

## Western Taurus & the Lycian Way, Turkey

Superb walking high in the peaks of the Western Taurus and along Turkey's best loved coastal trail.



### Group departures

See overleaf for departure dates

### Holiday overview

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Style                   | Walking  |
| Accommodation           | Hotels, Guesthouses                                |
| Grade                   | Moderate / Vigorous                                |
| Duration                | 8 days from London to London                       |
| Trekking / Walking days | Walks on: 6 days                                   |
| Min/Max group size      | 4 / 12. Guaranteed to run for 4                    |
| Trip Leader             | Local Leader Turkey                                |
| Land only               | Joining in Antalya, Turkey                         |
| Max altitude            | 2,365m/7,759m, Mount Olympus/Tahtali Summit, Day 7 |

**Private Departures & Tailor Made itineraries available**



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# Departures

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## Group departures

### 2025 Dates:

Sat 17 May - Sat 24 May

Sat 20 Sep - Sat 27 Sep

### Will the trip run?

This trip is guaranteed to run for 4 people and for a maximum of 12. In the rare event that we cancel a holiday, we will refund you in full and give you at least 6 weeks warning. Many trips do fill up quickly - we advise you to book early if you want to secure a place(s) on the dates of your choice.

### Group prices and optional supplements

Please contact us on +44 (0)1453 844400 or visit our website for our land only and flight inclusive prices and single supplement options.

### No Surcharge Guarantee

The flight inclusive or land only price will be confirmed to you at the time you make your booking. There will be no surcharges after your booking has been confirmed.

### Insurance

We offer a travel insurance scheme - please contact us for details.

### Private Departures

We can also offer this trip as a private holiday. A Private Departure follows exactly the same itinerary as the group departure but at dates to suit you (subject to availability) - please contact us with your preferred dates.

### Tailor Made service

We pride ourselves on the level of quality and choice we provide for our clients who want a fully tailor made holiday. A holiday will be created especially for you by one of our well-travelled experts. They will be able to advise on the accommodation best suited to your needs, the sights you should visit (and those to avoid!) and the best walks and activities matched to your ability. In short, we will work together with you to create your perfect holiday.

If you would like to explore the idea of a Tailor Made holiday with Mountain Kingdoms then please call us on +44 (0)1453 844400 or see the Tailor Made pages of our website for further inspiration.

## Your guide

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Your trip will be led by a local English-speaking guide with guiding qualifications and valuable experience. They will share with you their passion and knowledge to ensure you have a memorable holiday in Turkey. Here are two of our guides:

**Alp Sancar (pictured)**

Alp is an English-speaking, licensed tour guide. He is passionate about hiking as well as being a cyclist and mountaineer. He has been leading tours in Turkey for 10 years and is an extremely kind and cheerful guide.

## Your trip highlights

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- Enjoy a two-centred holiday with a rich diversity of landscapes, history and culture
- Explore the wild scenery of the Western Taurus mountains with superb day walks
- Walk the stunning coastline along some of the best sections of the Lycian Way
- Visit the remarkable archaeological site at Olympos and climb to the summit of Tahtali
- Turn your holiday into a two week Turkish extravaganza by joining our Cappadocia holiday

## At a glance itinerary

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|       |  |
|-------|--|
| Day 1 | Fly to Antalya. Group transfer to hotel  |
| Day 2 | Transfer to Elmali, via exploration of ancient of Termessos. City walk in Elmali |
| Day 3 | Walk in the highlands of Aksivri (Elmali Mountains)                              |
| Day 4 | Walk on the slopes of Mount Kizlarsivrisi. Transfer to Adrasan                   |
| Day 5 | Hike on Lycian way from Karaoz back to Adrasan                                   |
| Day 6 | Trek from Adrasan to Olympos, visit the archaeological site                      |
| Day 7 | Climb Tahtali mountain, 2,365m, descend by cable car, transfer to Antalya        |
| Day 8 | Fly to London  |

## Trip summary

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The south west corner of Turkey is a land of natural contrasts with its sparkling, azure blue coastline backed by soaring, jagged peaks rising to over 3,000m.

