

Delphi

IN MANY WAYS A MEETING POINT

This is a view copy. It shows the cover, table of contents and a few representative pages. For the complete publication, see www.historypicturesanddocuments.com

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VIEW TO THE EAST

Photo taken from the stadium. In front the theatre and the temple of Apollo.

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Greek history in pictures

The volumes in this series are designed for everyone who wishes to orient in short time on one or more aspects of Greek history, especially through visual sources. Our target groups are tourists, pupils of secondary schools, students, teachers and everyone else who is interested in short introductions in aspects of the fascinating history of the Greek people.

This series will present the history of Greece from prehistoric times to the present in small pictorial volumes. Every year some volumes will be published on internet. See page 31 for available volumes, summer 2015. Contributions of anyone who is interested in the Greeks and their history are appreciated (see page 31).

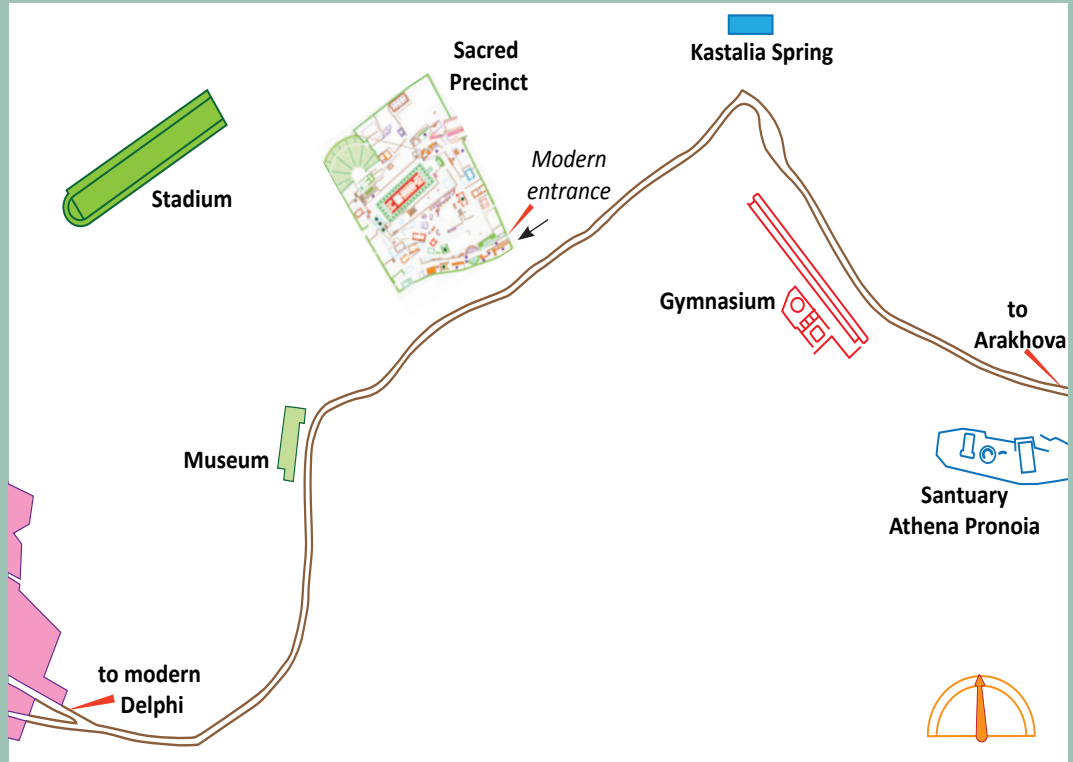
Plan of the excavations of Delphi

FULL OVERVIEW OF THE EXCAVATIONS

Most maps of the excavations of Delphi show only a part of the excavations: the Sacred Precinct (see next page). Here you see also the Stadium, the Spring of Kastalia, the Sanctuary of Athena Pronoia, the Gymnasium and the museum.

Advice when you visit Delphi:

- Walk to the stadium first and take a closer look to the indicated monuments on your way back.
- Afterwards visit the excavations of the Kastalian Spring and of the Athena Pronoia.
- Finally visit the beautiful museum. The visit is rising in value as the visitor can connect the objects to what he has seen of the excavations.



