

Discovering

DISCOVERING / TURKEY / EPHESUS & THE DODECANESE

Discovering the very best every area of the world has to offer

Ephesus & the Dodecanese

Ephesus, islands and remote classical sites

Discovering... the magnificent site of Ephesus, once the commercial centre of the ancient world, surrounded offshore by a 'littering of islands' – the Dodecanese. We sail past islands and land to walk through scented hills to explore remote classical sites of the Greek and Turkish Aegean.

FITNESS RATING: 25+

TRIP LENGTH: 8 days

DATES

16 Sep-23 Sep 07 Oct-14 Oct

Photo: Alburak Ucer



'the deep blue waters of the Aegean'

THE TRIP

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were born. We rejoin our boat to sail to the fishing village of Datca.

Day 3 We sail to the pretty Greek Island of Symi, well known for its spectacular neo-classical harbor. On either side of a steep-sided inlet rise tier upon tier of houses, some white, some pastel yellow, but virtually all with Neo-Classical pediments – a reminder of when, a hundred years ago, when this was one of Greece's most prosperous islands. Our day is reserved for a hike in the narrow streets of the island.

Day 4 After breakfast, we cruise back to the Turkish waters. Our first stop is a small village called Turgut, where they grow tasty peanuts and produce great honey. After a stroll in this pretty village, We cruise to Selimiye for the night.

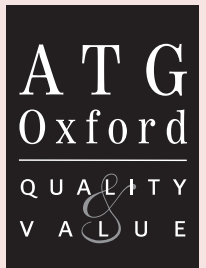
ITINERARY

Day 1 After arrival at Bodrum, we travel to our boat on the coast at Yaliciftlik.

Day 2 We sail south, across the deep blue waters of the Aegean, arriving at Knidos in the afternoon, where we land and walk to the lighthouse of Knidos from where there are spectacular views across the Aegean. We explore the extensive ruins of Knidos, where Sostratos, the architect of the Lighthouse of Alexandria (one of the seven wonders of the ancient world), and Eudoxus, the astronomer who first calculated the earth's circumference,



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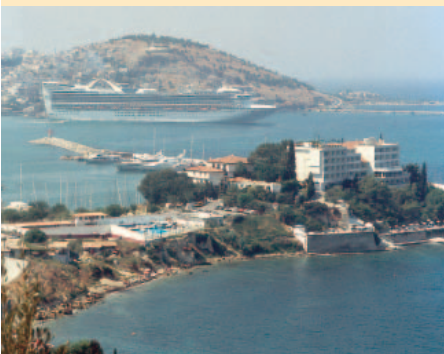


ACCOMMODATION



Gulet

A 30-metre spacious gulet, with 8 en suite cabins. Crew consists of a captain, superb cook and first mate. (nights 1, 2, 3, 4&5)



Kusadasi Kismet Hotel

Akyar Mevkii Turkmen Mahallesi, Kusadasi, Aydin 09400

Situated in outstanding setting with private beach and garden. This is where the Ottoman Royal Family stay. (nights 6&7)

Day 5 We sail to Sogut Bay for a morning swim. In the afternoon we take a short drive, with panoramic views to the village of Taslica, famous for its 1,000 donkeys and ancient wells. We walk from here on an ancient paved track, through a Classical Carian site called Phoenix to the fjords of Serce. We then sail to the ancient site of Loryma, which is only accessible by boat. On entrance to the bay, we can see the impressive citadel of Loryma, which was a naval base for Athenians during Peloponnesian War. We walk to the citadel, and enjoy the spectacular view.

Day 6 After breakfast we cruise to Turunc cove to transfer to Ephesus area. This is a

very important delta, where river Kaystos ported for millenniums. The international port of Ephesus has attracted the world's merchants, artists and the statesmen interest for centuries.

Day 7 We visit sites of Hellenistic, Roman, biblical, Byzantine and Ottoman interest, including the ancient city of Ephesus, the Archeological Museum, Artemission, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, and the pretty and old village called Sirince where they brew their own wine and press great olive oil.

Day 8 We drive to Izmir Adnan Menderes Airport.

WALKING

This is an 8-day trip, combining gentle walking, sightseeing and cruising aboard out gulet.

Some of our walks are weather sensitive. If it is not possible to do a walk due to inclement weather, an alternative arrangement will be made. Any such decision is at the discretion of the Tour Leader.

