# TREASURES OF TURKEY TOUR



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# Turkey Tour with Premium Hotels

**Duration:** 15 days

Stay: 14 nights hotels (5-star rating)

Travel style: Escorted coach tour

**Booking code:** TRKTC15M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience

Email hello@mytravelxp.com

# 15 Days Treasures of Turkey Tour

# About the holiday

Prepare for an unforgettable journey through Turkey, where the rich patchwork of Turkish culture seamlessly bridges the continents of Europe and Asia.

Begin your adventure by immersing yourself in the grandeur of Istanbul, where opulent palaces, majestic mosques and bustling bazaars await your exploration. For those seeking serenity and rejuvenation, the pristine beaches of Fethiye offer an oasis of calm. Then, venture into the surreal landscapes of Cappadocia, where you'll marvel at the towering fairy-chimneys and lunar-like terrain.

Surrender to the natural allure of Pamukkale, where the cascading terraces of calcium-rich waters create a mesmerizing spectacle. From tasty kebabs to decadent desserts, savour the exquisite flavours of Turkish cuisine as you dine like royalty, surrounded by the opulence and splendour of the Ottoman Empire.

# Why you'll love this trip...

Enjoy the comfort & ease of a group tour, with a maximum of 20 travellers

This premium tour is packed with inclusions, even restaurant tipping is covered

Tour Istanbul, Gallipoli, Izmir, Pamukkale, Fethiye, Antalya, Cappadocia & more

You'll be looked after all the way by an expert Travel Director

#### Travel dates

**2024 & 2025** - Departs select Saturdays, contact us for your preferred date

Departures are subject to availability and confirmation at time of booking. Booking conditions apply.

Ask us about adding flights to Turkey or extending your holiday Call our office on 1300 168 910 or email hello@mytravelxp.com



#### **Escorted tour includes:**

**Airport Transfers** - Complimentary private airport transfers on arrival & departure **Accommodation** - 14 nights in 5-star hotels

Meals - 14 breakfasts, 13 dinners

**Transportation** - Air-conditioned, modern coach or mini-bus

Ferry across the Dardanelles from Eceabat to Canakkale

Bosphorous cruise in Istanbul

Domestic flight between Cappadocia & Istanbul

Travel Director - Local & expert Travel Director throughout the tour

Free Wi-Fi - Complimentary hotel Wi-Fi (where available)

Sightseeing - As per the itinerary with entrance fees included

Luggage Service - Seamless baggage handling, delivered to your room at every hotel

Free WiFi - Complimentary hotel internet access (where available)

**Gratuities & Fees** - All tips at the hotels & restaurants Includes all taxes & porterage fees

# Package excludes:

Flights to Turkey - contact us for the latest airfare deals from Australia Visa fees (if required)

Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary Optional tours & activities

Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry 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 hotels, tour company & local operators.

Booking conditions & cancellation fees apply.

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# **Itinerary:**

#### Day 1: Arrive Istanbul

Meet the marvellous merge of Europe and Asia at the magical Istanbul to embark on a cultural discovery through ancient lands. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to your hotel by a representative at the airport. In the afternoon, join the welcome meeting at the hotel lobby with your fellow travellers and Tour Director. Greet the diverse and incredibly tasteful Turkish cuisine tonight on a group dinner, make sure to leave room for delicious desserts.

- Accommodation
   Hilton Hotel Borphorus
- Optional Activity
  Group Dinner

#### Day 2: Istanbul City Tour

Journey to the heart of Istanbul old town and witness the perfect blend of ancient and modern unfold before you. Stroll with your expert local guide through the Hippodrome, visit the charming Blue Mosque and the mysterious Cistern Basilica. Enjoy an exquisite meal worthy of Sultans next to the magnificent Hagia Sophia. Enjoy some personal leisure time in the old town, discover hidden gems and embrace the local culture.

In the afternoon meet the breath-taking Bosphorus in all its charm as you cruise inbetween Europe and Asia.

