

# EXPLORE!

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## Walking Turkey's Turquoise Coast

TURKEY - TRIP CODE WTC

WALKING AND TREKKING



### Why book this trip?

Based in the beautiful harbour town of Kas, this walking holiday takes you along the Turquoise Coast exploring the forests, hills, coastline and history of the area. Pass ancient Lycian tombs cut into the cliffs with views of Patara's pristine golden sands and Meis Island.

- **Taurus Mountains** - Rustic lunch with a local family with views of Mount Akdag
- **Lycian Way** - Walk to sparkling coves and quiet villages surrounded by olive groves
- **Xanthos** - Exploration of this compact ancient UNESCO Site



**INCLUDED MEALS**  
Breakfast: 7  
Lunch: 1



**TRIP STAFF**  
Explore Tour  
Leader



**TRANSPORT**  
Bus



**ACCOMMODATION**  
7 nights  
comfortable hotel



**WALKING GRADE:**  
Easy To  
Moderate



**GROUP SIZE:**  
10 - 16

## Itinerary

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

### DAY 1 - Join trip in the harbour town of Kas

Our trip starts today in Kas, a beautiful coastal town set against a backdrop of steep forested cliffs at the foothills of the Taurus mountains, overlooking the blue waters of the Mediterranean. Kas is known for its old town, cafes, restaurants and interesting shops and these are within walking distance of our hotel, as is the waterfront.

For those arriving on time our Leader plans to meet you in the hotel reception at 7pm for the welcome meeting and for those that wish, there is the chance to go out for dinner. There are no other activities planned today, so you are free to arrive in Kas at any time. If you would like to receive a complimentary airport transfer today, you'll need to arrive into Dalaman Airport (DLM), which is around two hours drive. Should you miss the welcome meeting, your Leader will inform you of any essential information as soon as you catch up.

If you arrive earlier in the day, perhaps you might choose to relax beside our hotel's outdoor swimming pool, have a drink in the terrace bar or to take a stroll around the harbour.



**ACCOMMODATION:**  
Hideaway Hotel (or similar)

**Grade: Comfortable Hotel**



**SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE**



MEALS PROVIDED: NONE

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## **DAY 2 - Explore Kas on foot. Hike to Limanagzi Beach with the option to return by boat**

This morning we get our bearings with a guided orientation walk around Kas's cobbled streets and network of back-alleys, passing some of the Lycian tombs that lie scattered around the town. Kas is built around the remains of ancient Antiphellos. A short walk from the centre we'll find the horseshoe-shaped Hellenistic theatre where we can climb to the top of the well-preserved theatre for magnificent sea views.

Picking up picnic supplies we walk to Limanagzi Beach, following the cliff top path taking in the coastal views. Limanagzi is a beautiful sheltered bay only accessible on foot. Two rock-hewn Lycian burial chambers can be found in the forest at the edge of the beach. After a chance to relax or swim in the warm water we head back to Kas, either on foot following a different route passing ancient Lycian tombs cut into the cliffs or by taking a water taxi across the bay (not included).

Today's easy eight kilometre walk is expected to take around three hours with 170 metres of ascent and descent.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Hideaway Hotel (or similar)

Grade: Comfortable Hotel



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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## **DAY 3 - Walk along a section of Lycian Way from a Roman aqueduct. Visit the site of Xanthos**

Today we drive to the Roman engineering marvel of Delikkemer, this hillside aqueduct was once part of the system that brought water to Patara. We continue to Inpinar, the catchment tunnel of the Xanthos Aqueduct from where our walk begins.

We'll walk along a section of Lycian Way to Cavdir village. The Lycian Way is a 540 kilometre long marked footpath winding around the coast of southern Turkey. It is up there with the most beautiful walks in the world, combining Mediterranean views, mountainous hinterland, Turkish culture and ancient ruins. We join the trail near the ridge of the valley, following the aqueduct through quiet villages surrounded by olive groves.

We then drive to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Xanthos, the once great capital of ancient Lycia. With a tragic history drenched in violence, Xanthos contains some impressive remains including an

inscribed obelisk that dates back to the 5th century BC and a tomb unique to Lycia which is actually two-tombs-in-one, a normal Lycian sarcophagus which rests upon a short pillar tomb. We return to Kas by bus to enjoy the rest of the afternoon in the town.

Today's easy five kilometre walk is expected to take around two hours with 100 metres of ascent and 250 metres of descent.



**ACCOMMODATION:**

Hideaway Hotel (or similar)



**Grade: Comfortable Hotel**



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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#### **DAY 4 - Free day with option to visit a nearby Greek Island or the sunken city of Kekova**

Kas has much to offer for those who just want to relax and soak up the atmosphere today, with its shady cafes, coves for swimming and some beautiful local crafts on offer.

