

## Grand Tour of Turkey (12 Days / 1 Nights)

Day 1  
(-)

### Istanbul

- Fly to Istanbul where you will be met by our representative and transferred to your hotel for one night. Late arrivals may have the welcome briefing the following morning.

Day 2  
(B-D)

### Istanbul / Gallipoli / Canakkale

- Welcome Gift, **Nazar Boncuk ( Turkish Blue Eyed Bead )**  
Nazar Boncugu is a glass bead that protects the holder from evil eye. It is pretty common in Turkey. Have a look around and you might discover countless Nazar Boncuks dangling from cars, from rear-view windows, backpacks, on necklaces and bracelets, pinned to the sweaters of babies and small children, and hanging above doors in restaurants, hotels, stores, and apartments.
- After breakfast we begin our drive to **Gallipoli**, a pleasant drive that takes us through the European (Thracian) lands of Turkey. Walk on the beach at **ANZAC Cove**, visit **the Lone Pine Cemetery** and see **the Turkish Memorial**. We also visit the moving **ANZAC Museum** before crossing the Dardanelles by ferry to Canakkale where we will check into our hotel and enjoy our buffet dinner and overnight stay at our hotel.



Day 3  
(B-D)

### Canakkale / Troy / Pergamon / Kusadasi

- After breakfast we visit the ancient **Troy** where we will see its legendary walls and the replica of the wooden Trojan Horse. From here we begin our drive to Kusadasi. Along the way we will stop at the hauntingly beautiful **Pergamon**, including visits to the **Acropol** and **Asklepion**. Late afternoon we continue our drive to Kusadasi. We will dine and spend the night at our hotel.
- Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Kusadasi.



**Day 4  
(B-D)**

**Kusadasi**

- After breakfast we will proceed to the vast ruins of the ancient city of **Ephesus**. Our first stop will be at the **Basilica of St. John**, who came here with the Virgin Mary and wrote his Gospel. Once in the ancient city itself we will explore this ancient Roman city and visit the Library of Celcius, Temple of Hadrian, the Theatre and Odeon. We will leave the ruins to drive the short distance to the **House of the Virgin Mary**, a site that includes a house and garden and the spot where she is believed to have spent her last years. We will continue to **SIRINCE**. A paved road of 8 km leads to this attractive village set in the hills above Ephesus, surrounded by an idyllic landscape of vineyards and peach orchards.



Sirince retains its traditional architecture almost wholly intact, thanks to landmark rules which have been implemented since the 1980s. Most houses in the village date from the 19th century. After visit to village, stop at the Sirince Artemis **Wine House for the wine tasting**.

- We will dine and spend the night at our hotel in Kusadasi.

**Day 5  
(B-D)**

**Kusadasi / Aphrodisias / Pamukkale**

- Travel past Aydin and enter the area known as the 'Greek Meander', the most fertile region in Turkey. Your first stop is for optional sightseeing at the ancient site of **Aphrodisias**. Later, drive past Denizli, at the foot of Mount Gokbel, to Pamukkale, the amazing 'Cotton Castle'. Marvel at the extraordinary white terraces, formed over the centuries by water cascading down the hillside and visit the ancient archaeological site of **Hierapolis**.



**Day 6  
(B-D)**

**Pamukkale / Konya**

- After breakfast continue to Konya. Arrive in Konya visit to the **Mevlana Museum** which records and celebrates the life of Celaleddin Rumi the founder of the Mevlana Sufi Sect and one of the world's greatest mystics. In the museum you can see Rumi's colorful tomb and gain and understanding of the how the dervishes lived in the Mevlana lodge.
- Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Konya



**Day 7  
(B-D)**

**Konya / Cappadocia**

- After breakfast, we set off for Cappadocia, with a visit to the **Sultanhan Caravansarai** on the way.



- Upon arrival in the Cappadocia Region we will start off with a visit to **Kaymakli Underground City**, which used to be known as Melagobia. Kaymakli was one of the biggest settlements in Cappadocia and it's 8 level underground city is the deepest of the region today. We will explore the caves of this interesting city and talk about the way of life here.
- We will spend our night at our hotel in Cappadocia.

**Day 8  
(B-D)**

**Cappadocia**

- After breakfast, our first stop at **Uchisar** where is situated at the highest point in Cappadocia, The top of the Uchisar Castle, provides a magnificent panorama of the surrounding area with Mount Erciyes in the distance. Many rooms hollowed out into the rock are connected to each other with stairs, tunnels and passages. At the entrances of the rooms, there are millstone doors, just like the ones in the underground settlements, used to control access to these places. Due to the erosion in places of this multi-leveled castle, it is unfortunately not possible to reach all the rooms. Most of the rooms, located on the north side of the castle are in use as pigeon houses (dovecuts) today. Farmers used these cave pigeon houses to collect the droppings of pigeons which is an excellent natural fertilizer for the orchards and vineyards. We will continue with visit of **Goreme** area. The small town of Goreme is situated in the middle of the Valley of Fairy Chimneys, surrounded by the eerie shapes and fantastic rock formations that have made the region famous. It is one of the few remaining villages where fairy chimneys and rock-hewn houses are still inhabited, and several restaurants and cafes are carved into the rock. Its biggest attraction is the Goreme Open-Air museum with over 30 beautifully frescoed Byzantine rock churches. The town makes an excellent base from which to explore the surrounding rock formations, villages, vineyards and attractions. For shoppers, carpets and Kilims are plentiful. **Goreme National Park** which was the official state during the period of the Roman Empire, was named "Cappadocia", which means "The Country of White Horses" in Persian. The Goreme Open-Air Museum is the most visited of the monastic communities in Cappadocia and is one of the most famous sites in central Turkey. It is a complex comprising more than 30 rock-hewn churches and chapels containing some superb frescoes, dating from the 9th to the 11th centuries. Inconspicuous from the outside, the interiors are characteristically Byzantine with a central dome and a floor plan in the shape of a cross. **\*\* Unique Moments :** We will have **lunch at a local village house** where you see may groups of women are cooking local bread together, these lovely people invite you to join them and to sit together. If you want you may try to cook traditional Turkish bread. Then you are going to be taken to a traditional Turkish house, to meet the members and to interact with the family. If you have already learned a little Turkish this is the right time to use local language. After lunch, our another stop





is **Soganli Valley**, one of the most secluded and tranquil valleys in Cappadocia. We begin our hike along one side of the valley, visiting many cave churches and we return along the other side of the valley to the quaint village.

- We will spend our night at our hotel In Cappadocia

Day 9  
(B-D)

**Cappadocia / Ankara / Istanbul**

- After breakfast Journey via Aksaray to Ankara, The Turkish capital, for one night. On arrival, enjoy an orientation drive before spending the afternoon relaxing, exploring at leisure, or taking the optional half day city tour including visits to the museum of Anatolian Civilisations and the Ankara Mausoleum of Ataturk. Late afternoon short flight to Istanbul. Arrive in Istanbul. Transfer to our hotel
- Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Istanbul.



Day 10  
(B)

**Istanbul**

- Breakfast. Half Day sightseeing tour of Istanbul including visit the renowned **Dolmabahce Palace**, was built between the years 1843 and 1856 by the armenian architects the Balyans. The design contains eclectic elements from the Baroque, Rococo and Neoclassic styles blended with traditional Ottoman architecture to create a new synthesis. It is the largest Palace in Turkey, its monoblock building occupies 45.000 m2. Later on we go **Cruise on the Bosphorus** with a regular boat. We'll cruise up



Istanbul's winding straits and relax and admire the shoreline of beautiful mosques, lavish palaces, and decadent yalis. You'll see Dolmabahçe Palace, Beylerbeyi Palace, Ottoman summer mansions, the Ortaköy Mosque, the defensive Rumeli Fortress, and the Bosphorus Bridge, one of the world's largest suspension bridges, all while passing fishing boats, yachts, huge cargo

ships, and tankers.

