

EUE 2650

BEST OF TURKEY

8 days/7 nights

As you know, Turkey is the bridge between Europe and Asia and tourism is increasing very much to this wonderful country, full of history and traditions thanks to the impulse given by the tourism authorities and specially from Turkish Airlines, connecting the world through Istanbul Airport. Most of the country's citizens are ethnic Turks, while Kurds are the largest ethnic minority. Ankara is Turkey's capital and second-largest city, while Istanbul is its largest city and economic as well as financial centre. One of the world's earliest permanently settled regions, present-day Turkey is home to important Neolithic sites like Göbekli Tepe and was inhabited by ancient civilizations including the Hattians, Hittites, Anatolian peoples, Greeks, Assyrians, and Persians. Following the conquests of Alexander the Great which started the Hellenistic period, most of the ancient Anatolian regions were culturally Hellenized, and this continued during the Byzantine era. The Seljuk Turks began migrating to this region in the 11th century, which started the Turkification process but disintegrated in 1243 during the Mongol invasion into small Turkish principalities. Beginning in the late 13th century, the Ottomans united the principalities and conquered the Balkans. After Mehmed II conquered Constantinople (now Istanbul) in 1453, Ottoman expansion continued under Selim I. During the reign of Suleiman the Magnificent, the Ottoman Empire became a global power. Finally, after the participation of the Ottomans on the first World War, and liberated from the occupying allied powers, the Republic was proclaimed on 29 October 1923, modelled on the reforms initiated by the country's first president, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. Now we would like to introduce our **Best of Turkey Package** offering you what it most interesting to see, since Turkey has too much to show. Come with us and live your Turkish adventure!

DAY 1 (Friday) ISTANBUL Arrival day

Upon our arrival at Istanbul International Airport, your guide will meet, assist and transfer you to the hotel. Istanbul was the capital city of Byzantium & Roman Empires and Ottoman State. It is a most fascinating city, which actually crosses two continents Europe and Asia. It is a city of amalgamation of museums, bazaars, minarets, mosques, churches, palaces, and restaurants catering to every one's taste, customs and fifteen million people. Overnight in Istanbul.

DIA 2 (Saturday) ISTANBUL Istanbul City Tour

After breakfast, we will start our Istanbul City Tour. The first visit will be at the **Ancient Hippodrome** which was the scenery of chariot races. You will see there three monuments: the Obelisk of Theodosius, the bronze Serpentine Column and the Column of Constantine. The tour continues to the **Sultanahmet Imperial Mosque**, also known as the Blue Mosque because of its magnificent interior decoration of blue Iznik tiles. Located across the square we will see the **Hagia Sophia Grand Mosque**, built in the 16th century by the architect Mehmet, our next visit. This Mosque, previously known as the Church of Divine Wisdom, is simply the best of its kind! It is the greatest surviving example of Byzantine Architecture. For over 1000 years, it was once the largest church in the world, decorated with stunning 6th century golden mosaics. Nowadays it is a mosque. The tour will continue exploring the **Basilica Cistern Museum**, one of the most important cultural assets where we can trace the glorious Istanbul history. This grand underground cistern, built by Eastern Roman Emperor Justinian I (527-565), is nicknamed "Yerebatan Sarayı" (Sunken Palace) among the public due to its 336 marble columns rising from the water. With its 80,000-ton water storage capacity, the Cistern is the largest covered cistern in the city. Covering an area of approximately 10,000 square meters, this colossal structure has a rectangular shape with a length of 140 meters and a width of 70 meters.

PRICE PER PERSON BASED ON
DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

from EUR 1350.-

Surcharge single room **EUR 589.-**

**April through November
2026**

ARRIVAL ON REQUEST

This is a travel group starting from 6 persons. If you would like to do it privately, we will be more than happy to send you a special offer by van or rental car.