The western end of the mighty Taurus mountain range, that stretches as far as the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in the east, is where you will start your holiday. You first explore inland, visiting the ancient, ruined city of Termessos, before heading further into the hills to stay in the little visited town of Elmali. This very Turkish town was an important waypoint on the ancient Lycian trade route, and remained a key town during the Ottoman era. It is now a sleepy backwater with beautiful old houses and an important stone mosque. You will explore the surrounding rocky limestone mountains before descending to the beautiful Mediterranean coast.

It is here, where the mountains drop steeply to the sea, that you will begin the second part of your holiday along the Lycian way. This was Turkey's first long distance footpath and provides stunning walking - from hidden coves and summer pastures, to ancient pathways and an astonishing array of Lycian, Greek and Roman remains.

Your hotel for the second part of the holiday is situated right on the beach, perfect for refreshing swims at the end of the day. You will explore the coastline over three glorious days, and on your final day you will climb to the top of Mount Olympos (also known as Mount Tahtali) to enjoy its spectacular, panoramic views before experiencing the very best of modern Turkey when you descend by the new cable car - an easy descent after several rewarding walking days!

The walking on this holiday is on a mixture of forest trails, small footpaths and some walking across the hills. The routes are perfect for adventurous hill-walkers, however please be aware that although no scrambling is involved, you may at times be walking on very uneven ground and inevitably there is a lot of up and down!

### Special notes

#### Walking times

Your walks on this holiday will involve time to explore the many cultural sights that you will encounter en route. The walking times given for each day may therefore vary from that stated and should be used as a guideline only.

# Your trip itinerary

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## Day 1: Fly London to Antalya

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Today you will depart the UK and fly to Antalya

**Overnight: Kosa Boutique Hotel or Similar, Antalya**

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## Day 2: Walking tour of old Antalya. Drive to Termessos and explore ruins on foot. Continue to Elmali and walk around the town. Total walking time about 4 hours.

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Your first walk starts from your hotel and you will spend about an hour on a guided walking tour of the pretty old town of Antalya before meeting your vehicle to transfer by road (approximately 45 mins) to the ancient Pisidian city of Termessos. This 2,330 year old city is located at an altitude of 1,050 meters, and set below the dramatic peak of Gulluk Dagı. It's about a 20 minute walk uphill to reach the main ruins which are spread over an immense area and you will have plenty of time to explore the site which includes a spectacular theatre, vast water cisterns and a necropolis. This city was spared by Alexander the Great who surrounded it in 334 BC, apparently due to the bravery of the inhabitants and possibly due to the difficulty of sacking such a remotely situated place. You will eat your picnic lunch here, with time to appreciate the many layers of history, before you continue driving through the hills to the old Ottoman settlement of Elmali, an unspoilt town far off the main tourist routes and the local centre for the surrounding villages. In the late afternoon you will take an exploratory walk around the town to view the large Ömer Pasha Mosque, the old bazaar which is still full of fascinating shops, and the narrow streets with well-preserved wooden houses, some dating back to the 16th century.



**Overnight: Tu-Ba Guesthouse, Elmali (Meals: BLD)**

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## Day 3: Walk in the highlands of Aksivri, up to 2,350m - 12km, approximately 6 hours. Ascent 830m/descent 813m. (Option to continue to summit at 2,469m)

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Today you drive about 3 miles to the farming village of Bayindir. This pretty, small village was the site of an illegal excavation in 1984 when a hoard of ancient coins was discovered by local villagers and smuggled out of the country. You may well meet villagers who tell you their stories about this exciting episode!

You start your walk up Aksivri Hill, known locally as Elmali Mountain, 2,469m. The walk starts gently through apple orchards until sparse pasture land is reached. You may well meet nomadic shepherds up here, and see their cave with the ingenious natural cooling system that they use to preserve their home-made cheese. After a couple more hours uphill you start to get magnificent views of the surrounding valleys and the peaks of Kizlarsivrisi. There is a good resting spot at about 2,350m, and the option to climb a further hour or so to the summit. The descent is by an alternative route, some of which is on an ancient Seljuk cobbled pathway, before you meet your vehicle for the return short drive to Elmali.

