

# Race Report

## Sail Around *Turkey*\* – 2025

By vida

Jul 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

One of the many reasons I enjoy SailOnline is to learn the geography of our planet. The race around Türkiye is an excellent way to get to know a little bit of a country I have never been.

(\*) *"The current official English spelling of the country is **Türkiye**. In 2022, the government of Turkey requested that the country be referred to internationally as "Türkiye" (pronounced "tur-key-YAY") instead of "Turkey." This change has been recognized by the United Nations and is increasingly used in international contexts."* – source "Perplexity"

The race can easily be divided into two distinctive parts; the North coast and the South coast.

The first part of the race (North Coast) has no place to BBQ and therefore is a game of catching the wind shifts. I was lucky to be awake to all weather updates and be able to adjust my course as needed. Also, I started going North, almost perpendicular to the rhumb line, so little progress toward the "Riva" mark (VMC near 0.00). This is a risky situation since the success of this route hinges on no radical change in wind direction at the next weather updates. Luck was on my side. After the first tack we (in the North) all jumped ahead in the leaderboard. "**bonknhoot**", "**WRmirek**", "**rafa**", "**Kipper1258**", "**Go4it**" and a few other were all in contention for the gold, with "**vida**" a smudge ahead.

I don't remember but I believe some of the leaders got in trouble with BBQs in the Bosphorus Strait and the leading group got a bit more dispersed. I was lucky enough to just touch-and-go the coast once and got hit by an 80% performance loss but no loss of miles.

The South Coast part of this race is all about avoiding BBQs and less in using the routing software. It is all who has the time and patience to be awake at every island corner as well as at every weather update. I was, LOL. Most of the other boats in the leading pack got hit by unexpected BBQs or Island shore hits.

The leaders got reduced to two boats really, “**vida**” and “**Kipper1258**”.

The final part of the race was the stretch from Antalya to the finish line. There are no BBQ there, but the wind can and did shift radically. Although I took a 10 hours brake from the computer for real life sailing, I was lucky again to be back at home just before a weather update with completely different wind pattern. By then my only competitor was “**Kipper1258**” that wasn’t luck enough to be awake for the wind change. All in all, another fantastic racecourse.

Thanks to the volunteers of Sailonline that made all this happen.

Sincerely,

Antonio Ferrer (vida)