

Turkey Express

01.01.17-31.12.17

Day 1 (D)

Istanbul

- Arrival to Istanbul and transfer to the hotel.
Dinner and overnight at Doubletree by Hilton Old Town Hotel in 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.
- Overnight at Doubletree By Hilton Old Town Hotel in Istanbul. www.hilton.com



Day 2 (B-L)

Istanbul

- After breakfast we set off on a full day of sightseeing in Istanbul. We will start with a visit to the renewed 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 6th century by Byzantine Emperor Justinian. Lunch will be served at a local restaurant. After lunch, our next visit will be **Topkapi Palace** which for more than 400 years was the imperial residence of the Ottoman Sultans; now home to the priceless collections porcelain, jewelry, calligraphy and many masterpieces of art. The tour will end with the 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 visit of Grand Bazaar we will be experiencing the Turkish coffee from **Sark Kahvesi**, Historical Coffee Roasters located in Grand Bazaar. Each variety has been prepared with a blend of traditional knowledge, experience and an abiding “Love of Coffee”.
- Overnight at Doubletree by Hilton Old Town Hotel in Istanbul. www.hilton.com

<p>Day 3 (B-L-D)</p>	<p><u>Istanbul / Ankara / Cappadocia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After breakfast, we are transferred to the airport for our flight to Turkey's capital city of Ankara where we visit the Anatolian Civilizations Museum, which is renowned for its Hittite collections. We depart for Cappadocia with lunch and a visit to the Agzikarahan Caravansarai on our way. Following our arrival in Cappadocia, we will have dinner and overnight at Doubletree by Hilton Avanos Hotel. www.hilton.com
<p>Day 4 (B-L-D)</p>	<p><u>Cappadocia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After breakfast, we begin our explorations of the famous and intriguing valley of Cappadocia, a unique region in which Nature has created an incredibly strange and colorful world of cones, columns and needles that were shaped by the wind and water erosion of the area's volcanic tuff. Some of these strange shapes are as tall as 100 ft. But it is not only the Natural landscape that is unique here. Our forefathers used the soft features of the stone to carve out this fantasy-like environment into homes, stables, shops, churches, hospitals, etc. Many early Christians painted the walls of their chapels with their own renditions of Bible stories. Some of these frescoes are incredibly beautiful, attesting to the skills and religious fervor of the faithful. Among the places we will visit are Goreme, Uchisar, Kaymakli, Pasabey and Avanos, the latter providing us with the opportunity to purchase some of the hand-turned pottery that has been shaped here for millennia. ** Unique Moments We will have lunch at a local village house where you may see a group of women are cooking local bread together; these lovely people invite you to join them. If you want, you may try to cook traditional Turkish bread, too. Then, you are going to be taken to a traditional Turkish house to meet the members to interact with the family. If you have already learned some little Turkish, this is the right time to use local language. They like to hear your perfect Turkish. After that, you may help the local ladies to prepare the table for the lunch. Turkish cuisine is very rich. You may have one of your best meals ever. At the end of our visits, we will return to our hotel. Dinner and overnight at Doubletree by Hilton Avanos Hotel. www.hilton.com
<p>Day 5 (B)</p>	<p><u>Cappadocia / Istanbul</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After breakfast, we will fly back to Istanbul and connect to our international flight.

B = Breakfast

L = Lunch

D = Dinner

PAX	PACKAGE PRICE between 01.01.2017 – 31.12.2017 :
2	\$ 670- PER PERSON in Twin / Double
4	\$ 460.- PER PERSON in Twin / Double
6	\$ 390.- PER PERSON in Twin / Double

INCLUDING	EXCLUDING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodations throughout the tour at the specified Hotels or similar. • Sightseeing tours as per above • Entrance fees of the specified museums in the itinerary • Specified meals • Private Transportation by A/C deluxe vehicle • Private English speaking professional tour guide throughout the tour • Tips to hotels, restaurants • Local Taxes <p>Included Unique Moments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkish Coffee at Sark Kahvesi • Turkish Blue Eyed Bead • Local Home lunch in Cappadocia • Visit a local village house in Cappadocia and get to know the family members • Try a Turkish Tea with the locals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flight tickets (International & Domestic) • Drinks and meals which are not listed in the itinerary • All personal expenses • Tips to the tour guide and driver.

THE AEGEAN COAST (3 Nights / 4 Days)

01.01.2017 – 31.12.2017

Day 1
(L)

Istanbul / Izmir / Pergamon / Izmir

- We will transfer to Domestic terminal for morning flight to Izmir. Arrival in Izmir. Meeting at the airport and drive to hauntingly beautiful **Pergamon**, including visits to the **Acropolis** and **Asklepion**. After lunch we continue our drive to Izmir. ****Unique Moments : While we are in Izmir we will have a short ride of Phaeton/Fayton (typical horse carriage of Izmir) tour in Izmir along the famous shore promenade called Kordonboyu is included in our prices.**
- **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 will spend the night at Hilton Hotel in Izmir. www.hilton.com



Day 2
(B,L)

Izmir / Ephesus / Izmir

- 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. ****Unique Moments :** Late afternoon we will continue our tour to Village of **Sirince** for **Wine Tasting**. This Old Greek village acquired worl-wide fame when tourists flocked to the village in December 2012 to witness the Mayan Apocalypse; you will truly enjoy the impressive wines of Sirince.
- We will spend the night at Hilton Hotel in Izmir. www.hilton.com

Day 3
(B)

Izmir / Istanbul

- In the morning, we will visit **Agora**, one of the greatest Roman Agora. From there we

will admire Kadifekale hill, one of the oldest settlements of Smyrna and the site of the remnants of Mount Pagos Fortress build by the order of Alexander The Great's General Lissymachus. After that, we will drive to Izmir ADB airport for our departure flight to Istanbul.