**Overnight: Tu-Ba Guesthouse, Elmali (Meals: BLD)**

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## Day 4: Walk via the shoulder of Mount Kizlarsivrisi to the cedar forest - 10km, 5-6 hours. Ascent 310m, descent 700m. Transfer to Adrasan.

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After driving across the Elmali plain, you continue deep into the mountains on a shepherd's track that gradually climbs up to about 1,900m. Right in front of you is the dramatic mountain peak of Mount Kizlarsivrisi, the highest in the western Taurus. This area was the site of large, nomadic gatherings where whole villages would migrate for the summer months. Now there are just the remains of their temporary buildings, and a brand new stone climbers hut. From here you will ascend to the shoulder of the mountain, to gain beautiful views of the surrounding wild hills. In the spring the wild flowers are stunning. Down in the valley, far below, you may well see the few nomadic shepherds who still spend summer up here grazing their flocks of sheep and goats. There is also a large herd of wild horses who live in this valley.

After descending you contour along the hillside on a forest track to reach the huge, ancient, cedar forest. The forest covers several hillsides, and there are many giant Cedar of Lebanon trees reputedly a thousand years old.

Your vehicle will meet you here for the two hour drive to your hotel on the coast where you will spend the next three nights.

**Overnight: Changa Hotel or Similar, Adrasan (Meals: BLD)**

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**Day 5: Walk from Karaoz to Cape Gelidonia and on to Adrasan -15-16km, 7-8 hours. Ascent 765m, descent 680m.**

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After breakfast it is a short road transfer to Karaoz where you start your walk on one of the best hikes of the entire Lycian Way. This is a long and challenging day, but well worth the effort for the stunning views and excellent walking. The route starts on a forest road for a short distance and then follows the original lighthouse keeper's path to Cape Gelidonia and its lighthouse. This small path zig zags uphill and is the only access to the lighthouse - it was used by the final lighthouse keeper on his motorbike! There are stunning views of five small islands just off the coast; the reason for the lighthouse and the site of many shipwrecks.



From the lighthouse the path ascends, giving great views of the lighthouse below and the wide, beautiful bay. You now enter wild and uninhabited countryside, with a mixture of shady paths through the red pine trees, soft underfoot with pine needles, to numerous short ascents and descents on rocky paths. There are occasional ruins and the remains of meadows used by shepherds as summer grazing when there was still water in this area. Eventually the bay of Adrasan can be seen in the distance.

Your vehicle will meet you to drive the final 3 or 4 kilometres back to your hotel at the far end of the beach in Adrasan (or those with energy can of course walk!).

**Overnight: Changa Hotel or Similar, Adrasan (Meals: BLD)**

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**Day 6: Walk from Adrasan to Olympos - 16km, approximately 6 hours. Ascent 760m, descent 760m.**

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Today's walk is a complete contrast to yesterday, as you hike inland between two bays: Adrasan and Olympos, and behind the peak of Mount Musa. The route initially passes farms before climbing in the shade in a picturesque valley, and on a very good path, to reach a pass and a shepherd's hut. This area was once used for pasturing sheep and camels but a lack of water led to abandonment. You may well encounter the shepherd who now runs a small refreshment stop here. You will have your picnic before continuing to the pass at 720m and the vague ruins of the old city of Phoenikos or Upper Olympos. This area was hit by a forest fire a few years ago, and it is heartening to see the fresh, new re-growth. The path descends through tangled trees, eventually becoming dense and dark and quite a contrast to your ascent this morning. You will soon get your first glimpses of the mighty archaeological site of Olympos below.

As you steeply descend, with dramatic cliffs on either side, you pass the upper graves of the Olympos Necropolis and reach the river bed and the main Olympos site. There will be a chance to have a guided visit to the archaeological site at Olympos, which was one of the leading cities of Lycia, before transferring back Adrasan, where a refreshing dip in the sea may well be the perfect end to a stunning walk.

**Overnight: Changa Hotel or Similar, Adrasan (Meals: BLD)**

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**Day 7: Walk up Mt Olympos/Tahtali, 2,366m - 8km, 6 hours. Ascent 1,466m. Descend by cable car. Transfer to Antalya.**

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After breakfast you will transfer to the mountain village of Beycik. Situated at about 900 metres it is a popular summer retreat from the heat of the coast. Today's walk is uphill all the way, but you will be walking on a good path that is never particularly steep, so taken at a steady pace it shouldn't prove too challenging for the keen hill walker. It's highly recommended by Seraphina Berry (Reservations Manager at Mountain Kingdoms) who describes it as a 'beautiful and rewarding walk with the huge benefit of no descent!'



