

# Miracles of Turkey & Greece with Islands Hopping

Istanbul, Magic Cappadocia, Ancient Athens and dreaming Santorini

Trip Code 13-Day Tour: TP13MT | Trip Code 16-Day Tour: TP16TG Trip Code 20-Day Tour: TP20TG

11/14/18 Nights 4-5 Star Hotel

Airfare included

21/24/28 meals

Daily Sightseeing

Coach, Flight

Small to Medium Group



# WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT

- ✓ Explore the continent-straddling metropolis of Istanbul, and step backin time to the Grand Bazaar, the majestic Blue Mosque, and in the taste of real Turkish Delight.
- Get up close and personal with the fairy chimneys of Cappadocia. Feast your eyes on Turkey's most spectacular sight, the 'CottonCastle'. and paddle through the magical healing hot springs at Pamukkale.
- ✓ Option to explore thousands of years of history hidden in theremarkable ruins of Ephesus.
- ✓ Uncover thousands of years of civilization in Athens with a visitto
- ✓ With its boutique culture, gorgeous beaches, and thumping nightlife, the chic isle of Mykonos invites you to embrace your hedonistic side.
- √ The sight of a Santorini sunset can turn even the most hardened of souls into a romantic.
- ✓ Walk along the volcanic rim of the island, passingthrough picturesque white villages that cling to plunging cliffs.



- Day 1 **Depart for Turkey**
- Day 2 Istanbul
- Day 3 Istanbul
- Day 4 Istanbul-Safranbolu
- Day 5 Safranbolu-Cappadocia
- Day 6 Cappadocia
- Day 7 Cappadocia-Konya
- Day 8 Konya-Pamukkale
- Day 9 Pamukkale-Kusadasi
- Day 10 Kusadasi
- Day 11 Kusadasi-Pergamum-Canakkale
- Day 12 Canakkale-Troy-Istanbul
- Day 13 Istanbul Athens
- Day 14 Athens
- Day 15 Athens Mykonos
- Day 16 Mykonos
- Day 17 Mykonos Santorini
- Day 18 Santorini
- Day 19 Santorini Athens
- Day 20 Athens Canada



Depart for Turkey.

#### Day 2: Arrive Istanbul

Arrive in Istanbul, at the crossroads of Europe and Asia and transfer to your hotel. Balance of the day is at leisure. Overnight in Istanbul.

#### Day 3: Istanbul

Spend your day delying into Istanbul the only city that straddles two continents, where modern and ancient coexist. Your tour includes a short briefing and the picture stop at the courtvard of the Blue Mosque, a 17th century Ottoman Mosque famous for its six minarets and magnificent interior made of blue tiles. Continue to the Hippodrome, an ancient Grecian stadium for horse racing and chariot racing during the Roman period. Then, gain insights into the Ottoman Empire's power during your guided tour of the Topkapi Palace and see the 4th century Egyptian obelisk. Today, you may join the Optional Half Day Istanbul with St. Sophia & Underground Cistern with Lunch (USD\$79). tour's highlights include Underground Cistern - water source of the Byzantine and Ottoman periods. Then visit St. Sophia, the great Byzantine Basilica built in the 6th century, which remained the largest cathedral in the world for almost a thousand years, it was later converted to a mosaue.

Overnight in Istanbul. Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

## Day 4: Istanbul-Safranbolu

After breakfast you may join the half-day day optional tour to Bosphorus cruise; Spiced Bazaar; Grand Bazaar (USD\$60). Visit the Spice Market with its unforgettable aromas. Then take the boat cruise along the Bosphorus, the winding straits separating Europe and Asia. The humble fishing villages and contrasting suspension bridges set against the dramatic outline of the Strait

demonstrates the link between the East and West. Then continue to the Grand Bazaar, where you can shop for carpets. jewelry, leather and more. Then transfer to Safranbolu.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

#### Day 5: Safranbolu-Cappadocia

Todav explore Safranbolu's UNESCOprotected Old Town with its charming cobblestone streets and Ottoman timberframed mansions. Stop for photos at the restored Cinci Hammam and the historic Koprulu Mehmet Pasa Mosque. Take a glimpse of the trade route history at the Cinci Han Caravanserai. Stroll through Safranbolu Bazaars for traditional crafts. Enjoy a Turkish coffee experience at Leyla Hanim Mansion before transferring to Cappadocia. . Alongside your profesional guide, enjoy learning the craft of coffee production at a shop, plus sip delicious coffee at local coffee shop. Then trasnfer to Cappadocia. A region of surreal rock formations and incredible cultural heritage. Overnight in Cappadocia.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

# Day 6: Cappadocia

This morning you may join the Hot Air Balloon Ride (USD\$380). Then begin the day very early on a visit the Open Air Museum in Goreme. It's a monastic complex composed of churches, rectories and dwellings, and one of the earliest centres for religious education. There are at least 10 churches and chapels in the museum area, dating between AD900 and 1200. Later, visit the Ozkonak or Kaymakli Underground City. The city has many strata made up of volcanic granite. Its larger areas are connected to each other by tunnels. Underground city had a built-in communication system of pipes on each of its levels, which have no such systems.

