

MARVELS OF TURKEY

Featuring - Antalya, Cappadocia, Fethiye, Istanbul, Kas, Kusadasi, Pamukkale, Safranbolu

DURATION	GROUP SIZE	AIRPORT	PRICE STARTING FROM
14 Nights / 16 Days	22 People	New York (JFK/EWR)	Twin Occupancy Price Per person - \$0.00

OVERVIEW

Marvels of Turkey is a journey designed for travelers who want to experience the full breadth of the country, from the Black Sea coast and the Anatolian plateau to the Mediterranean and Aegean shores. The experience blends UNESCO-listed towns and archaeological sites with local crafts, regional gastronomy and scenic drives, guided throughout by an experienced English-speaking guide. The journey begins in Istanbul, followed by a scenic drive to the Black Sea port of Amasra and the Ottoman town of Safranbolu, where a full day is dedicated to its historic center, hammam, caravanserai and bazaars. The route then continues through Yoruk Village and Ankara, with visits to Anitkabir, Ankara Castle and the Salt Lake, before arriving in Cappadocia for three nights of rock-cut churches, valleys, artisan workshops and an underground city, with an optional sunrise hot-air balloon ride. From Cappadocia, the journey crosses Central Anatolia to Konya and the Mausoleum of Rumi before reaching Antalya, with its old town, Duden Waterfalls and Aspendos Theatre. A scenic coastal drive leads to Demre, the Kekova boat excursion and the bohemian town of Kas, followed by Saklikent Canyon, Tlos, Xanthos and Fethiye. The route then passes through Kayakoy, the Ghost Village, to Pamukkale and Hierapolis, Ephesus and Bursa, concluding in Istanbul with the Blue Mosque, the Hippodrome, Hagia Sophia and the Grand Bazaar. Thoughtfully paced with guided visits, cultural storytelling and time for shopping, swimming and relaxation, this journey offers a meaningful and memorable way to discover the many layers of history, spirituality and landscape that make up Turkey.

ACCOMMODATION

CITY	HOTEL NAME	CHECK-IN	CHECK-OUT	NO. OF NIGHTS
Dubai	Canal Central Hotel	Day-2	Day-8	6 Nights

DEPARTURE

Start Date	End Date	Departure Gateway	Price Per Person
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INCLUSIONS

- ◆ **International return airfare ex-New York (Please check with us for pricing from other cities)**
- ◆ Airport taxes, fuel surcharge and baggage fees
- ◆ 14 Nights accommodation in TWN/DBL sharing basis at listed hotels or similar
- ◆ Daily breakfast (except Day 14, as per itinerary)
- ◆ Dinner on Days 02 to 14 as per itinerary
- ◆ Airport transfers and all land transportation by air-conditioned vehicle
- ◆ Services of an English-speaking guide and driver throughout the tour
- ◆ Safranbolu Historic Center walking tour, Cinci Hammam visit and Traditional Turkish Coffee Experience
- ◆ Cappadocia full-day tour
- ◆ Kekova Boat Excursion
- ◆ All sightseeing with admissions as per itinerary
- ◆ 2 small bottles of water per person, per day, in the vehicle
- ◆ Applicable taxes

EXCLUSIONS

- ◆ All lunches and other sightseeing or services not mentioned in the itinerary
- ◆ Gratuities for meals, tourist guides and drivers
- ◆ Visa fee and Travel Insurance
- ◆ Personal expenses such as alcohol and other beverages, telephone calls and laundry
- ◆ Optional Sunrise Hot-Air Balloon Ride in Cappadocia (available at an additional cost)
- ◆ Any other services or items not mentioned above are not included

ITINERARY

DAY 1 DEPART FOR ISTANBUL

DEPART FOR ISTANBUL

DAY 2 ARRIVAL IN ISTANBUL

Upon arrival at Istanbul Airport, complete the arrival formalities and meet your accompanying tour guide for the transfer to your hotel. Istanbul is a legendary city set between two continents and heir to three great empires, and during the transfer your guide offers a general introduction to its history and the logistics of the tour, including the location of neighborhoods, approximate driving times and practical recommendations to make the most of your stay. The rest of the day is free to rest or enjoy a first contact with a city where past and present coexist at every step, from imperial mosques, historic commercial streets and traditional cafes to natural viewpoints overlooking the Bosphorus.