BOATS AND BOATLIFE

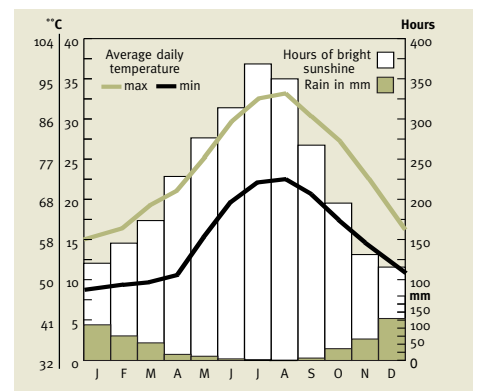
A gulet is a wooden, locally-built, motorised sailing boat, which was designed in Bodrum in the 1960s. It is a comfortable, attractive boat which is very popular for voyages. Most boats have 5 to 8 cabins, and they vary between 60 to 100 feet long. Each cabin has a single or twin beds and its own private bathroom and shower and 24-hour hot water. The rear deck is where we eat our meals and the front deck is good for sunbathing, naps and sleeping under the stars. The boat crew consists of a captain, a cook and a first mate.

There is a strict rule on board that you should

not wear shoes which you use outside the boat. It is highly recommended to bring deck-shoes, or slippers for your comfort. Bare feet are just as fine if you find it comfortable. The Aegean is generally calm, however if you suffer from sea sickness, it is advisable to bring appropriate pills.

CLIMATE

Summer days are usually hot with lots of sun, and temperatures often reach 30°C and above. Autumn is more pleasant at 16-25°C (61-77°F), with lower humidity.



SPECIAL FEATURES

This trip offers a wonderful combination of walking and cruising.

The sea is warm enough for swimming from April to October. Our boat has a wind-surfer and a kayak for anyone to use. We will be swimming in crystal clear, deep blue waters, so if you enjoy snorkelling you should bring your own equipment, or buy something basic locally.

When swimming in the Mediterranean beware of stepping on sea urchins. These are small black shell fish, with spikes on attached to the rocks. They are easy to see, and avoid, but if you like shallow water snorkelling, it may a good idea to bring water-shoes.



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

PLACES ON ROUTE

Ephesus: One of the best-preserved ancient cities. Ephesus was a flourishing cultural centre during the Greek Empire with its Temple of Diana counted among the Seven Wonders of the World, and was renowned for its wealth and beauty. It was a busy provincial capital during Roman times due to its location by a harbour, making it the wealthy capital of Roman Asia, ornamented with magnificent public buildings. During the Byzantine era the city went into decline, owing to the abandoning of Artemis worship, Arab raids,

CUISINE

Turkey is a country on the cross-roads of continents, trade routes, immigration routes, and has four seasons, with various geographical regions. This makes the cuisine extremely rich and diverse. Specialities include variations on *kebaps* such as *kofte* (meatballs). Also *meze* – mix of appetisers such as stuffed peppers or olive leaves. Desserts include *baklava* and the authentic Turkish Delight.

We will be sampling some of the best and most interesting food available. Our boat has an excellent cook on board. He prepares light lunches (3-4 varieties of salads, vegetables, and pasta, rice or bulgar *pilav* and desserts) and rich dinners (meat, poultry or fish) everyday.

WINES

Turkey does not have the reputation it deserves for its wines. In fact Central Anatolia is possibly the place where wine was invented. In the Hittite language (2BC) *vino* is the word for wine. We will have the chance to try wines from different regions of Turkey throughout the trip. Local spirit is the anis flavoured *raki*.

and the silting up of the harbour. It has many spectacular ruins and excellent views over the surrounding countryside.

The Dodecanese: Lying close to the Turkish Coast are the Greek Dodecanese (*Dhodhekánisos*) islands. Set in azure Aegean waters through which we sail are islands dotted with whitewashed towns, olive groves, fig trees and a chance to experience the traditional life without the tourist trappings and see remote classical sites. They have a turbulent history - they were the scene of ferocious battles between German and British forces during the Second World War, and were only finally included in the modern Greek state in 1948 after centuries of occupation by Crusaders, Ottomans and Italians. This has resulted in their wonderful blend of architectural styles and of Eastern and Western cultures.

Knidos: Knidos was one of the most important cities on the west Anatolian coast. The architect, Sostratos, designer of the lighthouse of Alexandria (one of the seven wonders of the world) was a native of Knidos, as was Eudoxus, one of the most important astronomers and mathematicians in history (around 400BC), the astronomer who first calculated the earth's circumference.

