

## Daily Gordion Tour

- Meet in the morning. Drive to West of Ankara around 1 / 1,5 hours to Gordion.
- Reach the ruins of Gordion archaeological site and see the excavated trenches, fortification walls. Gordion was the capital city of the Phrygian Kingdom. Famous for legendary kings; King Midas and his father King Gordios. King Gordios had a legend called The Gordian Knot. It is a legend of Phrygian Gordion associated with Alexander the Great. It is often used as a metaphor for an intractable problem (untying an impossibly tangled knot) solved easily by finding an approach to the problem that renders the perceived constraints of the problem moot ("cutting the Gordian knot").
- Visit the tumulus that is considered as the tomb of king Gordion:

The Midas Mound Tumulus at Gordion, dated ca. 740 BCE.

Tumulus MM (for "Midas Mound"), the Great Tumulus, is the largest burial mound at Gordion, standing over fifty meters high today, with a diameter of about three hundred meters. It was built ca. 740 BC and at that time was the largest tumulus in Anatolia, only surpassed ca. 200 years later by the Tumulus of Alyattes in Lydia. Tumulus MM was excavated in 1957 by Young's team, revealing the remains of the royal occupant, resting on purple and golden textiles in an open log coffin, surrounded by a vast array of magnificent objects. The burial goods included pottery and bronze vessels containing organic residues, bronze fibulae (ancient safety pins), leather belts with bronze attachments, and an extraordinary collection of carved and inlaid wooden furniture, exceptional for its state of preservation. The Tumulus MM funeral ceremony has been reconstructed, and scientists have determined that the guests at the banquet ate lamb or goat stew and drank a mixed fermented beverage. Now generally assumed to be the tomb of Midas' father Gordios, it was probably the first monumental project of Midas after his accession.

- Visit the Gordion Museum.
- Return to Ankara. Reach Ankara around 4:00 pm.