DAY 3 ISTANBUL - AMASRA (BLACK SEA) - SAFRANBOLU [B/-/D]

Drive: *Istanbul - Amasra - Safranbolu, 550 km / 8 hours*

After breakfast, depart toward the Black Sea region, where the urban landscape fades into a scenic route of dense forests, valleys and small towns that reflect traditional Turkey. Arrive in the charming port town of Amasra, known for its maritime atmosphere and millennia-old history, and visit Amasra Castle on its rocky peninsula, where unique panoramic views of the Black Sea unfold and its walls and structures reflect Roman, Byzantine and Genoese periods. Continue to St. Anthony Church to learn about the areas multicultural past and the historical coexistence of different communities, then stroll through the old town along narrow streets, traditional houses, handicraft shops and charming cafes. Enjoy time by the seaside to discover local gastronomy, with a suggested tasting of fresh Black Sea fish and seafood. In the afternoon, continue to Safranbolu for check-in and dinner.

Overnight in Safranbolu

DAY 4 SAFRANBOLU [B/-/D]

After breakfast, spend a full day in Safranbolu, one of the best-preserved Ottoman urban ensembles in Turkey and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, whose prosperity on ancient trade routes allows visitors to travel back in time to the 17th and 18th centuries. Enjoy an in-depth walk through the Historic Center, taking in natural viewpoints, main streets and photogenic corners where the towns serene rhythm can be felt, and stop at the historic Cinci Hammam to learn about the social role of the hammam in Ottoman life as a place for hygiene, communal rituals, social gatherings and tradition. Visit the Koprulu Mehmet Pasa Mosque, one of the most elegant in the city, to observe its historic sundial and learn about the use of time and astronomy in Ottoman culture, then stop at Cinci Han, a caravanserai evoking the merchants and caravans who rested here with their animals and goods. Walk through the Yemeniciler Arastasi Bazaars, where traditional crafts such as leather, textiles, felt and lace are preserved alongside regional sweets, and conclude with a Traditional Turkish Coffee Experience, with an explanation of its preparation, service and symbolism in daily life, followed by free time to shop for local products.

Overnight in Safranbolu

DAY 5 SAFRANBOLU - ANKARA - CAPPADOCIA [B/-/D]

Drive: *Safranbolu - Cappadocia, 440 km / 7 hours*

After breakfast, depart toward Yoruk Village, a settlement that preserves the rural Anatolian essence, for an orientation walk through its streets with explanations about traditional lifestyles, community customs and the history of nomadic settlements in the region. Continue to Ankara, capital of the Republic and symbol of modern Turkey, to visit Anitkabir, the Mausoleum of Ataturk, a monumental complex of great national significance. Walk through its ceremonial courtyards to hear about the transition from the Ottoman Empire to the Republic and Ataturks role in the modernization of the country, and visit the museum (subject to availability), displaying historical pieces and

visual documents related to the foundation of the modern state. Ascend to Ankara Castle, a fortress with historical layers spanning ancient and medieval periods, for panoramic views of the city and an understanding of its urban evolution. Stop at the impressive Salt Lake (Tuz Golu), one of the largest salt lakes in the country, whose white and open landscape offers a perfect setting for photographs and explanations about the region's natural importance, before arriving in Cappadocia at the end of the day for dinner.

Overnight in Cappadocia

DAY 6 CAPPADOCIA [B/-/D]

After breakfast, dedicate a full day to Cappadocia, a region unique for its volcanic geology, early Christian history and almost lunar landscapes. Visit the Goreme Open-Air Museum (UNESCO), a rock-cut monastic complex with chapels and churches decorated with Byzantine frescoes, where your guide explains monastic life, fresco symbolism, early Christian spirituality and the historical importance of the site within rock-carved Cappadocia. Continue to panoramic viewpoints over Goreme Valley and its fairy chimneys, with carefully selected photo stops, and visit Pigeon Valley, famous for its rock-carved dovecotes historically used to obtain natural fertilizer for vineyards and orchards. End the day in Uchisar, crowned by its natural rock castle, the highest point in the area, where your guide explains its defensive strategy and the use of rock cavities as dwellings and storage spaces.

Overnight in Cappadocia

DAY 7 CAPPADOCIA [B/-/D]

After breakfast, experience Cappadocia through its artisanal, cultural and subterranean dimensions. Visit a Traditional Turkish Carpet Workshop to see Anatolian hand-weaving, the interpretation of symbols and colors and the use of natural dyes, and learn how this heritage is passed from generation to generation and why Anatolia is a global reference in carpet production. Next, visit an Artisan Onyx and Turquoise Jewelry Center, with explanations about the origin of the stones, cutting and polishing processes and their role in Turkish artisanal tradition, and time to observe the

handcrafted collections. Continue to Avanos, on the banks of the Kizilirmak River, for a demonstration of traditional pottery, inheriting techniques dating back to the Hittite period, with red clay work, the potters wheel and firing methods. Explore an impressive Underground City, a rock-cut system used as a refuge by Christian communities, walking through tunnels, chambers, storage areas, ventilation shafts and communal spaces to understand the engineering and defensive logic of these subterranean cities. Stop at Devrent Valley (Camel Valley), famous for rock formations with imaginative shapes.

