

Epidaurus

In the peaceful land of Epidaurus is the sanctuary of Asclepius, the most famous healing centre of the Greek and Roman world. Asclepius, son of Apollo, was the god of healing and medicine.

The sanctuary includes several monuments related to the cult of Asclepius, the healing rituals and the needs of the patients and worshippers.

There are also monuments related to the Asclepian Games that took place next to the sanctuary to honour Asclepius. These include a large hostel for the patients and their aids, baths, a palaestra, a gymnasium, an odeon, a stadium and a theatre.

Ancient theatre in Epidaurus

The theatre of Asclepius in Epidaurus was built around the third century B.C. to organise music, singing and drama contests during the Asclepian games. It is a superb example of classical theatre with an orchestra and the circular area between the seats and the stage. It has a capacity of about 15,000 spectators.

It is considered the most perfect and famous ancient Greek theatre, combining elegance with superb acoustics. Due to its incomparable acoustics, the actors can be perfectly heard without a microphone by all 15,000 spectators, as you can even hear the sound of a pin dropping.

Due to these excellent acoustics and condition, this ancient theater is still used today. The famous Epidaurus Festival is held every summer with famous ancient dramas or modern plays. Over the years, the festival has hosted both Greek and foreign artists.