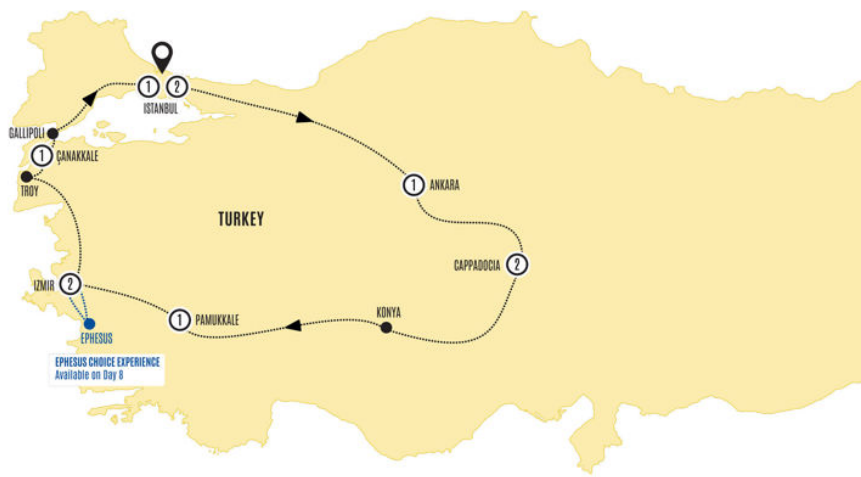


# Wonders of Turkey

## Trip Map



-  Start Location
-  End Location
-  Over night

-  Visited Location
-  Cruise
-  Ferry

-  Plane
-  Train

## Day 1 | Arrive Istanbul



It's the city Napoleon said should be the capital of Earth and while it may not have reached that stature, Istanbul's history as the capital of two great empires has left an enviable legacy of art, architecture and culture. Where better to begin your journey across Turkey than in its cultural capital, the gateway to the Orient? Arrive at your hotel and explore the city your way before meeting your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a glimpse into what lies ahead.

**Hotel:** Ibis Istanbul Zeytinburnu

## Day 2 | Istanbul sightseeing and free time



Discover how centuries of Ottoman rule shaped the city's heritage as the meeting point between East and West when you join your Travel Director this morning for a guided sightseeing tour. See Hagia Sophia, once the leading church in Christendom, the Hippodrome and the Blue Mosque. Later, you'll have time to explore Istanbul your way or consider a Choice Experience to the Topkapi Palace Museum and a cruise on the Bosphorus, the strait that separates Europe and Asia.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Ibis Istanbul Zeytinburnu

### CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

**Topkapi Palace and Bosphorus Cruise** - Today, you'll be stepping into the world of Ottoman luxury at the Topkapi Palace Museum, where sultans once ruled and reveled. But that's just the start. Next, you'll hit the waters for a cruise along the Bosphorus, the mighty river that splits Istanbul between two continents. This 90-minute journey is your front-row seat to history, unfolding the river's crucial roles, the charm of old Istanbul, and the buzz of the city today.

**Adult: 110.00 EUR**

### Day 3 | Istanbul – Ankara



Ramble past the colourful displays of lanterns, pottery and fabric as you wander through one of the world's oldest and largest covered markets, the Grand Bazaar. The scents of Turkish tea will linger long after you leave Istanbul, bound for Ankara. On arriving in the Turkish capital, you'll visit the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations before dinner.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** New Park

### Day 4 | Ankara – Cappadocia



The hometown of the Hittites is under the spotlight this morning. Visit the Mausoleum of Atatürk, the founder and father of the Turkish Republic, then continue to the whimsical landscapes of Cappadocia and visit the underground city of Saratli.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** Ramada by Wyndham

### Day 5 | Cappadocia sightseeing and free time



Admire Cappadocia's fairy-tale chimneys this morning as you journey to Paşabağı and Red Valley. Visit a regional rug production centre, then enjoy an afternoon on your own amidst the fantasy landscapes left by Mother Nature in the ochre rock. A Choice Experience in Göreme reveals how Christians once worshipped in the many rock churches that remain to this day. This evening, you could join a Choice Experience with the Whirling Dervishes, watching them whirl round and round in remembrance of God.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Ramada by Wyndham

### CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

**Göreme and Avanos Sightseeing** - Dive into the heart of Göreme, where history and stunning landscapes collide. This gem in Cappadocia is not just about its breathtaking rock formations; it's a journey back to Roman times. Imagine wandering through ancient rock-hewn churches, a testament to the area's deep-rooted Christian heritage. Next up, continue to Avanos, where the earth itself crafts beauty. This town's famed for its top-notch pottery, a tradition that turns clay into



art.