Each carved out room had ventilation provided by holes when the city was closed against enemies. Lastly, visit the village of Avanos that is famous for its beautiful old houses, pottery and onyx. Today you may join the Optional Jeep Safari Tour (USD\$120) and Traditional Turkish Night Dance Show with unlimited drinks (USD\$75).

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### Day 7: Cappadocia-Konya

Cappadocia is home to rock-cut temples, ancient underground cities, and unparalleled landscapes. Visit "Fairy Chimney"-its iconic volcanic cones. The thick clusters of rosy rock take on peculiar shapes-look for a dolphin, Napoleon's hat, or the Virgin Mary as you gaze upon them. Your guide explains how the formations were naturally carved. You may also see the remarkable mushroom-shaped, chimney like rock formations that monks used as shelters. Then depart to Konya. En route, visit the 13th-century Caravanserai of Sultanhan, a large abandoned city and shelter in Cappadocia, built on the Silk Road, whose main portal gate is considered a fine example of Turkish Seljuk art. Continue to Konya, a city renowned for its Selijuk architecture also as the home of the " Whirling Dervishes". Overnight in Konya.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

## Day 8: Konya-Pamukkale

Today explore the Mausoleum of Meylana featuring its unique turquoise-tiled fluted dome. Discover the works of Mevlana Celaleddin Rumi, a prominent 13th-century leader and mystical poet of Islam, whose teachings inspired the founding of the Mevlevi Sufi order. Then transfer to Pamukkale. Then relax and enjoy the blissful thermal pools at your hotel before dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

#### Day 9: Pamukkale-Kusadasi

After breakfast visit Pamukkale, the Necropolis, and the ancient city of Hierapolis ("Holy City"); a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The city's hot springs have drawn people since the 2nd century BCE as it is known for its healing and therapeutic properties. Next, you will visit Pamukkale, known as "The Cotton Castle" which is best described as a calcium cascade of snowy white stalactites reminiscent of a frozen waterfall. It is recognized as the 8th Wonder of the World by Turkish people. Then transfer to Kusadasi. **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

# Day 10: Kusadasi

Today is free time at your leisure. You may join the Optional tour to Ancient Ephesus & House of Virgin Mary & Basilica of St John with Lunch (USD\$89), considered one of the greatest ancient cities of the world. Here, you'll meander through the ruins of the ancient Greek city of Ephesus, visit the House of the Virgin Mary, Basilica of St. John, the library of Celsius, temple of Hadrian, the theater, and the Odeon. overnight in Kusadasi.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

# Day 11: Kusadasi-Pergamum-Canakkale

This morning take a visit to the Leather factory where you can see the popular leather fashion show. Next, drive to Pergamum, a powerful kingdom during the ancient Hellenistic period. You will discover the Ancient City of Pergamon, an important cultural center and the east capital of the Roman Empire. Then visit Asklepion, the ancient Roman spa center. Overnight in Canakkale.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

# Day 12: Canakkale-Troy-Istanbul

This morning, proceed to the classical city of Troy. Tour this 4000-year-old city and legendary center of the Trojan War, made immortal by Homer's epic poem The Iliad. See the symbolic replica of the famous Wooden Horse that the Greeks used to break their siege of this ancient city. Transfer to Istanbul "Crossroads of Europe and Asia" and transfer to your hotel.

Overnight in Istanbul. **Meals**: Breakfast, Dinner

#### **Day 13: Istanbul - North America**

Transfer to the airport to fly back home.

Meal: Breakfast

#### **Continue to 16 DAYS**

#### Day 13: Istanbul - Athens

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight to Athens. Upon arrival, meet in the arrival hall at Athens airport & transfer to the city hotel. Overnight in Athens.

Meal: Breakfast

### Day 14: Athens

Breakfast in the hotel. Pickup from the hotel for your half day morning tour. See Syntagma Square, the House of Parliament, the Memorial to the Unknown Soldier, the Athens Academy, the University, the National Library and the Hadrian's Arch. Pass by the Temple of Olympian Zeus and the Panathenaic Stadium where the first Olympic Games of the modern era were held in 1896. On the Acropolis visit the architectural masterpieces of the Golden Age of Athens: the Propylaea, the Temple of Athena Nike, the Erechtheion and finally "the harmony between material and spirit", the Parthenon. Continue and visit the place where at last the statues found their home and admire the wonders of the classical era, the museum of Acropolis. At the end of the tour, drop off at the hotel or at the city centre. Remainder of theday at own leisure. Overnight in Athens.

