



# HIKE THE LYCIAN WAY IN TURKEY



HIKING HOLIDAYS WITH ZANNA VAN DIJK  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH **INTREPID TRAVEL**

# Our Travel Style

Our global network of local experts deliver the types of experiences that can't be Googled. Immersive trips that enable you to explore authentic local culture in a sustainable, experience-rich way. We love the highlights, but the real magic for us happens well away from a beaten path, the real life experiences you won't find in a search engine.

## Private Lycian Way with canyoning 8 days / 7 nights

### About Your Trip

#### Start Location/Finish Location

Antalya / Fethiye

#### Accommodation

7 nights Hotel

#### Rooming Requirements

Twin Share

#### Included Meals

Breakfast (6)

Lunch (1)

Dinner (3)

#### Transport

Air-conditioned vehicle transfers throughout

#### Leader/Guide

1 English Speaking Leader throughout

#### Included Activities

Refer to day by day itinerary below.

#### Entrance/Admission Fees

Where applicable with included activities

#### Airport Transfers

Not Included

#### Exclusions

- International Flights
- Any visas required
- Services not mentioned in the itinerary
- Late check out at hotels
- Meals and drinks not mentioned in the itinerary
- Drinks with included lunches and dinners
- Tips for leaders, guide and driver
- Expenditure of personal nature
- Personal Insurance
- Optional activities



## Safe and responsible travel, always.

As you look to get back on the road, we continue to ensure our trips are safe for everyone. That includes our travellers, our leaders and crew and the people we visit along the way. Our health and safety policies follow recommendations from the World Health Organization and the World Travel & Tourism Council's (WTTC) Safe Travel protocols for tour operators. Before we resume trips in any destination, our itineraries undergo a comprehensive risk assessment and audit, while leaders and suppliers will complete COVID-19 health and safety training. We have also introduced specific policies around testing and vaccination for your safety.



### Who we are

For over 30 years we've been taking travellers around the globe, on small group tours with like-minded Intrepid people. Our extensive COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines ensure your wellbeing is looked after during your travels.



### Safe travels

We're with you every step of the way through our value chain - from our suppliers, to our on ground operations and leaders.



### Certified B Corp

When we became certified as the world's largest travel B Corp in 2018, it was not only our official pledge to be a responsible business, but also a promise to be the best travel company for the world.

## About your Tour Leader

### Tour leader

On this trip you will be accompanied by one of our tour leaders. The aim of the tour leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible.

Your leader will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the places visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We aim to support local guides who have specialised knowledge of the regions we visit. If you were interested in delving deeper into the local culture at a specific site or location then your leader can recommend a local guide service in most of the main destinations of your trip.

# Private Lycian Way with canyoning Itinerary

Lycian Way is regarded as one of the most beautiful distance walking routes in the world with its stunning scenery. This hike is a combination of Mediterranean landscapes along the turquoise coast, majestic mountains, marvelous beaches, and ancient Lycian ruins that are older than 2000 years. The Lycian Way offers an unforgettable experience for everyone.

## **Day 1 / Saturday 14 October 2023**

### **Antalya**

**Meals included:** Dinner

Welcome to Turkey! Your hiking adventure begins in Antalya today. This beautiful, ancient city is perched atop cliffs that rise dramatically from the sea below. Your trip will officially kick off with a welcome meeting at 6 pm this evening where you'll meet your fellow travellers and group leader before being briefed on the adventures that lie ahead. If you arrive in Antalya early today, there's plenty to keep you busy. You might like to wander the old quarter of Kaleici where narrow streets intertwine between wooden houses with plenty of character. There are also a few additional day tours you might like to join – from a Turkish bath tour, to Aspendos ancient city tour, to Side Antique city tour – there's plenty of activities to choose from. Simply talk to your hotel reception for best recommendations and help with bookings.

After the welcome meeting you will have a dinner with the group, this is a great opportunity to get to know people.

### **Special Information**

It's very important that you attend the welcome meeting at 6pm we will be collecting insurance details and next of kin information at this time. If you are going to be late please let your travel agent or hotel reception know. Ask reception or look for a note in the lobby for more information on where the meeting will take place.

### **Accommodation**

Dogan Hotel

Kılınçarslan, Mermerli Banyo Sk. No:5, 07100 Muratpaşa/Antalya, Türkiye

## **Day 2 / Sunday 15 October 2023**

### **Antalya**

**Meals included:** Breakfast

You'll wake with excitement as we have our first hike of the trip planned for today. In the morning, we'll make our way to the starting point of our first hike – Alacasu. A nice and easy introduction to the terrain, today's hike will take just one to two hours, and will finish in Phaselis. These are beautiful, well-preserved ruins where you'll be able to wander through the ancient, crumbling street, theatre, and baths each protected by the shade of surrounding leafy pine trees and have a relaxing swim. In the afternoon, we'll take another stroll around famous rocky mountainside above Ciralı village – Yanartaş. You'll have a chance to explore the place of eternal flames dancing on the side of the Fire Mountain. These flames were used in ancient times by sailors to navigate their way round the coast of Lycia, and even before that time, athletes used to light their torches with what was believed to be a sacred flame and run down to Olympos city

Trekking time: 4 hours total

Driving time: 2 hours

### **Accommodation**

Şahin Pension

## **Day 3 / Monday 16 October 2023**

### **Çıralı**

**Meals included:** Breakfast

Today, you'll be exploring the beautiful Tahtalı Mountain and Çıralı Beach. You'll start your day by meeting your guide at your hotel in Çıralı. Then, you'll drive to Tahtalı Mountain, where you'll take the cable car to the top. From there, you'll enjoy panoramic views of the Mediterranean Sea and the Lycian Mountains. After taking in the views, you'll hike through the cedar forest to Beycik Village. In Beycik Village, you'll have lunch at a shepherd's hut. After lunch, you'll continue hiking to Çıralı Beach. At Çıralı Beach, you can relax on the beach or go for a swim in the Mediterranean Sea. Finally, you'll return to your hotel in Çıralı.