**Adult: 55.00 EUR**

**Whirling Dervishes and Cappadocian Dinner** - Get ready for an entrancing experience with the Sema ceremony of the Whirling Dervishes, a profound display of Turkey's deep-rooted traditions and history. Witness this spiritual dance and feel the essence of Turkish heritage come alive right before your eyes. Once the ceremony is over, you'll head to a nearby local restaurant where you'll savour varieties of authentic Turkish dishes, special to the Cappadocia region.

**Adult: 71.00 EUR**

## Day 6 | Cappadocia – Konya – Pamukkale



First up is the ancient city of Konya, the final resting place of the Sufi philosopher Mevlana, whose famous mausoleum you will visit before continuing to the cotton fortress of Pamukkale, home to mineral-rich thermal waters that cascade down snow-white travertine terraces.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** Richmond Thermal

## Day 7 | Pamukkale – Hierapolis – Izmir



The ethereal white pools and terraces that cascade down the surrounding cliffs are a sight to behold this morning as you see the ruins of the ancient Roman health spa of Hierapolis. Head west to the Aegean coastline, arriving in Izmir in time to spend some time exploring this pretty port town, with its lengthy promenade. Learn about its multicultural past, and its history as a Greek city. Consider joining an optional seafood dinner at a favourite local restaurant renowned for its stunning views.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Ontur Otel Izmir

## CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

**Izmir Seafood Dinner** - Set your sights on the Kordon for an unforgettable seafood feast at one of Izmir's top restaurants. With breathtaking views and the title for the tastiest fish dishes along the Turkish coast, you're in for a treat with an array of seafood and meze wonders. And if seafood's not your thing, no sweat—they've got you covered with plenty of delicious alternatives. (Drinks not included).

**Adult: 72.00 EUR**

## Day 8 | Izmir Free Time



Today is free for you to enjoy at leisure or our Choice Experience could see you visit Ephesus, a 2,000-year-old site and home to the iconic Library of Celsus and Hadrian's Temple. Included in this experience is a visit to the stone cottage, where the Virgin Mary is said to have spent her final years, followed by lunch at a local restaurant. Afterwards visit the glassmakers of Nazarköy village and discover the region's connection with the Evil eye beads on a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Ontur Otel Izmir

### CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

**Tour of the Virgin Mary's House at Ephesus with lunch** - Wander back in time as you explore Ephesus, a gem of ancient Mediterranean history. This 2000-year-old settlement opens its past to you like the Arcadian Way, an epic Amphitheatre, and the stunningly preserved Library of Celsus. Head up to Mount Koressos to visit the serene House of the Virgin Mary, perched high above the Ephesus ruins. After soaking in some of Turkey's most awe-inspiring historical sites, you'll head to the vibrant town of Selçuk for lunch before heading to Nazarköy for a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience contributing to United Nations Sustainable Development Goal11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.

**Adult: 115.00 EUR**

## Day 9 | Izmir - Troy - Çanakkale



On today's agenda is a visit to Troy, the ancient city that inspired Homer's tales of Achilles' wrath and the legendary siege, only broken by the clever construction of a wooden Trojan horse, a replica of which can still be seen today. Continue to Çanakkale, where dinner is served at your hotel this evening.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** Büyük Truva

## Day 10 | Çanakkale - Gallipoli - Istanbul



A poignant start to the day takes you to Gallipoli, where fierce World War I battles left a lasting legacy. Visit Anzac Cove, Lone Pine Cemetery and Chunuk Bair to honour the soldiers who gave their lives on both sides of the conflict. Then it's back to Istanbul for your final night. Fancy one last hurrah? Join a Choice Experience with dinner, drinks and a belly dancing show that brings the buzz of Istanbul to life.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Ibis Istanbul Zeytinburnu

### CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

**Dinner, Drums and Belly Dancing** - This is Istanbul turned all the way up. Tuck into a tasty dinner with unlimited drinks while belly dancers, darbuka drummers and folk acts light up the stage. Big beats, bold moves and non-stop energy: this night's got flavour, rhythm and more than a little sparkle.

**Adult: 145.00 EUR**

## Day 11 | Depart Istanbul



Your whirlwind encounter with the wonders of Turkey has come to an end. You've stood at the crossroads of East and West, trod in the footsteps of the ancients and admired ethereal landscapes that belong in a storybook. For now it's time to end this chapter with a heartfelt farewell to your newfound friends.

**Meals:** Breakfast

This document was last updated 19 January 2026.

While all information is correct at the time of publication, occasionally details or timings may differ.

Please refer to our website or speak to your Travel Director for the latest updates.