

Turkey West and Greek Islands

Mamma Mia

Tours of Distinction



TROPICAL SAILS CORP

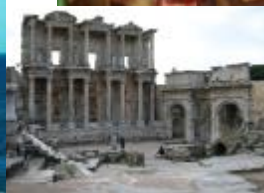
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Duration 16 days - 15 nights
Standards 4 star, 5 star hotels and 8 Days Gulet with breakfast, 11 dinner and fully guided
Highlights Istanbul, Bursa, Canakkale, Troy, Pergamum, Kusadasi, Ephesus, Pamukkale, Bodrum, Marmaris, Serce, Bozukkale, Bozburun, Dirsekbükü, Bencik, Aktur, Datca, Symi, Rhodes, Marmaris, Istanbul
Departure Group Tour Every Saturdays and Sundays - Private Everyday
From \$2999



DAY 1 : Arrival to Istanbul

Welcome to Turkey. Arrive in Istanbul Airport, Our representative will meet you at the airport with your name sign and private transfer to the hotel for overnight stay in Istanbul.

DAY 2 : Full Day Istanbul Tour (Breakfast)

09.00 a.m. After breakfast, pick up from hotel and Our journey begins in Istanbul, the only city in the world situated on two continents. Byzantium, Constantinople, Istanbul - its three names span more than 2600 years, nearly 1600 of them as the capital of two of the greatest empires the world has known, Byzantine and Ottoman. We visit the **Topkapi Palace including Harem ,Hagia Sophia, The Blue Mosque and Hippodrome**, where chariot races and the Byzantine riots took place. Free time in **Spice Bazaar (Egyptian Bazaar)**: The air here is filled with the enticing aromas of cinnamon, caraway, saffron, mint, thyme and every other conceivable herb and spice. Overnight in Istanbul.

DAY 3 : Istanbul – Bursa - Canakkale (Breakfast – Dinner)

Take a fast ferry from Istanbul and arrival to BURSA, former Ottoman Capital. Visit the GREEN MOSQUE and the GREEN MAUSOLEUM-*from outside*), the old **SILK MARKET** in the **COVERED BAZAAR**. Continue to **Canakkale and overnight**.

DAY 4 : Canakkale – Troy - Pergamum - Kusadasi (Breakfast – Dinner)

Visit the famous archaeological and mythological site of Troy, home of the "Trojan Horse" and "Helen of Troy". Return Departure for Pergamon Visit The city of Pergamon in the north of the Aegean of West Anatolia with the frontiers to ancient Mysia, forms a significant part of the Aegean and AsiaMinor history with Acropolis, one of the centres of Hellenistic and Roman ages. Departure for Kusadasi Overnight stay in Kusadasi.

Day 5 : Kusadasi - Ephesus Tour – Kusadasi (Breakfast – Dinner)

Drive to Ephesus. First visit the **Artemission Temple** where is one of the seven wonders of the Ancient World. Continue to **Ephesus**. visit

Ephesus, one of the 12 cities of Ionia (an ancient Greek district on the western coast of Asia Minor) is located near Izmir. As a port city at the mouth of the Cayster (modern Küçükmenderes) River, it was a major departure point for trade routes into Asia Minor. Known in antiquity for its sacred shrines, notably a famous temple (one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World) to the goddess Artemis, or Diana, the city was also an important center of early Christianity. After Ephesus, **lunch** will be served in the garden of a local handicrafts center. Here you can see some of the traditional carpet weaving techniques used and enjoy viewing some splendid displays of beautiful carpets. After Lunch visit **House of Virgin Mary**. This house is located on the Aladag Mountains 5 miles from Ephesus. At the third Ecumenical Council of 431 in Ephesus, it was claimed that Mary came to Ephesus with St. John in 37 A.D. and lived there until her death in 48 A.D. After the discovery of the house, the Archbishop of Izmir declared it a place of pilgrimage in 1892. On July 26, 1967, Pope Paul VI visited this place and prayed here. transfer to the hotel for overnight in Kusadasi

DAY 6 : Kusadasi - Pamukkale Tour – (Breakfast – Dinner)

Drive to Pamukkale, on the way, visit to Aphrodisias. Aphrodisias was primarily known as a center for the arts, specifically sculpture. The Aphrodisias School of Sculpture had a distinctive style and was very well circulated throughout the Greek and Roman world. Discovery of Travertine terraces and Hierapolis. The travertine terraces at Pamukkale are one of the most spectacular natural wonders we ever have seen from various mineral springs in a vast white cliff side, about 200 m overlooking the plain, calcite-laden waters have dripped down over a series of terraced levels and created a fairyland of bizarre solidified cascades and shell-shaped basins. It looks like creations from snow or like balls from cotton, which gave the scenery the Turkish name Pamukkale (cotton castle): Moreover the water in the basins is changing its color according to how the light enters. Overnight in Pamukkale.

DAY 7 : Pamukkale – Bodrum Tour –

(Breakfast – Dinner)

After Breakfast drive to Bodrum. Visit **St. Peter's Castle**, including **underwater archeology museum**. Castle was built by the Knights of St John in 1402 to dominate the harbour and it is one of the last and finest examples of Crusader architecture in the east. Then we will visit **Halicarnassos Mausoleum** which used to be one of the Seven Wonders of the ancient World. Next stop will be the **ancient theater of Halicarnassos**, dated back to the 4th century BC with 5.000 capacity. Overnight in Bodrum.

