

Blue Cruise In Turkey

Traditional Sailing Yacht

As traditionally, the Gulet is handcrafted by master boat builders in Bodrum and Marmaris since the time of King Mausolos Turkey has been an important center for wooden boat building. Ptolemäus from Egypt had his warships made in Bodrum in 300 BC. The gulet is a miraculously survived relic from the days of Christopher Columbus. It is a compromise between tradition and twentieth century hedonism. The modern version of a traditional craft built in southwest Turkey for centuries, and used originally for plying their trade around the Mediterranean. The classic Gulet, best known for its rounded aft, low profile in the water, and roomy hull, was once used by fishermen and sponge divers to transport their catch. Today's version comes complete with 21st century comforts and technology, but still all hand built as they have been for hundreds of years.

Gulet is a traditional style wooden yacht, also called "caique", with one or two masts, having strong engine for motoring long hours a day. In general, gulets vary in length between 14 and 50 meters (52- 150 feet) hence varying passenger capacity. Large sundeck, in/outdoor space, lounge for meals, cabins with WC/showers provide comfort while on the sea.

Blue Voyage

The Blue Cruise, this most popular "Mavi Yolculuk" (as it is called in Turkish) began quite by mistake when a few years after the foundation of the Turkish Republic, a political writer, Cevat Sakir KabaagacI, was exiled to Bodrum for publishing a story about army fugitives. The judges who sentenced Cevat Sakir to a number of years in the remote port knew nothing of its lifestyle, which as Cevat Sakir found out, was something like paradise. He settled down and found himself in a haven of natural beauties and archeological riches, he adopted the name, "Fisherman of Halicarnassus", writing stories about the town and its locals - in particular, the fishermen. On his regular outings with fishermen, he gradually got to know the various coves and bays in the Gulf of Gokova. When visiting intellectuals from Istanbul dropped in, he took the opportunity to introduce them to the fisherman's way of life. Together they constructed a theory of culture which embraced the cultures of all the people who lived in Asia Minor. Sakir's trips based on simple life with a load of watermelons, some blocks of ice and a bait to catch fish. So the Gulf of Gokova became famous and this journey were given the name, "Mavi Yolculuk" means "Blue Cruise". Bodrum paid his honour by a monument to the man who inspired this voyage of exploration - the source of enjoyment for many thousands of people for almost 60 years. In fact Cevat Sakir has made Bodrum popular as a tourism center.

Good sailing, good food and friendly company in a healthy and happy environment - that is what Blue Voyage is all about. Wherever you come from, and how old you may be, after a week or two afloat in this scenic wonderland, you will become one heart with the beauty and serenity of nature. On a crewed yacht, your every need is attended to by a professional crew and your days are filled with panoramas of coast and sea, fascinating ancient ruins and quaint fishing villages. During the day, it cruises for a few hours and sails if the wind allows. Closer to lunch or dinner, it approaches the land or drops anchor in a solitary bay, alongside a small village or off an island. At every stop, and there will be at least two per day, there is opportunity to swim, fish, snorkel, windsurf, sunbath, take a trip ashore or just read under the shade of the sun awning. The focus of this holiday is on relaxation and recreation. It can be as relaxing or as energetic an experience as desired. Turkey is also a dream for the avid shopper with many places to snap up beautiful hand made rugs and carpets, stunning jewellery and traditional herbs that help make Turkish cuisine mouth-wateringly delicious. Your friendly, attentive crew will consist of a captain, a cook and either one or two seamen. Their job is to ensure that you are comfortable, well fed and entertained. A crewed yacht charter holiday gives you the opportunity to see the best of the Turkish coast and at the same time enjoy the lifestyle once reserved for the very wealthy alone.