



TÜRKIYE

## TÜRKIYE (TURKEY) JOURNEYS (TOUR CODE: 12973)

### STARTS AND ENDS

in Istanbul

### TRAVEL PERIODS

11 May 25 - 14 Sep 25

### EXPERIENCE

Escorted  
Cultural

### TRAVEL STYLE

Group Journeys

Embark on an enchanting journey through Istanbul's iconic landmarks, Cappadocia's mesmerizing landscapes, Konya's spiritual essence, and Pamukkale's natural marvels.

### Highlights

- **Guaranteed Departures.** Small group sizes (max 24 passengers). English speaking only tour with an experienced Tour Director.
- Visit the **Blue Mosque** and the **Hagia Sophia Mosque**, iconic symbols of Istanbul.
- Enjoy a **boat trip along the Bosphorus** to witness Istanbul's skyline, historic landmarks, and the unique experience of being between two continents.
- Admire the **Fairy Chimneys in Cappadocia**, unique rock formations that enhance the landscape, resembling fantastical shapes.
- Be amazed by **Pamukkale's natural marvel**: white waterfall, hot spring pools, and distinct calcareous formations, shaped by lime-rich waters.

Commence your journey in Istanbul by visiting the iconic Blue Mosque and Hagia Sophia Mosque. Then, embark on a Bosphorus boat trip, savoring Istanbul's skyline and crossing continents.

Explore Cappadocia's unparalleled landscape, shaped by ancient volcanic eruptions, as you uncover intricate rock-carved chapels adorned with frescoes in Göreme valley, revel in the captivating vistas of "Fairy Chimneys" in Avcilar and Güvercinlik valleyS. Travel to Konya to explore the Mevlana Monastery—home of the whirling dervishes—offering a captivating glimpse into Turkish culture.

Then, journey to Pamukkale's natural wonder with white cascades, stalactite formations, and thermal pools. Discover the necropolis in Hierapolis. Depart for Ephesus, explore iconic vestiges, including the Hadrian Temple and Celso Library, and experience a fur production center. Return to Istanbul, completing your extraordinary adventure.



GUARANTEED DEPARTURES



SMALL GROUP SIZES



SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL



ENGLISH-ONLY EXPERT GUIDES



CITY-CENTRE QUALITY HOTELS



SPECIAL EVENTS INCLUDED



SLOWER-PACED ITINERARY



✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period

✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind

✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support

✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices

✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited

✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

## INCLUSIONS

- 7-nights accommodation in 4-star hotel
- Internal Flights
- Transportation by coach
- Private transfers to/from airport as per itinerary
- Daily Breakfast
- Meals: Welcome dinner & Farewell lunch
- Lunches and Dinners as per itinerary
- Guided visits in Istanbul, Cappadocia, Pamukkale, and Esmirna
- English-Speaking Only Tour Director throughout the journey

## ITINERARY

### Intro Map

Turkey Journeys



Day **1**

## Istanbul Airport Istanbul

Upon your arrival at the airport, a private transfer will be awaiting for you and transfer you to your hotel.

At 19:00, meet with your Tour Director at the hotel's Reception Desk for a welcome meeting where you will also be meeting your fellow travellers. Following the meeting, **enjoy a welcome dinner** in a local restaurant.

Overnight stay in Istanbul at **Hotel Barcelo Istanbul**.

Dinner



Day **2**

## Istanbul

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Departure from the hotel to visit the **Topkapi Palace**, residence of the sultans of the Ottoman Empire and it's situated in a strategic location overlooking the Bosphorus and the Golden Horn. The palace is renowned for its opulent architecture, lush gardens, and intriguing collections of artifacts.

Then, enjoy a lunch in a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, visit the **Sultanahmet** neighbourhood with the Roman Hippodrome square, the Blue Mosque, unique among all Ottoman mosques in having 6 minarets and the splendid 6th century **Hagia Sophia Mosque**.

In the evening, discover the **Egyptian Bazaar**, a vibrant market filled with an array of aromatic spices, teas, sweets, nuts, and more.

Overnight stay in Istanbul at **Hotel Barcelo Istanbul**.

Breakfast, Lunch



Day **3**

## Istanbul Cappadocia

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

In the morning, we will have a **panoramic tour of the city**, passing through the important neighborhoods of the historical part and the modern part of the city, including a walk along the pedestrian street of Istiklal.

