



# (FAQ) FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PREPARING FOR YOUR TRIP

MERIDIAN ADVENTURE  DIVE

This document will guide you through everything you need to know about Sığacık and Meridian Adventure Dive and Watersports Club.

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#MATurkey

# GET TO KNOW SIĞACIK

The people of Siğacık value using clean energy, and maintaining areas of historical and cultural value.



## WHERE IS SIĞACIK?

Siğacık is a seaside neighbourhood of Seferihisar ilçe (district) of İzmir Province, Türkiye and less than 5km away from the Seferihisar centrum. Apart from its historical and natural beauties, Siğacık is also a natural harbour with a very small population of around 3500 people. Up to 2009 Siğacık was a fishermen's village, but after it became a city of Cittaslow, Siğacık gained fame as the ideal place for adventure and exploration.

Cittaslow stands for the respect of traditions through the joy of slow and quiet living. It values the authenticity of products and good food, the richness of craft traditions, and the beauty of unspoiled landscapes.

## HOW TO GET TO SIĞACIK

Siğacık, which is 5 km from Seferihisar, 52 km from İzmir city centre and 70 km from İzmir Adnan Menderes Airport, can be reached with a 1-hour journey by car from İzmir.

## WHAT IS THE RELIGION IN SIĞACIK?

*Do I have to cover my head if I'm a female?*

Muslim, but Secular at the same time, so you don't have to cover your head.

## WHAT IS THE CURRENCY?

Türkiye's currency is the Türk Lirası (Turkish lira; ₺). The lira comes in notes of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 and 200, and coins of 1, 5, 10, 25, 50 kuruş (cents) and 1 lira.

Lack of change is a constant problem; try to keep a supply of coins and small notes for minor payments.

## HOW DO PEOPLE TRAVEL IN SIĞACIK?

The beauty of Siğacık is all the main areas are easily accessible by foot. Alternatively, taxis are readily available and Minibuses depart every half hour from 07:00 to 23:30.

## WHAT IS THE AVERAGE COST FOR FOOD AND ALCOHOL?

Meals average between 75-100 ₺ (Turkish lira; ₺), and an alcoholic beverage is between 70-85 ₺ (Turkish lira; ₺)

## WHAT TIME ZONE IS SIĞACIK?

GMT+03:00

## DO BUSINESSES PREFER CARDS OR CASH?

Visa and MasterCard are widely accepted by hotels, shops and restaurants, although often not by local restaurants outside the main tourist areas.

Amex is less commonly accepted outside top-end establishments. Inform your credit-card provider of your travel plans; otherwise transactions may be stopped, as credit-card fraud does happen in Turkey.

## WHERE IS THE ACCOMMODATION SITUATED?

There are many hotels and pansiyons (hostels) to stay in Siğacık centre. There are many hotels and pansiyons (hostels) to stay in Siğacık centre. The 5 hotels we have partnered with are based in the heart of Siğacık, with Gardenya located inside the old castle, Liman Apart Hotel, located right across the Siğacık Marina, and Lavantalı Konak Hotel located in the middle of the Akarca coast and Thea Hotel located on the hill with a view of the marina and old castle. Hidden Bay Teos offers a more private setting and is located 5 minutes' drive from Siğacık centre.

## DO PEOPLE DRINK IN TÜRKİYE?

Yes. Raki, which is served as an aperitif and often served with seafood and meze, is the most popular alcoholic beverage and the national drink in Türkiye. Beer and wine made and bottled in Türkiye is also very popular.

## ARE THERE CHILD FRIENDLY RESTAURANTS?

All restaurants in Siğacık welcome families with children. Some of the higher-end restaurants in the Urla region only allow guests 15 years and older.

## HOW LONG CAN I STAY IN TÜRKİYE?

The validity period of an e-Visa varies according to Country of Travel Document. When you apply for your visa it will tell you how many days you are allowed to stay in Türkiye.

## IS THERE INTERNET?

Most places have WIFI available to connect to. Prepaid SIM cards are easily available to purchase at the airport in Istanbul if you need constant connection, we recommend Turkcell as the provider of choice.



## TIPPING

Turkey is fairly European in its approach to tipping and you won't be pestered for baksheesh (tipping). Tipping is customary in restaurants, hotels and taxis, and optional everywhere else.