Overnight in Cappadocia

DAY 8 CAPPADOCIA - KONYA - ANTALYA [B/-/D]

Drive: Cappadocia - Konya - Antalya, 540 km / 8 hours

After breakfast, depart toward Konya across the vast plains of Central Anatolia, with explanations en route about the historical importance of these routes as caravan corridors and communication links between regions. Arrive in Konya, the spiritual heart of Sufism, and visit the Mausoleum of Mevlana Jalal ad-Din Rumi, universal poet and mystic, where your guide explains Rumi's philosophy of love, tolerance and unity, his cultural impact and the significance of the Mevlevi tradition (whirling dervishes) in Anatolian history. Continue toward Antalya, entering the Mediterranean landscape, for check-in and dinner.

Overnight in Antalya

DAY 9 ANTALYA [B/-/D]

After breakfast, discover Antalya, a Mediterranean city with Roman heritage and coastal atmosphere, beginning with a walking tour through Kaleici (Old Town), a maze of narrow streets and traditional houses. Visit Hadrian's Gate, a ceremonial arch built for the visit of the Roman emperor, and stop at the Broken Minaret (Kirik Minare), a symbol of historical layering from Roman temple to church to mosque that reflects centuries of cultural transformation. Continue to the Duden Waterfalls, where water cascades toward the Mediterranean in a spectacular natural landscape, then on to the majestic Aspendos Theatre, one of the best-preserved Roman theatres in the world, with

explanations of its acoustics, architecture and cultural function, before returning to Antalya.

Overnight in Antalya

DAY 10 ANTALYA - DEMRE - KEKOVA - KAS [B/-/D]

Drive: Antalya - Kas, 230 km / 5 hours

After breakfast, depart early along the most scenic section of Turkey's Mediterranean coast, where ancient history merges with extraordinary seascapes and the route passes through mountains, hidden coves and coastal villages on one of the most panoramic drives of the journey. Arrive in Demre, known in antiquity as Myra, one of the most important cities of the Lycian civilization, for an orientation visit exploring its close association with St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra in the 4th century and the historical figure behind the legend of Santa Claus, and its role as a religious and administrative center in Late Antiquity. Continue to the harbor for the Kekova Boat Excursion, cruising over crystal-clear turquoise waters past pristine bays, islets and the remains of the Sunken City of Kekova, partially visible beneath the sea, while your guide explains how these ruins were submerged after ancient earthquakes and describes Lycian maritime life, with free time for swimming (weather permitting). In the afternoon, arrive in Kas (Antiphellos), a charming coastal town with Lycian roots and a bohemian atmosphere, for a walking tour of the town center, harbor and commercial streets, enjoying its relaxed and authentic ambiance, strong connection to the sea, fishing tradition and views of nearby Greek islands from the coast.

Overnight in Kas

DAY 11 KAS - SAKLIKENT - TLOS - XANTHOS - FETHIYE [B/-/D]

Drive: Kas - Fethiye, 210 km / 5 hours

After breakfast, depart inland to discover some of the most impressive natural landscapes and archaeological sites of southwestern Anatolia. Arrive at the spectacular Saklikent Canyon, one of the longest and deepest gorges in Europe, and walk along wooden platforms and natural paths while learning about the canyons geological formation, with the chance to feel the cold mountain water flowing through the gorge.

Stop at Yakapark, a natural oasis with springs, lush vegetation and wooden platforms built over water, for time to rest and enjoy the surroundings. Continue toward Tlos, one of the oldest and most powerful cities of the Lycian League, for an explanatory stop with panoramic views of the acropolis, rock-cut tombs and surrounding landscape, and to hear about its political and mythological importance as mentioned in classical sources. Visit Xanthos, ancient capital of the Lycian League and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, famous for the heroic resistance of its inhabitants and its importance in Greek mythology, where you observe monumental remains and learn about Lycian culture and its unique political system. Arrive in Fethiye, a modern coastal town with strong historical heritage.

