

Bellerophon Hotel - Çirali

Additional Information. Hotel Tel. +90 242 825 7336 - Last Updated January 2011

The Hotel

Bellerophon Hotel is located on the famous Cirali beach. All the chalets have AC, en suite bathrooms, mini bar, tea and coffee making facilities.

Airport Transfers

If you have booked transfers with us, look for your driver *outside* the arrivals terminal. He will be holding a name placard or hotel sign. Antalya Airport has three arrival terminals that occasionally cause confusion. If you do not locate the driver after 25 minutes or so, please call the Journey Anatolia mobiles: +44 7903 735 181 (UK) or **+90 537 672 7598** (Turkey). For return transfers, collection time is 4 hours before your flight departure.

Meals

Meals are served on the beach patio. The hotel is relaxed about meal times. Breakfast is included. Lunch or dinner can be ordered from the menu for an average of £8 per person. The hotel also offers evening set meals for around £13 per head. Alcohol and beverages are not included and can be settled on check out. Wine is expensive in Turkey due to high taxes. Check prices before ordering!

Towels and Sheets

Bath towels are provided. Towels and bed sheets are changed regularly or on request.

Cleaning

The rooms are cleaned everyday during breakfast.

Bicycles

Bicycles are provided free of charge.

Turkish Entry Visa

European nationals can purchase their visa at the airport upon entering the country. Look for the VISA kiosk **prior** to passport control. The cost of the visa at the time of writing was £10. You can pay in GBP / Euro.

Clothing

Light sunny climate clothing is best. Also, bring the following items:

- Walking Shoes / Trainers (Chimaera)
- 1 Fleece for a cool evening
- Torch (For visiting Chimeara)
- Earplugs in case of cockerels

Money

The exchange rate at the time of writing is about 2.8 Turkish Lira (YTL) to the pound. Try to visit a cash point at the airport upon arrival into Turkey. There are no ATMs in Cirali.

Payment for Sundries

You can use a credit card to pay for your extras on check out.

Tipping

Restaurants: normally 10%. Hotel staff can be tipped at your discretion.

Electricity

Turkey operates on 220 volts, 50 Hz, with round-prong European-style plugs.

Internet Access

Laptop users can use the wireless signal at the hotel. There is also a computer in reception for occasional guests use.

Travel Insurance

It is **essential** that you take out travel insurance covering medical emergencies and personal items.

Climate

From April to November expect mainly warm sunny days. July and August can be very hot so adequate sun protection is needed. April and October may see occasional showers.

Turtles

Loggerhead sea turtles lay eggs in June and the eggs hatch from mid August to mid September. You may be able to watch the hatching in this season if you get up at dawn and look out for the wardens.

Insects

Not a major problem. It may be worth taking 'after-bite' for the odd mosquito.

Further Information

For additional information call or email Serkan Cetin at Journey Anatolia.

UK Mobile: +44 7903 735 181

Turkey Mobile: +90 537 672 7598

Email: serkan@journeyanatolia.com

Web: www.journeyanatolia.com

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How We Make a Difference

Since inception, Journey Anatolia has been committed to sustainable tourism and advises this hotel on responsible tourism policy. Also on this holiday we donate £5 of your booking fee to local turtle conservation.

How You Can Make a Difference

- Please consider the environment when on the beach, taking care not to litter.
- Switch off lights and AC units when not needed.
- Do not request towel changes if not necessary.
- Solar panels are used for hot water please shower economically.
- Respect local culture, traditions and observe religious etiquette when visiting holy places.
- Use public transport, ride a bike or walk when convenient - its a great way to meet local people on their terms and reduce pollution.

Local Surroundings

Çirali Village

The village centre is some 15 minutes walking from the hotel and offers basic amenities, grocery and souvenir shops plus a small selection of restaurants and cafes. In particular the recently opened Simga Restaurant has excellent pizza and steak dishes! There is also a line of restaurants along the beachfront.

The Ruins of Olympos

As your hotel is situated on Olympos Beach, you will no doubt spend many wonderful hours of relaxation here. However, be sure to take the time to stroll to the other end of the

beach and turn right into the valley of Olympos in order to explore the discreet ruins of this former Lycian port city. The ruins are hidden in a sub tropical jungle amongst over grown vines and trees and are simply a joy to explore. As you enter the valley from the beach, there is a small admission charge. You will also see that many of the buildings are sign posted.

Chimaera

High above Çirali along the slopes of Mt. Olympos is the Chimaera, known in Turkish as Yanartas. It is the stuff of legend! Natural gas seeps out of the earth and inflames on contact with air. Ancient people attributed these flames to a fire-breathing monster. This is a must see! Better to go after dark, bring a torch! The stepped climb to the flames is tough but with regular breathers along the way it should not be a major problem.

Phaselis

The ruins at Phaselis include an impressive amphitheatre. These ruins are better kept than those at Olympos and are set in a wonderful natural harbour. If you hire a car, this will be a pleasant half-day outing. The ruins are sign posted from the main road heading North towards Antalya.

Kemer

The fruit and veg market at Kemer is colourful. If you go to Phaselis, you may be able to combine the two as Kemer and Phaselis are in the same direction. Please check at the hotel for the day of the week when this market is open.

Kekova Boat Tour / Myra & Demre

Though local boat tours are great, the more interesting tour is that at Kekova. This involves a 2 hour drive along the coast to a jump off point followed by a boat ride that takes in the Sunken City, Byzantine ruins partly submerged under the sea, and Simena Village with its wonderful cliff top castle and cluster of Lycian tombs. On the way back to Çirali you should stop in Demre and Myra. The ruins at Demre are most impressive, the theatre and the rock tombs set into the mountainside are a sight to behold. In Myra, just down the road, you have the opportunity to visit the church of St. Nicolas. Whilst we would recommend a locally arranged tour for this day out, you can of course rent a car and do it all yourself.

Ulupinar

During hot summer months a trip to cool mountain setting of nearby Ulupinar can be refreshing. Cool mountain streams and mini falls create the backdrop for various fresh trout restaurants. Unfortunately, some restaurants still want to make a fast buck and may charge you more than necessary if given a chance, so be sure to agree the price before you order.

Car Rental & Driving

The hotel staff will be able to assist you with car hire. There is a local rent a car firm in Çirali run by our friend Yavuz. They have a reasonable range of vehicles.

IMPORTANT: We strongly recommend that you drive during daylight hours only. The roads in Turkey will be unfamiliar to you, visibility at night is not great and oncoming traffic often use full beams!!