

THE INTERIOR LANDSCAPE OF BYBLOS: LAYERS OF CIVILIZATIONS

Architects meet in Selinunte

INTERIOR LANDSCAPE

Is the crisis of architecture a crisis of ideas?

13 • 16 June 2019

Rachid Chamoun, Ph.D.

Director, LAU – Louis Cardahi Foundation

Lebanese American University- Lebanon

President of the confederation of The Phoenicians' Route



Lebanon's history has been shaped by its strategic location at the crossroads of culture between the East and the West. Homeland of the Canaanites/Phoenicians, the inventors of the alphabet, their civilization thrived on the east coast of the Mediterranean. The city of Byblos has witnessed the rise and fall of multiple civilizations whose mark can be felt today in Lebanon's rich cultural heritage:

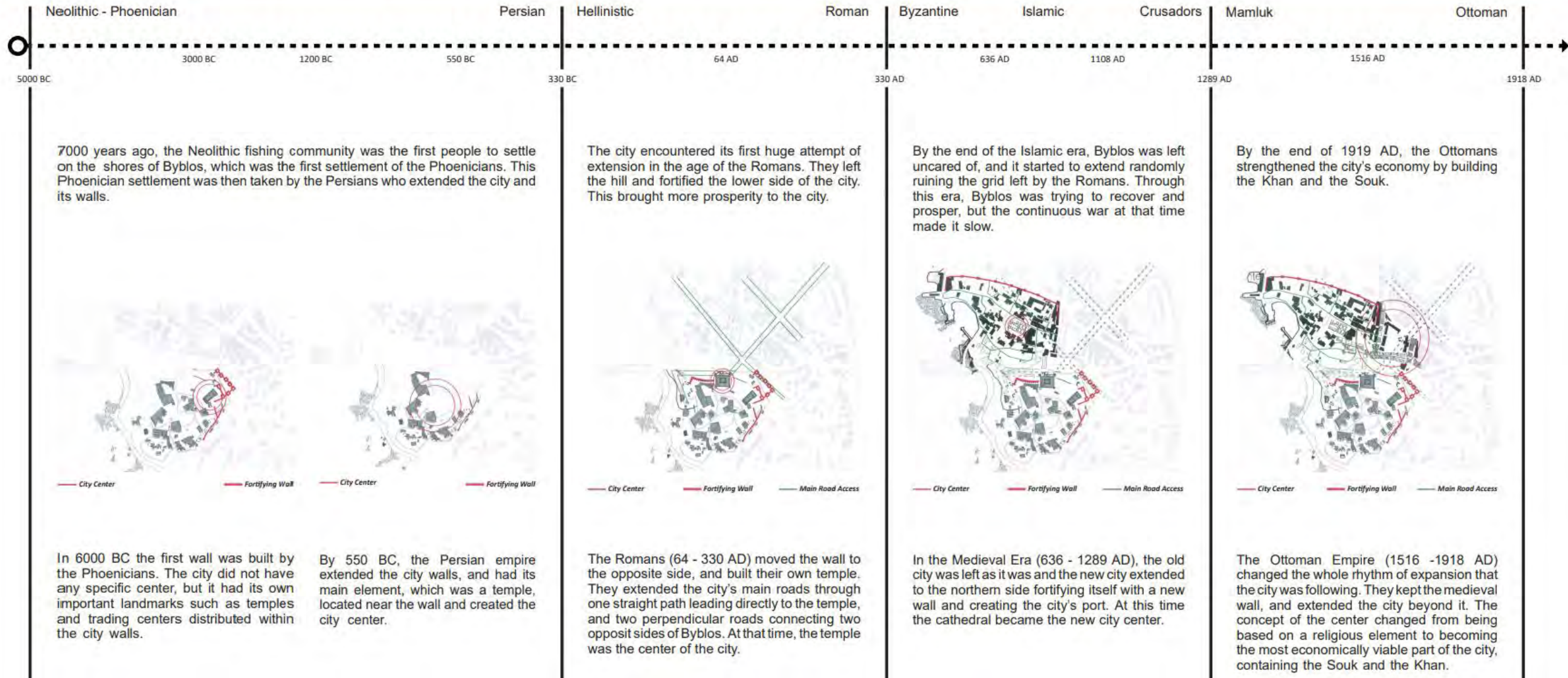
Canaanites & Amorites: 2300 BC,
Egyptians-Hittites: 1350 BC,
Phoenicians: 1100 BC,
Assyrians-Babylonian Empire: 877 BC,
Persian Empire: 539 BC,
Roman Empire: 64 BC,
Eastern Roman or Byzantine Empire: 395 AD,
The Islamic World: 635 AD,
The Umayyad: 661 AD,
The Abbasids: 750 AD,
The Rein of the Fatimids: 969 AD,
The Seljuks and the First Crusades: 1090 AD,
Latin Crusader States: 1150 AD,
The Mameluke States: 1291 AD,
The Ottoman Empire: 1516 AD,
The French Mandate: 1920,
The Independent State: 1943

