Island Hopping

DODECANESE GREEK ISLAND HOPPING
SOUTH AEGEAN

LUXURY CABIN CHARTER DODECANESE GREEK ISLAND HOPPING – SOUTH AEGEAN (BODRUM | KOS | NISSYROS | TILOS | SIMI | BOZBURUN | DATCA | KNIDOS | KISEBÜKÜ | BODRUM)

GREEK ISLAND HOPPING BOUTIQUE STYLE...

Sailing by gulet yacht is simply a perfect way to visit the Greek islands. No carrying luggage, no ferries, and no need to keep track of time means that there is so much MORE to experience in the Dodecanese, and the islands' authenticity, stunning natural landscapes, and unaffected character lends absolutely everything to their charm.

While island hopping by gulet yacht, you can anchor in some of the most secluded spots letting you really get the feel for the places that most visitors leave at sunset. On a gulet yacht you don't have to leave. We give you a boutique version of Island hopping, discovering historical sites, tiny harbour villages, untouched beaches and bays, and a choice of great activities while making yourself at home in the spacious comfort of your private cabin. On board you enjoy the relaxed company of your fellow guests, large lounge areas and deck, an attentive and professional crew, and magical feast after feast on board each day for breakfast and lunch or dinner.

Ms Myra in Simi

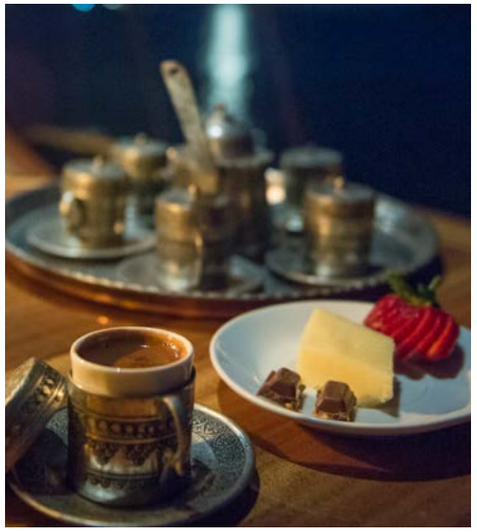
The Aegean Coast around Bodrum offers some of the most pristine and beautiful bays and coves. The Blue Voyage was first made famous here where cross winds are excellent for sailing, and the idyllic bays are secluded and fringed with dramatic pine forested coastlines. The Dodecanese islands that we visit are a loose collection in the Aegean Sea, situated off the west coast of Turkey, between Patmos and Kalymnos. These islands offer a tranquil, picturesque charm that has almost vanished from many of the better-known Greek island resorts. The footprints of cultures from the Greeks and Romans to crusading medieval knights, and from Byzantine and Ottoman potentates to 20th-century Italian bureaucrats are all found here, along with many remote islands that are begging to be explored.

LUXURY CABIN CHARTER:

Wake up on board to the warm Aegean sun and crystal clear waters each morning, relax into the rhythm of life on the sea, and enjoy some wonderful sailing along the Turkish Aegean coast and between the Greek islands. Disembark to explore the picturesque towns and harbors, boutique shopping, fabulous culinary experiences, and to soak up the unique atmosphere of this region. While away your time on board relaxing, enjoying your crew's excellent service, dining with your group, sunbathing, reading, and pulling anchor to explore some of the stunning bays for swimming whenever the mood takes you.

Guests book deluxe cabin-only which offers a cruise holiday experience like no other with all the 5-star comfort and luxury amenities of a private charter. This affordable vacation option is ideal for singles, couples or small groups. Children from 8 years of age are welcome. The guests you join on board are international, and we bring together like-minded travellers, often of similar ages, in order to create the best, shared experience possible.

