

Kayaking in the heart of Turkey **Two-week kayak trip on the Göksu River**

- **Stunning Mountain, Canyon and River Scenery**
- **Regions untouched by tourism**
- **8 days of kayaking, 7 of which are on the Göksu River and 1 on the whitewater of Köprülü Canyon**
- **Encounters with Turkish daily life**
- **Ancient sites**
- **A total of 14 nights, 9 in hotels with half board in an en-suite double room and 5 nights camping**

If your hobby is kayaking then this trip, full of adventures on the Göksu and Köprü Rivers could have been designed for you. Set inland in an area untouched by tourism you will find stunning scenery, magnificent mountains, gorges, lakes and rivers. For millennia this has been an area where people have come to settle, take advantage of a plentiful supply of fresh running water and to farm and raise their livestock. It is a region littered with artefacts from the pre-historic, classical eras and the middle ages. It is a place where local hospitality retains its traditional warmth and where life has continued largely unchanged for decades.



If you love kayaking, you'll love these adventures but you can also expect to go home enriched by the historical treasures you have seen and the cultural richness of the delightful local people you will meet on your way.

Day 1 - Arrival in Antalya

A short transfer takes you from the airport to the hotel in Antalya. Welcome drink. Sightseeing in Antalya.

Day 2 - Travel to Ermenek

After breakfast we drive to Ermenek to our hotel, on the way we pass Alanya and Taşkent. Near to Ermenek a wonderful view into a valley opens up where we will see a huge water reservoir, nestling between the mountains.

Day 3 - Travel to Bucakkisla

After breakfast we head further inland to a small village near Bucakkisla. Here, we get our first sight of the Göksu River. We can now set up our kayaks and enjoy floating in the azure waters of the Göksu as far as the Hacı Hasan Bridge. There we set up our tents in the great outdoors.

Day 4 – From Topal Hacı Ciftligi to the Village of Göksu - Kanyon

Morning: Length : 22 km; altitude difference : 50 m. Running time: 2 hrs. 40 min. Our way is lined with huge trees and the river has many bends and rapids, to get the blood pumping. When we see the antique bridge at the village Göksu, it is time for lunch in a local restaurant. Afternoon: Length: 15 km. Altitude difference: 26 m. Running time: 2 Hrs.

Day 5 – Alahan Abbey

As is now customary, we start shortly after breakfast, pack our tents and kayaks on the support bus. We then walk for about 1 hr along the canyon. The last 30 minutes we swim – a delightful experience!

In the afternoon, we drive to the nearby abbey of Alahan, which dates back to the 7th century and features some fascinating mosaics. It is situated on a 1,200m high hill with stunning views over the Göksu Valley. The site was also inhabited in the Neolithic era. For lunch, we have delicious goat cutlet in the little restaurant at the foot of the hill. In the evening we camp in the middle of the village and sample the local fresh trout.

Day 6 - Derincay – Kadiköy – Kesikköprü (Kösedereli)

Morning: Length : 13 km Altitude difference : 9 m. Running time: 1 Hr. 35 min. After the Ermenek and Göksü rivers meet, our kayaks will clearly pick up speed. Afternoon: Length: 25 km. Altitude difference: 31 m. Running time: 3 Hrs. Initially, we go through similar landscapes – then the magnificent canyon opens up to offer a stunning welcome. Evening: Camping by the river, roasting dinner over a camp fire.

Day 7 - Köşedereli – Kışla - Kargıcak

Morning: Length : 22 km. Altitude difference: 21 m. Running time: 3 hrs. The river broadens – so there is no shadow, but a wonderful view of the mountain scenery in the distance. Afternoon : Length: 14 km. Altitude difference: 40 m. Running time: 2 hrs We head into the gorgeous canyon, the river gets narrower with heavy drift waters. For unexperienced people, this part could be a bit of a problem. Evening: Camping by the river, roasting dinner over a camp fire.

Day 8 - Kargacik – Degirmendere (Karakaya Bridge)

Morning: Length: 14km; Altitude difference: 7 m; Running time: 1 hr. 50 min Right at the start today, there are two challenging rapids (for less experienced people, there is danger of capsizing, but it is also possible to start after this section of the river). The high mountains stretch down to the river bed and give the impression of passing through a jungle. Afternoon: Length : 9.2 km. Altitude difference: 11 m. Running time: 1 hr. 20 min. In this section of the river there is a very difficult rapid, which, thus far, we have chosen to avoid. Evening: We move to our accommodation in a small hotel in Tasucu, at about 20 km from the coast. For dinner, we have delicious fish in the restaurant.