You start by following the trail up through handsome old cedar trees, sparsely dotted here - apparently some of them were felled by Anthony to send as a present to Cleopatra when he was wooing her! There is a delightful, huge, old plane tree shading a spring after an hour or so, and an enterprising local man provides cold drinks and barbecued trout. After about 4 hours uphill on good paths you reach the top of the treeline and the pass. Above here the path continues up bleak, rocky, karst terrain and you realise the huge scope of the mountain as you contour ever upwards. It is only when you are within 100 metres of the top that you see your destination, the cable car station, which is perched right on top. From the summit, weather permitting, there are amazing panoramic views of the Taurus mountains, the vast bay of Antalya and distant white beaches.

You will descend using the modern cable car and enjoy fabulous views both along the coast and immediately below you as you skim across a vast forest. Your vehicle will be waiting at the bottom to transfer you to your hotel in Antalya old town. You may well feel like visiting one of local welcoming bars for a celebratory drink at the end of a long but rewarding day.

**Overnight: Kosa Boutique Hotel or Similar, Antalya (Meals: BL)**

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**Day 8: Group transfer to Antalya Airport. Fly to London.**

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After breakfast this morning there will be a group transfer to Antalya Airport for your flight back to London. (Meals: B)

## Our grading system

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Western Taurus & the Lycian Way is graded as a Moderate/Vigorous trekking holiday, as described below.

### Moderate

Holidays in this grade typically involve 5 to 10 days of walking or trekking. They will often venture into more remote country and can cross mountain passes. Altitudes though are still relatively low, going no higher than around 4,300m/14,000ft. Accommodation can include simple hotels, tea houses, lodges and camping.

### Vigorous

Typically these trips involve 8 to 14 days (occasionally more) trekking in relatively remote landscapes. High passes up to 4,900m/16,000ft may be crossed (sometimes snow-covered) and there may also be glacier travel and peak ascents. Walking days can be between 5 and 8 hours with considerable ascents and descents. This grade also covers some European treks of shorter durations. Overnight stops on trek could be in tea houses, mountain huts or camping.

These holidays would suit enthusiastic hill/mountain walkers.

## What the price includes

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Mountain Kingdoms aims to offer the best value for money. We do not charge extra for meal packages or apply local charges and try to ensure that all the key elements of your holiday are included.

### What's included:

- ✓ An English-speaking local guide
- ✓ Economy class return air fares from the UK (flight inclusive option).
- ✓ Group airport transfers on arrival and departure
- ✓ All other transfers
- ✓ 7 nights hotel and pension accommodation on a twin share basis
- ✓ 7 x breakfasts, 6x lunches, 5 x dinners
- ✓ All road transport as described in the itinerary
- ✓ All excursions and applicable entry fees as described in the itinerary
- ✓ A free Mountain Kingdoms Water-to-Go bottle
- ✓ Carbon offsetting with the Ecoan Tree Planting Project (for clients taking our flight inclusive option)

### Airport transfers

The cost of a transfer to/from the airport is included in the price of your holiday. This is a single group transfer which is arranged to coincide with the timings of the group flights. If you book your own flights which arrive/depart at different times to this, or we book flights at your request that have different timings, we will be happy to provide a quote for a separate transfer. Please contact us should you require any further information.

### What's not included:

- ✗ Travel insurance
- ✗ Tips
- ✗ Visa fees

### Water-to-Go Reusable Bottle Campaign

We have joined the campaign to help cut down on the use of plastics and, in particular, single-use water bottles. To do this we have teamed up with the revolutionary company, Water-to-Go who have developed a multi-use drinking bottle with a reusable filter that eliminates over 99.9% of all microbiological contaminants. This makes water from virtually any source safe to drink and significantly reduces the need for travellers to buy bottles of water wherever they are in the world.

