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TURKAEGEAN

Coast of Happiness



Turkaegean Experience: Unforgettable Holiday

Located along the coast of the Aegean Sea, the region is of exceptional historical importance and full of natural wonders. The region offers unforgettable memories with the combination of history, nature, and modern-day travel experience: beautiful sandy or pebble beaches, inspiring gourmet adventures, sailing opportunities, cycling trails, must-see places inscribed on UNESCO World Heritage List and much more to explore at your leisure.

A Magnificent Coastline

Aegean's crystal-clear water, unspoiled nature, picturesque coves far from the eyes, well-preserved bays, and fully equipped untouched marinas welcome you. The coast of happiness is the destination par excellence for those who admire the sea and want to explore it from A to Z.

- The 600-kilometre-long coastline is full of pristine bays and creeks ideal for swimming and diving.
- The coastline offers glittering sandy beaches, ultra-luxury resorts, charming nature in harmony with ancient history, and vibrant nightlife.
- The region hosts more than 200 beaches and 13 marinas with Blue Flag certification.
- Temperate climate for 6 months a year.
- Prime conditions for sailing and yachting.
- Best water sports opportunities.



An Extraordinary Collection of Ancient Sites

Home to more than 30 archaeological sites, some of which are inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List, this region is like an open-air museum showcasing ancient cities and civilisations of the past.

Anatolia is the **homeland of philosophers**, the fathers of modern science and humanities. Among these, Ionia on the shores of the Eastern Aegean and the ancient city of Miletos in Asia Minor come first to mind.

Troy

Located not far from the Dardanelles Strait, the vast archaeological site of **Troy**, inscribed on UNESCO World Heritage List, has witnessed a long history of various civilisations. Honoured with the 2020 European Museum of the Year Special Award and European Museum Academy Special Commendation, the Troy Museum will take you on a journey through the history of the region.

Pergamum

Another UNESCO World Heritage Site, **Pergamum** is located in the modern town of Bergama, İzmir. With its classical splendour, the city's architecture, art, medicine, culture, and education can be noticed right away. The invention of Pergamanese Paper, known as parchment, made the Library of Pergamon the second largest library of the ancient world, challenging the Library of Alexandria with over 200.000 books. The Acropolis of the city, built on terraces commanding the plain, offers visitors a unique view from the steepest ancient theatre in the world.

Ephesus

The ancient city of **Ephesus**, an archaeological site with peach orchards, olive groves and fertile lands with poplars as far as the eye can see, is on the UNESCO World Heritage Site List. The ancient city still reflects the glory of antiquity with its magnificent theatre still hosting concerts and events, the **Celsus Library**, well-preserved terrace houses, and the Temple of Artemis, which was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. The floor mosaics of terrace houses represent the art and delicate aesthetics of the period.



Pamukkale

Located within the borders of Denizli district, **Pamukkale**, which literally means "the cotton castle", offers a once-in-a-lifetime experience in the Aegean. The cotton-white travertines of Pamukkale are surreal, as they form warm pools that flow like a fluffy waterfall on each terrace. Inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage List with Pamukkale as cultural and natural heritage, extensive ruins of Hierapolis include a theatre, baths, a gymnasium, an agora, and an Eastern Roman (Byzantine) church.

Aphrodisias

Located in a valley fed by a tributary of the Meander in Aydin, another UNESCO World Heritage Site, **Aphrodisias** is one of the must-see places in the Inner Aegean Region. Once the capital city of the Caria Province of the Roman Empire, the Ancient City of Aphrodisias was an important intellectual and cultural centre. The Aphrodisias were fortunate in an astonishing abundance of high-quality marble, which they created to adorn a spectacular marble city, sculpture and statuary.

A Magical Piece of Heaven: Bodrum

Bodrum is world renowned as a paradise for tourists featuring charming neighbourhoods, various ancient sites for sightseeing, exquisite bays, turquoise sea and vibrant night life.

The Bodrum Peninsula is the perfect place for swimming, sunbathing and fine dining including MICHELIN starred restaurants. The peninsula consists of various small towns with unique characteristics. Windmills, traditional prismatic white houses, and bougainvillea complete the picturesque view.

The impressive **Bodrum Castle** was built in 1406 and it reflects Gothic architectural features. Today, the Bodrum Castle is home to the Bodrum Museum of Underwater Archaeology.

Knidos

The Ancient City of Knidos is located at the furthest point of the Datça Peninsula where the Aegean Sea and the Mediterranean meet. Connected to the mainland with a narrow, sandy isthmus, all interior walls of the ancient city of Knidos is filled with archaeological remains. The ancient city's harbours are now popular anchorages for day cruisers and sailboats stopping for lunch, swimming, and visiting the city ruins.



 Pamukkale - Denizli



 Aphrodisias - Aydin



 Bodrum Castle - Muğla

Slow down the pace of life, savour every moment and let yourself be inspired by all that the region offers.

Unrivalled Culinary Experiences

Aegean cuisine invites you to a special dining adventure full of unique tastes. It's high time to explore flavours for a tasty fiesta.

The generous Mother Earth provides delicious fruit and vegetables, as the Aegean's climate and soil are suitable for growing a wide variety of products all year round. One of the most produced raw materials in the region is olive. Olive tree cultivation and olive oil production are prevalent all over the region. Another product that has been produced in this region for thousands of years is wine. You can go on vineyard routes to admire the stunning views, do some tasting at beautiful vineyards and pair wines with popular dishes of the local cuisine.

The Aegean cuisine includes a wide variety of vegetables cooked in olive oil, which makes it a vegetarian and vegan-friendly destination. The traditional cuisine of the region relies less on spices and more on delicious fresh ingredients. The flavours of many citrus orchards around the Bodrum area are presently found in some dishes, balancing olive oil and giving a vibrant flavour.

Head to a farm-to-table restaurant in Urla to try the famous stuffed courgette flowers, artichokes, edible wild herbs, bread, and pastries.

In the local bazaars, you can come across the products that help the local cuisine flourish. Take time to wander around and let yourself be inspired by divine scents and flavours.



The Perfect Address for Outdoor Sports

From trekking in the lush, unspoiled mountains to diving in turquoise bays, there are endless opportunities for outdoor sports in the Aegean's magnificent landscapes and natural beauty. Rock climbing on the Datça Peninsula that separates the Aegean and Mediterranean, paragliding on white sands and turquoise coast of Ölüdeniz, and windsurfing in the charming town of Çeşme are among the priceless experiences to be had here.



The Aegean Way of Life

The locals of the region are known for their hospitality. If you want to meet sincere people smiling with enthusiasm, the Turkaegean experience offers whatever you are looking for! Choose one of the best experiences you can have in, taste authentic dishes, pick juicy fruits, go wine tasting, and enjoy life to the fullest on Türkiye's coast of happiness.



REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE
MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM



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