DAY 8 : Bodrum – Marmaris – Boarding our 8 days Gulet (Breakfast – Dinner)

After breakfast transfer to Marmaris. Boarding starts at 15:30 from Marmaris Harbour. Guests who arrive early may leave their luggage at the Barbaros Yachting Office. On the first day, our boat will be anchored in Marmaris Harbour for dinner and overnight stay. Marmaris, which was built upon the antique Caria city; Physkos has been under the governorship of many different civilizations. The most valuable work of art that you will see today is Marmaris Castle dating from 1577. There is also a mosque and an 8-room caravansaray 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 best-known touristic places of Turkey Marmaris also has a large marina.

Day 9: On Board - SERÇE – BOZUKKALE (LORYMA) (Breakfast – Lunch - Dinner)

After breakfast, you will be informed about the cruise itinerary and then we will set sail for Serçe Bay after the customs formalities are completed. In this beautiful bay you can see the Byzantine shipwreck from the 11th century, which is exhibited in Bodrum Museum. We will anchor at Bozukkale for the overnight stay. In the ancient city of Bozukkale (Loryma), there is a castle which stretches out in a rectangle with its city walls and 9 towers. The name Bozukkale means 'crooked castle' and might be associated with the fact that one side of the castle is missing. Because of its geographical situation and the narrow port entrance, the port was also used by the Greek naval forces during the Peloponnese Sea Bat-

tle. Karor, the Commander of Athens gathered all his ships here 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.

Day 10: On Board - BOZBURUN– DİRSEK-BÜKÜ– BENCİK (Breakfast – Lunch - Dinner)

Early in the morning we start to cruise to Bozburun which is a small fishing town. This area was popular and suitable for sponge-diving but nowadays the people of the island are no longer interested in sponge-diving as it is not financially beneficial and it is dangerous. In the recent years sponge-diving has been replaced by gulet tourism. We will anchor at Dirsek Bükü for lunch and a swimming break. Today, our last stop will be at 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 the Hisarönü Gulf from the Gökova Gulf but it is located on Hisarönü side. In 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. In that way, they would make two peninsulas one island and the defence would be easier. They started with diligence and put in a lot of effort; however, in the end they could not manage and the city was conquered by the Persians. For dinner and overnight stay, we will anchor at Bencik Bay.

Day 11: On Board - AKTUR– DATÇA (Breakfast – Lunch - Dinner)

Today our first stop will be Aktur Bay. After lunch and a swimming stop, we will cruise to Datça. Food and water will be supplied for the boat from Datça Harbour. Datça was founded by the Dorians who came from the Aegean Sea to the southern coast of Ionia in the 7th century B.C. The island has no humidity at all and has fresh air with plenty of oxygen. The historian Strabon was right when he remarked of 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 Sarılıman Bay and

these abandoned people recovered from their disease with the help of the clean weather of Datça. You can explore Datça by yourself or join the optional Cnidus tour. For dinner and overnight stay, we will anchor in Datça.

Day 12 : On Board - SYMI (Breakfast – Lunch - Dinner)

After customs formalities are completed, we will set sail to Symi Island and anchor at a near bay to Symi Harbour for lunch and a swimming break. We will anchor at Symi Port early in the evening. You can see the shoreline with its neo-classical houses and the peripheral districts. You are going to adore Symi Island for its pine and oak forests and unique bays. You can hire a vehicle to go to the Monastery of Panormitis located in a well-protected bay at the southern part of Simi.

Day 13: On Board – RHODES (Breakfast – Lunch - Dinner)

We will cruise to Rhodes early in the morning. Rhodes is the largest of the Dodecanese Islands. The island is quite a popular holiday destination as it has one of the best-preserved and the largest European Medieval cities and has warm weather for 300 days of the year. Rhodes has been the cradle of many civilizations; starting with the knights of St. John in the Middle Ages, then Ottomans and Italians. Thus, the island has a unique historical harmony and beauty. The main port of Rhodes is Rhodes City which bears the same name with the island. The other very touristic areas of Rhodes island are; Lindos and Kamiros. This city, which is still surrounded by 12 meter thick city-walls, gives you the feeling of travelling back to Medieval times especially when you walk around its narrow, stone-paved roads. After dinner, our guests are highly recommended to enjoy a Rhodes night out.

Day 14: On Board - MARMARIS (Breakfast – Lunch - Dinner)

After entering Marmaris Port, we will anchor at Cennet Island (Paradise Island). Lunch time and a swimming break will take place here. Then, we will anchor at Marmaris Harbour for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 15 : Marmaris – Dalaman – Istanbul (Breakfast)

After breakfast in Marmaris, it's time to bid farewell to your shipmates, gulet & crew. Transfer to Dalaman airport for morning flight to Istanbul. Arrival at 09.35 and our representative will transfer to your hotel. Afternoon Free time in **Grand Bazaar** for shopping, **Boat trip on the bosphorus** A traditional excursion by boat along the waterway separating Europe and Asia. The shore is lined with old wooden villas, palaces of marble, fortresses, and small fishing villages. Overnight in Istanbul.

DAY 16 : Home (Breakfast)

Transfer to Airport to connect to your international flight and leave Turkey
The end of our services

Package includes ;

- 8 nights accomodations based on bed and breakfast
- 15 breakfast, 6 lunch and 12 dinner
- 7 nights & 8 days Blue Cruise from Bodrum to Marmaris including 3 meals a day
- Professional licensed English speaking guide
- Private airport transfers,
- Transportation with last model private A/C Van
- All entrance fees to the sites stated above the itinerary
- Dalaman – Istanbul flight ticket

In 4 star Hotels

In 5 star Hotels

P.P. in a Double Room

2.999-\$US

3.334-\$US

Single Supplement

1.294-\$US

1.474-\$US

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