

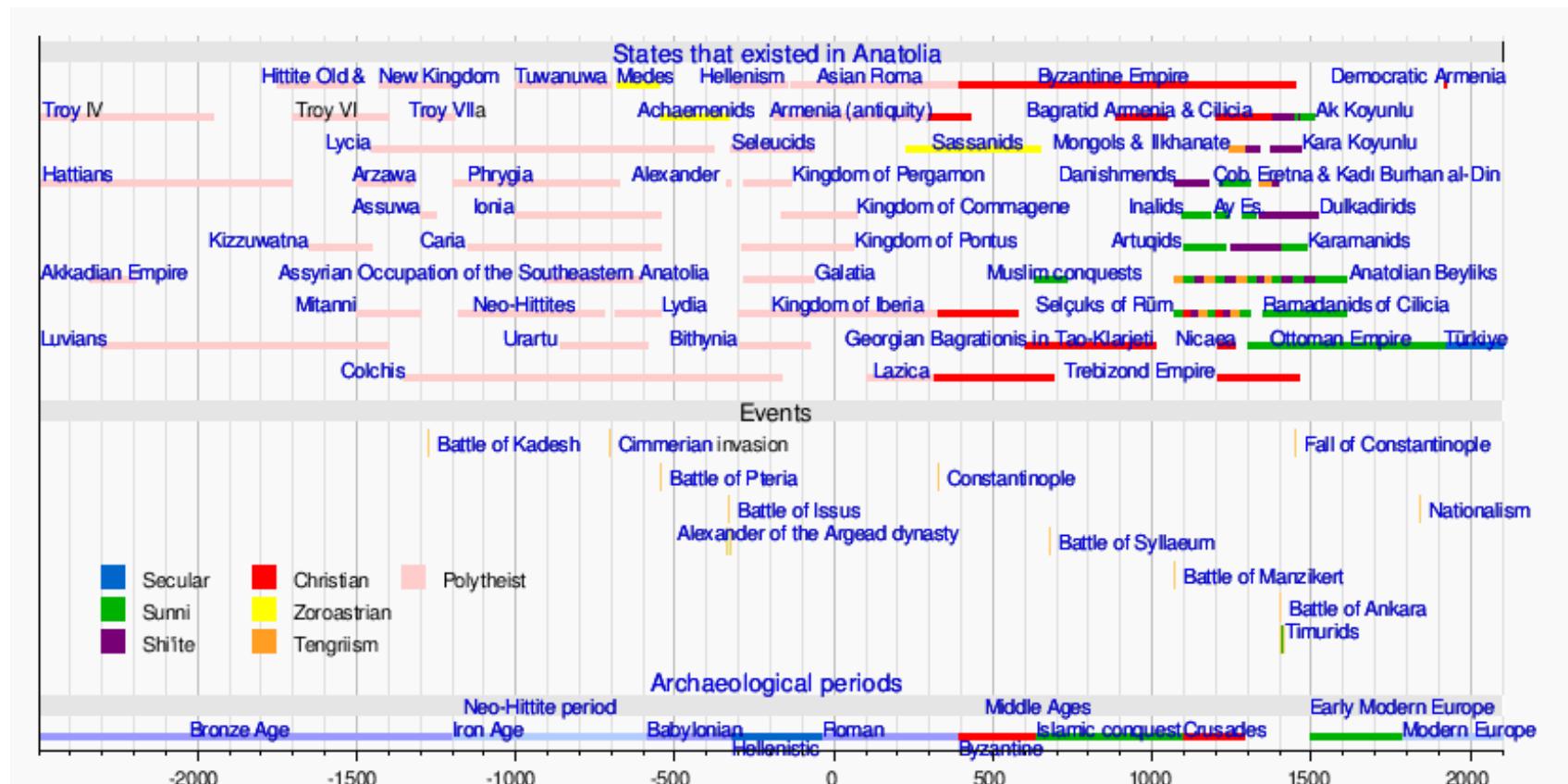
# CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL HERITAGE OF KAYSERI



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# States That Existed In Anatolia



# LOCATION ON THE MAP & THE CLIMATE

Kayseri is located in Central Anatolia. In Kayseri, Central Anatolian continental climate is dominant. In winters Kayseri is cold and rainy but in summer it is dry and hot.



