

GOCEK - KAS (A CRUISE FOR SNORKELLING ENTHUSIASTS)

Day 1 Board the yacht in Gocek and sail for Ruin Bay in the Gulf of Fethiye. Ruin Bay was so-named as there are partially-submerged ruins sitting at the head of the bay - believed by the locals to be the bathhouse used by Cleopatra while she was visiting the area. Swim from the yacht and snorkel through these ruins before sunset. Spend the night in one of the Manastir Bay anchorages with dinner aboard the yacht.



Day 2 Enjoy a peaceful early morning swim and snorkel in this very special place. Having stopped off at Tersane island for lunch, the afternoon sail will be across the Gulf to Fethiye: the present-day town built on top of ancient Telmessos. The theatre and temple tombs of this ancient city are within easy walking distance. This afternoon, there is the option to take an overland trip to Saklikent Canyon for an adventurous hike up through this fabulous marble corridor – through which there runs a small stream, so be sure to wear shoes that you can get wet! Return to your yacht in Fethiye and dine out this evening on local fare



Day 3 A morning of bay-hopping on the Gulf of Fethiye. Following lunch, sail to Gemiler Island, once the home of pirates! Spend some time exploring with mask and flippers as you discover the ancient quay and some shops just below the surface of the water. The go ashore and visit the ruins of what was once a sizeable Byzantine settlement. See a basilica, a temple with mosaic floors and a covered walkway alongside shops, houses and cisterns. It's a fascinating site and the view from the top of the

island is superb. Overnight here with dinner aboard.



Day 4 Cruise south along the Seven Capes and into Kalkan. Kalkan is a small seaside town with steep streets bordered by shops, cafes and some old renovated Greek-style buildings. Colourful bougainvillea and jasmine spill from the balconies overhead and give the village a certain charm.

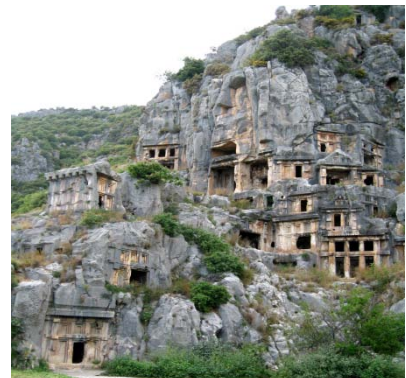
Upon arrival, board a minivan for an overland tour to three ancient Lycian cities: ancient Xanthos, ancient Patara and ancient Letoon. Xanthos was the capital of the Lycian league, which rose to the height of its splendour in the 10th century BC. Patara, recognised by scholars as the birthplace of Apollo, has a magnificent history dating back as far as the 7th-century BC. Patara was an important place of trade in antiquity and excavations being carried out today are uncovering more and more of this extensive site. Letoon was a place of worship for the people of Xanthos and the most important ruins are those of the Temples of Leto, Apollo and Artemis. Letoon is cited in many guidebooks as one of the most delightful sites in Lycia. Return to your boat Kalkan Harbour and spend the evening ashore, dining in style in the quaint narrow streets of Kalkan.



Day 5 Following breakfast in Kalkan, sail further around the coast to the region known as the Kekova Roads. Once at anchor near the village of Kale, there will be an opportunity to go ashore and explore the castle of ancient Simena. Reaching the highest walls of the castle, stop and marvel at the views out over the village and to the island beyond. There is also a small theatre to see within the castle walls and numerous sarcophagi on your journey up the hillside. Overnight at Kale with perhaps a quayside dinner.



Day 6 Cruise into Ucagiz and either spend the morning exploring the ruins of ancient Teimussa or take a short overland trip to ancient Myra and the nearby town of Demre. The site of Myra has a well-preserved theatre, walls of Lycian rock tombs and an acropolis. A number of the rock tombs are decorated with friezes. St. Nicholas (Santa Claus) was bishop of Myra in the 4th century and in the village of Demre, stands his church. Following lunch, cruise alongside Kekova Island to view the sunken city before moving on into Polemos Buku for the remainder of the day. Polemos Buku has a number of small islets from which extend underwater ruins. For snorkelling enthusiasts, ancient Aperlai lies partially submerged in "Asar Bay", just a half-mile walk across a short isthmus. Enjoy snorkelling around the submerged quays and harbour streets - but remember that the site is a protected one!



Please note: Generally speaking, it is prohibited to snorkel over the sunken ruins at Kekova, but we have heard that it has been done before. If this is the case, and there is a possibility of snorkelling here, the captain will advise his guests.



Day 7 A swim at Tersane this morning before sailing back towards Kas. Stop for lunch in Bayindir Harbour, the site of ancient Sebeda: there are rock tombs visible and a small number of ruins on the summit of the hill above the anchorage. Towards evening, move into Kas Harbour and go ashore to see the town and perhaps visit the theatre of ancient Antiphellos. Overnight in Kas Harbour, with dinner ashore or on board.



Day 8 Embarkation after breakfast.