Symi: Symi is one of the dry, rocky Dodecanese islands, which has limited tourism development and helped preserved its magnificent neo-Classical harbour. The port is architecturally protected with tiers of pastel-coloured houses rising in up the steep-sided harbour inlet. A hundred years ago it was one of Greece's most prosperous islands, with wealth generated by shipbuilding and sponge-diving. But the a combinations of the 1919-22 Greco-Turkish war, the advent of synthetic sponges and the gradual displacement of shipbuilding drastically affected the local economy and reduced the population to a tenth of what it was.



Photo: Lucy Dodsworth

RESTAURANTS

At dinner the tour leader will tell you about each evening's menu and if there is anything else that you would prefer, you only have to ask. It is a set dinner on the boat, however we take care of dietary requirements.

SHOPPING

Turkish made items make lovely souvenirs or presents to take home. Typical traditional items are:

Carpets & kilims: Turks started making knotted carpets in 5C BC in Central Asia. They carried their double-knotting technique to Anatolia (Asia Minor), and it mingled with the Anatolian colours, designs and stories, and became a national art. Turkish carpets have been highly prestigious gifts among rich European people since medieval ages, and they have inspired European painters since 14C.

Pottery & ceramics: Turkey has a long tradition of pottery making. It is known that the earliest and largest human settlements were to be found in Central and South Eastern Anatolia. These are the Neolithic villages, in other words, the first farming societies. Pot making was very common among these people for daily use and rituals. The Hittite Civilisation (second millennium) made pottery from the red clay of Red River. Today, in Cappadocia, Turks use the same clay and process it on the same Hittite 'potter's wheel'.

Leather: Turkish leather is known for its good quality. You should ask your tour staff where the best places to buy it are.

Edible things: Turkey is at the western end of the silk and spice road. In the markets they sell



a great variety of spices, such as saffron, henna etc. Turkish pistachios, almonds and hazelnuts are the best in the world. Dried apricots, figs, prunes are also delicious and lastly one shouldn't miss the authentic Turkish Delight.

For reliable places, with good quality products consult your tour leader who will also be able to assist with bargaining tips. We recommend that you purchase local wines and spirits towards the end of your trip, thereby minimising the risk of breakage. The Tour Staff will be able to advise you of the best places to buy what you are looking for.

EQUIPMENT/EXTRA ITEMS

Shoes/sandals for the boat
Swimming/snorkelling kit

MOBILE PHONES

Following complaints from clients we would ask you not to use your mobile phones during the walk or any other group activity.

SECURITY WARNING

Please be especially vigilant in all tourist centres as we have received reports of increased problems with petty theft and pick-pocketing. Take care of your valuables at all times. When out sightseeing, leave spare cash and items of value in your hotel safe along with your passport (but carry a photocopy of it for identification purposes). Beware of bag-snatchers and pickpockets, especially in crowded tourist centres. Don't leave luggage unattended, especially at railway stations. If you are robbed you should report it to the local police.

Photo: Jos Whinney



TRAVEL INFORMATION

VISAS

A visa is required to enter Turkey, but you do not have to apply for it in advance – you buy a sticker from the visa desk at your point of entry before going through passport control. The cost for British citizens is £10; no change is given so each person should take a £10 note with them; US citizens also require a visa costing \$100 which can also be paid at the point of entry.

For further information you can contact the Turkish Embassy in London on:
+44 (0)207 591 6900 or 09068 347348
www.turkconsulate-london.com

TRAVEL TO TURKEY

The destination airport for this trip is Bodrum.

The recommended check-in time is 2 hours. For those who have requested a vegetarian meal on the plane, we recommend that you reconfirm this at the check-in. It is a good idea to check the destination on the luggage tag that is stuck onto your ticket/your luggage at the check-in desk - this helps lessen the possibility of luggage going astray.

Please collect your luggage before proceeding through Customs. In the unlikely event of finding on arrival that your luggage has gone

astray en route, please inform the Tour Manager and Tour Leader as soon as possible.

MEETING AT THE AIRPORT

The meeting point will be the arrivals area of Bodrum Airport. We will be meeting the arrival of the following flights:

Turkish Airlines flight TK1980 currently scheduled to leave London Heathrow at 1125, arriving at Istanbul at 1710. Followed by flight TK294 currently scheduled to depart Istanbul at 1930 arriving at Bodrum 2040.

We will return to the airport in time for flight TK317, currently scheduled to depart Izmir at 1100, arriving at Istanbul 1200. Followed by flight TK1991 currently scheduled to depart Istanbul at 1315, arriving at London Heathrow at 1515.

