

Seakayak Turkey's Turquoise Coast!



Highlights

Beginner and experienced kayakers alike will love exploring the rocky coastline and caves of Turkey's beautiful turquoise coast. Over the seven days, staying in a small hotel in picturesque Dalyan or camping on tiny islands, this holiday is about discovering the tranquil side of Turkey, far, far away from the traditional tourist haunts!

South West Turkey has it all really. Beautiful Mediterranean coastline, known locally as the 'turquoise coast', stunning beaches and a deeply rich history. Home to the ancient Lycian people, the area is crammed full of archaeological sites to explore. With the Taurus mountains forming a stunning backdrop, the 1600km coastline consists of sandy beach after sandy beach with interesting coves and bays to explore. Add to that an abundance of marine life (including the endangered logger sea turtles) and you have the ingredients for a perfect sea kayaking holiday!

This area of the Turkish coastline offers real variety with secluded bays, rocky cliffs and hidden caves. Your guides build up your skills and confidence as the week progresses, so no need to worry about your ability. Once you've got your confidence up, you can head out to explore the Gocek Islands. These pine tree-clad isles are a paradise for the seakayaker, with a shallow coast line, caves and narrow passages to explore, you couldn't be further away from the coastal concrete jungle if you tried! On the two rest days, when you aren't kayaking, you will be based in Dalyan. Here, you can explore the Kaunos ruins, across the river from where you are staying. (The amphitheatre is particularly well-preserved.) You also have the option of catching a boat down to the beach or, if you are feeling more active, you can opt to go canyoning, hiking or on a jeep safari into the mountains.

Two nights of the holiday are spent camping under the stars, enjoying a moonlit barbecue on deserted beaches. The remainder of the time you will be based in the picturesque town of Dalyan, which lies on the pretty Kaunos River. You have the choice of a budget or mid-range hotel either way, a swimming pool and laid back atmosphere await you.

Is it for me?

This is a trip for people who have a sense for adventure. You do not need any previous seakayaking experience as you will have training from your experienced guide throughout the week. As you explore further along the coastline you will build on the skills you have learnt and your guide will always be on hand to give advice and guidance. Experienced kayakers wanting to explore this part of the coast are very welcome, but be aware that the group may be mixed ability.

The camping on the trip is on beaches, so there are no facilities what so ever. Whilst camping equipment and food is provided, all participants are asked to get involved with setting up camp and food preparation.

This is a group trip, with a minimum departure of 2 people. If you are a solo traveller, please get in touch and we will try to find you an appropriate group to join. Private trips are available on request.

Accommodation

Prices from

525 GBP (8 days) per person

Why book with Tourdust?

- ✓ The Best Local Operators
We handpick the best local operators
- ✓ Local Price Guarantee
Pay what you would locally with our Best Price Guarantee
- ✓ Secure Online Payments
Safe and easy online booking

- ✓ ABTA Bonding for your protection
We even throw in complimentary Supplier Failure Cover


ABTA No. L7477

Accommodation

On this holiday, you will spend 5 nights in a hotel in Dalyan and 2 nights wild camping on beaches. For the hotel accommodation, you will be based in the pretty river-side town of Dalyan, which is a far cry from the package holiday resorts found in Marmaris. You have the choice between a basic and mid-range level hotel. Both options enjoy a peaceful riverside setting, with a 5 - 10 minute walk to the town centre and restaurants. They are both locally owned, small and have their own pools, the price is reflected in the room decor and quality of the bathrooms, service in both is good.

Mid-range option

The Calypso Plus hotel is a locally owned hotel and is a real find. It is made up of several small villas each housing 3 - 4 rooms, located within gardens by the Kaunos river. All of the 31 en-suite rooms are air-conditioned and come equipped with hair dryers, television, telephones and wi-fi access. Most rooms (but not all) have riverside views and they all have balconies. Rooms are nicely decorated with traditional and authentic Turkish designs. There is a nice pool (and a kids pool) with sunbeds and the hotel also has its own private jetty. This is a good option for those who like to stay in good quality accommodation, with nice decor.



Budget option

The Sirius hotel is a budget guesthouse in Dalyan, just up the river from the Calypso Plus. Owned and managed by a local family, rooms are basic with air conditioning and a safe (but no tv). Bathrooms are basic - all rooms are en-suite with a shower. All rooms have a small patio to sit out on and there is a communal pool, with a small paddling pool for children. A good option if you want to keep the cost of your holiday down and are not too fussy about the trimmings.