Trekking time: 3 hours total

Driving time: 2 hours

#### **Accommodation**

Şahin Pension

#### **Day 4 / Tuesday 17 October 2023**

**Kaş**

**Meals included:** Breakfast

Today, you're going to be hiking the Olympos to Adrasan trail. This is one of the most breath-taking trails of the Lycian Way, and it crosses the Musa (Olympos) Mountain and comes down to the Adrasan. The trail involves many steep up and downhill, but the views are magical and make it all worth it. We will have a packed lunch on the way. You will be passing through ancient ruins, pine forests, and strawberry fields. You'll also have the opportunity to swim in the Mediterranean Sea. After hiking for about 6-7 hours, you'll arrive in the village of Adrasan. You can then relax on the beach, go for a swim in the Mediterranean Sea, or explore the village. For overnight, you will be transferred to Kaş.

Trekking time: 7 hours

Driving time: 3 hours

#### **Accommodation**

Bilgin Hotel

#### **Day 5 / Wednesday 18 October 2023**

**Kaş**

**Meals included:** Breakfast

Today, you're going to be canyoning and hiking in the Kaş region. This is a beautiful area with stunning scenery and plenty of activities to enjoy. You will get all the necessary equipment for canyoning.

Canyoning is an exciting outdoor activity where you will find yourself jumping into clear, cool pools of water, and abseiling down waterfalls while you explore hidden gorges. Sometimes you will find yourself swimming through narrow passages, at other times climbing boulders, and sometimes walking.

The canyon in Sütleğen district descents are made wearing wetsuits and carrying waterproof packs and containers. Intrepid provides all of the technical equipment you will need such as helmets, ropes and wet suits. All you need is a head for heights, the ability to swim, and a taste for adventure. For canyoning, you need to have sturdy ankle boots, properly broken in before you arrive that can get wet.

Bring at least two pair of socks to prevent foot blisters, and a thermal under-shirt. Even though you will be wearing a wet suit, a thermal undershirt will help to prevent the inevitable chilling from the canyon water.

If you bring a camera, make sure it has some kind of cord to hold it around your neck or to your body as well as a waterproof cover suitable for such activities. A dry bag to hold your extra clothes when you finish your activity is often overlooked.

Once you're kitted up, you'll head into the canyon and start your adventure. We start from the entrance point of the canyon walking in cool waters, swimming and a couple easier jumps and abseils almost until the mid point. We have lunch break and go back the same way this time climbing the drops we passed.

We walk around 6km in total and our tour ends in the afternoon. After canyoning, you can relax on the beach, go for a swim, or explore Kaş.

Activity time: 6.5 hours

#### **Accommodation**

Bilgin Hotel

#### **Day 6 / Thursday 19 October 2023**

##### **Kabak**

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Dinner

Today, you're going to be exploring the Delikkemer – Gey – Alınca – Kabak region. This is a beautiful area with stunning scenery, ancient ruins, and a charming village. You'll start your day by driving to Sidyma, which will take about 4 hours. Along the way, you'll stop at Delikkemer, an ancient aqueduct. You can then stretch your legs and take some photos. After your stop at Delikkemer, you'll continue on to Sidyma. In Sidyma, you'll have lunch at a local restaurant and then visit the ancient city. Sidyma is a well-preserved ancient city with temples, theaters, and other ruins. After your visit to Sidyma, you'll drive to Alınca. In Alınca, you'll start your hike to Kabak. The hike is about 7 kilometers and takes about 2 hours. You'll arrive in Kabak in the late afternoon. In Kabak, you can relax on the beach, go for a swim in the Mediterranean Sea, or explore the village.

Trekking time: 3,5 hours

Driving time: 2 hours

#### **Accommodation**

Turan Hill

#### **Day 7 / Friday 20 October 2023**

##### **Fethiye**

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Dinner

Today, you're going to be hiking on the Fethiye side of the Lycian Way. This is a beautiful trail with stunning views of Ölüdeniz and the Mediterranean Sea. You'll start your day by taking a 30-minute car ride to the starting point of the hike. Once you arrive, you'll start hiking uphill. As you hike, you'll pass through two mountain villages, where you can stop for pancakes. After hiking for about 3-4 hours, you'll reach the top of the trail, where you'll have stunning views of Ölüdeniz and the Mediterranean Sea. You'll then start hiking downhill for about 2 hours, until you reach Faralya Village. From Faralya Village, you'll take a car back to Kabak.

Tonight you will enjoy a farewell meal with your group.