Meal: Breakfast

#### Day 15: Athens

Breakfast in the hotel. Full day free for leisure. Or join an optional saronic cruise tour with lunch(USD\$150). Transfer to the port and embark on the full day cruise to the 3 saronic islands of Aegina, Poros and Hydra. Lunch is included and served on board. At each island, get off the boat to discover each islands own individual character. Aegina: The largest of the saronic islands, famous for pistachio nuts. Poros: a pretty island with chance for shopping. Hydra - an artist's delight, again with boutiques, shops and cafes dotted around the harbour. On the return journey back to the port of Athens, enjoy the on board entertainment program. Meet at the port and transfer to a restaurant for dinner. Transfer back to the hotel. Overnight in Athens.

Meal: Breakfast

#### **Day 16: Athens - North America**

After Breakfast, Transfer to Airport and depart to Hometown.

Meal: Breakfast

#### **Continue to 20 DAYS**

#### Day 15: Athens - Mykonos

Breakfast in the hotel. Transfer to the Athens port of Piraeus and take the boat to the island of Mykonos. Meet at Mykonos port and transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Mykonos Hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

#### Day 16: Mykonos

Breakfast in the hotel. At leisure today and explore the most fabulous island of the Aegean Sea with the blue sky, the beautiful sugar houses and the amazing beaches. You may start with a walking tour in the morning and walk around the narrow white-washed streets of Mykonos Town. You will have many chances to take photographs, as in the morning the town is very quiet. You will see the lovely churches, the tiny shops, Little Venice, the traditional windmills and Peter the Pelican, the mascot of Mykonos, You may visit Paraportiani one of the 365 churches of the island and in the evening eniov the famous night life of the island. Overnight in Mykonos Hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

#### Day 17: Mykonos - Santorini

Breakfast in the hotel. Transfer to Mykonos port and take the speed boat to the island of Santorini. Meet at Santorini port and transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Santorini Hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

## Day 18: Santorini

Breakfast in the hotel. Santorini is the supermodel of the Greek islands, a headturner whose face is instantly recognizable around the world: multi-colored cliffs soar out of a sea-drowned caldera, topped by drifts of whitewashed buildings. With its reputation for dazzling panoramas, romantic sunsets and volcanic-sand beaches, it's hardly surprising the island features on so many travelers' bucket lists. At leisure on this amazing island of Santorini (formed by the eruption of the volcano 1600 BC). The sight is the most breathtaking of all Greek islands and perhaps of the world. Explore and enjoy all that the island has to offer. History and nature combine to make Santorini unforgettable. Overnight in Santorini Hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

#### **Day 19: Santorini - Athens**

Breakfast in the hotel and enjoy your free leisure time in Santorini. Transfer to port in the afternoon and take high speed ferry to Athens. Overnight in Athens.

Meal: Breakfast

# **Day 20: Athens - North America**

Breakfast in the hotel. Transfer to the airport and fly back home.

Meal: Breakfast

#### **Package Includes**

- International Airfare from Toronto in economy class
- · Airport taxes
- Flight from Istanbul to Athens
- 4-5 Star hotel accommodation
- · Entrance fees to scenic attractions as indicated
- · Services of English-speaking tour quides
- · Sightseeing per itinerary in modern airconditioned motor coach
- All transportation in the destination
- Meals as indicated in the program

# **Package Does Not Includes**

- · Visa fees
- Insurance of any kind
- · Gratuities: Prepaid tipping 13 Days: US\$182/person 16 Days: US\$224/person 20 Days: US\$280/person

(includes gratuities for tour guides, tour escort, drivers etc.)

• Personal expenditure such as laundry service, souvenirs and telephone calls

#### **2024 Departure Dates**

Depart	18-Apr	23-May
12-Sep	26-Sep	03-Oct
10-Oct	07-Nov	1

#### **Price Notes**

- Prices are per person based on twin share accommodation. Single room supplement fee: 13 Days: \$1,299, 16 Days: \$1,699, 20 Days: \$2,399
- Add on airfare from other cities: Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Victoria from \$500, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec City from \$500, Saskatoon, Regina, Winnipeg, Halifax, St. John and other cities from \$600
- Tour prices are subject to change without prior notice.





La Quinta by Wyndham Istanbul 🛨





Double Tree Hilton Canakkale \* \* \* \* \*





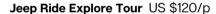
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#### **Optional Tours**

**Hot Air Balloon Ride** US \$380/p

over the charming landscape during sun rise time. One of the most exciting adventures in Cappadocia in exploring the region at sky. Our balloon will take you to the hard-to-find places.



one of the most exciting adventures in Cappadocia in exploring the region in an off-road vehicle. Our jeeps will take you to the hard-to-find places and away from the crowds forspectacular views and excitement of traveling off-road in the unique landscapes of Cappadocia - all in one activity.





Half Day Istanbul and St. Sophia with lunch	US \$79/p
Traditional Turkish Night Dance Show with unlimited drinks	US \$75/p
Full Day Ephesus & House of Virgin Mary with lunch	US \$79/p
Bosphorus cruise & Grand Bazaar with lunch	US \$60/p
Full-day Sarnoic cruise tour with lunch	US \$150/p (16-day tour only)
Half-day Mykonos City and Island Tour	US \$115/p
Full-day Santorini Island Tour	US \$120/p