

Exploring the wonders of Ancient & Modern **TURKEY**

Experience the Service expected by a Sultan
Departing Australia 20 May 2014

*A fully escorted 18 day tour of Historic & Modern Turkey from \$5,450 per person twin share
Includes a visit to ANZAC Cove with time to explore every aspect
Plus an optional 7 night cruise along the Dalmatian Coast of Croatia*



Specialised Travel

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***A Multi Award Winning Travel Agency
Celebrating 27 Years of Excellence in Customer Service***



Exploring the Wonders of Ancient & Modern Turkey

Jeff & Sylvia, owners of Specialised Travel have visited Turkey numerous times and have put their experience of this wonderful country into an itinerary that gives you an taste of this expansive country, with history that is fascinating, their cuisine and time to go shopping in Bazaars. Come along with us as we visit one of our favourite destinations.

Day 1, Tuesday 20 May:

Australia to Istanbul (meals in flight)

Depart Australia for an overnight flight to Istanbul via Kuala Lumpur with Malaysia Airlines. We will have day use of a hotel adjacent Kuala Lumpur Airport during our eight hour stopover to rest and freshen up. Departures from some Australian cities may have a shorter connection time.

In flight

Day 2, Wednesday 21 May:

Kuala Lumpur to Istanbul (B in flight)

Arrival Ataturk Airport early morning. At the baggage claim, our guests identify their baggage to the assigned porters who will be helping them to the arrival zone. The deluxe transfer vehicles will take us to our hotel. It is approximately 35 minutes from the airport to the city centre. The day is free to rest. This evening you have the option to visit Kumpapi, loads of local atmosphere and seafood restaurants.

Accommodation: Akgun Old City Beyazit (4 star)

Day 3, Thursday 22 May: Istanbul (B, L, D)

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we embark on a Highlights of Istanbul tour visiting the Hippodrome Square, Blue Mosque, St. Sophia, Underground Cistern, Topkapi Palace and the Grand Bazaar, taking you deep into the soul of the Ottoman and Turkish culture throughout the centuries. Lunch at Matbah Restaurant, located in the heart of Sultanahmet, is a fantastic restaurant with magnificent views and authentic atmosphere a stylish restaurant, serving Ottoman Palace cuisine. Dinner at Hamdi Restaurant. Since 1970 this restaurant has served Turkey's southeastern region's uniquely tasty kebabs with a new approach from its prime location nearby the spice bazaar with superb views of the Golden Horn.

Accommodation: Akgun Old City Beyazit

Day 4, Friday 23 May:

Galipoli & Canakkale (B, L, D)

After an early breakfast we travel some 300kms south west of Istanbul to Gallipoli with lunch at Maydos Restaurant. We visit the military museum with stops at the Lone Pine cemetery and Anzac Cove where Australian and New Zealand troops lie, a sad result of the Turkish independence war, fought between the Turks and the United Kingdom in the 1915's. After the group is satisfied they have seen everything of interest, we cross over the Dardanelles to Canakkale. Dinner and overnight.

Accommodation: Iris Hotel (4 star)

Day 5, Saturday 24 May: Ancient Troy (B, L, D)

After the breakfast at the hotel we depart Canakkale travelling some 30 kilometres to the ruins of Troy whose Homeric legends of the epic Iliad, an archaeological site whose

importance is unmatched anywhere else in the world. We will see a series of ruins, at different levels, indicating that Troy consisted of several cities over many hundreds of years. Lunch and dinner at Iris Hotel Restaurant.

