

From the G6 road turn R/NE, keeping R of the siphonic system as it crosses the valley. At the end of the siphon, find a R turn onto a G2 track, which runs towards the sea then bears L/E, gradually descends the scrubby hillside to a shallow gully, then rises in bends on the far side. Above jumbled bare rocks, the path ends. On the following part, you have to use your hands. Turn R, climb 20m over sharp rocks then down towards a steep-sided gully. Contour to a large boulder on the far side. From here, a G1-2 path climbs slightly then contours around the rocky cliffs towards the point. After passing between a few olives, it climbs slightly then turns towards Kalamar, running over rocks and amongst scrub. It descends slightly through wild olives to a dry gully and becomes a clear G3 path, which crosses a new road just below a gate and continues 200m through an olive grove. Turn L on a G4 track then immediately L on a G5 track which runs between houses to Yıldız Sokak. Turn L/up then R/level onto Cumhuriyet Caddesi. This runs 2-3km past the Yelken hotel at the highest point of the hill towards the centre of Kalkan. Turn R at the major junction and 200m later turn R at the school to reach the post office and centre.

1hr 45mins

**Kalkan** was until very recently a small village, rising in steep terraces of olive trees and more or less abandoned in summer. Now it has been rebuilt and extended with upmarket colour-washed villas and pensions and it hums with life. The harbour has been enlarged and now provides shelter for touring yachts, as well as daily cruise and fishing boats. Restaurants and bars abound - moonlit and romantic, sit-on-the-floor traditional Turkish, strobe-lit disco. Longer term residents bemoan the destruction of the old houses but the steep lanes and narrow alleys still have charm and the foreign contingent provides the basis of all-year-round cosmopolitan life. What is more horrible is the sprawl of villas and pensions which have extended above the town and around the bay. Kalkan has a new bus garage on the Patara road. There are the usual hourly services to Fethiye (2hrs) or Antalya (5hrs), plus dolmuş services to Kaş, Patara, Kinik, Bezirgan, Gömbe and Elmali.



52 The Lycian Way

### Route from Kalkan to Bezirgan

This steep but short section is a good, stony migration path far from the sea on a level plain between hills. As you pass the houses with corrugated iron roofs which are similar to free-standing Lycian tombs, you see the capes and islands. Kalkan is out of the sea.

From the centre of Kalkan, take a track to a district of Kalkan on the highest point of the G5 track, leading between houses towards the sea. Turn R and 50m later bear L/up onto the ridge. On the ridge, at a fork, keep R on a wide path. L. At a junction turn R/uphill, then 20m later turn L. At a junction, turn R/SE onto a wide path. run N/uphill in the direction of a wide path towards a patch of farmland - the white walls are horizontal with the field on the L. At the junction graph posts. Past these is a G5 track rising to a domed Ottoman cistern set amongst scrub.

Near the cistern is fresh water and a path to the main road to a G5 unsurfaced road, leading to a walled G3-4 path. Ignore a R turn and carry on. A wall of rock above/L. The path becomes a wide path. On the R, is a seasonally inhabited house. upwards, still following the long zigzags, you can see over to Patara and most of the hills of sight, because of the steepness of the hills. To pass, the G3 path widens and descends a steep slope, plunges into a narrow valley alongside a dirt road. mac road. Walk E on the tarmac road to the sea.

The huge, flat yayla of **Bezirgan** is rising in the hills for wheat and apples - in May, the yayla is green. The tea house and connects with the Kalkan - Islamlar road. The sign-posted pension is on the W slope or you could continue to the Elmali road and return to Kalkan for the night. In winter, the village is freezing cold and almost deserted but in summer some Kalkan residents migrate up for the cooler air.