Our privately-owned, stylish and well equipped yachts vary in size from 4 to 8 cabins; the maximum capacity being 17 passengers on the M/S Flas VII. During your cruise a professional and personable crew provide an impeccable service and experienced seamanship, while exquisite cuisine is prepared to your liking by the yacht's chef. We also offer activities and imaginative shore excursions, ranging from Yoga sessions on board, cooking workshops and hiking, to guided tours and special restaurant recommendations



OUR GULET YACHTS FEATURE

- 5 star luxury standards
- Uniformed, English-speaking crew including chef
- Optimized for sailing as guests wish
- Adjustable a/c throughout
- 2 generators & inverters
- En suite bathrooms with flush w/c & enclosed shower
- Spacious cabins
- Flat screen TV, DVD hook up & movie library
- Free WiFi
- Satellite antenna
- Stereo system/ iPOD dock
- Orthopedic beds & pillows
- 100% fine cotton linen and fluffy towels
- Zodiac dinghy with H/P motor water ski, wakeboard and ringo
- Paddle board
- Snorkel & fishing equipment for adults & kids

DAY 1 - EMBARK IN BODRUM

From Bodrum airport transfer the short drive to the bustling resort town of Bodrum and board your luxurious sailing yacht. Your captain and crew will be waiting to welcome you on board in Bodrum Harbor.

Year round balmy temperatures, international marinas, elegant boutiques, chic cafés and nightclubs, and a variety of delightful dining experiences attract many to the vibrant Bodrum harbor. The 15th century Crusader castle, the world class Museum of Underwater Archaeology, and the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus, one of Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, bring an important historical dimension to this resort city.

Spend the first night on board in Bodrum harbor or depart for Kos.

DAY 2 - KOS – NISSYROS

Depart for Kos early morning and arrive in Kos Harbor, which is overlooked by the old town and the crusader Castle of the Knights of St. John. Palm-lined cobblestone streets, lush greenery, and many ancient monuments and excavations are within walking distance in every direction, not to mention the charming old town labyrinth of shopping streets, cafes and restaurants.

History buffs will be thrilled with the number of ancient sites to explore on the island, most of which are concentrated in the town centrally but still remain quiet spots shaded by soaring ancient trees. Kos has a municipality train that takes you to the sites that are further out. Ancient sites on Kos to Explore include:

Asklepion

Kos Island was home to Hippocrates, who is now dubbed as the 'Father of Modern Medicine'. The Asklepion was built in the 3rd Century BCE after Hippocrates' death. Dedicated to Asclepius, the god of medicine and healing, the Asklepion was an ancient medical clinic that is largely in ruins today.

Ancient Agora

The Ancient Agora is a good example of typical marketplaces in Ancient Greece. However, it wasn't only used as a marketplace; there are also remains of Roman baths here, the temples of Aphrodite and Hercules, and examples of houses with some mosaics and frescoes still intact.

Plateia Planou

The shady cobbled square of Plateia Planou is home to the remains of the Hippocrates Plane Tree, the site at which Hippocrates is said to have taught his students.

Casa Romana

The Casa Romana is a Roman mansion with 36 rooms that was built in a style popular throughout the Roman Empire in the 2nd Century BCE. It was built on top of the ruins of an older house from the Ancient Greek Hellenistic Period. The mansion is also the site of several impressive frescoes including one that depicts a panther attacking a bear.

Roman Odeon

The Ancient Romans built this structure, which was acoustically designed to accommodate singers, musicians, and poets. The Romans used this particular Odeon however for gladiator fights. The original Roman Odeon has been restored, making it a great venue for modern performances. Note that the first 9 rows or so are part of the original structure. Cruise in the afternoon to Nissyros.

Nisyros The island of Nisyros has a fascinating history: it was captured from pirates, conquered from the knights and subjugated from the Turks. The landscape is hypnotizing in its contrasts; from the **lunar volcanic scenery** of the inland to the surrounding fertile area of dark **sandy beaches and deep blue sea**, from the **wild verdant beauty** of the many natural thermal springs to the dazzling whitewashed

local houses. Evident in every little stone, the volcanic composition of Nisyros originated with massive eruptions millions of years ago, and locally many people attribute its **captivating energy and distinctive charm** to the vibes of the active volcano known as 'Nisyriasi', meaning a severe addiction to the volcanic energy of the island.