Trekking time: 4 hours

Driving time: 1 hour

#### **Accommodation**

Turan Hill

#### **Day 8 / Saturday 21 October 2023**

##### **Fethiye**

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch

Today is the last day of your tour. You'll start your day by driving to Kayaköy, an abandoned Greek village. This is a unique and fascinating place to visit. You can wander through the ruins of the village and learn about its history. After visiting Kayaköy, you'll take a 7-kilometer walk to Ölüdeniz Beach. This is a beautiful beach with stunning views of the Mediterranean Sea. You can relax on the beach, go for a swim, or take a boat trip. After lunch at a beachside restaurant, you'll drive to the airport in time for your flight.

On last day, you will reach Fethiye in early afternoon. If you are flying out on this day, please make sure your flight departure is after 8pm.

**END OF SERVICES**

# Important Information

- The quote and accommodation will be subject to availability at the time of booking
- Travel is always an adventure and, as destinations reopen, there are a few challenges as everyone gets back up to speed and adjusts to the new normal. Our leaders are experts when it comes to dealing with anything unexpected along the journey, so pack your understanding and flexibility, sit back and relax while they take care of the rest.
- Your main luggage/bag will be transferred for you to the next destination while you are hiking.
- Many included hikes would see us reaching the ancient or archaeological sites but note the entrance to the sites is not included in the price of the trip. There will be time for you to visit those sites at your own cost if you wish so.

## Special Conditions

### Final Balance

- Final balance payment is require 70 days prior to travel.

### Cancellation by the traveller

- Cancellation prior to 70 days; we will hold the deposit amount as a credit.
- Cancellation 69days or inside prior to travel will incur 100% cancellation fees
- No shows will be treated as a cancellation and will incur 100% cancellation fees.

### Cancellation by Intrepid

- Cancellation is in line with those detailed in the standard Intrepid booking conditions in clause 8.

## Essential Trip Information

### Problems and emergency contact information

While we always endeavour to provide the best possible holiday experience, due to the nature of travel and the areas we visit sometimes things can and do go wrong. Should any issue occur while you are on your trip, it is imperative that you discuss this with your group leader or our local representative straight away so that they can do their best to rectify the problem and save any potential negative impact on the rest of your trip.

We recognise that there may be times when your group leader/local partner may not be able to resolve a situation to your satisfaction - if this is the case, please ask the leader to speak to their direct manager.

You may also choose to provide details in your online feedback, which we ask you to complete within 30 days of the end of your trip. Please do be aware that it is very difficult for us to provide any practical help after the trip is completed, so informing us while still travelling will give us the opportunity to resolve the issue in real-time.

For general contact details please use the following page: <http://www.intrepidtravel.com/ourtrips/contact/>

In case of a genuine crisis or emergency, you can reach our local office on the number below:  
Intrepid's Local Operator: +905373843684

### Itinerary disclaimer

#### ITINERARY CHANGES



Our itineraries are updated regularly throughout the year based on customer feedback and to reflect the current situation in each destination. The information included in this Essential Trip Information may therefore differ from when you first booked your trip. It is important that you review this information prior to travel so that you have the latest updates. Due to weather, local conditions, transport schedules, public holidays, or other factors, further changes may be necessary to your itinerary once in-country. The order and timing of included activities in each location may also vary seasonally to ensure our travellers have the best experience. Your tour leader will keep you up to date with any such changes once on tour.

## **OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

A selection of optional activities that have been popular with past travellers are listed in the day-to-day itinerary. This isn't an exhaustive list and should be used as a guide only for some of what might be available. Prices are approximate, are for entrance only, and don't include transport to and from the sites or local guides unless indicated. All activities are subject to availability, and maybe on a join-in basis. It may not be possible to do all the activities listed in the time available at each destination, so some pre-planning for what you are most interested in is advised. When it's recommended that travellers pre-book these activities, look for a note in the Special Information section of the day-to-day itinerary. For most, they can either be organised independently on the day, or let your leader know you are interested in the Group Meeting and they can assist.

Where activities are considered medium or high risk, we work with operators whose safety and credentials we have sighted and assessed. Although it is possible that you may find the same activity cheaper with another operator on the ground, we cannot vouch for the safety or quality of that operator. Medium and high-risk activities not listed above have not been assessed by us and as such our staff and leaders are unable to assist you with organising these activities. Activities that contravene our Responsible Travel policies are also not listed. Please remember that the decision to partake in any activity not listed is at your own discretion and risk.

## **Feedback**

After your travels, we want to hear from you! We rely on your feedback. We read it carefully. Feedback helps us understand what we are doing well and what we could be doing better. It allows us to make improvements for future travellers.

<http://www.intrepidtravel.com/feedback/>

## **Passports, visas and entry requirements**

### **PASSPORT**

You'll need a valid passport to travel internationally and most countries require your passport to have a minimum of 6 months validity, so remember to check the expiry date.

We need your passport information to get everything ready for your trip so it's important that the information on your booking matches your passport exactly. Please take care to provide the correct details. We recommend carrying a copy of the photo page of your passport while travelling and leaving a copy at home with family or friends.

### **VISAS**

Many countries require a visa and obtaining the correct visa is your responsibility. We recommend you check your visa requirements as soon as you have booked your trip. This will ensure you have time to prepare your documents and for your visa application to be processed.

Entry requirements can change and are different depending on your nationality. Please refer to your government's foreign travel advisories, the consular websites for the countries you're travelling to and those you may transit through.

Always follow visa advice from official websites; not all visa information found online may be valid. You can also head to Intrepid's Entry & Health requirement page to get the latest information on travel documents and visa requirements, plus local government COVID-19 vaccination and quarantine policies:

<https://www.intrepidtravel.com/au/visa-health-requirements>

## **PASSPORT**

As a general rule most countries expect that your passport has a minimum of 6 months validity remaining. Please ensure the name on your passport matches the name on your booking and airline tickets. Your passport details are required to complete your booking. Your consultant will contact you when this is required. Take a copy of the main passport pages and other important documents with you, and leave another copy at home with family or friends.

## **VISAS**

Visas are the responsibility of the individual traveller. Entry requirements can change at any time, so it's important that you check for the latest information. Please visit the relevant consular website of the country or countries you're visiting for detailed and up-to-date visa information specific to your nationality. Your consultant will also be happy to point you in the right direction with acquiring visas. Visas can take several weeks to process, so familiarise yourself with any requirements as soon as you have booked your trip to allow for processing time.

## **TURKEY VISA**

Most nationalities require a visa to enter Turkey. Visas must be obtained through the e-Visa system. To apply for an e-visa, please go to <https://www.evisa.gov.tr/en/> at least two weeks before you arrive in Turkey.

Passport holders from New Zealand, Argentina, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland do not require a visa for stays up to three months. We recommend all nationalities check with their local consulate for current visa requirements

## **TURKEY COVID-19 ENTRY & EXIT REQUIREMENTS**

For the latest update of what is required in order to enter Turkey, please check your government's foreign travel advice and keep monitoring for any potential changes as they may change without notice.

## **Medical and health information**

### **GENERAL HEALTH**

All travellers need to be in good physical health in order to participate fully on this trip. When selecting your trip please make sure you have read through the itinerary carefully and assess your ability to manage and enjoy our style of travel. Please note that if in the opinion of our group leader or local guide any traveller is unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group, we reserve the right to exclude them from all or part of a trip without refund.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information or for any necessary vaccinations before departure. We recommend that you carry a first aid kit as well as any personal medical requirements as they may not easily be obtained while travelling.

### **COVID-19**

The safety and wellbeing of our travellers, leaders, crew, staff, and suppliers continues to remain our highest priority as we travel. You can read more about how we will keep you safe on our trips, including our COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines here: <https://www.intrepidtravel.com/safe-travels>

### **VACCINATION POLICY**

From 1 January 2023, Intrepid will no longer require travellers to provide proof of vaccination against COVID-19 for this trip. However, we continue to strongly recommend that all travellers get vaccinated to protect themselves and others.

Specific proof of testing or vaccination may still be required by your destination or airline. Please ensure you check travel and entry requirements carefully. For more information, including a detailed FAQ about this policy, please visit <https://www.intrepidtravel.com/covid19>.

### **HEALTH SCREENING**

If you are unwell prior to travelling, please stay at home and contact us to make alternative arrangements.

From 1 January 2023, Intrepid will no longer require travellers to complete a self-screening health form at the group meeting for this trip.

If you are displaying any COVID-19 symptoms or have any health concerns during the trip, we will follow the advice of local health authorities to determine whether medical assistance, isolation or further action is required.

Travellers who test positive while taking part in an Intrepid trip will need to leave the group for a minimum of five days and may only rejoin the group if presenting as asymptomatic – our team will assist them in arranging a place to self-isolate and any onward journey.

It's quite possible that the destination country may have different or more strict protocols than your home country regarding COVID-19. This may include hotel or hospital quarantine or quarantine for the group. Please check your government's travel advice or contact the closest embassies to find out the details. We ask all travellers to continue to monitor their health throughout their travels and report any relevant symptoms to their tour leader.

All travellers need to be in good physical health in order to participate fully on this trip. When selecting your trip please make sure you have read through the itinerary carefully and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please note that if, in the opinion of our group leader or local guide, any traveller is unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group, we reserve the right to exclude them from all or part of a trip without refund.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information or for any necessary vaccinations and anti-malarial requirements before departure. We recommend that you carry a first aid kit as well as any personal medical requirements (including a spare pair of glasses) as they may not easily be obtained at the locations on this trip.

### **DRINKING WATER**

As a rule we recommend you don't drink tap water, even in hotels, as it may contain much higher levels of different minerals than the water you are used to at home. For local people this is not a problem as their bodies are used to this and can cope, but for visitors drinking the tap water can result in illness. Generally this isn't serious, an upset stomach being the only symptom, but it's enough to spoil a day or two of your holiday. Many hotels and lodges provide safe drinking water, while bottled water is another alternative. Water consumption should be about two litres a day. Rehydration salts, motion sickness tablets, and diarrhoea blockers are available from many pharmacies.

### **Food and dietary requirements**

Your group leader or representative will endeavour to cater for specific dietary requirements where possible, and vegetarianism and gluten intolerance will be catered for in most instances. There are, however some meals and activities that are fixed in advance and therefore cannot be modified to suit dietary requirements.

Please notify your booking consultant of any dietary requirements at the time of booking. For those suffering from particular food allergies, your group leader or representative will endeavour to disclose to their fullest knowledge the main ingredients in dishes being consumed. It is, however, your personal responsibility to ensure that you do not ingest any foods to which you are allergic.

### **Transport**

#### **Turkey - Public Transport**

When and where possible we will use public buses to travel between cities on this trip.