- Accommodation
   Hilton Hotel Borphorus
- Meals Included Breakfast, Dinner

#### Day 3: Istanbul - Gallipoli

After a delicious breakfast, we leave for the famous shores of Gallipoli. As you drive through the scenic countryside, we recharge at the lovely village of Kesan over a delicious meal. Arriving in Gallipoli in the afternoon, we pay our respects to the fallen soldiers who bravely fought here during World War 1, still commemorated every year in April. Witness the now-green battlefields, visit the Anzac Cove, Lone Pine, Chunuk Bair and other important historical sites. We continue towards Canakkale with a picturesque ferry ride just in time for dinner and a recharging stay at our hotel.

- Accommodation
   DoubleTree by Hilton Canakkale
- Meals Included Breakfast, Dinner

#### Day 4: Troy - Pergamon - Izmir

A day filled with epic adventure awaits. In the morning, we visit the ancient city or Troy and witness the ruins of the once glorious city with a special place in mythology and history. Pose with the famous Trojan Horse before departing for Pergamon. Home to healing waters and ruins of the Asklepion medical centre, it is one of the most important centres of healing of the Roman world. Following the cultural overload, we rest at the seaside metropolitan Izmir - the perfect place to immerse yourself in the Turkish seafood culture and raki.

- Accommodation
   Izmir Marriott Hotel
- Meals Included Breakfast, Dinner

#### Day 5: Ephesus - Pamukkale

Drive along the coast to the amazing ruins of ancient Ephesus, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Stroll the incredibly well-preserved ancient city and the impressive library. With a short ride away from the marvellous wonders, you will visit Virgin Mary's house in the mountains - where she is believed to have lived her final days.

Our next stop will be of culinary discovery at a lovely restaurant in the countryside famously known for delicious Gozleme. Heading further inlands, we arrive in our hotel at the Cotton Castle of Turkey, Pamukkale. Rest up, relax or even savour the spa or massage services of your hotel. Your seat for dinner is already reserved at the hotel restaurant.

- Accommodation
   Doga Thermal Health & Spa
- Meals Included Breakfast, Dinner

#### Day 6: Pamukkale - Fethiye

Walk in shallow pools of calcar with breath-taking scenery unfolding before you in terraces of snow-white travertines. Famously known for its mineral-rich waters and healing properties, Pamukkale region has welcomed endless visitors over millennia. Delve into history at the ancient city Hierapolis, witnessing the majestic amphitheatre of 15,000 seats and ever-impressive acoustics. Heading out towards the sounds of waves through pine forests, we arrive in Fethiye for a comfortable rest at the hotel, starting our all-inclusive (food & local beverages) stay at this summer paradise.

- Accommodation
   Jiva Beach Resort
- Meals Included Breakfast, Dinner

# Day 7 : Fethiye & Saklikent

Wear your walking shoes and keep your cameras ready. On a breath-taking excursion to Saklikent Canyon, hike through the incredible gorge, enjoy the riverside café, or even try rafting - always surrounded by spectacular nature. A wonderland of nature, the canyon is frequented by countless nature and adventure lovers. Return to Fethiye for a recharging afternoon atop the sandy beaches of Oludeniz.

- Accommodation
   Jiva Beach Resort
- Meals Included Breakfast, Dinner
- Optional Activities
  Paragliding approx. \$190

#### Day 8 : Fethiye & Dalyan

Our next stop is Dalyan, a small town situated along the south-western coast popular for its natural and unspoiled beauty. We will join a boat trip to visit the most popular mud bath in Turkey, and we then continue to Iztuzu beach, homeland of world famous Caretta Caretta turtles. After a fantastic boat ride, we will reach Iztuzu sandbar with fine sand and turquoise sea.

- Accommodation
   Jiva Beach Resort
- Meals Included Breakfast, Dinner

#### Day 9 : Fethiye - Antalya

Breathe in the clean scent of the sea and forests and Drive along the stunning coastline towards Antalya. Giving a break at a marvellous local restaurant for lunch, we will arrive to our hotel in the afternoon. Antalya is a hugely popular seaside resort with endless beaches and premium service. Dinner at the hotel and personal leisure time in the evening.

- Accommodation
   Ramada Plaza Antalya
- Meals Included Breakfast, Dinner

# Day 10: Antalya, Perge & Aspendos

Today, our first stop will be Perge located 15 km east of Antalya, and home to remarkable ruins of ancient Pamphylian city. The acropolis here holds incredible mosaics dating back to the Bronze Age. With a short drive away lies Aspendos, the sister town of Perge. Aspendos is known for having the best-preserved theatre of antiquity. Imagine an amphitheatre maintained in excellent quality over 2,000 years and an unbelievable capacity of 12,000! Its incredible acoustics haven't aged a day. We return to Antalya to rest up after an epic adventure.

