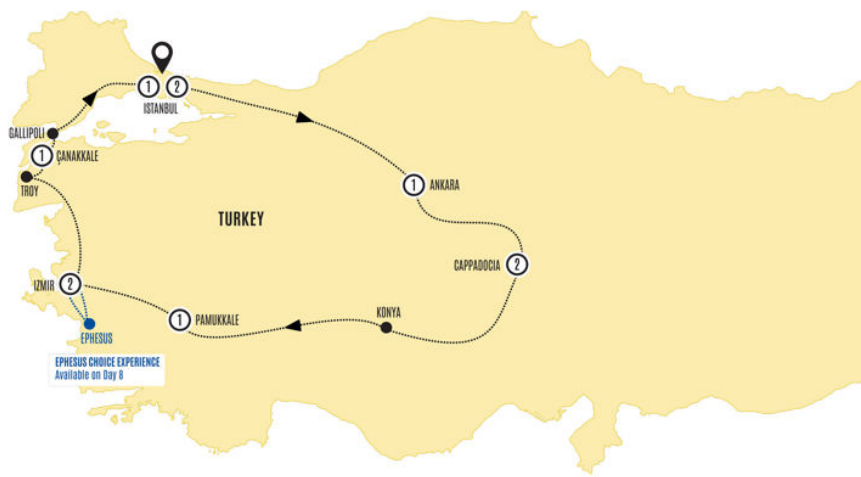


Wonders of Turkey

Trip Map



- | | | |
|--|--|---|
|  Start Location |  Visited Location |  Plane |
|  End Location |  Cruise |  Train |
|  Over night |  Ferry | |

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 historic waterway that has shaped Istanbul's story for centuries. This 90-minute journey is your front-row seat to history, unfolding the waterway's crucial role, the charm of old Istanbul, and the buzz of the city today.

Adult: 115.00 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



Up for an early start? Choose a Sunrise Balloon Watching Choice Experience and head to a panoramic viewpoint as colourful balloons float above Cappadocia's fairy chimneys. Continue to Paşabağı and Red Valley, then visit a regional rug production centre. This afternoon is yours to explore. Discover ancient rock churches on the Göreme Choice Experience, create your own keepsake at the Mosaic Lamp Workshop Choice Experience with local artisans, or join a Sunset Hike Choice Experience through Cappadocia's valleys as the sky turns pink and gold. This evening, consider the Whirling Dervishes Choice Experience, witnessing their mesmerising ritual in remembrance of God.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Ramada by Wyndham

CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Sunrise Balloon Watching in Cappadocia -

Rise early for a handpicked panoramic viewpoint and watch hundreds of hot air balloons drift over Cappadocia's fairy chimneys and valleys. Catch that first-light glow, grab unreal photos and take it all in. You get the wow factor from the ground, without hopping in a basket.

Adult: 50.00 EUR

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

You will have the opportunity to choose between the following two Choice Experiences:

Mosaic Lamp Workshop - Roll up your sleeves and learn the centuries-old art of Turkish mosaic lamp making with skilled local artisans. Cut colourful glass, place vibrant tiles and beads, sip traditional Turkish tea and hear the stories behind this dazzling craft. The best bit? You'll take home your very own handmade lamp as a glowing reminder of Turkey.

Adult: 60.00 EUR

Sunset Hike - Stretch your legs on a relaxed hike through Cappadocia's surreal valleys as the sun dips low. Wander past fairy chimneys and striking rock formations while your guide shares local insights. Then pause as the sky turns pink and gold, soaking up panoramic views and snapping photos you'll never forget.

Adult: 60.00 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



This morning, prepare to be wowed. The brilliant white pools of Pamukkale spill down the cliffs like a frozen waterfall as you explore the ancient Roman spa city of Hierapolis. Then, get a behind-the-scenes look at one of Turkey's craft traditions with a leatherwork display before continuing west to the Aegean and the easy-going charm of Izmir. Stretch your legs along the breezy promenade, soak up the harbour views and uncover the city's multicultural past, once a thriving Greek hub. Tonight, why not join a Choice Experience and grab a table at a local favourite? On the menu: Izmir's legendary Iskender döner, piled high with grilled meat, warm bread, rich tomato sauce, yoghurt and butter.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Ontur Otel Izmir

CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Izmir Traditional Flavours Experience - Ready to eat like a local? Head out in Izmir and dig into the city's pride and joy, the mighty Iskender döner. Juicy grilled meat, warm bread, rich tomato sauce, yoghurt and a drizzle of butter all come together in one seriously satisfying plate. Drinks not included.

Adult: 42.00 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: 108.00 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



Today starts on a reflective note at Gallipoli, the site of fierce World War I battles. Visit Anzac Cove, Lone Pine Cemetery and Chunuk Bair, taking time to remember the soldiers on both sides who lost their lives here. Later, you're back in Istanbul for your final night. One more evening, one more memory? You could join a Turkish Cooking Class Choice Experience and get hands-on with some of Turkey's favourite dishes before sitting down to enjoy the results together.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Ibis Istanbul Zeytinburnu

CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Cooking Class Experience - Roll up your sleeves and cook your way through Turkey's greatest hits. You'll whip up classic meze like Köpoğlu Meze, beetroot tabbouleh or mutabbal with walnuts, dill and pomegranate, plus a warm bite like labneh-stuffed roasted pepper rolls. Finish with a proper main like Hünkar Beğendi or Ballı Mahmudiye, then end sweet with sütlaç or künefe. Drinks not included.

Adult: 130.00 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 17 July 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.