However due to weather and seasonal bus schedules we may find it necessary to substitute public buses with private transport on some days.

Public buses in Turkey don't have toilets on board. Breaks are normally scheduled at rest stops every 2-3 hours.

### **Money matters**

When it comes to money matters on the trip, every traveller is a little different. You know your spending habits better than we do, so please budget a sensible amount for things like meals not included, drinks, shopping,

optional activities, tipping and laundry. It's always better to bring a little more than you think you'll need.

Also make sure you've read your trip details thoroughly so you know what's included in the trip price and what isn't. This should make budgeting a little easier. You'll find this info in the Inclusions section of your Essential Trip Information (that's this document).

## **CURRENCY**

The Official currency of Turkey is the Turkish Lira (TRY). Most goods and services can be paid for using the local currency. The EUR is also acceptable as is the USD. For the supply of everyday services like meals and general shopping we recommend the local currency.

## **BANKING**

ATMs are widely available in all major towns and cities throughout Turkey. Credit and debit cards are the best way to access money throughout most trips (note though that charges are made for each transaction). Credit cards are generally available in tourist shops and restaurants. Visa and MasterCard are generally preferred over American Express, Diners, etc. Smaller venues take cash only.

## **TIPPING**

If you're happy with the services provided during your trip, whilst not compulsory it is considered cultural appropriate to offer a gratuity. Whilst it may not be customary to you, it's of great significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels, inspires excellent service, and is an entrenched feature of the tourism industry across many Intrepid destinations.

The following amounts are based on local considerations and feedback from our past travellers:

**Restaurants:** Local markets and basic restaurants - leave the loose change. More up-market restaurants we suggest 5% to 10% of your bill.

**Drivers:** You may have a range of private drivers on your trip. Some may be with you for a short journey while others may be with you for several days. We would suggest a higher tip for those more involved with the group however EURO 1 - 2 per person per day is generally appropriate.

**Blue Cruise:** If your trip includes an overnight or daily Mediterranean cruise you may want to consider leaving a goodwill gesture for the crew EURO 1-2 per person per day is generally appropriate adjusted based on the duration of the cruise.

**Your Group Leader:** You may also consider tipping your leader for outstanding service throughout your trip. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline EURO 3 - 4 per person, per day can be used. Of course you are free to tip more or less as you see fit, depending on your perception of service quality and the length of your trip.

Tipping in local currency equivalent is perfectly acceptable and often preferred.

**Tipping Kitty:** Over the years we have found that many of our travellers find the need for tipping to be both tiresome and embarrassing, especially if they don't have the correct small change. To overcome this, we have established a tipping kitty system. At your group meeting, your tour leader may discuss the idea of running a group tipping kitty, whereby everybody contributes an equal amount and then your tour leader pays the tips while keeping a running record of all monies spent (except restaurant tips). The record can be checked at any time and any money remaining at the end of the tour returned to group members.

As a general note, bathrooms in Turkey do often charge a fee. This fee can vary but generally 2-3 TL is required, so it is useful to keep some loose change handy.

## **SHOPPING**

There are many opportunities to purchase souvenirs and handicrafts while on this trip, they can be a fantastic memento of your trip, and often these purchases help to support local artisans.

Your Leader may suggest visits to different stores during your tour. Rest assured that these vendors have been selected by our team on ground. They provide good service and good quality products at fair market prices. It also means that after sales service is available should you get home and have a problem with your purchase. Some visits may be included as part of your itinerary where we feel the making of the craft is relevant to the destination and interesting for everyone to visit. If this is the case you are under no obligation to purchase anything, simply enjoy the demonstrations and learning about the local craft. We do also encourage you to enjoy shopping in the markets to compare prices and quality.

### **EMERGENCY FUNDS**

We try to plan for every eventuality, but there are still some things beyond our control. Please make sure you bring an extra USD500 for emergencies (e.g. natural disasters or civil unrest). Sometimes these things necessitate last minute changes to our itineraries, and we can't guarantee there won't be some extra costs involved.

### **TRAVELLERS TO TURKEY PLEASE NOTE**

Turkey is often misjudged when it comes to the cost of goods and services and prices can vary considerably, between regions. Cities like Istanbul and Antalya are very European and as such the standard of restaurants and cafes is very high and the cost equivalent to its European counterparts. Eating in local restaurants, road side stalls and markets is still inexpensive and lots of fun. Budgets are a personal choice but please bear in mind that you should not expect Turkey to be a budget destination.

### **Packing**

As well as your underwear, toothbrush and other items you always need to pack for travel, below are some items that you specifically need for this trip.

