



History of
Türkiye

THE SEVEN CHURCHES
SMYRNA

Discover the Ancient City of Smyrna

Once a thriving hub of culture and commerce, the Biblical city of Smyrna stands as a timeless testament to faith, resilience, and history. Located in modern-day Izmir, Türkiye, Smyrna was one of the Seven Churches of Revelation, celebrated for its unwavering faith amidst trials. Known as the "Crown of Asia," it played a pivotal role in early Christianity and remains a beacon of spiritual and historical inspiration.

Significance in Biblical History:

Mentioned in the Book of Revelation (2:8-11), Smyrna was praised for its perseverance in the face of persecution. During a great period of persecution, Polycarp was arrested and brought before the governor. When he was offered his freedom if he would curse Christ, he replied: "Eighty and six years have I served Christ and He has done me nothing but good; how then could I curse Him, my Lord and Saviour?" He was then burned alive. It is said that ten other Christians, including some from Philadelphia, were martyred along with Polycarp in Smyrna's stadium.

A Blend of Ancient and Modern:

Walk through the ruins of the Agora, a reminder of Smyrna's grandeur, and see how history harmonizes with Izmir's vibrant modern city life.

Smyrna's story continues to inspire countless visitors each year, inviting all to reflect on its enduring legacy of faith and resilience.