The city of Kayseri, as defined by the boundaries of Kayseri Metropolitan Municipality, is structurally composed of five metropolitan districts, the two core districts of [Kocasinan](#) and [Melikgazi](#), and since 2004, also [Hacılar](#), [İncesu](#) and [Talas](#).

As of the 31 December 2019 estimation, [Kayseri Province](#) had a population of 1,407,409 inhabitants whom 1,144,265 lived in the built-up area made of four (out of five) urban districts, [İncesu](#) not being conurbated yet. Kayseri is located at the foot of the inactive volcano [Mount Erciyes](#) that towers 3,916 metres (12,848 feet) over the city. The city is often cited in the first ranks among Turkey's cities that fit the definition of [Anatolian Tigers](#).<sup>[3]</sup>

The city retains a number of historical monuments, including several from the [Seljuk](#) period. While it is generally visited en route to the international tourist attractions of [Cappadocia](#), Kayseri has many attractions in its own right: [Seljuk](#) and [Ottoman](#) era monuments in and around the city centre, [Mount Erciyes](#) as a [trekking](#) and [alpinism](#) centre, [Zamanti River](#) as a [rafting](#) centre, and the historic sites of [Kültepe](#), [Ağırnas](#), [Talas](#) and [Develi](#). Kayseri is served by [Erkilet International Airport](#) and is home to [Erciyes University](#).



# ETYMOLOGY

Kayseri was originally called **Mazaka** or **Mazaca**.(it was founded by and named after Mishak) and was known as such to [Strabo](#), during whose time it was the capital of the Roman province of [Cilicia](#), known also as *Eusebia at the Argaeus* after [Ariarathes V Eusebes](#), King of [Cappadocia](#) (163–130 BC).

The name was changed again by [Archelaus](#) (d. 17 AD), last King of Cappadocia (36 BC–14 AD) and a [Roman](#) vassal, to "Caesarea in Cappadocia" (to distinguish it from other cities with the name *Caesarea* in the Roman Empire) in honour of [Caesar Augustus](#), upon his death in 14 AD. This name was rendered as Καισάρεια (*Kaisáreia*) in [Koine Greek](#), which was the dialect of the later [Byzantine \(Eastern Roman\) Empire](#), and that name remained in use by the natives (nowadays known as [Cappadocian Greek](#), due to their spoken language, but then referred to as [Rûm](#), due to their previous Roman citizenship) until their [removal](#) from modern Turkey in 1924. (Note that letter **C** in classical [Latin](#) was pronounced **K**.) When the first Turks arrived in the region in 1080 AD, they adapted this pronunciation, which eventually became **Kayseri** in Turkish, remaining as such ever since.

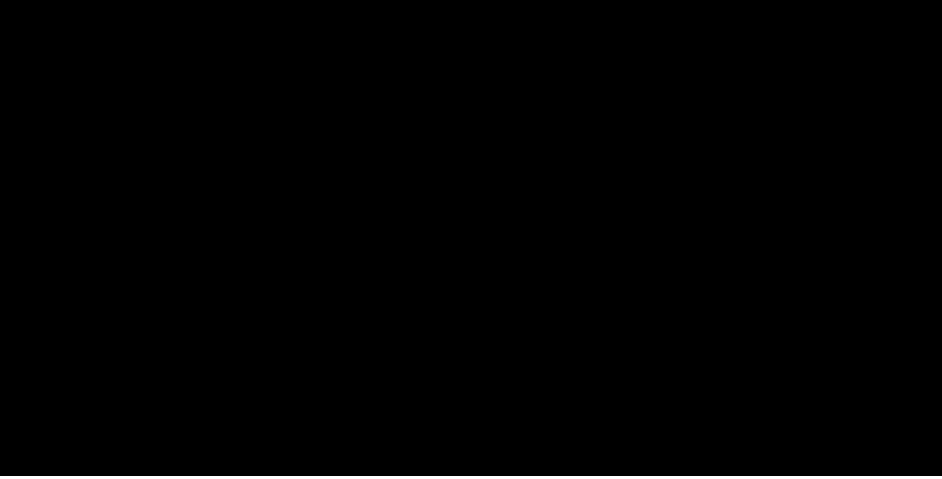


# ANCIENT HISTORY

[Kültepe](#), one of the oldest cities in [Asia Minor](#), lies 20 km away.

As **Mazaca** the city served as the residence of the kings of [Cappadocia](#). In ancient times, it was on the crossroads of the trade routes from [Sinope](#) to the [Euphrates](#) and from the [Persian Royal Road](#) that extended from [Sardis](#) to [Susa](#) during the over 200 years of [Achaemenid Persian](#) rule. In [Roman](#) times, a similar route from [Ephesus](#) to the East also crossed the city.

