

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOUR:

What is included in the price?

The price includes Round trip airfare from New York – Istanbul, all domestic flights and ground transportation, entrance to all sight seeing as per the itinerary, accommodations using 5-Star hotels (including Ocean front in Kusadasi), meals as specified in the itinerary, English speaking guide accompanied throughout the trip. Tax/Fees will be collected separate during confirmation - \$760 per person.

Child Discounts:

For children between the ages of 0 – 6 years: they pay \$799 (plus Tax)

For children between the ages of 7 – 12 years: they pay \$1183 (plus Tax)

Is this trip suitable for Children / Family vacation?

We have prepared this itinerary to make it fun for travelers of all ages. Children will especially enjoy the resort like hotel in Kusadasi which has endless activities for everyone.

Especially for Children: Water Sports, a fully qualified diving instructor, tennis, table tennis, Atari games, billiards, archery and the animations shows are the other activities Mini Club, children playground with its special sandy floor give service to make your children holiday unforgettable

Having one of the largest outdoor swimming pools jacuzzi in the Aegean Region It`s both suitable for adults and children. The hotel has also two private beaches and once private bay with a sandy beach.

What are the available travel dates?

Feb 24th - March 3rd - \$1489

Mar 16th - Mar 24th - \$1689

Apr 19th - Apr 27th - \$1689

Aug 23rd - Aug 31st - \$1550

Sep 6th - Sep 14th - \$1550

How long is the trip and cities visited?

The total length of the trip is 9 Days including flight time. You will visit all the 'must see' locations in Turkey. Cities you will visit are Istanbul, Kusadasi, Pamukkale and Cappadocia. You will be visiting sites around these cities and other towns in close proximity.

Flight Information

All flights are included in tour (International as well as domestic flights). For International, you fly on Delta Airlines from JFK. If you are flying from a different city, we can arrange for a connecting flight. The flight time will vary depending on your departure date, below is the approximate schedule on Delta Airlines:

DL 72T JFK-IST 500P 1015A

DL 73T IST-JFK 1215P 500P

Do we need Visa to enter Turkey?

Yes, visa is required and is provided upon arrival at Istanbul airport for a nominal fee of \$26 per person, paid by cash.

Passport Validity:

Ensure that your passport is valid for 6 months from the date of your travel and that it has enough pages for the Visa stamp.

What are the guidelines on tipping?

Tips are common place and customary in Turkey, for everything from table service in a restaurant to a massage in a Turkish bath. It is more often a reward for good service and for most local people, an essential means of supplementing their income, meagre by Western Standards. Often tourists to a country don't know how much to tip or who to tip.

Local guides: There is not any compulsory tipping in Turkey. Suggested tipping is 6-\$US per person per day for tours more than 7 days.

Drivers: There is not any compulsory tipping in Turkey. Suggested tipping is 6-\$US per person per day for tours more than 7 days.

Restaurants and taxis: Local markets and basic restaurants - leave the loose change. More up-market restaurants we suggest 10% to 15% of your bill.

What are the hotels where we will be staying?

Refer to the Accommodation tab for more information
(www.skylinesafaris.com/turkey.php). Below are the lists of 5-Star hotels:

ISTANBUL – Barcelo Eresin Topkapi or Grand Cevahir
KUSADASI – Fantasia DeLuxe Hotel or KoruMar Hotel Deluxe
PAMUKKALE – Richmond Thermal Hotel
CAPPADOCIA – Dedeman Hotel Cappadocia

What should I take with me?

Loose light cotton clothing is best, with a cardigan or jacket for the cooler evenings. Comfortable shoes are essential for scrambling over rocky archaeological sites you may visit and sun hats, sunglasses and high protection sun cream are recommended.

We recommend traveling light (1 checked-in bag per person and 1 carry on). You will be traveling between cities and it is always convenient when you have limited luggage with you.

Can I travel alone?

You are most welcome to do so! There is a \$450 single room supplement charge. Once the registration has ended, we can look into possible room sharing options if you want to avoid paying the supplement.

How far in advance do I need to confirm my trip?

Once you have purchased your voucher on LivingSocial; we strongly advise you to redeem vouchers within 30 days so that we can prepare your travel kit and reserve your flights accordingly.

How should I dress during the tour?

There are no hard and fast rules but it is best to use common sense when deciding what to wear. If staying on a beach resort it is fine to dress as you feel comfortable. For city breaks relaxed clothing is the most suitable with comfortable shoes and casual trousers and/or a dress if you intend to do lots of walking. When visiting Churches or Mosques you should take off your shoes at the entrance and ladies should cover their hair; often scarves are provided on the way in

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT TURKEY:

Time Zones

Turkey is 2 hours ahead of Greenwich Meant Time. During day light saving Turkey is 3 hours ahead of GMT, which is from the last Sunday in March to the last Saturday in October. Turkey is 7 hrs ahead of Standard EST time.

Electricity

All appliances need a double round pin type plug for 220 volts AC, 50-hertz.

Health and Safety

All clients travelling with our company are highly advise to carry personal insurance to cover all medical and repatriation costs. Please take your insurance policy with you.

Whilst there are no mandatory vaccinations for travellers to Turkey it is advisable to ensure typhoid, polio and tetanus inoculations are up to date. Some travellers feel more confident with hepatitis A and B and meningitis inoculations as well. Also carry Mosquito repellent spray for travel during the summer.

Bottled water is readily available throughout your tour and we recommend that you purchase this rather than drink the local tap water.

It is advisable to carry some Imodium with you in case you get an upset stomach from the difference in cuisine... just in case.

It is often difficult to find the precise medication that is available in one's home country and for this reason we recommend that you carry all current medication with you.

