

# EXPLORE!

## Tour Notes



### Walking the Turquoise Coast (TRK 2015)



TOUR DURATION  
**8**  
DAYS



**Tour Style:** Classic  
**Tour Comfort:** Standard

**Tour Type:** Centre Based  
**Trek Grade:** Easy

**tour Code:** TRK

#### Tour Highlights - Walking the Turquoise Coast

- ✓ Kas - A seven night stay in one of the most picturesque towns on the Turquoise Coast
- ✓ Day hikes - Explore the forests, mountains and coastline of the local area.
- ✓ Views - Take time to enjoy the stunning views and scenery
- ✓ Local ancient sites - Discover the history of the region through archaeological sites, including Xanthos a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Patara birthplace of Saint Nicholas
- ✓ Kekova - Walk to the village of Simena, overlooking the beautiful Kekova Bay.

#### Tour Essentials

**Accommodation:** 7 nights Standard Hotel

**Included Meals:** 7 breakfasts, 0 lunches, 0 dinners

**Start Point:** Join tour: Dalaman Airport

**End Point:** Tour ends: Dalaman Airport

**Maximum Altitude on Trek (m):** 1444

**Transport:** Bus

**Countries:** Turkey

## Walking The Turquoise Coast

Based in the beautiful harbour town of Kas we enjoy gentle walks along the Turquoise Coast. We discover ruins of the original settlement of Antiphellos and hike to ancient Phellos. We explore the relics of Patara and look for signs of loggerhead turtles nesting on the golden sandy beach. We also visit the ancient city of Xanthos, trek through the foothills of the Taurus Mountains and climb to the necropolis of Simena for views over Kekova Bay.

### Suitability

We've given each of our tours a comfort rating and a tour pace, walking or cycling grade to give you a general idea about the level of activity on each tour and the standard of accommodation you will be staying in at the end of your day's adventure.

Often you'll stay in different styles of accommodation during your tour; so we make an average rating across the entire tour. For more information on where you'll stay each night, please refer to the day by day tour itinerary.

### Tour Comfort: Standard

Our mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en-suite facilities.

### Tour Style: Classic

Packed with adventure, these tours offer inspiring destinations and authentic travel experiences at a reasonable price. Using all kinds of transport and accommodation, we'll take you off the beaten track to discover the true heart of the people and places you visit.

### Trek Grade: Easy

Suitable for most people in good health, these easy walks are predominantly on good paths, at low altitude and on undemanding terrain. Previous walking or trekking experience is not necessary.

## Your tour itinerary

### Tour itinerary notes

While our intention is to adhere to the day-by-day itinerary as printed below, a degree of flexibility is built in. Overnight stops may vary from those suggested.

### Your Tour Leader

A Tour Leader is an integral part of any Explore tour and your tour will be led by one of our experienced tour leaders who have been handpicked and expertly trained. We believe that our Tour Leaders are the key to the success of our tours; they are passionate travellers who are bursting with first-hand local knowledge which they love to share. Your tour Leader will also take care of all the planning and organization throughout your journey. Their passionate approach will make this tour fun and inspiring, bringing the destination to life whether you're travelling alone or with others.

### DAY 1 Join tour at Dalaman Airport. Drive to Kas

Joining our tour in Dalaman airport, we then drive towards the engaging coastal town of Kas, one of the most beautiful on the Turkish Riviera. Set against a backdrop of steep, forested cliffs, Kas nestles amongst the foothills of the Taurus Mountains, overlooking the blue waters of the Mediterranean. A charming mix of narrow, jasmine scented streets, lively cafes and a picturesque harbour, it provides us with an ideal base for our week-long exploration of Turkey's beautiful Turquoise coast. The transfer is approximately two and a quarter hours. Please note that there are two transfers arranged at set times for the first day of this tour. The main transfer to meet our preferred flight will be in the evening with an additional transfer in the mid-afternoon to assist with any early flight arrangements you may have in place.



Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**

**Swimming Pool Available** 

 **Included Meals:** None

DAY **2** Guided walking tour of Kas. Walk to Limanagzi Beach

Following a guided tour of the town, taking in the ancient Hellenistic theatre and Lycian tombs that lie littered amongst the town's narrow streets, we then walk around the bay to Limanagzi Beach (approximately one and a half hours). After a chance to relax, enjoy the warm waters and perhaps grab a bite to eat, we then head back to Kas, either by following the coastal path back to the hotel, or else by taking a water taxi across the bay (at your own cost).

