

Tours to Turkey - 17 Days

Day 1: Fri,

Departure to Turkey

Day 2: Sat, Istanbul, Yasmak Sultan Htl. 4*

Arrive in Istanbul and transfer to Yasmak Sultan Hotel by your guide. Your guide will provide general information and guidelines of the tour during the transfer. (D)

Day 3: Sun, Istanbul, Yasmak Sultan Htl. 4*

The “Queen” of the cities: Istanbul will be explored full day including Blue Mosque, Hippodrome, St. Sophia, Basilica Cistern and Topkapı Palace. (B, L, D)

Day 4: Mon, Ankara, Sürmeli Htl. 5*

Early departure for Ankara; capital of Turkey since 1923. After lunch visit Museum and Mausoleum of founder of modern Turkish Republic, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, and then continue to Anatolian Civilizations Museum, which is one of the finest museums in the world with Prehistoric, Hittite, Phrygian and Urartian artefacts. (B, L, D)

Day 5: Tue, Cappadocia, Kaya Htl. Boutique

Drive to Cappadocia and start exploring the deceptively, desolate landscape of Cappadocia with Göreme Open Air Museum. We will study early Christianity with the rock cut churches of Göreme decorated with frescoes dating back from 7th through 17th centuries. Also, explore the breathtaking valleys of Kızılvardi (Derwent), Monks Valley, Avcılar and Natural castle of Uçhisar. (B, L, D)

Day 6: Wed, Cappadocia, Kaya Htl. Boutique

Today, we will explore the underground side of the region by visiting Özkonak Underground City. Then witness how the world famous Turkish Rugs that echo the earth tones are made with demonstration in a local coop. After lunch, visit Soğanlı Village. (B, L, D)

Day 7: Thu, Cappadocia to Konya, Dedeman Htl. 5*

Drive to Konya. On the way, we will visit 13th century Seljuk Caravansarai at Sultanhan and the Museum and Mausoleum of the father and the founder of the Mystic Cult of Whirling Dervishes; Rumi. (B, L, D)

Day 8: Fri, Konya to Antalya, Khan Htl. 4*

On the way to Antalya, we will visit a Biblical city: Antioch of Psidia. A scenic drive via the shores of lake Eğirdir and then over the monumental and mythological mountain Range: Taurus will carry us to Antalya. Before checking in, Antalya Archaeological Museum- which received the “Best Museum in Europe” Award- will be visited.

Day 9: Sat, Antalya, Khan Htl. 4*

Start the day with the ancient Pamphilian city of Perge where Paul gave his first sermon accompanied with Barnabas. Continue with one of the best-preserved Roman Theatres in Aspendos. (B, L, D)

Day 10: Sun, Antalya to Pamukkale, Colossae Htl. 5*

Drive to Pamukkale via the world-known Roman city Aphrodisias, excavated by NYU since 1961. In the evening visit the largest mineral formations in the world; Pamukkale with its hot springs (B, L, D)

Day 11: Mon, Pamukkale to Kuşadası, Sürmeli Htl. 4*

Drive to Kuşadası via Sardis. We will visit the Lydian capital and one of the 6 largest temples of Classical Greek era; Temple of Artemis at Sardis. Continue via birthplace of Homer: Izmir (ancient Smyrna). (B, L, D)

Day 12: Tue, Ephesus and environs, Sürmeli Htl. 4*

Full day Ephesus and environs to be visited today. Being the most complete Roman city in the world, with its incomparable ruins, where Paul preached and the 4th largest city of the Roman Empire. We will also visit Basilica of St. John, Mosque of Isa Bey and the charming nearby village of Sirince.

Day 13: Wed, Kuşadası to Çanakkale, Akol Htl. 4*

Departure for Çanakkale and on the way visit Hellenistic city of Pergamon. Before arriving in Çanakkale, immortalized in the Epic by Homer-Illiad, mythological city of Troy will be visited. (B, L, D)

Day 14: Thu, Çanakkale to Bursa, Kirci Htl. 4*

Morning drive to Bursa. In the afternoon, visit the first capital of Ottoman Empire with its early Turkish architecture: Great Mosque, Cocoon Bazaar and Green Mosque. (B, L, D)

Day 15: Fri, Bursa to Istanbul, Yasmak Sultan Htl. 4*

Drive to Istanbul and continue with a pleasant boat ride along Bosphorus. After boat ride, earliest and the largest shopping mall on earth; Grand Bazaar will be visited. (B, L, D)

Day 16: Sat, Istanbul, Yasmak Sultan Htl.

Half day tour of Dolmabahçe Palace, Chora (Kariye) Museum and Spice Bazaar (09:00 to 13:00). (B)

Day 17: Sun.

Transfer to the airport for departure to USA. (B)

Included:

- Services of an English speaking Professional Tour Guide throughout
- Luxury, A/C Mercedes Benz Coach with tea, coffee, bottled water.
- All entrance fees to the Historical Sites and Museums
- 35 out of 37 meals

Not Included:

- International Flights
- Personal expenses
- Tips to the guide and driver(s)

Hotels: All, centrally and very conveniently located 4-5 star comfortable accommodations. If not the mentioned above, similar will be used

Restaurants: Fine, local restaurants for a tasteful experience of Turkish Cuisine.

B: Breakfast, **L:** Lunch, **D:** Dinner

Price per person in double occupancy: \$ 2,175

Single supplement: \$ 534

***Above prices are valid for 16 and up passengers.**

****One free for every 16 people on land portion.**