TURKEY TOUR & BUSINESS FLIGHTS



www.mytravelxp.com hello@mytravelxp.com 1300 168 910



Premium Turkey Tour & Business Class Flights Duration: 16 days Departs: 2024 Stay: 14 nights hotels (4 & 5-star) Travel style: Escorted coach tour with Business flights from Australia Booking code: TUABG16M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience Email hello@mytravelxp.com

16 Days Absolute Turkey Tour & Business Flights

About the holiday

Fly Business Class to experience the delights of Turkey on an escorted two-week tour with premium hotels!

Visit Istanbul's extraordinary sights and lively bazaars. Explore the ancient city of Hattusa, capital of the Hittite Empire in the last Bronze Age. Enjoy time exploring the dreamlike landscapes of Cappadocia and its UNESCO World Heritage-listed openair museum. Travel back in time on the Silk Road to the abandoned 13th century Caravanserai of Sultanhan. Walk the 2000-year-old streets of the ancient city of Ephesus and learn about the rich history and culture of this remarkable country.

Appreciate the comfort of first class and deluxe hotels, along with the convenience and security of travelling with an escorted group. An experienced guide looks after you throughout, to make sure you get the most out of the amazing journey!

Why you'll love this trip...

Enjoy the comfort of deluxe 5-star accommodation during the trip There is the ideal balance of included activities & time to explore at your leisure Stay in Istanbul, Ankara, Cappadocia, Antalya, Pamukkale, Bodrum & Izmir Add optional events, like a balloon ride over Cappadocia & Whirling Dervishes Travel with an English-speaking tour guide to make the most of your trip Treat yourself to the luxury of Business Class flights to Istanbul

Travel dates

2024 - Departures in April, May, June, September & October

Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking. Price may vary depending on your travel date. Please contact us for available dates & travel at other times of the year.

Want to extend your time in Turkey or see more of Europe? Call our office on 1300 168 910 for current rates & travel deals.



Premium tour package includes:

- Business Class flights- return airfare to Istanbul
 - Fly from Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide & Perth (other cities on request)
 - Flying with Malaysian Airlines and Turkish Airlines
- 14 nights accommodation in 4- to 5-star hotels
 - 2 nights Istanbul
 - 1 night Ankara
 - 3 nights Cappadocia
 - 2 nights Antalya
 - 1 night Pamukkale
 - 3 nights Bodrum
 - 2 nights lzmir
- Hotel taxes, fees & service charges
- Hotel porterage
- 22 meals: 14 breakfasts, 8 dinners
- Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned vehicles
- Services of English-speaking tour manager throughout
- Comprehensive, guided sightseeing and entrance fees per itinerary
- Active itinerary with unique cultural features

Package excludes:

Airport transfers - transfers can be pre-booked on request for a fee Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary Optional tours & activities Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry, WiFi etc. Gratuities for guides, representatives & drivers Travel insurance is essential Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

Subject to confirmation by airlines, hotels, tour company & local operators. Prices may vary depending on travel dates & departure city. Booking conditions & cancellation fees apply.

Experiences on tour & highlights:

- Discover Istanbul's extraordinary sights including the Rustem Pasha Mosque, St. Sophia and Topkapi Palace
- Visit the Mausoleum of Kemal Ataturk, founder and first president of the Turkish Republic
- Explore the ancient city of Hattusa, capital of the Hittite Empire in the late Bronze Age
- See the extraordinary "fairy chimneys" and the Goreme Open-Air Museum, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**
- Explore the 13th century Caravanserai of Sultanhan, a large abandoned city, built on the Silk Road
- Visit the Pamphylian city of Perge and the ancient city of Aspendos
- View Hierapolis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Admire Myndos Gate, the only surviving gate of the two original entrances to ancient Halicarnassus
- Walk through the ancient city of Ephesus and learn about its history
- During the city tour of Izmir, visit the Roman Agora and view the city's • landmark the Clock Tower

Itinerary:

DAY 1, Monday - Depart for Turkey

DAY 2, Tuesday - Arrive in Istanbul

Arrive in Istanbul, at the crossroads of Europe and Asia and catch a taxi to your hotel. Balance of the day is at leisure. Your tour will begin with an orientation meeting with your Tour Manager at approximately 7 PM, followed by a light dinner at the hotel. We recommend that you select flights which arrive no later than 4 PM **Overnight:** Istanbul Meals: Dinner

DAY 3, Wednesday - Full Day Istanbul Tour

Begin your day at the Rustem Pasha Mosque, a 16th century Ottoman Mosque famous for its large quantities of Iznik tiles, which are set in a very wide variety of floral and geometric designs. Then, on to the Hippodrome that served as a stadium for chariot racing and public gatherings. Continue with a visit St. Sophia, the great Byzantine Basilica built in the 6th century, which was later converted to a mosque.

