

## Ancient Nemea

**Nemea** is an ancient site in the northeastern part of the [Peloponnese](#), in [Greece](#).

Nemea was famous in Greek myth as the home of the [Nemean Lion](#), which was killed by the hero [Heracles](#), and as the place where the infant [Opheltes](#), lying on a bed of [parsley](#), was killed by a serpent while his nurse fetched water for the [Seven](#) on their way from [Argos](#) to [Thebes](#). The Seven founded the [Nemean Games](#) in his memory according to its [aition, or founding myth](#), accounting for the crown of victory being made of parsley or the wild form of [celery](#) and for the black robes of the judges interpreted as a sign of mourning. The Nemean Games were documented from 573 BC, or earlier, at the sanctuary of [Zeus](#) at Nemea.