INCLUSIONS

- ✓ All Airport transfer mention in site the Itinerary
- ✓ 3 nights 4**** hotel in Istanbul
- ✓ 1 night 4**** hotel in Bergama
- ✓ 1 night 4**** hotel in Kusadasi
- ✓ 2 nights 4**** hotel in Cappadocia
- ✓ Meal plan as stated in the itinerary.
- ✓ Guided Istanbul City Tour
- ✓ Guided Istanbul Bosphorus Cruise Tour
- ✓ Guided Antalya Old City Tour with waterfalls
- ✓ Guided Bursa tour
- ✓ Guided Acropolis of Pergamon Tour
- ✓ Guided Cappadocia Tour with Underground City and Goreme Open Air Museum
- ✓ All entrance fees mentioned in the itinerary.
- ✓ Transportation in a fully air - conditioned, non-smoking coach
- ✓ Professional English - speaking tour guides
- ✓ City and hotel taxes included

NOT INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM

- ❖ International flights
- ❖ Domestic flight from Izmir to Cappadocia
- ❖ Domestic flight from Cappadocia to Istanbul
- ❖ Optional Tours
- ❖ Insurance: All types
- ❖ Turkey entry visa
- ❖ Daily tip for guide and driver
- ❖ Personal items
- ❖ Any other expenses not mentioned in the inclusions





Highlight of the cistern are the Medusa heads, used as column bases, and considered one of the most exceptional examples of Roman sculpture. After the lunch break, we will go shopping at the beautiful souvenir shops from the **Grand Bazar** with a unique atmosphere and reasonable prices. Here you will find exotic spices and herbs, Turkish baklava, delicious fresh Turkish delights, Turkish Coffee, nuts and fruits, souvenirs such as ceramic handicrafts, evil eyes totems, all naturel olive oil, soaps and many other goods. After the tour, transfer back to your hotel. **HINT:** Please do not forget to carry headscarf with you for the visit of religious places as Blue Mosque & Hagia Sophia Mosque. **(B)**

DAY 3 (Sunday) ISTANBUL Bosphorus Cruise Tour

Breakfast at the hotel. Pickup time is about 08:30 from your hotel. You will visit today the Grand Spice Bazaar, mystical smells of different aromas of various spices. Shops selling fruits, flowers, vegetables, fish, etc. Then we will take you to the **Bosphorus Cruise**, through the water way separating the two continents, Europe and Asia, with a possibility to take photographs of marble palaces, ancient wooden villas of Ottoman architecture besides modern residential and luxurious apartments. Rumeli Fortress (from the boat – no interior visit), historical armament built by the Conqueror to control and protect the Bosphorus. A unique example of military architecture. In the afternoon we will go to the **Camlica Hill** the highest point in Istanbul. At the top of it you can rest and admire the magnificent panorama of Istanbul and the Bosphorus from the beautiful gardens, landscaped in traditional Turkish Ottoman style. After cruise, we will go shopping. Experience the traditional silk weaving skills of Turkish women at the carpet weaving courses provided by The Ministry of National Education. You will get the opportunity to see jewellery, handicrafts centre and a modern leatherwear shop. Enjoy the experience of shopping whilst gaining the knowledge of the ancient craftsmen, with your local escort full of knowledge about how to haggle the streets of Istanbul. The rest of the evening is yours to explore Istanbul. Overnight in Istanbul. **(B)**

DAY 4 (Monday) ISTANBUL – BURSA – PERGAMON Back to ancient times

Breakfast at the hotel. You will be picked up from your hotel early in the morning and start our journey to the antique. Our first stop will be **Bursa**. With 8500-year history, Bursa has a thriving culture that leaves visitors in awe. It has grown to be one of Türkiye's most prominent cities, thanks to its natural beauties, distinct culture, and architectural texture shaped by centuries of history. In Bursa, there are many destinations such as parks, thermal springs, inns, and spas that adds to the significance of this magnificent city. After the visit, we will continue our journey southwards. Dating back to the 5th century BC, the splendid city of Pergamon was a hub of education, culture, and modernization, booming until the 14th century. Though much of the city has been lost over time mostly due to the earthquakes occurred in the region however remnants of its most significant structures can still be seen today. The Asklepion, Zeus' altar, Red Basilica, a strikingly steep Great Theatre, the temple of Trajan and a significant library. The Red Basilica is a particularly notable attraction in the site; it was originally built as a temple to the Egyptian god Osiris and converted to a basilica by early Christians. It is at the same time one of the Seven Churches of Asia Minor mentioned by St. John in the book of Revelation. Continue to the Bergama-Berksoy Hotel for the overnight. **(B)**

