

LYCIAN COAST LUXURY GULET TURKEY CRUISE

Wake up on board to the warm Aegean sun and crystal clear waters each morning, relax into the rhythm of life on the sea, and enjoy some wonderful sailing in this perfect climate. Disembark to explore picturesque towns and harbors, boutique shopping, fabulous culinary experiences, and to soak up the unique atmosphere of this part of the world. While away your time on board relaxing, enjoying your crew's excellent service, dining with your friends and group, reading, pulling anchor to explore some of the stunning bays for swimming whenever the mood takes you. Enjoy a boutique version of the classic gulet vacht cruise, discovering historical sites, tiny harbour villages, untouched beaches and bays, and a choice of great activities; all while making yourself at home in the spacious comfort of your luxurious private cabin. On board you enjoy the relaxed company of your fellow guests, large lounge areas and deck, immaculate crew service, and magical feast after feast on board each day for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Our itineraries are carefully planned according to the interests of the group, while the all-important dining experience on board provided by a skilled chef caters to your exact culinary tastes, dietary requirements and preferences. These vessels are also available for private charter, offering the unique opportunity to book a luxury gulet yacht exclusively for your group and enjoy an itinerary designed for you. The cruise will be run on 1 of 4 traditional wooden gulets depending on the size of the group. Click here to see the choice of vessels and cruises.



ITINERARY

DAY 1 - SATURDAY - GOCEK

Take a transfer to the charming marina resort of Gocek and board your luxurious sailing yacht in the afternoon. Your captain and crew will be waiting to welcome you on board. Pick up anchor and sail to a nearby bay for dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - SUNDAY - KALKAN

Depart in the early morning for the lovely resort of Kalkan. There will be time for swimming and enjoying the afternoon in the

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water there. This evening moor in a secluded bay or dock in the lovely harbor for night. In the early afternoon, you can opt to travel by van to the nearby sites of Patara and/or Xanthos, returning to the yacht early evening. (optional): Patara was the major naval and trading port of Lycia, located at the mouth of the Xanthos River, until it silted up and turned into a malariaplagued marsh. It is not far from the site of Xanthos. Patara has a beautiful 12 km long beach, voted one of the top beaches in the world by Times area is a national park, a key biodiversity area and is rich in birdlife. Patara was a very wealthy city due to trade and was one of the six principal cities of Lycia. Patara's oracle at the renowned temple of Apollo (not yet found) was said to rival that at Delphi and the temple equaled the reputation of the famous temple on the island of Delos. It was believed that Apollo lived at Delos during the summer but spent his winters at Patara. Omens were interpreted in these two towns during the respective seasons. A large bust of Apollo, discovered on the hill beyond the City Gate, indicates the existence of an Apollo Temple. During the Roman period, Patara was the judicial seat of the Roman governor, and the city became the capital of both the Lycian and Pamphylian provinces at one time. Patara was frequently called 'the chosen city' and 'the metropolis of the Lycian nation.' Around 138 BCE Patara had a population of about 20,000 and ranked among the top cities of Anatolia after Ephesus. In Christian history Patara is famous for being a place of St. Paul's missionary work at the end of his third missionary journey as he changed ships en route to Jerusalem. (optional): You will have to bring your bathing suits along because Patara is also the best sandy beach in Turkey and the only one you will see on this route. It has a wonderful tide and is great fun. There is also a very quaint cafe on the beach where you can go for a drink. (optional): The city

of Xanthos, the capital of ancient Lycia, is situated on a rocky outcrop beside the Xanthos River. It has produced evidence of occupation from at least the mid-1st millennium BC and flourished into the Hellenistic and Roman periods. The Lycian Acropolis is beside the river at the south-west of the site, while the larger Roman Acropolis lies to the north, with the city spread out below it. The site was investigated by Charles Fellows in 1838 and since 1950 has been excavated by a French expedition, currently led by Jacques des Courtils and focused around the central city area. The history of Xanthos is guite interesting and the account of these fiercely independent people's history can indeed be a bit shocking: twice the Xanthosians choose to take their own lives rather than submit to invading forces. After the first Persian invasion, Xanthos was later repopulated until 42 BC when Brutus attacked the city during the Roman civil wars in order to recruit troops and raise money. Brutus was shocked by the Lycians' grave decision and offered his soldiers a reward for each Xanthosian saved. Only 150 citizens were rescued.

