

Western Lycian Way – Self-Guided

Summary

Throughout this itinerary we are able to “cherry pick” the very best of the western part of the Lycian Way. Our initial base, Patara, is home to one of the most stunning ancient cities in Turkey. It is also where you will find the longest beach in Turkey with gigantic sand dunes where you can walk through a landscape that belongs to Lawrence of Arabia and continue like conquering heroes from a 14km long sandy beach into the heart of the city.

During our walks we will not only explore the beach but we will discover an aqueduct that carried water to the city from a distant source high in the hills. We will also find a siphon, made from blocks of stone, which carried water from the aqueduct over the final hill into the city.



Walking on The Aqueduct



The Siphon – It was sealed with molten Lead

Later in the week we move to the beautiful village of Faralya, perched high up on the foothills of Baba Dağ (Father Mountain) above the famous Butterfly Valley. From here our walks takes us on cliff-top paths around Baba Dağ and finally down to the stunning lagoon at Ölüdeniz.



On the Cliffs between Alınca & Faralya



View Over Butterfly Valley

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Walk Metrics

WESTERN Lycia Self-Guided								
Day		Km's	Hrs	Up	Down	Comments	Accom.	Nights
1	Arrival Day	0	0	0	0	Dalaman A/Port	Patara	4
2	Çayağızı to Patara	12	3	240	240	+ 1½-2hrs exploring ruins		
3	Deliklikemer to Patara	16	4½	410	500			
4	Akbel to Çayköy	13½	4½-5	450	400			
5	Alınca to Faralya	11	5	570	435		Faralya	3
6	Ovacik to Faralya	14	4½	650	650			
7	Kayaköy to Ölü Deniz	8	2½	100	350	+ 1½-2hrs in Kayaköy + Swim at Lagoon		
8	Departure Day	0	0			Dalaman A/Port		

Itinerary at a Glance

At a Glance	B&B	HB	P/NIC	Based on Two Sharing an en-suite room		
Board Basis	7	0	6			
Airport Transfers	Out	In				
Not Included	Site Entrances					
Rating	Moderate			No. of Walks	6	
Totals	74½	km	2,420	Ascent	2,575	Descent

Agent Price

£580 per person based on two people sharing.

Single supplement for a single person travelling with a group with shared airport and walk transfers £135.

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Detailed Itinerary

Day 1: Flight to Southern Turkey

Flight to Dalaman Airport, transfer to your hotel in Patara.

Day 2: Çayağazi to Patara

Patara Beach is one of the most stunning, long sandy beaches anywhere in the world. It is a protected turtle beach, with gigantic sand dunes like a scene from Lawrence of Arabia. At one end is the silted up entrance to the ancient harbor of the one-time Lycian capital city. From your drop off point you initially walk through steppe-like countryside. Then you hike along the never ending beach of Patara, passing the immense sand dunes. At the end of the beach a small beach restaurant might tempt you with refreshing drinks and/or a snack. Afterwards you have a chance to explore the Patara ruins. Here you will find the results of the renovation of the Parliament Building, theatre, Main Street, roman baths and an enormous grain store built by the roman emperor Hadrian.

Hike: 12 Km, 3 hours plus time to explore the ancient city.

Day 3: Deliklikemer to Patara

You start near the remains of the water supply to Patara. The water source is way behind you in the hills near Çayköy. After a short walk you will see the remains of a pipe made from huge blocks of rock with a pipe drilled through them. These are part of a siphon system that winds across the hill. From here shade dappled tracks wind alongside Kalkan Bay. Here with the views along the coast you can see as far as the Islands off Kaputaş Beach and on to Kaş and the Greek Island of Mais. Just under half-way through the route is a point where you can access a pebble beach for a swim. From this point you head to Yala Valley where you head down almost to sea level before passing over the headland which is the last obstacle before Patara Beach. From here a narrow trail leads down to the beach at Patara.

Hike: 16 Km, 4½hours

Day 4: Akbel to Çayköy

The transfer takes you to Akbel for the start of a lovely meandering walk with a number of short climbs and descents (up to 180m) spread along the route. The paths lead you alongside rivers, through olive groves, passing vineyards and orchards of pomegranate and pistachio and crossing terraced fields. A lovely part of the way from Üzümlü leads from the source of the water supply to Patara carried by a roman aqueduct which is lined with ferns and trees. The route ends in the delightfully traditional village of Çayköy (the name means Tea Village).

Hike: 13½ Km, 4½-5 hours

Day 5: Alınca to Faralya

This is the first of two classical Lycian Way coastal walks. In former times, this path was the only way to travel between these two villages. The route passes around the Bay of Kabak on a well-trodden path, with some of the best high coastal views on the Lycian Way. Several steady climbs will take you to the high point of the route before you descend to the village of Faralya, your home for the next three nights.

Hike: 11 Km, 5 hours – change of accommodation to Faralya

Day 6: Ovacik to Faralya

Paradoxically your main walks end by taking on the start of the Western Lycian Way, but it's a classic! Your route starts with a long climb from above the Blue Lagoon at Ölüdeniz onto a variety of paths that wind onto the foothills of and around Baba Dağ (Father Mountain). You will pass through a number of different terrains and the small villages of Kozağaç and Kirme. Eventually the route starts to descend and you leave Baba Dağ behind head on down to Faralya, a charming village nestling in the hills above the famous Butterfly Valley which runs down to the sea..

Hike: 14 Km, 4½ hours

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Day 7: Kayaköy to Ölüdeniz

We start our final day with a visit to the former Greek village Kaya Köy which was abandoned in 1923. The village was left untouched by the local Turks when their erstwhile neighbours and friends were re-patriated as part of a re-settlement exchange agreement between the Greek and Turkish governments. Wandering the deserted, winding streets you will experience the haunted atmosphere. There are also some superb examples of orthodox churches to see. From here a short but very scenic walk continues to the famous Blue Lagoon of Ölüdeniz, probably the most photographed beach in Turkey. You will have superb views of it on your way. Then it's time to enjoy a swim and relax before heading back to your hotel for your final evening.

Hike: 8 Km, 2½ hours

Day 8: Return Journey

Transfer from Faralya to Dalaman Airport (1½ hours), flight home.