



Lujo
ART & JOY

My Bodrum Diaries

5 **BODRUM CITY CENTER
AND HISTORICAL SITES**

Bodrum Castle
The Mausoleum of Halikarnassus
Bodrum Antique Amphitheater
Windmills
Myndos Gate
Gumbet Water Cisterns

15 **ART AND CULTURE**

Zeki Müren Museum
Dibeklihan
Etrim Village
Underwater Archaeology Museum

23 **BODRUM BY THE SEA**

Akyarlar, Akvaryum Koyu, Cennet Koyu
Gümüşlük
Yalçiftlik, Mazi, Çökertme

31 **SHOPPING AND DINING**

Milta Bodrum Marina
Yalıkavak Marina

37 **ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

The Bodrum Cup
Bodrum Music Festival
Harvesting Bodrum Tangerines
Aegean Herb Festivals
Diving in Bodrum
Golfing
Boat Trips
Fishing

47 **SIGHTSEEING**

Karnas Vineyards
The Carian Trail
Ancient City of Iasos
Ruins of Pedasa
Heraklia & Bafa Lake
Pamukkale
Ephesus
Şirince

Welcome
TO BODRUM!





day 1

I was curious about the historical treasures of this small coastal city even before my arrival. I had heard about the Bodrum Castle and the Mausoleum of Halikarnassus, once standing as one of the Seven Wonders of the world. After a delicious breakfast I left the hotel to do some sightseeing.

Seeing the Bodrum Castle, or Castle of St. Peter as it was called, in its glory was amazing. My guide told me some of the stones used to build this castle were actually stones that were part of the magnificent Mausoleum once. After the earthquake, its remains were used to build a castle.

Now it's used as an auditorium for concerts and ballet shows. Museum of Underwater Archaeology is also inside this castle. And the oldest shipwreck known to men lays here: The Uluburun Shipwreck!

It is believed to have sunk as it was carrying rare goods to the palace back then. The engraved golden scarab of Nefertiti was also found on this ship. What a revelation...

We then visited what is left of the Mausoleum of Halikarnassus and I also got to see the Antique Amphitheater. It has a mesmerizing view. I hope I can catch a live concert during my trip for a once-in-a-lifetime experience.



This was a lot to take in for a single day. I am looking forward to contemplating on what I saw during a yoga session. And possibly end this day with a massage...

BODRUM CITY CENTER AND HISTORICAL SITES

- Bodrum Castle
- The Mausoleum of Halikarnassus
- Bodrum Antique Amphitheater
- Windmills
- Myndos Gate
- Gumbet Water Cisterns



BODRUM CASTLE

Bodrum Castle, or Castle of St. Peter, was built from 1402 onwards by the Knights of St. John. The castle is open to the public and also houses the Museum of Underwater Archaeology.



THE MAUSOLEUM OF HALIKARNASSUS

The Mausoleum, built in the center of Halikarnassus, was ranked among the seven wonders of the world because of the beauty of its appearance and the way it was decorated with sculptures and ornaments.

Unfortunately it hasn't survived the strong earthquakes that rocked the region and today only some of the ruins remain. Some of the stones of the Mausoleum were used to build the Castle of St. Peter.



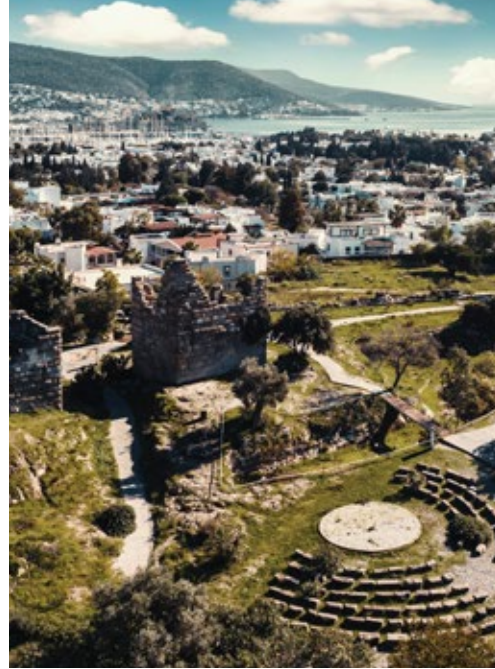
BODRUM ANTIQUE AMPHITHEATER

The antique amphitheater is still actively used for concerts, festivals and numerous cultural activities. Catch a live event or visit one of the best preserved structures of the ancient Halikarnassus as an open-air museum.



