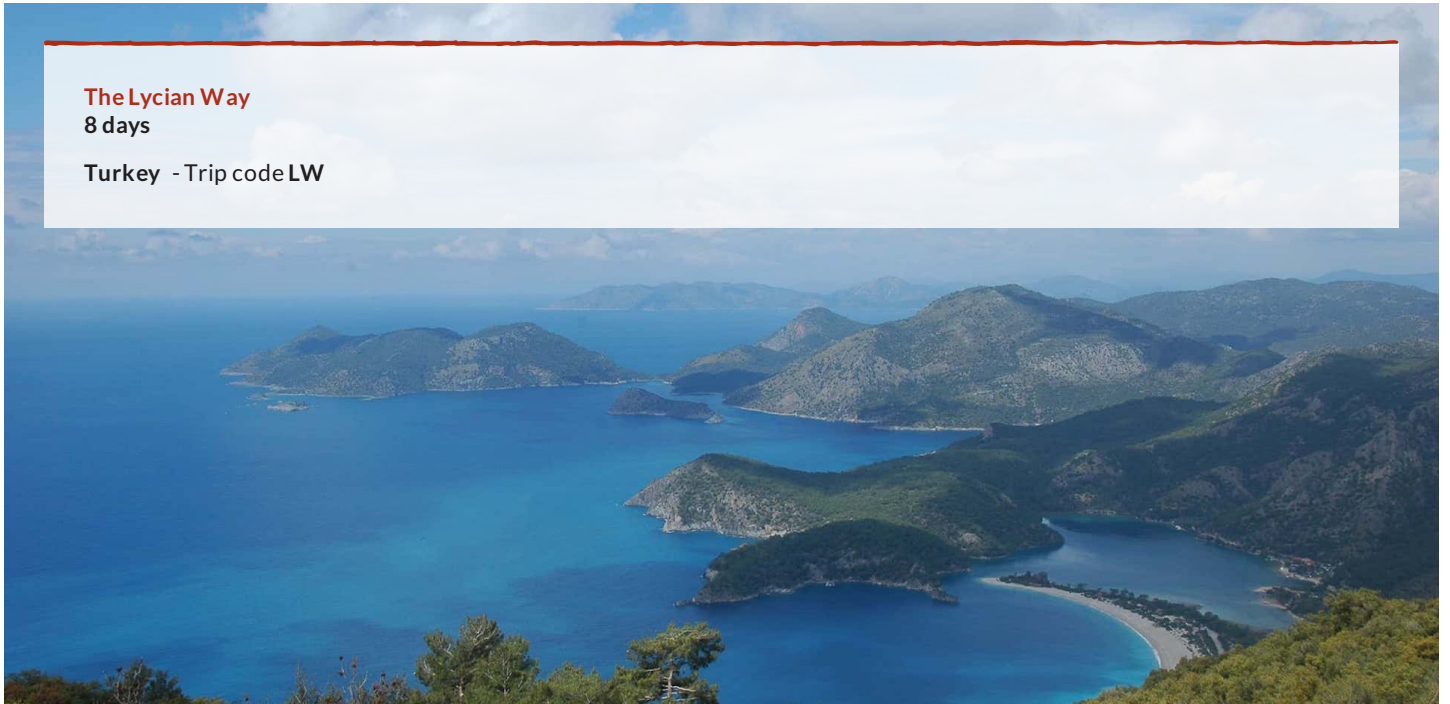


EXPLORE!

The Lycian Way

8 days

Turkey - Trip code LW



The Lycian Way

Walking through the ancient province of Lycia, this trip follows one of Turkey's most spectacular and famous coastal trails, the Lycian Way. On our journey from Kayakoy to Simena, we trek through foothills, forests and farmland and along coastal paths overlooking the Turquoise Coast. Along the way, we will experience remote village life, relax on golden beaches and discover ancient sites.

