

THE SUNDAY TIMES

travel

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destinations inside!
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magazine

June 2015 £3.90

Secret Greece

Hidden coves, sleepy villages, buzzy towns...
We know the bits the crowds haven't found

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Which is cheaper for *your* trip?

Sri Lanka

The Indian Ocean's most
intriguing isle — in style

Sicily

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for *all* the family

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the lazy way

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PLUS HONG KONG, NEW ENGLAND, GENEVA, BUDAPEST, MARRAKECH & SUFFOLK

FIVE REASONS TO VISIT... Turkey

1 You like fuss-free flights

British Airways is clearly a fan of Turkey's southern coast: it just launched new routes to Bodrum (twice a week) and Dalaman (four times a week) from £178 and £181 return respectively. Goodbye to cabin-bag wrangling, hello to free G&T as you zoom over the sparkling blue Aegean (0844 493 0787, ba.com/bodrum; ba.com/dalaman).

2 You want the greatest hits — in one trip

Got a decade of Turkey ideas stored up? Tick off the lot in one go with an 11-night 'Ultimate Turkey' tour, taking in Istanbul's souks and mosques, Cappadocia's volcanic landscapes and ancient Ephesus. Hot-air balloons and whirling dervishes come as standard. From £5,480pp, B&B, including domestic flights, transfers, a cruise and entry fees; international flights extra (corinthiantravel.co.uk).

3 You like to be wined and dined

Turkey's food scene is gaining momentum; Rick Stein even headed there for his latest series (BBC2, August). And last June saw a new food festival: the intriguingly named Forgotten Delicacies (kaybolanlezzetler.com; 16-17 May), where neglected Greek-, Jewish- and Levantine-influenced dishes were resurrected in the cobbled sidestreets around Alaçatı (May 16-17 in 2015). The area's also home to millennia-old wineries such as Urla (urlasapcılık.com.tr) — be sure to stop by for a biodynamic Sauvignon Blanc.

4 You want to be first through the doors

You've got a shot at the first bounce on the beds at affordable all-inclusive Sensatori Fethiye (seven nights from £862pp, with flights; thomson.co.uk), or boutique Mango Hotel in rural Faralya (villamandarin.com/

mango; doubles from £178, half board); and try the inaugural scrub down in the Sultan's Hammam at the Jumeirah Bodrum Palace (jumeirah.com; doubles from £285, B&B), all opening July. Feeling flush? You could even nab the latter's Palace residence, with six Jacuzzi'd master bedrooms and its own pier (£13,000 a night).

5 Your boots are made for walking

That's just what they'll do on the 820km Carian Trail, an unspoilt coastal walk from Bodrum to Içmeler, which opened last summer. Don't commit to the full monty — it takes 40 days, stumbling across Roman roads, sleepy villages and hidden coves on the way. Instead, take it in easy sections with a *really* clued-up guide (one of the route's creators) on a seven-day taster. From £1,500pp, full board, including flights (exclusiveescapes.co.uk).