

# Great Explorations



## Trip Dates

### 2010

Apr 28-May 8  
Sep 28-Oct 8

Custom trips also available. Call or email for details.

### 2011

Apr 27-May 7  
Sep 27-Oct 7

## Trip Size

8-16 participants

## Total Days:

11 days/ 10 nights

## Arrive/Depart:

Bodrum/Antalya

## Activity Level:

Moderate  
20-40+ miles daily  
van supported

## Terrain:

Cycling routes will have options between 20-40+ miles daily; roads are paved with elevation changes moderate.

## Turkey, Biking

This trip combines cycling and yachting along the Turkish coast, where the Mediterranean is never far. Outstanding monuments from the Ottoman empire, delicious cuisine and friendly locals eager to welcome visitors ensure rewarding travel. Highlights include the resort town of Bodrum, the archaeological site of Dalyan where cliff-side tombs stand testament to a time forgotten, the exotic and charming towns of Kalkan and Kas, and the Ottoman city of Antalya, where we treat you to an ancient hammam and the luxuries of the Hotel Alp Pasa.

### Only Great Explorations:

- Small groups, extraordinary guides, and authentic experiences.
- A ride you will never forget: Kalkan to Kas on our coastal route with lunch on arrival at the sublime Doy Doy restaurant.
- Our private yacht, with captain and crew and a chance to sail.
- Order off the menu at restaurants you won't find in guidebooks.
- Distinctive, charming hotels too small for larger groups.
- We design and operate our own trips so there are only good surprises.
- In Turkey we offer extensions to both Istanbul and Cappadocia. Although the Istanbul extension would normally be done before your trip and the Cappadocia afterwards, you can do them before or after. See prices and inclusions below. Distinctive, charming hotels too small for larger groups.
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## Itinerary



### Getting there:

**Bodrum:** Our trip begins in the coastal resort town of Bodrum; your hotel is included on arrival day and most people will arrive late afternoon from Istanbul.

### DAYS 1+2:

**Bodrum** - We'll meet for dinner at 7:00 and prepare you for the trip. The next day options include cycling along the coast or a leisurely sail exploring the is-

lands off-shore on a traditional Turkish gullet. Our hotel here is located in the center, near to the historic port, markets and cafes.

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## Cost

**Land Cost (current year):**  
US \$3250  
Includes all meals

**Single Supplement:**  
US \$420

**Bike Rental:**  
US \$220

**Extension-Istanbul (optional):**  
US \$395

**Extension-Cappadocia (optional):**  
US \$395



## DAY 3:

*Marmaris* - We'll ferry across the Aegean, then cycle the Datca Peninsula where the climbs are compensated by shaded pine forests and dramatic coastal vistas. Our ride concludes with a long descent into Marmaris where we'll overnight at an exclusive hotel with private beach and tranquil setting, located away from the bustle of town.

## DAYS 4+5:

*Daylan* - Riding out of Marmaris, we pass traditional Turkish villages on our way to Caunos and its Lycian tombs. We spend 2 nights in Daylan at an impressive hotel with pool & hammam. On our second day here,

we'll visit Iztuzu Beach, where the famed loggerhead sea-turtles are found, and visit the ancient city of Caunos with tombs and theatre to explore.

## DAY 6:

*Oludeniz* - Ride to European port of Gocek for lunch before boarding yachts to begin our blue voyage. Reaching Oludeniz Beach, snorkel and dive tranquil waters or watch with wonder as hundreds of parapenters jump from nearby mountains drifting to the beaches.

## DAY 7:

*Kas* - We sail along the coast, stopping at Patara Beach (recently voted the world's most beautiful beach) and the charming sea-side port town of Kalkan full of artisan shops and cafes where we'll have lunch at a favorite restaurant overlooking the port. Those who wish to cycle can continue from here along a scenic stretch of coastline road to Kas; for those that prefer to relax under sail, you have that option.



## DAY 8+9:

*Olympos* - Cruise to Kekova Island visiting a sunken Lycian city enroute to Simena, where we'll hike up to the castle above the village overnighing in a bay off of Ucagiz. Next day, we'll cruise to Kale allowing cyclists to ride a dramatic stretch of road from Andriake to Finike visiting the infamous Church of St.Nicolas (where the legend began) and ruins at nearby Myra.

In the late afternoon, we continue to Olympos and its incomparable beach. Explore impressive ruins here, and hike up to Chimaera to see the eternal flames (where the Olympic flame comes from).