- Accommodation
   Ramada Plaza Antalya
- Meals Included Breakfast, Dinner

#### Day 11 : Antalya - Konya

The journey continues towards Konya, home of the famous whirling dervishes - members of the Sufism order. You can relax at your hotel and replay cherished moments of cultural discovery before we go out for dinner.

Alternatively, you may join a live show of whirling dervishes to witness the unique divine ritual, an unforgettable experience.

- Accommodation
   Dedeman Konya Hotel
- Meals Included Breakfast, Dinner
- Optional Activity
   Whirling Dervishes Approx EUR 30

#### Day 12 : Konya - Cappadocia

Meet the diverse Turkish culture and its various facades today. Starting with an 8-century-old centre of education and architectural beauty, Karatay Madrasa, continue to the Museum and Mausoleum of Mevlana. Meet the ideas and works of the famous scholar, poet and theologist of the 13th century, which have lived in his teachings of understanding and acceptance to this day. From cultural to natural wonders, we travel inland towards the other-worldly Cappadocia. One of the most popular sites in Turkey, the famous region is decorated with stunning caves and fairy-chimneys: unique formations of eroded volcanic rocks and tuff. Starting the adventure at Avanos - famous for its top-quality clay, learn all about pottery-making at an interactive workshop. After a long day of cultural discovery, relax at your hotel and join your group over dinner at the hotel.

- Accommodation
   DoubleTree by Hilton Avanos
- Meals Included Breakfast, Dinner

#### Day 13: Cappadocia & Goreme Open-Air Museum

Rise early to join the hot-air balloon experience, flying over the magical fairy-chimneys. A bucket-list item for all keen travellers, it is an experience not to be missed (please bear in mind that this optional experience is dependent on weather conditions). As you disembark your balloon, you will get the chance to explore the wondrous formations up close at Goreme Open-Air Museum, a UNESCO World Heritage site. The soft rock has allowed for both nature and people to carve incredible underground cities, chapels, cave houses and much more. These impressive millennia-old underground structures have sheltered countless Christians escaping the Roman Empire in the 4th century and housed Orthodox monks in the 12th century. Here you'll witness the wonders of nature as well as each culture engraved in the fabric of this marvellous geography.

Later on, delve into one of the finest and oldest crafts of Turkey at its home as we visit a carpet-weaving workshop. Stopping for a lunch to remember at our hand-selected local, you can savour the delicious local cuisine together with excellent local wines. There will time to rest at your hotel in the afternoon, or join an optional Wine Tasting experience, Cappadocia's generous soil cultivates a variety of premium wines. Following dinner at your hotel, you may continue your cultural adventure with an optional Turkish Night experience displaying many colourful facades of Turkish folklore.

- Accommodation
   DoubleTree by Hilton Avanos
- Meals Included Breakfast, Dinner
- Optional Activities
   Hot Air Ballooning Approx EUR 290
- Turkish Night Approx EUR 40

#### Day 14: Cappadocia - Istanbul

Today, we take a short flight to Istanbul. Arriving at your Istanbul hotel in the afternoon, haggle your way through the famous Grand Bazaar to find the perfect souvenir for your loved ones and yourself!

- Accommodation
   Hilton Hotel Bosphorus
- Meals Included Breakfast, Dinner

#### Day 15: Depart Istanbul

Our marvellous adventure comes to an end over breakfast with newfound friends. Make sure to bid farewells and exchange numbers before checking-out of the hotel (at 11:00). Complimentary airport transfers are available all day, have a safe and smooth journey!

 Meal Included 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.

#### Affordable Holidays - How do we do it?

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#### **BOOKING CONDITIONS**

# Please read the following information prior to making your reservation

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 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 manages a professional client operating account. All booking payments are held securely to pay for your travel services. We do not retain your money and funds are distributed promptly to travel service providers, including but not limited to, airlines, tour operators, cruise lines and hotels. We are required to pay the providers deposits and final payments 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.

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