

ADVANTAGE

Live Unconventionally



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Gather In Puglia

Masseria Pistola reveals an idyllic getaway for family and friends

The Future Is Phenom

The world's best-selling light jet for the 11th consecutive year

Table In The Wild

Fine-dining in the Kalahari Desert at Klein JAN

THE LAND OF ETERNAL BLUE

Turkey's Côte d'Azur is the perfect escape to refresh in turquoise waters, unwind at world-class spas and sail to secluded coves where paradise awaits



The Bodrum Peninsula's picturesque coves are perfect for exploring in a locally built gulet yacht or lounging on the private, sandy beaches of a five-star luxury resort.

WORDS: Nora Walsh, IMAGE © Six Senses Kapitanaya

Hom^eer surely described Bodrum as “the land of eternal blue” while admiring the Aegean Sea fade from shades of cyan to lapis lazuli as it stretched towards the Greek island of Kos. For years, these heavenly waters have been luring the international jet-set to Bodrum since it was a sleepy fishing village home to ancient wonders of the world and an imposing 15th-century castle. Today, discerning travelers looking to relax will find tony hotels with abundant wellness offerings and hidden anchorages tucked along Bodrum’s eye-catching coastline.

The Mandarin Oriental makes arriving in Bodrum a breeze, whisking guests from the airport via limousine, boat or helicopter to a private hillside villa. Guests are greeted by their very own experience ambassador who provides around-the-clock assistance from booking spa appointments and dining reservations to organizing private excursions. Spread across nearly 150 acres of lush gardens overlooking Paradise Bay (Cennet Koyu), each area of the hotel feels like a private utopia. Every villa has its own secluded garden, sun deck and infinity pool, as well as a deep soaking tub and 480 thread-count sateen cotton bed sheets. “Designer Antonio Citterio combined materials like teak wood, locally quarried stone and neutral tones with the resort’s sweeping views to create a feeling of being at one with nature,” explained General Manager Ersev Demiröz. Days are spent lazing away on a picturesque stretch of white-sand beach under raffia umbrellas sipping anise-flavored rakı, or dozing poolside on a comfy daybed in the afternoon sun.

For the ultimate leisure activity, head to the spa, a two-story temple featuring marble-domed hammams modeled after traditional Turkish baths, where guests experience centuries-old water therapies. Book the Oriental Hammam Ritual, which begins with an invigorating body scrub followed by a full-body foam massage. Then, a hammam mask is applied to the entire body while the soles of the feet are gently exfoliated using a traditional ponza stone. In a muscle-melting finish, the Eastern meridian lines of the head and feet are massaged using essential oils while lying on a heated stone table. (If you come to Bodrum and only do this treatment, it will be worth the trip.) Following the ritual, tea is served in the relaxation lounge surrounded by soothing water features or in the serene spa garden.



Top: The Mandarin Oriental's private hillside villas have their own private gardens, sun decks and infinity pools, as well as an experience ambassador who provides around-the-clock assistance

Bottom: Mandarin Oriental's award-winning two-story spa features marble hammams and holistic signature treatments using natural, handmade ingredients from the resort's own gardens



“To really experience Bodrum, you need to get out on the water,” said Karen Fedorko, Owner of Sea Song Tours, an Istanbul-based travel company that specializes in bespoke trips throughout Turkey. Tap Fedorko to organize a day outing to a multiday cruise on a three-masted 90-foot gulet (a classic wooden yacht locally built in Bodrum or Marmaris). “The boat comes fully crewed with an excellent chef, equipment for watersports, and sun mattresses to chill out and enjoy the beautiful sea and magnificent weather,” she said. The peninsula is lined with reefs, caves and rock formations with great visibility, ideal for spotting marine life at more than 15 dive sites, including ancient shipwrecks and three artificial wrecks. Back on land, Fedorko recommends sunset cocktails at Yalikavak Marina, a chic outpost of mega-yachts, upscale shopping, gourmet restaurants, bars, cafes, and clubs. “It does a good job at blending contemporary luxury and historic charm.”

After a day at sea, check into the Six Senses Kaplankaya, nestled among evergreens, wild olive trees and cypresses with meandering paths that echo the ambiance of a Mediterranean village. Newly built residential villas are the guest rooms to book for their private pools, kitchens, fireplaces, outdoor dining areas, and rooftop terraces with sea views.

Integrated wellness is a focus at Six Senses Kaplankaya, where preventative principles of Eastern medicine are fused with result-orientated Western modalities in an innovative way. The 100,000-square-foot spa has a pioneering wellness program featuring medical experts, holistic practitioners and smart technology that measures key biomarkers to create personalized protocols incorporating body treatments, exercise and nutrition.

Among the wealth of offerings are detox programs that eliminate toxins from the body, Ayurvedic diets, yogic cleanses, and low-intensity training. Sleep also gets an upgrade using tracking devices, yoga nidra and meditation. A cornerstone component of the Longevity Program is the resort's hydrotherapy circuit, which encompasses a salt grotto, crystal steam room, experiential rains, Finnish sauna, hydrotherapy pool, heated loungers, and an igloo for temperature contrast. An expansive spa menu targets the body from head to toe with a range of therapies, including an interactive alchemy workshop where guests smell, touch and feel healing ingredients in order to create their own treatment scrub. The signature hammam experience is also a must, as is the cocoon wrap. Facials at Six Senses Kaplankaya are also a specialty—the Second Skin treatment stimulates cell renewal and cutaneous regeneration using potent Biologique Recherche ingredients.

Wellness, however, isn't confined to the walls of the spa. There's a mountaintop sunset yoga deck with panoramic sea views; hiking, biking and coastal walks with experienced guides; an outdoor meditation moon garden; and on-property beach coves to float in the sparkling sea. “Wellness is freedom,” said Anna Burjstam, the company's Wellness Pioneer. “And Six Senses Kaplankaya invites guests to deepen their sense of well-being in one of the most idyllic destinations in all of Turkey.”

To support the victims affected by the Turkey-Syria earthquake, please visit: airlinkflight.org



A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH

The Mandarin Oriental Bodrum has a wide range of sustainability initiatives and certifications, including a Green Key certificate—recognizing excellence in environmental stewardship in the tourism industry based on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outlined by the UN. The property also holds a Blue Flag Award, LEED building certification and works with the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) and Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) to purchase sustainably sourced seafood.

At Six Senses Kaplankaya, food is medicine. Chefs work hand-in-hand with local farms and producers to source organic, fresh and locally grown food and wines. Resort chefs also launched a Lionfish Project to address invasive species threatening native fish populations and local fisheries by adding species like lionfish and sea urchin to the menu to minimize their impact on local marine ecosystems.

Top: At Six Senses Kaplankaya, chefs work hand-in-hand with local farms and producers to source organic, fresh and locally grown food and wines

Bottom: Six Senses Kaplankaya is nestled among evergreens, wild olive trees and cypresses with meandering paths that echo the ambiance of a Mediterranean village



EMBRAER TIP

Flying from most places in Europe and the Middle East, the Praetor 600's best-in-class range of 4,018 nm can take you to Bodrum located on Turkey's southwest coast.

IMAGES (left page) Courtesy of Mandarin Oriental, Bodrum, (right page) © Six Senses Kaplankaya