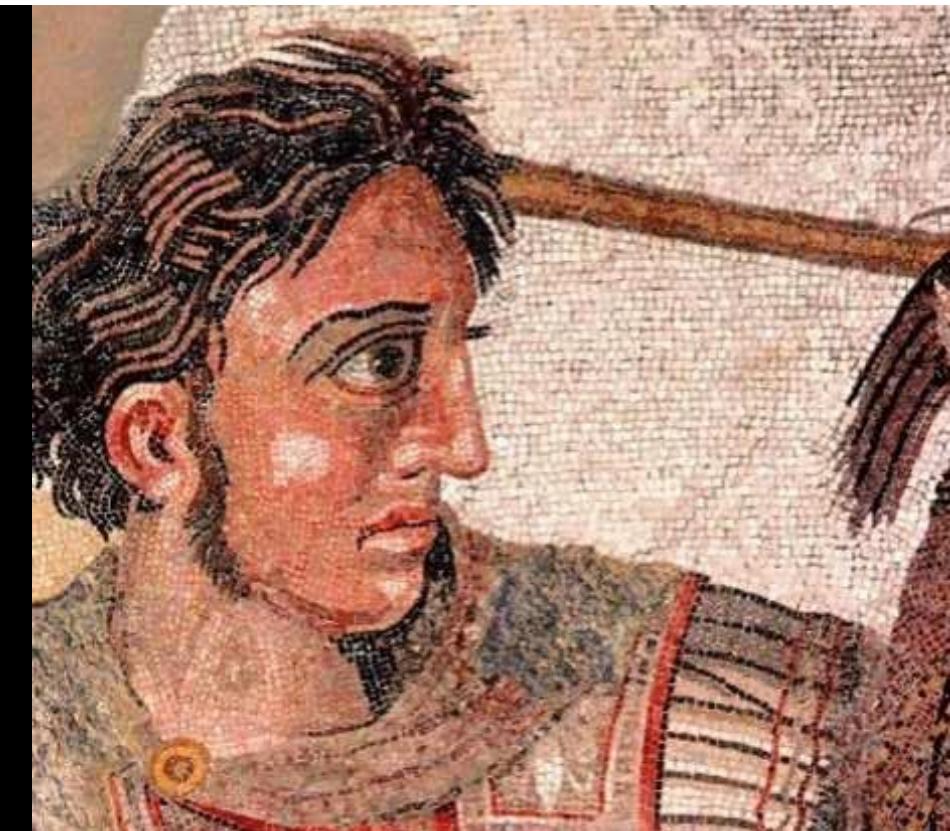
The city stood on a low spur on the north side of [Mount Erciyes](#) (*Mount Argaeus* in ancient times). Only a few traces of the ancient site survive in the old town.