Camping

The camping part of the trip is not in campsites; you camp on deserted beaches, so there are no facilities. Two man tents are provided and you are asked to pitch your own tent. You will need to bring your own sleeping bag & mat with you (or you can rent them).

Food

All meals are provided when you are out kayaking and the food used is fresh & locally sourced. A traditional Turkish breakfast is served, with tea, coffee, bread, salami, cheese & olives. Picnic lunches are sandwiches and dinners consist of a meat (or vegetarian) main, accompanied with a fresh salad, with fruit & yoghurt for dessert. Group members are all expected to help with food preparation and cooking. Drinks are not provided on the trip, so you will need to bring your own. Your guide will take you to a supermarket to stock up.

When you are not kayaking, you will need to make your own arrangements for meals, although traditional Turkish breakfasts are included and served at your hotel. There are lots of lovely restaurants in easy walking distance of your hotel - specialities to look out for include the popular mezze starters, followed by fresh seafood dishes such as calamari kebabs and sea bass. As a rough guide, you should budget £5 - £10 for lunches and £10 - £20 for dinners

Please be aware that the route used is subject to change and is dependent on the weather conditions.

Day 1: Arrival Day

You will be picked up from Dalaman airport and will then be transferred to your hotel.

Overnight: Dalyan (you have the choice between a basic and a mid-range hotel)

Day 2: Iztuzu Beach - Metin Gol Bay

This morning you will meet your guide and you will be briefed about your kayaking. The kayaks will then be loaded with camping gear and your personal luggage. On this first day you'll be eased into kayaking, travelling past scenic coastline, with plenty of opportunities for you to get used to kayaking and for your guide to teach you techniques. There will be coffee and lunch breaks along the way.

Kayaking time: 3 - 4 hours.

Overnight: You'll stay overnight at secluded Metin Gol Bay, where dinner is prepared on the fire.

(B, L, D)

Day 3: Metin Gol - Sarigerme - Dalyan

After gaining confidence on the first day, you'll follow a route along the rocky coast alongside small caves, with the opportunity to kayak into a stunning blue cave. You'll have some more training before lunch in quiet Asi Bay and you will then then kayak to Sarigerme where you will take the kayaks out of the water and load them back into the van. You will then transfer back to your hotel in Dalyan.

Kayaking Time: 5 hours

Overnight: Dalyan

(B, L)

Day 4: Dalyan

Today is a day at leisure for you to explore the pretty town of Dalyan. You might decide to get a rowing boat across the river and then walk down to the ancient Kaunos ruins, complete with amphitheatre and ancient baths. Alternatively, you might choose to jump on a boat downstream to the beach. If you prefer something more active, we can arrange for you to spend the day canyoning, or exploring the mountains on a jeep safari.

Overnight: Dalyan

(B)

Day 5: Dalyan - Gocek - Tersana Island

An early morning pick up from Dalyan to your starting point today in Gocek. You will leave the harbour and paddle towards Gocek Island. Today you will tour around 12 of the region's famous islands. As you travel by kayak you have the opportunity to go to places that boat tours can't reach: narrow passages, shallow coast line and hidden scenery. In addition to the kayaking, your guide will also teach you rescue training. In the afternoon, you are free to explore the island on foot, take in some snorkelling, or you might choose to take to your kayaks again for some more training.

Kayaking Time: 3 - 4 hours

Overnight: Camping on Tersana Island.

(B, L, D)

Day 6: Tersana Island - Sarsali Bay - Dalyan

Today you'll put together all the skills you've learnt over the holiday. You'll kayak through many islands and bays, including Cleopatra's Bay, with its white sand and clear water. There will be a chance to paddle into a bat cave and also the option to visit some ancient ruins on one of the islands. At the end of the day the kayaks are loaded on the jeep to drive back to Dalyan.

Kayaking Time: 4 hours

Overnight: Dalyan

(B, L)

Day 7: Dalyan

Today is a free day. You might want to spend the day on Turtle beach, exploring the Kaunos ruins, or simply relaxing by the pool with a good book. More active pursuits (such as hiking or canyoning can be arranged)

Overnight: Dalyan

(B)

Day 8: Dalyan - Onwards/Home

You will be transferred to Dalaman airport for your flight home. If you want to extend your stay in Turkey, please contact us.

(B)

Details

Getting there

Fly from the UK...

You need to fly to Dalaman Airport, there are direct flights from most airports in the UK.

