

Turkey Unplugged

10 Days | Starts/Ends: Istanbul



Explore stunning Istanbul with its bazaars and mosques and wander around the battlefields of Gallipoli. See Roman ruins in Pergamum and Ephesus, discover the beautiful Aegean Coast, the natural wonder of Pamukkale and the jewel in Turkey's crown - Cappadocia, with its amazing underground cities and whimsical landscape.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Cappadocia – Explore the surreal landscape on a guided tour including the Goreme Valley, Zelve and Uchisar Castle-Mountain
- Istanbul – Visit highlights of the Old City including the beautiful Blue Mosque, Hagia Sofia and imposing Topkapi Palace
- Ephesus – Tour the marble ruins of this Roman city which was once the site of the great Temple of Artemis, one of the Seven Ancient Wonders
- Pamukkale – Stroll around the terraced pools and opt for a relaxing dip in the naturally warm and calcium rich waters
- Gallipoli – Pay your respects at the Lone Pine and Chunuk Bair memorials and visit ANZAC Cove, a famous WW1 landing site

- Troy – Discover the legendary ruins and see a replica of the famous wooden horse which as the story goes, was used to sack the city
- Pergamum – Marvel at the Roman amphitheatre which is one of the steepest in the classical world
- Hierapolis – See the UNESCO-listed ruins of this ancient spa town, built on the site of natural hot springs

What's Included

- Breakfast daily and 1 dinner
- 9 nights 4 star and special class hotels
- Airport arrival transfer on day 1 of tour and departure transfer (to Istanbul International Airport) at 9am and 1pm only on day 10
- Guided sightseeing - Istanbul, Gallipoli, Troy, Ruins of Ephesus and Pergamum, Pamukkale, Hierapolis and Cappadocia
- Escorted by an English speaking, degree qualified Turkish tour guide
- All relevant transfer and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles

What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$40pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD\$115-130pp, paid in local currency
- International flights and visa

- Tip for your tour guide and driver. We recommend you allow USD\$5 - 7 per day, per traveller as a tip for your guide and USD\$2 per day for your driver. Tipping your guide and driver is an entirely personal gesture

COVID SAFE GUIDE

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Welcome to Turkey

Saturday. Welcome to Turkey and the start of your holiday. There's an included arrival transfer to our hotel before the afternoon is at leisure. Relax in the hotel or head out to explore the city. Istanbul is easy to get around on foot and there are plenty of restaurants and cafes dotted about the city. **Overnight - Istanbul**

Day 2 : The Old City



This morning we'll embark on a fascinating tour through the Old City of Istanbul, we'll

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visit stunning examples of architecture that hail from the Byzantine and Ottoman Empires eras. We'll visit the stunning Blue Mosque, famed for its blue Iznik tiles. Discover the Hippodrome and Hagia Sofia, which was constructed as a Basilica in the 6th century by Emperor Justinian. Finally, we explore the impressive Topkapi Palace, which was the main residence of the Ottoman sultans in the 15th century. **Overnight - Istanbul (B)**

Day 3 : Gallipoli - WW1 Battlefields



Istanbul – Gallipoli. Today we explore ANZAC Cove and the many memorials dotted across the WW1 battlefields. Our guided tour takes in sights including ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine Memorial and cemetery, Chunuk Bair Memorial and cemetery, the Nek, Johnston's Jolly and the many fortified trenches still clearly visible amongst the scrub after all these years. **Overnight - Canakkale (B)**

Day 4 : Troy & Kusadasi



Gallipoli – Kusadasi. This morning we enjoy a short guided tour of Troy. The legend of the lost city of Troy and Homer's poetry was brought to life by its rediscovery in 1863. Subsequent excavations revealed nine ancient cities, one on top of the other, dating back to 3000 BC. We enjoy a tour of the ruins and admire a replica of the Trojan wooden

horse that, as legend goes, was filled with Aechean soldiers who helped to sack Troy.