Accommodation: Iris Hotel

Day 6, Sunday 25 May:

Canakkale to Kusadasi (B, L, D)

Early breakfast then depart for Pergamum which existed as the largest and the strongest of West Anatolian kingdoms throughout the Hellenistic era. After lunch at Berksoy Hotel Restaurant we visit Asklepion and Acropolis, the temples of Trajan and Dionysus, majestic Altar of Zeus, the temple of Demeter, inspiring theatre, the gymnasium, the arsenals, the lower agora and the famous library from the Acropolis. We then continue to Kusadasi. Dinner at the hotel

Accommodation: Tatilis Hotel (4 star)

Day 7, Monday 26 May:

Ephesus & Virgin Mary Tour (B, L, D)

After breakfast at the hotel we drive to Meryemana and visit the House of Virgin Mary. Continue to Ephesus, the Roman Capital of Asia Minor. Visit the ruins of Odeon, Hercules Gate, the temple of Hadrian, the magnificent library, Agora and the fantastic greco roman theatre. After lunch at Azziye Restaurant we visit the Basilica of St. John. Return to Kusadasi with the afternoon free to roam the streets of this touristic seaside city. Dinner at the hotel.

Accommodation: Tatilis Hotel

Day 8, Tuesday 27 May:

Kusadasi to Pamukkale (B, L, D)

After breakfast we drive inland and visit the ancient city of Afrosias. The ruins of the biggest Necropolis Graveyard of the ancient world, Roman Baths, Basilica and calcium cliffs. After lunch at Colossae Thermal Hotel Restaurant visit the Greco Roman settlement which is remarkably well preserved. The ancient city is dedicated to the Goddess of Love, Aphrodite. Drive to Pamukkale, dinner and overnight.

Accommodation: Richmond Thermal Hotel (4 star superior)

Day 9, Wednesday 28 May:

Pamukkale Antalya (B, L)

Breakfast at hotel then depart to visit Hierapolis, the ruins spread over a mile from the city founded by Eumenes II of Pergamon. It was leveled by an earthquake in AD 17 but was rapidly rebuilt and enjoyed prosperity between the second and third centuries. Lunch at a local restaurant, then drive to Antalya, on the southern coast. Dinner at your leisure.

Accommodation: Crown Plaza Hotel (5 star)

Day 10, Thursday 29 May:

Free Day in Antalya (B)

Breakfast at the hotel, then time to sit back, relax and take in those wonderful sites visited over recent days. As an area referred to as the Turkish Riviera, this is an ideal spot for a day off touring. Lunch and Dinner at your leisure.

Accommodation: Crown Plaza Hotel

Day 11, Friday 30 May:

Perge, Aspendos Tour (B, L)

After breakfast at our hotel we tour the ancient ruins and cities of Antalya, which reflects

the glorious classical age. Perge is the largest ancient settlement of both the Hellenistic and Roman Age, which possesses a Roman Bath, Colonnaded Street, Agora, Stadium, and Water Aqueduct. These structures are in good order and well protected after the excavation. Next we visit Aspendos, this is the best preserved Roman Theatre in the World which is still in use. This 15,000 seated theatre hosts many concerts and competitions, during the Song Festival. The third impressive site is Side whose name meant “Pomegranate” in antiquity. Today, it is a pretty resort town with two sandy beaches, many shops along the ancient street as well as a Theatre, Agpra, ancient harbour, archeological museum. This triangle historical tour ends at Manavgat Waterfalls with refreshment break at the edge of showering water drops. Lunch is at a local restaurant. Dinner at your leisure.

Accommodation: Crown Plaza Hotel

Day 12, Saturday 31 May:

Antalya Konya (B, L, D)

Breakfast at the hotel, then we drive inland to the city of Konya, a location known for its Caravanserai. Caravanserais have been used since the 10th century. Trade across Turkey in medieval Seljuk times was dependent on camel trains which stopped by night in inns known as kervansaray or caravanserai, literally ‘caravan palaces’. These buildings provided accommodation and other amenities for the merchants and stabling for their animals. Lunch at a local restaurant. Dinner at the hotel.

Accommodation: Konya Ozkaymak Hotel (4 star)

Day 13, Sunday 01 June:

Konya Cappadocia (B, L, D)

Breakfast at the hotel, then an early departure for the Mevlana Museum built in 1584 by Sultan Murat III to house the dervishes, including the Theological School of Whirling Dervishes. Lunch en route, drive to Cappadocia and dinner at the hotel.