Trip highlights

- ★ **Lycian Way** - Walk unspoilt coastal and mountain paths with breathtaking views down to the Turquoise Coast
- ★ **Kayakoy** - Visit the deserted Greek village of Kaya Koyu, subject of Louis de Bernieres' book *Birds Without Wings*
- ★ **Local villages** - Discover traditional hill villages and be a guest in village guesthouses
- ★ **Patara** - Explore Patara's Roman ruins (birthplace of Saint Nicholas) and the stunning golden sand beach
- ★ **Kas** - Hike to the ancient port of Aperlae and visit the beautiful Kekova Bay, with its sunken ruins and medieval castle, from this attractive harbour town.

ACCOMMODATION GRADE:

Standard

Our standard, mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service, often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en suite facilities.

WALKING GRADE:

Moderate

For those who are fit and active, these moderate walks are normally on good paths and tracks at low altitude. Days may include some fairly demanding ascents and descents, so previous experience is preferable but not essential.

GROUP SIZE:

10 - 16

Maximum group size ranges from between 6 to 20 people, depending on the type of trip, the transport and accommodation used and activities included. We rarely have groups that are smaller than five or six people and the average is 12 people plus an Explore leader.

Itinerary

Itineraries on some departure dates may differ, please select the itinerary that you wish to explore.

DAY 1 - Join trip Kayakoy, site of the deserted Greek village

We start our trip in Kayakoy, a peaceful farming community close to Fethiye. This evening there will be the option of taking a walk around the deserted Greek village of Kayakoy. Dominating the mountainside that overlooks the village, Kayakoy has fallen into ruin since the exodus of the Greeks in 1923, forced out by the Treaty of Lausanne. Today its ghostly buildings cast a strange profile against the sky, giving the impression of a town cursed by its turbulent past.



Accommodation: Muzzy's Place (or similar)



Simple Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Dinner

DAY 2 - Enjoy views to Oludeniz Beach as walk to Faralya village; stay in village house

There is a second opportunity to have a short walk around Kayakoy before breakfast. After breakfast we hike from Ovacik village, nestling on the hillside overlooking Oludeniz, and head south up onto the outflung shoulders of Baba Dagi (1989 m). Along the way we are rewarded with fine views back over Turkey's most photographed beach, Oludeniz. Passing through pine forests and remote villages we descend to the village of Faralya which lies on a small plateau above the fjord-like Butterfly Valley, where steep limestone cliffs drop to the sea. Butterfly Valley is a lepidopterist's delight, deriving its name from the abundance of creatures that flutter about its lush canyon walls. Walking: 13 km, approximately 5 hours; morning is mostly uphill but gradient is never severe. +600 m.



Accommodation: George House (or similar)



Simple Guesthouse



Swimming pool available



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast & Dinner

DAY 3 - Hike through forest and farmland to village of Gey; stay in village house

Starting gently uphill through pine forest, we reach farmland with open fields that soon give way to spectacular terraces with views to the villages far below, as well as across the sea to distant islands. We descend for a while, towards the distant beach and village of Kabak. Skirting the higher slopes of the village we follow an ancient path into a blind valley before climbing up through pine forest again to the tiny village of Alınca. Perched high over the sea we may take a well earned tea break with the villagers before continuing. In the afternoon we pass high above beautiful bays of this spectacular coastline as we continue towards the village of Gey, our destination for the night. Walking: 18 km, approximately 7 hours hiking, relatively steep for about an hour and a half before lunch. +850 m.



Accommodation: Gey Village House (or similar)



Simple Village House



Meals Provided: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY 4 - Discover dramatic coastal views as hike to ancient city of Sidyma.

From Gey, the Lycian Way continues through stunning coastal scenery staying high as far as Bel, then climbs more via some large plains and pine forests, before descending steadily to Sidyma Ancient City (Dodurga Village) The site has some very well preserved and unusual tombs from the Roman and Byzantine period - the village is amongst, and indeed part of the site. A tea stop can be made at the house opposite the mosque. From the site we make a transfer (approx 30 minutes) to the village of Patara where we spend two nights. Walking: 12 kms, approx 5 hours. +260m -639m.