B = Breakfast

L = Lunch

D = Dinner

PAX	PACKAGE PRICE between 01.01.2017 – 31.12.2017 :
2	\$ 430.- PER PERSON in Twin / Double
4	\$ 285.- PER PERSON in Twin / Double
6	\$ 236.- PER PERSON in Twin / Double

INCLUDING

- Accommodation at above suggested hotel or similar.
- Sightseeing tours as per above itinerary
- Entrance fees of the specified museums in the itinerary
- Specified meals
- Private Transportation by A/C deluxe vehicle
- Private English speaking professional tour guide throughout the tour
- Tips to hotels, restaurants
- Local Taxes

Included Unique Moments

- Phaeton/Fayton (typical horse carriage of Izmir) tour in Izmir.
- Wine tasting in Sirince village

EXCLUDING

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

MINITOUR ISTANBUL

01.01.2017– 31.12.2017

DAY 1. (-)

Istanbul

- Following our arrival in Istanbul we are met at the airport and transferred to our hotel.

Optional CIP - Prime Class Arrival Service

- Prime class hostesses will welcome our guests at the gate of the aircraft,
- Visa procedures will be done (If needed),
- Passport procedures will be done,
- Primeclass porters will collect luggages and carry them to the buses.
- Assitant will be given during Duty Free shopping.

Our Net Price : USD130.- per person

- **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.
- Overnight at Doubletree By Hilton Old Town Hotel in Istanbul. www.hilton.com



Day 2. (B)

Istanbul

We set off on a full day of sightseeing in Istanbul.

We will start with a visit to the renewed **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 6th century by Byzantine Emperor Justinian. After lunch our next visit will be **Topkapi Palace** which for more than 400 years was the imperial residence of the Ottoman Sultans; now home to the priceless collections porcelain, jewelry, calligraphy and many masterpieces of art. The tour will end with the 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 visit of Grand Bazaar we will be experiencing the Turkish coffee from **Sark Kahvesi** , Historical Coffee Roasters located in Grand Bazaar. Each variety has been prepared with a blend of traditional knowledge, experience and an abiding “Love of Coffee”

- **Suggested lunch at Matbah Restaurant, www.matbahrestaurant.com** Matbah is situated in a beautifully landscaped garden that acts as a peaceful oasis in the middle of Istanbul. Sitting in the heart of the old city and surrounded by all the major historical and cultural sights including the magnificent Topkapı Palace and Hagia Sophia Museum, Matbah takes you deep into the soul of Ottoman and Turkish culture through an elegant and unique atmosphere. Matbah recreates the classic “Ottoman Palace” fine dining experience in an impressive, relaxing, and welcoming way, embracing a passion for tradition and excellence. Open for breakfast, brunch, lunch, pre-dinner, and dinner, Matbah’s restaurant and bar offer a great selection of the Ottoman palace’s cuisine designed for the palates of exclusive gourmets.

Our Net Price : USD 25.- per person

- Overnight at Doubletree By Hilton Old Town Hotel in Istanbul. www.hilton.com

Day 3
(B)

Istanbul

- We will start the day with a **Bosphorus cruise** with 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. We will end the tour with a visit to the **Spice Market**. Built in 1664, this large, old stone building includes a large number of shops. 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 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.

- Afternoon free at leisure.
- Overnight at Doubletree By Hilton Old Town Hotel in Istanbul. www.hilton.com

**Day 4
(B)**

Istanbul /

- After breakfast, we will transfer to Istanbul Ataturk Airport.

B = Breakfast

L = Lunch

D = Dinner

PAX

PACKAGE PRICE between 01.01.2017 – 31.12.2017 :

2	\$ 350.- PER PERSON in Twin / Double Room
4	\$ 260.- PER PERSON in Twin / Double Room
6	\$ 230.- PER PERSON in Twin / Double Room

INCLUDING

- Accommodation at above suggested hotel or similar.
- Private Sightseeing tours as per above itinerary
- Entrance fees of the specified museums in the itinerary
- Private Transportation by A/C deluxe vehicle
- Private English Speaking Professional tour guide
- Tips to hotels, restaurants
- Local Taxes

Included Unique Moments

- Turkish Coffee at Sark Kahvesi
- Turkish delight tasting at Ali Muhiddin Haci Bekir's shop

EXCLUDING

- International Flight tickets
- Drinks and meals which are not listed in the itinerary
- Optional Prime Class Service upon arrival at the airport.
- All personal expenses
- Tips to the tour guide and driver.

