

Seduced by the exciting music, we were out on the dance floor almost as soon as they started to play. The captain was among the best dancers in the crowd, swooping and twirling and jumping better than nearly everyone else. So was Hassan Husseyin, whose dancing matched his culinary skills.

And, speaking of food, one day as we were anchored in a cove, the captain donned his spear-fishing gear and caught a tiny octopus. Hassan Husseyin immediately took over, cleaned it, pounded it on a large rock to tenderize it and made it the first course of one of the marvelous lunches he served on the aft deck.

True to Ebru's prediction, the captain and Hassan Husseyin seemed to know nearly every fisherman on the bay, and we had assorted, fresh-out-of-the-water fish for several on-board meals. Hassan Husseyin indeed was a superb cook.

It was peaceful on the Tifil, and luxurious, too, with Ersin and Hassan Husseyin catering to our every wish, almost without our ever expressing it. With our lazy days punctuated with forays into sites of historical and archaeological interest, and occasional nights at those charming little shore restaurants, there was plenty of variety; no one was bored.

Like most people coming to pick up and return their charters, we spent a couple of nights in Bodrum. We discovered that there was a hazard to that move, though. With all those beautiful boats lining the harbor, we were tempted to sign aboard for yet another voyage.

In truth, though, sailing in Turkey is not for everyone — only for those who enjoy travel in an exotic, romantic land, who love good food and can handle what was close to a perfect vacation.

Yachts to charter, big or small, bare bones or having it all

By Barbara Ann Rosenberg
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If you're interested in chartering a yacht in Bodrum, check with Gunduz Travel and Yachting, which has an office just a few steps off the main square. Gunduz has a variety of vessels, mostly motor sailers, with accommodations for from four to 12 passengers in two to six cabins.

The one we chartered, the Tifil, is 53 feet long and sleeps eight in four double-bed cabins (as contrasted with upper and lower berths). Each cabin has its own head, equipped with a hot-water shower. Like most of the boats its size, the Tifil generally carries a crew of three.

The cost of chartering these boats depends on the number of cabins, the amenities and the time of year. This year, for example, it ranges from \$400 to \$650 a day for a four-cabin craft; from \$600 to \$1,000 a day for a five-cabin one, and from \$650 to \$1,100 for six cabins.

Fuel for five hours a day of motoring is included in the price, along with water, taxes, harbor expenses, sheets (no towels are provided) and the crew. Food, however, is not included, and people who charter and don't want to be bothered with the details of choosing meals can just leave the whole matter of stocking the boat in the hands of the agency and pay a flat fee. (Gunduz charges \$15 per person per day for breakfast, lunch and dinner.)

On the other hand, there is also an option of making up a provision list for the charter company to assemble and then having the on-board cook prepare the meals. Ultimately, though, it is the cook who decides the menus.

For true sailors, less expensive, bareboat charters are also a possibility in Bodrum. Smaller sailboats, such as Moody 34s, are available from English companies, most often for two-week cruises originating in Bodrum and ending in Marmaris, about 100 miles to the south, or beginning in Marmaris and ending in Bodrum.

The cost of this type of charter ranges from about \$850 to \$1,100 a person for the two-week cruise,

including air fare from Britain to Turkey. According to the tour operator, these boats sleep four or five. If you want your own boat, then you need to make up your own group, because people traveling alone or as a couple are put in with others, which can be interesting or disastrous.

One of the largest British companies making bareboat arrangements is the Yacht Cruising Association, the Old Stone House, Judges Terrace, East Grinstead, Sussex, England, RH 191 AQ.

Gunduz and other Turkish agencies offer bareboat charters, too, for a daily or weekly fee, without the air transportation tacked on. The costs of the bareboat charters range from \$125 to \$500 a day, depending on the season and the number of cabins.

Pacha Tours International, a Turkish company with offices at 20 E. 49th St., in New York, specializes in Turkish travel and works with many Philadelphia travel agencies. Phone 800-722-4288.

Round-trip air fare to Istanbul from Philadelphia is \$1,206 weekdays and \$1,256 weekends, on either British Airways (via London) or Lufthansa (via Frankfurt). These fares will drop in autumn. Bodrum is about a half day's drive from Istanbul, or you can fly to Izmir and drive there in four to five hours.

Here are suggestions for hotels in Bodrum:

- Hotel Unlu, attractive building and setting atop a high hill overlooking the town. Rooms basic but cheap — less than \$30 per night double, including breakfast.

- Hotel Bodrum, across from the harbor, about \$40 double, including breakfast.

- Manistir Hotel, restored monastery, about \$40, including breakfast. Pool.

Here are three charter companies and their telephones in Turkey:

Gunduz Travel and Yachting Agency, Alim Bey Cad. No. 8., Tel: (6141) 1551; Sunyacht, Tevlik Cad. 200/10, (6141) 2445; Halicarnas, Tevlik Cad. 210, Tel: (6141) 2397. It's possible to call direct by dialing 011-90 and then the number.