BYBLOS

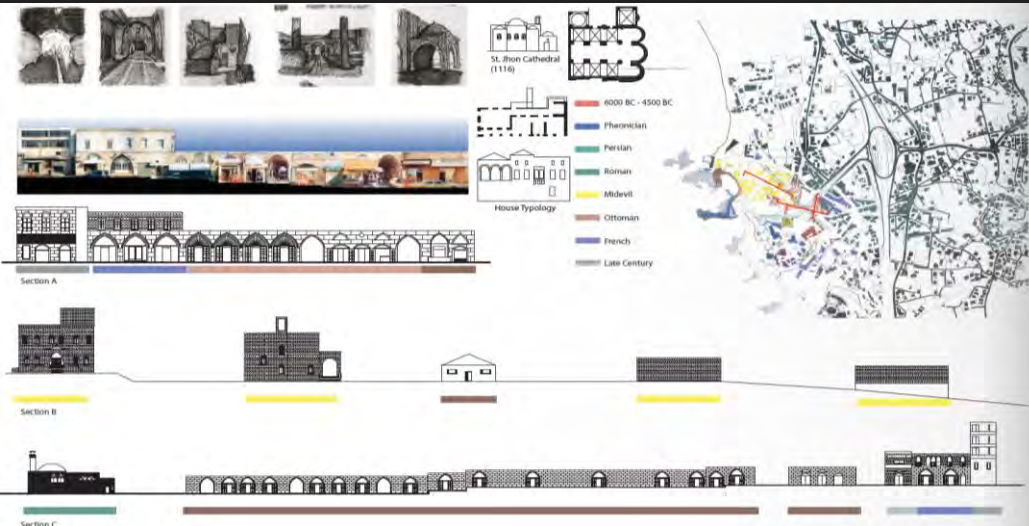
بيبلوس

٣٥٦٩٢٩

HISTORY OF THE CITY AND BYBLOS CITY STRUCTURE



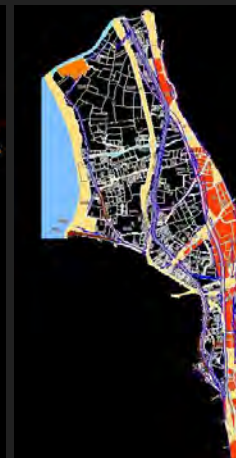
The architectural landscape and typology of buildings in the old city are characterized by the evident types ranging from Roman, Byzantium, Crusades, Ottoman and the Colonial French. Each adding a magnificent layer to the current architectural and urban manifestation of Byblos. Since 1990 – present, the new extended urban sprawl of Byblos boasts a range of contemporary architectural manifestations beyond the medieval city limits.



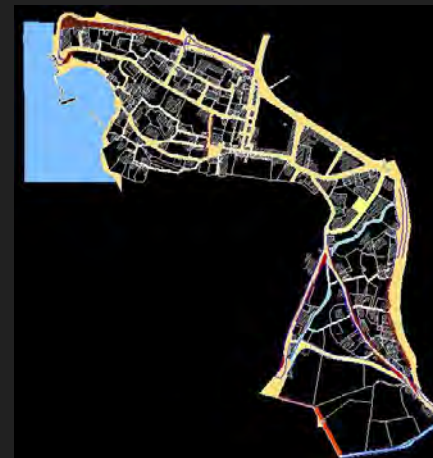
Byblos Metropolis:
3, 964, 600 Sq. m



Extended Urban Sprawl:
2, 709, 000 Sq. m



Adjacent Urban Sprawl:
892, 500 Sq. m



Medieval City Zone:
228, 800 Sq. m



Archaeological Zone:
134, 300 Sq. m

LAU-Cardahi Foundation is a true treasure for all who those who love to gather all possible information about the city of Byblos through ages and the interactive network of historical cities of Lebanon and the Mediterranean

Today, Byblos (Jbeil) is a modern city. It remains one of Lebanon's biggest tourist attractions, mainly because of its rich history and scenic mountains overlooking the Mediterranean.