Karavan Travel™

MINITOUR CAPPADOCIA (3 Nights / 4 Days)

01.01.2017 – 31.12.2017

DAY 1.
(D)

Istanbul / Kayseri / Cappadocia

Arrive in Kayseri Airport, we will be met outside of the luggage claim area at the airport and transfer to our hotel with a short orientation tour along the way.

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.



Dinner and overnight at Doubletree by Hilton Avanos in Cappadocia. www.hilton.com

DAY 2.
(B,L,D)

Cappadocia



Our first stop will be **Uchisar** 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 pensions, 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. Göreme Valley is like an open-air museum.

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. We will have **lunch at a local village house** where you may see a group of women are cooking local bread together; these lovely people invite you to join them. If you want, you may try to cook traditional Turkish bread, too. Then, you are going to be taken to a traditional Turkish house, to meet the members to interact with the family. If you have already learned some little Turkish this is the right time to use local language. They like to hear your perfect Turkish. After that, you may help the local ladies to prepare the table for the lunch. Turkish cuisine is very rich. You may have one of your best meals ever. After lunch, our next stop will be to **Avanos and Cavusin Villages**. In Avanos you can try to make pottery. Continue to Ürgüp, one of the major towns of Cappadocia and which is located conveniently near many of the fairy chimney valleys. As these chimneys have come to be seen as a symbol of Cappadocia, take – home fairy chimneys chiselled from pumice.

At the end of your visits, you will return to your hotel.

Dinner and overnight at Doubletree by Hilton Avanos in Cappadocia. www.hilton.com

DAY 3.
(B,L,D)

Cappadocia

Early morning *optional* Hot Air Ballooning in Cappadocia

We collect our passengers from their hotels roughly one hour before sunrise and we bring them to our base, and serve tea, coffee and cookies, as the passengers meet. Then we go to our take off field designated for that day. The balloon will be ready and waiting for you. Following a safety briefing from our pilot, we climb into the baskets and take off. During the flight we rise to altitudes of several hundred meters to give you a good view of the region, but what we do mostly is drift through the valleys and canyons and around the fairy chimneys, performing

contour flying. This sort of balloon flight is possible only in Cappadocia in the whole world. The actual flight time is between 50 to 65 minutes. On landing, we have a traditional celebration party with some champagne and cakes, and we give every passenger a commemorative flight certificate written to their names. Then, we bring our guests back to their hotels. The whole excursion takes about 3 hours from pick up to drop off. Therefore, if the passengers wish to go on a sightseeing tour during the day, they are back in time to join the tour.

Our Net Price : USD120.- per person

We set off on a full day of sightseeing in Cappadocia. We will start with a visit to **Kaymakli Underground City**. Used to be known as Melagobia, Kaymakli was one of the biggest settlements in Cappadocia and it's 8 level underground city and the deepest of the region today. We will explore the caves of this interesting city and talk about the way of life here.

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 continue our tour with visiting of **Mustafapasa**, the former Greek Village Sinasos with spectacular architecture. After our delicious lunch at one of the former Greek Mansions here, we will walk around the village, learning about the population exchange from 1923, the wealthy merchants and locals who once thrived in this town.



Our last stop at Zelve Valley; **The Zelve Open-Air Museum**, which once housed one of the largest communities in the region, is an amazing cave town, honeycombed with dwellings, religious and secular chambers. Zelve is situated about 10 km out from Goreme on the Avanos road. Here, the Christians and Muslims lived together in perfect harmony, until 1924. Then, Christians had to leave the Valley because of the exchange of minorities between Greece and Turkey, and the Muslims were forced to **evacuate the Valley in the 50's when life became dangerous due to the risk of erosion.**

They left the site to set up a modern village, a little further on, to which they gave the name **Yeni Zelve** (New Zelve).

At the end of your visits, you will return to your hotel.

Dinner and overnight at Doubletree by Hilton Avanos in Cappadocia. www.hilton.com

DAY 4.
(B)

Cappadocia / Kayseri / Istanbul

- After breakfast, you will transfer to Kayseri Airport.

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

PAX	PACKAGE PRICE between 01.01.2017 – 31.12.2017 :
2	\$ 405.- PER PERSON in Twin/Double Room
4	\$ 275.- PER PERSON in Twin/Double Room
6	\$ 230.- PER PERSON in Twin/Double Room

INCLUDING	EXCLUDING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation at above specified hotel or similar. • Private sightseeing as per above itinerary • All escorted transfers • Daily breakfast, Lunches & Dinners where indicated. (Beverages are not included during lunches) • Private Transportation by A/C deluxe vehicle • Private English Speaking Professional tour guide • All entry fees to the sites & museums • Tips to the hotel and restaurant staff • Service charges & local taxes <p>Included Unique Moments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkish Blue Eyed Bead • Local Home lunch in Cappadocia • Visit a local village house in Cappadocia and get to know the family members • Try a Turkish Tea with the locals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flight tickets (International & Domestic) • Drinks and meals which are not listed at the itinerary • All personal expenses • Tips to the tour guide and driver. • Optional Hot Air Ballooning in Cappadocia.