Accommodation: Tourist Hotels & Resorts (4 star superior)

Day 14, Monday 02 June:

Cappadocia (B, L, D)

OPTIONAL: Hot air ballooning in Cappadocia. Guests will be picked up from the hotel at sunrise. Traveling at heights of up to 1500 feet, the feeling is one of peace and tranquility with no sense of motion. The earth slowly descends and rotates below you. Within moments after lifting off you become at ease while you effortlessly drift over the treetops and the spectacular Cappadocian landscape. The deep canyons and lush fertile valleys of Cappadocia provide our balloons with an ideal playground for a unique and memorable flight; gentle winds carry us over places that could never be reached except by balloon.

Breakfast at the hotel, in the morning we visit the underground city of Kaymakli some 20 km to Nevsehir. It has 8 floors with its first floor having been made in the Hittite Period. It has been converted into an underground city by carving and expanding other areas in the Roman and Byzantine Periods. Today, its 4 floors are illuminated and opened for visit. Then we move onto the Citadel of Uçhisar situated at the highest point in Cappadocia, the top of the Uchisar Castle, provides a magnificent panorama of the surrounding area with Mount Erciyes in the

distance. After lunch at the Mansion known as “Old Greek House” we continue with the valley of Göreme & open air museum. The last sites will be Pasabag valley with remarkable earth pillars in the middle of vineyards then onto the Avanos tented markets. Return to the hotel for dinner & overnight.

Accommodation: Tourist Hotels & Resorts

Day 15, Tuesday 03 June:

Cappadocia to Istanbul (B)

After breakfast free time until we transfer to the airport for our flight to Istanbul. Upon arrival we transfer to our hotel. Remainder of the day at your leisure. Overnight in Istanbul.

Accommodation: Akgun Old City Beyazit

Day 16, Wednesday 04 June:

Istanbul (B, meals in flight)

Breakfast at the hotel. Free morning in Istanbul to explore at your leisure, or relax in preparation to your flight home. We transfer to the airport and depart Istanbul mid afternoon for Kuala Lumpur.

In flight

Day 17, Thursday 05 June:

Cruise or Home (meals in flight)

Arrive Kuala Lumpur early in the morning, again having day use of a hotel until your overnight flight home.

OR:

See the back page if you are interested in a 7 night cruise along the Dalmatian Coast of Croatia. There is also the option to do cycling as part of this cruise tour. Should you choose this extension we will fly to Rome today to meet our other participants. Ask for the full “Bike & Cruise” brochure.

In flight

Day 18, Friday 06 June: Home

Arrive back into Australia early in the day.

This is not an end.....we don't like goodbyes instead we say “Güle güle git” in Turkish meaning “Go with a smile”.

Pricing is in Australian Dollars per person.

\$5,450 per person / twin share

Single supplement \$1,400

Your tour includes:

- Return Economy International flights
- Economy Domestic flights in Turkey
- Govt Taxes & Surcharges
- 4 & 5 star Hotels as listed
- 15 breakfasts, 11 lunches, 9 dinners
- Airport transfers / tours in air conditioned vehicles
- English speaking guides

Not included:

- Turkish Visa US\$60 upon arrival
- Items of a personal nature, meals other than mentioned
- Tips to guide / driver (allow \$5 per person per day)
- Travel Insurance (a 25% discount applies to this tour)
- Hot air ballooning \$195, subject to number of participants



Cycle & Cruise from Split, Dalmatian Coast, Croatia



A perfect opportunity to explore this fascinating coastline as an extension to your Turkey Tour while still in this region of Europe. From \$2,500 per person twin share for 12 days.

