

# EXPLORE!

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NEW

## Family Active Turkey - Private Tour

TURKEY - TRIP CODE PTFLL

PRIVATE TOURS

### Why book this trip?

Uncover the rich history and beautiful landscape of ancient Lycia. Canoe down the Xanthos River to the beach at Patara, kayak over the sunken ruins of Kekova and explore the foothills of the Taurus Mountains, enjoying a delicious lunch in a local village. Spend your evenings exploring the cobbled streets and enjoying local Turkish cuisine in the delightful sea side town of Kas.

- **Sea kayaking** - Over the ruins in Kekova Bay, and visit a medieval castle
- **Snorkelling and swimming** - Opportunity to swim everyday
- **Kas** - Stay in a family run hotel with a great pool in the center of Kas
- **Lunch in a traditional village** - Walk to a village in the foothills of the Taurus Mountains for lunch



**INCLUDED MEALS**  
Breakfast: 7  
Lunch: 3



**TRIP STAFF**  
Activity Guide(s)  
Boat Crew  
Driver(s)  
Local Guide(s)



**TRANSPORT**  
Bicycle  
Boat  
Car  
On Foot



**ACCOMMODATION**  
7 nights  
comfortable hotel



**TRIP PACE:**  
Relaxed

## Itinerary

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

### DAY 1 - Join trip in Kas

Arrive in Kas, a laid back fishing town on the Turkish Lycian coast with a host of adventurous activities on offer.

You will be met on arrival at Dalaman International Airport (airport code DLM) by a transfer driver, and set off on the approximately three hour journey to your hotel in Kas. There are no activities planned today, so feel free to arrive in Dalaman at any time. For those booking their own flights, you will just need to let us know your flight details no later than three weeks prior to departure, in order to be met on arrival.

There are a large number of evening flights into Dalaman Airport, so depending on your arrival time a local representative in Kas will come and meet you at the hotel either tonight or tomorrow morning, to go through your itinerary in detail and answer any questions you may have. If you arrive in the evening to your hotel, a message will be left for you with information and a meeting time for the next morning.

If your flight arrives earlier in the day, perhaps you might choose to take a dip in the hotel pool or head into Kas to sample the wide choice of restaurants. Be sure to sample the hearty Turkish food on offer such as slow cooked lamb, a barbecued meat selection or pide - it's similar to a pizza. Kas is a great place to relax, with cafes and restaurants spilling out onto cobbled streets and a network of tiny backalleys to explore.



**ACCOMMODATION:**  
Club Phellos Hotel (or similar)

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**Grade: Comfortable Hotel**



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: NONE

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**DAY 2 - Free day in Kas; horse riding, diving, or go for a swim**

Your first day here is free to settle in, explore at your own pace and just enjoy the sunshine. For your first day in Turkey, you might simply want to enjoy the pool, or the hotel can organise taxis to nearby beaches.

For those with a hankering for culture, Kas is built around the remains of ancient Antiphellos and there are ruins of a Hellenistic theatre, the monumental Lion Tomb and some hillside rock tombs scattered in and around the town. For something more active there are options to try horse riding, or take to the water as the sea around Kas is home to excellent diving locations that cater to all levels of experience.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Club Phellos Hotel (or similar)

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**Grade: Comfortable Hotel**



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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**DAY 3 - Full day boat trip from Kas, swimming off the boat**

After a leisurely start this morning, walk down to the harbour to board a wooden gulet boat for a ride

along Turkey's Turquoise Coast. Cruising through the calm bays around Kas, stop to swim in the clear, warm waters of the pleasant bays and rocky coves. You may wish to bring some snorkelling gear to look for ancient amphora (vases) lying on the seabed, as well as marine life. In the early afternoon the crew cook up a delicious barbecue lunch before cruising back to Kas.

This boat trip is shared with other passengers, usually between 20-30 people in total.

