

Legends of Turkey

ORIGIN COUNTRY : Turkey
ORIGIN CITY : Istanbul
PACKAGE TYPE : PACKAGE TOURS

DESCRIPTION

Venture down the road less travelled with Tempo Holidays' Legends of Turkey package. Travelling from east to west you will see the ruins of Empires great and small, and walk in the footsteps of the founders of the Christian faith, St. Peter and St Paul. Add to this the stunning landscapes of Cappadocia and glorious Istanbul. The legends of Turkey will unfold before your eyes.

INCLUSIONS

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Coach transportation in air-conditioned vehicle
- 12 nights accommodation in superior class hotels
- 12 breakfasts (B), 11 lunches (L), 9 dinners (D)
- Entrance fees, taxes and service charges
- Flight Istanbul – Adiyaman

NOTE: Arrival and departure transfers are included for the set arrival and departure days. Should pre or post tour accommodation be booked additional transfers will need to be purchased.

EXCLUSIONS

- Airfares other than listed
- Turkish Visa
- Meals and drinks other than specified
- Tipping

DEPARTURE POINT

Transfer to your Hotel upon arrival

ITINERARY

NOTE: Itinerary and accommodation might change depending on departure day.

Day 1 Arrive Istanbul

On arrival you will be met and transferred to your Hotel for 2 nights.

Day 2 Istanbul

A fascinating full day tour of the old city includes the Topkapi Palace – the oldest and largest palace of the Ottoman Sultans – and the stunning Blue Mosque. Continue to the imperial cemetery of the Ottoman sultans. Venture into the labyrinth of Istanbul's Grand Bazaar – perhaps the finest bazaar in the Orient. [BL]

Day 3 Istanbul – Nemrut Dag (220 km)

This morning fly from Istanbul to Adiyaman. Enjoy lunch at Kahta before enjoying a spectacular drive to Mount Nemrut through the steep mountains. View the monumental statues of the gods of the Commagene civilization built by King Antiochus. Continue to the Bozdogan Hotel in Adiyaman for overnight. [BLD]

Day 4 Nemrut Dag – Gaziantep (170 km)

Stop at Birecik to see the refuge of one of the world's last population of bald ibis birds which are regenerating from the brink of extinction. Continue to Halfeti and enjoy a boat trip where you will discover the village under the water of the Euphrates. Overnight in Gaziantep at the Ravanda Hotel. [BLD]

Day 5 Gaziantep – Antioch – Adana (200 km)

Stroll through the old city in Gaziantep visiting the Zuegma Museum. Continue to Antakya (Antioch) to explore the largest Mosaic Museum in Turkey and the Cave of St. Peter where this apostle of Jesus preached, and the name "Christian" was first attributed to believers of the faith. Drive to the Cukurova Surmeli Hotel in Adana for overnight. [BLD]

Day 6 Adana – Cappadocia (495 km)

Drive to Tarsus by the Mediterranean to visit the site where St. Paul was born. Cross the Taurus Mountains and continue to Nigde to discover the hidden Eskigumus Monastery. Arrive at the Peri Tower in Cappadocia for 2 nights. [BLD]

Day 7 Cappadocia

An unforgettable day exploring the stunning landscapes of Cappadocia. View the fairy chimneys formed by volcanic eruptions millennia ago, and visit the rock carved churches of Goreme Valley to admire the fresco paintings representing scenes from the Bible. Drive through the traditional villages of Avanos and Uchisar and stroll through the underground caves of Kaymakli where early Christians hid from their enemies. [BLD]

Day 8 Cappadocia – Konya - Pamukkale (560 km)

Drive to Konya and visit the Whirling Dervishes Convent which is now the Mevlana Museum. After lunch, continue to Pamukkale with overnight at the Lycus River Hotel. [BLD]

Day 9 Pamukkale - Kusadasi (260 km)

Discover Pamukkale, as you walk through the largest necropolis of the Greco-Roman age, and admire the beauty of Pamukkale's immense tiers of white limestone as they cascade down a barren hillside. Drive to Aphrodisias, the city dedicated to Aphrodite, the goddess of love. Walk through the Roman theatre, baths, temple and the Turkey's largest ancient stadium which once accommodated 30,000 spectators. Continue to Kusadasi for two nights at the Pine Marina Hotel. [BLD]

Day 10 Thu: Kusadasi – Ephesus (90 km)

Drive to Selcuk and visit the house where the Virgin Mary is reputed to have spent the last days of her life. Discover one of the world's best preserved ancient cities at Ephesus. The marketplace (called the agora), marble streets, Roman baths, Trajan Fountain, Hadrian Temple, Celsus Library, public toilets and the theatre with a capacity of 25,000 are all in remarkable condition. On the return to Kusadasi, visit the Temple of Artemis, one of the original Seven Wonders of the world, and where only a single column still remains today. [BLD]

Day 11 Fri: Kusadasi – Canakkale (325 km)

Drive to Pergamon to visit the acropolis of the ancient city see the remains of the library which once held 240,000 scrolls and an impressive Hellenistic theatre. Discover Troy where the mythological war of Homer's Iliad took place. Drive to the Kolin Hotel in Canakkale for overnight. [BLD]

Day 12 Sat: Canakkale – Istanbul (310 km)

Take a ferry across the Dardanelles to reach Gallipoli for a moving tour of the peninsula. Visit the war museum, the landing beach at ANZAC Cove, the Australian War Cemetery at Lone Pine and the New Zealand War Cemetery at Chunuk Bair. Continue to your Hotel in Istanbul for overnight. [BL]

Day 13 Sun: Depart Istanbul

Your programme ends after breakfast with a transfer to Istanbul airport. [B]

End of services provided by Tempo Holidays Representatives