

Essence of Turkey

TRIP NOTES

Overview

Inside the hamams they slap, slough and scrub. Outside in the bazaar they shout, sell and spruik. Turkey's reach knows no bounds. Every day is a feast for the senses, and every night unfurls a new blanket of stars.



Exceptional experiences

- Picnic of local delicacies collected on a private tour of the spice market
- Private wine tasting session in Sirince
- Private wooden motor yacht (Gulet) cruise on the Mediterranean
- Sunrise hot air balloon flight over Cappadocia
- Private sunset cruise on the Bosphorus in Istanbul

Day to Day Itinerary

Day 1 Istanbul

On arrival you will be welcomed by your tour leader and transferred to the hotel in Istanbul's historic Sultanahmet. Spend your day at leisure before a group dinner at Matbah restaurant.

Accommodation: Hotel Amira

Days 2 Istanbul

Walk to Aya Sofya, a 6th century masterpiece of Byzantine architecture. You'll also visit the Blue Mosque, the Hippodrome and Topkapi Palace, which contains large collections of porcelain, weapons and Ottoman jewellery.

Accommodation: Hotel Amira

Days 3 Istanbul

Follow your nose to the Spice Bazaar, where you can sample fresh food including pastirma (Turkish dried beef), local cheeses, halva, olives, simit and Turkish Delight. As you wander, your local guide will purchase ingredients for this afternoon's picnic lunch. Shop for keepsakes at over 4000 stalls in the famous Grand Bazaar then spend the rest of the day at leisure.

Accommodation: Hotel Amira

Day 4 Sirince

Fly to Izmir and transfer to your hotel in the hillside village of Sirince, famous for its olive oil and wine production. After you've freshened up, take a short tour of the property and sample some of these local products at a private wine tasting session.

Accommodation: Gullu Konaklari

Day 5 Ephesus

Take a guided tour of Ephesus, possibly the greatest Greco-Roman site in the world and definitely a highlight of this trip. Arrive early to avoid the crowds then visit the House of Virgin Mary before lunch under a tent in typical nomadic tradition.

Accommodation: Gullu Konaklari

Day 6 Kas

After breakfast it's time to depart for the seaside village of Kas (pronounced 'karsh'). Check into your hotel on the Çukurba Peninsula, boasting exquisite gardens, architecture and décor. The day is free to make your own discoveries.

Accommodation: Lukka Hotel

Day 7 Mediterranean Coast cruising

Cruise along the Mediterranean Coast in a private wooden motor yacht known as a gulet. Visit the settlement of Ucagiz and the village of Simena, with its stone houses covered in bougainvillea. Swim at some protected inlets and enjoy a freshly prepared lunch of regional delicacies, chilled local wines and beers.

Accommodation: Lukka Hotel

Day 8 Kas

Today is yours to spend as you please. Catch up on some reading, relax by the pool or take the short walk from the hotel to the beach. Your tour leader can offer suggestions and help with any arrangements you might wish to make.

Accommodation: Lukka Hotel

Day 9 Antalya ~ Cappadocia

Drive to Antalya, stopping to visit the ancient Lycian city of Olympos on the way. After lunch you will fly to Cappadocia, which boasts one of the world's most unique and intriguing landscapes. Your hotel is built into the natural rock citadel of Urchisar, the highest point in Cappadocia, and offers magnificent views of the surrounding region and the town of Goreme.

Accommodation: Argos Hotel

Day 10 Cappadocia

A hot-air balloon flight at sunrise takes you across the surreal valleys and rock formations of Cappadocia. Back on land, you can toast the experience with a champagne breakfast. Discover the secrets of the Goreme Open Air Museum and Pasabaglari Valley, where fairy chimneys lend a lunar-like atmosphere to the area.

Accommodation: Argos Hotel

Day 11 Derinkuyu ~ Istanbul

Explore the underground city of Derinkuyu, weaving through the stone tunnels and arches. It's astounding that communities could live in this environment for months on end. A short flight takes you back to Istanbul where you'll board a sunset cruise on the mighty Bosphorus.

Accommodation: The House Galatasaray

Day 12 Istanbul

Share a final breakfast and Turkish tea before a private transfer to Istanbul airport for your onward flight.

Accommodation: Hotels listed are subject to change.

Other Information

What's included

- Domestic economy class flights, with airport assistance, as indicated in the itinerary.
- Breakfast daily, 6 lunches and 3 dinners.
- Private sightseeing (including all entrance fees) as outlined in the itinerary.
- Comfortable private transportation with driver. Other modes of transportation include a gulet, a hot air balloon & a luxury yacht.
- Snacks and refreshments along the way.
- Tipping & portering taken care of by tour leader along the way.
- Airport meet and greet service.
- Departure transfer.

What's not included

- International flights
- Visas
- Airport taxes
- Laundry
- Gratuities

Maximum passengers

12 people

Peregrine

Reserve

Exceptional Journeys

Extend your journey

If you'd like to extend your stay, you can consult our sales team for advice on pre and post tour accommodation, activities and other Peregrine Reserve journeys in the area.

Reserve by Peregrine

The Reserve Difference

Peregrine has been travelling the world for over 35 years and we've used this knowledge to create unique, wellcrafted and comprehensive itineraries. In 2012 we built on this foundation to launch the Reserve range of comfortable, luxurious and exceptional journeys. Reserve takes you beyond the highlights and into the heart of a destination

- Boutique accommodation that offers an authentic and intimate experience
- Well-crafted itineraries that take you to the highlights and beyond
- Dining experiences that allow you to taste the soul of a destination
- Comfortable, private and air-conditioned transport
- Exceptional local leaders who unlock the secrets of a place
- Intimate travelling parties of no more than 12 people (or less)
- A manner of travel that embraces the passage of time, which allows you to set your own pace

Private Journeys

- All Reserve itineraries can be taken as a private departure, which means you can specify the dates and your travel companions
- Our Reserve Specialists can amend an existing itinerary or create something completely unique to suit your interests
- Celebrate special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries or your honeymoon in style
- Ideal for families

Your next steps

Ready to book?

Call us on 1300 369 220 or email enquiries@peregrinereserve.com

We can also help with booking your international flights; pre and post tour accommodation; organising visas, transfers and travel insurance. Simply let us know when you are calling to book your Reserve journey.

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