Day 9 – Karakaya Bridge - Silifke

Morning: Length: 15 km. Altitude difference: 7 m. Running time: 2.5 hrs. A 30 min. bus ride takes us back to the river. The whole of this section is in a huge canyon – with some great photo opportunities! We also pass, the famous spot where Emperor Barbarossa drowned, but with our kayaks and life vests – and without a coat of chainmail – we will be fine! Afternoon: At the Silifke Dam our tour on the river Göksu ends. We break down our kayaks and return to our hotel in Tasucu. Evening: Hotel in Tasucu, party on the beach.

Day 10 – Relaxation and Culture Day

Today it is time to relax. We will be visiting the nearby Anamur Castle and a cave full of stalactites. Then it's time chill out at the beach for the afternoon. Evening: Hotel in Tasucu.

Day 11 - Travel to the Köprü-River

We start heading towards Alanya and stop at lunch time at the Alarahan Karavansarai, which is beside the Alara River. Afterwards, we continue to the Köprülü canyon Evening: Accommodation in our hotel beside the Köprü River.

Day 12 - Kayaking on the Köprü River

Morning: We visit the source of the river Köprü and then start our white water kayaking – great fun!. Evening: Accommodation in our hotel beside the Köprü River.

Day 13 - Second stage on the Köprü River; Aspendos

Morning: We drive with our kayaks to the second stage on the Köprü River with its crystal clear water. Afternoon: We visit the spellbinding roman theatre of Aspendos, which is one of the best preserved and most complete Roman Theatres in the world. It is home to an annual Ballet and Opera Festival featuring some of the world's greatest singers and orchestras. Evening: Accommodation in our hotel at Köprülü Canyon; for a farewell dinner we grill trout on the camp fire.

Day 14 - We say goodbye to our kayaks

During the day: We wash our faithful companions and pack them for our drive to Antalya. On our way, we visit the famous Hellenic/Roman city of Perge one of the most important cities in this region and also one of the most culturally rich. If you have time tomorrow you can see many of the fabulous artefacts from Perge in Antalya museum. Evening: Accommodation in our hotel in Antalya

Day 15 - Fly home

We plan our leisure time according our flight schedule: sightseeing in the city, shopping, swimming, or the highly recommended museum (in our view one of the best in Turkey).



[Stunning Scenery](#)

Dates - Middle of July to middle of August is when the water levels are at their best.

[Price](#)

For private groups we will provide a specific quote based on the number of guests.
For agents we will provide a quote once an itinerary has been finalised.

At a Glance

Canoeing the Göksu and Köprü Rivers							
Day		Km's	Hrs	Drop M	Comments	Accom.	Nights
1	Arrival Day	0	0	0	Antalya Airport	Antalya	1
2	To Ermenek	0	0	0		Ermenek	1
3	To Bucakkisla	Short	0	0	Test Paddle	Camping	5
4	Topal Hacı to Göksu	37	4.66	76			
5	Alahan Abbey	0	0.00	0	Cultural Day with Morning walk & Swim		
6	Derinçay to Kesikköprü	38	3.5	40			
7	Köşedereli to Kargıcak	36	5	61			
8	Kargıcak to Degirmendere	23	3.5	18		Taşücü	3
9	Karakaya Bridge to Silifke	TBC	TBC	TBC	15km am pm TBC		
10	Anamur Castle	0	0	0	Also Beach Time		
11	To Köprülü Canyon	0	0	0	Vist Alarahan Karavanserai	Köprü River	3
12	Köprü River White Water	13	4	23			
13	Köprü River to Aspendos	TBC					
14	To Antalya via Perge	0	0	0	Distance etc. may vary	Antalya	1
15	Departure Day	147	0	218	Dalaman Airport		14

Metrics

At a Glance	B&B	HB	P/NIC	
Board Basis	5	9	0	
Airport Transfers	Out	IN		
Not Included	Site Entrances. Food on camping days - supplies will be available to buy en-route.			
What to Bring	Kayaks, Small Tent, Sleeping Bag & Thermal Mat			
Rating	Challenging		Canoeing Days	8
Totals	147	km	Drop (m)	218
Rating	Challenging		Canoeing Days	8
!NB! - Significant amounts of canoeing are not included above Days 3,9 & 13				