



Live the magical atmosphere of music in Antalya at the Aspendos Ancient Theater.

The 19th International Aspendos Opera and Ballet Festival meets audiences from June 14 to July 4 and from Sept 3 to 15.

For 19 years, it makes important contributions to Antalya's international promotion by making together the unique historical structure and the marvelous acoustic of 2000 years old Aspendos Antique Theatre with Antalya's natural beauties.

The Yekaterinburg State Academic Opera and Ballet will stage on June 27 one more ballet at the festival, "Love and Death," composed by former Azerbaijani Culture Minister and current Azerbaijani Ambassador to Moscow Polad Bülbüloğlu.

South Korea's Daegu Opera will take the stage with the Antalya State Opera and Ballet orchestra and choir at the festival. The groups will perform Alexandre Dumas' three-act opera "La Traviata" on June 30.

One of the most anticipated performances of this year's festival is the "Zorba" ballet. Staged by Mersin and Samsun State Opera and Ballet artists, it will be presented on July 4. The ballet has been adapted from Nikos Kazancakis' famous novel and staged with the unique music of Greek composer Mikis Theodorakis. The renowned "Zorba" character will be played by legendary dancer Irek Mukhamedov.

The second leg of the festival will open on Sept. 3 with the Beijing Opera, which has been invited to the festival as part of the "Chinese Culture Year" in Turkey. The troupe will share the stage with Samsun State Opera and Ballet Orchestra and perform Puccini's famous opera "Madame Butterfly."

Antalya State Opera and Ballet will be on stage on Sept. 6 with Donizetti's "Lucia Di Lammermoor" opera, one of the most powerful works in the world opera repertoire.

One of the most staged ballets in the world, "Swan Lake," will also present a magnificent visual and aural feast for viewers on Sept. 10. Tchaikovsky's famous work will be staged by a big troupe made up of State Opera and Ballet artists from six Turkish provinces. Renowned dancer Josef Varga will play the role of "Prince Siegfried." The festival will be brought to a close on Sept. 15 with the Ankara State Opera and Ballet's version of Wagner's legendary "Tannhauser" opera, staged by German director Peter Hans Lehmann.



The festival tickets can be purchased on the official website of the Directorate General of State Opera and Ballet, www.dobgm.gov.tr.

And of course, Intra Tours' Antalya branch office is at your disposal for the relevant services such as hotel bookings, airport/hotel/venue transfers, charter flight tickets etc,

Göbeklitepe... The World's First Temple

Turkey's 12,000-year-old stone circles were the spiritual center of a nomadic people.

Göbeklitepe, the oldest known human-made religious structure is 15 km away of northeast of the town Urfa/Edessa.

It's circles range from 10 to 30 m in diameter and are surrounded by rectangular stone walls about 180 cm high. Many of the pillars are carved with elaborate animal figure reliefs. In addition to bulls, foxes, and cranes, representations of lions, ducks, scorpions, ants, spiders, and snakes appear on the pillars. Freestanding sculptures depicting the animals have also been found within the circles. During the most recent excavation season, archaeologists uncovered a statue of a human and sculptures of a



vulture's head and a boar. Detailed information regarding Gobekli Tepe please visit

<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2011/06/gobekli-tepe/mann-text>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Göbekli_Tepe

Intra Tours is now offering new itineraries for Gobekli Tepe and environs, for more please contact our sales team.

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