Afterward, arrive at Topkapi Palace, residence of Ottoman Sultans housing the richness of 700 years. End the day at the Grand Bazaar, a favourite place for shopping. You can wander the labyrinth of streets and passages with more than 4,000 shops displaying jewellery, leather goods, carpets and more **Overnight:** Istanbul **Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 4, Thursday - Travel to Ankara

This morning, depart Istanbul and drive to Ankara, the capital city of Turkey. Upon arrival, visit the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations with exhibits featuring Anatolian archaeological artifacts dating back to the Paleolithic Age. Continue to the Mausoleum of Kemal Ataturk, founder and first president of the Turkish Republic. Leading up to the Mausoleum, view the monumental avenue lined with Neo-Hittite stone statues and cenotaphs. The most noted cenotaphs are those of General Ismet Inonu, and that of Ataturk himself, beneath which lies his tomb **Overnight:** Ankara

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 5, Friday - Visit Hattusa en route to Cappadocia

Today, depart Ankara and head south towards Cappadocia. Along the way, stop at the ancient city of Hattusa, which was the capital of the Hittite Empire in the late Bronze Age and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. View Lion's Gate, with its rich ornamentation and King's Gate, with its large-scale relief. Visit the citadel that was also the royal residence and explore the Great Temple, dedicated to the supreme deities of the Hittites. Afterward, continue the drive to Cappadocia. Arrive at the hotel in time for dinner **Overnight:** Cappadocia

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 6, Saturday - Explore Cappadocia

Awake very early to participate in the *optional* hot air Balloon Ride that takes you soaring over the Cappadocian landscape with its fairy chimney rock formations. Cappadocia is home to rock-cut temples, ancient underground cities, and unparalleled landscapes. Embark on a full day tour of Cappadocia, famed for its temples and houses that are cut directly into the region's rock formations. Visit the Open-Air Museum, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Goreme Valley to see early Christian churches. During the panoramic drive to Pigeon Valley, Avcilar Valley and Pasabag Valley, view the surreal landscape of mushroom shaped rock formations. Afterward, visit a carpet atelier and watch a demonstration of traditional Turkish carpet weaving. Return to the hotel with free time before dinner tonight **Optional:** Cappadocia Balloon Ride (AM) **Overnight:** Cappadocia **Balloon** Ride (AM)

DAY 7, Sunday - Full Day Cappadocia Tour

The exploration of Cappadocia begins at the village of Avanos. Visit a local pottery shop before heading to the Ozkonak Underground City, built on the northern slopes of Mt. Idis that features a maze of narrow tunnels and rooms carved from volcanic rock. Continue to Güllüdere (Rose Valley) boasting the best views of fairy-chimneys, before returning to the hotel. Spend time at leisure before dinner. Tonight, be sure to attend the *optional* performance of the world-famous Whirling Dervishes **Optional:** Whirling Dervishes Performance (PM) **Overnight:** Cappadocia **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 8, Monday - Cappadocia Caravanserai Sightseeing, Konya, Antalya Today, visit the 13th century Caravanserai of Sultanhan. The caravanserai provided these Silk Road traders with heated rooms, food, medical attention, equipment repair and many other common conveniences. Afterward, head to Konya, a city renowned for its Seljuk architecture. Visit the Mausoleum of Mevlana, housing the tomb of the 13th century leader Mevlana Celaleddin Rumi, one of the greatest mystical poets of Islam. The Mevlevi Sufi order was founded to follow his teachings. Continue the drive towards Antalya, passing through lush forests, orchards and olive groves. Arrive in Antalya for overnight and dinner at the hotel **Overnight:** Antalya **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 9, Tuesday - Perge and Aspendos, Antalya City Tour

Explore the Pamphylian city of Perge with a history that dates back to the Bronze Age. View the remains of the well-preserved stadium and amphitheatre, along with the agora and Roman baths. Continue to the ancient city of Aspendos with its wellpreserved Roman theatre, known for its superb acoustics, that is still in use, as the stage for the Aspendos International Opera Festival. Later, visit the Antalya Archaeological Museum with its artifacts dating back over 2500 years. Take a city tour of Antalya that includes Hadrian's Gate, the Clock Tower, city walls dating back to the 2nd century. Return to your hotel and spend time at leisure **Overnight:** Antalya **Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 10, Wednesday - Necropolis & Hierapolis, Pamukkale

This morning, depart for Pamukkale. Along the way, stop to visit the Necropolis, a burial ground covered in limestone with ornately decorated marble tombs and the ancient city of Hierapolis "Holy City", situated atop the Pamukkale hot springs, which together constitute a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore the Roman ruins of the ancient city and health resort since the 2nd century BC. Afterward, continue to Pamukkale for dinner and overnight **Overnight:** Pamukkale **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 11, Thursday - Aphrodisias, Bodrum

