



Tourism Highlights of TURKEY



Tourism in Turkey has increased almost every year in the 21st century,^[318] and is an important part of the economy. The Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism currently promotes Turkish tourism under the Turkey Home name. Turkey is one of the world's top ten destination countries, with the highest percentage of foreign visitors arriving from Germany and Russia in recent years. In 2018 Turkey ranked 6th in the world in terms of the number of international tourist arrivals, with 45.8 million foreign tourists visiting the country.

Turkey has 17 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, such as the "Historic Areas of Istanbul", the "Rock Sites of Cappadocia", the "Neolithic Site of Çatalhöyük", "Hattusa: the Hittite Capital", the "Archaeological Site of Troy", "Hierapolis – Pamukkale", Harran Mardin, Konya and Alanya. Turkey is home to two of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the world's oldest religious site Göbekli Tepe, and numerous other World Heritage Sites

Best of Turkey

10 Nights 11 Days

- 2 Nights in Istanbul
- 2 Nights in Cappadocia
- 2 Nights in Antalya
- 1 Night in Pamukkale
- 2 Nights in Bodrum
- 1 Night in Istanbul

Day 1 – Istanbul - Arrival Day

Meet at the airport, transfer to your hotel. You will be given your room key and the rest of the day is yours to explore Istanbul.

Overnight in Istanbul.

Day 2 – Istanbul

See the sights of **Istanbul on a half-day tour** that takes in the city's famous historical landmarks and cultural sites. Hippodrome - The center of sport activities in Constantinople, capital of the Byzantine empire, today named Sultanahmet Meydani, with its four monuments; The German Fountain of Wilhelm II, Egyptian Obelisk, Serpentine Column (Spiral Column). Blue Mosque (Sultanahmet Mosque) - Built by the architect Mimar Sedefkar Mehmet aga. Until 19th century was the traditional point for the pilgrimage to Mecca. Hagia Sophia Museum - The best known Christian church in Turkey, one of the greatest marvels of architecture, which was constructed as a basilica in the 6th century by Emperor Justinian. Grand Covered Bazaar - The most attractive shopping centre in the world, with nearly 4000 shops, selling antique, jewellery, gold, carpets, leather wear and souvenirs Others Hagia Sophia is closed on Monday, you will visit the Underground Cistern instead (subject to change). Blue Mosque is closed on Friday Grand Bazaar is closed on Sunday.

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Blue Mosque (Sultanahmet Mosque) - Built by the architect Mimar Sedefkar Mehmet aga. Until 19th century was the traditional point for the pilgrimage to Mecca.

Hagia Sophia Museum - The best known Christian church in Turkey, one of the greatest marvels of architecture, which was constructed as a basilica in the 6th century by Emperor Justinian.

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In the evening Join the The Bosphorus cruise ride which is 32km long, separates Europe from Asia and connects the Marmara Sea to the Black Sea. Cruise along the Bosphorus between Asia and Europe and discover Istanbul tourist attractions, magnificent palaces, ancient castles, and other historical sites, as well as fine seaside residences and the Bosphorus bridge.

Bosphorus tour route: Golden Horn, Maiden Tower, Dolmabahce Palace, Ciragan Palace, Ortaköy Mosque, Bosphorus Bridge, Beylerbeyi Palace.

Historical places you will see from the distance: include Galata Tower, Topkapı Palace, Hagia Sophia, and Blue Mosque. Furthermore, you will have a glance at the spectacular pieces of authentic civic architecture on the European and Asian coast.

Overnight in Istanbul.

(Breakfast included).

Day 3 – Istanbul to Cappadocia (travelling preference : By Flight)

After breakfast check out from the hotel. Transfer to Istanbul airport for domestic flight to Cappadocia. Transfer from airport and check in to your hotel in Cappadocia

In the evening enjoy the **underground cities tour** in the region of Cappadocia includes a visit to one of the many underground cities which can be found in the region. These cities were built as long ago as Roman times, the soft volcanic rock lending itself to the easy carving out of caves and dwellings. They were then extended and became fully formed in the Byzantine period when the local inhabitants, largely Christian, used them to hide from invading armies. Built with many levels, some of them housed up to 20,000 people and had sophisticated ventilation as well as amenities such as wine and oil presses, stables, refectories and chapels. The tour ends with a visit to Pigeon Valley,

named after the hundreds of pigeon houses carved out of the rock in the cliffs. Pigeons were used over the centuries as messengers and their droppings as fertiliser, but these days there are very few pigeons left but the valley is a prominent landmark in the region and offers some good photo opportunities.

Overnight in Cappadocia.

