



Antalya & the Turquoise Coast

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Why Go?

The ancient Lycians were on to something when they based their empire here. This is Turkey at its most staggeringly beautiful. Sandy sweeps of shore hug a coastline lapped by jade waters and backed by jagged, forest-blanketed slopes. The Turquoise Coast is prime sun-and-sea territory but step off the beach and you'll find the ancient cities of Xanthos, Letoon and Arykanda perched precariously on hilltops and ornate tombs carved into cliffs at Tlos and Myra. While hike any section of the 500km-long Lycian Way trail and you are rewarded with scenery well worth the sweat.

If you just want the beach though, you're in the right place. Patara's knock-'em-dead stretch of sand and Çıralı's cosseted cove are two of the best for beach-sloth inaction. Of course there are ancient sites just around the corner from both. Maybe the Lycians were partial to a bit of sandcastle action as well.

Best Places to Eat

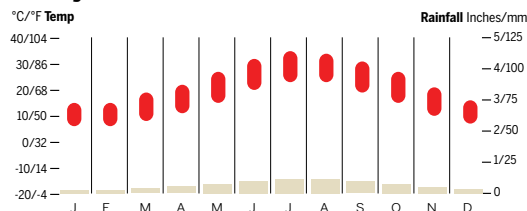
- ➔ İkbâl (p357)
- ➔ Levissi Garden (p343)
- ➔ Vanilla (p374)
- ➔ Korsan Fish Terrace (p351)
- ➔ Meğri Lokantasi (p336)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Hoyran Wedre Country House (p361)
- ➔ Hotel Villa Mahal (p350)
- ➔ Hideaway Hotel (p356)
- ➔ Mehtap Pansiyon (p360)
- ➔ Myland Nature (p364)

When to Go

Antalya



Mar–Apr Prime walking time. Stride across rugged hills alive with spring flowers.

Jul–Aug It's peak season. Set sail on the Med for swimming and sea breezes.

Oct Rub shoulders with Turkey's culture-vulture set at Antalya's film festival.



Antalya & the Turquoise Coast Highlights

- 1 Traversing the scenic section of the Lycian Way that begins from the haunting Greek ruins of **Kayaköy** (p342).
- 2 Brushing up on classical world history amid the ruins up to the eternal **Chimaera** (p363) flame.
- 3 Kayaking over Kekova Island's sunken city near the village of **Üçağız** (p358).
- 4 Wandering back in time within the labyrinthine alleys of **Antalya's** (p365) historic Kaleici district.
- 5 Lounging on Çıralı beach by day, then after dark hiking from **Fethiye** or **Göcek**.
- 6 Dusting off your explorer hat to scramble amid the lonely ruins of **Arykanda** (p361).
- 7 Experiencing this jaw-droppingly lush slice of the Med from the sea – setting sail from **Fethiye** or **Göcek**.