Our clients who are not given a free Mountain Kingdoms kit bag for their holiday (these are required for certain treks), will instead receive a free Mountain Kingdoms Water-to-Go bottle. These unique Water-to-Go bottles can also be purchased from us at a discounted rate.

For further information about our campaign visit [For further information about our campaign visit <https://www.mountainkingdoms.com/water-to-go-reusable-bottle-campaign>](https://www.mountainkingdoms.com/water-to-go-reusable-bottle-campaign).

## Your accommodation

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We will endeavour to secure the hotels named in the itinerary but if our first choice of hotel is not available we will book a suitable alternative of a similar standard.



### **Kosa Boutique Hotel or Similar, Antalya**

The Kosa Boutique Hotel is situated in the heart of the historical old city of Antalya called Kaleiçi. The stylish and well-equipped rooms have air-conditioning, mini-bars, tea/coffee making facilities and free Wi-Fi. The hotel has a pool, bar, restaurants and pretty garden.



### **Tu-Ba Guesthouse, Elmali**

A simple guesthouse situated in the centre of Elmali town. Rooms are a good size with private bathrooms.



### **Changa Hotel or Similar, Adrasan**

Located right on the beach, this quirky, friendly hotel has air-conditioned rooms with en suite bathrooms. There is Wi-Fi in the public areas and a large terrace with stunning views of the bay. The rooms are either in the main hotel building, the annex or the wooden cabins.

## Meal arrangements

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7 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches and 5 Dinners are included. Picnic lunches are provided during walks.

## Flight arrangements

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### Flight inclusive from price

Our 'Flight inclusive from' price is based on the best fare available at the time of printing. As airfares change on a constant basis, this should be used only as a guide price. Rest assured that, at the time of booking, we will endeavour to get the best possible price for the flights you need. Remember, the earlier you book the greater your chances of securing the best fare.

Flight inclusive packages booked through Mountain Kingdoms are protected through our ATOL bonding scheme.

### Flight upgrades and regional Airports

Please call us on +44 (0)1453 844400 for flight options from regional UK airports, Business Class upgrades, alternative airlines and stopovers. Please also check our website for the most up to date flight inclusive 'from' prices.

## Further information

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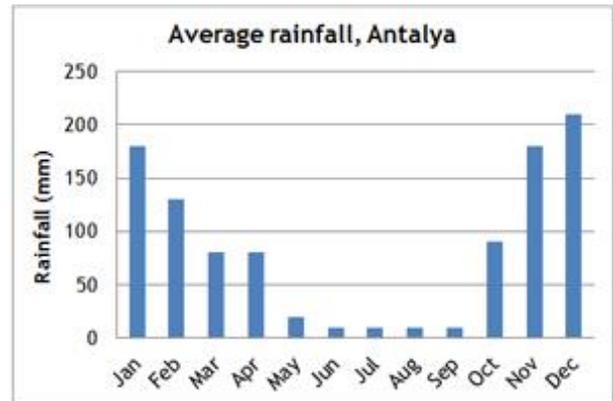
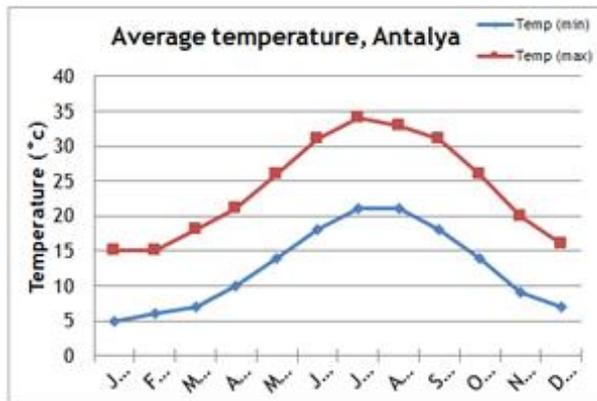
When we receive your booking, we send you a full Trip Dossier which contains details of any visas and vaccinations required, a suggested gear and clothing list and lots of useful information. If you do have queries at this initial stage do call us on 01453 844400 and we will be pleased to offer advice.