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**

**Swimming Pool Available** 

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

DAY **3** Walk to Patara Beach and Ruins. Visit historic Xanthos

This morning we walk from the Roman aqueduct to Patara Beach (approximately three and a half hours). After taking refreshments (not included) and time on the beach we visit the ruins of ancient Patara, one of Lycia's principal ports under the Romans. We then drive to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Xanthos, the once great capital of ancient Lycia. With a history drenched in blood, Xanthos contains some impressive remains, including its acropolis, magnificent sepulchral monuments and a famous inscribed obelisk that dates back to the 5th century B.C. After the visit we drive back to Kas.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**

**Swimming Pool Available** 

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

DAY **4** Free day; optional visit to Greek island of Meis

Option to visit to the Greek Island of Meis. Option to go scuba -diving (if qualified) or to take an introduction to scuba lesson. Otherwise time to explore Kas or travel to local beaches.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**

**Swimming Pool Available** 

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

DAY **5** Morning visit to Kas market. Hike to Phellos ruins

Friday is market day in Kas and this morning we take a wander through its colourful stalls, before driving on to Pinarbasi for our afternoon's walk. We hike to the ruins of ancient Phellos through a landscape of strawberry trees and scrub oak (approx 45 minutes). We then hike to the fire watchtower passing sarcophagi and ruins that have become overgrown with forest vegetation and enjoying the expansive views down to the coast, before heading back down for our transfer to Kas. Total walking time approximately 2 and a half hours.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**

**Swimming Pool Available** 

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

DAY **6** Walk on Mount Akdag. Afternoon free in Kas

This morning we drive near to the neighbourhood of the mountain village of Sutlegen (1,300 m), which lies on the foothills of Mount Akdag. We aim to spend around two and a half hours hiking in the shadow of the mountain, following a network of trails and tracks that take us down through a forest of cedar, pine and juniper trees, before we ascend again to rendezvous with our bus. Driving back to Kas we then have an opportunity to stop for a swim at Kapatas Beach before returning to enjoy a free afternoon in the town.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**

**Swimming Pool Available** 

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 7 Hike round Kekova Bay from Ucagiz to Simena

The village of Simena is possibly one of the most beautiful settings on the Mediterranean. A remote village community, accessible only on foot or by boat, its harbour is dotted with ancient sarcophagi (tombs), a small Roman bath and houses that cling precariously to a hillside dominated by a medieval castle. This morning we walk there from Ucagiz (approximately one hour), enjoying an opportunity to explore the necropolis and the hilltop citadel (castle entrance not included), and take in the sweeping views across the Kekova region. There is an option to travel back to Ucagiz by boat or we walk before driving back to Kas for our final evening.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**

**Swimming Pool Available** 

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 8 Transfer to Dalaman Airport where tour ends

Today we transfer to Dalaman airport where our tour ends. Please note that there are two transfers arranged at set times for the last day of this tour. One will be in the late afternoon for our preferred flight, and there will be an additional transfer in the mid-morning to assist with any early flight arrangements you may have in place.

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## Accommodation and Meals

### Accommodation Rating

Hotel Club Phellos is conveniently situated just a few minutes walk uphill from the centre of Kas, with views down towards the harbour. The swimming pool and terrace, and most of the 89 rooms, look down over the town and towards the sea. The hotel offers a restaurant and bar service, and breakfast can be taken on the outside terrace overlooking the large fresh water pool. Kas is known for its old town, cafes, restaurants and interesting shops and these are within walking distance, as is the waterfront.

### Food & Drink

Included meals: 7 breakfasts, 0 lunches, 0 dinners included in the price of this tour. Please be prepared to pay for non-included meals. Please note that costs for drinks and meals can vary depending on location.

## Budgeting for your Tour

You will need some extra money to cover meals and drinks not included in the tour price, any optional sightseeing, souvenirs and items of a personal nature such as laundry.

### Food

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

#### Turkey

**Lunch £:** 7.00

**Dinner £:** 13.00

### Drink

The prices for drinks can vary greatly depending upon location and the prices detailed below are an average guide. In general you would expect that drinks purchased in a supermarket or local bar to be less expensive, whilst drinks in an upmarket bar or restaurant may be more expensive.

#### Turkey

**Bottle of Beer £:** 2.70

**Water £:** 1.00

### Other Sightseeing & Activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations.

Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

---

## Optional Excursions

Kas - Scuba diving £30.00; Visit to Island of Meis £20.00; Water taxi from Limanagzi Beach £3.50

---

## Tipping - Tour Leader

At your discretion you might also consider tipping your Tour Leader in appreciation of the efficiency and service you receive.

---

## Tipping - Local Crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognised part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. Accordingly you should allow approx. £10 for gratuities for local staff.

In order to make things easier for you, the Tour Leaders may organise a group's tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the tour.