Driving further south we reach the ancient ruins of Pergamum, home to one of the steepest amphitheatres in the classical world. Pergamum was also famous for its Asclepion (medical centre). We continue to Kusadasi on the Aegean Coast via a leather manufacturing house. **Overnight - Kusadasi (B)**

Day 5 : Ancient Ephesus



Today, we explore legendary Ephesus - perhaps the best-preserved classical city in the eastern Mediterranean. Under Roman rule, Ephesus was a vast and prosperous city with a population nearing 250,000. It was an important centre of commerce and a popular destination for pilgrims who came to see the great Temple of Artemis - one of the Seven Ancient Wonders.

We have plenty of time to tour the marble ruins of Ephesus. Discover the famous Library of Celsus, the Stadium, the gymnasium of Vedius and the Great Theatre. We'll see ancient public toilets, a brothel, fountains and various temples. There's also a visit to a carpet manufacturing house. **Overnight - Kusadasi (B)**

Day 6 : Pamukkale Thermal Pools



Kusadasi – Pamukkale. Driving east, we arrive at Pamukkale - home of the famous gleaming white calcium terraced pools. Known locally as the Cotton Castles, they're a natural phenomena and gift from Mother Nature. Pamukkale was formed when warm, calcium rich mineral water cascaded over the cliff edge, cooling and depositing in the process. The calcium built natural shelves and pools on the cliffs are known as travertines. Take a barefoot walk along the travertines or opt for a dip in the warm waters of the thermal pool, with its submerged fragments of fluted marble columns.

Our last stop of the day is the ruined spa town of Hierapolis, famed for the curative powers of its mineral springs. These were dammed to create communal baths. **Overnight - Pamukkale (B)**

Days 7-8 : Fairytale Cappadocia



Pamukkale - Cappadocia. On day 7 we drive to Cappadocia, stopping to visit some ancient caravanserais (roadside inns) such as Sultanhani. Tonight there's a fun optional evening of Turkish folklore.

On day 8 we enjoy a guided tour of Cappadocia - perhaps the jewel in Turkey's crown. Cappadocia is one of Turkey's most extraordinary national treasures. The utter improbability of the surreal landscape has to be seen to be believed with its 'stuff of fables' cave dwellings and phallic 'fairy chimneys' landscape. Whole troglodyte villages, subterranean churches and fortresses have been hewn from the soft, porous, eerily eroded rock of Cappadocia.

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A guided tour of the region takes us to the World Heritage listed Goreme Valley. See stunning examples of rock-cut Byzantine churches, chapels and temples. Marvel at Zelve, with its phallic-like eroded landscape. Stopping on the outskirts of Goreme Village we have the opportunity to see Pigeon Valley, where centuries old pigeon houses are carved into the surrounding cliffs. Our tour also takes in the incredible Uchisar castle-mountain. Enjoy marvelous views of Cappadocia from the summit and explore the underground city of Kaymakli.

You'll also have the opportunity to visit an Onyx shop, which specializes in historic jewellery designs that are unique to Turkey and crafted using local materials. For those not interested in shopping, there's time to relax and grab a drink from the local cafe. This evening, we enjoy dinner at the hotel.

Overnight - Cappadocia (B:2, D:1)

Day 9 : Back to Istanbul

Cappadocia - Istanbul. Today we head back to Istanbul, stopping en route for lunch (payable locally). We arrive into Istanbul in the evening.

If you'd prefer to avoid the long journey over land today, we also offer the opportunity to fly from Cappadocia to Istanbul. **Overnight - Istanbul (B)**

Day 10 : Istanbul

Monday. After breakfast our tour draws to a close. An onward departure transfer is included to Istanbul International Airport and is offered at 9am and 1pm today. (B)

HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

Ramada Old City

A member of the reputable Ramada chain, the Istanbul Old Town property is modern

and comfortable with excellent amenities. Guestrooms are bright and spacious with contemporary amenities. Two restaurants are on offer and our personal favourite is the wonderful roof top restaurant, serving delicious local cuisine coupled with a magnificent view of the City and Sea. The perfect way to end the day. Located in the heart of the Old City, near the Basilica Cistern and walking distance from all of the major monuments.