Depart Pamukkale this morning and drive to Bodrum. En route, stop to visit Aphrodisias, an archaeological site of ancient Roman ruins that were once was a major centre of Aphrodite worship. View the many monuments dating back to the first century. Later, arrive in the seaside city of Bodrum and check into your hotel **Overnight:** Bodrum

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 12, Friday - Bodrum City Tour

Begin your morning city tour of Bodrum at Crusader Castle, housing Turkey's Museum of Underwater Archaeology. Later, view the historical windmills standing near the Bodrum harbor before heading to the imposing Myndos Gate. It was constructed in the 4th century BC by King Mausolos and is the only surviving gate of the two original entrances to ancient Halicarnassus. Continue to the Bodrum Amphitheatre, one of the city's great historic monuments. Finish the tour at the market before heading back. Balance of the day is at leisure **Overnight:** Bodrum

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 13, Saturday - Full Day in Bodrum

Spend a full day at leisure in Bodrum to explore on your own. Perhaps, head to the beach for a swim in the clear blue waters of the Aegean Sea Overnight: Bodrum Meals: Breakfast

DAY 14, Sunday - Ancient Ephesus, Izmir

Depart Bodrum this morning and travel to the ancient city of Ephesus, an open-air archaeological museum. Walk along the 2000-year-old marble and cobblestone streets. The Odeon, the Fountain of Trajan, the steam baths of Scholastica, Temple of Hadrian, and the two-storied Library of Celsus are some of the ancient sites you'll behold on the walking tour. Visit the Great Theatre, and the peaceful House of the Virgin Mary, believed to be her last residence. Afterward, continue to Izmir for dinner and overnight **Overnight:** Izmir

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 15, Monday - Izmir City Tour

Embark on a morning tour of the port city of Izmir, known historically as Smyrna with over 3500 years of history. View the ancient Roman Agora and one of the city's famous landmarks the Clock Tower. Afterward, visit the bazaar and browse the colourful stalls for souvenirs. The afternoon is free. Tonight at dinner, share wonderful memories of your journey and bid farewell to your Tour Manager **Overnight:** Izmir **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 16, Tuesday - Depart Turkey

After breakfast, check out of the hotel and make your way by taxi to the airport for your departure flight. As the journey draws to end, the memories are just beginning! **Meals:** Breakfast

Please note: The day by day descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.

Hotels on tour

Istanbul - Barcelo Istanbul: This deluxe hotel is a 5-minute walk from Taksim Square. Ankara - Point Hotel Ankara: 5-star deluxe hotel in the business & shopping district. Cappadocia - Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Avanos-Cappadocia: 4-star hotel is about a

10-minute drive away from the town centre of Avanos.

- Antalya -Akra Hotel: This deluxe 5-star hotel was constructed just 500 yards from The dazzling aqua marine sea. The hotel combines the delicate natural beauty of the Mediterranean with state-of-the-art architecture and amenities.
- **Pamukkale** Doga Thermal Health & Spa: The first class 4-star hotel is situated in Karahayit with its own thermal pool.
- **Bodrum** The Marmara Bodrum: This deluxe 5-star hotel overlooks the city of Bodrum and the Aegean Sea.
- Izmir Renaissance Hotel Izmir: 5-star deluxe hotel located in the heart of Izmir.

Please note: hotels are subject to change at the discretion of the tour operator and will be confirmed with final documentation.

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Our full set of terms and conditions can be <u>viewed and downloaded on our website</u>, or supplied on request from our office. We highly recommend you read My Travel Experience booking conditions prior to making your holiday reservations. This is the contract under which both parties enter, therefore we request that you only make a booking if you agree with these conditions.

This is a summary in brief for our customers:

- 1. Upon making a reservation with My Travel Experience you will receive a booking form, which needs to be filled out and signed to confirm that you agree to the terms and conditions.
 - 2. Your booking will then be confirmed to you in writing and you will be required to pay a deposit to hold your reservation.
- 3. At this time, you must take out travel insurance for your holiday to protect you against any unforeseen circumstances.
- 4. 90 days prior to departure you will be asked to make the balance payment for your trip (the exact due date for your travel supplier will be advised at the time of booking).
- 5. 10 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents electronically via email.

My Travel Experience operates a Client Trust bank account. This means that we do not hold your money. We pay the ultimate travel providers (Suppliers) of your travel services the funds for your holiday. The Suppliers include airlines, tour operators, cruise lines, transport companies, hotels etc. We are required to pay the Suppliers deposits and final payments to secure your booking and in some instances these items are non-refundable.

If you wish to cancel you must notify us of your cancellation in writing. We will then write to the Suppliers to cancel your booking and request a refund (if applicable) for any elements of your holiday that are refundable. You will need to make an insurance claim for any travel arrangements that are non-refundable. If you have any issues during the refund or cancellation process, you have 30 days to contact our office in writing to lodge a complaint so an immediate resolution can be found for you.

Phone 1300 168 910 Kew VIC 3101, Australia Email hello@mytravelxp.com www.mytravelxp.com