Time at leisure in the **Grand Bazaar** (closed on Sundays, religious holidays and on October 29), a building that houses more than 4,000 shops inside.

Take a **boat trip through the Bosphorus**, the strait that separates Europe from Asia where we can enjoy the great beauty of the forests of Istanbul, its palaces and the yali, wooden palaces built on both banks.

After the tour, transfer to the airport to take a **domestic flight to Cappadocia**. Upon your arrival in Cappadocia, you will be transferred to your hotel. If your arrival time at the hotel is after 10:00 p.m., dinner will be provided in the form of a boxed meal.

Overnight stay in Cappadocia at **Carus Cappadocia**.

Breakfast, Dinner





## Day 4

### Cappadocia

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

The morning is free for you to enjoy at your leisure. Alternatively, you have the option to enhance your experience by choosing a **sunrise balloon ride** (*Please note: This is not included in the package and can be purchased on-site*).

Later, we will embark on a captivating exploration of this remarkable region, characterized by a unique landscape sculpted by the volcanic eruptions of Erciyes and Hasan Volcanoes that occurred 3 million years ago. Our journey begins with a visit to the **Göreme valley**, where you will discover a multitude of monasteries and chapels intricately carved into the rock formations and adorned with exquisite frescoes. Continue to the **Avcilar and Güvercinlik valleys**, both boasting awe-inspiring vistas of the iconic "Fairy Chimneys." This route also leads us to the troglodyte **town of Uçhisar**, a living testament to its era, with dwellings etched into the rock and a commanding fortress that has withstood the test of time. In Cappadocia you have the opportunity also to visit the **typical workshops of Turkish carpets**.

In the evening, enjoy a delightful dinner at your hotel.

Overnight stay in Cappadocia at **Carus Cappadocia**.

Breakfast, Dinner



## Cappadocia Konya

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

During the morning, we will have the opportunity to visit a **traditional pottery workshop**, where the age-old craft comes to life. Continuing our journey, we will encounter a remarkably intact 13th-century **Caravanserai**, a haven for travelers seeking respite along their routes.

En route, we will explore the **Serhatlı underground city**. Constructed by Christian communities as a safeguard against Arab assaults, this city offers a glimpse into the strategic craftsmanship of its time.

Upon arriving in **Konya**, we will visit the **Mevlana Monastery**, the spiritual home of the whirling dervishes. This immersive experience provides a captivating window into the rich tapestry of traditional Turkish culture.

In the evening, enjoy a delightful dinner at your hotel.

Overnight stay in Konya at **Hotel Dedeman**.

Breakfast, Dinner



## Konya Pamukkale

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

We depart to **Pamukkale**, a true marvel of nature boasting a massive white cascade, intricate stalactite formations, and inviting natural pools created by the thermal springs. Renowned for its remarkable calcareous terraces, which have crystallized over time due to the calcium-rich water sourced from the region.

We will, then, visit **Hierapolis**, where a vast necropolis featuring over 150,000 tombs awaits our discovery.

In the evening, enjoy a delightful dinner at your hotel.

Overnight stay in Pamukkale at **Hotel Doga Termal**.

Breakfast, Dinner





Day 7

## Pamukkale Ephesus Izmir Istanbul

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Departure to **Ephesus**, the capital of Asia Minor in Roman times. Visit the archaeological vestiges, where the temple of Hadrian and the library of Celso stand out. We will have the chance to visit a typical fur production center. Join your fellow travelers for a memorable **Farewell Lunch** hosted in a local restaurant.

Later, we will make our way to Izmir's airport to catch a flight back to Istanbul. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel.

Overnight stay in Istanbul at **Hotel Barcelo Istanbul**.

Breakfast, Lunch



Day 8

## Istanbul Istanbul Airport

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before a private transfer takes you to the airport.

## ACCOMMODATION

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### Barcelo Istanbul

The recently renovated Barceló Istanbul hotel is situated at the heart of the city near the elegant Taksim Square. It offers 270 well-designed rooms and suites with modern amenities, providing utmost comfort. The hotel boasts contemporary facilities including a rooftop lounge, sunbathing area with jacuzzis, and an impressive 1,200 square meter Wellness and Fitness Center. Additionally, it features 7 versatile event spaces accommodating up to 600 individuals, equipped for successful meetings and gatherings. The hotel's prime location in the Beyoglu district makes it an excellent choice for both business and leisure travelers, allowing them to immerse themselves in Istanbul's rich historical, cultural, and economic offerings.



