



## 5\_Diamond of Turkey

*Cover the most fascinating places in the country with no overland journeys. See the biggest metropolis in Turkey, experience rural life in Cappadocia, visit the glorious civilizations of the past at Ephesus, and pamper yourself at the most popular tourist destination in Turkey, Antalya.*

**(Istanbul / Cappadocia / Kusadasi / Antalya)**

### Day 1 Fly / Istanbul (-)

Arrive in Istanbul and transfer to your hotel. In the afternoon, depart for a half-day Bosphorus Cruise. Take in the sights and sounds of this legendary waterway lined with historic villages, grand wooden mansions, imposing fortresses, and the Baroque summer palaces of the late Ottoman sultans. After the cruise, visit the Spice Bazaar (closed on Sundays), a thrilling riot of colours, sounds, and the rich smells of exotic spices. Overnight in Istanbul.

### Day 2 Istanbul (B)

After breakfast, depart for a half-day sightseeing tour of the Sultanahmet district at the heart of old Istanbul. Visit St. Sophia (On Mondays replaced by the Chora Church Museum). Next, visit the Blue Mosque, which owes its name to the exquisite tiles adorning its interior. Walk through the Hippodrome, the stadium of the ancient Byzantium. Finish the tour at the Grand Bazaar, which was the commercial heart of the old city. Its 4,000 shops are full of treasures – including carpets and kilims, silks, jewellery, ceramics, icons, and leather goods. Wandering through the Grand Bazaar (closed on Sundays), you may indulge in a little shopping, Ottoman style. Overnight in Istanbul.

### Day 3 Istanbul / Cappadocia (B, D)

After breakfast transfer to the airport to catch the flight to Kayseri. Upon arrival transfer to Cappadocia and Upon arrival transfer to the hotel. Free for the rest of the day. Overnight in Cappadocia.

### Day 4 Cappadocia (B/L/D)

After breakfast start the sightseeing of the area including; the Devrent Valley to see the unique fairy-chimneys. Drive to Pasabagi (Monk's Valley) to see the most interesting mushroom-shaped pinnacles. Drive to the city of Avanos for lunch. In the afternoon visit Open Air Museum at Goreme where the remains of rock-cut churches and Christian settlements date back hundreds of years. Lastly, before returning to your hotel, visit the natural castle at Uchisar. Dinner and overnight in Cappadocia.

### Day 5 Cappadocia (B/L/D)

After breakfast depart from the hotel at 09.30-10.00 depending on the arrival time of the participants from the other hotels, for a tour with 4kms hike through the Rose Valley with visits to the churches. Afterwards visit to the old Christian village of Cavusin. Stop for lunch near Pigeons Valley and then continue on to see the Kaymakli Underground City. You will also visit the Ortahisar natural rock castle. Transfer back to the hotels. Dinner and overnight in Cappadocia.

### Day 6 Cappadocia / Izmir/Kusadasi (B/D)

After breakfast transfer to the airport to catch the flight to Izmir directly or via Istanbul. Upon arrival transfer to Kusadasi check in to your hotel. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

### Day 7 Kusadasi (B/L/D)

After breakfast depart for the sightseeing of Ephesus, the cradle of early Christianity. Visit the House of Virgin Mary, where she spent her last days. Proceed to visit Ephesus, and see the spectacular ruins from the period of St. Paul, some of which are recently excavated. After lunch, visit the Archaeological Museum, Temple of Diana (one of the seven wonders of the ancient world.). Return to Izmir and overnight.

### Day 8 Izmir / Antalya (B/D)

A morning city tour of the famed Acropolis with its dominating view and site of the renowned Parthenon, followed by a visit to the Acropolis Museum. Afternoon at leisure. Overnight in Athens.

### Day 9 Antalya (B/L/D)

After breakfast free till check-out (latest check-out time is 1200 hours) and departure transfer to the airport to catch the flight to the next destination via Istanbul. which reflects the glorious age of classical era. The triangle historical tour ends at Manavgat Waterfalls with a refreshment break at the edge of showering water drops. Return to hotel and overnight. (Sun/Mon/Wed/Fri)

### Day 10 Antalya (B)

After breakfast free till check-out (latest check-out time is 1200 hours) and departure transfer to the airport to catch the flight to the next destination via Istanbul.