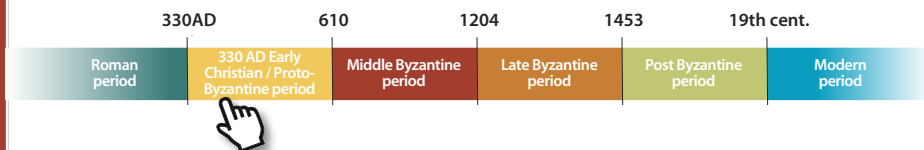


Gallery 1 - Early Christian Church



Ambo

Information

This ambo was found in many pieces during an excavation of a basilica in Philippi, Kavala. It was conserved and reassembled following the completion of its missing parts.

A basilica is a type of church which has a rectangular shape divided lengthwise into aisles by colonnades and with an apse at the eastern end. An ambo is a raised balcony in the central nave of the church. From up there the priest reads the Gospel and preaches.

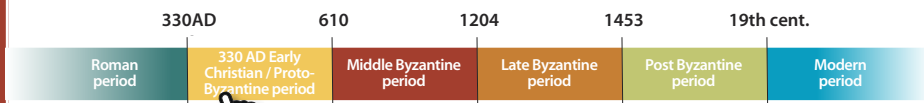
Instructions

- ▶ Find the ambo and take a photo
- ▶ What is it made from?
- ▶ Look at it carefully and try to distinguish the ancient from the contemporary material.
- ▶ Take a photo of a detail with both materials.
- ▶ Find the smaller ambo in the same room and take a photo of it.
- ▶ Look at the large photo of the Acheiropoietos church on the right of the Gallery and search for the pulpit.
- ▶ The next time you might visit an Orthodox church, remember to find the ambo in it.
- ▶ Briefly present to your classmates the information you have collected.





Gallery 2 - Early Christian Church



Triclinium

Information

The triclinium is the formal room in wealthy houses from the Roman period. It is where gatherings took place. There is an elevated niche along one of the narrow sides, where there were three beds (klinai) for the hosts. That's why it is called a triclinium (three klinae). In the rest of the room there were more beds for the guests. In this period people ate lying on beds during gatherings.

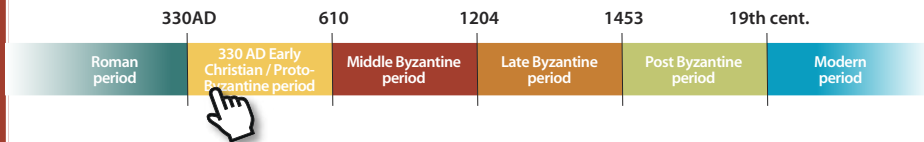
Instructions

- ▶ Find the triclinium and take a photo.
- ▶ In the elevated section at the back of the gallery of the museum, find artifacts which are used at a gathering: pinakio (plates), oenochoae (jugs) and cups.
- ▶ Take a photo of them.
- ▶ What are they made of?
- ▶ Think about the use of each of the above vessels.
- ▶ Find and take a photo of vessels from different materials.