WINDMILLS

Windmills are one of the many astonishing sights overlooking the ancient Bodrum peninsula. These mills were actively used by the locals to grind wheat into flour until the 1970's.



MYNDOS GATE

Myndos Gate is the only remaining gate of the 7 km ancient stone rampart that surrounded the city of Halikarnassus. It is now open to be viewed as an open-air museum.



GÜMBET WATER CISTERNS

Especially in Gumbet, you will see many water cisterns built to collect and house rain water for use in the ancient times. "Gümbet" is named after them, as they are called "kümbet" in Turkish.



Bodrum, formerly known as Halicarnassus, has been home to many civilizations through the years.

After seeing the monuments and historical sites I was ready to discover the culture a little more.



I wasn't surprised to learn that Zeki Müren, hailed the "Sun of Art" has been living here. It was very touching and inspiring to see the house of this pioneering singer, composer, actor, poet... turned into a museum. His taste in glamour and beauty explains why he chose Bodrum as his home during his last years.

Dibeklihan is built to support the modern makers. I really enjoyed being among the makers and joining their conversation as I browsed the display of arts and crafts. Being in an environment where art is cherished nourished my soul. I cannot wait to end this day with an artful recipe from the Lujo chefs.

day 2

ART AND CULTURE

- Zeki Müren Museum
- Dibeklihan
- Etrim Village
- Underwater Archaeology Museum



ZEKI MÜREN MUSEUM

Hailed the "Sun of Art", Zeki Müren was a pioneering singer, composer, actor, and poet who was famous for his talent as well as his glamorous style. His house is turned into a museum.



DİBEKLIHAN

Dibeklihan, Culture and Art Village, is built to display the arts and crafts of ancient and modern makers, as well as serve as a place to connect the makers and the appreciators of beauty.



ETRİM VILLAGE

The Etrim Village keeps the regional carpet and rug weaving art going stronger than ever. Visit Etrim to see these artisanal rugs being woven and listen to the stories behind the colors and the patterns.



UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM

The Underwater Archaeology Museum is located inside the Bodrum Castle. Guests can visit the museum to see the world's oldest shipwreck on display: The Uluburun Shipwreck. Based on findings, it is estimated that the ship sank at the end of the 14th century BC. The well-preserved shipwreck revealed many miscellaneous objects such as bronze and copper vessels, precious stones, hippopotamus teeth, ivory, logs of blackwood from Africa, and earliest intact glass ingots known - 175 glass ingots of cobalt blue, turquoise, and lavender. The engraved golden scarab of Nefertiti was also found on this ship.

day 3



After days of historical and cultural sightseeing, I felt like I deserved to rest my body and my eyes in the vast blueness of Bodrum sea. I wanted to discover the various bays with unique characteristics. Taking the sea plane, I easily arrived to Akvaryum Koyu – The Aquarius Bay. It was truly a magnificent experience.

Having swam and sunbathed during most of the day, I flew to Gümüşlük to watch the famous sunset. It is said that the region takes its name from the silvery reflection of the sun during sunset and I would have to agree with them. The view was breathtaking. As the sun set, the laughter of people dining by the sea increased and following the delicious smell of sea food, I decided to join them for dinner. There were lots of small restaurants by the sea. I picked one and enjoyed a delicious sea food dinner.



This was a great way to relax, enjoy myself and still see Bodrum. There are still amazing bays I want to discover. Maybe another day...

BODRUM BY THE SEA

- Akyarlar, Akvaryum Koyu, Cennet Koyu
- Gümüřlük
- Yalıçiftlik, Mazi, ökertme



**AKYARLAR,
AKVARYUM KOYU,
CENNET KOYU**

These are some of the most enchanting bays of Bodrum to swim in. The unique geographical structure of Bodrum offers its guests many different bays with characteristics of their own.