## The nature of adventure travel

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Every effort will be made to keep to this itinerary but we cannot guarantee that things may not change, either before you travel or while you are away. By its very nature, adventure travel involves an element of the unexpected, particularly in more remote areas. A variety of factors such as adverse weather conditions, changes to local schedules and difficulties with transportation can all contribute to the need to make changes to the itinerary, often at the very last minute. Our Operations Manager and your Trip Leader will make every effort to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary and minimise the impact of any changes, but an easy-going and flexible nature is a real asset! Please note that all timings and distances given are approximate.

# Climate information



# Extensions

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## Extending your holiday

If you would like additional inspiration on how or where to extend your holiday please call us on 01453 844400. Alternatively, you can download a range of extension information sheets on our website, at [www.mountainkingdoms.com](http://www.mountainkingdoms.com).



There are many ways you can extend your holiday with Mountain Kingdoms: you could book extra hotel nights at the start or end of your holiday, arrange a personal sightseeing tour or enjoy some other exciting activities. In fact, whatever's available we can help make it happen. We're happy to suggest ideas, provide quotes and make all the arrangements. We can also assist with flight and hotel upgrades.

You can also combine this trip with our Cappadocia & the St Paul Trail walking holiday. Contact us for further information.

## Why book this holiday with Mountain Kingdoms?

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- The itinerary has been designed to introduce you to the best of the western Taurus and Lycian way.
- Your trip will be led by a local English-speaking guide with excellent knowledge and experience of the varied walks and sightseeing you will undertake.
- Dates have been carefully chosen to offer comfortable walking conditions.
- Accommodation has been chosen for location, comfort and character.
- Most meals are included. The food provided gives you a real taste of the local Turkish cuisine.
- You only need to carry a day sack. This trip is supported by a vehicle which takes your main baggage daily. All transfers are by private vehicles and included in the price.
- A fixed group transfer to/from airport the airport is included at the start and end of the trip.
- We have arranged the departure dates of this holiday so that you can easily combine it with our other walking holiday in Cappadocia. If you are interested in this option, just contact our friendly travel team.
- We have a maximum group size of 12 so that you can enjoy a genuine small group experience.
- As part of our commitment to 'Tourism Declares a Climate Emergency', we will be carbon-offsetting all international flights booked through us by donating funds to the Ecoan Tree Planting Project in Peru.
- If you wish to fly with a specific airline, from a regional UK airport or on alternative dates to the main group we would be happy to arrange this for you. Please contact our Flights Manager, April, for flight options, quotes and further information.

If we've tempted you to take your next holiday with us, we advise you to check availability and you can do this via our website: [www.mountainkingdoms.com](http://www.mountainkingdoms.com) or by calling the team on +44 (0)1453 844400. Bookings can be made online, by phone or by completing a booking form and returning it to us. We can also provisionally hold places if you need time to consider your options.

## What we say

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*Great walking with a complete contrast between the remote Taurus mountains around the very Turkish town on Elmali, and the stunningly beautiful coastal Lycian Way, staying in the pretty coastal village of Adrasan. I loved the final day ascent of Mount Olympos, a real achievement and amazing views from the top.*  
-Seraphina, Mountain Kingdoms

# Mountain Kingdoms - distinctly different

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## **Truly independent**

In an age where many so-called 'independent' travel companies have in fact been bought out by multi-national giants, we remain fiercely independent with all the benefits this offers our clients.

## **Value for money prices with an emphasis on quality**

We are not in the business of cutting our itineraries and services to the bone to offer eye-catching cheap prices. We use some of the best airlines, and typically 3 or 4 star hotels in cities. We include the majority of meals and private transport for road travel. We use excellent equipment and appoint well-trained staff and leaders. Last year, over 98% of our clients rated their Mountain Kingdoms holiday as 'excellent' or 'good'. We are members of AITO and bound by their quality charter.

## **Complete financial security**

You can book with us confident that your holiday has full financial protection. Flight inclusive holidays are financially protected by the Civil Aviation Authority under ATOL licence number 2973 and 'Land Only' holidays are covered by a bond secured with ABTOT.

## **No Surcharge Guarantee**

Your peace of mind is important to us so we have a No Surcharge Guarantee on all Land Only and Flight Inclusive bookings. This means that there will be no change to the price of your holiday once we have confirmed your booking, regardless of fluctuations in exchange rates or fuel prices.

