

Eastern Lycian Way – Self-Guided

Summary

Eastern Lycia is truly a land of ancient legends. There's the Chimera, a fire-breathing beast laid to rest where its eternal flames burn to this day. Here you will walk amongst the legends of Homer's Iliad, through the ancient city of Olympos. A city named after the mountain that was believed to be the home of Zeus and the gods and where Bellerophon stole a thunderbolt and rode the winged horse Pegasus to slay the Chimera.

Legends of Homer's Iliad



Moon Over Çirali from Chimera Flames

Icon of The Lycian Way



The Gelidonya Lighthouse

In the latter part of the itinerary we move to Üçağız. The name means three mouths and refers to the entrances into the Kekova Lagoon. The lagoon is home to a city that dates back to 400 B.C. and which, due to a massive earthquake in 144 A.D., sank and the waters rushed in to cover the vast majority of the city. The area surrounding the ancient city is dotted with remains from the Hellenic and Roman eras as well as some from early Christianity and the middle-ages. Our walks take us through a landscape that although modern by comparison has changed little for hundreds of years. Shepherds still tend their flocks and fishermen still tend their nets and life continues at a gentle pace. As well as walking you will have the chance to take a boat ride over the sunken city, to visit the hilltop castle of Simena, to swim and snorkel in the crystal clear waters around the islands in the lagoon.



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[Walk Metrics](#)

EASTERN Lycia Self-Guided								
Day		Km's	Hrs	Up	Down	Comments	Accom.	Nights
1	Arrival Day	0	0			Antalya A/Port	Adrasan	4
2	Ulupinar to Olympos via Chimera	11	4	120	385	Plus 1½hrs to explore Olympos		
3	Gelidonya Lighthouse	19	6½	840	640			
4	Sazak Bay & Opt. Boat	10	3	215	215	20km 6hrs if not on boat		
	Alternative Walk - Olympos to Adrasan	17	5½-6	700	700	Incl. Visit to ruins at Upper Olympos		
5	Myra Visit	0	0	0	0		Üçağız	3
6	Kapaklı to Üçağız	10	4.30	45	100	+ time in Simena (1hr or more)		
7	Kiliçli to Sicak Bay	8½	4	260	25	Visit to Aperlai & Boat trip		
8	Departure Day	0	0	1510	1395	Antalya A/Port		

[Itinerary at a Glance](#)

SUMMARY	B&B	HB	P/NIC	Based on Two Sharing an en-suite room		
Board Basis	7	0	5			
Airport Transfers	Out	In				
Not Included	Site Entrances, transfer from Üçağız to Antalya					
Rating	Moderate		No. of Walks		5	
Totals	58½ to 75½	km	1,420 to 1,875	Ascent	1,365 to 1,820	Descent

[Price](#)

£559 per person based on two people sharing.

Single supplement for a single person travelling as part of a group with shared airport and walk transfers £125.

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Detailed Itinerary

Day 1: Flight to Southern Turkey

Individual flight to Antalya (not included in the price) and 1 ¾ hours transfer to your hotel in Adrasan.

Day 2: From Ulupinar to Olympos via the Chimera Flames

Your transfer takes you to Ulupinar from where you hike through light forest down into “Green Valley”, so called because of the preponderance of broad-leaf trees that grow along the water’s edge of the stream that runs through the valley. You then head uphill into another valley. The path over the head of this valley leads you to the first group of flames of Chimera. From here you head down on a narrow winding track to the main group of flames beside the remains of a Lycian temple and a Byzantine church. The route then continues on to a picnic area for a Turkish tea or cooler refreshments. Then you walk along the Bay of Cirali beside the beach to the ancient city of Olympos. This is a city steeped in Lycian, Persian, Greek, Roman and Genoese history. It is situated picturesquely on a small river.

Hike: 11 KM, 4 hours.

Day 3: To the Lighthouse of Gelidonya

Your transfer brings you to the Bay of Karaöz. From there you hike to the lighthouse of Gelidonya situated at the lonely Southeastern tip of ancient Lycia. Your onward path takes you back to Adrasan. En-route you have enchanting views of the mountains behind Finike and of the turquoise blue bays and islands out to sea. This is the signature walk of the Lycian Way, a remote walk where your coastal views are sometimes glimpsed through the cliff-top forest or from cliff-top paths with clear views out to sea and along the coast.

Hike: 19KM, 6 ¾ hours

Day 4: To Sazak-Bay

At the far end of Adrasan Beach a track out along and then over the Northern headland of Adrasan Bay. Heading outwards you will get great views of the bay and then over to Water Island and along the coast. As you begin to head down off the headland you can glimpse your destination, Sazak-Bay. You enter the bay through the forest that lines the back of the beach. From here you have great sea views bounded by the steep cliffs on either side of the bay. You can have an extensive break for swimming. Between May and October you have the option to take a boat and cruise slowly back to Adrasan (not included in the price). You may have lunch on board. If not, you can return on the same route, this time getting views over Adrasan beach and to the mountains beyond..

Hike: 10 Km, 3 hours (each way) 20km, 6hrs if you walk back the way you came.