Gallery 3 - From the Elysian fields to the Christian paradise



Sarcophagus

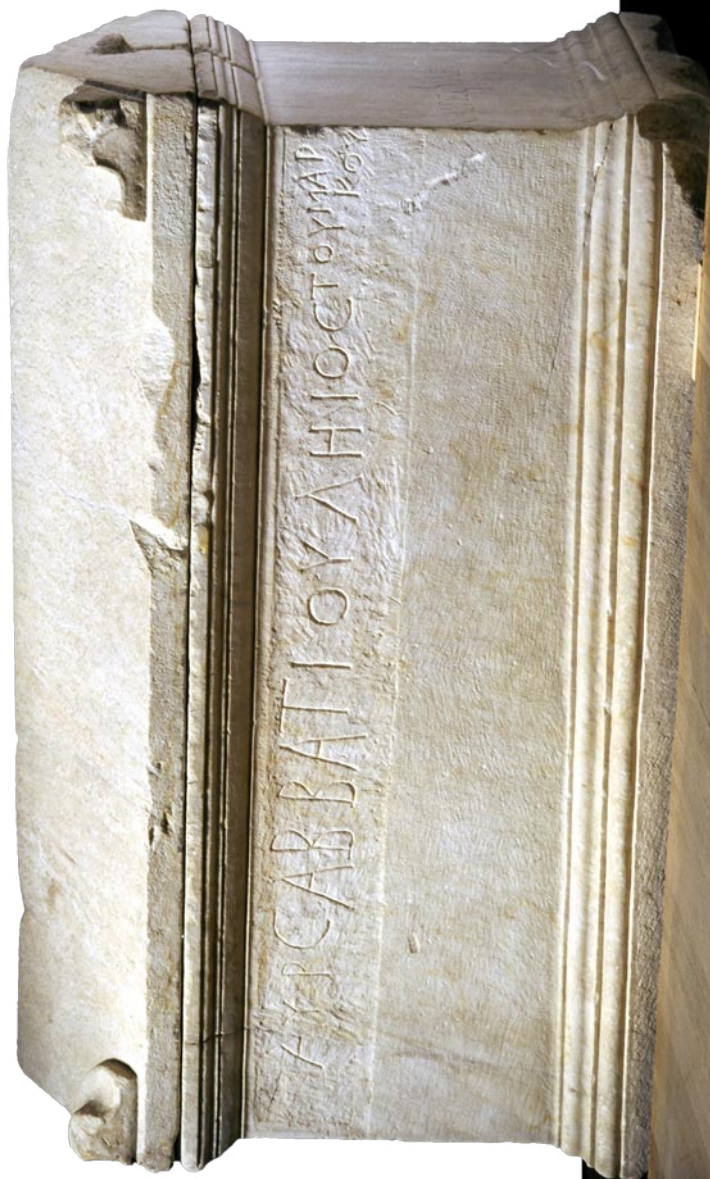
Information

A sarcophagus is a type of tomb for the rich. Its name comes from the marble with which it was constructed, that had the property of decomposing the bodies of the dead (that's the meaning of the word sarcophagus in Greek). This sarcophagus was used twice, as shown by the section of the tombstone inscription that was erased, so a new could be inscribed.

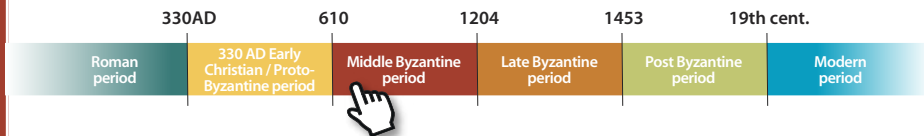
Instructions

- ▶ Find the sarcophagus and take a photo.
- ▶ Try to find the inscription: "ΑΥΡ(ΗΛΙΟΥ) ΣΑΒΒΑΤΙΟΥ ΑΗΝΟΣ ΤΟΥ ΜΑΡΚΟΥ", which means this sarcophagus belongs to Aurilios Savvatos, son of Marcus. Take a photo of it.
- ▶ Look on the sides and find the inscription: "ΧΑΙΡΕ ΦΙΛΕ" which means "Salut friend". Take a photo.
- ▶ Find vessels that were probably placed inside the tomb.
- ▶ Take a photo of them.
- ▶ Compare them with those used at a gathering in the previous gallery.





Gallery 4 - From iconoclasm to the splendor of the Macedonian and Komnenian dynasties



Glazed plates

Information

In this period, the pottery was decorated using the glazed technique. The vessel was covered with a thin layer of glass. In this way, they became waterproof and elegant. Usually, they had a decoration. Glazed pottery is a characteristic of the Byzantine period.

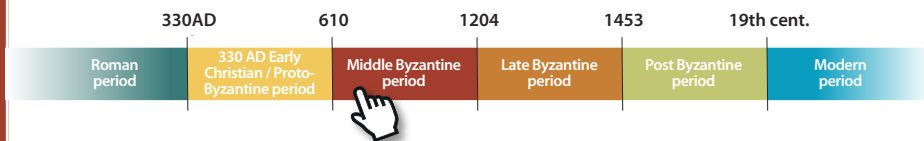
Instructions

- ▶ Find the glazed vessels and take a photo.
- ▶ Observe their decoration. What designs do they have on them?
- ▶ Pick a vessel and take a photo of a detail of its decoration.
- ▶ What kind of food do you believe they put in them?
- ▶ Do you remember the plates (pinakia) from the two previous galleries?
- ▶ If so, compare them. What differences can you observe?





