Blue Heaven

Marmaris Datca Marmaris



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Marmaris is known as Turkey's yachting capital and rests on one of the world's largest harbours, a sweeping bay backed by majestic mountain peaks. Discover its secluded paradise islands, snorkel in the clear waters and explore mysterious phosphorus caves before heading into the jungle for an off-road trek. Between the livelier yachting spots of Bodrum and Marmaris are the strikingly unspoilt peninsulas of Gökova and Bozburun, which form the border of the Aegean and Mediterranean seas. Here you can explore the rural beauty of Turkey, from rugged stretches of coastlines to idyllic bays and islets; it's the perfect place to switch off and enjoy the surroundings.



Boarding starts at 15:30 from Marmaris Harbour. Guests who arrive early may leave their luggage at the EXclusive Gulets Office. Our boat will be anchored in Marmaris Harbour for dinner and overnight stay on the first day. Marmaris, built upon the antique Caria city; Physkos has been under the governorship of many different civilizations. The most valuable workpiece that you will see today is Marmaris Castle dating from 1577. There is also a mosque and an 8-room Karavansary covered with arches from the Ottoman Period. The ruins of the Antique times lie on Asar Hill, a small hill located on the northern side of the city. Being one of the bestknown tourist places in Turkey, Marmaris also has a large marina.

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Serce Bay and Bozukkale (Loryma) We will set sail for Serçe Bay. A Byzantine shipwreck from the 11th century, exhibited in the Bodrum Museum, was found here. The night will be spent in Bozukkale. In the ancient city of Bozukkale (Loryma), a castle stretches out in a rectangle with its city walls and nine temples. The name Bozukkale means 'crooked castle' and might be associated with missing one side of the castle. Because of its geographical situation and the narrow port entrance, the port was also used by the Greek naval forces during the Peloponnese Sea Battle. Karor, the Commander of Athens, gathered all his ships before the Cnidus War in 395 B.C., and Demetrius, the son of Antigonos, used this port for preparations before attacking Rhodes in 305 B.C.



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After breakfast, we will hoist sail and cruise to Datça. The city was founded by the Dors, who came from the Aegean Sea to the southern coast of Ionia in the 7th century B.C. The island has no humidity and fresh air with plenty of oxygen. The historian Strabo has a rightful saying about Datça's weather: "God would send his beloved servants to Datça to live longer." According to a myth, while the Spanish pirates were passing by the coast of Datca, they disembarked people with Hansen's disease in Sarıliman Bay. These abandoned people recovered from their illnesses with the help of the clean weather of Datça. You can explore Datça yourself or join the optional Cnidus tour. We will anchor in Datça or at a nearby bay for dinner and an overnight stay.



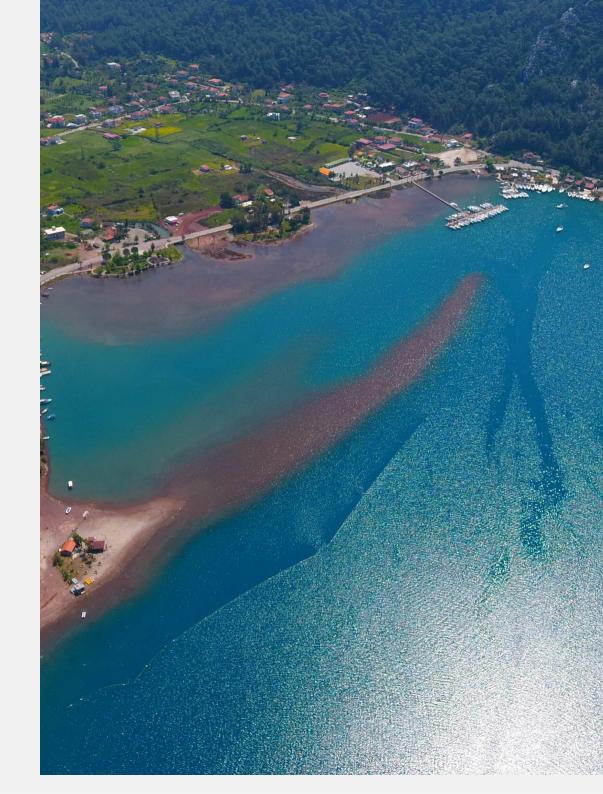
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Aktur and Bencik After breakfast, we will cruise to Aktur Bay. Then our first stop will be Bencik Bay, which has a very narrow entrance but a unique view once you get inside. Bencik is located at the narrowest part of the peninsula that divides Hisarönü Gulf from the Gökova Gulf. but it is situated on Hisarönü side. In the 550s B.C., the Cnidus people wanted to dig a tunnel in the narrowest land piece of the peninsula between the Hisarönü Gulf and the Gökova Gulf as a defence line against the Persians. That way, they would make two peninsulas, one island, and the defence easier. They started with diligence and put in a lot of effort; however, in the end, they could not manage, and the Persians conquered the city. Dinner and overnight stay will be at Bencik Bay.



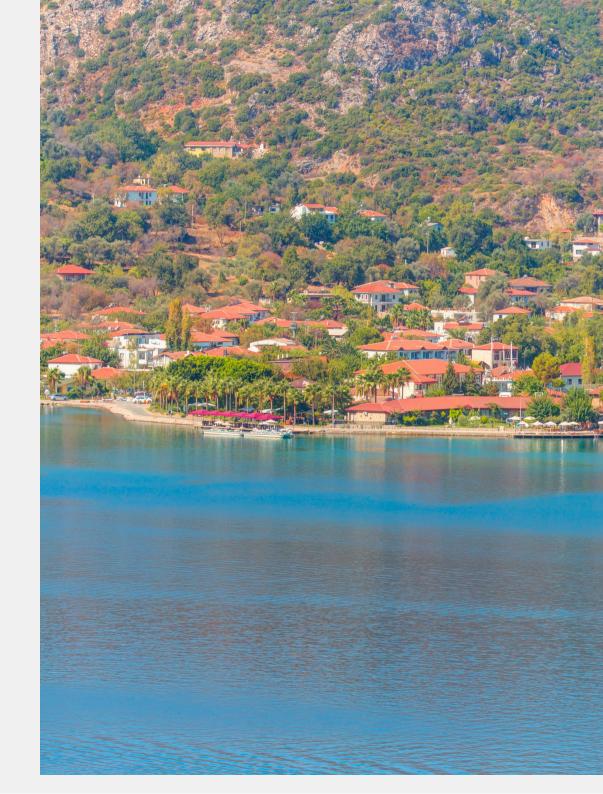
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Orhaniye and Selimiye Today, we will be sailing into the Hisarönü Gulf. For lunch, we will dock in Orhaniye. In Orhaniye Bay, you will see the unique scenery of a natural tidal formation called 'kız Kumu (Maiden's Beach). Many myths exist about this reddish sand path going from shore to the inner parts of the sea. On a tiny island located in the bay, you can see the wrecks of an antique castle, a sign of an ancient city. Today, our next destination will be Selimiye for dinner and overnight stay.



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Dirsekbükü and Bozburun After anchoring in Dirsekbükü, we will go to Bozburun, a small fishing town. This area was popular and suitable for sponge diving, but nowadays, the island's people are no longer interested in it as it is not financially beneficial and dangerous. In recent years, gulet tourism has replaced sponge diving.



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Arap Island, Kadirga, and Marmaris Today, we start cruising early in the morning to Arap Island. Lunch will be served in Kadırga Bay. After a swimming break, we return to Marmaris Port at about 16:00 to have dinner and an overnight stay.



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It is time to say farewell to the captain and crew and leave the boat by 10:30 after breakfast.



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