Mandraki is the capital and harbor of Nisyros located on the northwest side of the island. This beautiful settlement has a traditional character with whitewashed houses and wooden balconies, cobblestone alleys and little churches. The natural thermal springs of Loutra are in the north of the town while the **square of Ilikiomeni** is the locals' favorite spot and meeting point. In the wider area, one can visit the imposing **Acropolis of Paleokastro**, considered to be one of the best-preserved fortifications of the Aegean and is famous for its impressive **cyclopean walls** made from black trachyte. There is also the f**ortified monastery of Panagia Spiliani** and the beautiful building of the municipal thermal baths. The stunning **beach of Mandraki** lies behind the **Monastery of Spiliani.** Other interesting archaeological sites include the Fortress Walls close to the **Monastery of Panagia Kyra**, the ruins of ancient temples and buildings in in the neighborhood of **Agios Savvas**.

On the south side of the island the **mountain village of Nikia**, offering panoramic views of the volcano, is particularly picturesque, boasting a unique architecture with white houses, tiled roofs and colorful doors and windows, and the exquisite **Church of Agios Ioannis Theologos**. The cobblestoned **square of Porta** here is celebrated as one of the best traditional squares in Europe with its ellipsoid shape and a pebbled floor designed by the famous 19th century artist, Paschalis Pashalakis.

One of the **oldest settlements** on Nisyros spreading around a natural bay in the north is the s**easide village of Pali**. The village is a favorite anchorage for yachts, has a lovely beach under the natural shade of Tamarisk trees, and is an ideal place for those looking for absolute peace and quiet. Here visit the **Hippocratic Baths** and the **Chapel of Panagia Thermian**i, which is built next to the **Thermal Springs of Thermiani**.

The **Volcano of Nisyros** has a beautiful caldera of 15,000 years old with 6 main craters. The volcanic rocks of Nisyros form a unique palette of colors in the fertile region of the valley of Lakki. The volcanic crater of Stefanos is one of the largest and well-preserved hydrothermal craters in the world with a depth of 27 meters, while the volcanic crater of Polyvotis is the largest volcanic crater at 30 meters deep and a diameter of 260 meters.

Beaches on Nisyros are as diverse and dramatic as the island itself with fabulous clean azure waters for swimming and atmospheric fish and seafood tavernas serving local delicacies: the sandy beach of **Agios Savas** and the volcanic black-pebbled **Hohlaki beach** are both beautifully secluded and located on the northwest side of the island. Also in the north is **Gialiskari**, or **Lefki**, an isolated dark sandy beach with deep blue waters, 1 small local taverna and ideal for those looking for total relaxation. On the eastern coast of the island **Pahia Ammos** is a black sandy beach considered the island's best.

Nisyros is also fantastic for **hikers and walkers**. One of the most spectacular routes starts from the monastery of Evangelistria and leads to the highest point on the island where the beautiful monastery of Prophet Elias is located offering incredible panoramic views.

DAY 3 - TILOS

Tilos is a historical island of striking medieval castles, imposing mountains with natural springs, pristine beaches, charming churches, the cave of the dwarf elephants and mysterious abandoned medieval villages. The beauty of Tilos lies in its mountainous and rocky landscapes, now preserved as national park area, blessed with verdant hills and abundant flora including almond trees, bluebells,

orchids, ancient oaks and shamrocks. **Megalo Horio** is the capital of Tilos and on the north side of the island. This lovely settlement preserves its authentic character featuring traditional whitewashed houses with flowery courtyards and cobblestone alleys scattered on the mountain slopes of **Agios Stefanos**. According to ancient legend, Tilos was the son of Alias and Apollo, who visited the island to collect herbs to cure his mother from a serious illness. After treating her, Tilos returned to the island and built a temple in honor of Apollo and Poseidon. This is how the island got its name and became well known for its **native healing herbs**.