DAY 5 (Tuesday) PERGAMON – EPHEBUS - KUSADASI

Breakfast at the hotel. Early ride to Ephesus, a city in Ancient Greece on the coast of Ionia, 3 kilometres (1.9 mi) southwest of present-day Selçuk in İzmir Province, Turkey. It was built in the 10th century BC. During the Classical Greek era, it was one of twelve cities that were members of the Ionian League. The city came under the control of the Roman Republic in 129 BC. The city was famous in its day for the nearby Temple of Artemis (completed around 550 BC), which has been designated one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Its many monumental buildings included the Library of Celsus and a theatre capable of holding 24,000 spectators. Ephesus was recipient city of one of the Pauline epistles; one of the seven churches of Asia





addressed in the Book of Revelation; the Gospel of John may have been written there; and it was the site of several 5th-century Christian Councils. In 2015, the ruins were designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Its excavated remains reflect centuries of history, from classical Greece to the Roman Empire – when it was the main commercial center Mediterranean’s – to the spread of Christianity. Paved streets wind past squares, baths and monumental ruins. The Temple of Hadrian was built before 138 A.D. for Emperor Hadrian’s visit. Upon arrival, we will explore spectacular sites such as the Marble Street, Odeon, Bouleterion, Temple of Hadrian, Trajan’s Fountain, Mosaic Street, Agora, Baths, Great Theatre, Harbor Street, and the famous Celsus Library, the third-largest library in the ancient world. We’ll also visit the Temple of Artemis, After the visit, we will continue to Izmir to our hotel. After check-in, free time for private activities. Overnight in Kusadasi. **(B)**

DAY 6 (Wednesday) KUSADASI - IZMIR - CAPPADOCIA

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the airport in Izmir for the short flight to Cappadocia. Upon arrival, our representative will pick you up from the airport and transfer you to the hotel in the city center. Rest of the day at leisure for private activities. **(B)**

DAY 7 (Thursday) CAPPADOCIA Underground City Tour and Goreme Open Air Museum

After breakfast depart at 09:30 a.m. for our Cappadocia Tour. We will drive to Ozkonak Underground City, one of the best preserved Underground cities in Cappadocia. Therafter, you will visit Goreme Open Air Museum, the Heart of Cappadocia. Goreme Open Air Museum is famous for frescoes dating to 10th century describing the life of Jesus Christ and monks. Next stop is Cavusin, which is an abandoned village with old cave Greek houses. After Cavusin you go to the restaurant in Avanos to have lunch. After lunch, you visit a pottery workshop, to see how to make potteries. Then you go to Love Valley Cappadocia, a hidden valley with scenic formations to say the least. Despite the resemblance to manhood, these amazing rock formations are far from man-made. Next stop is Devrent Valley, which is also called Imagination Valley, where you can see natural rock formations looking like animals. Last stop is Three Beauties, fairy chimneys with their hats, which is the symbol of Cappadocia. This tour will end approximately at 18.00 and you will be returned to your hotel. Overnight in Cappadocia. **(B)**

DAY 8 (Wednesday) IZMIR - CAPPADOCIA

Breakfast at the hotel. After breakfast you will have free time in Cappadocia. Today we depart for Cappadocia Airport for our domestic flight to Istanbul and then back home. We hope your tour was a memorable one and we would like to see you in the future in one of our tours again. Have a nice trip back home and thanks for choosing us. End of our services. **(B)**

(B) Breakfast **(L)** Lunch **(D)** Dinner

