

Turkey – 9 nights – 10 days

Day	Destination
2 nights	Istanbul
1 night	Ankara
2 nights	Cappadocia
1 night	Konya
1 night	Pamukkale
1 night	Kusadasi
1 night	Istanbul

Day 1: DAY 1: ISTANBUL

Welcome to Istanbul!

We'll **transfer** you to the hotel, and you'll have some free time. In the afternoon, you'll find information about the start of your tour on the boards located at the hotel reception.

Day 2: DAY 2: ISTANBUL

We'll start with a **panoramic tour of the city**, exploring this unique metropolis that spans two continents. Our tour includes a visit to the **Süleymaniye Mosque**, the largest in **Istanbul**, as well as stops at the ancient city walls, the Golden Horn, and the bustling fishing district, along with a chance to admire the exterior of Hagia Sophia.



(The majestic Süleymaniye Mosque overlooking Istanbul's historic skyline and the Golden Horn at dusk.)

As the afternoon draws to a close, we'll arrange a **transfer to Taksim**, the city's most vibrant commercial district. There, you´ll have time to dine at one of its many restaurants and hop on the charming old tram that runs through the area. Alternatively, you can visit the nearby Galata Tower.

Day 3: DAY 3: ISTANBUL - ANKARA

We'll begin our day with a visit to **Topkapi Palace**, the former administrative center of the Ottoman Empire, famous for its stunning courtyards and pavilions (admission included).



(A stunning sunset view across the Bosphorus Strait, where Europe and Asia meet in Istanbul.)

Afterward, we'll embark on a **boat trip on the Bosphorus** (tickets included), lasting about two hours on a private boat exclusively for travelers. This journey will take us through the strait that connects the Black Sea with the Sea of Marmara, dividing Istanbul between its European and Asian sides. We'll enjoy the lively activity of the Strait with its many boats. We'll pass under the two bridges that link Europe and Asia and admire the Sultan's palaces, traditional wooden houses, and Ottoman architecture.

We'll then disembark on the Asian side, in the Uskudar district, from where we'll continue our journey to the Anatolian Peninsula, arriving in **Ankara** in time for **dinner**, which will be included.

Day 4: DAY 4: ANKARA - CAPPADOCIA

After breakfast, we'll begin our day with a **tour of Ankara**, the cosmopolitan capital of **Turkey**, home to over 5 million people and a vibrant cultural scene. The city boasts the State Opera and Ballet, the Presidential Symphony Orchestra, and numerous national theater companies. We'll visit the impressive **Mausoleum of Atatürk**, the ancient **Ankara Castle**, which dates to the 8th century B.C. We'll also include admission to the **Museum of Anatolian Civilizations**, offering insight into the various cultures that have left their mark on **Turkey**.



(The historic Ankara Castle overlooking the charming old town and rocky hills of Turkey's capital city.)

We'll continue our journey to **Cappadocia**, making a stop at the **Salt Lake** for lunch, taking in its breathtaking landscapes. We'll also visit **Hacibektas**, a revered pilgrimage site. Please be mindful of the dress code and maintain silence during our visit, as this sanctuary houses the mausoleum of Hacibektas, a 13th-century Sufi mystic. We'll then proceed to **Nevsehir**, arriving in time for **dinner**, which will be included.

Day 5: DAY 5: CAPPADOCIA

We'll spend the entire day exploring the incredible region of **Cappadocia**, famous for its lunar-like landscapes, ancient churches, and troglodyte villages. Our adventure will begin in the **Göreme Valley**, where we'll visit the open-air museum and marvel at the rock-cut churches (tickets included). Next, we'll visit **Uchisar**, home to a natural fortress, followed by a visit to **Kaymacli**, an underground city that could once house up to 30,000 people.



(Explore the fascinating underground tunnels and living spaces of Kaymakli Underground City, one of Cappadocia's most remarkable historical attractions.)

On our way back to **Avanos**, we'll stop at **Pasabag**, also known as the Fairy Chimneys, where we'll take a walk in this breathtaking natural area. You'll have some free time before we wrap up the day. **Dinner will be included**.

Day 6: DAY 6: CAPPADOCIA - IHLARA - KONYA

At the far edge of **Cappadocia**, we'll visit the **Ihlara Valley**, famous for its cool waters and its rock-cut churches and villages.



(Discover the dramatic canyon views and natural beauty of Ihlara Valley, a popular hiking destination in Cappadocia, Turkey.)

Our itinerary includes visits to a 13th-century **caravanserai** and the **Mevlana Mausoleum (Rumi)** in **Konya**, where we'll learn about the Dervish order. **Dinner will be included**. In the evening, we recommend attending a dervish dance performance at the cultural center.