- Afternoon free at leisure.
- This evening, why not join the optional dinner and traditional Turkish entertainment.
- Overnight at our hotel on BB base

**Day 11  
(B)**

**Istanbul**

- We set off on a full day of sightseeing in Istanbul. We will start off with a visit to the renowned Sultanahmet Mosque, known popularly as **The Blue Mosque**, an incredibly beautiful mosque known for its blue Iznik (Nicaea) tiles are unique for the fact that it has six minarets. We continue on to the **Hippodrome**, once the vast arena that functioned as the heart of sporting (chariots races and athletics) events and political activities of the old city. From here we go to the nearby **Hagia Sophia**, the Church of Divine Wisdom. Ranking as one of the greatest marvels of world architecture, this awe-inspiring building was constructed as a basilica in the 6<sup>th</sup> century by Byzantine Emperor Justinian. From here short walk to the **Underground Cistern**, the largest of the many underground cisterns built during the Byzantine Empire to supply the city with water. This cistern is especially fascinating because the Byzantine builders recycled many stone structures—capital heads and columns— that had been used in earlier temples. Now an upside down Medusa stares out at us from her watery home. We continue our tour with a visit to the **Topkapi Palace**. This visit to the imperial palace of the Ottoman Sultans will include tours of the imperial treasury, the Chinese porcelain section, the calligraphy section and many more. We will also visit the jewelry collection segment of the palace. The tour will end with a visit to the **Grand Bazaar**, the vast and legendary covered market that is the biggest souk in the world with nearly 4000 shops of antiques, jewelry and carpets. **\*\* Unique Moments :** During the visit of the Grand Bazaar we will be experiencing **Turkish coffee** from **Sark Kahvesi**, historical coffee roasters located in the Grand Bazaar. Each variety has been prepared with a blend of traditional knowledge, experience and an abiding “Love of Coffee”
- Overnight at our hotel on BB base



**Day 12  
(B)**

**Istanbul / UK**

- Transfer to the airport for your flight to the UK.

**B** = Breakfast

**L** = Lunch

**D** = Dinner



**INCLUDING**

- Hotel accommodation at specified selected hotels or similar
- Sightseeing tours as per above itinerary
- Entrance fees where stated
- Specified meals
- Transportation by A/C deluxe
- English speaking professional tour guide throughout the tour
- Tips to hotels, restaurants
- Local Taxes
- Porterage at hotels

**EXCLUDING**

- International Flight tickets
- Optional Tours where stated
- Drinks and meals which are not listed in the itinerary
- All personal expenses
- Tips to the tour guide and driver.

## ISTANBUL, CAPPADOCIA & THE TURQUOISE COAST ( 8 NIGHTS – 9 DAYS )

### DAY 1.

(-)

#### Istanbul

- Following our arrival in Istanbul we are met at the airport and transferred to our hotel where we will have our overnight stay.

### DAY 2.

(B)

#### Istanbul

- Welcome Gift, **Nazar Boncuk ( Turkish Blue Eyed Bead )** Nazar Boncugu is a glass bead that protects the holder from evil eye. It is pretty common in Turkey. Have a look around and you might discover countless Nazar Boncuks dangling from cars, from rear-view windows, backpacks, on necklaces and bracelets, pinned to the sweaters of babies and small children, and hanging above doors in restaurants, hotels, stores, and apartments.
- We set off on a full day of sightseeing in Istanbul. We will start off with a visit to the renowned Sultanahmet Mosque, known popularly as **The Blue Mosque**, an incredibly beautiful mosque known for its blue Iznik (Nicaea) tiles are unique for the fact that it has six minarets. We continue on to the **Hippodrome**, once the vast arena that functioned as the heart of sporting (chariots races and athletics) events and political activities of the old city. From here we go to the nearby **Hagia Sophia**, the Church of Divine Wisdom. Ranking as one of the greatest marvels of world architecture, this awe-inspiring building was constructed as a basilica in the 6<sup>th</sup> century by Byzantine Emperor Justinian. From here short walk to the **Underground Cistern**, the largest of the many underground cisterns built during the Byzantine Empire to supply the city with water. This cistern is especially fascinating because the Byzantine builders recycled many stone structures—capital heads and columns— that had been used in earlier temples. Now an upside down Medusa stares out at us from her watery home. We continue our tour with a visit to the **Topkapi Palace**. This visit to the imperial palace of the Ottoman Sultans will include tours of the imperial treasury, the Chinese porcelain section, the calligraphy section and many more. We will also visit the jewelry collection segment of the palace. The tour will end with a visit to the **Grand Bazaar**, the vast and legendary covered market that is the biggest souk in the world with nearly 4000 shops of antiques, jewelry and carpets. **\*\* Unique Moments :** During the visit of the **Grand Bazaar** we will be experiencing **Turkish coffee** from **Sark Kahvesi**, historical coffee roasters located in the Grand Bazaar. Each variety has been prepared with a blend of traditional knowledge, experience and an abiding “Love of Coffee”
- Overnight stay at our hotel in Istanbul.





DAY 3.  
(B)

**Istanbul**

- This morning we visit the renowned **Dolmabahçe Palace**, was built between the years 1843 and 1856 by the armenian architects the Balyans. The design contains eclectic elements from the Baroque, Rococo and Neoclassic styles blended with traditional Ottoman architecture to create a new synthesis. It is the largest Palace in Turkey, its monoblock building occupies 45.000 m2. Continue our tour with a visit to the **Rustem Pasha Mosque**. Designed by the Ottoman imperial architect Mimar Sinan for Grand Vizier "Son-in-Law" Rüstem Pasha (husband of Princess Mihrimah Sultana, one of the daughters of Suleiman the Magnificent), the construction was carried out from 1561 to 1563. The Rüstem Pasha Mosque is famous for its many exquisite Iznik tiles that depict a wide variety of beautiful floral and geometric designs. These priceless tiles have been used to decorate the *mihrab*, *minbar*, walls, columns and the interior and exterior façades of the enclosed portico. These tiles use the cherry red that is characteristic of the early Iznik period (1555-1620). No other mosque in Istanbul makes such a lavish use of these tiles. Short walk to **Spice Market**. Built in 1664, this large, old stone building includes a large number of shops (and a restaurant on the second floor that has long held a venerable place in the life of the city). This collection of shops was actually part of the complex of the adjacent Yeni Camii (the "New Mosque," whose construction started in 1597 and finished decades later). Since its construction, the Egyptian Spice Market has specialized in the sale of exotic spices. Today, these lovely small shops continue to sell spices and now also sell dried fruits, nuts, seeds, and other edibles. Some of the shops are gradually being transformed into shops featuring jewelry and other high margin items. **\*\* Unique Moments :** During the visit of Spice Market we will have a short break at **Ali Muhiddin Haci Bekir's shop** – the inventor of Turkish delight. From the time of its founding during the Ottoman Empire, the name Haci Bekir has become a legend in Ottoman and Turkish confectionery and a leading symbol of this art. Late afternoon we will have a **Cruise on the Bosphorus** with a regular boat. We'll cruise up Istanbul's winding straits and relax and admire the shoreline of beautiful mosques, lavish palaces, and decadent yalis. You'll see Dolmabahçe Palace, Beylerbeyi Palace, Ottoman summer mansions, the Ortaköy Mosque, the defensive Rumeli Fortress, and the Bosphorus Bridge, one of the world's largest suspension bridges, all while passing fishing boats, yachts, huge cargo ships, and tankers.
- Overnight stay at our hotel in Istanbul

DAY 4.  
(B)

**Istanbul / Cappadocia**

- After breakfast, we will drive to the Istanbul (Ataturk) Airport to catch our morning flight to Kayseri (Cappadocia). Arrive in Kayseri Airpory and private transfer to our hotel in Cappadocia. On th way we will visit the following sites;



- First, we will visit **Devrent Valley**. One magical corner in the countless panoramic valleys of Cappadocia, here is an unbelievable landscape with its rock formations and savage feeling; one of the best introductions to understanding the formation of fairy chimneys. Then, we will continue to **Pasabag Valley** where the formation of “fairy chimneys” can be best observed. Pasabag, the Pasha's Vineyard, is surrounded by incredible natural rock formations; a spectacular scene. Then, drive down into the village of Urgup, where you will see the blending of landscape and buildings. Last, we will walk through the **Guvercinlik Valley**. The Pigeon Valley is one of the most famous valleys of Cappadocia and its name comes from the pigeon-cotes carved on its walls.
- We will spend our night at our hotel in Cappadocia.