## DAY 10:

*Antalya* - After a relaxing morning at Olympos beach, we'll transfer to Antalya to explore this thriving port city with beautiful harbour and ancient town where there is lots to see and do. We'll stay in the old town above the port at Hotel Alp Passa, formerly an Ottoman Palace, now a posh hotel. We'll celebrate our final night with dinner at our exquisite hotel with memories of turquoise waters and eternal sun.

**DAY11:** Transfer at your leisure to airport or see extensions below.

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**Extension Istanbul** - (recommended on arrival, before the tour): Guided visits to the most impressive sites, including Aya Sofia, Blue Mosque, Tokapi Palace, Hippodrome, Grand Bazaar, and more. You'll stay at a 3-star hotel in Sultanamet literally steps away from the important sites (pictured left). Depart on the morning of the 3rd day. Cost: US \$395pp 2 nights/2 days



**Extension Cappadocia** - (recommended after the regular tour): Fly to Cappadocia and transfer to hotel. Meet with private guide for walk to Ushigar. On second day, you can choose from full-day tours to visit sites around Cappadocia including the underground cities, Goreme open-air museum and other sites. Depart on the morning of the 3rd day. Cost: US \$395pp 2 nights/ 2 days



## What's Included in the Cost of Your Trip?

- services of one or more experienced Great Explorations guides and support vehicle
- 10 nights lodging
- all meals
- entrance fees for selected historical sites and museums
- detailed map and route instructions
- all baggage transportation
- all transportation from initial meeting point to final drop-off (see arrive/depart cities)

The Istanbul extension includes:

- Airport transfer to hotel
- 2 nights lodging with breakfast
- Great Explorations Guide to Istanbul with historical information, restaurant recommendations etc.
- licensed Istanbul guide for 1 day

The Cappadocia extension includes:

- Airport transfer to hotel
- 2 nights lodging with breakfast daily
- Great Explorations Guide to Cappadocia with historical information, restaurant recommendations etc.
- Walking guide for Ushigar walk

Please note: Final itinerary is subject to revision; any changes made are done so in an attempt to provide the best possible trip given route conditions and available services. Due to the nature of our business and exchange rates, prices are subject to change. All prices quoted are U.S. dollars but we gladly accept payment in Canadian dollars also. Due to cancellations and waiting lists, trip availability fluctuates daily. If you have any questions or would like to confirm space on this trip before making your reservation, please contact us at [info@great-explorations.com](mailto:info@great-explorations.com) or by telephone at **604.730.1247**

# Great Explorations

## Accommodations



### **Su Hotel, Bodrum**

This European-style boutique hotel is close to the center of town, with an artfully designed pool, charming restaurant and lounge bar. The Su Hotel showcases local crafts, art and antiques and its courtyard is rich with Mediterranean fig trees, oranges, cacti and pomegranates. Many of the comfortably rooms have balconies overlooking the courtyard and pool.



### **Pupa Yacht Hotel, Marmaris**

This boutique hotel, frequented by yacht sailors, is located on a quiet cove and surrounded by palm and eucalyptus trees, just far enough away from the bustle of Marmaris. Each room has a wide balcony with lovely sea view. The restaurant serves delicious Turkish fare and the cook is famous in the Marmaris area. Relax on the private beach and enjoy the wonderful blue waters in the bay.



### **Aydos Club, Daylan**

Located on the river, this modern hotel complex has a large swimming pool with swim-up bar, mature gardens, comfortable rooms and traditional decor. Enjoy the lovely views from your private balcony and relax in the rustic Turkish-inspired décor. Sample traditional Turkish fare at the restaurant and experience a true Turkish coffee at the outdoor bar.



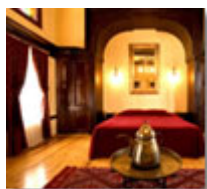
### **Blue Cruise**

Each night we'll stay on board our comfortable yacht in an idyllic setting. The yacht we typically use is 23 m in length with 6 double cabins, each with private facilities; with a crew of 3 and a maximum of 12 guests you will be well looked after.



### **Hotel Odile, Olympos**

This hotel has extensive gardens with pines, palms and oleander. Though just steps away from Olympos Beach, Odile also offers a large swimming pool in the centre of the garden. Alternate: Olympos Lodge, a boutique hotel with just 12 rooms, located on the beach.



### **Hotel Alp Pasa, Antalya**

The Hotel Alp Pasa enjoys a convenient location in the historical center of Antalya. Fully renovated in 2004, this posh Ottoman Palace boasts a courtyard with swimming pool and enclosed gardens, Turkish bath, and fine dining room. The enchanting, historical boutique hotel provides warmly decorated and luxuriously furnished rooms that offer balconies with a view over the garden, pool or city.