MOST VISITED TOURISTIC DESTINATION IN BYBLOS:

-LAU-LCF Foundation and Museum

- Ancient Phoenician Temples
- Byblos Castle
- Medieval City Wall
- Roman street
- St John the Baptist Church

- Byblos Fossil Museum
- Byblos Wax Museum
- Arminian Orphanage Museum
- Historic Quarter and Souks
- Byblos International Festival

The Site	
✓ 1	The Roman Road
✓ 2	Bronze Age City Gate
✓ 3	Old Fortification Wall
✓ 4	Great Temple
✓ 5	Temple of the Obelisks
✓ 6	Ain el-Malik
✓ 7	Residential complex
✓ 8	Foundations of two houses
✓ 9	Early Bronze Age residence
✓ 10	Early Bronze Age building foundations
✓ 11	Early Bronze Age house foundations
✓ 12	Oval house
✓ 13	Monocellular house
✓ 14	Apsidal house
✓ 15	Monocellular house
✓ 16	The Amorite Quarry
✓ 17	Bronze Age house
✓ 18	The Temple of Baalat Gebal
✓ 19	The Roman Theater
✓ 20	Royal Tomb
✓ 21	Royal Tomb
✓ 22	Royal Tomb
✓ 23	Royal Tomb
✓ 24	Royal Tomb
✓ 25	Royal Tomb
✓ 26	Royal Tomb
✓ 27	Royal Tomb
✓ 28	Royal Tomb
✓ 29	Bronze Age Residential Quarter
✓ 30	Human Colonnade
✓ 31	Fortification Wall
✓ 32	City Fortification
✓ 33	Roman Nymphaeum
✓ 34	The Crusader Castle
✓ 35	Persian Castle





THE OLD SOUK

Among the most important tourist spots of Byblos is the old souk. Built during the Ottoman reign, the market is a show of Byblos economic spirit. Originally, it consisted of several khans (inns), shops and horse stables. The building characteristics and urban fabric typology is homogeneous comprising of low-rise buildings. The architectural style mainly comprises traditional old stone buildings (vaulting, wooden shutters, etc...) restored and in good condition..



THE NEW SOUK

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.



Around 3000 BC, 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 MEDIEVAL WALL



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-12th 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 periods.



Medieval City Zone



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.

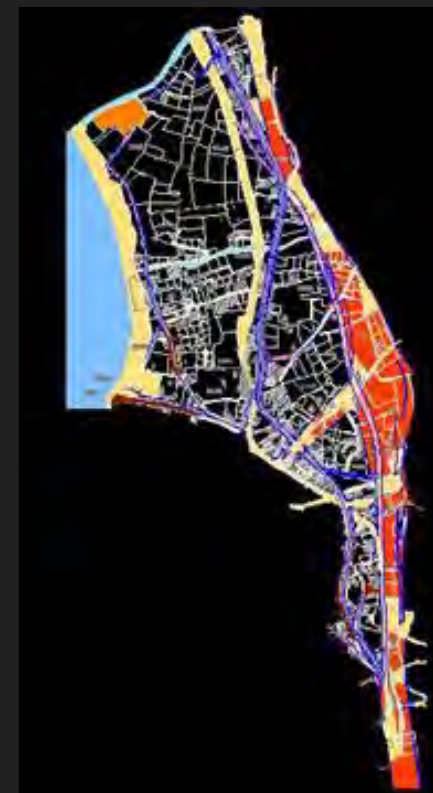


Municipal Headquarter

WAGON PARK (PUBLIC GARDEN)



THE WAGON PARK ([location](#)) in adjacent urban sprawl of the medieval city wall has been a fun and relaxing zone for both Children and Adults Since 2011. The park stretches over an 18,000 m² area, of which 12,000 m² will be green spaces and 6,000 m² of parking space .



