

# Cycling Europe

## THE SOUTHERN AEGEAN GREEK ISLANDS

by BIKE & BOAT to/from BODRUM

GUIDED 8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS 160 -175 km cycling



*Spend a week discovering the Dodecanese Islands in the Southern Greek Aegean by bike and comfortable motor-sailer. Let yourself be mesmerized by the towering volcanic crater in Nissyros, and the charming simplicity of Symi with its wonderful neo-classical buildings. A true highlight is the cycle day on the Datça Peninsula leading to the bay of Knidos with its ancient remains. The rock-throwing Poseidon, the Colossus of Rhodes, the Knights of St John and the famous sponge divers of Symi have all left a legacy in the form of legends and historical monuments that contribute to the unique character of these stunning islands.*

### ITINERARY

#### Day 1: (Saturday) Embarkation in Bodrum, Turkey

Boarding starts at 2 pm. You may take a stroll in the bustling town stopping to enjoy a Turkish tea or maybe walk to the famous castle of the Knights of St John. Dinner will be served on board and you will spend the night in Bodrum. A transfer from Bodrum Airport can be arranged for additional cost. Alternatively you can fly to Kos Airport, Greece and take the ferry to Bodrum. Arrive no later than 2.00pm in Kos in order to connect with the ferry.

#### Day 2 (Sunday) Bodrum – Yalçıftlik – Kos (Cycle 18km)



Today's cycle tour takes you to Kızılağaç, which is famous for its local farmer's market. After a break continue cycling to arrive in Yalçıftlik and board the boat for lunch and a cruise to Kos town. An entourage of cultural sights in Kos town will give an insight into the town's turbulent historical past: The Roman Forum, the Crusader fortress and the mosques from the time when Kos was still part of the Ottoman Empire. The evening is rounded off in one of the numerous bars and cafes.

### **Day 3 (Monday) Kos Island/Kos Town - Nissyros Island (Cycle 25 km)**

This morning bike in the direction of the world famous archaeological excavation site of the Asclepion in Kos, the former realm of Hippocrates, the father of modern medicine. From here cycle along the coast back towards the town of Kos. Here meet the boat and cruise to the volcanic island of Nissyros.

### **Day 4 (Tuesday) Nissyros Island – Tilos Island (Cycle 30 - 40 km)**

Today's cycle tour is to Nikia - a village built directly on the Stefanos crater rim at 1,400 ft./430m above sea level. From here enjoy a fascinating view into the volcano crater. Not only the volcano but also the white houses and the numerous pebble mosaics bring great character to the village. From here cycle on to the crater with its steaming sulphur springs and finally back to the small port town of Mandraki where your boat is waiting to take you to Tilos Island, inhabited since ancient times.



### **Day 5 (Wednesday) Tilos Island - Chalki Island (Cycle 22 km)**

Your morning bike ride takes you from Livadia to Megalochorio. Enthusiasts may be able to visit the pygmy elephant museum, before returning back to the boat. A tasty lunch waits for you on board followed by a relaxing cruise from Tilos to the island of Chalki. The picturesque island capital offers a first impression of the classic architecture style which will awaits on Symi.

### **Day 6 (Thursday) Chalki Island - Symi Island (Cycle 25 km)**

This morning cross by boat to Panormitis Bay in front of the island of Symi, where the local monastery offers a pleasant visit. Thereafter you follow the motto – “off to the other side of the island!” Scaling several switchbacks slowly conquer the hill, allowing yourselves enough time to enjoy the picturesque views on the way up. Your destination is the Islands capital Symi, with its classical cityscape and harbour. In the evening you can climb to the upper part of Symi town. From the top there is a breath-taking view over the harbour and the coastline of the bay. An evening visit to a remote tavern enables you to enjoy the evening away from the hustle and bustle of city life.





### Day 7: (Friday) Datca - Knidos - Bodrum (Cycle 41 km)

From Symi you make your way to the neighbouring Datca Peninsula and find yourselves back in Turkey. Today's bike tour takes you from the Datca district along the peninsula to the historical ruins of Knidos (4<sup>th</sup> Century BC) with a wonderfully preserved amphitheatre. A stroll through this historical site leaves a lasting impression. Depending on the departure times of the guests on board the following day, there is the opportunity to either spend the night in Knidos or cross over to Bodrum. An evening meal is enjoyed together in the company of guides and guests.



### Day 8 (Saturday) Bodrum (Disembarkation)

After breakfast disembark by 9.00am. On request there is a collective group transfer to the airport. If you are flying from Kos the ferry departs at 9.30am. Ensure you book your flight from Kos later than 1.00pm.