**DAY5.**  
**(B-L)**

**Cappadocia**

- After breakfast, our first stop at **Uchisar** where is situated at the highest point in Cappadocia, The top of the Uchisar Castle, provides a magnificent panorama of the surrounding area with Mount Erciyes in the distance. Many rooms hollowed out into the rock are connected to each other with stairs, tunnels and passages. At the entrances of the rooms, there are millstone doors, just like the ones in the underground settlements, used to control access to these places. Due to the erosion in places of this multi-leveled castle, it is unfortunately not possible to reach all the rooms. Most of the rooms, located on the north side of the castle are in use as pigeon houses (dovecuts) today. Farmers used these cave pigeon houses to collect the droppings of pigeons which is an excellent natural fertilizer for the orchards and vineyards. We will continue with visit of **Goreme** area. The small town of Goreme is situated in the middle of the Valley of Fairy Chimneys, surrounded by the eerie shapes and fantastic rock formations that have made the region famous. It is one of the few remaining villages where fairy chimneys and rock-hewn houses are still inhabited, and several restaurants and cafes are carved into the rock. Its biggest attraction is the Goreme Open-Air museum with over 30 beautifully frescoed Byzantine rock churches. The town makes an excellent base from which to explore the surrounding rock formations, villages, vineyards and attractions. For shoppers, carpets and Kilims are plentiful. **Goreme National Park** which was the official state during the period of the Roman Empire, was named “Cappadocia”, which means “The Country of White Horses” in Persian. The Goreme Open-Air Museum is the most visited of the monastic communities in Cappadocia and is one of the most famous sites in central Turkey. It is a complex comprising more than 30 rock-hewn churches and chapels containing some superb frescoes, dating from the 9th to the 11th centuries. Inconspicuous from the outside, the interiors are characteristically Byzantine with a central dome and a floor plan in the shape of a cross. **\*\* Unique Moments :** We will have **lunch at a local village house** where you see many groups of women are cooking local bread together, these lovely people invite you to join them and to sit together. If you want you may try to cook traditional Turkish bread. Then you are going to be taken to a traditional Turkish house, to meet the members and to interact with the family. If you have already learned a little Turkish this is the right time to use local language. After lunch, we will continue our day descending below the earth's surface into the **Kaymakli Underground City**, where five levels extend below ground and include; living quarters, kitchens, wine presses, storage rooms, stables and ventilation shafts. Early Christians carved out these subterranean complexes to avoid invaders who swept across the plains of Anatolia from the 6th to the 9th Century. Shopping time for the well-known merits of the area before returning to the hotel.
- We will spend our night at our hotel In Cappadocia

DAY6.  
(B)

**Capadocia / Kas**

- After breakfast, we will drive to the Kayseri Airport to catch our flight to Istanbul. Arrive in Istanbul, you will connecting your Dalaman flight on your own and arrive in Dalaman we will transfer to your hotel.
- We will spend our night at our hotel in Kas

DAY7.  
(B)

**Kas**

- After breakfast, we have a full day tour to **Myra, Demre and Kekova**. See the finest monuments of historic Lycia, find sunken cities and uncover the origins of Santa Claus on this enthralling tour. Travel to one of the most beautiful parts of Anatolia to visit the ruined city of Myra with its impressive Lycian rock-cut tombs. View the ancient amphitheater, and the Church of St Nicholas, dedicated to the saintly man who became the model for father Christmas. Enjoy a **private** boat trip across the sea to Kekova Island. Beneath the clear waters you can see the remains of Simena, a city ravaged by earthquakes around two thousand years ago. Swim in the turquoise waters, once a favored haunt of pirates, before exploring an ancient cemetery with many magnificent tombs. It's a day full of great natural beauty and fascinating history.

**Kekova:** An hour from Dalyangazi by sea, especially enjoyable for the yacht-men, is the islands of Kekova (home of the sun). Kekova is also the name of picturesque islands, numerous bays and ancient cities. Along the northern shore of Kekova island, structural movements of the land over the years have caused some of the ancient houses to be totally submerged while remains of the others are scattered along the shore. A fascinating Lycian Necropolis chest type tombs spread out along the coastline lies at Theimussa near the present day.

**Myra:** Some of the finest examples of Lycian funerary architecture are to be found at Myra, near the expanding present day town of Demre. The site, about a mile from the town includes a vast Roman theatre in good repair and built against a cliff face that also houses too impressive sets of Lycian tombs. Many of the tombs have long cabin features carved into the rocks, presumably reflecting the domestic architecture of the period. Carvings above are mostly in poor repair but the overall effect to this journey of the architecture of death is dramatic.

**St. Nicholas Church:** Best known as the patron saint of children, who was born at Patara around AD. 300 and bishop of Myra where he died. The miracles he performed in life time and stories that surrounded him have identified today in the west with father Christmas.

DAY8.  
(B)

**Kas**

- Breakfast
- Remainder of the day at your own leisure.
- We will spend our night at our hotel in Kas.

**Suggested Biking Tour Activities**

**Difficulty Level 1:** Easy Terrain: Flat, with some hills, but not too long or steep.

**Difficulty Level 2:** Moderate Terrain: Most of the terrain we cycle is moderate. There may be frequent hills, but seldom exceeding 8% and uninterrupted climbs seldom exceeding 350 m (1200 feet). Daily vertical totals should be generally less than 750 m (2500 feet). This is terrain the average



cyclist in good condition can handle.  
**Difficulty Level 3:** Difficult Terrain: This is for the strong cyclist. The average cyclist needs special conditioning prior to cycling difficult terrain. There may be frequent, uninterrupted climbs exceeding 450 m (1500 feet) vertical with grades sometimes in excess of 10-12%. Less steep, but long climbs at altitudes exceeding 2250 m (7500 feet) also qualify for difficult. Daily vertical totals generally exceed 1000 m (3000 feet)

• **Suggested Hiking Tour Activities**

This hiking path starts from the east of Kas. The dazzling coastal view and tombs carved into sheer rocks from the Lycian Era seem miraculous. The winding path will sometimes take us to the shore, through the solitary maquis that embraces coastal rocky walls. Starting from the first minutes, we explore the geological history of the region, meet colorful flowers and every shade of green. It is nearly impossible not to be fascinated by the unspoiled view. We climb down to Limanagzi Beach, where cold turquoise waters are ready to rejuvenate you. Time to relax, and lunch. In the way back, we follow a different route: we walk among Lycian tombs, and from time to time, we look back on Limanagzi beach with regret... Before the path ends at Big Pebble Beach, we have another chance to relax in clear cold seas of Kas. Altitude: 0-50-0 meters. Hike time: 3 hours.

**DAY 9.  
(B)**

**Kas / Istanbul / .....**

- After breakfast we will drive to the Dalaman Airport to catch our flight to Istanbul. Upon our arrival in Istanbul transfer to our connection flight.

B = Breakfast    L = Lunch    D = Dinner

INCLUDING	EXCLUDING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 nights hotel accommodation throughout the tour</li> <li>• Sightseeing as per above itinerary</li> <li>• Selected Unique Moment listed below</li> <li>• Entrance fees of the specified museums in the itinerary</li> <li>• Specified meals (8 Breakfast, 1 Lunch)</li> <li>• Mineral Water during lunches &amp; dinners</li> <li>• Private Transportation by A/C deluxe vehicle</li> <li>• Private English Speaking Professional tour guide</li> <li>• Mineral water during the touring days</li> <li>• Tips to the hotel and restaurant staff</li> <li>• Service charges &amp; local taxes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flight tickets (International &amp; Domestic)</li> <li>• Drinks and meals which are not listed at the itinerary</li> <li>• All personal expenses</li> <li>• Tips to the tour guide and driver.</li> </ul>



**Karavan**  **travel**™

**SELECTED UNIQUE MOMENTS (included in our package)**

- **Turkish Blue Eyed Bead**
- **Turkish coffee** from **Sark Kahvesi**
- **Baklava** from the masters Unchanging taste in **Karakoy Gulluoglu Baklavicisi**
- **Turkish Delight** at **Ali Muhiddin Haci Bekir's shop**
- **Lunch at a local village house** in Cappadocia

**Karavan**  **travel**

 **Karavan**

## JEWELS OF TURKEY ( 9 NIGHTS – 10 DAYS )

DAY 1.  
(-)

### Istanbul

- Following our arrival in Istanbul we are met at the airport and transferred to our hotel where we will have our overnight stay.