There are also several possibilities for day trips including the option to visit the isolated and ruggedly beautiful Greek island of Meis, just one mile from the Turkish coast. Alternatively spend the day at the picturesque bay of Kekova, taking a boat trip or sea-kayaking over the sunken city to the village of Simena and hike up to the medieval castle. The scenic setting at Kekova is the result of various earthquakes that have partly submerged the streets and buildings of, now visible in the crystal clear waters.

For those wishing to walk today, your leader will be available to guide an eight kilometre hike from the aqueduct of Delikkemer to the ruins of Patara. Patara was one of Lycia's principal ports under the Romans, once a wealthy city, the ruins are extensive. The walk follows the aqueduct system as it contours around the hillside, before descending to the endless sands of Patara beach.



**ACCOMMODATION:**

Hideaway Hotel (or similar)



**Grade: Comfortable Hotel**



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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### **DAY 5 - Walk through inland villages with Mediterranean views**

We spend the day walking between hidden villages in the hinterland. Walking above the farming community of Gökçeoren we pick up the Lycian Way and trek through tiny settlements. The path ascends to give us magnificent sea views all the way back to Baba Dagi mountain near Fethiye, past Patara Beach and across to Meis Island. Following the red and white Lycian Way markers, we'll pass ancient Lycian rock tombs and an area of unusual eroded rock before finally meeting our bus near the village of Saribelen and returning to Kas.

A popular holiday destination for Turks, Kas has some great restaurant options for you to try over the course of the week. Some of the liveliest bars and restaurants cluster around the harbourfront square where children play until late at night while the adults can enjoy a raki (the local aniseed spirit) or a beer. More traditional izgara restaurants (where you can watch the meat being cooked over a massive open grill) can be found in the smaller back streets.

Today's moderate 11 kilometre walk is expected to take around four-and-a-half hours with 450 metres of ascent and descent.



ACCOMMODATION:

Hideaway Hotel (or similar)



**Grade: Comfortable Hotel**



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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### **DAY 6 - Mountain hike with great views of Mount Akdag (3,048m). Enjoy lunch in a village house**

Today we journey into the mountainous interior, driving up to the 1,580 metre Kuruova Pass. We spend the morning hiking in the shadow of Mount Akdag (3,048m), following a network of trails and tracks taking us through forests of cedar, pine and juniper trees.

Passing scattered villages and farmsteads we descend, first on forest track and then on an ancient footpath, before reaching a wooden bridge and crossing the deep Kibris canyon. After a short but steep climb to the hamlet of Kalkangolu, we'll meet our waiting bus and drive on to the village of Sutlegen where we'll have lunch in a local home.

Meals served at home in the villages are traditionally eaten from large communal plates whilst sitting on

cushions on a floor covered in brightly-coloured woven carpets. However, if the weather is fine we may sit outdoors and dine al fresco under the shade of the vines. All Turkish meals generally start with hot and cold meze (starters), accompanied by limitless supplies of the morning's freshly baked bread. Popular meze include cacik, a yoghurt and garlic dip, a variety of aubergine dishes and dolma, vine leaves stuffed with minced lamb and rice. A fresh salad of homegrown tomatoes, cucumber and sweet red onion is generally always served together with other seasonal fresh vegetables. Main course dishes are usually a grilled meat dish with lamb being the most popular, accompanied by bulgar wheat or rice and sometimes fried potatoes.

After lunch there's time for a wander in the village and visit to the local mosque before we drive back to the coast by a different spectacular route. If time and weather allows there will be the opportunity to stop for a swim at Kaputas Beach.

Today's moderate seven kilometre walk is expected to take around three hours with 250 metres of ascent and 630 metres of descent.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Hideaway Hotel (or similar)



**Grade: Comfortable Hotel**



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST & LUNCH

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## **DAY 7 - Walk to the Roman Port of Andriake via two beaches**

We walk on another section of the Lycian Way today, driving to the village of Kapakli where we pick up the trail with lovely coastal views. We descend to the coast and a beautiful cove of sparking white limestone pebbles before approaching the sandy Demre river mouth. Crossing a wooden bridge, we walk along the untouched golden beach into the small harbour of Andriake.

In early Byzantine times, Andriake was once the harbour of Myra and the capital of Lycia, housing the Lycian fleet. We'll have time to visit the remains of the ancient city. Hadrian's Granary, which was built in 129 A.D., has been carefully restored to become the open-air Museum of Lycian Civilizations complete with a reconstructed Roman-era boat and bird-observation platforms. Flamingos can sometimes be spotted here.

Today's easy eight kilometre walk is expected to take around three hours with 170 metres of ascent and 240 metres of descent.



ACCOMMODATION:  
Hideaway Hotel (or similar)

Grade: Comfortable Hotel



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

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### DAY 8 - Trip ends in Kas

The trip ends after breakfast at our hotel in Kas.