<https://www.intrepidtravel.com/packing-list>

### **MAIN LUGGAGE**

You need to bring your main piece of luggage as well as a small to medium backpack for day's walks (20-25 litres). One with waist strap would be most comfortable for all included walks

### **ESSENTIALS**

- Day pack: for carrying essentials during activities
- Trekking clothing: A mixture covering lightweight clothing and some warm layers is recommended. Your activities will take place in the outdoors, where weather may change quickly. Lightweight, comfortable, and quick drying clothes for the activities are best. Laundry facilities may not be available on every day basis, so make sure you have a few cycles of clothes.
- Hiking boots with a good grip, ankle support and waterproof membrane that are comfortable to walk for an entire day
- Walking Poles for support on steep uphill sections and longer descents
- Comfortable shoes for shorter beach walks or evenings spend around accommodation
- Sport sandals
- Light jacket, fleece and base layers
- Wind and waterproof jacket
- Breathable, non-cotton hiking t-shirts
- Long hiking pants or zip-offs
- Nylon hiking shorts
- Water bottle or bladder: you will need water during activities and it's best to avoid buying unnecessary plastic.
- Sun protection: sunscreen, sunglasses, sunhat or bandana
- Torch/flashlight/headtorch
- Toiletries

### **RECOMMENDED**



- Personal medical kit. A larger kit will be on hand with your leader, but we recommend you carry items such as mild pain killers, antihistamine tablets and any personal medication you may need
- Ear plugs & eye mask
- Walking poles for longer walks and uneven terrain
- Camera with spare batteries/power bank: You will have access to power to recharge your electrical items daily
- Travel eco-friendly wipes/hand sanitizer

## OPTIONAL

- Swimwear
- A good book, a journal and music player

## VALUABLES

Please try to avoid bringing unnecessary valuables. It's also recommended to bring a copy of all important documents e.g. air tickets, passport, vaccination certificate, etc. and keep the copies separate from the originals. While not valid, a photocopy makes it very much easier to obtain replacements if necessary. If you need some further tips for packing, you can always check out our ultimate packing list.

## WATER BOTTLE

Please bring your own water bottle to refill along the way. The sale of bottled water contributes to an enormous environmental problem around the world. In addition to the water in bottles, the production of a 1 litre plastic bottle takes 2 litres of water and 200ml of oil. A large proportion end up in limited landfill or discarded in waterways and natural environments.

## Climate and seasonal information

### WEATHER:

Turkey is a large country split into seven regions. As a rule of thumb the Marmara, Aegean and Mediterranean coasts have typical Mediterranean climates with hot summers and mild, wet winters. In the east it is more mountainous with warm summers and very cold, snowy winters. Central Turkey (Cappadocia), has low rainfall, very dry, hot summers and very cold winters. Istanbul and coastal centres can experience very high humidity.

Winter (November to March) can be very cold. Not all of our hotels have heating so consider bringing thermals, a scarf, gloves and a warm jacket for travel in this period. Summer (June to August) can be very hot. Not all of our hotels have air-conditioning, and in those that do it's not always functioning. Please consider the seasons when planning your trip.

### RAMADAN

The important month of Ramadan or Ramzan in Turkey will be in progress from 23 Mar - 21 Apr 2023 and 11 Mar - 9 Apr 2024, with the Eid ul-Fitr festival (or Bayram in Turkey) will be held directly at its conclusion for 3-4 days. Ramadan is a festival of sacrifice where the devout refrain from eating or drinking during daylight hours. During Ramadan, business hours are shortened, including opening hours at some tourist attractions. Alcohol is not permitted during daylight hours and many restaurants will be closed. While you should expect some delays and inconveniences during this period, the month is a fantastic opportunity to travel in a Muslim country and witness this unique period, particularly the nightly celebrations when the sun sets and the fast is broken. Please note that although the Eid ul-Fitr festival can also be a fascinating time to travel it's a period of national holiday. Most government offices and businesses will be closed and some tourist site opening hours may be affected.

Ramadan month can differ from country to country and region to region, it can be a wonderful inclusion in your travels. If you have concerns about travelling at this time, please check with Intrepid or your booking agent before your departure.

## Group Leader

All group trips are accompanied by one of our group leaders. The aim of the group leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. We endeavour to provide the services of an experienced leader however, due to the seasonality of travel, rare situations may arise where your leader is new to a particular region or training other group leaders.

Your leader will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues, and introduce you to our local friends. You can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the places visited on the trip.

In Turkey, in accordance with local regulations your Leader will also be a registered Guide with the Ministry of Tourism. They will have vast general knowledge of the places visited on the trip, specialized knowledge of the sites visited and provide full guiding services.

### **Safety**

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure and ensure that your travel insurance covers you for all areas your itinerary covers. Please refer to our website's safety page for links to major travel advisories and updates on safety issues affecting our trip.

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe-keeping of your passport, air tickets, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of our hotels have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

Your leader will accompany you on all included activities, however during your trip you'll have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your leader will assist you with the available options in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your Intrepid itinerary, and Intrepid makes no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Please also note that your Leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it's deemed necessary due to safety concerns.

For more details on the type of conditions and safety standards you can expect on your trip, please refer to Intrepid's operational safety policy on our website. We recommend that you take a moment to read through this information before travelling, and would appreciate any feedback on how well it's being implemented in the field: [www.intrepidtravel.com/safety-guidelines](http://www.intrepidtravel.com/safety-guidelines)

### **FIRE PRECAUTIONS**

Please be aware that local laws governing tourism facilities in this region differ from those in your home country and not all the accommodation which we use has a fire exit, fire extinguishers or smoke alarms.

### **BALCONIES**

Some hotel balconies don't meet western standards in terms of the width of the balcony fence being narrower than 10cm.

### **TRAFFIC AND DRIVING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROAD**

Depending on where you come from please note that drivers in this part of the world may drive on the opposite side of the road from what you are used to. Look both ways before crossing any road. Traffic can be a little more chaotic than you might be used to at home. Be aware!

