

TURKEY – THE LYCIAN COAST

8-days / 7-nights moderate cycling on a **PREMIUM** cruise from and back to Marmaris



Discover the southern Lycian Coast of Turkey, explore the spectacular coastline by bicycle with an experienced cycling guide to see the unique natural wonders and historical places of interest. Travel aboard a traditional style Turkish gulet, with ample space for relaxation in first-class comfort. There are 7 spacious cabins each with air-conditioning and a generously sized shower / toilet. The dining / saloon area is a great place to enjoy your meals or to relax, while the sun decks offer you the chance to sunbathe and scan the horizon for ships or islands.

Our moderate graded cycling tours require a basic level of fitness, which can be acquired from steady cycling practise. The bike routes have a length of between 30km to 45km and can lead through hilly or mountainous areas - some uphill stretches are included. E-bikes are available at extra cost, please ask when booking. The roads are mostly sealed and each day you can either decide to bike alone, using the information and maps provided, or join the tour guides. Free time is set aside to swim or relax on board the boat.

Bike and Boat cruises combine two popular ways of exploring Europe (easy to moderate cycling with island or coastal cruising). They allow partners of different abilities and interests to holiday together – trips are just as interesting for leisure cyclists OR enthusiasts – and you unpack once and come ‘home’ to a wonderful meal and a comfortable cabin with your own bathroom. These cruises offer the opportunity to explore beautiful countryside and historic cities sampling local produce in the company of like-minded cyclists. Tours are conducted in English but passengers may include other nationalities, German, Italian or French as the other main languages.

Cost from: \$2205 per person (twin share) Single cabin supplement from \$950

Departs: 27th April; 11th, 18th May; 28th September; 5th, 12th October, 2019

Cruise includes: 7-nights in double/twin or single use cabins with own shower/toilet; half board on ship (includes breakfast and either lunch or dinner each day), English speaking cycle tour guide, 6 guided cycling tours as per itinerary, museum and archaeological site entries on group visits, 21-gear hybrid bike hire with pannier.

Not included: Personal expenses and gratuities, meals on land, drinking water (flat €20 per week), other drinks transfers to/from the ship in Marmaris (transfers available at extra cost from Dalaman or Bodrum airport - ask for details), bicycle insurance. We highly recommend you bring a bike helmet on this trip.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



Suggested itinerary – subject to weather and sailing conditions, itinerary may operate in reverse

Day 1 Saturday: Arrive Marmaris

Make your way to Marmaris (pre-paid transfers from Dalaman or Bodrum airport are available at extra cost) where you may board the boat from 2.00pm. Free afternoon to visit the bazaar before dinner onboard the ship.

Day 2 Sunday: Marmaris - Sarsala

Cycling distance @ 35km

We begin with a cruise to a small, picturesque bay, where we may have time for a swim before setting off on our bikes. We cycle over a 250m pass, with plenty of time for photographs or rest, before descending to the fertile Dalaman plains and onward to the peaceful bay of Sarsala, where we stay the night.

Day 3 Monday: Sarsala - Fethiye

Cycling distance @ 35km

We sail from Sarsala after breakfast to Gemiler, also known as the Island of St Nikolas, where there is a 5th Century church dedicated to the saint. We cycle through pine woods to Kayakoy, once a Greek town of 6,500 inhabitants, abandoned in 1922, where if time permits we can explore the ruins. We continue onwards to the Ölüdeniz lagoon, where we may have time for a refreshing swim. Here there is a choice – either a scenic and challenging ride to Fethiye, or a transfer by coach. There is time this evening to explore Fethiye, including the area around the Eski Cami Mosque, the narrow and winding stepped streets, and the typical corner houses.

Day 4 Tuesday: Fethiye - Göcek

Cycling distance @ 30km

From Fethiye a bus takes us to the start of our ride, and we cycle to the Saklikent Canyon for lunch by the river. Saklikent means “Hidden City” in Turkish and we can explore the spectacular gorge on foot. We continue cycling to the ruined city of Tlos, an ancient citadel perched on a hill. It was once one of the most powerful cities in Lycia, and in myth was home to the hero Bellerophon and the winged horse Pegasus. After exploring the site we transfer back to Fethiye, then sail to our overnight destination Göcek, a small town with a large marina.

Day 5 Wednesday: Göcek - Dalyan

Cycling distance @ 40km

Our cycling route leads us up a winding pass which offers a beautiful view of the bay. Quiet roads snake through thriving fields and lush vegetation to our destination, Dalyan. A small boat takes us and the bikes on a tour along the Dalyan Delta, passing by the weathered tombs cut directly into the rock faces of the cliffs that tower above the river. We continue to the coast and meet our boat moored at an island nearby.

Day 6 Thursday: Kaunos - Ekincik

Cycling distance @ 35km

We begin the day with a short boat transfer, with bikes, to near Kaunos – the ruins of this once thriving city the first destination of our cycle tour. Where once a well-protected harbour lay on the banks of the Köycegiz Lake now there is only a vast swamp. The acropolis is all that remains. We continue on past the inviting hot springs near the lake, then over a 350m pass to Ekincik where we spend the night in the port.

Day 7 Friday: Ekincik - Marmaris

Cycling distance @ 55km

From Ekincik our boat sails to the Bozburun Peninsula, one of the most pristine regions of the Turkish Mediterranean coast. Our bike tour takes us along a mountain road to village a 300m above sea level, with a 1500-year-old plane tree – a walk around the tree is said to confer a lucky and long life. A spectacular descent down to the coastal road and then we ride into Marmaris where we meet the boat for our farewell dinner.

Day 8 Saturday: Departure Tour ends after breakfast.

Outdoor Travel offer Bike & Boat or Bike & Barge cruises in many areas of Europe including Croatia's Dalmatian Coast, the Greek islands, Italy's Amalfi Coast, France, Belgium and Holland.

Contact the experienced staff at Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:

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