The Tour Leader will be waiting for you, wearing a polo shirt of the same colour and embroidered with the same design as the luggage labels. Please do not entrust your luggage to anyone not wearing an ATG 'uniform'. There are notoriously very helpful luggage thieves at busy airports!

Provided the Tour Leader knows you are meeting there, he/she will look out for you, and

if you do not appear, will check for messages and then leave one for you at the information desk. If you arrive late and find that the group has left and there is no message at the information desk and no sign of our minibuses with the ATG logo outside the terminal building, please make your own way to the first hotel, letting the hotel know you're on your way.

MEETING AT THE FIRST HOTEL

As the itinerary for this trip begins with an internal flight, please note that the meeting place for independent travellers is at Bodrum airport, to coincide with the group flight; we cannot collect you from any other point or drop you off at the end of the trip anywhere other than the airport. Please be sure to let the office know where you will be joining the group and advise of your independent flight number if different from the group flight.

AT THE END OF YOUR TRIP

We can transport you from the last hotel to the airport at Bodrum, but this transfer will be to catch the group flight: if yours is significantly earlier, you will need to make your own arrangements.

BOOK LIST

Guides

Lonely Planet Turkey (Lonely Planet 2005)
Very useful, especially for the independent traveller. Regularly updated. Reveals Turkey's vibrant coasts and unspoiled interior, featuring detailed maps, a practical guide to buying Turkish carpets, information on visas, health and local transport and a comprehensive language chapter.

Frommer's Turkey: Lynn A Levine (Hungry Minds Inc 2004)

This guide explores the highlights of Turkey, an amazing and diverse treasure trove of architectural styles and ancient ruins, most of which are still being excavated.

Classical Turkey: John Freely (Penguin 1991)
A book written by an Englishman, who is an avid traveller to Turkey.

Ancient Turkey: A Traveller's History: Seton Lloyd (Uni of California Press 1999)

An archaeologist who has spent much of his life in the Near East attempts to share his profound interest in an antique land, its inhabitants, and the surviving monuments that link the present to the past in a lively account of Turkey's early history.

Art Historical

Sinan: Ottoman Architecture and its Values Today: Godfrey Goodwin (Saqi Books 2001)

A book about one of the greatest 16C Ottoman architects.

History of the early Turkish carpet: Kurt Erdmann (Oguz 1977)

A study on the works of the inventors of knotted carpets.

Turkish Islamic Architecture: Behcet Unsal (Turanti 1959)

An interesting work about the first Muslim-Turk State from the time of Omar Khayyam.

History

Ataturk: Founder of a Modern State: Ergun Ozbudun, Ali Kazancigi (C Hurst & Co 1994)
An essential work on the legendary leader of Turkey.

The Forbidden Modern: Nilufer Gole (University of Michigan Press 1996)

A study on women in Turkey by a well known female Turkish sociologist.

Myths

Lycian Turkey: George E Bean

An English professor who worked for Istanbul University for 25 years. An expert on the coastal civilisations of Turkey.

The Lycians: A study of Lycian history and civilisation to the conquest of Alexander the Great: Trevor Bryce

History of Art in Phrygia, Lydia, Caria, and Lycia: Georges Perrot

A book about the original people of Anatolia.

Food & Wine

Lonely Planet World Food: Turkey: by Dani Valent, et al (Lonely Planet 2002).

Reveals the essence of Turkish culture, which is basically to celebrate every occasion with food! It is an exploration of the regional influences which make up Turkish cuisine, an intimate guide to home cooking, traditions and celebrating with food and has the definitive culinary dictionary. Afiyet olsun! (Enjoy!)

Whilst we aim to keep our booklists up to date, books do sometimes go out of print. If you find that any of the books listed are out of print, please do let us know. For any books that are out of print, we recommend that you visit the following website which offers publishers' left-over stock of out-of-print books, and often has second hand copies of books for sale: www.abebooks.co.uk

MAPS

If you are interested in purchasing maps prior to your trip you can contact the following companies, all of whom offer a mail-order service:

The Map Shop

15 The High Street
Upton-Upon-Severn
Worcestershire
WR8 0HJ
Tel: 01684 593146
Fax: 01684 594559
e-mail: Themapshop@btinternet.com
Web site: www.themapshop.co.uk

Stanfords

12-14 Long Acre,
London WC2E 9LP
Tel: 0207 836 1321
Fax: 0207 836 0189.
Web site: www.stanfords.co.uk

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