(Breakfast included)

Day 4 – Cappadocia

Today very early in the morning get ready to experience Cappadocia **Hot Air Balloon Tour**, which is known for the best place to fly with hot air balloon and explore the area of Cappadocia weather permitting. Enjoy Cappadocia from above on this thrilling hot air balloon tour. The Royal Queen Flight begins in luxury mini-buses that transfer you to our company headquarters. Here, you'll relax and enjoy a catered breakfast buffet while the pilots choose a launch site. Once the launch site has been selected, you will be able to watch the crew assemble and inflate the balloon. Our balloons are provided exclusively by Lindstrand Balloons and are the only variety in the region that are silver-coated—a hallmark of quality and safety. Following a brief introduction, you'll be off to see Cappadocia from high in the air! Our balloons will climb approximately 300 meters during the flight, and marvelous panoramic views await you as you drift above the valleys and between rock formations. Balloons move by the wind and you'll float wherever the breeze takes you. This also means that each flight brings new and memorable experiences along with as-yet-unseen viewing angles and ideal photo opportunities. When back on the ground you'll be treated to a complimentary champagne toast to celebrate your flight and receive a commemorative silver flight medallion.

Overnight in Cappadocia.

(Breakfast included).

Day 5 - Cappadocia to Antalya (travelling preference : By Flight)

After breakfast check out from the hotel .Today we depart to **Antalya**.

rest of the day is yours to explore Antalya

Overnight in Antalya.

(Breakfast included).

Day 6 - Antalya

Discover why Antalya is one of the most popular destinations in Turkey. Visit its most magical sights, including the Düden waterfalls to its in-depth, rich history followed by a stroll through the city and the ancient ports. Highlights - Don't miss out on the best wonders of the region: the Düden waterfalls - Walk the narrow streets of the old town! - Includes admissions to the Antalya museum of Archeology, one of the most popular museums in the country Start the day with a visit to one of the most important attractions in Antalya: the Düden waterfalls. This marvelous, natural phenomenon originates in the Taurus Mountains and reaches its peak when it crosses paths with the waters of the Mediterranean through a rocky cliff. Admire this natural beauty and take the opportunity to take outstanding pictures. Then another surprise awaits you as we visit the interesting Sandland, a large exhibition of sand sculptures. Admire the amazing creations from all around the world before venturing through the streets of Kaleiçi, the culturally pleasing old town. The narrow streets of this historical district paint out the original layout and are filled with small shops and bars. Enjoy a unique atmosphere and then head to the picturesque old port where you have enough time to explore the surroundings. Finally, visit the Archeology Museum of Antalya, one of the finest museums in Turkey. End the day with a new perspective of the local history. Among the exhibits you will encounter artifacts from cultures that have left their mark on the city; from jewellery to coins to weapons to

fossils and statues of Gods. This really is an interesting place and holds a little bit of history for everyone to enjoy

Overnight in Antalya.

(Breakfast included).

Day 7 - Antalya to pamukkale (travelling preference : By Road 3:30 hrs drive 250km)

Today we will enjoy the roads in turkey, while traveling from Antalya to pamukkale we will visit the **antique city of Hierapolis** after the lunch. The places to visit are Necropolis, Roman Baths, Domitian Gate, Latrina, Oil Factory, Frontinious Street, Agora, Byzantium Gate, Triton Fountain, Cathedral, Apollon Temple, Plutonium, Theatre and Antique Pool. Last destination of the tour is the white travertine terraces of Pamukkale. You will walk down the hill among the travertine pools. This is the best opportunity to take photos of this unique beauty of nature

Overnight in Pamukkale.

(Breakfast included).

Day 8 - pamukkale to Bodrum (travelling preference : By Road 3:40 hrs drive 260km)

Today we depart from pamukkale to bodrum. Bodrum is a city of fun and parties, rest of the day is yours to explore Bodrum

Overnight in Bodrum.

(Breakfast included).

Day 9 – Bodrum Ephesus tour

Ephesus has played a great role in the history of Christianity. St. Paul stayed here for three years during which he wrote his letters to the Corinthians. Situated 9 km ahead of Ephesus is the entrancing shrine of the Virgin Mary where she came with St. John to spread Christianity and spend her last days on earth. The shrine has been declared a pilgrimage site by the Vatican.

(Breakfast included)

Day 10- Bodrum to Istanbul (travelling preference : By Flight)

Today we arrive to istanbul again Spend your day for shopping, turkish bath and cherish all movements of your Turkey tour

(Breakfast included)

Day 11 – Istanbul to Home

After breakfast checkout from hotel and move towards Istanbul international airport for departing back to Home