Iris Hotel

The Iris is a modern, low rise hotel with spacious, comfortable rooms and a good size swimming pool. The hotel provides free Wi-Fi connection and has an enviable beach front location. You can enjoy a delicious meal at the outdoor restaurant with views across the ocean.



Carina Hotel

With panoramic views across the turquoise waters of the Aegean sea, the Carina Hotel boasts bright, spacious room with a stylish antique decor. Within walking distance of the hotel are a number of beaches as well as the restaurant, bars and shops of Kusadasi. Enjoy a bite to eat at the restaurant or sip on a cocktail at the poolside bar.



Richmond Ephesus Resort Hotel

With a beautiful sandy beach lining the shore between the hotel and the sea, the Richmond Ephesus Hotel is a perfect place to relax. Take a dip in one of the two pools or enjoy a delicious dinner and drink at one of the three restaurants. Rooms are spacious and comfortable with air conditioning throughout the hotel.



Colossae Thermal Spa Hotel

Set in landscaped gardens, the Colossae Thermal Spa Hotel has an enviable location in Pamukkale. Guest rooms are spacious and tastefully decorated and offer a wonderful level of comfort, ensuring a good night's sleep. The on site thermal spa offers guests the chance to relax, revitalise and enjoy what this region is most famous for. Breakfast can be eaten outside on the terrace while dinner is often taken by the shimmering water of the pool.



Burcu Kaya Hotel

The Burca Kaya building was modelled on ancient Seljuk architecture and carved into rocks. The rooms are simply furnished and decorated with neutral colours. The stone walls and rich wooden panelling give the accommodation a truly authentic feel, whilst still maintaining a high level of comfort. The swimming pool has views of the famous fairy chimneys and the restaurant uses locally produced fruit and vegetables. The hotel is located in Ortahisar, the centre of Cappadocia.

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PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 4 persons. 'Twin Share' prices are per person when there are 2 people sharing a room. 'Single Room' prices are applicable to those who don't have anyone to share a room with or anyone wanting the privacy of a single room. If you're a solo traveller and happy to share a room this can be arranged, subject to there being another solo traveller of the same gender for you to share with. Please book a single room and contact us if your preference is to room share. Please note: For tours departing from 01 July 2022 single rooms will no longer be compulsory for solo travellers. If you're a solo traveller who is happy to share a room, you can pay the Twin Share price even if we are unable to match you up.

PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
24 Jul	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
07 Aug	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
21 Aug	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
28 Aug	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
11 Sep	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
18 Sep	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
25 Sep	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
02 Oct	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
09 Oct	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
16 Oct	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
23 Oct	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
06 Nov	USD 1,595	USD 2,145
20 Nov	USD 1,595	USD 2,145
04 Dec	USD 1,595	USD 2,145
18 Dec	USD 1,595	USD 2,145

PRICES / DATES 2022

Date	Twin Share	Single
08 Jan	USD 1,295	USD 1,845
22 Jan	USD 1,295	USD 1,845
12 Feb	USD 1,295	USD 1,845
26 Feb	USD 1,595	USD 2,145
12 Mar	USD 1,595	USD 2,145
26 Mar	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
09 Apr	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
16 Apr	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
30 Apr	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
14 May	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
28 May	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
25 Jun	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
09 Jul	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
16 Jul	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
23 Jul	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
30 Jul	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
06 Aug	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
13 Aug	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
20 Aug	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
03 Sep	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
17 Sep	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
24 Sep	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
01 Oct	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
08 Oct	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
15 Oct	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
22 Oct	USD 1,695	USD 2,245
05 Nov	USD 1,595	USD 2,145
19 Nov	USD 1,595	USD 2,145
03 Dec	USD 1,595	USD 2,145
17 Dec	USD 1,595	USD 2,145
31 Dec	USD 1,695	USD 2,245

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Date	Twin Share	Single
07 Jan	USD 1,295	USD 1,845

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