It's important to note that this itinerary is flexible and can change for operational reasons and weather conditions. For example, if, at the time of your booking, this boat trip on Day 2 has no availability, we will simply make reservations for a different day and shuffle the itinerary around a little. The beauty of staying centrally in Kas for the whole week means that we can make these changes with very little impact to the trip. Our local representative in Kas will go through any of these changes with you upon arrival.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Club Phellos Hotel (or similar)



**Grade: Comfortable Hotel**



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST & LUNCH

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#### **DAY 4 - Canoe trip down Xanthos River to a beach at Patara**

Get picked up this morning from your hotel and drive around 1.5hrs to the Xanthos Riverbank. You'll be canoeing with a group of other travellers today, all taking to the water for a four hour canoeing trip down the Xanthos River to Patara beach. The kayaking is suitable for beginners and no previous experience is needed.

Passing through the tranquil and unspoilt rural backwaters, those with keen eyes can spot colourful kingfishers, egrets, grey and squacco herons and terrapins on the riverbanks. Your guides will find a spot on the river bank for a barbeque lunch before continuing on to the beach at Patara, where there is time to relax and swim. The 18 kilometres of golden sand is one of the longest beaches in Turkey and is a protected nesting area for giant loggerhead turtles.



ACCOMMODATION:

Club Phellos Hotel (or similar)

**Grade: Comfortable Hotel**



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST & LUNCH

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### **DAY 5 - Walks in the foothills of the Taurus Mountains, stopping for traditional Turkish snacks**

Head for the hills with a guide today, exploring cedar forests, streams, shady glades and tiny charming villages where the pattern of life has remained almost untouched for centuries. The plan is to take a leisurely walk between these mountain villages, and enjoying a light lunch of pastries, traditional Ayran (a yoghurt drink) and Turkish tea, before driving back to Kas via the spectacular canyon-mouth beach of Kapitas. Located just west of Kas, Kapitas is an idyllic spot for a swim at the end of a day in the mountains, so don't forget to bring swimming gear today.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Club Phellos Hotel (or similar)

**Grade: Comfortable Hotel**



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST & LUNCH

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### **DAY 6 - Free day; optional boat trip to the Greek island of Kastellorizo**

Today is another restful day to enjoy what Kas has to offer. You might want to visit the Church of St Nicholas at Demre (Myra) which is where the 4th century Bishop Nicholas is said to have anonymously given money to the poor thus spawning the legend of Father Christmas. Saint Nicholas is the patron saint of two countries; Greece and Russia, and is also the protector of children, merchants, scholars and sailors - a busy man! The origin of Saint Nicholas's gift giving is believed to have arisen from a legend in which a shopkeeper was too poor to supply his daughters with dowries. When Saint Nicholas heard of their plight, he threw three bags of coins into the shopkeeper's yard, saving the daughters from a life of hardship.

The Church of Saint Nicholas was built after his death and Noel Baba's remains were placed in a rock sarcophagus. A modern statue of Saint Nicholas, complete with beard, bag of toys, and children has been placed outside the church. But Myra isn't just the home of Santa. A mile north of the church is the impressive ruins of the ancient town, where dozens of Lycian tombs are carved out of the cliff above a Roman amphitheatre.

Alternatively, join an excursion to the Greek island of Meis. The island is just 2.5 kilometres from the Turkish coast and yet more than 100 kilometres from Rhodes, its nearest Greek neighbour. Kastellorizo is an idyllic seafront town with colourful buildings lining the harbour where yachts and fishing boats dock. The surrounding hills are home to typical Greek whitewashed building with terracotta coloured roofs.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Club Phellos Hotel (or similar)



**Grade: Comfortable Hotel**



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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### **DAY 7 - Sea-kayaking over sunken ruins to Kekova Island, visit Simena Castle.**

Rise early today to enjoy a day of sea kayaking in the tranquil and protected bay of Kekova. It's one of the most scenic areas in Lycia; a set of picturesque islands, bays and small ancient cities. With a guide and a support boat, kayak out on to the calm water, passing over the sunken city of Kekova. Shifting land caused by earthquakes have partly submerged the streets and buildings, which are now visible in the crystal clear waters and there are even steps leading down into the depths of the bay.