Public Park of Byblos : Wagon Park

The cultural landscape of Byblos extended up north to reach Ugarit and down south to reach ACCA and climbs up to the interior landscape of mount Lebanon and cross over to Baalbek in the Bekaa valley, and to the west, Byblos cultural heritage reached the Euro-Mediterranean cities and currently embraces the confederation of the Phoenicians' Route encompassing over 100 associations and partners to include Italy, Spain, France, Lebanon, Tunisia, Greece, Croatia, Malta, Cyprus, Portugal and others.



Map of the Phoenicians' Route

[Website](#)

[Banner](#)

FROM JBEIL TO BAALBEK

- Visit Jbeil

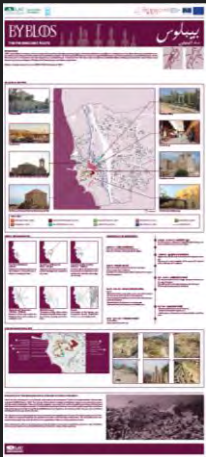
 - Oldest inhabited city in the world
 - Archaeological site
 - Old Souk
 - Heritage landmarks
- Visit Adonis Valley

 - An Ottoman bridge and a Roman aqueduct cross over the Adonis River.
- Visit Yanouh

 - Yanouh, once a Phoenician center, is half-way between Byblos (Jbeil) and Heliopolis (Baalbek)
- Visit Afqa

 - A site of one of the finest waterfalls in the mountains of the Middle East.
- Visit Baalbek

 - three main buildings: the Temple of Jupiter, the Temple of Bacchus and the circular Temple of Venus and a fourth monument, the Temple of Mercury.



About Jbeil

JBEIL is believed to have been first occupied between 8800 and 7000 BC and continuously inhabited since 5000 BC, making it one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Location of Jbeil



FROM JBEIL TO BAALBEK

- Visit Jbeil

 - Oldest inhabited city in the world
 - Archaeological site
 - Old Souk
 - Heritage landmarks
- Visit Adonis Valley

 - An Ottoman bridge and a Roman aqueduct cross over the Adonis River.
- Visit Yanouh

 - Yanouh, once a Phoenician center, is half-way between Byblos (Jbeil) and Heliopolis (Baalbek)
- Visit Afqa

 - A site of one of the finest waterfalls in the mountains of the Middle East.
- Visit Baalbek

 - three main buildings: the Temple of Jupiter, the Temple of Bacchus and the circular Temple of Venus and a fourth monument, the Temple of Mercury.



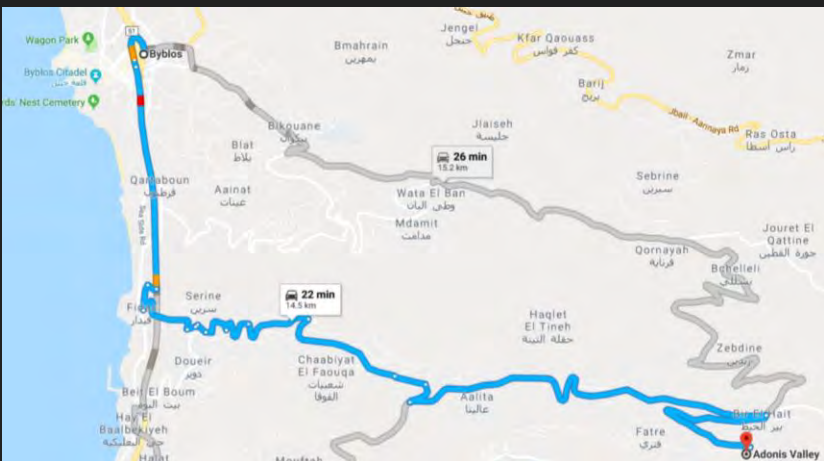
About Adonis Valley

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

Jabal Moussa is one of the very few soundings in Lebanon that exists in mountainous areas (hinterland heritage), and was inhabited during the Phoenician/Canaanean Bronze age, Medieval period, and the most recent Ottoman period. Recent excavations were discovered.



