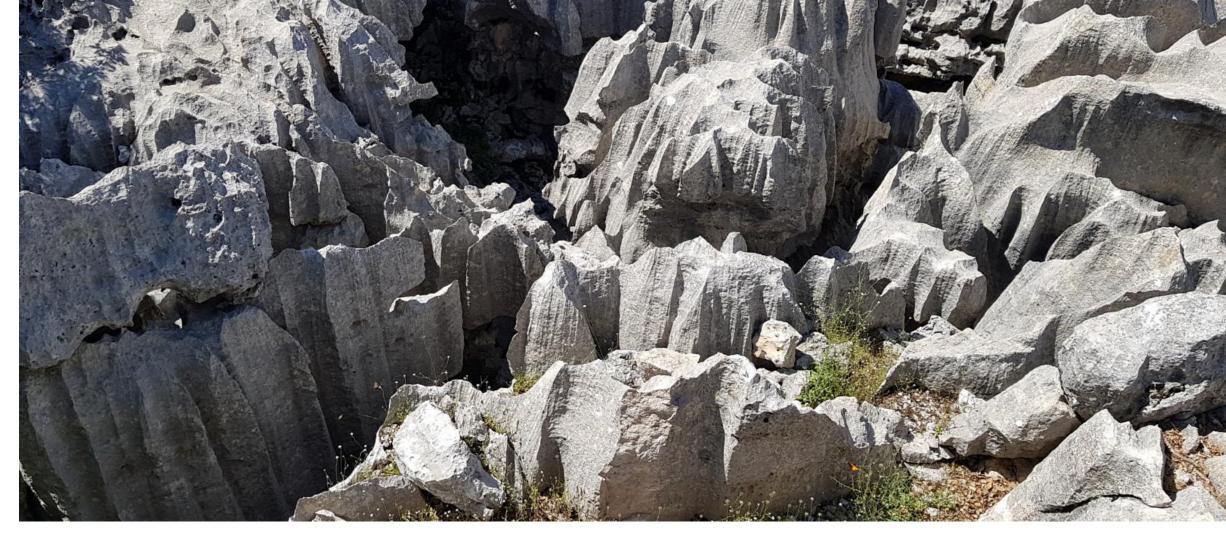
The Medieval Port

The Old Souk

SURROUNDINGS: Adonis Valley, Jabal Moussa, Mebaaj Grotto, Afqa and Yanouh



Adonis Valley is south of Byblos and Jabal Moussa. An Ottoman bridge and a Roman aqueduct cross over the Adonis River. According to legend, this is where the Phoenician/Greek god Adonis was killed by a wild boar while hunting.



Jabal Moussa, where recent excavations were discovered, is one of the very few sites in Lebanon that exist in mountainous areas (hinterland heritage) and was inhabited during the Canaanite/Phoenician, Bronze Age, Medieval and Ottoman periods. The area is managed by Jabal Moussa–UNESCO Biosphere Nature Reserve.

Ecological Sciences - Biosphere Reserves - Jabal Moussa



Mebaaj Grotto is made up of ponds and lakes, and is believed to be 30 to 40 million years old. While the accessible area in the grotto is 220 meters long, its total length is estimated at 4500 meters.



Afqa, Known in ancient times as Apheca or Afeka, located in the mountains of Lebanon, aligned centrally between Baalbek and Byblos. It is the site of one of the finest waterfalls in the mountains of the Middle East, which feeds into the Adonis River (known today as Abraham River or Nahr Ibrahim in Arabic), and forms Lake Yammoune, with which it is also associated by legend. In Greek mythology Adonis was born and died at the foot of the falls in Afqa. The ruins of the celebrated temple of Aphrodite.



Yanouh, once a Phoenician center, is half-way between Byblos (Jbeil) and Heliopolis (Baalbek). Its Phoenician temple is a monument to the same religion as that of Apheca, but the later Roman temple was dedicated to Diana, the Roman goddess of the hunt and daughter of the god Jupiter.