Gallery 6 - The Byzantine Castle



Bronze rings and earrings

Information

Due to the hostile invasions from the 8th century onwards, people were forced to abandon their cities and build new smaller fortified castle-cities. These cities were built in strategic locations, usually on hills, so they could control nearby passages in order to provide protection to their inhabitants. The financial circumstances were particularly difficult in that period.

These exhibits provide information about the occupations and activities in a castle-city.

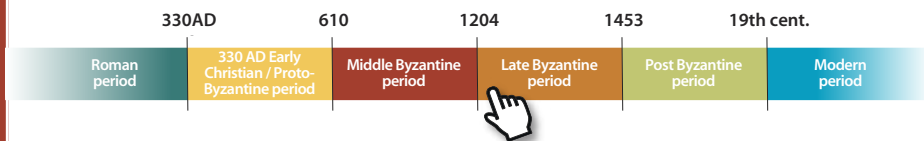
Instructions

- ▶ Find and take a photo of the jewelry.
- ▶ Why do you believe they are made of bronze?
- ▶ Find other exhibits from the same material.
- ▶ Who was using them (women or men, rich or poor)?





Gallery 7 - The twilight of Byzantium



Cups from clay

Information

In this period, the production of glazed vessels continued. The need for mass production brought changes to the firing methods used for the vessels. These were now placed in columns inside the kiln, one atop another, separated by tripodiskoi (small tripods) which kept the vessels from becoming stuck to one another. Thessaloniki had its own workshop for the production of glazed vessels.

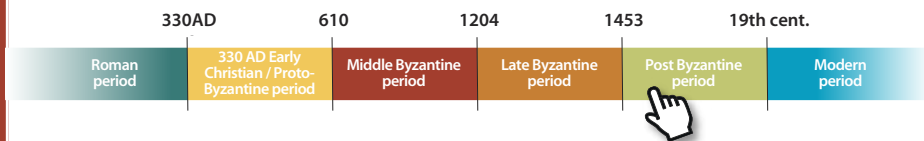
Instructions

- ▶ Go to the loft. On your left, observe the process of production and the firing methods for the vessels.
- ▶ Take a photo of an object that impresses you.
- ▶ Discover the glazed cups and take a photo of the one you like most.
- ▶ Find the tripodiskoi and take a photo of them.
- ▶ Discover the representation which demonstrates the method of keeping the vessels one atop another. Take a photo.
- ▶ Present to your classmates the information you have collected.





Gallery 10 - Byzantium after Byzantium



Icon with the hospitality of Abraham

Information

A scene from the Old Testament, the hospitality of Abraham, is depicted. In the front, around a table, three angels who symbolize the Holy Trinity are depicted. Behind them, we see Abraham with his wife Sarah, who offer their hospitality. In the back there are some buildings. Under the angels' feet there is an epigraph with the names of the artist and the donators: «ΔΕΗΣΙΣ ΤΩΝ ΔΟΥΛΩΝ ΤΟΥ ΘΕΟΥ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΑΚΗ ΚΑΙ ΓΕΩΡΓΑΚΗ ΚΑΙ ΔΟΥΚΑ. ΧΕΙΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΥ». (It means: Prayer of God's servants Demetrius and George and Doukas. The hand of Theodore [painted it]).

Instructions

- ▶ Discover the icon and take a photo.
- ▶ Find the epigraph on the bottom of the icon and take a photo.
- ▶ Observe the table. Take a look at the plates. What food do you see?
- ▶ Take a photo of the table's details that impress you.
- ▶ What is under the table? Take a photo of the scene.
- ▶ Take a photo of the building's details.

At school:

- ▶ Look for and read the history of Abraham.
- ▶ Think about and write a story including all the exhibits you observed.