### **SEAT BELTS**

Please be aware that local laws governing transportation safety may differ from those in your home country and not all the transport which we use is able to provide seat belts.

### **PICK POCKETING & PERSONAL SAFETY**

While travelling there is always the risk of pick-pocketing and petty theft, particularly in the more touristy cities. We recommend that you exercise caution when walking at night and encourage you to walk in groups and only on main, well-lit thoroughfares. Be particularly vigilant on public transport. Simple measures like carrying your day pack on your front, not hanging your bag over the back of your chair or on the floor and wearing a money belt will reduce any chance that your valuables should go missing.

#### **WATER SAFETY**

Please take care when taking part in any activities in the ocean, river or open water, where waves and currents can be unpredictable. It's expected that anyone taking part in water activities is able to swim and have experience in open water. All swimmers should seek local advice before entering the water.

#### **TRAVEL ADVICE & TRAVEL INSURANCE**

We recommend that you check your government's advice in relation to the areas you will be visiting for their latest travel information before departure and ensure that your travel insurance covers you for all areas your itinerary covers.

#### **SAFETY IN TURKEY:**

We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before your departure and that you ensure your travel insurance covers you for all areas in your itinerary. We have links to all major travel advisories and regular updates on issues affecting your trip on our safety page (link above).

The safety of our travellers and staff is our first priority. We continue to monitor the situation through official travel advisories and our local operations team, and we're able to quickly change arrangements if for any reason we become concerned. If there should be any changes to the situation you will be advised immediately.

Whilst travelling in Istanbul before, after or during your tour we would recommend avoiding crowded areas like Taksim Square, Galatasaray and Kadikoy Meydan after 6.00pm especially on a weekend. If using public transport in the city please refer to <http://www.iett.gov.tr/en> for the latest updates and announcements.

#### **A couple of rules**

Everyone has the right to feel safe when they travel. We don't tolerate any form of violence (verbal or physical) or sexual harassment, either between customers or involving our leaders, partners or local people. Sexual relationships between a tour leader and a customer are strictly forbidden.

Use or possession of illegal drugs will not be tolerated on our trips. If you choose to consume alcohol while travelling, we encourage responsible drinking and expect that you'll abide by the local laws regarding alcohol consumption.

The sex tourism industry is known to exploit vulnerable people and have negative consequences on communities, including undermining the development of sustainable tourism. For this reason, patronising sex workers will not be tolerated on our trips.

By travelling with us you are agreeing to adhere to these rules. You must at all times comply with the laws, customs, foreign exchange and drug regulations of all countries visited, and you also agree to travel in accordance with our Responsible Travel Guidelines.

The decision of the group leader is final on all matters likely to affect the safety or well-being of any traveller or staff member participating in the trip. If you fail to comply with a decision made by a group leader, or interfere with the well-being or mobility of the group, the group leader may direct you to leave the trip immediately, with no right of refund. We may also elect not to carry you on any future trips booked.

If you feel that someone is behaving inappropriately while travelling with us, please inform your tour leader or local guide immediately. Alternatively, contact us on the emergency contact number detailed in the Problems and Emergency Contact section of this Essential Trip Information.

For additional Conditions of Carriage regarding COVID-19, see here: <https://www.intrepidtravel.com/conditions-carriage>

### **Travelling on a group trip**

As you travel on a group trip you will be exposed to all the pleasures and maybe some of the frustrations of travelling in a group. Your fellow travellers will probably come from all corners of the world and likely a range of age groups too. We ask you to be understanding of the various needs and preferences of your group - patience with your fellow travellers is sometimes required for the benefit of everyone's travel experience. Remember too that you have responsibilities to the group. If you are requested to be at a place at a certain time, ensure that you don't keep the rest of the group waiting. We have found time and time again that the very best trips we operate are those where the dynamics within the group work well - this takes just a little effort on your part. Due to privacy reasons, we are unable to provide you with contact details and any personal information about your fellow travellers booked on your trip prior to departure.

### **SOLO TRAVELLERS**

The beauty of our style of travel is that it caters to travellers who are travelling solo and who want to meet and share experiences with like-minded people.

On our trips rooming is organised on a twin-share basis. We pair up solo travellers with another traveller of the same gender as per the gender marker on each of their passports.

As a responsible tour operator, we strive to create a safe and inclusive environment for everyone. In the case that your gender identity differs from what is indicated on your passport, please contact us so that we can discuss rooming options with you.

We also have an optional single supplement available on most trips for travellers who prefer to have their own room. Please note that this only applies to accommodation during the tour. Pre-trip and post-trip accommodation booked through us will be on a single room basis.

On a small selection of itineraries some accommodations are booked on an open gender, multi-share basis (for example on a felucca in Egypt or an overnight train in Vietnam). In those instances it will clearly be stated in our Essential Trip Information prior to booking and travelling.

### **Travel Insurance**

Travel insurance is compulsory on all our trips for those travelling internationally. We require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency repatriation. If you are travelling within your home country or region please confirm before travel that you are entitled to access the public medical system easily should an accident occur. We strongly recommend all travellers have a policy that also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage or personal effects. For international trips, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance and the insurance company's 24-hour emergency contact number has been sighted by your leader.

If you have credit card insurance your group leader will require details of the participating insurer/underwriter, the level of coverage, policy number, and emergency contact number rather than the bank's name and your credit card details. Please contact your bank for these details prior to arriving in-country.