DAY 2.  
(B)

### Istanbul

- Welcome Gift, **Nazar Boncuk ( Turkish Blue Eyed Bead )** Nazar Boncugu is a glass bead that protects the holder from evil eye. It is pretty common in Turkey. Have a look around and you might discover countless Nazar Boncuks dangling from cars, from rear-view windows, backpacks, on necklaces and bracelets, pinned to the sweaters of babies and small children, and hanging above doors in restaurants, hotels, stores, and apartments.
- We set off on a full day of sightseeing in Istanbul. We will start off with a visit to the renowned Sultanahmet Mosque, known popularly as **The Blue Mosque**, an incredibly beautiful mosque known for its blue Iznik (Nicaea) tiles are unique for the fact that it has six minarets. We continue on to the **Hippodrome**, once the vast arena that functioned as the heart of sporting (chariots races and athletics) events and political activities of the old city. From here we go to the nearby **Hagia Sophia**, the Church of Divine Wisdom. Ranking as one of the greatest marvels of world architecture, this awe-inspiring building was constructed as a basilica in the 6<sup>th</sup> century by Byzantine Emperor Justinian. From here short walk to the **Underground Cistern**, the largest of the many underground cisterns built during the Byzantine Empire to supply the city with water. This cistern is especially fascinating because the Byzantine builders recycled many stone structures—capital heads and columns— that had been used in earlier temples. Now an upside down Medusa stares out at us from her watery home. We continue our tour with a visit to the **Topkapi Palace**. This visit to the imperial palace of the Ottoman Sultans will include tours of the imperial treasury, the Chinese porcelain section, the calligraphy section and many more. We will also visit the jewelry collection segment of the palace. The tour will end with a visit to the **Grand Bazaar**, the vast and legendary covered market that is the biggest souk in the world with nearly 4000 shops of antiques, jewelry and carpets. **\*\* Unique Moments :** During the visit of the **Grand Bazaar** we will be experiencing **Turkish coffee** from **Sark Kahvesi**, historical coffee roasters located in the Grand Bazaar. Each variety has been prepared with a blend of traditional knowledge, experience and an abiding “Love of Coffee”
- Overnight stay at our hotel in Istanbul



DAY 3.  
(B)

**Istanbul**

- This morning we visit the renowned **Dolmabahçe Palace**, was built between the years 1843 and 1856 by the armenian architects the Balyans. The design contains eclectic elements from the Baroque, Rococo and Neoclassic styles blended with traditional Ottoman architecture to create a new synthesis. It is the largest Palace in Turkey, its monoblock building occupies 45.000 m2. Continue our tour with a visit to the **Rustem Pasha Mosque**. Designed by the Ottoman imperial architect Mimar Sinan for Grand Vizier "Son-in-Law" Rüstem Pasha (husband of Princess Mihrimah Sultana, one of the daughters of Suleiman the Magnificent), the construction was carried out from 1561 to 1563. The Rüstem Pasha Mosque is famous for its many exquisite Iznik tiles that depict a wide variety of beautiful floral and geometric designs. These priceless tiles have been used to decorate the *mihrab*, *minbar*, walls, columns and the interior and exterior façades of the enclosed portico. These tiles use the cherry red that is characteristic of the early Iznik period (1555-1620). No other mosque in Istanbul makes such a lavish use of these tiles. Short walk to **Spice Market**. Built in 1664, this large, old stone building includes a large number of shops (and a restaurant on the second floor that has long held a venerable place in the life of the city). This collection of shops was actually part of the complex of the adjacent Yeni Camii (the "New Mosque," whose construction started in 1597 and finished decades later). Since its construction, the Egyptian Spice Market has specialized in the sale of exotic spices. Today, these lovely small shops continue to sell spices and now also sell dried fruits, nuts, seeds, and other edibles. Some of the shops are gradually being transformed into shops featuring jewelry and other high margin items. **\*\* Unique Moments :** During the visit of Spice Market we will have a short break at **Ali Muhiddin Hacı Bekir's shop** – the inventor of Turkish delight. From the time of its founding during the Ottoman Empire, the name Hacı Bekir has become a legend in Ottoman and Turkish confectionery and a leading symbol of this art. Late afternoon we will have a **Cruise on the Bosphorus** with a regular boat. We'll cruise up Istanbul's winding straits and relax and admire the shoreline of beautiful mosques, lavish palaces, and decadent yalis. You'll see Dolmabahçe Palace, Beylerbeyi Palace, Ottoman summer mansions, the Ortaköy Mosque, the defensive Rumeli Fortress, and the Bosphorus Bridge, one of the world's largest suspension bridges, all while passing fishing boats, yachts, huge cargo ships, and tankers.
- Overnight stay at our hotel in Istanbul

DAY 4.  
(B-D)

**Istanbul / Gallipoli / Canakkale ( 310 km – Approx driving time 3 hours and 45 minutes )**

- After breakfast we begin our drive to **Gallipoli**, a pleasant drive that takes us through the European (Thracian) lands of Turkey. Walk on the beach at **ANZAC Cove**, visit **the Lone Pine Cemetery** and see **the Turkish Memorial**. We also visit the moving **ANZAC Museum** before crossing the Dardanelles by ferry to Canakkale where we will check into our hotel and enjoy our buffet dinner and overnight stay at our hotel.

DAY 5.  
(B)

**Canakkale / Pergamon / Sirince ( 390 km – Approx driving time 5 hours )**

- After breakfast we visit the ancient **Troy** where we will see its legendary walls and the replica of the wooden Trojan Horse. From here we begin our drive towards the Aegean and Izmir. Along the way we will stop at the hauntingly beautiful **Pergamon**, including visits to the **Acropolis** and **Asklepion**. Late afternoon we continue our drive to Village of Sirince.



- Overnight at our hotel in Sirince.

DAY 6.  
(B)

**Sirince / Ephesus / Sirince**

- After breakfast drive to Ephesus, famous for its **Temple of Artemis** - one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Its cult to Artemis and its Hellen civilization with Heraclites the “Skotinos” philosopher of “Panta Rei”. During the years of the Roman Empire, the Greek port of Ephesus became the greatest city in Asia Minor. Upon arrival at **Ephesus** follow your guide to enter this ancient site through the Magnesian Gate and discover innumerable monuments including the Forum, the Odeon, the Library of Celsus, the Thermal Baths of Scolastika and the Great Theatre built in the Hellenistic period, which is still noted for its remarkable acoustics, and is where St Paul preached. We will also visit **Virgin Mary’s House**.
- Afternoon free at leisure.
- We will spend the night at our hotel in Sirince

DAY 7.  
(B)

**Sirince / Bodrum ( 175 km – Approx driving time 2 hours 30 minutes)**

- After breakfast drive to Bodrum. Situated on a beautiful peninsula, **Bodrum**, home of the famous Greek historian Herodotus. A short bus ride from the new port brings you to **the Castle of St. Peter**. to obtain stone to build the castle, the Knight of Rhodes tore down the famous Mausoleum of Halicarnassus—a magnificent tomb that was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. You will also visit **the Museum of Underwater Archaeology**, whose artifacts were found underwater and date from the Bronze Age through the Middle Ages. Remnants of cargo from a 13th-century BC Syrian trade ship are on display. You will also visit the Carian Princess section to see a beautiful tiara of gold. Next, you will visit the ruins of **the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus**. This is Bodrum’s oldest and most significant treasure. Artemisia II built the tomb in honor of her husband, King Mausolos. The modern generic term for a large tomb is derived from his name. The entire structure stood more than 150 feet tall and featured frescos and other art objects, some of which are now on display in the London Museum. On the way back to the port we will have a chance to take great pictures of Bodrum Peninsula and troll around the narrow streets of the city centre.
- Overnight at our hotel in Bodrum.

DAY 8.  
(B)

**Bodrum**

- Breakfast
- Day at leisure
- Overnight at our hotel in Bodrum.

DAY 9.  
(B)

**Bodrum**

- Breakfast
- Day at leisure
- Overnight at our hotel in Bodrum.





DAY 10.  
(B)

**Bodrum / Istanbul / UK**

- After breakfast we will drive to Bodrum Airport to catch our flight to Istanbul. Upon our arrival in Istanbul we will transfer to our connection flight back to UK.

**B** = Breakfast    **L** = Lunch    **D** = Dinner

**Our Services Include:**

- 9 nights hotel accommodation throughout the tour
- Sightseeing as per above itinerary
- Selected Unique Moment listed below
- Entrance fees of the specified museums in the itinerary
- Specified meals (9 Breakfast and 1 dinner)
- Private Transportation by A/C deluxe vehicle
- Private English Speaking Professional tour guide
- Mineral water during the touring days
- Tips to the hotel and restaurant staff
- Service charges & local taxes

**Our Services do not include:**

- Flight tickets (International & Domestic)
- Free Choice Tours
- Suggested Unique Moments
- Drinks and meals which are not listed at the itinerary
- All personal expenses
- Tips to the tour guide and driver.



