



Temple of Zeus at Olympia

Description

Built in the 5th BC, the Temple of Zeus at Olympia was the largest in Peloponnese dedicated to the king of the gods. Financed in part by the spoils of the Eleans' war victory over Pisa, the temple's construction served to show all the Greek peoples the control they had over Olympia. Open all year round, it had become one of the region's main attractions, attracting crowds of visitors during the Olympic Games as well. It is said that athletes condemned for breaking the rules of the Games would have stolen some bronze statues present in the temple in retaliation. In the 18th century, the sanctuary's site was identified. The first archaeological excavation began in 1829, where a French team was able to identify fragments and bring them to the Louvre Museum.

Metadata

- City: Olympia
- Country: Greece
- Cadastral Number: GR.L.LW.O.1
- GPS Coordinates: 37.6379° N, 21.6302° E
- Landmarks: Lost Worlds