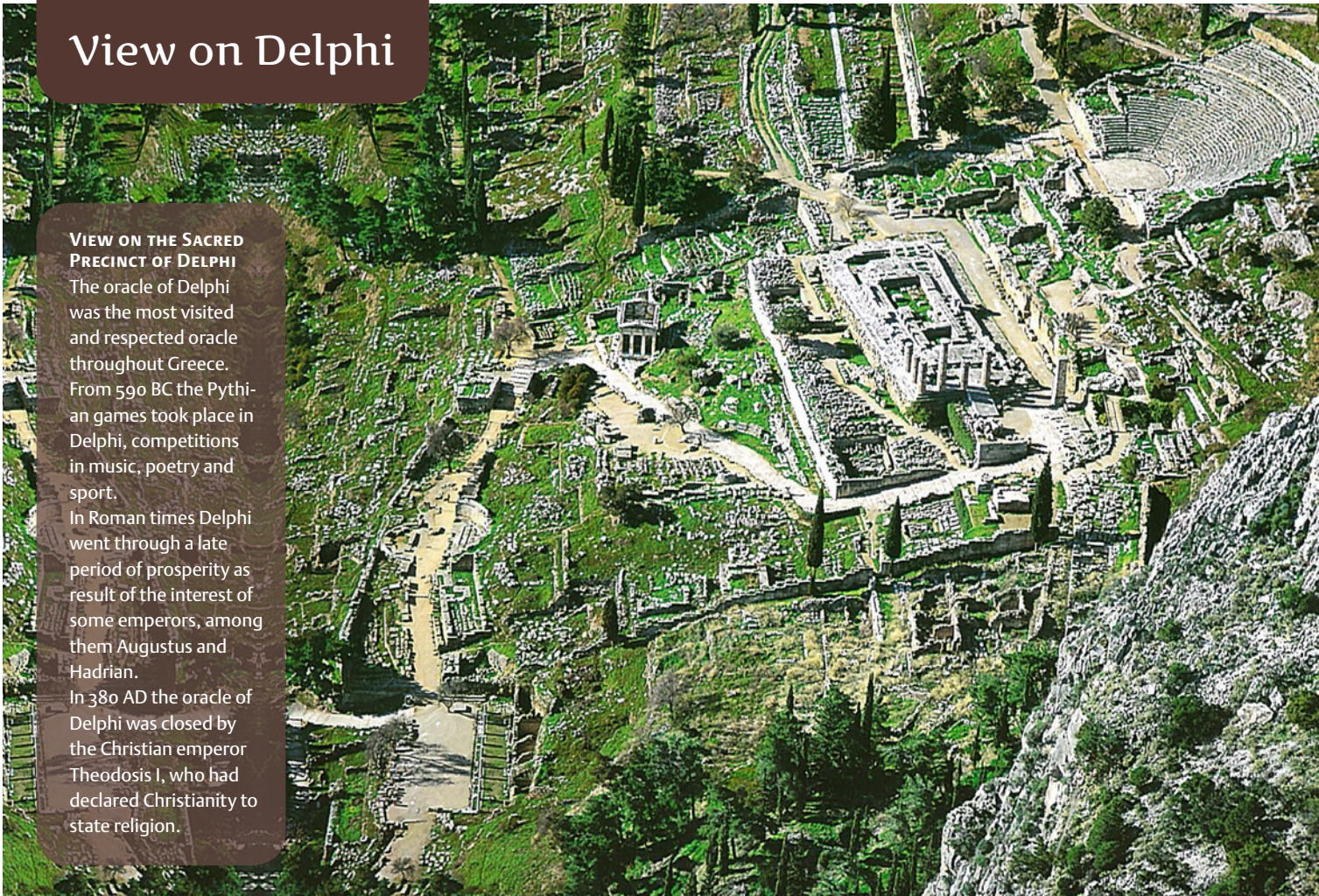
View on Delphi

VIEW ON THE SACRED PRECINCT OF DELPHI

The oracle of Delphi was the most visited and respected oracle throughout Greece. From 590 BC the Pythian games took place in Delphi, competitions in music, poetry and sport.

In Roman times Delphi went through a late period of prosperity as result of the interest of some emperors, among them Augustus and Hadrian.

In 380 AD the oracle of Delphi was closed by the Christian emperor Theodosius I, who had declared Christianity to state religion.



