

Hiking on the Western Lycian Trail: A Journey Through Ancient Cities and Coastal Landscapes

Destination: Turkey

Tour type: Fully guided hotel and hiking tour with support vehicle

Language: English

Duration: 8 days / 7 nights / 6 hiking tours

Arrival and Departure Airport: Dalaman International (DLM)

Road condition: Marked, moderate, and active hiking trails with slight altitude variations.

Route: 45 km in total, Daily average of 5 to 10 km (grade 2 moderate to grade 3 active)

Ascent: min. 30 m to max. 540 m elevation

Descent: min. 160 m to max. 380 m elevation

Highlights:

- ✓ Delve into the rich history of the Lycian civilization and visit their ancient cities Aperlae and Patara.
- ✓ Explore the town of Kayaköy (Karymlassos), 'The Abandoned Greek Village', visit the Amintas Rock Tomb, and take a stroll in Fethiye.
- ✓ Gaze over the Blue Lagoon 'Ölüdeniz'
- ✓ Hike to the hilltop Simena fortress, offering views of Kekova Island and surrounding bays, followed by a boat ride along the sunken city.
- ✓ Enjoy Turkish cuisine at family-run businesses, savoring delicious mezes prepared with olive oil, fresh seafood, salads, and a wide selection of the rich cuisine of Anatolia.

Experience:

Immerse yourself in a captivating blend of history and nature on this enchanting hike through the Western Lycian Trail. Witness the ancient cities of Aperlae and Patara, where time-honored ruins narrate tales of a glorious past. Stroll through the ghostly remains of Kayaköy and marvel at the stunning views from the hilltop Simena Fortress. The trek along ancient waterways and through idyllic landscapes showcases Turkey's breathtaking beauty and its rich historical tapestry. Savor the delightful flavors of traditional Turkish cuisine, from olive oil-enriched mezes to fresh seafood. Each step of this journey is a discovery - a harmonious blend of antiquity, nature, and the inviting Mediterranean lifestyle.

Day-by-Day Tour Program

Day 1, Saturday, Welcome to Turkey

Upon arrival to Dalaman, your guide will warmly welcome you, offering a comprehensive overview of the adventure that awaits you in the coming week. Settle into the cozy ambiance of a quaint family-run hotel, where you'll have the opportunity to connect with other members of the group. As dusk falls, we'll enjoy the rich Turkish cuisine right after a welcome cocktail served in the hotel.

Meals: Dinner

Accommodation: Bungalow Hotel in Kidrak or Faralya

Day 2, Sunday, Ölüdeniz to Kayaköy, A Ghost Town Coming Back to Life

Today, we embark on an exciting journey to Kayaköy, starting with a delightful breakfast featuring "Simit" pastries and fresh sheep's cheese. Our hike begins at the picturesque Ölüdeniz, famed for its stunning "Blue Lagoon" bay, leading us through a pine-scented forest to the hauntingly beautiful ghost town of Kayaköy, once known as Karymlassos. Here, amidst over 3000 abandoned houses, ancient churches, and chapels, we'll discover stories etched into the ruins. The adventure continues with a short bus ride to Fethiye, where we explore the historic Amintas Rock Tomb and meander

through the vibrant fish market and bazaar, ending our day with a leisurely stop at a charming ice cream parlor.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Ölüdeniz, Kayaköy, Soğuksu

Accomplishment: 5.1 km hike / 2 hours / Moderate

Accommodation: Bungalow Hotel in [Kidrak or Faralya](#)

Day 3, Monday, Be Lazy or Active: Free Day or Optional Hike to Kabak

Today, we have the choice to either fully relax and bathe in the serene waters of Kidrak Bay or enjoy a short hike from Faralya to Kabak. For those who opt for the second option our trail leads us on a serene hike from Faralya to Kabak, a delightful village cradled in a dreamlike bay. The path meanders gently towards the sea, setting the stage for a relaxed day in this tranquil haven. The shores of Kabak Beach invite us to bask in the sun and enjoy a swim in its inviting waters. As the day continues, a comfortable drive in our small bus brings us back to the charming bungalow hotel.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Faralya - Kabak

Accomplishment: 5.8 km hike / 2 - 3hours / Medium

Accommodation: Bungalow Hotel in [Kidrak or Faralya](#)