## SPLENDOUR OF TURKEY TOUR ENDING IN ANTALYA (7 Nights / 8 Days)

DAY 1.  
(-)

### Istanbul

- Following our arrival in Istanbul we are met at the airport and transferred to our hotel where we will have our overnight stay.

DAY 2.  
(B)

### Istanbul

- Welcome Gift, **Nazar Boncuk (Turkish Blue Eyed Bead)** Nazar Boncugu is a glass bead that protects the holder from evil eye. It is pretty common in Turkey. Have a look around and you might discover countless Nazar Boncuks dangling from cars, from rear-view windows, backpacks, on necklaces and bracelets, pinned to the sweaters of babies and small children, and hanging above doors in restaurants, hotels, stores, and apartments.
- We set off on a full day of sightseeing in Istanbul. We will start off with a visit to the renowned Sultanahmet Mosque, known popularly as **The Blue Mosque**, an incredibly beautiful mosque known for its blue Iznik (Nicaea) tiles are unique for the fact that it has six minarets. We continue on to the **Hippodrome**, once the vast arena that functioned as the heart of sporting (chariots races and athletics) events and political activities of the old city. From here we go to the nearby **Hagia Sophia**, the Church of Divine Wisdom. Ranking as one of the greatest marvels of world architecture, this awe-inspiring building was constructed as a basilica in the 6<sup>th</sup> century by Byzantine Emperor Justinian. From here short walk to the **Underground Cistern**, the largest of the many underground cisterns built during the Byzantine Empire to supply the city with water. This cistern is especially fascinating because the Byzantine builders recycled many stone structures—capital heads and columns— that had been used in earlier temples. Now an upside down Medusa stares out at us from her watery home. We continue our tour with a visit to the **Topkapi Palace**. This visit to the imperial palace of the Ottoman Sultans will include tours of the imperial treasury, the Chinese porcelain section, the calligraphy section and many more. We will also visit the jewelry collection segment of the palace. The tour will end with a visit to the **Grand Bazaar**, the vast and legendary covered market that is the biggest souk in the world with nearly 4000 shops of antiques, jewelry and carpets. **\*\* Unique Moments :** During the visit of the **Grand Bazaar** we will be experiencing **Turkish coffee** from **Sark Kahvesi**, historical coffee roasters located in the Grand Bazaar. Each variety has been prepared with a blend of traditional knowledge, experience and an abiding “Love of Coffee”
- Overnight stay at our hotel in Istanbul





DAY 3.  
(B)

**Istanbul**

- This morning we will visit the renowned **Dolmabahçe Palace**, was built between the years 1843 and 1856 by the armenian architects the Balyans. The design contains eclectic elements from the Baroque, Rococo and Neoclassic styles blended with traditional Ottoman architecture to create a new synthesis. It is the largest Palace in Turkey, its monoblock building occupies 45.000 m2. Later on we will go to **Cruise on the Bosphorus** with a regular boat. We'll cruise up Istanbul's winding straits and relax and admire the shoreline of beautiful mosques, lavish palaces, and decadent yalis. We'll see Dolmabahçe Palace, Beylerbeyi Palace, Ottoman summer mansions, the Ortaköy Mosque, the defensive Rumeli Fortress, and the Bosphorus Bridge, one of the world's largest suspension bridges, all while passing fishing boats, yachts, huge cargo ships, and tankers.
- Remainder of the afternoon at your own leisure.
- Overnight stay at our hotel in Istanbul

DAY 4.  
(B-D)

**Istanbul / Gallipoli / Canakkale ( 310 km – Approximately driving time 3 hours and 45 minutes )**

- After breakfast we begin our drive to **Gallipoli**, a pleasant drive that takes us through the European (Thracian) lands of Turkey. Walk on the beach at **ANZAC Cove**, visit **the Lone Pine Cemetery** and see **the Turkish Memorial**. We also visit the moving **ANZAC Museum** before crossing the Dardanelles by ferry to Canakkale where we will check into our hotel and enjoy our buffet dinner and overnight stay at our hotel.

DAY 5.  
(B-D)

**Canakkale / Pergamon / Izmir ( 320 km – Approximately driving time 4 hours )**

- After breakfast we visit the ancient **Troy** where we will see its legendary walls and the replica of the wooden Trojan Horse. From here we begin our drive towards the Aegean and Izmir. Along the way we will stop at the hauntingly beautiful **Pergamon**, including visits to the **Acropolis** and **Asklepion**. Late afternoon we continue our drive to Izmir. Once we are in Izmir—the Pearl of the Aegean Sea—we will have a short sightseeing tour of the city. We will dine and spend the night at our hotel.  
**\*\* Unique Moments :** Tonight you will enjoy a *short ride of Phaeton/Fayton* (typical horse carriage of Izmir ) tour in Izmir along the famous shore promenade called Kordonboyu.

DAY 6.  
(B-D)

**Izmir / Ephesus / Pamukkale ( 265 km – Approximately driving time 3 hours and 30 minutes )**

- After breakfast drive to Ephesus, famous for its **Temple of Artemis** - one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Its cult to Artemis and its Hellen civilization with Heraclites the “Skotinos” philosopher of “Panta Rei”. During the years of the Roman Empire, the Greek port of Ephesus became the greatest city in Asia Minor. Upon Arrival at **Ephesus** follow your guide to enter this ancient site through the Magnesian Gate and discover innumerable monuments including the Forum, the Odeon, the Library of Celsus, the Thermal Baths of Scolastika and the Great Theatre built in the Hellenistic period, which is still noted for its remarkable acoustics, and is where St Paul preached. We will also visit **Virgin Mary's House**.



- We will continue to **SIRINCE**. A paved road of 8 km leads to this attractive village set in the hills above Ephesus, surrounded by an idyllic landscape of vineyards and peach orchards. Sirince retains its traditional architecture almost wholly intact, thanks to landmark rules which have been implemented since the 1980s. Most houses in the village date from the 19th century. After visit to village, **\*\* Unique Moments :** Stop at the Sirince Artemis **Wine House for the wine tasting**. Late afternoon we continue to **Pamukkale**, "the Cotton Castle" with its snow-white terraces formed by thermal waters cascading down the hillside.
- We will dine and spend the night at our hotel in Pamukkale.

DAY 7.  
(B)

**Pamukkale / Antalya ( 315 km – Approximately driving time 4 hours fifty munites)**

- After enjoying our visit to this site of natural beauty we go the the adjacent ruins of antique **Hierapolis** with its famous Necropolis, Basilica, theatre and plutonium. We depart for Antalya, with a stop en route to visit **Aphrodisias**, one of the oldest sacred sites in Turkey. Dedicated to the Goddess of Love, it was the site of the magnificent Temple of Aphrodite and the home of a renowned school of marble sculpture. The Temple of Aphrodite later became a Christian basilica through an impressive swapping of columns. In the early evening arrive to the town of Antalya

DAY 8.  
(B)

**Antalya**

- After breakfast we drive to **Perge**, which is one of the most impressive remains of antiquity. It was an important city in Pamphylia (today's Mediterranean region). Perge is famous for its agora and its theater seating 10,000 people. Legend holds that Perge was founded after the Trojan War by Greek settlers. Perge developed from a Hellenistic hilltop settlement into a Roman City. The town had one of the oldest Christian communities in Asia Minor. Paul and his companions visited Perge on their first missionary journey, it was here that John left Paul and Barnabas and returned to Jerusalem. Last, we will visit to **Aspendos (Belkis)** is one of Pamphylia's most ancient cities that was founded by the Greeks around 1184 BC. Aspendos is famous for it's incredibly well preserved theater built in the 2nd Century AD with a capacity to seat 15,000 people. It is still used today for classical performances and festivals; the theater's galleries, stage decorations and acoustics all testify to its fabulous architectural design and construction.
- At the end of our visits, you will transfer to your hotel in Antalya.