DAY 3 - MONDAY - KAS

Travel to the charming resort of Kas or the ancient Antiphellos. In Kas there are remains of a temple above the harbour and a Roman theatre and sarcophagi in the town.

DAY 4 - TUESDAY - KEKOVA

Depart for Kekova, an area of idyllic beauty, where the local people live amidst sunken ancient remains, and Lycian rock tombs and sarcophagi are clearly visible from the sea.

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(optional): The ancient Lycian sunken city of Kekova-Simena is a charming mix of ancient, medieval and modern history making it interesting as well as beautiful. In ancient times Simena was a small fishing village and was later an outpost of the Knights of Rhodes (formerly of St. John). The ancient city of Simena was once of two parts - an island and a coastal part of the mainland. On the mainland you will find the charming fishing village of Kalekoy (castle village) with its buildings mingling with ancient and medieval structures. The top of the village is dominated by a well-preserved castle built by the Knights of Rhodes partially upon ancient Lycian foundations. Inside the castle is the smallest amphitheater of Lycia. At the eastern end of the village is a Lycian necropolis with a cluster of some very nice sarcophagi overlooking the sea and surrounded by ancient olive trees. Near the harbor of Kalekoy is another sarcophagus, popping up from the water. Across the bay, along the island are the half-sub- merged ruins of the residential part of Simena, caused by the downward shift of land by the terrible earthquakes of the 2nd century AD. Half of the houses are submerged and staircases descend into the water. Foundations of buildings and the ancient harbor are also seen below the sea. Moor in Kekova Island for night.

DAY 5 - WEDNESDAY - KALE

From Kale you have the chance to visit the sites of Myra and /or St. Nicholas Church, which requires a vehicle and guide for the 15 minute transport to the site. (optional): Myra was a leading city of the Lycian Union and surpassed Xanthos in early Byzantine times to become the capital city of Lycia. The city is well known for its amphitheatre, the largest in Lycia, and the

plethora of rock-cut tombs carved in the cliff above the theatre. St. Paul changed ships at Myra's port on his way to his trial in Rome, in about 60 AD, after he had been arrested in Jerusalem after being charged with inciting to riot. Because of the terrible plague that swept through Anatolia, Muslim raids, flooding and earthquakes, Myra was mostly abandoned by the 11th century. (optional): The earliest Church of St. Nicholas at Myra was built in the 6th century and a monastery was added in the second half of the 11th century. In 1863 Czar Alexander II of Russia bought the building and started to have it restored, but the work was never finished. In 1963 the eastern and southern sides of the church was excavated, in 1968 the former burial of St. Nicholas was roofed over. The floor of the church is made of a mosaic of colored marble, and there are some remains of fresco murals. A Greek marble sarcophagus had been reused to bury the Saint. Spend the afternoon swimming in the lovely Kekova Bay and then cruise north to Yesikoy for night.

DAY 6 - THURSDAY - OLU DENIZ

Early morning to departure to Olu Deniz or the 'Dead Sea' Turkey's most photographed lagoon. If you like visit the deserted Greek village of Kayakoy from a bay near Gemiler Island. Spend the rest of the afternoon swimming. About 45 minutes before sundown visit the Gemiler Island. The sunsets here are incredible. Olu Deniz with its stunning blue lagoon is renowned as the most beautiful beach in Turkey and therefore the water is the main attraction, particularly for para gliders who come from all over the world to glide over the turquoise waters from atop the Babadag Mountain. Photographs of the lagoon of this astonishing crystal-clear lagoon and a beautifully photogenic