There are no activities planned today, so you are free to depart from Kas at any time. If your flight is departing later in the day, luggage storage facilities are available at our hotel. If you would like to receive a complimentary airport transfer today, you need to depart from Dalaman Airport (DLM).



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.

Water taxi from Limanagzi Beach to Kas £4

Museum of Lycian Civilisations £2

Optional walk - Patara entrance fee and share of transfer back to Kas approx £10 (depending on numbers)

### **Clothing**

The long Turkish summer can be hot, though much of the Mediterranean coastline is freshened by sea breezes. In the spring and autumn, a warmer sweater or fleece is recommended for the evenings, as is lightweight rainwear and long trousers. Bring light and comfortable clothing that can be layered according to the temperature. Tops made from wicking materials which keep you drier and walking trousers are preferable to trousers of heavier material such as jeans.

- Breathable wind and waterproof jacket
- T-shirts
- Long sleeved tops
- Sunhat
- Long trousers
- Shorts (if you prefer to walk in them)
- Swimwear and towel
- Midlayer Fleece/pullover
- Socks (liner and thicker pair)

### **Footwear**

We recommend you bring walking boots with ankle support- leather or fabric are both fine. Make sure that your boots are worn-in and comfortable before the start of the trip. Also trainers or sandals for relaxing and general wear.

We suggest that on international flights you either carry your walking boots in your hand luggage or wear them - should your luggage be lost or delayed, your own boots are the one thing that will be irreplaceable.

### **Luggage**

20kg

### **Luggage: On tour**



Bring one main piece of luggage and a 20-30 litre day sack is recommended. You will need to carry what you need for the day which may include a raincoat, jumper, camera, sun-cream, water and picnic lunch. On hot days you will carry fewer clothes but more drinking water.

## Equipment

- Sunglasses
- Sun cream
- Small Torch (with spare batteries and bulb)
- Camera
- Walking poles (if you usually use them)
- Personal toiletries
- Personal first aid kit - On each walk a first aid kit is carried but you should have your own blister kit, supply of plasters, aspirin and other essentials.
- Insect repellent
- Small waterproof dry bag (for items such as your mobile phone)
- Reusable water bottle (minimum 1 litre) - Get 15% discount on a Water-to-Go bottle [www.explore.co.uk/about-us/responsible-travel/water-to-go-discount-with-explore](http://www.explore.co.uk/about-us/responsible-travel/water-to-go-discount-with-explore)

## Tipping

### Explore leader

Tipping isn't compulsory, and we work hard to ensure that our leaders all receive a fair wage. However, you might want to recognise a leader that's done a great job or really added to your trip by giving them a tip. We're often asked about the recommended amount. It's a tricky one, and down to personal preference, but we'd recommend between £15 to £20 per person per week as a guideline.

### 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. Accordingly, you should allow approximately £15 of local currency for tipping.

In order to make things easier for you, the Explore Leader may organise a group's tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the trip.

## 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**

Bus

**Accommodation notes**

We use two hotels in Kas throughout the year:

April & early October - Hotel Club Phellos is conveniently situated just a few minutes walk uphill from the centre of Kas, with views down towards the harbour. The swimming pool and terrace, and most of the rooms, look down over the town and towards the sea. The hotel offers a restaurant and bar service, and breakfast can be taken on the outside terrace overlooking the large fresh water pool.

March & winter - The smaller family ran Hideaway Hotel has a lovely boutique feel with crisp white rooms and modern bathrooms. There is a small fresh-water pool and the roof top terrace and bar has fantastic coastal and town views, prefect for chilling-out after a days walking. You can start the day with a home-made breakfast of fresh local produce.

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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 Foreign, Commonwealth & Development 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.

### **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.

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.

## **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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## Walking and Trekking information

DAILY DISTANCES		
Day 2	8km	3hrs
Day 3	5km	2hrs
Day 4		
Day 5	11km	4.5hrs
Day 6	7km	3hrs
Day 7	8km	3hrs

### Walking grade

Easy to moderate

### Trek details

Walks on 5 days for between 2 and 4.5 hours, along marked trails, mule and forest tracks and old Roman roads often stony underfoot.

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## Additional Information



## Why book this trip

Turkey is once again gaining in popularity and has so much potential for fantastic walking trips. This walking holiday is extremely good value, offering an ideal introduction to the country. Perfect for those looking for a budget week of varied walking in comfortable centre-based accommodation, combining Mediterranean and mountain views, Turkish culture, sea swimming and ancient ruins.

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## Reviews



**AWARD WINNING  
EXPLORE LEADERS**



**PRICE GUARANTEE  
PROMISE**



**AIRPORT  
TRANSFERS**