Accommodation: Sultan Pataras Hotel (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast & Lunch

DAY 5 - Follow the route of the aqueduct to Patara Beach

Following the route of the of aqueduct from Delikkemer to Patara we hike across fertile rolling fields and through pine forest, enjoying beautiful coastal views before descending to the southern end of Patara Beach. Here we have an opportunity to swim and explore the extensive ruins of ancient Patara, the birthplace of Saint Nicholas. Walking: 8 kms, approx 3.5 hours plus exploration of ruins and beachtime. +400 m.



Accommodation: Sultan Pataras Hotel (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 6 - Ascend to Mount Felen; drive to the harbour town of Kas

Taking a route across streams and through villages, almost untouched by modern life, our path climbs to a ridge, Mount Felen, with views of the higher mountains inland and the coast below that are almost unsurpassed. We descend by vehicle to Kas, one of the most beautiful ports on the Turkish Riviera, with a dramatic backdrop of limestone cliffs. Kas is a great place to relax, with cafes and restaurants spilling out onto cobbled streets and a network of tiny back-alleys to explore. Walking: 16 km, approximately 6 hours. +400 m.



Accommodation: Club Phellos Hotel (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 7 - Walk to ancient port of Aperlae; Kekova Bay boat trip

This morning we hike to the hamlet and ancient port of Aperlae and from there by boat to the castle-topped village of Simena, possibly one of the most beautiful settings on the Mediterranean. A tiny village accessible only on foot or by boat (it has no roads), its harbour is dotted with ancient sarcophagi (tombs), Roman baths and houses that cling to a hillside beneath a medieval castle. Hiking up to the castle we find within its walls a tiny ancient theatre (the smallest in Lycia, with a seating capacity for about 300 people). Carved from the solid rock it is a wonderful place to sit and soak up the beautiful surroundings and layers of history. En-route to Simena we visit the sunken city of Kekova by boat where you can enjoy a BBQ lunch on board. The results of various earthquakes, the partly submerged streets and buildings are visible in the crystal clear waters and there are visible mosaic pavements, terracotta amphorae, walls and staircases that once formed part of this remote island community. Then we return to Kas for our final evening. Walking: 10 km, approximately 3 hours. +100 m.



Accommodation: Club Phellos Hotel (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



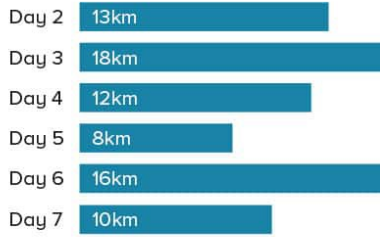
Meals Provided: Breakfast & Lunch

DAY 8 - Transfer to Dalaman airport where our trip ends

Today we transfer to Dalaman airport where our trip ends.

Walking and Trekking information

DAILY DISTANCES



Walking grade

Moderate

Trek details

This is a 6-day trek with approximately 5 to 7 hours walking each day. Our trek grade for this trip is moderate.

Max walking altitude (m)

925



What's included?



Included meals

Breakfast: 7
Lunch: 3
Dinner: 3



Transport

Bus
Boat



Trip staff

Explore Tour Leader
Driver(s)



Accommodation

1 nights simple guesthouse
1 nights simple hotel
4 nights standard hotel
1 nights simple village house

Trip information

Country information

Turkey Holidays & Tours

Climate

Evenings and early mornings can be cool in the early and late season (before mid May and after early October). During the winter, temperatures usually hover between 0 and 10 degrees, but are usually wet, particularly around the coast. Summers are hot and dry with refreshing sea breezes. It is often cooler on higher ground and in the mountains and can be cold at night, even in the summer. Seasonal weather patterns can be unpredictable.

Time difference to GMT

+3

Plugs

2 Pin Round

Religion

Islam, Christian

Language

Turkish

Budgeting and packing

Clothing

The long Turkish summer can be hot, though much of the Mediterranean coastline is freshened by sea breezes. A warmer sweater or light fleece and long trousers are advisable for the evenings in early and late season.

Footwear

Bring well broken in walking boots, plus sandals or trainers for relaxing.

Luggage

20kg

Luggage: On tour

One main piece of baggage and daysack.