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grey-white beach adorn almost every Turkish travel brochure. Olu Deniz is now in a conservation area and new development is strictly controlled. A small entry fee is charged to the lagoon beach itself, which is well suited for children and has shaded areas, cafes and showers. On the other side of the sandbar, Belcekiz beach is a crescent-shaped stretch of pebbles and sand set in a backdrop of beautiful pine-clad mountains. Olu Deniz literally means 'Sea of the Dead', and its name is attributed to the following legend: Once upon a time a father and son were out on a fishing trip and got caught in a vicious storm. They were in mortal danger of sinking. The son claimed that if they approached the rocks ashore they could take shelter in a cove that he knew of. The father on the other hand asserted that their boat would be driven onto the rocks and get smashed by the breaking waves and they would both die. The father was convinced that there were no coves around nearby. In his terror of running around on the rocks, the father knocked his son (who was at the helm) into the sea with an oar and took over the helm himself. Just as the ship was about to hit the rocks on the cape, she turned into this calm, smooth watered bay. The son drowned in the stormy waters and thus the cove was named Sea of the Dead - or Olu Deniz. (optional): There is a chance for a rigorous 1 hour hike or for those who prefer, take a mini bus from the Gemiler dock and drive 10 minutes to the deserted Greek village of Kayakoy. Wear good walking shoes - even if you take the minibus - because hiking in the deserted village is on marble streets. The fascinating Greek Ghost Village of Kayakoy, which was evacuated during the Turkish-Greek population exchange of 1922. The history of Kayakoy, which is 6 km from the Gemiler dock, dates back to 3000 BCE philologically. However, there are only remains of a few sarcophagi and rock tombs from the 4th century BCE The buildings on the slopes

belonged to Greeks who had settled here by provisions extended to minorities by the Ottoman Empire during the second half of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. During the early years of the Turkish Republic, the Greeks resident in this region were exchanged with Turks living in Western Thrace. In time, the wooden panels in doors, windows and on the roofs fell victim to natural destruction when the city acquired a ghost-like appearance. In the deserted city, the houses, each 50 sq. meters maximum, were built in a plan to allow for panoramic view and light fusion. The first floor was usually used for storage purposes and there were underground water cisterns to collect the rain from the rooftops. The houses were 350 to 400 in number, and scattered among them there were many chapels, a school building and a customs office. (optional): There is a beautiful restaurant in Kavakov called Sarnic Restaurant where you can have lunch (cost of lunch is payable directly). They have taken one of the deserted homes and fully restored it and turned it into an ethnological museum, and it had a beautiful shaded courtyard where they serve their specialties. (optional): Gemiler Island is covered with Lycian ruins, including a covered walkway built for a princess who (according to various legends) was thought by her father to be too beautiful to be seen by the populace, albino and so had to be protected from the sun- light, or just very spoilt. There is also an ancient palace still containing some of its mosaics, several Byzantine churches and the remains of a harbor later used (according to legend) by pirates.

DAY 7 - FRIDAY - GOCEK & 12 ISLANDS

Enjoy the lovely bays of the 12 Islands around Gocek for sailing,

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swimming & snorkeling. Dock in the picturesque port of Gocek, a small sea-side farming village which has turned into the top yachting center of Turkey. It lies on a valley surrounded by hills on three sides. Due to abundant freshwater, the warm climate and very fertile soil, farming is still practiced. Just two blocks from the promenade by the sea, houses still have their little gardens where residents grow all kind vegetables from tomatoes to eggplants, and the sidewalks are covered by orange, tangerine, grapefruit and lemon trees. The green panorama of the city is further accented by the ever-present pine trees along the hills.

DAY 8 - SATURDAY

Departure after breakfast for the Dalaman airport and flight back to Istanbul, or transfer to your next destination.

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.

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YOUR SHIP: PARSS

YOUR SHIP: VESSEL TYPE: LENGTH: PASSENGER CAPACITY: BUILT/REFURBISHED:

The luxury sailing yacht Parss is designed to sleep a maximum capacity of 17 passengers in 8 fully air conditioned cabins. This yacht is ideal for large families or groups of friends with triple, double and single cabin options. Accommodation consists of 1 Grand Master cabin with king bed, separate sitting area, 2 separate full length closets, 1 bathroom with sink and toilet and 1 bathroom with shower and sink. The master cabin consists of 1 king bed andbathroom with a " tiled Turkish bath" shower. There are 4 deluxe cabins with queen size beds, 1 cabin with a queen and twin bed (ideal for a couple with a child or for 3 sharing), and 2 cabins with twin beds. The traditional Gulet design has been adapted to provide spacious fore, side and aft decks, state of the art nautical equipment, outdoor dining space, cushioned lounging areas, sun mattresses and tenting for shade. The elegant interior and cabins have high ceilings, generous storage space, and roomy en suite bathrooms with toilet, shower, sink and vanity. The interior also has alounge with a stocked bar, cushioned seating areas and indoor dining. The 5 man crew has separate quarters.

Parss



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INSIDE YOUR SHIP



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PRICING

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