**End of our services.**

**B** = Breakfast      **L** = Lunch      **D** = Dinner



**Our Services Include:**

- 7 nights hotel accommodation throughout the tour
- Sightseeing as per above itinerary
- Entrance fees of the specified museums in the itinerary
- Specified meals ( 7 Breakfast and 3 dinners )
- Mineral Water during lunches & dinners
- Private Transportation by A/C deluxe vehicle
- Private English Speaking Professional tour guide
- Mineral water during the touring days
- Tips to the hotel and restaurant staff
- Service charges & local taxes

**Our Services do not include:**

- Flight tickets (International & Domestic)
- Drinks and meals which are not listed at the itinerary
- All personal expenses
- Tips to the tour guide and driver.

**SELECTED UNIQUE MOMENTS (included in our package)**

- **Turkish Blue Eyed Bead**
- **Turkish coffee** from Sark Kahvesi
- **Baklava** from the masters Unchanging taste in **Karakoy Gulluoglu Baklavicisi**
- **Turkish Delight** at **Ali Muhiddin Hacı Bekir's shop**
- A short **ride of Phaeton/Fayton** (typical horse carriage of Izmir )  
Stop at the Sirince Artemis **Wine House for the wine tasting.**

## SPLENDOURS OF TURKEY TOUR ENDING IN BODRUM (8 Days / 7 Days)

### DAY 1.

(-)



#### Istanbul

- Following our arrival in Istanbul we are met at the airport and transferred to our hotel where we will have our overnight stay.

### DAY 2.

(B)

#### Istanbul

- Welcome Gift, **Nazar Boncuk ( Turkish Blue Eyed Bead )** Nazar Boncugu is a glass bead that protects the holder from evil eye. It is pretty common in Turkey. Have a look around and you might discover countless Nazar Boncuks dangling from cars, from rear-view windows, backpacks, on necklaces and bracelets, pinned to the sweaters of babies and small children, and hanging above doors in restaurants, hotels, stores, and apartments. 
- We set off on a full day of sightseeing in Istanbul. We will start off with a visit to the renowned Sultanahmet Mosque, known popularly as **The Blue Mosque**, an incredibly beautiful mosque known for its blue Iznik (Nicaea) tiles are unique for the fact that it has six minarets. We continue on to the **Hippodrome**, once the vast arena that functioned as the heart of sporting (chariots races and athletics) events and political activities of the old city. From here we go to the nearby **Hagia Sophia**, the Church of Divine Wisdom. Ranking as one of the greatest marvels of world architecture, this awe-inspiring building was constructed as a basilica in the 6<sup>th</sup> century by Byzantine Emperor Justinian. From here short walk to the **Underground Cistern**, the largest of the many underground cisterns built during the Byzantine Empire to supply the city with water. This cistern is especially fascinating because the Byzantine builders recycled many stone structures—capital heads and columns— that had been used in earlier temples. Now an upside down Medusa stares out at us from her watery home. We continue our tour with a visit to the **Topkapi Palace**. This visit to the imperial palace of the Ottoman Sultans will include tours of the imperial treasury, the Chinese porcelain section, the calligraphy section and many more. We will also visit the jewelry collection segment of the palace. The tour will end with a visit to the **Grand Bazaar**, the vast and legendary covered market that is the biggest souk in the world with nearly 4000 shops of antiques, jewelry and carpets. **\*\* Unique Moments :** During the visit of the **Grand Bazaar** we will be experiencing **Turkish coffee** from **Sark Kahvesi**, historical coffee roasters located in the Grand Bazaar. Each variety has been prepared with a blend of traditional knowledge, experience and an abiding **“Love of Coffee”** 
- Overnight stay at our hotel in Istanbul

DAY 3.  
(B)

**Istanbul**

- This morning we will visit the renowned **Dolmabahçe Palace** was built between the years 1843 and 1856 by the armenian architects the Balyans. The design contains eclectic elements from the Baroque, Rococo and Neoclassic styles blended with traditional Ottoman architecture to create a new synthesis. It is the largest Palace in Turkey, its monoblock building occupies 45.000 m2. Continue our tour with a visit to the **Rustem Pasha Mosque**. Designed by the Ottoman imperial architect Mimar Sinan for Grand Vizier "Son-in-Law" Rüstem Pasha (husband of Princess Mihrimah Sultana, one of the daughters of Suleiman the Magnificent), the construction was carried out from 1561 to 1563. The Rüstem Pasha Mosque is famous for its many exquisite Iznik tiles that depict a wide variety of beautiful floral and geometric designs. These priceless tiles have been used to decorate the *mihrab*, *minbar*, walls, columns and the interior and exterior façades of the enclosed portico. These tiles use the cherry red that is characteristic of the early Iznik period (1555-1620). No other mosque in Istanbul makes such a lavish use of these tiles. We will short walk to **Spice Market**. Built in 1664, this large, old stone building includes a large number of shops (and a restaurant on the second floor that has long held a venerable place in the life of the city). This collection of shops was actually part of the complex of the adjacent **Yeni Camii** (the "New Mosque," whose construction started in 1597 and finished decades later). Since its construction, the Egyptian Spice Market has specialized in the sale of exotic spices. Today, these lovely small shops continue to sell spices and now also sell dried fruits, nuts, seeds, and other edibles. Some of the shops are gradually being transformed into shops featuring jewelry and other high margin items. **\*\* Unique Moments :** During the visit of Spice Market we will have a short break at **Ali Muhiddin Haci Bekir's shop** – the inventor of Turkish delight. From the time of its founding during the Ottoman Empire, the name Haci Bekir has become a legend in Ottoman and Turkish confectionery and a leading symbol of this art. Late afternoon we will have a **Cruise on the Bosphorus** with a regular boat. We'll cruise up Istanbul's winding straits and relax and admire the shoreline of beautiful mosques, lavish palaces, and decadent yalis. You'll see Dolmabahçe Palace, Beylerbeyi Palace, Ottoman summer mansions, the Ortaköy Mosque, the defensive Rumeli Fortress, and the Bosphorus Bridge, one of the world's largest suspension bridges, all while passing fishing boats, yachts, huge cargo ships, and tankers.
- Overnight stay at our hotel in Istanbul

DAY 4.  
(B)

**Istanbul / Cappadocia**

- After breakfast, we will drive to the Istanbul (Ataturk) Airport to catch our morning flight to Kayseri (Cappadocia). Arrive in Kayseri airport and private transfer to our hotel in Cappadocia on th way we will visit the following sites;





- First, we will visit **Devrent Valley**. One magical corner in the countless panoramic valleys of Cappadocia, here is an unbelievable landscape with its rock formations and savage feeling; one of the best introductions to understanding the formation of fairy chimneys. Then, we will continue to **Pasabag Valley** where the formation of “fairy chimneys” can be best observed. Pasabag, the Pasha's Vineyard, is surrounded by incredible natural rock formations; a spectacular scene. Then, drive down into the village of Urgup, where you will see the blending of landscape and buildings. Last, we will walk through the **Guvercinlik Valley**. The Pigeon Valley is one of the most famous valleys of Cappadocia and its name comes from the pigeon-cotes carved on its walls.
- We will spend our night at our hotel in Cappadocia.

DAY5.  
(B-L)

**Cappadocia**

- After breakfast, our first stop at **Uchisar** where is situated at the highest point in Cappadocia, The top of the Uchisar Castle, provides a magnificent panorama of the surrounding area with Mount Erciyes in the distance. Many rooms hollowed out into the rock are connected to each other with stairs, tunnels and and passages. At the entrances of the rooms, there are millstone doors, just like the ones in the underground settlements, used to control access to these places. Due to the erosion in places of this multi-leveled castle, it is unfortunately not possible to reach all the rooms. Most of the rooms, located on the north side of the castle are in use as pigeon houses (dovecuts) today. Farmers used these cave pigeon houses to collect the droppings of pigeons which is an excellent natural fertilizer for the orchards and vineyards. We will continue with visit of **Goreme** area. The small town of Goreme is situated in the middle of the Valley of Fairy Chimneys, surrounded by the eerie shapes and fantastic rock formations that have made the region famous. It is one of the few remaining villages where fairy chimneys and rock-hewn houses are still inhabited, and several restaurants and cafes are carved into the rock. Its biggest attraction is the Goreme Open-Air museum with over 30 beautifully frescoed Byzantine rock churches. The town makes an excellent base from which to explore the surrounding rock formations, villages, vineyards and attractions. For shoppers, carpets and Kilims are plentiful. **Goreme National Park** which was the official state during the period of the Roman Empire, was named “Cappadocia”, which means “The Country of White Horses” in Persian. The Goreme Open-Air Museum is the most visited of the monastic communities in Cappadocia and is one of the most famous sites in central Turkey. It is a complex comprising more than 30 rock-hewn churches and chapels containing some superb frescoes, dating from the 9th to the 11th centuries. Inconspicuous from the outside, the interiors are characteristically Byzantine with a central dome and a floor plan in the shape of a cross. \*\*  
**Unique Moments :** We will have **lunch at a local village house** where you see may groups of women are cooking local bread together, these lovely people invite you to join them and to sit together. If you want you may try to cook traditional Turkish bread. Then you are going to be taken to a traditional Turkish house, to meet the members and to interact with the family. If you have already learned a little Turkish this is the right time to use local language. After lunch, we will continue our day descending below the earth's surface into the **Kaymakli Underground City**, where five levels extend below ground and include; living quarters, kitchens, wine presses, storage rooms, stables and ventilation shafts. Early Christians carved out these subterranean complexes to avoid invaders who swept across the plains of Anatolia from the 6th to the 9th Century. Shopping time





for the well-known merits of the area before returning to the hotel.