Location Adonis Valley



Road map from Byblos to Adonis Valley



ADONIS VALLEY

FROM JBEIL TO BAALBEK

- Visit Jbeil

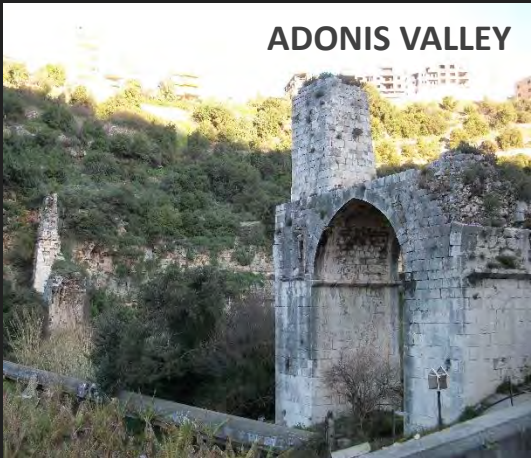
 - Oldest inhabited city in the world
 - Archaeological site
 - Old Souk
 - Heritage landmarks
- Visit Adonis Valley

 - An Ottoman bridge and a Roman aqueduct cross over the Adonis River.
- Visit Yanouh

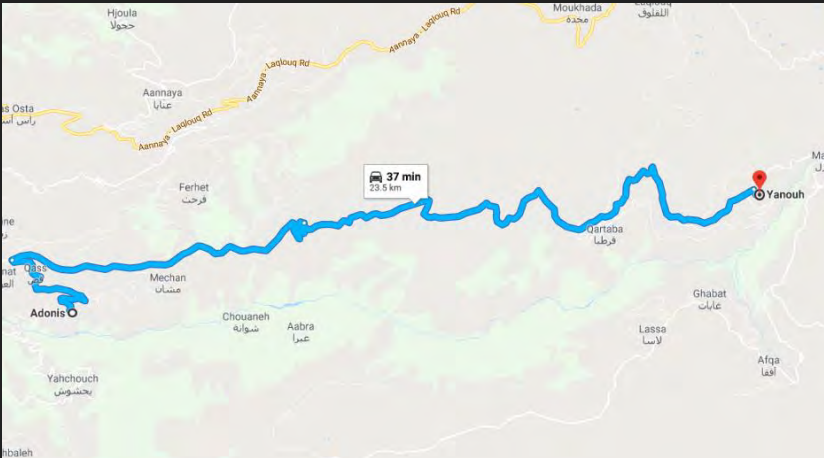
 - Yanouh, once a Phoenician center, is half-way between Byblos (Jbeil) and Heliopolis (Baalbek)
- Visit Afqa

 - A site of one of the finest waterfalls in the mountains of the Middle East.
- Visit Baalbek

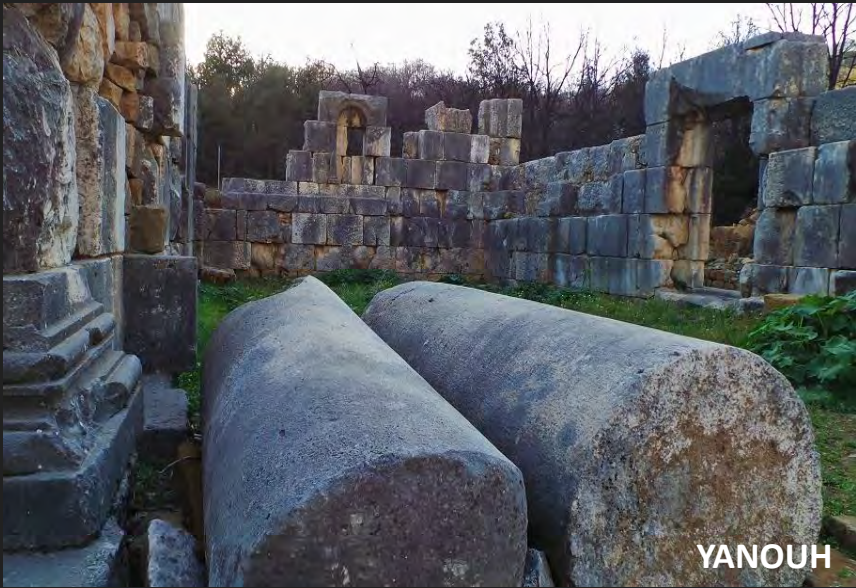
 - three main buildings: the Temple of Jupiter, the Temple of Bacchus and the circular Temple of Venus and a fourth monument, the Temple of Mercury.



Location of Yanouh



Road map from Adonis Valley to Yanouh



YANOUH

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.