ALTERNATIVE WALK – Olympos to Adrasan via Zenecetes Hilltop Retreat

A short transfer by taxi (not included in the price) will take you back to Olympos. From here a classic Lycian Way walk on goat tracks through dappled pine trees and tangled Arbutus (Strawberry Tree) forest takes you to a shepherd’s hut at Yaylalık (a 6800m high meadow) where a local farmer offers hot and cold drinks to Lycian Way walkers. From here a short climb takes you to the ruins of Upper Olympos the final retreat of Zenecetes, a pirate king who claimed he could see everything he wanted to rule from this high vantage point. Rather than being enslaved by the Romans it was here that he chose to set fire to himself, his family and his home. The route down from Yaylalık wanders through a series of shallow valleys and brings you down to the river that is at the Northern end of Adrasan Bay. Restaurants and bars offer walkers cooling drinks served at tables on pontoons in the river. You then cross Adrasan Beach to your hotel.

Hike: 17Km, 5½-6hours plus time to explore the hilltop ruins

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Day 5: Visit to Myra; afternoon free

During your transfer to Kekova you visit the antique site of Myra. This is an historical highlight with Lycian tombs high in a rock face and one of the best preserved antique theatres in Turkey. The 13,000 seater theatre was the focal point of Myra when it was the capital of Lycia and an important part of the Roman Empire. It is the only Lycian theatre to have been modified to provide for gladiatorial exhibitions. Here you will find some superb architectural details and also be able to visit the rock tombs that were the homes built for the Lycian's ancestors. Visit: Myra – change of accommodation to Kekova (Üçağız)

Day 6: From Kapaklı to Üçağız passing The Smuggler's Inn

A short transfer takes you to Kapaklı. You hike through a bushy and rocky landscape with views of the mountains and of the sea and cross small meadows strewn with little rocks and stones. Smuggler's Inn is a nice place for a rest. Located on a small inlet where you have a great chance to have a swim. Before reaching Üçağız your path leads behind and below the hilltop castle at Simena. A short climb to the ruins of this Genoese crusaders castle is well worthwhile. Your exploration of the site starts in the necropolis where Lycian Tombs litter the path. When you climb to the summit of the castle you will pass a roman baths and a small theatre hewn from the rock. Here you will be rewarded with a perfect view of the Bay of Kekova. You may also wish to visit the delightful village of Simena before descending back to your route behind the castle which continues alongside the bay to Üçağız.

Hike: 10 KM, 4½ hours (plus time to explore the castle and Simena).

Day 7: Kilicli to the Sicak-Bay passing Aperlai; Boot tour in the Bay of Kekova

Your transfer brings you to the village of Kilicli. For a short distance you walk on a small road. Then you hike on goat tracks through a spellbinding rock garden bordered by typical Mediterranean bush landscape (Maquis) down to the Bay of Kekova. Once again you have views of the blue Bay of Kekova with its small islands spread across a large lagoon. As you reach the bay you pass the Lycian military base of Aperlai and scattered Lycian tombs. here you will find a beachside restaurant from where you will be collected by boat you go back to Üçağız through the dreamlike Bay of Kekova, passing the Sunken City, with swimming and snorkeling stops en-route. This makes a nice, relaxing end to the day.

Hike: 8½ km, 4 hours

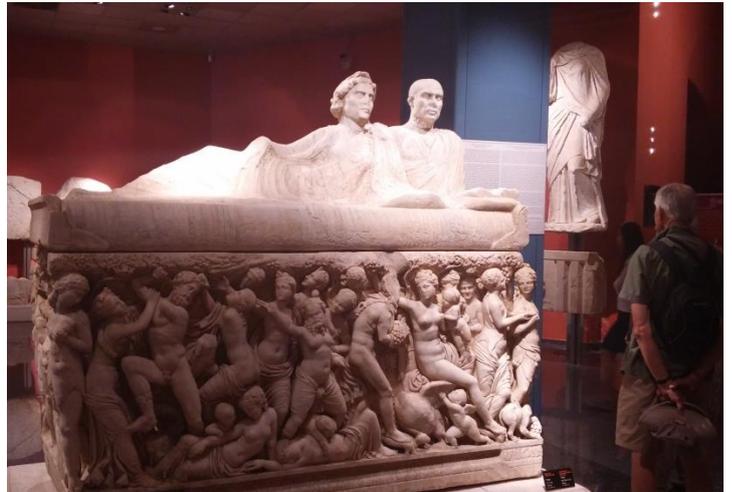
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Day 8: Return Journey

Your transfer back to Antalya is by public bus. There is only one bus per day which departs at 8:00am. This will take you to Antalya bus station, from where you can take the airport shuttle. Arriving at the airport approx. 11:30-12:00noon..

If you have an evening flight we would suggest you take the opportunity to visit Antalya Museum. To do this get off at Migros shopping centre and walk to Antalya Museum (closed on Mondays) where bags can be stored. The walk would take about 15minutes. Visit the excellent museum, have lunch and buy souvenirs at the museum restaurant and shop. You can then take a taxi to the airport or to the bus station to catch the airport shuttle.

Üçağiz to Antalya bus €9 per person. Airport shuttle €4 per person. Taxi to Airport from the museum or the bus station €13. Museum entrance €5 per person.



Options Not Using Early Morning Bus

- 1- Private transfer to Demre bus station at a time of your choice allowing a more leisurely breakfast (extra charge approx. €14), bus to Antalya bus station €7 per person and airport shuttle £3 per person.
- 2- Private transfer to the airport at a time of your choosing. Extra charge €140 up to 4 pax.