# FOR THE DISCERNING TRAVELLER

TIMELESS TURKEY COACH TOURS 2021

All prices are in Australian Dollars unless otherwise stated

# 9 DAY TURKISH EXPRESS TOUR Istanbul – Kusadasi

# DEPARTS ISTANBUL SATURDAYS 06 MARCH – 25 DECEMBER 2021

Tour is guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 2 and a maximum 44 passengers.

# Day 1 (Saturday) ISTANBUL

Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to the hotel. A welcome briefing will be held this evening.

# Day 2 (Sunday) ISTANBUL

Enjoy a full day tour including a visit to Topkapi Palace, the residence of the Ottoman Sultans 1453-1852 (excluding harem). Visit the Hippodrome, which was once the centre of life where chariot racing and other public events took place. Tour the Blue Mosque built between 1609 and 1616, famous for its blue ceramic tiles. Your last stop will be the famous Grand Bazaar, the World's largest and oldest covered market with over 60 streets. (B)

Evening Optional: Dinner with belly dancing entertainment

## Day 3 (Monday) ISTANBUL / ANKARA

An optional Bosphorus cruise enjoying the strait separating Asia and

Europe. Its shores are lined with fine neighbourhoods, Ottoman palaces, fortresses, wooden villas, hotels, parks, gardens, restaurants and cafés. Depart for the capital city of Ankara for overnight. (B,D)

## Day 4 (Tuesday) ANKARA / CAPPADOCIA

Visit the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations, a historic caravanserai holding artefacts from up to 7500 years old including the most extensive and valuable collection of Hittite artefacts in the world. Visit the Mausoleum of Ataturk, the father of modern Turkey. Drive to Cappadocia touring a 13th century caravanserai en route. Visit the underground city of Saratli, one of the many underground settlements built for protection and religious reasons. Dinner at a local restaurant and overnight in Cappadocia. (B,D)

Optional: Evening Whirling Dervishes performance

# Day 5 (Wednesday) CAPPADOCIA

Early Morning Optional: Balloon Tour, experience floating through volcanic valleys, fairy chimneys and caves at sunrise. After breakfast visit Goreme, a historical region of Turkey, located among the rock formations, which was first settled back in the Roman period. Many rock churches can still be seen today, as Christianity was then the prevailing religion in the region. Continue to the town of Avanos renowned for its high quality earthenware. Also visit Pasabagi, Red Valley and attend a brief regional pottery workshop in a cave. Visit the underground city of Sarhatli. Dinner and overnight in Cappadocia. (B,D)

## Day 6 (Thursday)

## **CAPPADOCIA / PAMUKKALE**

Drive to Pamukkale. Dinner and overnight in Pamukkale. (B,D)

#### Day 7 (Friday)

#### PAMUKKALE / KUSADASI

Visit the unique cotton fortress of Pamukkale with its white lime cascades formed by mineral springs and the ruins of the Roman health spa of Hierapolis. Proceed to Kusadasi for dinner and overnight. (B,D)



2/197 Military Road (PO Box 146), Neutral Bay NSW Australia 2089 Phone: (02) 9904 1239 Toll Free Phone: 1800 671 610 travtour@timeless.com.au www.timeless.com.au Travel and Tourism Marketing Consultants Pty Ltd ACN 060 419 169 ABN 62 060 419 169 ATAS A10446





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#### Day 8 (Saturday)

#### KUSADASI / EPHESUS & VIRGIN MARY'S HOUSE / KUSADASI

Tour the famous ruins of Ephesus, an important cultural centre of the ancient world, and explore 2,000 year-old marble streets, a theatre, the Library of Celsus, a gymnasium and Hadrian's Temple. Take a short drive to see the stone cottage where it is believed Virgin Mary spent her last years accompanied by St. John. Continue to a regional rug production centre for a firsthand experience of this unique art form. *Optional: afternoon tour of Sirince. (B,D)* 

#### Day 9 (Sunday) KUSADASI PORT

After breakfast, transfer to the pier. (B) END OF TOUR.

(B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner)

2021 Departure Dates Saturdays	Per Person in Double	Per Person in Single	Per Person in Triple
March: 6, 20, 27 April: 3, 10, 24 May: 8, 22, 29 June: 5, 19, 26 July: 3, 17, 31 August: 14, 28 September: 11, 25 October: 2, 9, 23	AUD 1735	AUD 2640	AUD 1665
November: 6, 13, 20 December: 4, 18, 25	AUD 1525	AUD 2290	AUD 1485

Tour Includes: Accommodation in listed hotels (or similar); Daily breakfast & 6 dinners; Arrival (day 1 – Istanbul Airport) & departure (day 8) transfers from/to airport/port; Licensed English speaking guides and entrance fees; Air-conditioned vehicles; Luggage handling; Local taxes and service charges

Superior first class hotels with private facilities used (or similar): Istanbul – Renaissance Bosphorus, Ankara – Swissotel, Cappadocia – Crown Plaza Hotel, Pamukkale – Colossae Hotel, Kusadasi – Charisma Hotel

THE OPERATOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ALTER HOTELS AND ITINERARY IF NECESSARY.



