A recent excavation at the port of Urla underwater archaeological site in Turkey has revealed a sunken ship that is believed to date back 4,000 years. This find is considered among the oldest sunken ships in the world.
back 4,000 years, according to a report in *Hurriyet Daily News*. The surprising discovery is the oldest known shipwreck ever found in the Mediterranean, and is also among the oldest known shipwrecks worldwide.

The discovery was made by the Research Center for Maritime Archaeology (ANKÜSAM) at the University of Ankara, during excavations at the well-known Port of Urla underwater site, a port city located near Izmir. The actual port dates back to the 7th century BC, but maritime history in the area dates back more than 5,000 years.

The shipwreck was discovered near Urla, Turkey. *Image source.*

The port ofUrla, which served the ancient Greek settlement of Klazomenai, sunk following a natural disaster, probably an earthquake, in the 8th century BC, making the area popular for underwater research. Numerous sunken ships have already been found in Urla, ranging from the 2nd century BC to the Ottoman period. Uncovering a ship that is believed to date back to around 2,000 BC, is incredibly rare and significant.

“If we confirm that the sunken ship [we have found] is 4,000 years old, it will be a very important milestone for archaeology,” said Professor Hayat Erkanal, the head of Limantepe excavations for the underwater ancient city of Klazomenai and director of ANKÜSAM.
The research team is now working to confirm its age with more precision, examine its features, and clean salt from the materials to prevent further deterioration. Erkanal explained that it can take up to 8 years to completely remove a sunken ship from the water.

As only two weeks ago that another significant underwater discovery was made in the Mediterranean – a 2,700-year-old Phoenician shipwreck near Malta’s Gozo island. But the oldest known shipwreck, until now, to have been found in the Mediterranean was the world-famous Uluburun shipwreck, found off the coast of Kas in Turkey in 1982. The Uluburun dates back 3,300 years and contained one of the wealthiest and largest known assemblages of Late Bronze Age items.

It is hoped that the new discovery will provide archaeologists with an abundance of information about society, culture, and maritime history across the Mediterranean.

Featured image: Marine archaeologists work to uncover an artifact found alongside the newly discovered shipwreck. Image source: Hurriyet Daily News.

By April Holloway

Section:
News   History & Archaeology

Tags:
Port of Urla   Sunken ship   shipwreck   underwater
  turkey   ancient   mediterranean   archaeology news

2.4k Shares

SECTION:

Each wreck provides another piece of the puzzle and more artifacts. I significantly feel as if I've missed my calling.
love, light and blessings

AB

Register to become part of our active community, get updates, receive a monthly newsletter, and enjoy the benefits and rewards of our member point system OR just post your comment below as a Guest.

More information about text formats

No HTML tags allowed.
Web page addresses and e-mail addresses turn into links automatically.
Lines and paragraphs break automatically.

By submitting this form, you accept the Mollom privacy policy.
More

TIVE FORUM TOPICS

- Please introduce yourself
- The Tail of the World
- How about a "Books and Literature" forum?
- Early Slavic shrine discovered in Slovenia
- Anyone know what this symbol signifies?
- Site overload

More
Initial DNA analysis of Paracas elongated skull released – with incredible results

The story of Ragnarok and the Apocalypse

Extensive Ancient Underground Networks Discovered Throughout Europe

The human skull that challenges the Out of Africa theory

Ancient Humans Bred with
Researchers locate Submerged Lost Ancient City where Athens and Sparta Fought a Battle

Researchers have found the location of the lost island city of Kane, known since

The Mysterious Aboriginal Rock Art of the Wandjinas

One of the most intriguing and perplexing legends of the Australian Aboriginal

Is the oldest script in the world?

The Danube Valley civilization the oldest civilizations known

Completely Unknown Species
ancient times as the site of a naval battle between Athens and Sparta in which the Athenians were victorious but later...

Ten Things the Ancients Did Better than Us

The Siege of Lachish: History from Both the Victors and Defeated

Beekeeping may go back to the early years of agriculture, up to 9,000 years ago

Woe of the Witches – The Elevated Flying Rowan Tree

Bronze Age Mining in Europe Dates Back Earlier than Previously Thought

The origins of human beings according to ancient Sumerian texts

Australian Original Astronomical rock Engravings will Rewrite World History

The Ancient Origins of Some Dead or Dying Languages

Our Ancient Origins: Symptoms of the Kali Yuga - Part 3

Colony Earth and The Rig Veda - Part II

Woe of the Witches – The Elevated Flying Rowan Tree

1,200-year-old telephone, amazing invention of the ancient Chimu civilization

The Mysterious Aborig Art of the Wandjinas

The destruction of the Gr...
Why were certain plants raised from mere utility to reverence in the collective consciousness of various populations from different cultures? This elevation from purely physical use to the realm of...
and explaining the origins of our species on planet earth. To this end, we aim to organize, support and even finance efforts in this direction.

Our aim is to move beyond theories and to present a thorough examination of current research and evidence and to offer alternative viewpoints and explanations to those currently held by mainstream science and archaeology.

Come with us on a journey to explore lost civilisations, sacred writings, ancient places, unexplained artefacts and scientific mysteries while we seek to reconstruct and retell the story of our beginnings.