## **Award winning Responsible Tourism**

We feel strongly that all our holidays should benefit local communities, protect the environment and respect local traditions, religion and heritage. You can read more about the charities we support and our Responsible Tourism commitments and initiatives on the following page or at [www.mountainkingdoms.com](http://www.mountainkingdoms.com).

## **Genuine small group travel**

Almost all of our holidays have a maximum group size of just 12, plus leader. This provides more contact with your leader, readier access to off-the-beaten-path areas, greater interaction with local communities and a reduced environmental impact.

## **Loyalty Discount**

If you have previously travelled with us we recognise your loyalty with a discount on future trips.

## **Booking your holiday - it couldn't be easier**

Once you've chosen your Mountain Kingdoms holiday you can book online, call the office or complete and post a booking form which can be found in our brochure or downloaded from our website. If you would like to hold a place on one of our trips, whilst you make up your mind, please give us a call to make a provisional booking. This is a no-obligation, no-cost booking and we will hold your place until space comes under pressure or we need your decision.

## **Comprehensive information**

When we receive your booking we send you a full trip dossier which contains details of visas and vaccinations required, a suggested gear and clothing list and lots of useful information. In fact, everything you need to know to give you peace of mind and allow you to prepare for your trip of a lifetime.



## RESPONSIBLE TOURISM STATEMENT CLIMATE EMERGENCY PLAN



For over 33 years, Mountain Kingdoms has been offering people the chance to visit amazing places on this extraordinary planet. We now offer trips to all corners of the world, but we are conscious that inevitably our holidays have a detrimental impact on the world around us, and we want to do all we can to reduce our carbon emissions. We are a signatory to Tourism Declares a Climate Emergency, along with a growing number of like-minded, reputable tour operators. For more information, please visit [www.tourismdeclares.com](http://www.tourismdeclares.com)

From 2020 onwards, we will be focusing on how we can reduce the carbon emissions that our holidays produce, and how to counterbalance this carbon by supporting carbon offset measures. Here are some of our current and future plans to minimise the impact of our business as a whole:

### **Carbon Offsetting**

#### **Already doing:**

- ✓ We have been offsetting carbon since 2007, but will be increasing our donations to the [Ecoan tree planting project](#) in Peru this year. This is with a trusted partner where the funds go directly to a project where the community plants trees on its own land.

#### **Will do:**

- ✓ We are working on making our carbon offsetting more accurate and targeted.
- ✓ In future, we will add to that a further estimate for carbon produced by hotels, local road travel, trains and internal flights to arrive at a carbon offset sum for each trip we operate.
- ✓ Carbon offsetting will be included in our holiday prices. For our Flight Inclusive holidays it will include the international flight and any emissions produced by inland travel and accommodation. Our Land Only prices will include the cost of offsetting emissions caused by inland travel and accommodation.

### **Reducing Carbon Emissions**

#### **Already doing:**

- ✓ We already offer the majority of our customers a free filtered water bottle which means they can instantly cut down on their single-use plastic consumption. This will be an ongoing project.
- ✓ We already predominantly use locally owned hotels, but will continue to ensure that, where possible, we use these rather than multinational chains.
- ✓ We have joined the Tourism Declares a Climate Emergency initiative to stand alongside like-minded travel companies, to work together to initiate best practices to make tourism as sustainable as possible.

#### **Will do:**

- ✓ We will re-evaluate our flights to make sure we are using the most fuel efficient airlines with the youngest fleets and, where possible, direct flights for each trip.
- ✓ We will stop offering unnecessary optional flights – for example our Everest sightseeing trip.
- ✓ We will eliminate unnecessary staff flights wherever possible.
- ✓ We will look at minimising internal flights.
- ✓ We will be asking all our worldwide agents and suppliers to look at their own carbon footprint and encourage them to reduce it.
- ✓ We will promote our more low impact trips to give customers an informed choice.

As part of our wider commitment to Responsible Tourism, we will continue to support a number of charities with whom we have had a long standing relationship over many years. These include: Shiva Charity in Nepal (Ginette Harrison School), Simien Mountains Mobile Medical Service and Porter Welfare, as well as setting aside a sum for emergency disaster relief should the need arise.

