

St. Paul Trail

Continent: Europe, Destination: Turkey Tour Type: Guided hiking tour with support vehicle throughout the program Language: English Duration: 9 days / 8 nights / 7 hikes Arrival airport: Antalya International (AYT) Departure airport: Antalya International (AYT) Road conditions: Well-marked, moderate and challenging hiking trails with moderate altitude difference. Distance and altitude values for the hiking routes: 81 km in total, daily average: 10 to 18 km (grade 2 moderate to grade 3 challenging) Ascent: min. 250 m to max. 930 m difference in altitude

Descent: min. 140 m to max. 800 m difference in altitude

Highlights:

✓ We follow the tracks of the St. Paul Trail between Antalya and Eğirdir

- ✓ We will delve into the rich history of the Pisidian civilization and visit the ancient city of Adada and Sagalassos
- ✓ We explore the Taurus Mountains and their picturesque panorama during our hikes
- ✓ We follow rivers and lakes along the Taurus Mountains
- ✓ We enjoy legendary Turkish hospitality in the rural areas and farmer's markets and taste the oriental flavours of the local cuisine
- ✓ A small, comfortable bus supports us throughout the journey
- ✓ Our trip starts/ends on the Turkish Riviera Antalya
- ✓ We visit the Roman bridges and the ancient city of Selge in the Köprülü National Park.
- ✓ We enjoy delicious mezes prepared with olive oil, traditional recipes as well as salads, and an extensive selection of Anatolia's rich cuisine.
- ✓ Every day we will explore beautiful hiking trails lined with high mountains and many water reservoirs.
- ✓ We admire the magnificent views along idyllic lakes and jump into refreshing rivers at the foot of the Taurus Mountains at every opportunity.

Experience:

Turkey played a crucial role in history for Western civilizations. The people who used to live here and moved through Anatolia were part of the social matrix from which first Judaism and then Christianity developed. The people in the Bible who have left their mark here extend from Noah to Paul. In Turkey, early Christianity began to take shape and spread, so much so that by the end of the fourth century it had become the state religion of the Roman Empire. St. Paul certainly also played a very important role in the formation of the Christian faith, making several journeys through these regions.

Our hiking route also follows the same route as St. Paul walked through the Taurus Mountains.

journey through the ages



Our tour program consists of 9 days and 8 nights. On our journey we walk through many important ancient cities such as Adada, Sagalassos, Selge and Perge.

Day-by-day tour program

Day 1 Sunday, Welcome to Turkey

Upon arrival, you will be transferred from Antalya Airport to your hotel "Perge Doğa Evleri". During your welcome dinner with the group, you will receive the weekly program from your guide.

Meals: Dinner

Transfer: From the airport to the hotel (approx. 1 hour) **Accommodation:** Perge Doğa Evleri, <u>https://pergedogaevleri.com/galeri/</u>

Day 2: Monday, Köprülü National Park - Selge

After a hearty breakfast we start the day on our bus. A short transfer takes us to the water springs and an ancient trade route in the Köprülü National Park. Two Roman bridges are witnesses of antiquity, which Paul also crossed on his journey towards Antioch in Pisidia. After lunch we start our hike towards Selge. On our hike, we follow the stream of Köprülü river along the valley and hike through mountains with a bizarre landscape until we reach the village of Altınyaka and visit Selge. After the hike, we will take the bus to the hotel where we will spend the night.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner Hiking route: Köprülü Bridge - Selge Difficulty: Challenging Hike Distance / Time: 12 km / +930 m / -140 m Transfer: From Selge to the hotel (approx. 30 minutes) Accommodation: Perge Doğa Evleri, <u>https://pergedogaevleri.com/galeri/</u>

Day 3: Tuesday, Oluk - Çaltepe

After a leisurely breakfast, we take time to enjoy the hotel which is located right next to the river and the pools that are filled by the springs. Before we get on the bus, we take our lunch pack with us for a picnic during the hike. Not far from Selge, our hike through the ancient road to our hotel in Çaltepe starts today. This small hotel is a family business, where we feel at home, and in the evening we are pampered by the local cuisine.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Hiking route: Selge (Oluk) - Çaltepe **Difficulty**: Challenging

Hike Distance / Time: 16 km / +250 m / -800 m

Transfer: From Hotel to Selge (Oluk) (approx. 30 minutes)

Accommodation: Erdinc Pansiyon, https://www.eontours.com/Lodging/erdinc-pansiyon

Day 4: Wednesday, Çaltepe - Değirmenözü

Just like yesterday, we have time to enjoy our breakfast. Today, we start directly from the hotel, and hike along the Köprülü River. The first half of the hike is quite comfortable on the river level, surely there will be some attractive pass points on the second part where we follow the marked path. Today we will either spend the night at the small guesthouse in Değirmenözü or go back to Çaltepe after a short transfer.