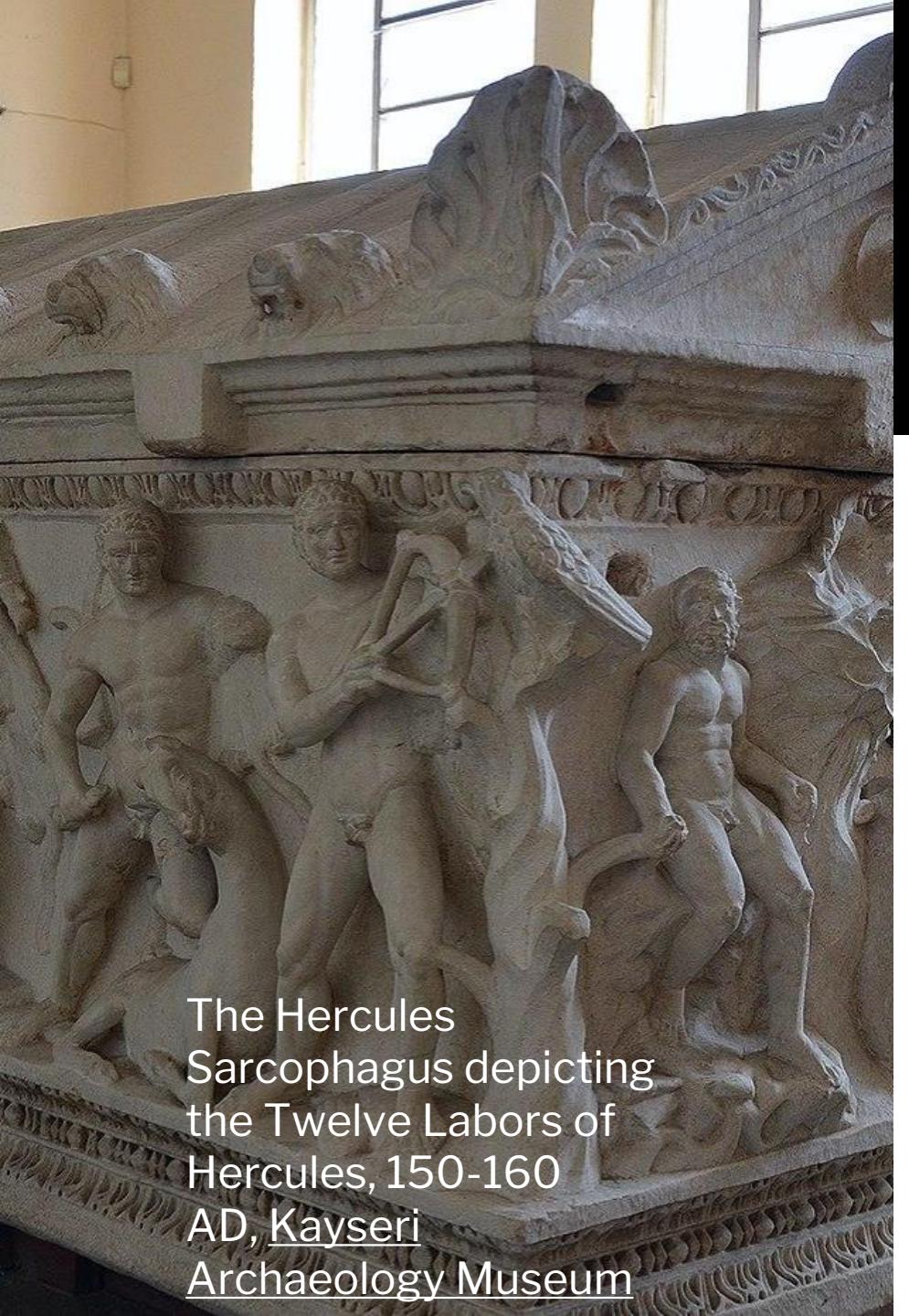


In 1985 Göreme National Park and other rock sites in the area were designated as **“UNESCO World Heritage Site”**. Also air balloons make the view look better in this area.

# HELLENISTIC TIMES

The city was the centre of a satrapy under Persian rule until it was conquered by [Perdikkas](#), one of the generals of [Alexander the Great](#) when it became the seat of a transient [satrapy](#) by another of Alexander's former generals, [Eumenes of Cardia](#). The city was subsequently passed to the [Seleucid](#) empire after the [battle of Ipsus](#) but became once again the centre of an autonomous Greater Cappadocian kingdom under [Ariarathes III of Cappadocia](#) in around 250 BC. In the ensuing period, the city came under the sway of [Hellenistic](#) influence, and was given the Greek name of [Eusebia](#) in honor of the Cappadocian king [Ariarathes V Eusebes Philopator of Cappadocia](#) (163–130 BC). The new name of [Caesarea](#), by which it has since been known, was given to it by the last Cappadocian King [Archelaus](#)[5] or perhaps by [Tiberius](#).





The Hercules  
Sarcophagus depicting  
the Twelve Labors of  
Hercules, 150-160  
AD, Kayseri  
Archaeology Museum

# ROMAN AND BYZANTINE RULE

The city passed under formal Roman rule in 17 AD. Caesarea was destroyed by the Sassanid king Shapur I after his victory over the Emperor Valerian I in 260 AD. At the time it was recorded to have around 40,000 inhabitants. The city gradually recovered, and became home to several early Christian saints: saints Dorothea and Theophilus the martyrs, Gregory of Nazianzus, Gregory of Nyssa and Basil of Caesarea. In the 4th century, bishop Basil established an ecclesiastic centre on the plain, about one mile to the northeast, which gradually supplanted the old town. It included a system of almshouses, an orphanage, old peoples' homes, and a leprosarium (leprosy hospital). The city's bishop, Thalassius, attended the Second Council of Ephesus and was suspended from the Council of Chalcedon.