GÜMÜŞLÜK

Gümüşlük is famous for its fish restaurants by the shore. The sea has a silvery reflection during sunset, which gives the region its name. This unique bay values craftsmanship and has a unique artisan bazaar at its entrance.

During August-September, Gümüşlük International Classical Music Festival is held in this coastal region.



ÇÖKERTME

YALIÇIFTLIK, MAZI, ÇÖKERTME

These bays are located in another section of the Bodrum Peninsula. Famous with their nature and sea, they are worth a visit.



day 4

Wherever I go, one of the things I enjoy the most is shopping. Be it discovering local goods or reuniting with international brands, browsing through shops and meeting new people brings me so much pleasure.

Since this is Bodrum I wanted to experience the luxury and shopping experience at the famous marinas rather than visit a shopping mall, so my VIP Transfer took me to Yalıkavak Marina.

I was curious about this marina that has won multiple awards through the years even though it is fairly new. I loved how it was designed and filled with luxury brands as well as delicious cafes and restaurants.

On our way back I thought about stopping by Milta Bodrum Marina to listen to some live music, but then decided against it. I would rather catch the live shows of Lujo performers tonight. Let's see who is on schedule...

SHOPPING AND DINING

- Milta Bodrum Marina
- Yalıkavak Marina



MILTA BODRUM MARINA

Located in the city center of Bodrum, Milta Bodrum Marina hosts a variety of restaurants, bars and boutiques.

Locals and tourists visit the marina for a nice dinner and to listen to live music at the Marina Yacht Club afterwards.

YALIKAVAK MARINA

Yalikavak Marina has been voted "World's Best Luxury Superyacht Marina for 2018/2019 and is still the holder of a British Yacht Harbour Association "5 Gold Anchors" rating. An open air shopping mall with over a hundred world famous brands, gourmet restaurants and bars, it is a must-see for all luxury seekers.

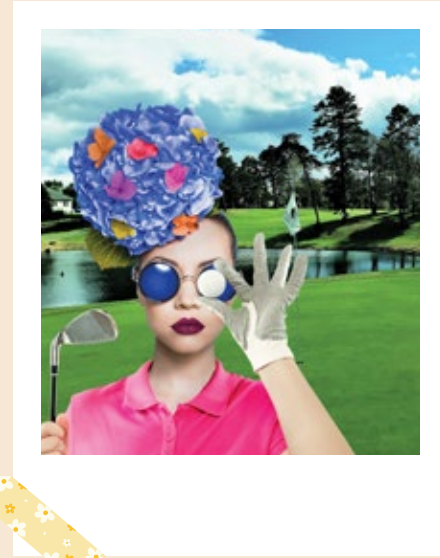
YALIKAVAK MARINA



I had always heard Bodrum had a unique beauty at every season. Not only that, but it also offers various activities and sights at different seasons as well! I wish I had been here in spring to catch the Aegean Herb Festival. Lucky for me, there are some events and activities that reoccur all through the season such as diving, boat trips, golfing, fishing...



day 5



I was most interested in diving. It was magnificent to see all the fish, octopuses and other sea creatures. I even saw the famous blue crabs! For some reason I hadn't thought it would actually be blue, but it was.

During my trip I learned that locals in Bodrum used to be sponge-divers in the ancient times. As I was underwater I tried to imagine myself in those days, years back. The more I learn about this city, the more I love it.

I might come back for the Music Festival or Harvesting Bodrum Tangerines!...

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- The Bodrum Cup
- Bodrum Music Festival
- Harvesting Bodrum Tangerines
- Aegean Herb Festivals
- Diving in Bodrum
- Golfing
- Boat Trips
- Fishing

THE BODRUM CUP

The Bodrum Cup is an annual event conceived in 1989 by ERA Bodrum Sailing Club in order to teach sailing to sea enthusiasts and professional yachting crews. It is one of the rare regattas in the world in which yachts can race with guests on board.

This distinguishing feature of The Bodrum Cup offers people who like the sea, but who have never had a chance to sail, experience firsthand the excitement of a sailing race.