Day 4, Tuesday, Kaş, Aperlae and the Sunken City: Untouched Historical Treasures

Today, after breakfast, we set out on a journey along the stunning coastline to Kaş, a typical Mediterranean town. We take a moment for a leisurely break and enjoy a stroll through its charming streets, a rewarding experience in itself. Our journey then leads us via a small transfer to Sahilkılınçlı, the starting point of our hike. Following the ancient Lycian path, we soon arrive at a magnificent bay, where the rarely visited ruins of the ancient city of Aperlae greet us with their imposing walls and numerous sarcophagus tombs. After soaking in the historical ambiance, we continue along the marked trail, eventually arriving at a beach shack. Here, a modest snack of fried potatoes and fresh salad, prepared by a local nomad named Ramazan, provides a rewarding end to our hike. Our adventure culminates as a boat awaits us, ready to take us directly to the doorstep of our hotel in Üçağız, where we will spend the next two nights.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Salihkılınçlı - Aperlae

Accomplishment: 6 km hike / 2 hours / Challenging

Accommodation: Hotel in Üçağız

Day 5, Wednesday, Simena Fortress: The Most Breathtaking View on the Lycian Way

Following a relaxed breakfast, our adventure begins with a short bus transfer, initially hugging the coastline before walking along a dry creek bed. Our trail ascends to the Simena Fortress, perched atop a hill, offering a vantage point like no other. From this elevated perspective, we marvel at the surreal landscape, gazing across to Kekova Island and the myriad of bays dotting the coast, including Üçağız (Teimussa). We then wander down through the tiny village, pausing at a unique sarcophagus grave partially submerged in water. The afternoon brings another highlight; we embark directly from our location, cruising aboard our boat along the mesmerizing sunken city near Kekova Island. A lunch on the boat adds to the day's charm, complemented by a delightful swimming break in an ideally situated bay. Our captain skillfully selects a picturesque spot, immersing us in the beauty of this coastal paradise.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Gökkaya - Simena

Accomplishment: 5.1 km hike / 2 hours / Challenging

Accommodation: Hotel in Üçağız

Day 6, Thursday, Yeşilköy - Akbel – Patara: Following the Ancient Waterway

After a hearty breakfast on the hotel terrace near the sea, we set off for today's hike towards Kınık, beginning at Akbel on an ancient aqueduct. The aqueducts provide a comfortable hike with minimal elevation changes, leading us along a third of the Lycian water channel. For lunch, we stop in Gelemiş, savoring delicious mezes and appetizers enriched with fine olive oil. Post-hike, we dedicate around 2 hours to an extensive exploration of the ancient city of Patara. The theater, bouleuterion,

colonnaded street, bath, basilica, and numerous tombs stand as awe-inspiring remnants of this former Lycian port city. We can also enjoy a swimming break at the Caretta Caretta beach, perfect for relaxation on its fine sandy shore. Our accommodation is not far, nestled in the village of Gelemiş.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Yeşilköy (Delikkemer) - Patara

Accomplishment: 8.7 km hike / 3-4 hours / Moderate

Accommodation: Hotel in Gelemiş

Day 7, Friday, Ovacık - Kirme – Faralya: Above the Butterfly Valley

Fortified by breakfast, today's hike starts in Ovacık, the official starting point of the Lycian Way. After a bus transfer, our moderately challenging route takes us through Kirme, then onwards to Faralya, ascending from 330 meters to 830 meters. This trek reveals the Lycian Way's most stunning landscapes, showcasing some of the most breathtaking panoramic views. Upon reaching Kirme village, we enjoy a Gözleme with Ayran (yogurt drink) for a boost of energy, with Faralya being just a short distance away.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Ovacık - Faralya

Accomplishment: 9.6 km hike / 4 hours / Moderate

Accommodation: Bungalow Hotel in Faralya

Day 8, Saturday, Goodbye!

After our last breakfast together, transfer to the airport and say goodbye (Güle Güle) to your group, guide, and driver. We wish you a safe flight back home. See you on another adventure!

Meals: Breakfast

What is Included?

We offer more on our hiking tours than any other hiking tour company to provide our guests with an unforgettable and most entertaining travel experience in Turkey.

- ✓ Small regional hotels offering comfortable accommodation and optimal accessibility to hiking starting points.
- ✓ Meals as specified in the program. Includes all breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 7 dinners.
- ✓ All transfers for hiking, hotels, and airport arrivals/departures.
- ✓ Unlimited bottled water on the bus and for taking on hiking tours.
- ✓ Experienced German-speaking guides with extensive local knowledge.
- ✓ Group sizes of maximum 18 guests.
- ✓ All entrance fees as per the travel program, including historical sites, fascinating museums, and picturesque nature parks.
- ✓ All taxes.

What is Excluded?

- ✓ All flights, their taxes, and surcharges
- ✓ Gratuities for guide & driver
- ✓ Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
- ✓ Travel and health insurance
- ✓ Visas, if applicable