- We will spend our night at our hotel In Cappadocia.

DAY6.  
(B)

**Capadocia / Izmir / Sirince**

- After breakfast, we will drive to the Kasyeri Airport to catch our flight to Izmir via Istanbul. Arrive in Izmir, transfer to our hotel in Sirince.
- Overnight at our hotel in Sirince.

DAY7.  
(B)

**Sirince / Ephesus / Sirince**

- After breakfast, we will drive to Ephesus, famous for its **Temple of Artemis** - one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Its cult to Artemis and its Hellen civilization with Heraclites the “Skotinos” philosopher of “Panta Rei”. During the years of the Roman Empire, the Greek port of Ephesus became the greatest city in Asia Minor. Upon arrival at **Ephesus** follow your guide to enter this ancient site through the Magnesian Gate and discover innumerable monuments including the Forum, the Odeon, the Library of Celsus, the Thermal Baths of Scolastika and the Great Theatre built in the Hellenistic period, which is still noted for its remarkable acoustics, and is where St Paul preached. We will also visit **Virgin Mary’s House**. Remainder of the day at your own leisure.
- Overnight at our hotel in Sirince.

DAY8.  
(B)

**Sirince / Bodrum ( 175 km – Approximately driving time 2 hours 30 minutes)**

- After breakfast, we will drive to Bodrum. Situated on a beautiful peninsula, **Bodrum**, home of the famous Greek historian Herodotus. A short bus ride from the new port brings you to **the Castle of St. Peter** to obtain stone to build the castle, the Knight of Rhodes tore down the famous Mausoleum of Halicarnassus—a magnificent tomb that was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. We will also visit **the Museum of Underwater Archaeology**, whose artifacts were found underwater and date from the Bronze Age through the Middle Ages. Remnants of cargo from a 13th-century BC Syrian trade ship are on display. We will also visit the Carian Princess section to see a beautiful tiara of gold. Next, we will visit the ruins of **the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus**. This is Bodrum’s oldest and most significant treasure. Artemisia II built the tomb in honor of her husband, King Mausolos. The modern generic term for a large tomb is derived from his name. The entire structure stood more than 150 feet tall and featured frescos and other art objects, some of which are now on display in the London Museum on the way back to the port we will have a chance to take great pictures of Bodrum Peninsula and troll around the narrow streets of the city centre. At the end of our visits, we will transfer to hotel in Bodrum.
- **End of our services.**
- 

**B** = Breakfast

**L** = Lunch

**D** = Dinner



## **Our Services Include:**

- 7 nights hotel accommodation throughout the tour
- Sightseeing as per above itinerary
- Selected Unique Moment listed below
- Entrance fees of the specified museums in the itinerary
- Specified meals ( 7 Breakfast, 1 Lunch )
- Mineral Water during lunches & dinners
- Private Transportation by A/C deluxe vehicle
- Private English Speaking Professional tour guide
- Mineral water during the touring days
- Tips to the hotel and restaurant staff
- Service charges & local taxes

## **Our Services do not include:**

- Flight tickets (International & Domestic)
- Drinks and meals which are not listed at the itinerary
- All personal expenses
- Tips to the tour guide and driver.

## **SELECTED UNIQUE MOMENTS (included in our package)**

- **Turkish Blue Eyed Bead**
- Turkish coffee from **Sark Kahvesi**
- **Baklava** from the masters Unchanging taste in **Karakoy Gulluoglu Baklavicisi**
- **Turkish Delight at Ali Muhiddin Hacı Bekir's shop**
- Typical lunch at a local village house in Cappadocia

## TREASURES OF TURKEY ( 9 NIGHTS – 10 DAYS )



DAY 1.  
(-)

### Istanbul

- Following our arrival in Istanbul we are met at the airport and transferred to our hotel where we will have our overnight stay.

DAY 2.  
(B)

### Istanbul

- Welcome Gift, **Nazar Boncuk ( Turkish Blue Eyed Bead )** Nazar Boncugu is a glass bead that protects the holder from evil eye. It is pretty common in Turkey. Have a look around and you might discover countless Nazar Boncuks dangling from cars, from rear-view windows, backpacks, on necklaces and bracelets, pinned to the sweaters of babies and small children, and hanging above doors in restaurants, hotels, stores, and apartments. 
- We set off on a full day of sightseeing in Istanbul. We will start off with a visit to the renowned Sultanahmet Mosque, known popularly as **The Blue Mosque**, an incredibly beautiful mosque known for its blue Iznik (Nicaea) tiles are unique for the fact that it has six minarets. We continue on to the **Hippodrome**, once the vast arena that functioned as the heart of sporting (chariots races and athletics) events and political activities of the old city. From here we go to the nearby **Hagia Sophia**, the Church of Divine Wisdom. Ranking as one of the greatest marvels of world architecture, this awe-inspiring building was constructed as a basilica in the 6<sup>th</sup> century by Byzantine Emperor Justinian. From here short walk to the **Underground Cistern**, the largest of the many underground cisterns built during the Byzantine Empire to supply the city with water. This cistern is especially fascinating because the Byzantine builders recycled many stone structures—capital heads and columns— that had been used in earlier temples. Now an upside down Medusa stares out at us from her watery home. We continue our tour with a visit to the **Topkapi Palace**. This visit to the imperial palace of the Ottoman Sultans will include tours of the imperial treasury, the Chinese porcelain section, the calligraphy section and many more. We will also visit the jewelry collection segment of the palace. The tour will end with a visit to the **Grand Bazaar**, the vast and legendary covered market that is the biggest souk in the world with nearly 4000 shops of antiques, jewelry and carpets. **\*\* Unique Moments :** During the visit of the **Grand Bazaar** we will be experiencing **Turkish coffee** from **Sark Kahvesi**, historical coffee roasters located in the Grand Bazaar. Each variety has been prepared with a blend of traditional knowledge, experience and an abiding “Love of Coffee” 
- Overnight stay at our hotel in Istanbul

DAY 3.  
(B)

**Istanbul**

- This morning we visit the renowned **Dolmabahçe Palace**, was built between the years 1843 and 1856 by the armenian architects the Balyans. The design contains eclectic elements from the Baroque, Rococo and Neoclassic styles blended with traditional Ottoman architecture to create a new synthesis. It is the largest Palace in Turkey, its monoblock building occupies 45.000 m2. Later on we go **Cruise on the Bosphorus** with a regular boat. We'll cruise up Istanbul's winding straits and relax and admire the shoreline of beautiful mosques, lavish palaces, and decadent yalis. You'll see Dolmabahçe Palace, Beylerbeyi Palace, Ottoman summer mansions, the Ortaköy Mosque, the defensive Rumeli Fortress, and the Bosphorus Bridge, one of the world's largest suspension bridges, all while passing fishing boats, yachts, huge cargo ships, and tankers.
- Afternoon free at leisure.
- Overnight stay at our hotel in Istanbul

DAY 4.  
(B-D)

**Istanbul / Gallipoli / Canakkale ( 310 km – Approx driving time 3 hours and 45 minutes )**

- After breakfast we begin our drive to **Gallipoli**, a pleasant drive that takes us through the European (Thracian) lands of Turkey. Walk on the beach at **ANZAC Cove**, visit **the Lone Pine Cemetery** and see **the Turkish Memorial**. We also visit the moving **ANZAC Museum** before crossing the Dardanelles by ferry to Canakkale where we will check into our hotel and enjoy our buffet dinner and overnight stay at our hotel.