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### Carus Cappadocia

#### **Cappadocia**

Situated in Göreme and located 3.9 km from Uchisar Castle, Carus Cappadocia provides concierge services, non-smoking accommodations, a garden, complimentary WiFi, and a bar. All rooms at Carus Cappadocia are distinct from one another, each exemplifying unique sizes, architectural details, and forms. The hotel offers a total of 39 stone rooms and 11 cave rooms.





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## Dedeman

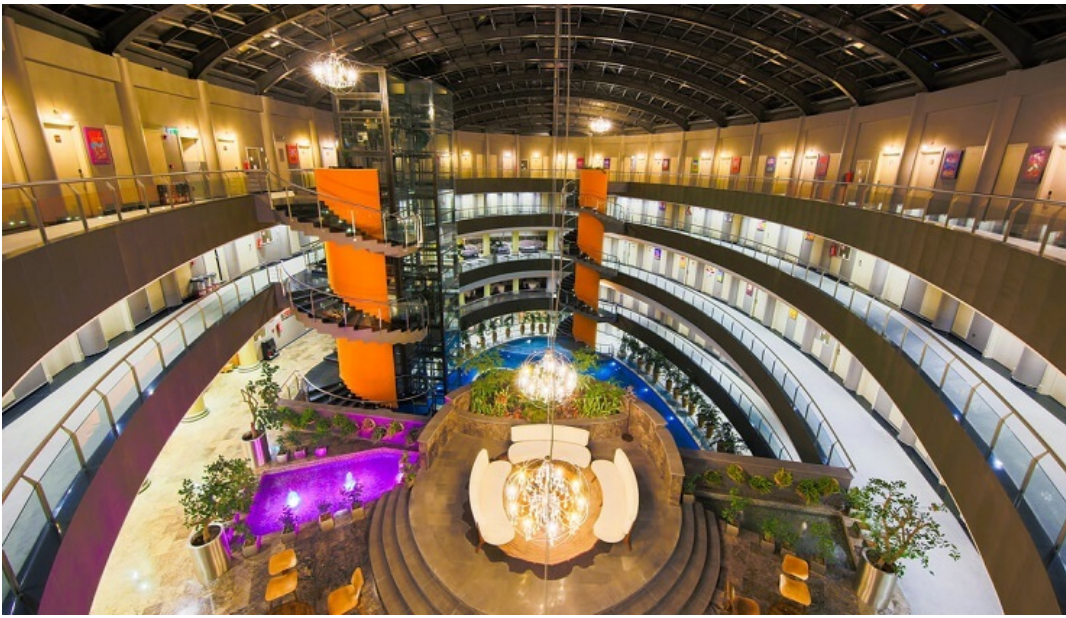
Nestled in the heart of Konya, Dedeman Hotel presents rooms with complimentary Wi-Fi, conveniently situated next to one of the city's largest shopping centers. The hotel boasts a rooftop bar and a range of recreational amenities, including an outdoor swimming pool, squash court, and fitness center. The contemporary air-conditioned rooms at Dedeman Konya Hotel Convention Center are equipped with a flat-screen TV and minibar. Indulge in Turkish and International cuisine at the Safran Restaurant amidst sophisticated surroundings. For panoramic city views, the Roof Restaurant and Bar is a perfect choice, and 24-hour room service is at your disposal. The hotel's offerings encompass an indoor swimming pool, hot tub, and hammam, inviting relaxation and massage indulgence.



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## Doğa Thermal

Beyond being a localized thermal hotel, Doğa Thermal Health & Spa boasts consistent therapeutic thermal water temperatures throughout the year, an expansive 693-square-meter spa and wellness center, four distinct conference venues, and a variety of leisure and communal spaces. As an opulent 5-star gem in the Karahayıt-Pamukkale region, this extraordinary establishment, located approximately 3 kilometers from the UNESCO World Heritage site of Pamukkale and conveniently situated about an hour's drive (60 km/37.28 miles) from Denizli Çardak Airport, offers an unparalleled experience.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- We work with a selection of hotels in each location. All bookings are subject to availability, which means our team will confirm your specific hotels upon confirmation and payment of deposit.
- Please be aware that tips are not included and are mandatory, with a suggested amount of \$10 per day per person for guides and \$5 per day per person for drivers.

### Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fee
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package (Entrance tickets to sites and museums)

## IN PARTNERSHIP