Day 7: DAY 7: KONYA - EGRIDIR - PAMUKKALE

We'll journey along a scenic route between the lakes, arriving at **Egridir**, a charming town by a large lake, known for its historic walls and mosques. You'll have time to enjoy lunch here. Next, we'll continue to **Hierapolis-Pamukkale**, where the mineral-rich waters have formed the stunning **Cotton Palace** (tickets included). **Dinner will be included**.



(Visit Pamukkale's famous white travertine terraces, known as the Cotton Castle, one of Turkey's most iconic natural wonders.)

Day 8: DAY 8: PAMUKKALE - EPHESUS - KUSADASI

We'll depart for **Ephesus**, the best-preserved ancient city in Asia Minor. Two thousand years ago, it was home to a quarter of a million inhabitants. We'll visit the **House of the Virgin Mary**, **the Basilica of St. John**, and the impressive **ruins of Ephesus** (tickets included). We'll then continue to **Kusadasi**, a popular coastal city known for its lively atmosphere, vibrant commerce, and a small castle. **Dinner will be included**.



(The remarkably preserved ruins of the ancient city of Ephesus in Selçuk, Turkey, one of the world's most significant archaeological sites.)

Note: During high season, from May to October (inclusive), accommodation will be in Izmir. In this case, after visiting Ephesus, we'll head directly to Izmir without stopping in Kusadasi. We'll enjoy a brief panoramic tour of the city, located on the Aegean Sea coast. The following day, on our way to Istanbul, we'll make an additional stop for lunch in the traditional town of Balikesir.

Day 9: DAY 9: KUSADASI - IZMIR - BURSA - ISTANBUL

We'll set off for **Izmir**, the third most populous city in Turkey, where our guide will lead a brief tour of this vibrant metropolis, known for being the most westernized and modern in the country. We'll then head inland, pausing for lunch along the way before arriving in **Bursa**.



(A stunning view of the historic Bursa Grand Mosque (Ulu Cami), one of the most iconic Ottoman landmarks in Bursa, Turkey.)

This historic city, the fourth largest in Turkey, boasts a UNESCO World Heritage Site in its center.

Highlights include the traditional commercial districts, mosques, religious schools, public baths, and the renowned Green Mosque. We'll reach **Istanbul** by the end of the day.

Day 10: DAY 10: ISTANBUL

After breakfast, our journey will come to an end, leaving you with wonderful lasting memories.

Highlights

Explore the vibrant Turkey, starting with the city of Istanbul, visiting iconic landmarks like Hagia Sophia, and enjoying a scenic cruise on the Bosphorus. Discover the capital Ankara and its historic sites before heading to the surreal landscapes of Cappadocia, known for its fairy chimneys, underground cities, and the Göreme Open-Air Museum. Continue through Konya and the scenic Ihlara Valley, then witness the natural wonder of Pamukkale and explore the ancient ruins of Ephesus. End your journey via Kusadasi and Bursa, returning to Istanbul with unforgettable memories.

Hotels

Hotels:

No. of Nights	Cities	Hotels
2	Istanbul	Windsor Convention Center Istanbul or similar
1	Ankara	Radisson Blu Ankara or similar
2	Cappadocia	Ramada Cappadocia or similar
1	Konya	Bera Konya or similar
1	Pamukkale	Hotel Pam Thermal or similar
1	Kusadasi	Greymark or similar
1	Istanbul	Movenpick Golden Horn or similar

Price in INR (EUR 1,180) (RoE: 1 EUR = 111.8 INR)

STARTING FROM INR 1,32,293 PER PERSON ON TWIN BASIS

Departure Dates

Departure Dates:

Monday all year

Months	Dates
Apr 26	6, 13, 20, 27
May 26	4, 11, 18, 25
Jun 26	1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Jul 26	6, 13, 20, 27
Aug 26	3, 10, 17, 24, 31
Sep 26	7, 14, 21, 28
Oct 26	5, 12, 19, 26
Nov 26	2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Dec 26	7, 14, 21, 28
Jan 27	4, 11, 18, 25

Tour Includes

- **General Services:** Travel by bus with an English-speaking guide, basic travel insurance, a hotel, and a breakfast buffet.

- **Includes arrival transfer**
- **City tour in:** Istanbul, Ankara
- **Boat:** Bosphorus boat tour in Istanbul
- **Evening transfer:** Taksim Square in Istanbul
- **Ticket admission:** Topkapi Palace and Süleymaniye Mosque in Istanbul, Mausoleum of Ataturk, Castle and Museum of Anatolian Civilizations in Ankara, Göreme Valley, Uchisar Valley, Kaymali Underground City; Pasabag Valley, Ihlara Valley, Caravanserai, Mevlana Mausoleum in Konya, Pamukkale – Hierapolis, House of the Virgin Mary; Basilica of St. John, Ruins of Ephesus
- **6 dinners included in:** Ankara, Cappadocia, Konya, Pamukkale, Kusadasi

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Tour Excludes

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