

Turkey Expert Tour (Istanbul, Troy, Pergamon, Ephesus, Pamukkale, Cappadocia, Ankara, Bursa Tours)

Tour Days: 14

Tour Departure From : Istanbul
Tour Departure End : Istanbul

Tour Departure : All year round only for groups

Tour Overview : 3 Nights Istanbul, 1 Night Canakkale, 2 Nights Izmir, 1 Night Pamukkale, 2 Nights Antalya, 2 Nights Cappadocia, 1 Night Ankara, 1 Night Bursa with Special Class, Boutique and nice 4 star Hotels.

- ** This tour is available all year for closed groups, organized only as private.
- ** On Mondays, when St. Sophia is closed, we visit the Chora Church, famed for its mosaics.
- ** On Tuesdays, when Topkapi Palace is closed.

Tour Highlights

- Topkapi Palace, Blue Mosque, Roman Hippodrome Square, St. Sophia Church, Grand Bazaar
- · Gallipoli, Troy, wooden horse
- · Acropolis, Asclepion, Red Basilica
- Ephesus, Virgin Mary's House, Archaeological Museum, Temple of Artemis
- Sardes, Temple of Cybele, Golden River Pactalos
- Pamukkale, Aphrodisias
- Antalya, Archaeological Museum, hellenistik and roman cities of Perge and Aspendos
- Konya Mevlana Museum, Cappadocia underground cities and churches, optional folk and belly dance show at restaurant
- Goreme Open Air Museum, Avanos, Uchisar Castle, Kaymakli Underground City
- Agzikarahan Caravanserai from the Selcuk period, capital city of Ankara
- Anatolian Civilization Museum, Mausoleum of Ataturk in Ankara
- Bursa Green Mosque and Green Tomb, Silk Bazaar

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: The Arrival

Meet and greet. A short orientation tour. Then transfer to the hotel for a welcome briefing. Evening is free. Overnight in Istanbul.

Day 2: Istanbul

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. Evening at leisure.

Day 3: Istanbul - Troy - Canakkale

Drive to GALLIPOLI, through the European lands of Turkey. Cross the Dardanelles Strait by ferryboat. Visit ancient TROY, see its legendary walls and the replica of the wooden horse. Dinner and overnight in Canakkale.

Day 4: Pergamon - Izmir

Drive to Bergama. Visit the ACROPOLIS, the steepest theater of the ancient world, the Temple of Trojan, Library. Lunch at a local restaurant. Then visit ASCLEPION, the ancient healing center and the RED BASILICA which is one of the Seven Churches of the Apocalypse (rev:2-12). Evening at leisure. Overnight in Izmir.

Day 5: Ephesus - Izmir

Leave for EPHESUS, cradle of early Christianity (rev:2-1-7). Visit the HOUSE OF THE VIRGIN MARY, the ancient Ephesus, the ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM and the TEMPLE OF DIANA which is one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Return to Izmir. Evening at leisure. Overnight in Izmir.

Day 6: Sardes - Pamukkale

Drive to SARDES (rev:3-1-6) capital of ancient Lydia. Visit the Temple of Cybele which later became a church, the famous SYNAGOGUE from the third century, the Gymnasium and the new excavation area. See the Golden River Pactalos. Lunch en route. Proceed to Pamukkale for dinner and overnight.

Day 7: Hierapolis - Aphrodisias - Antalya

Morning tour of PAMUKKALE, noted ancient spa, where pure white travertine forms frozen waterfalls. Observation of carpet weaving at one of the local workshops. Drive to APHRODISIAS, the city of the Goddess of Love, see the well preserved stadium, the Odeon, the theater and the agora. Continue to Antalya for dinner and overnight.

Day 8: Antalya

Full day excursion to the ancient Pamphylian, Hellenistic and Roman cities of PERGE and ASPENDOS and to the award winning ANTALYA ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM. Dinner and overnight.

Day 9: Antalya - Konya - Cappadocia

Early departure to KONYA. Visit the Mevlana Museum, 13th century Whirling Dervish Monastery. After lunch continue to CAPPADOCIA where nature has scoured surrealistic moonscape shapes and where the persecuted Christians dug underground cities and churches during the 9th century. Dinner and overnight in Cappadocia. Tonight, an OPTIONAL Folk and Belly Dance Show at one of the cave restaurants in Cappadocia.

Day 10 : Cappadocia

Full day Cappadocia visit, including Goreme Open Air Museum, Avanos the pottery making town, the natural citadel of Uchisar and the underground city of Kaymakli. Dinner and overnight in Cappadocia.

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 11 : Cappadocia - Ankara

Morning sightseeing in Cappadocia. After lunch, visit the Agzikarahan Caravanserai from the Selcuk period. Drive to Ankara, the capital city of Turkey, via Salt Lake. Evening at leisure. Overnight in ANKARA.

Day 12: Ankara - Bursa

Visit the ANATOLIAN CIVILIZATION MUSEUM and the MAUSOLEUM of Kemal Ataturk in Ankara. Drive to BURSA. Dinner and overnight.

Day 13 : Bursa - Istanbul

Visit the Green Mosque, the Green Tomb and Bursas colorful Silk Bazaar. Drive to Istanbul. Rest of the day is free at leisure. Overnight in Istanbul.

Day 14: The Departure

Transfer to Istanbul airport per your departure time. End of services.

Tour Inclusions

- 13 nights hotel accommodation at the above mentioned hotels
- Sightseeing as per the itinerary
- All escorted transfers
- Daily breakfast
- 7 lunches
- 7 Dinners
- Transportation by A/C bus, or A/C van depending on the size of the group
- English speaking professional tour guide throughout the tour
- All Entry fees to the sites & museums
- Portage at hotels
- Tips to the hotel and restaurant staff
- Service charges & local taxes
- Travel documents, maps

Tour Excludes

- Drinks and meals which are not listed at the itinerary
- All personal expenses
- Turkish Visa Fee
- Tips

Tour Map:

