

Route from Kalkan to Bezirgan - 4hrs 25mins

This steep but short section takes you first by field paths to the upper road then by good, stony migration path far above the coast to the high summer yayla of Bezirgan on a level plain between hills. As you approach Bezirgan, you pass rows of wooden huts with corrugated iron roofs which were used for storing crops; these are very similar to free-standing Lycian tombs. There is no shade but fantastic views of the sea, capes and islands. Kalkan is out of sight, tucked in below the steep hill.

From the centre of Kalkan, take the Kaş road out of the village for 2km towards Ulugöl, a district of Kalkan on the highest point of the Kaş road. Immediately before the pass, bear L onto G5 track, leading between houses towards the hillside and rising to meet a new bulldozed track. Turn R and 50m later bear L/up onto old G2 path heading E/diagonally up the hill between olives. On the ridge, at a fork, keep R on a walled G4 path which contours with farmland below on the L. At a junction turn R/uphill, then 20m on, turn L onto G2 path which rises in zigzags up a hillside. At a junction, turn R/SE onto a walled path. After 200m bear L then L again on paths which run N/uphill in the direction of a white house on a rock outcrop. On a ridge, bear R/down towards a patch of farmland - the white house is on the far side - then R onto stony path running horizontal with the field on the L. At the second field boundary, turn L and aim for several telegraph posts. Past these is a G5 track rising to the main road. Turn L/W on this and walk up to a domed Ottoman cistern set amongst several houses.

1hr 40mins

Near the cistern is fresh water and a sitting platform under trees where you can rest. Cross the main road to a G5 unsurfaced road, which passes a few houses then becomes a steep, partly-walled G3-4 path. Ignore a R turn and carry on up long zigzags, aiming NW just behind the outcrop of rock above/L. The path becomes a wide, irregular staircase over bed rock and just past the outcrop, on the R, is a seasonally inhabited stone house, with goat pens and a well nearby. Continue upwards, still following the long zigzags, passing another well two bends from the pass. From here you can see over to Patara and most of the headland of İnce Burun, E of Kalkan. Kalkan itself is out of sight, because of the steepness of the hill, but you may be able to just glimpse the harbour. At the pass, the G3 path widens and descends and patches of grass and more wells are hidden in scrub. It plunges into a narrow valley alongside a dry stream bed and emerges onto the yayla and meets a tarmac road. Walk E on the tarmac road to the mosque on the opposite side of the yayla.

2hrs 45mins

The huge, flat yayla of **Bezirgan** is ringed by bare hills and scattered with farmhouses. The lush soil is used for wheat and apples - in May, the yayla is a sea of blossom. The main street runs from the mosque to 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 Elmalı 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.