Dominating the natural fortified hill of Agios Stefanos above **Megalo Horio** you cannot miss the **Castle of the Knights.** An uphill hike leads you there but its well worth it for the incredible views. The Knights of St John built the castle on the traces of the ancient acropolis in the 15th century. Within the ramparts an entire village was built as refuge for the inhabitants from potential pirate invasions in the middle ages. The **Archaeological Museum** exhibits ancient statues and

artifacts, sculptures and inscriptions from the Classical and Hellenistic periods found on excavation of Tilos, some from the site of the castle and acropolis before it.

Tilos hosts numerous paths **ideal for lovers of hiking.** One of the most beautiful routes starts from the main road of the island towards the northeast. It is an old path that leads to the Italian-built watchtower on the peak of Prophet Elias. The moderately difficult walk is rocky with sweeping slopes and low vegetation. Another interesting trail is signposted and starts from the harbor of Livadia to the beach of Lethra and onward through a lovely valley to the village of Mikro Horio.

Located in the area of Messaria, the spellbinding **Cave of Harkadio** is of great paleontological importance because of the volcanic material discovered here and phosphorous compounds that resemble fossilized bones. Alongside stone tools from the Neolithic period, archaeological excavations revealed numerous **bones of dwarf elephants**, the last of their kind that lived in Europe. These discoveries proved that the island was actually united with the coast of Asia Minor about 6 million years ago. The Physiographic Museum of Vienna has dedicated a special section to the dwarf elephants of Tilos, and displays can be found locally at the Tilos Paleontology Museum.

Another evocative spot for exploration and a wander on Tilos is the **deserted village of Mikro Horio** between the villages of Livadia and Megalo Horio. The village was abandoned when the inhabitants moved to Livadia and the remaining relics include the well-preserved ruins of houses, the medieval castle of the Knights, and the whitewashed church that dominates the valley.

The **Monastery of Agios Panteleimonas** built in 1470, and dedicated to the island's patron saint, is the focus of sacred pilgrimage in Tilos, located on the slopes of the highest mountain on Tilos. The monastery is known for its pebbled courtyard and outstanding murals, and the festival that celebrates the saint annually here on July 26.

Fringing the island with its rich history of civilization and dramatic natural features are of course the **immaculate beaches**. The dazzling and tranquil bays shimmering with tamarisk trees will be your windows to the island as you travel by yacht. Moor here for swimming, dining and relaxed evenings on deck beneath the stars. Amongst the many beaches to explore are **Agios Antonios**, a long sandy and pebbled, palm tree-lined beach on the north side of the island. **Eristos**, a stunningly beautiful sandy beach with emerald waters and tamarisk trees on the west side of the island; take the path to the left of the beach to discover 2 special secluded coves. The pebbled beach at **Lethra** in the northeast is a less visited beach accessible via a pathway from the harbor of Livadia. In the northwest is **Limenari** is a remote sandy and pebbled beach with turquoise waters. **Livadia** is on the southeast side of the island and the most popular beach of Tilos with numerous amenities including sunbeds, umbrellas and taverns.

DAY 4 - SIMI

The Island of Simi is nothing less than enchanting and a truly romantic destination. Stunning neoclassical mansions characterize the main harbor, decorating the hillside down to the waters edge with their facades painted in a variety of colors. With rich traditions rooted in mythology still thriving today, the beauty and atmosphere of Simi is truly remarkable Neoclassical mansions and abandoned captains houses, cobblestone courtyards and pebbled mosaics give an aura of nobility to the island while the bougainvillea flowers add a bright touch to the romantic atmosphere.

Climb the 500 stone steps that lead to the old commercial street of the island. Stroll around the Kalderimi, the stone bridge that connects the two sides of the village, known as the Bridge of Love, and observe the famous shipbuilders of Simi at the small Harani shipyard, who uphold Simi's ancient shipbuilding traditions.

Cruise to the island's western side and the peaceful setting of the Panormitis Monastery of the Archangel Michael with its Byzantine frescos. Enjoy a swim break at the Bay of St. George, before entering the harbor.

DAY 5 - BOZBURUN – DATÇA

Depart Simi harbor and sail into the Gulf of Hisarönü re-entering Turkey at the fishing village of Bozburun. It used to be the center of sponge diving along the Turkish coast, but nowadays locals here earn their living in a much less dangerous way by building the typical broad-beamed wooden gulets. The crosswinds in this region are excellent for sailing. Cruise north to Ciftlik Bay, a hidden cove with a small sandy beach, half way up the Datca peninsula.

