

12 Days | Ultimate Turkey | With Flights

Istanbul - Gallipoli - Troy - Izmir - Ephesus - Konya - Cappadocia - and more...

From **\$7,999** Typically \$8,999 ✈ pp Twin Share



Includes Return International Flights from Australia

10 nights of hand-picked, premium accommodation

Comfortable, air-conditioned transport with expert drivers & guides

Experience the wonder of Hagia Sophia, explore the ancient sites of Troy & Ephesus, barter at the Grand Bazaar, float above Cappadocia's fairy towers in a hot air balloon and MUCH MORE!

Description



Embark on a 12-day journey through Turkey, a land where ancient history and vibrant modernity seamlessly blend

Book Now for 2024 and 2025!

This meticulously curated tour, inclusive of return international flights from Australia to Istanbul and daily breakfast, offers you the chance to delve deep into the rich tapestry of Turkish culture, history, and natural beauty. Staying in premium, well-located accommodations, you will experience the best of what Turkey has to offer, from the bustling streets of Istanbul to the serene landscapes of Cappadocia.

Your adventure begins in Istanbul, a city that straddles two continents and offers a unique blend of Eastern and Western cultures. As you wander through the bustling bazaars and historic landmarks, you'll be immersed in the city's vibrant atmosphere. Savor the tantalizing flavors of Turkish cuisine, enjoying traditional delicacies in local eateries or dining alfresco in picturesque settings. The warmth of Turkish hospitality is evident in every interaction, making your stay in Istanbul truly memorable.

From Istanbul, the tour takes you to Gallipoli, a site of great historical significance. Here, you can pay homage to the soldiers who fought in the famous World War I campaign and reflect on the poignant history of the region. Continuing to Troy, you'll step into the world of ancient myths and legends, exploring the remnants of this once-mighty city and learning about its storied past.

Read our Latest Travel Blogs at '[Wake Up Here](#)'

Izmir, a vibrant coastal city, offers a delightful mix of modern attractions and ancient ruins. Stroll along the scenic waterfront, visit bustling markets, and explore the city's rich cultural heritage. From Izmir, you'll travel to Ephesus, one of the best-preserved ancient cities in the world. Marvel at the grandeur of the ancient ruins, including the Library of Celsus and the Great Theatre, and imagine life as it was in this thriving metropolis centuries ago.

The journey continues to Konya, a city known for its spiritual significance and as the home of the Whirling Dervishes. Here, you'll have the opportunity to delve into the mystical traditions of Sufism and explore the city's many cultural landmarks. Cappadocia, with its otherworldly landscapes and unique rock formations, is another highlight of the tour. Take a hot air balloon ride over the surreal terrain, visit ancient cave dwellings, and enjoy the serene beauty of this enchanting region.

Pamukkale, famous for its travertine terraces, offers a breathtaking natural spectacle. Take a leisurely stroll along the terraces, bathe in the thermal waters, and explore the ancient city of Hierapolis, which lies nearby. The scenic walks along the Bosphorus Strait provide a perfect ending to your Turkish adventure, offering stunning views and a chance to reflect on the many experiences you've had during your journey.

Throughout the tour, you'll enjoy the comfort and convenience of premium accommodations, ensuring a restful night's sleep after each day's adventures. The daily breakfast provides a perfect start to your day, fueling you for the exciting explorations ahead. Whether you're wandering through ancient ruins, indulging in delicious Turkish cuisine, or simply soaking in the beauty of the landscapes, this 12-day tour of Turkey promises an unforgettable experience.



Itinerary

Day 1

Australia ✈ Istanbul, Turkey

Today you will check in and board your aircraft from your Australian Capital City to Istanbul! Enjoy the services of your flight as you head North-West.

Meals: Inflight Menu

Day 2

Istanbul

Welcome to Turkey! 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 Ciconia 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.