---

## Foreign Exchange

### Turkey

**ATM Availability:** ATMs are widely available throughout Turkey. To avoid large queues at the airport exchanges, you may wish to exchange some lira before arriving.

**Credit Card Acceptance:** In major restaurants.

**Travellers Cheques:** Not recommended.

**Local Currency:** Turkish Lira.

**Recommended Currency for Exchange:** Major foreign currencies such as US Dollars, £Sterling and Euros can easily be changed. We advise against travelling with Travellers Cheques as commission rates are high. Other currencies can be exchanged in larger cities. We advise you to change money in Turkey as rates tend to be better.

**Where to Exchange:** Most major towns - your Tour Leader will advise you on arrival.

---

## Joining your Tour

### Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

---

### Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found on our website at [www.explore.co.uk](http://www.explore.co.uk), in the tour specific dates and prices section.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer. For more information please refer to <https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers>.

---

### Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer please refer to <https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers>.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

---

### Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

---

## Important Information

### Travel Insurance

It is a condition of joining any of our tours that you must have valid travel insurance. It must indicate that you have cover for (at least) medical expenses and emergency repatriation in the event of illness or injury. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not

mandatory for UK residents who are travelling in England and Scotland. We also strongly recommend your policy includes curtailment, personal effects and cancellation protection as all deposits paid are non-refundable. You will also need to ensure your travel policy covers you for all activities you intend to do whilst on tour.

We are delighted to include FREE travel insurance **for all qualifying customers** who book an Explore trip from 01 January 2015.

For more information about Travel insurance and to check whether you are eligible to receive free cover, please visit [www.explore.co.uk/insurance](http://www.explore.co.uk/insurance). Explore Worldwide Ltd are an Appointed Representative of Campbell Irvine Limited, who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. The registration number can be checked by visiting the the FCA's website [www.fca.gov.uk](http://www.fca.gov.uk) or by contacting them on 0800 111 6768.

## Visa Information

Turkey: Visas are required by UK citizens. We recommend that you obtain your visa online, prior to arrival at <https://www.evisa.gov.tr/en/>

This will cost US\$20 and you will need a blank page in your passport for the stamp.

Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

All visa information is subject to change. You should confirm all visa related questions with the relevant Embassy prior to departure

## Vaccinations & Protection

### Turkey

Nothing compulsory, but we recommend protection against tetanus, typhoid, infectious hepatitis and polio. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at <http://www.explore.co.uk/Travelhealth/> and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed before departure.

## Preparing for your Tour



## Maximum Altitude on Trek (m)

1444

## Trekking Details

We walk for 5 days with an average of 3 hours walking each day. We have graded this trek as easy, however some of the terrain can be steep or uneven at times.

## Walking Boots

Walking/hiking boots with good ankle support required.

## Climate

### Turkey

Evenings and early mornings can be cool in the early and late season (before mid May and after early October). Summers are hot and dry with refreshing sea breezes. It is often cooler on higher ground and in the mountains and can be cold at night, even in the summer. Seasonal weather patterns can be unpredictable. Up to date information on the weather worldwide can be found by following the BBC weather link on this page.

## Clothing

The long Turkish summer can be hot, though much of the Mediterranean coastline is freshened by sea breezes. A warmer sweater or light fleece and long trousers are advisable for the evenings in early and late season.

March / April and late September / October / November tend to be cooler so bring layers and some warmer clothes. A light rainjacket may also be useful.

## Equipment

Bring a water bottle, torch, sunblock, sunhat, sunglasses and insect repellent. Light waterproofs may also be useful at the beginning and end of the season. You may also wish to bring binoculars. As the terrain can be occasionally steep and/or rocky underfoot you may wish to bring walking poles for extra stability.

---

## Footwear

Trainers and/or sandals required for travelling and general wear.

---

## Luggage: On Tour

One main piece of baggage and daypack. Remember you are expected to carry your own luggage so don't overload yourself.

Luggage allowance on tour: 20kg

# General Information

---

## Country details

### Turkey

**Population:** 66,000,000

**Size of Country:** 779,452 sq km

**Major Language:** Turkish

**Religion:** Muslim, Christian

**Time Difference to GMT:** +3

---

## Electric Supply & Plugs

### Turkey

2 Pin Round

# Why Choose Explore

We've been creating award-winning pioneering adventure holidays for over 30 years, earning the trust of thousands of delighted customers, who feel safe in our hands. Our tour leaders have expert local knowledge and our tours are designed to take you off the beaten track to see the most exotic, inspiring and dramatic places in the world.

- With over 30 years' experience, we are passionate about what we do.
- Pioneering small group adventures, self-guided, private journeys & tailor-made holidays.
- Award winning tour leaders who you can trust.
- Responsible travel is and always has been one of the driving principles of Explore.