Early evening set sail to picturesque resort of Datça. Enjoy a stroll through town, which offers some lovely cafes and shops. Renowned for its natural beauty and climate, this town provides a window into the life of rural Turkey of 50 to 100 years ago. Village life is still based on agriculture, fishing, and the building of traditional wooden gulet yachts. Pine, oak, and myrtle filled mountains plunge down to a serene beach and two natural harbors.

DAY 6 - KNIDOS – MERSINCIK

Sail to the site of **Knidos**, the meeting point of the Mediterranean and Aegean seas. Knidos is famous in antiquity for the cult of Aphrodite started there. Situated at the end of the Datca peninsula, this Dorian city was built on terraces rising to the acropolis. Straddling the peninsula, it had a harbour on either side, and flourished during the Archaic, Classical, Hellenistic and Roman periods. The site was excavated in 1857 by C. T. Newton and from 1967 by Iris Love. Famous as a **center of art and culture in the 4th century BCE**, Knidos was established at the same time that Halicarnassus was, as one of the 6 Dorian colonies in Asia Minor. It seems to have kept a purer Greek character, no doubt because it set its sights seaward and had little contact with the interior. Around 360 BCE, the city was rebuilt at the windblown tip of the peninsula, banking on the fact that a good harbor at the outer corner of Asia Minor would become a popular

calling-port for ships on the Aegean - East Mediterranean transit routes. The rocky island facing the shore at the new site was joined to the mainland with a causeway, creating 2 deep harbors on either side of the isthmus: one on the Aegean and the other on the Mediterranean. The island section held the residential quarters, a series of colonnaded walkways rose in tiers on the land. **2 large theaters, an odeon and 3 temples** completed what must have been a striking ensemble in the midst of a desolate crag. The remains of a circular temple dedicated to the goddess of love Aphrodite overlook remains of the two harbors: the arcaded way was built of white marble heart - shaped columns. The **legendary Aphrodite of Praxiteles statue**, reputedly one of the most beautiful sculptures of the antiquity, once graced this temple. The city was renowned as one of the most beautiful in ancient Greece.

From here, sail to Mersincik in the Gulf of Gokova; a stunning bay ringed with high mountains and woods, its clear waters and seclusion make it a favorite spot for spending the night.

DAY 7 - KISEBUKU BAY

Cross the Gulf of Gokova to the pine-clad Bay of Kisebuku. Take advantage of the calm morning hours sailing smoothly along the Gokova shores. Opt for a stop at Orak Island. Late afternoon come into Bodrum harbor, or continue to the attractive bay of Ada Bogazi for the night.

Year round balmy temperatures, international marinas, elegant boutiques, chic cafés and nightclubs and a variety of delightful dining experiences attract many to the lively **Bodrum town and harbor.** The 15th century Crusader castle, the Museum of Underwater Archaeology, and the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus, one of Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, add an historical dimension to this resort.

DAY 8 - BODRUM Departure after breakfast for Bodrum airport and flights back to Istanbul, or transfer to your next destination.

Take to the sea on this dream private cruise holiday with your nearest and dearest, relax into the laid back rhythm of life on the sea, revitalise in the crystal clear waters of the Aegean and enjoy a kind of luxury hard to match on a regular villa or resort vacation.

- Greek Island harbor fees are included.
- Optional touring where entrance fees are required or the service of a guide and /or van are needed are extra.
- Optional restaurants off the yacht are not included in the price, but meals off board will be deducted from the daily catering fees. Restaurants on-shore requires reservations.
- Includes arrival transfer from Bodrum airport on arrival day. Departure transfer to the airport or other incurs additional charges.
- Includes beer, wine and soft drinks. Nominal charges for other drinks onboard will be incurred.
- On a 7 day cruise embarkation is on Saturdays, and disembarkation the following Saturday.
- Route applies according to weather changes at the discretion of the captain.