



## Turkey Treasures with Turkish Riviera (Istanbul, Ephesus, Pergamon, Cappadocia and Antalya)

**Tour Days :** 12

**Tour Departure From :** Istanbul

**Tour Departure End :** Antalya

**Tour Departure :** Departure days are every Mondays around the year

**Tour Overview :** 3 nights Istanbul, 3 nights Izmir, 2 nights Cappadocia, 3 nights Antalya with daily tours and enjoy beach.

- Our group tours can be operated with minimum 2 people.
- On Mondays, when St. Sophia is closed, we visit the Chora Church, famed for its mosaics.
- On Tuesdays, when Topkapi Palace is closed, this tour is not offered.
- On Mondays and Thursdays, Palace of Beylerbeyi is closed and replaced with Kariye Museum.

### Tour Highlights

- Topkapi Palace, Blue Mosque, Hippodrome Square, St. Sophia Church, Grand Bazaar
- Egyptian Spice Market, Bosphorus Boat Tour, Palace of Beylerbeyi
- Acropolis, Asclepion
- Virgin Mary`s House, Ephesus, Temple of Artemis
- Ankara Anatolian Civilizations, Mausoleum of Ataturk, Kaymakli Underground City
- Optional Balloon Tour, Devrent Valley, Pasabagi (Monk`s Valley), Avanos, Goreme Open Air Museum
- Enjoy the beach of hotel in Antalya and optional Perge&Aspendos Tour

### Tour Itinerary

#### Day 1 : Istanbul Arrival

Arrival to Istanbul airport. Meet and transfer to your hotel. Overnight in Istanbul.

#### Day 2 : Istanbul

Full day Bosphorus and Asia Tour. Visit the Egyptian Spice Market, and then embark on a Bosphorus Boat Tour viewing the beauty of the European and Asian shorelines on either side. After lunch, visit the Palace of Beylerbeyi on the shore of the Bosphorus which is the most elegant of the late Ottoman places. Finally, enjoy a display on Turkish handicrafts. Overnight in Istanbul. (B, L)

#### Day 3 : Istanbul

Full day Historical Istanbul tour. Discover the Byzantine and Ottoman treasures of Istanbul. Visit the Royal Topkapi Palace (home of the Ottoman Sultans), the Blue Mosque (unique with six minarets), the Roman Hippodrome Square and the St. Sophia Church which is considered one of the worlds greatest architectural marvels. Then visit the Grand Covered Bazaar with over 4.000 tiny shops. Finally, enjoy a display on Turkish handicrafts. Overnight in Istanbul. (B, L)

#### Day 4 : Istanbul - Izmir

Transfer to Istanbul airport for your flight to Izmir. Izmir arrival, meet and transfer to your hotel. Evening is free for leisure. Overnight in Izmir. (B)

**Day 5 : Izmir - Pergamon**

Full day Pergamon tour. Drive to Pergamon. Visit the Acropolis, the Temple of Athena, the famous Library, the Royal Palaces, the Temple of Trojan, the steepest Theatre of the world, the Temple of Dionysos, the Altar of Zeus (Seat of Satan), and the view of the Red Basilica (St. John's church). After lunch, visit the ruins of Asclepion (Medical Center of the ancient world). Finally, enjoy a display on Turkish handicrafts. Overnight in Izmir. (B, L)

**Day 6 : Izmir - Ephesus**

Leave for Ephesus, the veritable cradle of early Christianity. Visit the Shrine of The Virgin Mary where she supposedly spent her later days. Proceed to Ephesus and see the spectacular ruins from the period of St. Paul, some of which have only recently been excavated. See the Odeon, the Bouleterion, Fountains, the Temples, the Brothel, the Library, the Agoras, the Great Theatre, the Roman Baths, the Gymnasiums. After lunch visit the Temple Of Artemis (one of the Seven Wonders of the ancient world). Finally, enjoy a display on Turkish handicrafts. Overnight in Izmir. (B, L)

**Day 7 : Izmir - Ankara - Cappadocia**

Early morning transfer to Izmir airport for your flight to Ankara. Ankara arrival and morning visit to the Anatolian Civilizations Museum at which numerous remnants from Stone Age, Neolithic Age, Hittites, Urartians, Phrygians and many others are on display; Mausoleum of Ataturk, the burial place of the national hero who founded modern Republic of Turkey. Then continue on to Cappadocia. Overnight in Cappadocia. (B, L, D)

**Day 8 : Cappadocia**

Optional balloon tour. Meet at the hotel lobby in the morning and visit to Devrent Valley to see the unique fairy-chimneys. Drive to Pasabagi (Monks Valley) to see the most interesting mushroom shaped pinnacles. Drive to Avanos which is known for the pottery, a craft dating back to the Hittite period. The red clay which is worked by local craftsmen comes from the residue in the Kizilirmak river, the longest river of Turkey. In the afternoon, visit Goreme Open Air Museum (Dark Church is excluded; entrance requires additional admission fee) to visit the churches) where the remains of rock cut churches and Christian settlements date back hundreds of years. Various panoramic viewpoints of castles and fairy chimneys such as Esentepe for Goreme valley, Uchisar and its castle, Pigeon Valley. Then to Kaymakli (or Ozkonak) Underground City, the place where early Christians hid from persecutors. Returning to the hotel. Overnight in Cappadocia. (B, L, D)

**Optional: Balloon Tour**

Pick up from the hotel roughly one hour before the sunrise (App. 05:00 o'clock) and transfer to the base. After serving tea, coffee and cookies while waiting for the other participants proceed to the take-off field designated for that day. After a safety briefing delivered by the pilot, climb in to the baskets and take off. Rise to the altitudes of several hundred meters to have a good view of the area and drift through the valleys and canyons for some 60 minutes. On landing, have a traditional celebration party with champagne and cakes. Thereafter transfer back to the hotel.

Per Person Group Rate : 150.-Euro

**Day 9 : Cappadocia – Ankara – Antalya**

After breakfast drive on to Ankara. Transfer to Ankara airport for your flight to Antalya. Antalya arrival and transfer to your hotel. Overnight in Antalya. (B, L, D)

**Day 10 : Antalya**

Free day at leisure. Overnight in Antalya. (B, D)

**Day 11 : Antalya**

Free day at leisure. Overnight in Antalya. (B, D)

## Day 12 : Antalya Departure

Transfer to Antalya airport per your departure time. End of our services. (B)

## Tour Inclusions

- 11 nights hotel accommodation at the above mentioned hotels
- Sightseeing as per the itinerary
- All escorted transfers
- 11 breakfast, 8 lunch, 5 dinner
- Transportation by A/C vehicle
- English speaking government licensed professional tour guide
- All entry fees to the sites & museums
- Service charges & local taxes

## Tour Excludes

- All flights
- All drinks and any other meals which are not mentioned in the itinerary
- All personal expenses
- Turkish Visa Fee
- Tips to the tour guide and driver
- Everything which is not particularly mentioned in "Including" section

## Tour Map :