FROM JBEIL TO BAALBEK

- Visit Jbeil

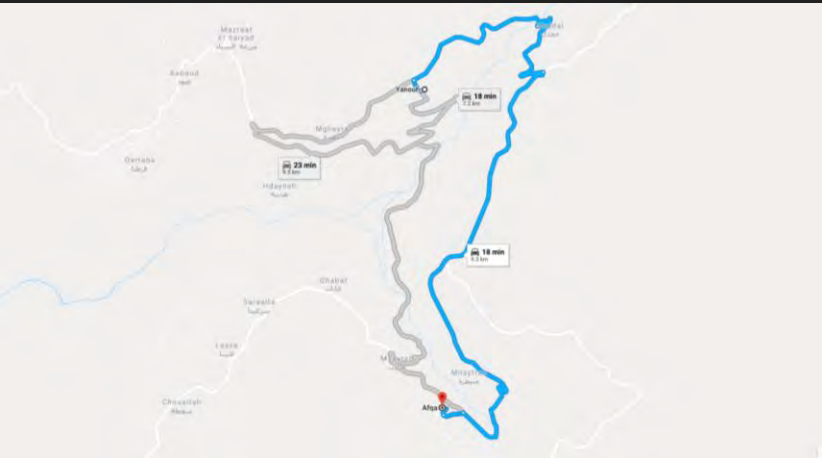
 - Oldest inhabited city in the world
 - Archaeological site
 - Old Souk
 - Heritage landmarks
- Visit Adonis Valley

 - An Ottoman bridge and a Roman aqueduct cross over the Adonis River.
- Visit Yanouh

 - Yanouh, once a Phoenician center, is half-way between Byblos (Jbeil) and Heliopolis (Baalbek)
- Visit Afqa

 - A site of one of the finest waterfalls in the mountains of the Middle East.
- Visit Baalbek

 - three main buildings: the Temple of Jupiter, the Temple of Bacchus and the circular Temple of Venus and a fourth monument, the Temple of Mercury.



Location of Afqa

Road map from Yanouh to Afqa

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.



FROM JBEIL TO BAALBEK

Visit Jbeil

Oldest inhabited city in the world
 Archaeological site
 Old Souk
 Heritage landmarks

Visit Adonis Valley

An Ottoman bridge and a Roman aqueduct cross over the Adonis River.

Visit Yanouh

Yanouh, once a Phoenician center, is half-way between Byblos (Jbeil) and Heliopolis (Baalbek)

Visit Afqa

A site of one of the finest waterfalls in the mountains of the Middle East.

Visit Baalbek

three main buildings: the Temple of Jupiter, the Temple of Bacchus and the circular Temple of Venus and a fourth monument, the Temple of Mercury.

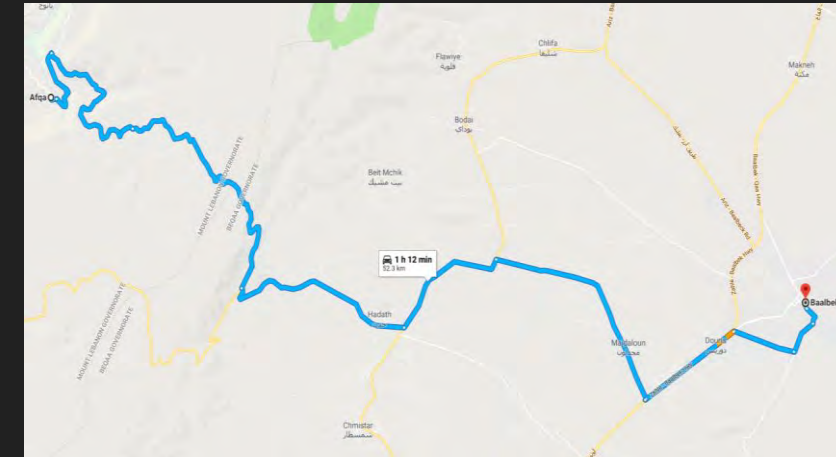


About Baalbek

BAALBEK, Founded by the Phoenicians, it was later conquered by the Macedonians who called it Heliopolis (always the City of the Sun) for assimilation between the god Sun and the Phoenician divinity Baal. Then it became a Roman colony under Augustus, preserving the new name. Today you can see three main buildings: the temple of Jupiter, the temple of Bacchus and the circular temple of Venus. A fourth monument, the Temple of Mercury is located on the hill of Sheikh Abdallah. inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List (1984).



Location of Baalbek



Road map from Afqa to Baalbek