Our adventure holidays are full of exciting things to see and do, exploring in small groups travelling by bus, boat, plane, rickshaw, camel, elephant, or any number of unusual forms of transport. Often you will stay in family run hotels and village houses and enjoy authentic local cuisine. In this way, it's easy to discover the true heart of the people and the place you travel to – and make some new friends along the way. Each tour is uniquely different, so please feel free to browse through our tours to see what may whet your appetite.

---

## Our commitment to the environment

We are passionate about sustainable travel and work hard to create tours where your holiday delivers real benefits to the local communities. We minimise our impact by travelling in small groups, respecting local cultures and traditions, reducing waste and offsetting 100% of the CO2 from our flights.

When you travel with Explore, you are directly contributing to local economies and helping empower the people you meet. We currently support a range of charities and good causes, including: Toilet Twinning (helping to flush away poverty), Lone Buffalo Foundation (a community project based in Laos providing creative skills for young people), Dekamer (a turtle rescue centre in Turkey) and Kids Saving the Rainforest (a wildlife rescue centre in Costa Rica supported through the LATA foundation). We also care passionately about the world's wildlife. We are patrons of the Born Free Organisation and Friends of Conservation.

---

## Cool Earth

Explore are proud to support Cool Earth in their effort to reduce global carbon dioxide levels through the prevention of deforestation in the South America rainforest. Cool Earth focus on areas in immediate danger of deforestation, supporting local communities to be forest guardians. To date 350,000 acres of rainforest has been protected. Saving rainforest also protects rare animals and plants, allows local forest communities to maintain their way of life, and protects a major source of oxygen and fresh water. When you travel on an Explore holiday we make a donation to Cool Earth that exceeds the impact of our customers flights each year.

---

## Earth Matters

- [The Travel Foundation](#)

Explore are active members and supporters of the Travel Foundation which has established a variety of sustainable tourism projects in destinations and works with industry to improve practice. Visit their website [www.thetravelfoundation.org.uk](http://www.thetravelfoundation.org.uk)

---

**EXPLORE!** The Adventure Travel Experts available online 24/7

- [Tourism Concern](#)

Explore support the work of Tourism Concern who campaign for fairly and ethically traded tourism, and are part of its Ethical Tour Operator Group [www.tourismconcern.org.uk](http://www.tourismconcern.org.uk)

- For further information on responsible travel go to <http://www.explore.co.uk/ResponsibleTourism/>

---

## Know before you go

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office Advice follow the link at <http://www.explore.co.uk/essential-travel-information/travel-resources/travel-safety>

## Booking Your Holiday

### Peace of mind - book with confidence

You can book your Explore holiday with confidence, as all monies paid to us for your trip are fully protected. Explore is a fully bonded tour operator licensed by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and by ABTOT.

The air holiday packages (Tours including flights) that we advertise are ATOL protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 2595. In addition, As a member of the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT), Explore has provided a bond to meet the requirements of the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992. Please note that packages booked outside the UK are only protected when purchased directly with Explore.

---

### Reserving your place

To reserve your place on this tour you will need to check availability on the Explore website or through our dedicated call centre based in the UK where you can. Our tours can fill up quickly so you are advised to book as early as possible. If your chosen date is 'Available' or 'Guaranteed' we will be able to provisionally hold you a space for up to 48 hours.

For Self-Guided holidays and Private Journeys simply choose your date of travel and let us know so we can confirm all ground services.

The easiest way to confirm your booking is through our website. When you are ready to book, we normally require a 10% non-refundable deposit, but for some holidays this may be more to cover such items as permit fees, internal flights or other non-refundable services. If your travel starts within 60 days of booking, full payment will be required at the time of booking

---

### 100% No Surcharge Guarantee

The price paid for our holidays is no longer subject to change. Once booked and confirmed we will guarantee the price you pay will not increase, whatever the circumstances. You will not be approached to pay fuel surcharges unlike the vast majority of other adventure tour operators. The price guarantee applies to all new bookings departing between 1st January 2014 and 31st December 2015.

---

### Tour Itinerary Versions

Itinerary details may vary depending on departure date and alternative itineraries for this tour may exist. Please refer to the dates and prices page on our website to check which itinerary operates on each departure date.

Please ensure that you have an up-to-date copy of these tour notes immediately before you travel, as from time to time our itineraries may be amended, either for operational reasons or in response to feedback from customers. You will be informed of any major changes to your tour but small changes may just be added to these tour notes.

Please note: 2015 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing in 2015. 2016/17 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing from 1st January to 31st December 2016.

These tour notes were printed on 05/03/2015 07:42:37