journey through the ages



Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner Hiking route: Çaltepe - Değirmenözü Difficulty: Challenging Hike Distance / Time: 18 km / +430 m / -400 m Transfer: From Değirmenözü to Çaltepe (approx. 15 minutes) Accommodation: Doğa Pansiyon or Erdinç Pansiyon, https://www.eontours.com/Lodging/erdinc-pansiyon

Day 5: Thursday, Değirmenözü - Çukurca

In Değirmenözü we continue our hike by crossing several hills, valleys and a small stream until we reach a fascinating tent complex in the middle of nature. The highlight of the whole trip regarding accommodation, where we experience the Taurus Mountains and its fascinating landscape up close. Hot water for showering in bamboo cabins, and a terrace with a stretched nomadic tent made of goat hair woven fabric and very clean, carefully designed luxury tents ensure an unforgettable accommodation experience.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner Hiking Route: Değirmenözü - Çukurca Difficulty: Challenging Hike Distance / Time: 10 km / +550 m / -300 m Transfer: From the hotel to Değirmenözü (approx. 15 minutes) Accommodation: Camp, https://www.eontours.com/Lodging/camp-eon

Day 6: Friday, Kesme - Kasımlar

In the middle of nature, we wake up relaxed on a quiet morning. During breakfast we let ourselves be pampered with local tastes on the panoramic terrace. Today our hike starts in the next village of Kesme. Every single day, we admire different landscapes and panoramic scenes. Impressive rock formations follow us along our hike all the way to Kasimlar. Today we will be accommodated with a local family in the St. Paul Pansiyon.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Hiking Route: Kesme - Kasımlar

Difficulty: Challenging

Hike Distance / Time: 13 km / +650 m / -630 m

Accommodation: St. Paul Yol Pansiyon. https://www.stpaulyolpansiyon.com

Day 7: Saturday, Tota - Adada

Today we are on the Tota Valley and we are certainly not alone. Many wild horses live here, which we will most likely encounter. For lunch we are invited to a local house in the village. The highlight of our hike will certainly be the ancient city of Adada. After visiting the stadium, agora and temples, we will walk along a very well-preserved Roman path before driving to our accommodation in Eğirdir. Upon our arrival, we check in to the hotel and go out to enjoy a traditional kebap for dinner.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Hiking Route: Kesme - Kasımlar

Difficulty: Challenging

Hike Distance / Time: 12 km / +250 m / -550 m

Transfer: From Kasımlar to Tota (approx. 30 minutes) and from Adada to Eğirdir (approx. 45 minutes)

journey through the ages



Accommodation: Lale/Fulya Pansiyon. https://www.fulyapension.com/anasayfa

Day 8: Sunday, Sagalassos & Perge

Early in the morning, we start our day sightseeing in ancient cities on our transfer from Eğirdir to Antalya. Sagalassos and Perge ancient cities will tell us their history history through well-preserved and restored theatres, agoras, colonnaded streets, baths and temples which provide unforgettable impressions.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Transfer: From Eğirdir to Antalya (approx. 2 hours)

Accommodation: Aspen Hotel, http://www.aspenhotel.com.tr

Day 9: Monday, goodbye

After the last breakfast at the hotel, you will say goodbye to your hiking group, guide and driver. You will have a short transfer to the airport. We wish you a good flight home and goodbye (Güle Güle), until the next hiking adventure with us. **Meals:** Breakfast

PRICE PER PERSON IN EURO	ΡΑΧ	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
IN DOUBLE ROOM		1.800	1.705	1.635	1.580	1.540	1.505	1.475
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT		315						

What is included?

- Hotel accommodations as indicated in itinerary or similar
- All meals as indicated in itinerary: Breakfast (all breakfasts), Lunch (7 lunches), and Dinner (8 dinners). Bottled water with meals is included.
- Professional, English-speaking guide
- Air-conditioned vehicle with professional driver and its gasoline
- Hotel and restaurant tips in the included meals
- Arrival and departure flight transfers
- Complete program of the tours as described in the itinerary. All entrance fees, admissions, and parking fees
- Baggage handling
- 20% VAT and 2% Accommodation Taxes in the hotels.

What is excluded?

- International and domestic airfares, airport taxes and fuel surcharges
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages during the meals
- Visas (if needed depending on the nationality of travelers, please check <u>https://www.evisa.gov.tr/en/</u>)
- Gratuities for guides and drivers
- Personal expenses such as minibar, telephone, laundry, etc.
- Travel and health insurances

PAYMENT & CANCELLATION FOR PRIVATE GROUPS

A deposit of \in 350 is required at the time of reservation . 31 days before the start of the tour; full payment is required

journey through the ages



In case of cancellation within 40 to 31 days before the start of the tour – deposit will be retained as a cancellation and handling fee.

In case of cancellation within 30 to 21 days before the start of the tour; 50% of the tour price will be charged as a cancellation and processing fee.

In case of cancellation within 20 to 11 days before the start of the tour; 75% of the tour price will be charged as a cancellation and handling fee.

In case of cancellation within 10 to 0 days before the start of the tour; 100% of the tour price will be charged as a cancellation and processing fee.

journey through the ages-