Equipment

The 2 village houses can provide blankets for sleeping. However, your own sleeping bag and liner may be preferable. If you want to sleep outdoors, please also bring a roll-mat. Note sleeping bags, mats and liner can also be hired locally for £20. A waterbottle, sunhat, sunglasses and sun protection cream are essential. Light waterproofs and a torch are also useful.

Tipping

Explore leader

At your discretion you might also consider tipping your Tour Leader in appreciation of the efficiency and service you receive.

Local crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognized part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. In order to make things easier for you, the Tour Leaders may organise a group's tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the tour. Accordingly you should allow approximately 15 Pounds for gratuities for local staff.

Country Information

Turkey Holidays & Tours

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Lunch price

£7

Dinner price

£13

Beer price

£2.7

Water price

£1

Foreign Exchange

Local currency

Turkish Lira.

Recommended Currency For Exchange

Major foreign currencies such as US Dollars, £Sterling and Euros can easily be changed. We advise against travelling with Travellers Cheques as commission rates are high. Other currencies can be exchanged in larger cities. We advise you to change money in Turkey as rates tend to be better.

Where To Exchange

Most major towns - your Tour Leader will advise you on arrival.

ATM Availability

ATMs are widely available throughout Turkey. To avoid large queues at the airport exchanges, you may wish to xchange some lira before arriving.

Credit Card Acceptance

In major restaurants.

Travellers Cheques

Not recommended.

Transport, Accommodation & Meals

Transport Information

Bus, Boat

Accommodation notes

Booking a Single Room

All of our group tours are planned and operated on a twin-share basis, meaning that the standard cost is based either on individual travellers sharing accommodation with another group member of the same sex, or people who book together sharing accommodation. Please refer to the tour notes where the single room option availability is detailed on a night by night basis for this tour, and the price for the available nights is detailed on the dates & prices tab by departure date. For Self-Guided trips the Single Room supplement offers the option of a single room each and is charged per person. The Single Room supplement also applies to the third person in a party of three that will be accommodated in a single room.

The village houses on this trip are a fantastic way to really experience some beautiful locations, to try amazing locally produced and traditional food and to meet the local families that live in this region. On day 2 your stay at George's House in Faralya could either be in shared (single sex) rooms with 3 or 4 mattresses on the floor or in 2 bed basic cabins. There are shared showers and toilet/washing facilities centrally located. Georges House has lovely gardens where they grow a lot of their own produce and even has a small swimming pool hidden away in amongst the citrus trees. It is also the perfect spot for sundowners as it looks out over the stunning Butterfly Valley and the coastline. On Day 3 you will stay at a house in Gey village. Again accommodation will be on mattresses in different rooms (2/3/4 to a room). There are shared shower and toilet facilities. Gey is a very typical rural Turkish village and the food and hospitality you will receive is just wonderful after a long days' walk.

Essential information

FCO Advice

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice [click here](#).

For more information from Explore about travel advice, [click here](#)

Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

Essential Information

Once your booking has been confirmed we guarantee the price will not increase, whatever the circumstances. Before booking please ensure you have read our important tour pricing information. [Booking Conditions](#)

Visa Information

Turkey: Visas are required by UK citizens. We recommend that you obtain your visa online, prior to arrival at <https://www.evisa.gov.tr/en/>. This will cost US\$20 and you will need a blank page in your passport for the stamp. Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See www.travcour.com to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

Booking conditions

Before booking your Explore trip, please ensure that you read both our [Essential Information](#) and [Booking Conditions](#).

Transfers

[Find out more about Trip Transfer Terms and Conditions before you book.](#)

Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found below in the dates and prices information.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer.

Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer click [here](#)

Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

Read more information about what travel insurance is required.

Flight information

Explore offers a wide range of flexible flying options to make joining and leaving our trips easy. Read more about them [here](#).

Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

Maximum altitude (m)

925

Non refundable permits

Turkey Holidays & Tours

Vaccinations

Nothing compulsory, but we recommend protection against tetanus, typhoid, infectious hepatitis and polio. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at <http://www.explore.co.uk/Travelhealth/> and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed before departure.