From the South East:

Stansted: Easyjet, Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

Luton: Monarch, Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

Gatwick: Monarch, Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

Bournemouth: Thomson

Norwich: Fly Thomas Cook

From the South West:

Bristol: Easyjet, Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

Exeter: Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

From the Midlands:

Birmingham: Monarch, Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

East Midlands: Jet2, Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

From the North:

Newcastle: Jet2, Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

Manchester: Monarch, Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

Leeds Bradford: Jet2, Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

Humberside: Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

Doncaster Sheffield: Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

From Scotland:

Edinburgh: Easyjet, Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

Glasgow: Jet2, Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

Aberdeen: Fly Thomas Cook, Thomson

-From Wales:

Cardiff: Fly Thomas Cook

Transfers from Dalaman...

When you arrive at Dalaman Airport you will be met at the bottom end of the ramp exiting the airport arrival hall. Walk down the ramp, pass the Taxi stand and continue on the left. 50 metres on you will see your driver with a sign.

Price includes

All airport transfers; 5 nights hotel accommodation; tents; breakfast (except Day 1); lunches & dinners as per the itinerary, sea kayak; professional guides; dry bag for valuables; outdoor insurance.

Not Included: Additional tours, tips (budget 5 lire a day for moderate service and 10lire per day for excellent service.)

Price details

You can choose whether to stay in a budget or a mid-stay hotel - please select which you prefer in the drop down box below.

Single supplements apply.

When is best

This holiday runs from late March - October. The best times to go are June & September when the weather & crowds are not quite so intense. The summer months are very hot, with day time highs of 34C, sometime peaking at 40C. The summer evenings are warm, with average temperatures of 20C - 25C. The spring & autumn months are cooler, with highs between 21C - 30C. Rain is possible, but unlikely in the summer months, spring and autumn can see some showers.

The sea temperature is warmest from July - October.

Comfort level

Down to earth (hostels, camping, huts)

Experience required

A reasonable level of fitness and interest is all that is needed

Travellers should bring

Recommended kit list sleeping bag; rucksack or rollbag (fits better in the kayak); sleeping bag (can be hired from tour provider); sleeping mat; long sleeved shirt; shorts; T-shirts; comfortable walking shoes; wet weather gear, comfortable trainers or sandal shoes (will get wet); swimming costume; sun protection - sun cream, sunglasses, hat/bandana; daily medicines; daily toiletries; Small waterproof bags will be supplied for valuables such as cameras and passports. The kayaks are pretty new (bought last season) and the holds are pretty water tight, but we would suggest that you take lots of plastic / bin bags with you to store your clothes in.

Additional items to remember 10 GBP for your visa at the Turkish border; a copy of your travel insurance; a credit card and telephone number of your bank in case of emergencies; some spending money - bring GBP: you can easily change it in post offices in Turkey; headlight or torch; a pair of dry shoes; books/magazines; camera (spare battery);

Reviews (5)

Reviews of this experience

“ Just to let you know that we had an outstanding week of sea-kayaking, white-water rafting and trekking. Our guide, Sonja Grau, and Murat were simply outstanding in their manner, the design and delivery of the week's activities. ”

ThomasJ reviewing Seakayak Turkey's Turquoise Coast!

“ This was a fabulous holiday. Four days of kayaking, one day white water rafting and a day of trekking and a boat trip - perfect.

It didn't take long to feel at home in the kayak and it was great to stop at secluded beaches for lunch and snacks and to camp under the beautifully starry night skies.

My personal highlights were the snorkelling opportunities and gazing open-mouthed up at the huge boats in Gocek harbour as we paddled by.

Huge thanks to Sonja from Kaunos Tours who was a great guide, chef and goat wrangler!

Thanks to Tourdust too for their smooth organisation and booking of the trip.

Louise Kelly reviewing Seakayak Turkey's Turquoise Coast!

“ Received good support for my late booking through Tourdust who were able to answer all my questions in a timely way and even put me in touch with the Tour leader in Turkey via e mail. I thought Kaunos Tour staff were good and our Kayak leader Sonja was excellent. The camping food was ample and tasty. Felt that all our needs were met without any fuss. ”

Gill reviewing Seakayak Turkey's Turquoise Coast!

“ Great holiday. Excellent value for money. We were looked after extremely well. I would recomend this holiday to anyone wanting to experience Turkey and not follow the crowds. It was everything we hoped for and more. ”

Ken reviewing Seakayak Turkey's Turquoise Coast!

“ My holiday experience was very good,for all round care and attention to detail, standard of accommodation, and our tour guide Sonjia who was brilliant, all round I would give it 4 out of 5, but for value for money, i would give it 5 out of 5.

I will almost certainly return next year possibly for a week in May. ”

Gary reviewing Seakayak Turkey's Turquoise Coast!