

## 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.

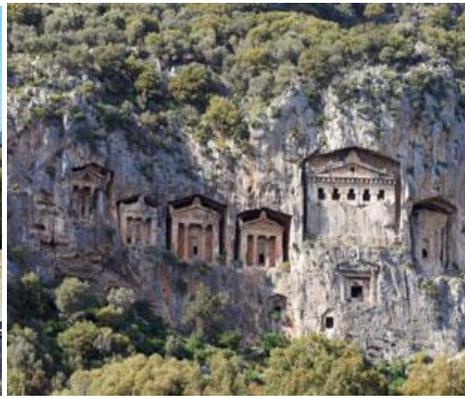
**Cost from:** \$2595 per person (twin share) Single cabin supplement from \$965

**Departs:** 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> May, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2020

**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, guided cycling tours as per itinerary, museum and archaeological site entries on group visits, multi-gear hybrid bike hire with pannier.

**Not included:** Personal expenses and gratuities, meals on land, drinking water (flat €20 per person 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:** *this is subject to weather and sailing conditions and may change, the itinerary may operate in reverse at the direction of the captain or cycle tour guide.*

#### **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. The afternoon is free, visit the bazaar before dinner onboard.

#### **Day 2 Sunday: Marmaris - Sarsala**

**cycling @ 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 @ 35km**

We sail from Sarsala after breakfast to Gemiler, also known as the Island of St Nikolas. There is a 5<sup>th</sup> Century church dedicated to the saint. We ride through pine woods to Kayakoy, once a Greek town of 6,500 inhabitants, abandoned in 1922, to explore the ruins. We continue to the Ölüdeniz lagoon, with time for a swim. There is a choice – either a scenic and challenging ride to Fethiye, or a transfer by coach. In the evening explore Fethiye and the area around the Eski Cami Mosque, with narrow and winding stepped streets, and typical stone houses.

#### **Day 4 Tuesday: Fethiye - Göcek**

**cycling @ 30km**

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

#### **Day 5 Wednesday: Göcek - Dalyan**

**cycling @ 40km**

After breakfast we ride up a winding pass for beautiful view of the bay. Quiet roads take us through fields and lush vegetation to Dalyan. From here a boat takes us and the bikes along the Dalyan Delta to see the weathered tombs cut into the rock cliffs that tower above the river. At the coast our boat is moored at an nearby island.

#### **Day 6 Thursday: Kaunos - Ekincik**

**cycling @ 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 @ 35km**

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. Then a spectacular descent down to the coastal road and we ride into Marmaris where we meet the boat for our farewell dinner.

#### **Day 8 Saturday: Departure**

Tour arrangements end after breakfast in Marmaris – ask about ongoing transfer options.

**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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