The pace is relaxed and no previous experience is necessary - simply enjoy the scenery as you kayak to the picture-postcard village of Simena, whose harbour is dotted with ancient sarcophagi (tombs) and Roman baths and houses that cling to a hillside beneath a medieval castle. It's possible to leave the kayak

for a short walk up to the castle where there's a tiny ancient theatre within its walls. Carved from the solid rock, it is a wonderful place to sit and soak up the serene surroundings.

There's the opportunity to have a tasty lunch of meze and grills at a waterside restaurant, before taking to the waters again, paddling through a labyrinth of rocks, passing the shoreline necropolis of Teimiusa to reach Ucgiz. From here, drive back to Kas where the rest of the afternoon is free to relax.

The kayak trip takes around three hours in the water, with additional time for lunch, and will cover approximately eight kilometres.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Club Phellos Hotel (or similar)



Grade: Comfortable Hotel



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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### DAY 8 - Trip ends in Kas.

Your trip ends today, and you will set off on the three hour drive to the airport for your international flight. There are no activities planned today, so you are free to depart from Dalaman Airport (DLM) at any time. If your flight is departing later in the day, luggage storage facilities are available at our hotel.



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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## Trip information

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### Climate and country information

# Turkey

## Climate

Summers are hot and dry with refreshing sea breezes and clear waters, great for boat trips. It is often cooler on higher ground and in the mountains and can be cold at night, even in the summer. During the shoulder seasons (loosely speaking, before mid-May and after early October), temperatures and rainfall can be erratic, with some temperatures dropping to 8-12 degrees, and other days being bright and sunny up to 25 degrees. Mountain locations will be cooler than on the coast, of course. In the winter, temperatures usually hover between 0 and 10 degrees, but are usually wet, particularly around the coast. The best time for walking in Turkey is mid-May, June and September, with pleasant temperatures and clear blue skies.

Time difference to GMT	Plugs	Religion	Language
+3	2 Pin Round	Islam, Christian	Turkish

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## Budgeting and packing

### Optional activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations. Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

You have two free days during this trip, and there are plenty of activities in and around Kas to suit all budgets and interests, or simply choose to relax at the beach or by the pool. A selection of optional activities, which have all been safety checked by Explore, are listed below to help you to budget. Our local supplier has an office in Kas, and they can help you book any of these. Alternatively, there are also plenty of agencies in Kas where you can book any other excursion that interests you.

Kas:

Day 2 or 6: Full day boat trip to Meis island (also known as Kastellorizo Island) £24 per person

Day 2 or 6: Horse riding £38 per person including return transport to the stables.

Day 2 or 6: DEMRE Visit to the Church of St Nicholas and City of Myra. £16 per person

Day 2 or 6: Scuba diving from £30 to £60 depending on number of dives; experienced divers should bring certification and log book; intro dives are available for those without previous experience.

Please note that all optional excursions listed above are subject to change and availability and they may not all be possible to offer at all times of year - for example, the diving season is typically late May to late October/early November.

### Clothing

The long Turkish summer can be hot, though much of the Mediterranean coastline is freshened by sea breezes. A warmer sweater is recommended for the evenings in early or late season. On the canoeing and sea-kayaking excursions in particular there is no shelter from the sun, so a sunhat is essential.

March / April and late September / October / November tend to be cooler so bring layers and some



warmer clothes. A light rainjacket may also be useful.

## Footwear

Trainers or walking boots for walks, plus sandals to wear in the canoes and sea kayaks which will stay on when wet.

## Luggage

20Kg

### Luggage: On tour

One main piece of baggage and daypack.

## Equipment

We recommend a water bottle, torch, insect repellent, sunglasses, daysack and plenty of high factor suncream. All equipment is provided on the sea-kayaking and canoeing trips. Keen snorkellers should take their own equipment as there are opportunities to snorkel on the boat and even in the clear waters of the beaches along this coast. Note: Qualified scuba divers wishing to dive should bring their diving certificate and log book.

## Tipping

### Local crew

Although voluntary, tipping is a recognised 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. With that in mind, we have provided some guidelines below which are, of course, discretionary.