Money

You should always carry some back up cash or traveller's checks separate to the rest of your money and cards.

A mixture of cash and credit cards are the best forms of currency. Credit cards are also accepted in most of the restaurants, bars and pubs. MasterCard and Visa are most welcomed; American Express cards work at some ATMs and Amex offices.

It is much cheaper to convert money to Turkish Lira in Turkey than at home. Using an ATM or a credit card will often get you the best possible exchange rates; the post and telephone office (PTT) and banks offer very reasonable rates too.

Current Exchange rate: 1 USD = 1.85 LIR

Weather

Istanbul

	Max	Max	Sun	Min	Min	Rain
	F	C	Hours	F	C	Days
Mar	52	11	6	39	4	14
Apr	59	15	8	45	7	11
May	70	21	10	54	12	9
Aug	82	28	10	70	21	6
Sep	73	23	9	61	16	7

Kusadasi

	Max	Max	Sun	Min	Min	Rain
	F	C	Hours	F	C	Days
Mar	57	14	7	46	8	9
Apr	64	18	9	52	11	8

May	75	24	11	59	15	5
Aug	90	32	13	73	23	7
Sep	81	27	11	64	18	5

Pamukkale

	Max	Max	Sun	Min	Min	Rain
	F	C	Hours	F	C	Days
Mar	61	16	6	41	5	11
Apr	70	21	7	48	9	11
May	79	26	9	55	13	8
Aug	93	34	11	68	20	2
Sep	86	30	9	61	16	3

Cappadocia

	Max	Max	Sun	Min	Min	Rain
	F	C	Hours	F	C	Days
Mar	50	10	5	32	0	13
Apr	60	16	7	41	5	13
May	69	21	9	46	8	13
Aug	82	28	12	55	13	2
Sep	75	24	9	50	10	3

Language

The official language of Turkey is Turkish. In addition, between 10 % and 15 % of the population speaks a different mother tongue, usually Kurdish or Arabic. Turkish words

are spelled with an adapted Roman alphabet. The language is phonetic; each letter has only one sound that is always pronounced distinctly.

You'll find you won't have much of a problem with the language barrier. English is well communicated by many Turks

Shopping

Turkey is a shopper's paradise and can be one of the great experiences of travelling in this country. Although, depending on what you're buying, you may have to be very careful to ensure that the products are authentic. Moreover, you must shop around, know a little about what you're buying and bargain hard, which is the norm in Turkey!

Hand made Turkish carpets are world famous and can vary from a few pounds to thousands of pounds depending mostly on quality and a little on size. But be careful; together with hand-made, naturally dyed and natural fibre (cotton, wool and silk) carpets, there are fake machine made carpets made with chemical dyes and synthetic fibres. Istanbul has the widest range of carpets, however, expect to pay more than areas such as Cappadocia and Kusadasi.

Turkey is also famous for its high quality and great value gold, silver and leather.

Eating And Drinking

Turkey is a gourmet's paradise, although, many unadventurous travellers come away having only consumed vast quantities of doner and shish kebab that they are familiar with from home.

You can start your day with a delicious 'Turkish breakfast'; Turkish bread, white cheese, tomatoes, olives, cucumbers, boiled egg, jam or honey and of course Turkish tea. Alternatively, try the Menemen, which is scrambled eggs with peppers, onion, tomato and if you're lucky salami. At most of the hotels, you will be served a 'buffet breakfast' with a wide variety of foods.

There are two types of restaurants in Turkey; restaurants which have a-la-carte menu with food on display that will be cooked for you and 'ready meal' restaurants which have a range of previously prepared dishes in warming trays for you to choose. The beauty of 'ready meal' restaurants is that you can try a wide range of small dishes for a relatively cheap price.

During your tour, we will give lunch breaks at such type of restaurants to save your money and time. In more salubrious restaurants you can order 'mezes' (appetizers) where a bewildering array of dishes is available. These are small dishes ranging from stuffed vegetables and tightly rolled cheese pastries to pickled vegetables, courgettes and aubergines in their many guises. Vegetarians are especially catered for in mezes, which usually come with a range of purees and vinaigrettes.

Main dishes are generally on display; you choose and the meat or fish is taken away to be prepared. Fish is usually charged by the weight. Shish and doner kebabs are served everywhere but perhaps better still are Adana kebabs - spicy (not by Thai standards!) minced meat with a sprinkling of the purple sumac herb.

Do not forget to save room for dessert, which is almost always sweet! Highlights include 'baklava' (a flaky, sweet nut pastry, usually with pistachio), 'kadayif' (shredded pasty dough filled with nuts and drenched in syrup), 'tavukgogsu' (a creamy sweet made of pulverised chicken fibres), and 'helva' (sesame paste).

You will find a wide variety of alcoholic drinks in Turkey, we suggest you don't try them all in one night! Beer (bira) is ever popular. Efes, Pilsen and Tuborg are the leading brands, which are very refreshing in the summer. They are sold in bottles, cans and draught. Establishments often have an agreement with only one brewery and therefore will only sell one brand. Wine is grown in areas as diverse as Thrace and Cappadocia. The best domestic white wines are 'Cankaya', 'Villa Doluca', and 'Kavaklidere', made in Cappadocia, while 'Yakut' and 'Kavalikdere' produce the finest red. 'Raki', the national aperitif served with ice and water which turns the clear spirit cloudy, is a very warming drink although you may find it a bit rough at first - persevere. Domestically produced gin, vodka and brandy are also available in most of the bars, pubs, and restaurants.

A basic lunch and dinner (main meal + salad) in a local restaurant will cost you between \$12 to \$20; a soft drink about \$2.