### Restaurants

A few coins in budget eateries; 10% of the bill in midrange and top-end establishments.

### Hotel Porter

€5 per bag (mid-range hotel), €10 per bag (top-end hotel).

### Taxis

Round up metered fares to the nearest lira.

## WHAT POWER DO YOU USE? (PLUGS)

For Türkiye there are two associated plug types, **types C and F**. Plug type C is the plug which has two round pins and plug type F is the plug which has two round pins with two earth clips on the side. Turkey operates on a 220V supply voltage and 50Hz.

You can use your UK electrical appliances in Türkiye, because the standard voltage (220 V) is (more or less) the same as in the United Kingdom (230 V). Manufacturers take these small deviations into account.

## DO I NEED A VISA TO ENTER TÜRKİYE?

Yes, most nationalities require a visa, which can easily be applied for online. Please see the following link:

<https://www.evisa.gov.tr/en/>

## WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO VISIT TÜRKİYE?

April through to the end of October has the most pleasant weather, and all businesses are operational.

# SCUBA DIVING

## HOW MANY DIVES A DAY AND WHAT EQUIPMENT DO THEY USE?

2 dives a day is perfect to see the best of the underwater wonders in Siğacık. Morning dives are best. The equipment used include 12L steel cylinders and all Mares equipment.

## WHAT IS THE WATER TEMPERATURE AND AVERAGE VISIBILITY?

- On average, July has the hottest water temperature. Summer months between May to September the average underwater temperature ranges between 20 to 25 degrees Celsius.
- On average, February has the coldest water temperature. Winter months between October to April the average underwater temperature ranges between 14 to 18 degrees Celsius.

The average visibility ranges between 15 to 25 meters.

## CHILD DIVERS

Youngsters above the age of 14 with diving certifications can join on all the dives sites with a parent or guardian. Alongside our partner Dive Centre, we can offer scuba diving experiences or courses starting from 14 years of age to those with no certification. It is advised to bring your own soft equipment like fins, mask, snorkel and wetsuit for a perfect fit.

## DO YOU OFFER DIVE COURSES?

Yes. Alongside our partner Dive Centre, we offer all SSI dive courses starting at discovery / try dive, beginner courses like the SSI Open Water Course as well as courses for advanced divers and all SSI specialty courses.

## DO I NEED INSURANCE WHEN TRAVELLING TO TÜRKİYE?

Divers should definitely get insurance which provides for emergency medical evacuation. We would recommend that you speak to your insurance and/or contact diving insurance like DAN.

## WHERE IS THE NEAREST DECOMPRESSION CHAMBER?

Bozyaka Training and Research Hospital, Underwater Medicine and Hyperbaric Medicine Clinic situated in Izmir.

[VIEW MAP](#)



## INDEMNITY FORMS

Download the Indemnity Forms for:

[WATERSPORTS](#)

[SCUBA DIVING](#)



## WHAT TYPE OF BOAT WILL WE TRAVEL IN?

Our customised dive boats revolutionise functionality and comfort of dive boat operations and will change the way you dive forever. The space, comfort and long-range capabilities make this ideal for multi-purpose use. The 600mm diameter tubes make the pontoons exceptionally comfortable to ride on to and from dive sites.

## WHAT SAFETY EQUIPMENT DO YOU HAVE ON YOUR BOATS?

Emergency medical aid oxygen (100% oxygen), First Aid, VHF radio and compass, tool kit, a double action pump and two paddles. Life jackets, a flare kit and fire extinguisher are also included.

## WHAT ELSE CAN I DO IN SIĞACIK IF I'M NOT A DIVER?

There are many activities to do, if you do not dive. Siğacık is surrounded by archaeological sites such as Teos, mandarin, citrus, and olive groves, and gorgeous beaches like Akkum and Ekmeksiz. The ever-present wind makes Siğacık the perfect place for various watersports adventures and you'll easily find the balance between adventure and exploring the historic avenues of this unique destination. Various boutique vineyards can be found in the surrounded area and your tastebuds will never be bored with local restaurants and market foods to indulge in.

You can go to the centre of Izmir by taxi, private car or bus, and you can shop. Siğacık is 52 km from the centre of İzmir.

Let us help you explore the best of this quaint town and enquire about our various packages for all ages.



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