This tour is ideal for Cyclists and Non-cyclists alike, as the coastal towns can be explored by foot as the cyclists head further inland. We use A+ category ships, with double and twin bedded cabins, English breakfasts daily plus either lunch or dinner depending on the daily itinerary. Plus a 3 night Rome stopover. Ask for a brochure



TERMS & CONDITIONS

ITINERARY & COSTS

- Prices are based on the exchange rate at the time of printing. They are quoted in Australian Dollars and are GST free for international travel, and GST inclusive for domestic travel and services.
- Details of particular hotels described in the itinerary may change due to quality control by the Tour Operator. Every endeavour will be made to keep details up to date. A hotel of similar or superior standard will be substituted.
- Flight schedules are correct at the time of printing. Any changes are outside of the control of Specialised Travel. Should the itinerary and tour costs change as a result of schedule changes, the passenger will bear the difference.
- In the event that change(s) cause the tour to be substantially different than the initial price quoted, the passenger has the right to withdraw from the tour. Some airline and/or hotel deposits may be forfeited.

MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS & TRAVEL INSURANCE

- It is your personal responsibility to ensure you are adequately protected for travel outside of Australia. You can obtain information from your family doctor or consult the Traveller's Medical and Vaccination Centre in your capital city by phoning 1300 658 844.
- Travel Insurance is highly recommended. Specialised Travel will require proof of a policy or a signed Declaration from any traveller declining Travel Insurance.

CANCELLATION CLAUSE

- Bookings cancelled at any time after confirmation will automatically incur a loss of deposit. In addition to the loss of deposit, other charges may be enforced by the airline, hotel or tour operator up to 100% of the tour cost, particularly within 45 days of departure.
- Any group tour may be cancelled if insufficient

numbers are booked or events outside of our control cause cancellation. Optional dates will be offered in such cases.

- Upon paying any money for deposits, part or full amounts, it is desirable to purchase your Travel Insurance to guard against most forms of cancellation.

ROOM TYPES & BEDDING

- Prices for this tour are based on existing bedding at the hotels selected. Additional bedding will need to be specifically requested and is subject to availability.
- A Single Supplement is required to be paid if sole occupancy of a room is required. Single, interconnecting, twin as against double, smoking or non-smoking rooms need to be clearly referred to on the booking form, and are based upon availability.

PASSPORT VALIDITY & VISA REQUIREMENTS

- Passports will require at least six months validity from the date of entry into a foreign country.
- Depending upon your Nationality, a Visa may be required prior to departing Australia.

BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE & SECURITY CONTROL

- Economy Class travellers are allowed 20kgs per person. Business Class passengers are permitted 30 Kgs. No one bag may exceed 35 Kgs.
- Carry-on luggage is restricted to 5 Kgs, and no larger in size than 48cm X 34 cm X 23 cm. No sharp objects such as a nail file, scissors, Swiss Army knife, etc; is permitted in the aircraft cabin
- Please ensure such items are packed into your check-in luggage. There are restrictions regarding the carrying onboard of liquids, aerosols and gels
- No item, including duty-free, greater than 100ml is permitted and must be shown in a clear plastic bag at the security screening point. Any charges for excess luggage will be at the passenger's expense and payable upon check-in.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Specialised Travel does not accept any responsibility for any act or omission causing loss or injury to persons or property whether by negligence or otherwise on the part of the principals (the airline, hotel, tour operator, coach company or service provider) providing any facilities or services described in the tour package.
- Specialised Travel is not liable in contract or in tort for any injury, damage, loss, delay, additional expense or inconvenience caused directly or indirectly by force majeure or other events which are beyond the control of Specialised Travel, or which are preventable, including without limitation, delays, changes of aircraft services, alterations to any other travel service, illness, injuries, strikes, civil disturbances, quarantines, floods or other disturbances of whatsoever nature interfering with, altering, or adding to the cost of the services requested or booked.
- Specialised Travel is not liable for any personal dissatisfaction with properties or sites. Specialised Travel will do its best to ensure all arrangements are as agreed and only accepts liability if loss is sustained as a result of its negligence or that of its employees.
- Consumer Claims should be filed within 30 days of return to Australia in writing, be it for an Insurance claim, or directed to the Travel Compensation Fund or Specialised Travel for action.
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