DAY 5.  
(B-D)

**Canakkale / Pergamon / Izmir ( 320 km – Approx driving time 4 hours )**

- After breakfast we visit the ancient **Troy** where we will see its legendary walls and the replica of the wooden Trojan Horse. From here we begin our drive towards the Aegean and Izmir. Along the way we will stop at the hauntingly beautiful **Pergamon**, including visits to the **Acropolis** and **Asklepion**. Late afternoon we continue our drive to Izmir. Once we are in Izmir—the Pearl of the Aegean Sea—we will have a short sightseeing tour of the city. We will dine and spend the night at our hotel.

**\*\* Unique Moments :** Tonight you will enjoy a short **ride of Phaeton/Fayton** (typical horse carriage of Izmir ) tour in Izmir along the famous shore promenade called Kordonboyu.

DAY 6.  
(B-D)

**Izmir / Ephesus / Pamukkale ( 265 km – Approx driving time 3 hours and 30 minutes )**

- After breakfast drive to Ephesus, famous for its **Temple of Artemis** - one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Its cult to Artemis and its Hellen civilization with Heraclites the “Skotinos” philosopher of “Panta Rei”. During the years of the Roman Empire, the Greek port of Ephesus became the greatest city in Asia Minor. Upon arrival at **Ephesus** follow your guide to enter this ancient site through the Magnesian Gate and discover innumerable monuments including the Forum, the Odeon, the Library of Celsus, the Thermal Baths of Scolastika and the Great Theatre built in the Hellenistic period, which is still noted for its remarkable acoustics, and is where St Paul



preached. We will also visit **Virgin Mary's House**. We will continue to **SIRINCE**. A paved road of 8 km leads to this attractive village set in the hills above Ephesus, surrounded by an idyllic landscape of vineyards and peach orchards. Sirince retains its traditional architecture almost wholly intact, thanks to landmark rules which have been implemented since the 1980s. Most houses in the village date from the 19th century. **\*\* Unique Moments :** Stop at the Sirince Artemis **Wine House for the wine tasting**. Late afternoon we continue to **Pamukkale**, "the Cotton Castle" with its snow-white terraces formed by thermal waters cascading down the hillside.

- We will dine and spend the night at our hotel in Pamukkale

DAY 7.  
(B-D)

**Pamukkale / Konya ( 415 km – Approx driving time 5 hours)**

- After enjoying our visit to this site of natural beauty we go to the adjacent ruins of antique **Hierapolis** with its famous Necropolis, Basilica, theatre and plutonium. We then continue to Konya. We will visit the mausoleum, museum and monastery complex dedicated to Rumi, the founder of the mystical order often referred to as the "Whirling Dervishes."
- We will dine and spend the night at our hotel in Konya.

DAY 8.  
(B)

**Konya / Cappadocia ( 220 km – Approx driving time 2 hours and 30 minutes )**

- After breakfast, we set off for Cappadocia, with a visit to the **Sultanhan Caravansarai** on the way.



- Upon arrival in the Cappadocia Region we will start off with a visit to **Kaymakli Underground City**, which used to be known as Melagobia. Kaymakli was one of the biggest settlements in Cappadocia and its 8 level underground city is the deepest of the region today. We will explore the caves of this interesting city and talk about the way of life here. After lunch our second stop is **Soganli Valley**, one of the most secluded and tranquil valleys in Cappadocia. We begin our hike along one side of the valley, visiting many cave churches and we return along the other side of the valley to the quaint village.
- We will spend our night at our hotel in Cappadocia.

DAY 9.

**Cappadocia**

- After breakfast, our first stop at **Uchisar** where is situated at the highest point in



(B-L)

Cappadocia, The top of the Uchisar Castle, provides a magnificent panorama of the surrounding area with Mount Erciyes in the distance. Many rooms hollowed out into the rock are connected to each other with stairs, tunnels and passages. At the entrances of the rooms, there are millstone doors, just like the ones in the underground settlements, used to control access to these places. Due to the erosion in places of this multi-leveled castle, it is unfortunately not possible to reach all the rooms. Most of the rooms, located on the north side of the castle are in use as pigeon houses (dovecuts) today. Farmers used these cave pigeon houses to collect the droppings of pigeons which is an excellent natural fertilizer for the orchards and vineyards. We will continue with visit of **Goreme** area. The small town of Goreme is situated in the middle of the Valley of Fairy Chimneys, surrounded by the eerie shapes and fantastic rock formations that have made the region famous. It is one of the few remaining villages where fairy chimneys and rock-hewn houses are still inhabited, and several restaurants and cafes are carved into the rock. Its biggest attraction is the Goreme Open-Air museum with over 30 beautifully frescoed Byzantine rock churches. The town makes an excellent base from which to explore the surrounding rock formations, villages, vineyards and attractions. For shoppers, carpets and Kilims are plentiful. **Goreme National Park** which was the official state during the period of the Roman Empire, was named “Cappadocia”, which means “ The Country of White Horses” in Persian. The Goreme Open-Air Museum is the most visited of the monastic communities in Cappadocia and is one of the most famous sites in central Turkey. It is a complex comprising more than 30 rock-hewn churches and chapels containing some superb frescoes, dating from the 9th to the 11th centuries. Inconspicuous from the outside, the interiors are characteristically Byzantine with a central dome and a floor plan in the shape of a cross. **\*\* Unique Moments :** We will have **lunch at a local village house** where you see may groups of women are cooking local bread together, these lovely people invite you to join them and to sit together. If you want you may try to cook traditional Turkish bread. Then you are going to be taken to a traditional Turkish house, to meet the members and to interact with the family. If you have already learned a little Turkish this is the right time to use local language. After lunch, our next stop will be the **Avanos** and **Cavusin** Villages, in Avanos you can try to make pottery. Shopping time for the well-known merits of the area before returning to the hotel.

- We will spend our night at our hotel In Cappadocia

DAY 10.  
(B)

#### **Cappadocia Istanbul / UK**

- After breakfast we will drive to the Kayseri Airport to catch our morning flight to Istanbul. Upon our arrival in Istanbul we will transfer to our connection flight back to UK.

**B** = Breakfast    **L** = Lunch    **D** = Dinner



**Our Services Include:**

- 9 nights hotel accommodation throughout the tour
- Sightseeing as per above itinerary
- Selected Unique Moment listed below
- Entrance fees of the specified museums in the itinerary
- Specified meals ( 9 Breakfast, 1 Lunch and 4 dinners )
- Mineral Water during lunches & dinners
- Private Transportation by A/C deluxe vehicle
- Private English Speaking Professional tour guide
- Mineral water during the touring days
- Tips to the hotel and restaurant staff
- Service charges & local taxes

**Our Services do not include:**

- Flight tickets (International & Domestic)
- Farewell dinner at Topaz Istanbul Restaurant
- Free Choice Tours
- Suggested Unique Moments
- Drinks and meals which are not listed at the itinerary
- All personal expenses
- Tips to the tour guide and driver.

INCLUDING	EXCLUDING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 9 nights hotel accommodation throughout the tour at below specified selected hotels</li><li>• Sightseeing as per above itinerary</li><li>• Selected Unique Moment listed below</li><li>• Entrance fees of the specified museums in the itinerary</li><li>• Specified meals ( 9 Breakfast, 3 Lunches and 4 dinners )</li><li>• Mineral Water during lunches &amp; dinners</li><li>• Private Transportation by A/C deluxe vehicle</li><li>• Private English Speaking Professional tour guide</li><li>• Mineral water during the touring days</li><li>• Tips to the hotel and restaurant staff</li><li>• Service charges &amp; local taxes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flight tickets (International &amp; Domestic)</li><li>• Drinks and meals which are not listed at the itinerary</li><li>• All personal expenses</li><li>• Tips to the tour guide and driver.</li></ul>



Karavan  travel™

**SELECTED UNIQUE MOMENTS (included in our package)**

- **Turkish Blue Eyed Bead**
- **Turkish coffee** from **Sark Kahvesi**
- **Baklava** from the masters Unchanging taste in **Karakoy Gulluoglu Baklavicisi**
- **Turkish Delight** at **Ali Muhiddin Hacı Bekir's shop**
- A short **ride of Phaeton/Fayton** (typical horse carriage of Izmir )
- Stop at the Sirince Artemis **Wine House for the wine tasting.**
- **Lunch at a local village house** in Cappadocia