BODRUM MUSIC FESTIVAL

Locally and internationally acclaimed orchestras, sought after musicians, ensembles and soloists have been playing their music under the Bodrum stars since 2005. Growing ever stronger, the festival takes place around the peninsula during the summer.



HARVESTING BODRUM TANGERINES

With their distinctive flavor and scents, the mandarins of this region are spotted from a mile away. Bodrum Tangerines, used to produce Turkish Delights, fruit sodas, cologne and many more souvenirs, are picked from the trees towards the end of December.



ÆGEAN HERB FESTIVALS

The healthy and delicious natural Aegean herbs are indispensable. They are enjoyed with a little bit of olive oil and garlic, along with some yogurt, or if you are ready for a gastronomic adventure, with eggs... These healing herbs have inspired local feasts: Ortakent Bitter Herb Festival and Halikarnas Herb Festival where people gather to celebrate the new harvest and enjoy some delicious food.



DIVING IN BODRUM

Sponge fishing is one of the many things Bodrum is known for – and it’s also the reason its sea hosts almost all Mediterranean sea creatures.

The underwater caves and shipwreck sights make diving an unforgettable experience for divers on all levels of dive training. If you would like to see it for yourself, grab a snorkel or sign up for a diving lesson!



GOLFING

Golfing is a passion of many - and since June 2018 Bodrum offers an 18-hole golf course set on an area of 1.450 hectare. As a proud member of IAGTO (International Association of Golf Tour Operators), we will gladly arrange your free transfer to the Regnum course which is only 15 minutes away from Lujo.

FISHING

Bodrum has always had a rich marine life, providing seafood, fish and sponges to its early inhabitants. Fishing is still very important and popular in the region. Not only for fisherman, but also for those who fish as a hobby. The Bodrum International Fishing Tournament, held to the standards of IGFA (International Game Fish Association), is one of the major activities of fish enthusiasts.

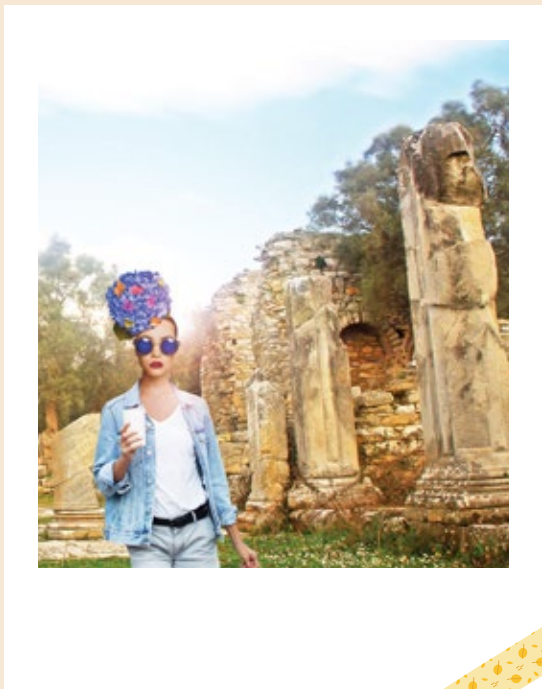


BOAT TRIPS | SEAPLANE TOURS

Bodrum is famous for its many breathtaking bays around the peninsula. The best way to discover these marvels and enjoy a daily trip is either by boats or a seaplane.

Daily tour boats leave every morning from the city center. For those who prefer a personal itinerary private boat tours or seaplane trips can also be arranged from Lujo.

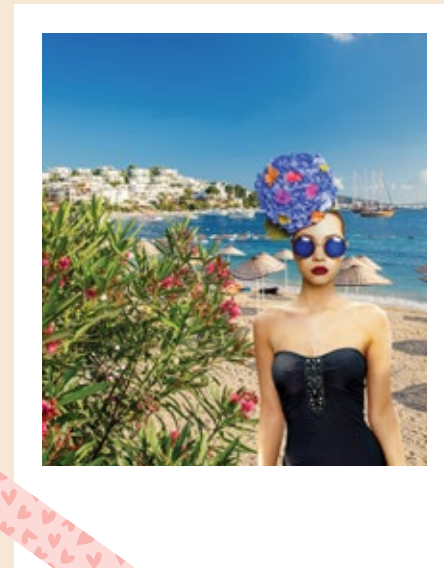




The amount of places to see or things to do amazes me here. There are many ancient miracles hidden in plain sight – and marvelous sights a few hours away.