Travellers who reside within the European Union or Switzerland receive basic international health insurance, so travel insurance is not mandatory under European Union Law. However, as this does not cover situations such as emergency rescues, private health care, or repatriation to their home country, comprehensive travel insurance is strongly recommended. European Union or Swiss travellers who decline travel insurance when travelling outside of their home region must sign a Travel Insurance Waiver Form at the Group Meeting.

For assistance with travel insurance or other services, please visit the link below:

<https://www.intrepidtravel.com/booking-resources/our-services>

## **Responsible Travel**

Our Responsible Travel Policy outlines our commitment to preserving the environment, supporting local communities, protecting the vulnerable, and giving back to the places we travel. All our trip leaders, suppliers, and staff are trained on these principles and are core to us delivering sustainable, experience-rich travel.

Explore the different parts of our Responsible Travel Policy by visiting:  
<https://www.intrepidtravel.com/responsible-travel>

<http://www.intrepidtravel.com/ourtrips/rt/responsibletraveller>

When packing be aware that dress standards are conservative and you should dress accordingly. To respect the local culture and for your own comfort, we strongly recommend modest clothing. As a guideline, shoulders and knees at the minimum (and everything in between including midriff and cleavage) should be covered at all times. Wearing shorts and singlet tops is not appropriate and may well restrict your entry into sites of a religious nature, family homes, and will limit your local interaction opportunities in general. Loose, lightweight, long clothing is both respectful and cool in the predominantly warm climate.

## **The Intrepid Foundation**

We created our not-for-profit, the Intrepid Foundation because you – our travellers – told us you wanted to make an even greater impact in the communities you visit.

The Foundation works by teaming up with partners around the world so that together we can deliver greater positive impact at scale. Partners are identified by our local staff who live and work in our destinations. They harness their powerful community connections to determine the issues that matter most and select local partners who can deliver real solutions.

Since 2002, the Intrepid Foundation has raised more than 12.8 million dollars and supported more than 130 communities worldwide. Now, with almost 40 partners all over the world, your donations are helping to restore forests in Kenya, empower women in Honduras and promote elephant welfare in Laos, to name just a few.

By simply being on this trip, Intrepid Travel will make a donation to the Intrepid Foundation on your behalf. If you choose to donate too, 100% of your donations will go directly to our partners on the ground – where they're needed most. For more information about the Intrepid Foundation, please ask your leader or visit our website:  
<http://www.theintrepidfoundation.org/>

This trip directly supports CYDD (Çağdaş Yaşamı Destekleme Derneği), who provide scholarships and educational programs for economically disadvantaged youth in Turkey. Donations fund a program where young scholarship awardees undertake outreach workshops with marginalised children in regional villages. Workshops include information sessions on gender equality, health, law, culture, and other human rights topics.



# Booking Conditions

By booking this Intrepid Travel Tailor-Made Adventure, you agree to the Intrepid Standard Booking Conditions <https://www.intrepidtravel.com/au/booking-intrepid/booking-conditions> and any deviations specified below that apply to your Tailor-Made booking as set out below.

If you are making a booking on behalf of a group, you must ensure each traveller has read and agrees to our Booking Conditions before making the booking.

- You must provide a travellers' name list and details including name as per passport, passport number and expiration date, nationality, DOB, gender, rooming requirements, dietary requirements, medical concerns at least 60 days prior to departure of the trip.
- All rates are per person, based on indicated numbers travelling together as one movement. Any changes to the group size at any time before or after confirmation of services will require the trip to be repriced.
- The details set out in your proposal are a quotation only. The pricing and itinerary are subject to availability of accommodation, transport, leaders, and other suppliers at time of booking. We reserve the right to amend and requote itinerary if such suppliers are not available.
- By making your payment, you are agreeing to the most recent itinerary and price quote. All revisions will be subject to requote and additional approval.
- A contract will exist when we accept your deposit.
- If we, or a third-party operator, is required to make amendments to your original proposal, subsequent pricing may become applicable to your booking.
- Any changes to the itinerary made by you AFTER services have been confirmed will require a revised quote and may be subject to an additional charge (as levied by hotels, ground operators or airlines). No additional changes are permitted within 30 days prior to departure.
- Hotels listed in the quote are indicative only and are subject to change. If the hotel listed in the quote is unavailable, we will confirm an alternative hotel of similar standard.
- If complimentary transfers are included, (on a group basis) they are only applicable if going to accommodation booked through us. Please advise flight arrival details (flight number and arrival time) at least 30 days prior to departure if you wish to have this transfer provided. There is no guarantee we can arrange this transfer if we receive these details within 30 days of departure.
- Some Tailor-Made tours, such as our Tailor-Made Australia trips, may have cancellation terms that deviate from those set out in the Intrepid Standard Booking Conditions. Your Tailor-Made consultant will advise you of the cancellation conditions that apply to your booking prior to you paying your deposit.
- You acknowledge that you are choosing to travel at a time where you may be exposed to the COVID-19 virus. We will take all reasonable steps to ensure your safety and may require you to follow additional safety protocols before and during your trip. Depending on the most recent health information available to us, we may require you to comply with mandatory health policies, including the need for proof of vaccination or medical tests. More information can be found on our Covid-19 Customer Information page [here](#). Please note that these policy requirements are subject to change following advice from relevant authorities.