Meals: Dinner

Accommodation: Hilton Hotel Bosphorus or similar

Day 3

Istanbul

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 in-between Europe and Asia.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hilton Hotel Bosphorus or similar

Day 4

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 Turkish and Australian 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.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: TBA on Booking Confirmation

Day 5

Gallipoli Troy Pergamon Izmir

A day filled with epic adventure awaits. In the morning, we visit the ancient city of 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.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Izmir Marriott Hotel or similar

Day 6

Izmir Ephesus Pamukkale

Drive along the coast to the amazing ruins of ancient Ephesus, a UNESCO World Heritage. 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 inland, 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.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: Doga Thermal Health & Spa (Hotel/Resort)

Day 7

Pamukkale 🚗 Konya

Walk in the 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 and its majestic amphitheatre of 15,000 seats and ever-impressive acoustics. The journey continues towards Konya, home of the famous whirling dervishes - members of the Sufism order. You can relax at your hotel over dinner and replay cherished moments of discovery.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: Dedeman Konya Hotel or similar

Day 8

Konya 🚗 Cappadocia

Meet the diverse Turkish culture and its various facades today. Starting with an 8-century-old center of education and architectural beauty, Karatay Madrasa, continue to the Museum and Mausoleum of Mevlana, also globally known as Rumi. Explore the ideas and works of the famous scholar, poet and theologian of the 13th century, whose teachings of understanding and acceptance have lived on 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.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: Double Tree by Hilton Avanos or similar

Day 9

Cappadocia

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. In the evening, you can relax at your hotel over dinner and replay cherished moments of cultural discovery. Alternatively, you may join a live show of whirling dervishes to witness the unique divine ritual, an unforgettable experience. You can also join an optional wine tasting session or Turkish Night show.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Double Tree by Hilton Avanos or similar

Day 10

Cappadocia Ankara

Start an unforgettable day by exploring the famous underground city of Kaymakli where ancient Christians took refuge to escape raids and wars for centuries. Here you will discover the complex network of underground tunnels, storerooms, burial chambers and chapels dating back to various eras. Together with the unique geology, each civilization and culture have shaped this marvellous heritage over thousands of years into a one-of-a-kind experience for all travellers. Taking a scenic ride to Ankara, the Turkish capital, our first stop is the impressive Museum of Anatolian Civilizations. Here you'll discover countless ancient civilizations that has dominated Asia Minor throughout history. After our dinner at the hotel, personal leisure time to spend the evening exploring the capital as you please.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: Ankara HiltonSA or similar

Day 11

Ankara Istanbul

Start the morning with a visit to Anitkabir, the Mausoleum of Ataturk – the final resting place of the founding father of Republic of Turkey. It is a location sacred to Turkish people, a glorious yet calming place of great importance. With a scenic drive through the Anatolian countryside, we make our way to Istanbul on a comfortable ride. Stop along the way for a lunch break at the gorgeous mountains surrounded by sublime nature of Bolu.

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!

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hilton Hotel Bosphorus or similar

Day 12

Istanbul Austalia

Our marvellous adventure comes to an end over breakfast with newfound friends. Make sure to bid farewell and exchange numbers before checking-out of the hotel (at 11AM).

Complementary airport transfers are available all day, have a safe and smooth journey home!

Meals: Breakfast and Inflight Menu

Inclusions & Exclusions

Inclusions

- Return Economy Class Airfares from Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide & Perth to Istanbul
 - 10 nights Accommodation in premium accommodation
 - Meals: 10 breakfasts, 9 dinners
 - Transportation in Air-conditioned, modern coach or mini-bus.
 - Airport Transfer(s) to/from Istanbul Airport
 - Tour Guiding
 - Services of experienced Travel Talk local guides licenced by the Ministry of Tourism
 - Free Wi-Fi
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Exclusions

- Any flights not mentioned above
- Travel Insurance
- Meals not stated above
- Items of a personal nature
- Tips and gestures
- Entrance fees to the sights and museums
- Optional activities
- Other services not stated in the itinerary

Visa information: travellers on Australian passports will need to organise an e-Visa via the Turkish government website. It is travellers responsibility to ensure they have all the necessary paperwork to enter the country. For more information, [visit smartraveller here](#).

Solo supplement: Travelling solo? Get a room to yourself for only \$2500 - available at check out.

Child policy: Children over the age of 12 are welcome on this trip. Taking someone younger? Ask our friendly team for some great options.

Travel Insurance: We recommend Covermore travel insurance. To quote and book, please click [HERE](#).