Today I visited the Iasos, a Greek city in ancient Caria. Their theatre, aqueduct, agora, east gate and a temple can be clearly seen and observed.

day 6



It was interesting to see how the locals have adapted to these ancient ruins. I guess this is the reality of Bodrum; a combination of ancient history and modern life. I admire how helpful everyone is and how much they love their city. I have to agree with Cevat Şakir Karaağaçlı – this place really changed me and I am sure I will leave a piece of my soul behind. Well, all the more reason to come back! There is still so much to do and so much to see...

SIGHTSEEING

- Karnas Vineyards
- The Carian Trail
- Ancient City of Iasos
- Ruins of Pedasa
- Heraklia & Bafa Lake
- Pamukkale
- Ephesus
- Şirince



THE CARIAN TRAIL

The Carian Trail is named after the Karia civilization which lived in this region during the antique ages. Although it is the longest known hiking trail of Turkey, some parts are suitable for daily walks.



KARNAS VINEYARDS

Karnas Vineyards is the first vineyard to plant the Zinfandel variety in Turkey - now resulting in award-winning wines which are traditionally produced by a family-owned winery. The vineyard hosts special food & wine events and has a breathtaking view of the sunset.





HERAKLIA & BAFALAKE

ANCIENT CITY OF IASOS

Iasos or Iassos was a Greek city in ancient Caria located on the Gulf of Iasos (now called the Gulf of Güllük), opposite the modern town of Güllük, Turkey. Archaeologists have recently discovered that the ancient city was buried under a mountain of ash caused by the explosion of Mt. Thera on Santorini 3,600 years ago.

It has held great importance due to its strategic position on the Aegean coast of Turkey, and also because it was a harbour city and a good point of defense. If you visit you will see the excavations that include a tower, a theatre, aqueduct, agora, the east gate and a temple.

RUINS OF PEDASA

Only accessible by foot, the Ruins of Pedasa reveal what is left of the Ancient city of Pedasa. The ancient Lelegs are believed to have lived here during the Bronze and Iron Ages.

HERAKLIA & BAFALAKE

Herakleia is a harbor city that was built in BC 350 at the command of King Mausolos of Caria. The islands scattered through the Gulf of Latmos (now Lake Bafa) display the remains of the monasteries that were built on them.



PAMUKKALE

Hierapolis (Holy City) was an ancient Greek city located on hot springs in classical Phrygia. Its ruins are adjacent to modern Pamukkale (250 km from Bodrum) and currently comprise an archaeological museum designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The site has the Tomb of Philip the Apostle.

The hot springs have been used as a spa since the 2nd century BC, with many patrons retiring or dying there. The great baths were constructed with huge stone blocks without the use of cement and consisted of various closed or open sections linked together.



EPHESUS

Ephesus was an ancient Greek city on the coast of Ionia, 150 km to Bodrum. The city was famed for the nearby Temple of Artemis (completed around 550 BC), one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

The city was destroyed by the Goths in 263, and although rebuilt, the city's importance as a commercial centre declined as the harbour was slowly silted up. It was partially destroyed by an earthquake in AD 614. However the ruins of Ephesus are still a favourite international and local tourist attraction.



ŞİRİNCE

Şirince is a small village in Izmir, located about 8 kilometres from Ephesus. The history around the village area dates back to Hellenistic period (323-31 BC). On the road up you will see the remains of several Roman aqueducts as the village was an important water source for ancient Ephesus.

Today the village prospers through agriculture (olive oil, peaches, wine) and tourism. It is well protected and a rare and attractive example of Ottoman Christian architecture.

This small village is also famous for hosting the House of Mary. A building known as the House of Mary was discovered in 1881 about 17 km outside of Şirince, and is venerated by Catholics as well as Muslims. Local Christians, descended from the first churches in Ephesus, already had a tradition of venerating the building.



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