### GRADE (LEVEL 2 -3) : MODERATE TO ENERGETIC

The day tours average 40kms and will take you through mainly hilly and mountainous terrain. There will also be extended climbs where walking your bike is of course permitted. Most of the roads are tar-sealed. Your guide will inform you each day of the details of the cycle tours, so that you can choose to spend a whole or half-day on board the boat instead of taking a planned cycle tour. **Electric bikes can be requested** at time of booking - limited numbers are available.

**Helmets are mandatory on all bike tours.** We recommend you bring your own helmet. There are a limited number of bike helmets on board (these must be requested at the time of booking).

### MEALS

The on-board chef will prepare breakfast and one hot meal daily. Half board is included from the evening meal on arrival day, and ends with breakfast on the last day. You will have the opportunity to eat ashore in local Greek tavernas.

### WIFI

Our Turkish boats do not offer a Wi Fi connection. If you require internet, we suggest you go to a café or bar while in harbour, as free Wi Fi is available almost everywhere.

### ALTERATIONS

The boat company reserves the right to make alterations to the planned route due to changing wind and weather conditions, and where required by organisational necessities.

### ALTERNATIVE ARRIVAL VIA KOS - CUSTOMS

This tour starts in Bodrum, Turkey. In order to avoid any travel complications whilst crossing borders, you must obtain appropriate travel documentation and visas with your local embassies before arrival.

Some travelers are skeptical about flying into Turkey. There is an alternative flight route via Kos Island, Greece, followed by a ferry connection to Bodrum Harbour, Turkey.

### Love Boat (formerly named BB2)

The Love Boat is a wonderful example of a Turkish Gulet. Length 37 metres it was launched in 2013. There are 15 spacious airconditioned guest cabins (ca. 12 m<sup>2</sup>) with a shower and toilet.

Cabins: Above deck – 6 cabins with double beds (200 x 140 cm). Below deck – 9 (2 x twin beds (200 x 90 cm), 7x double beds + single). TV in all cabins.

This superior boat has all the amenities with a large saloon, which consists of restaurant and lounge area. In addition, Love Boat has plenty of space for relaxation and on the main deck and upper deck there is seating and reclining furniture. The upper deck is partly shaded. The professional crew ensures the safety and convenience of all guests.







## 2020 7 NIGHT/8 DAY SCHEDULE & COSTS PER PERSON IN EURO

**Departures on Saturday (from Bodrum, Turkey), Group size:** Minimum 14

### Double / Twin Lower deck cabin

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| 25 April – 02 May         | €1350 |
| 09-16 May                 | €1350 |
| 23 - 30 May               | €1450 |
| 06 – 13 June              | €1450 |
| 12 – 19 September         | €1450 |
| 26 September – 03 October | €1450 |
| 10 – 17 October           | €1350 |
| 17 – 24 October           | €1350 |
| 24 – 31 October           | €1350 |

**ADD** Surcharge for upper deck €150

**ADD** Single Supplement lower deck € 500

**ADD** Single Supplement upper deck € 700

**Bike Hire:** 21-speed Hybrid bike with pannier € 80

**Electric Bike** with pannier €180

**Optional Bike Insurance:** (theft & damage) €10 for hybrid bike / Electric bike €20

**Helmets:** Limited helmets are available at no charge – must be requested at time of booking.

### AIRPORT TRANSFERS - OPTIONAL (ADDITIONAL COST):

Collective transfer to/from **Bodrum Harbour** to **Bodrum Airport** on embarkation and disembarkation day is €15 per person one way (individual transfers - price on request ).

There is also an alternative arrival of flying into the **Island of Kos, Greece** and transferring by ferry to Bodrum to connect with the Boat. Please ask us for details.

### 2020 COST INCLUDES:

- o 7 nights accommodation in a double/twin cabin with own shower/toilet
- o 7 days half board (breakfast and one cooked meal)
- o English speaking tour guide
- o Guided bike tours and sightseeing as described in itinerary

- Overview-maps for the daily tours on board
- Entrance to museums and archaeological sites (group visits only)
- Bed linen and towels

#### **COST DOES NOT INCLUDE:**

- Flights to Turkey, & airport transfers
- Drinks on board (tally sheet; to be paid to the captain) Drinking water flat rate: €20 per person
- Meals ashore
- Entrance fees for sights not included on the tour
- Tips for crew and tour-guides
- Bikes and Insurance



**BOOK THROUGH**

## **A Walker's World**

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