Guides - £5pp

Drivers - £2-4pp depending on the length of the journey

Restaurants - 10-12% if the service is good

Hotel staff - £15 for the week

## Turkey

### 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	Dinner price	Beer price	Water price
£7	£13	£2.7	£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.

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## **Transport, Accommodation & Meals**

### **Transport Information**

Bicycle, Boat, Car, On Foot

### **Accommodation notes**

The hotel is situated in the centre of Kas and is a short walk from the sea. The en suite rooms are tastefully decorated and include a sea or hill-side view, air-conditioning, satellite TV, minibar and hairdryer. The hotel facilities include a restaurant with a good selection of both local and western cuisine, outdoor swimming pools plus a children's pool and a 40 metre water slide. Furthermore, the hotel has three bars, basketball court, safe boxes, laundry service and fitness centre. Wi-Fi is available in the spacious lobby.

### **Family swimming**

There is a pool at the hotel with regular opportunities to swim in the sea

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## **Essential Information**

### **Government Travel Safety 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 citizens, check the latest Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office advice.

Please refer to our COVID-19 entry requirements page for any country-specific conditions of entry. Whilst we strive to update this on a regular basis we recommend you also check the FCDO website for the latest advice on entry requirements in this fast-evolving situation. Information can change at any

time.

### **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.

### **Price Guarantee**

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 and Passport Information**

Turkey: British nationals travelling to Turkey for tourism or business purposes do not require a visa for visits of up to 90 days. Other nationalities should check with your local embassy or online at <https://www.evisa.gov.tr> for up to date information.

Australian, Canadian and USA nationals can get an e-Visa online through the official Republic of Turkey e-Visa website: <https://www.evisa.gov.tr>. An e-Visa costs \$35 (plus \$1.05 service fee) and you can pay by credit or debit card. If you use this option, you should apply at least one week before travel and can do so up to 3 months in advance. In case of technical problems at the Turkish port of entry, carry a printed copy of your e-Visa or keep an electronic copy on a smartphone or other device to show at immigration.

Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may be able to apply through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See [www.travcour.com](http://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.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of a full passport, with the correct validity for your chosen destination.

### **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 receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The complimentary transfers will be arranged from the Explore designated airport or train station to your trips joining point, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. Generally the airport or station that Explore have selected will be the one that is closest to the town or city where the trip starts, or the one nearest to the joining point. It will be either an airport or train station but not both.

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, Polar, 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. The cost of many of our Polar Voyages will exceed the capped amount covered by standard insurance premiums and you will be required to pay an additional premium to cover the full value of your trip. Please ensure that you are covered for the full amount of your holiday cost, as insufficient cover could invalidate a claim under the policy. 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.

## Ability to swim

An ability to swim is essential for your safe enjoyment of the water based activities on this trip. If you wish to participate in these activities then we insist that you are able to swim.

## Turkey

### 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.

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## Additional Information



## Tour Staff

Unlike our group tours our private journeys do not have a Tour Leader. However, you are still in safe hands as we work closely with our expert local suppliers on the planning and organisation of your holiday to ensure that you have a fantastic time. You'll be met on arrival at the airport by a transfer driver, and in Kas you will meet one of our local representatives who will go through your holiday details and answer any questions you may have. Your activity guides for the cycling, kayaking and canoeing are professional, licenced guides, with excellent knowledge in their field of expertise. They will really help to bring the destination to life. You will have all the information that you need to explore and there is always the reassurance that you have someone on hand with our 24/7 emergency contact number.

## Why book this trip

This family holiday allows you the opportunity to explore the region with visits to local villages as well as enjoying a number of arranged activities including; sea kayaking over sunken ruins, canoeing along a river to a secluded beach on the coast and a boat trip on a traditional gulet, hand built in teak and pine. Turkey offers fantastic value at the moment, with a great price, you can take your family can enjoy a week of active adventure with ample time to relax by the hotel pool or local beaches.

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## Reviews

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PRICE GUARANTEE  
PROMISE



AIRPORT  
TRANSFERS