Picture: Kayseri city walls in 2006

A *Notitia Episcopatum* composed during the reign of [Byzantine Emperor Heraclius](#) in about 640 lists 5 [suffragan dioceses](#) of the [metropolitan see](#) of Caesarea. A 10th-century list gives it 15 suffragans. In all the *Notitiae* Caesarea is given the second place among the metropolitan sees of the [patriarchate of Constantinople](#), preceded only by Constantinople itself, and its archbishops were given the title of [protothronos](#), meaning "of the first see" (after that of Constantinople). More than 50 first-millennium archbishops of the see are known by name, and the see itself continued to be a residential see of the [Eastern Orthodox Church](#) until 1923, when by order of the [Treaty of Lausanne](#) all members of that Church (Greeks) were deported from what is now Turkey. Caesarea was also the seat of an Armenian diocese. No longer a residential bishopric, Caesarea in Cappadocia is today listed by the [Catholic Church](#) as a [titular see](#) of the [Armenian Catholic Church](#) and the [Melkite Catholic Church](#). It was a titular see of the Roman Church under various names as well, including Caesarea Ponti.

A portion of Basil's new city was surrounded with strong walls, and it was turned into a fortress by [Justinian](#). Caesarea in the 9th century became a Byzantine administrative centre as the capital of the Byzantine [Theme of Charsianon](#). The 1500-year-old [Kayseri Castle](#), built initially by the [Byzantines](#), and expanded by the [Seljuks](#) and Ottomans, is still standing in good condition in the central square of the city.

# ISLAMIC ERA

The [Arab](#) general (and later the first [Umayyad Caliph](#)) [Muawiyah](#) invaded [Cappadocia](#) and took Caesarea from the [Byzantines](#) temporarily in 647. The city was called *Kaisariyah* by the Arabs, and later *Kayseri* by [Seljuk Turks](#) when it was captured by [Alp Arslan](#) in 1067. The forces of the latter demolished the city and massacred its population. The shrine of [Saint Basil](#) was also sacked after the fall of the city. As a result, the city remained uninhabited for the next half century. Later, during 1074–1178 the area came under the control of the [Danishmendids](#) and rebuilt the city in 1134. The [Anatolian Seljuk Sultanate](#) controlled the city during the period 1178–1243 and became one of their most prominent centers, until it fell to the [Mongols](#) in 1243. Within the walls lies the greater part of Kayseri, rebuilt between the 13th and 16th centuries. Kayseri was successively ruled by [Eretnids](#). The city finally became [Ottoman](#) in 1515. It was sanjak center initially in [Rum Eyalet](#) (1515–1521), finally in [Ankara Vilayet](#) (Founded as Bozok Eyalet) (1839–1923).



Picture: Hunat Hatun  
Mosque Door



WALLS OF THE [SELJUK](#) ERA SAHABIYE [MEDRESESI](#), BUILT IN 1267  
BY THE SELJUK [VIZIER SAHIP ATA FAHREDDIN ALI](#).

# KAYSERI ARCHITECTURE TYPES



Especially made by Armenians and Turkish  
stone-pillars good to seasonal  
conditions.(Basilica style architecture)



It is in part of UNESCO World Heritage, it is from before the end of B.C 3000.

First Anatolian tablets were found here.



This is a Armenian church.  
Domed Basilica style  
architecture.



There is no record of the construction of the bridge but, according to an inscription about the restoration of the bridge in 1538. It is said to be made in before 1480s.  
Seljuk style architecture.

(Seljuk style architecture, is a unique architecture style. Triangle shaped stones were used on this style architecture.)



Kılıçarslan Mosque was built in Ottoman era.

In 1581, made by Mimar Sinan, Seljuks architecture style and Ottoman architecture style was used in Kılıçarslan Mosque. Doors were made by stones being geometricaly shaped.

This style was Seljuks-Ottoman architecture style, is being shown pretty well. Endulus architecture has common specifications too.



Pigeons use this as their homes. It was made to look for pigeons. Armenian stone architecture style was used.



It is used as home before  
3000 years ago.

It is made by stone-pillars.

Armenian Domed-Basilica  
style was used.

It is made by Armenians.

It has a Gothic-type  
architecture.





It was built in year 1237.

It was used as mosque and madresa.

Seljuk architecture style was used.



It was made in Seljuks era, inside there is graves.

THANK YOU FOR  
LISTENING TO US