Sanctuary of Athena Pronoia

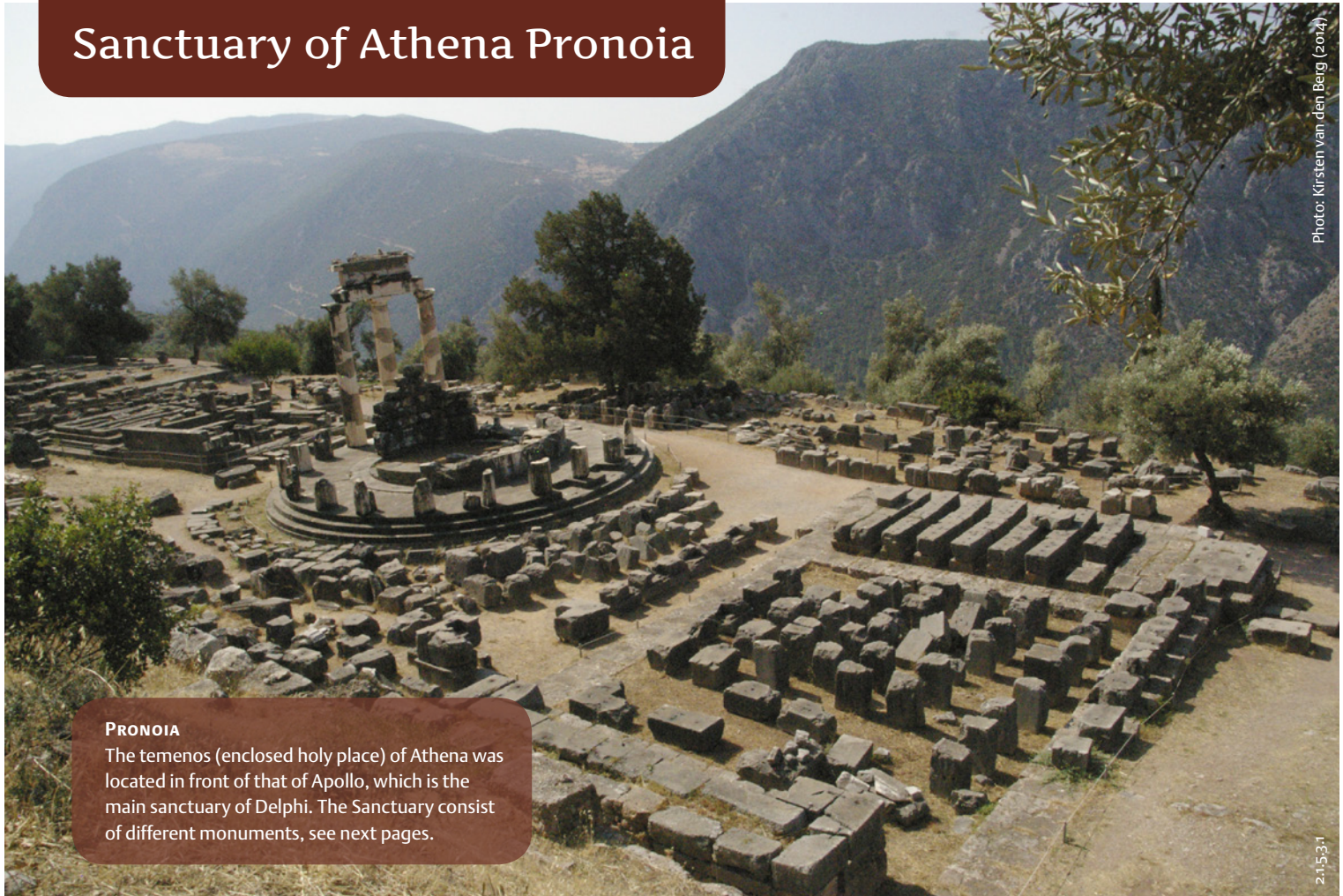


Photo: Kirsten van den Berg (2014)

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PRONOIA

The temenos (enclosed holy place) of Athena was located in front of that of Apollo, which is the main sanctuary of Delphi. The Sanctuary consist of different monuments, see next pages.



THREE DORIC COLUMNS AND METOPES

The Tholos is of Doric order. Around the cella (the inner room of a temple) was a colonnade of 20 slender Doric columns, supporting an entablature (the structure which lies horizontally above columns).

Above the columns a frieze with metopes (rectangular marble panels with decoration). Some metopes have survived and are on display. Most of them in the museum. They depict scenes from the Battle of the Amazons and the Battle of the Centaurs. See for the Amazons page 16 and for the Centaurs our volume about the Acropolis.



Gymnasium



OVERVIEW OF THE THE GYMNASIUM

In ancient Greece the gymnasium was used for the training of the youths of Delphi and for the training of the athletes for the Pythian Games. The gymnasium at Delphi lies on two terraces. The lower level with the wrestling area (Palaestra). The building has a square inner-court with eight pillars on the sides. On this courtyard boxing was practised. On the North and West side of the courtyard are rooms. The large room at the west was probably a dressing room. The room at the north side was the storeroom for fine sand with which the athletes used to cover their bodies. In another room the boxers trained with sandbags.

TO READERS WHO WANT TO PARTICIPATE

If you live in Greece, visit Greece, or if you are particularly interested in the history of (a part of) Greece and you will delve thoroughly into the history of one or more monuments or subjects and write a volume in this series or contribute to, then you are invited to contact the editors of our series *Greek history in pictures*.

Each volume consists of 20 to 30 pages, one or two pictures on each page with comments. At the end a brief historical overview, to place the pictures in a historical context. Each author uses as much as possible own photographs and royalty free pictures.

VOLUMES GREEK HISTORY IN PICTURES

Every year new volumes will be published. Below we mention only volumes planned for 2015.

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- Delphi – meeting point of the Greeks
- Acropolis – creators and attackers
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- Paleokastro in Pylos – Franks, Venetians and Turks
- Neokastro in Pylos – from Turkish castle to tourist attraction
- Mystras – centre of Byzantine culture

Early modern Greece

Modern Greece