Overnight in Fethiye

DAY 12 FETHIYE - KAYAKOY - PAMUKKALE [B/-/D]

Drive: Fethiye - Pamukkale, 260 km / 5 hours

After breakfast, depart toward Kayakoy, known as the Ghost Village, for a walking tour of this former Greek-Turkish settlement, abandoned after the population exchange between Greece and Turkey in the 1920s, where stone houses, churches and silent streets narrate a recent history of coexistence, displacement and cultural memory. Continue toward the Denizli region to Pamukkale, one of the most emblematic natural wonders of Turkey, and visit the Cotton Castle, whose white travertine terraces were formed by mineral deposits over thousands of years, walking carefully along the natural pools as your guide explains the geological phenomenon. Explore the ancient city of Hierapolis, founded as a thermal center in the Hellenistic period and developed by the Romans, walking through the remains of baths, monumental streets, the theatre and the necropolis to understand the city's role as a place of healing and well-being in the ancient world. Tonight you stay at a thermal hotel, with free time to enjoy indoor and outdoor pools fed by natural mineral waters, famous since antiquity for their therapeutic properties.

Overnight in Pamukkale

DAY 13 PAMUKKALE - EPHEBUS - KUSADASI [B/-/D]

Drive: Pamukkale - Kusadasi, 210 km / 4 hours

After breakfast, depart toward the Aegean coast, arriving at one of the most important archaeological regions of the classical world. Before entering the archaeological site of Ephesus, visit a Leather Products Center, where you attend a dynamic fashion show presenting high-quality garments made from natural leather, followed by free time at the factory outlet. Then enjoy an extensive visit to the Ancient City of Ephesus, a former Roman metropolis and one of the best-preserved archaeological ensembles of the Mediterranean, with a detailed walk through the Library of Celsus, symbol of ancient knowledge; the Odeon, center of political life; the Temple of Hadrian; the public latrines; the Roman baths; and the majestic Great Theatre, with capacity for over 20,000 spectators, as your guide explains daily life, commerce and religious practices during Ephesus golden age. Continue to the Isa Bey Mosque, a 14th-century architectural gem reflecting the transition between Seljuk and early Ottoman art, and make an explanatory stop at the area associated with the legend of the Seven Sleepers, significant in both Christian and Islamic traditions, before transferring to Kusadasi for dinner.

Overnight in Kusadasi

DAY 14 KUSADASI - BURSA - ISTANBUL [B/-/D]

Drive: Kusadasi - Istanbul, 540 km / 8 hours

After breakfast, depart toward Bursa, the first capital of the Ottoman Empire and a key city for understanding the origins of the Ottoman state, with explanations along the way about Ottoman expansion and the strategic role of Bursa. Visit the Grand Mosque (Ulu Camii), one of the most important mosques in Turkey, famous for its twenty domes, monumental calligraphy and spiritual atmosphere, then continue to Koza Han, the historic silk market, to learn how Bursa became an international commercial center during the 16th and 17th centuries. Walk through the Tophane area for panoramic views of the city and explanations of its defensive and historical function, and visit the Mausoleums of Osman Gazi and Orhan Gazi, the founder of the Ottoman Empire and his successor, key

figures in Turkish history. Continue to Istanbul for dinner.

Overnight in Istanbul

DAY 15 ISTANBUL [-/-/D]

Begin the day at the Blue Mosque (Sultan Ahmet Mosque), a jewel of 17th-century Ottoman architecture, famous for its six minarets and refined interior decoration with Iznik tiles, and considered one of the most important symbols of Istanbul. Continue to the Byzantine Hippodrome Square, the former social, political and sporting center of Constantinople, once the scene of chariot races and imperial ceremonies, where historic monuments such as the Egyptian Obelisk, Serpent Column and German Fountain can still be admired. Then enjoy an explanatory visit to Hagia Sophia, a masterpiece of world architecture built in 537 AD, admiring its colossal dome, mosaics and its historical role as a Byzantine cathedral and Ottoman mosque, symbolizing the encounter between Christian and Islamic cultures. In the afternoon, visit the Grand Bazaar, one of the largest and oldest covered markets in the world, with free time to explore.

Overnight in Istanbul

DAY 16 ISTANBUL - DEPARTURE [B/-/-]

Enjoy a final breakfast at the hotel, with free time according to your flight schedule for last-minute shopping, a walk around the hotel area or one last Turkish coffee while observing the daily life of the city. At the scheduled time, transfer to Istanbul Airport for your return flight, bringing to a close an exceptional journey through Turkey that has combined millennia of history, unique natural landscapes, cultural heritage, spirituality and authentic experiences.

Note - The itinerary above may be modified without prior notice. The sequence of activities and scheduled visits may vary due to operational factors, including weather, traffic and venue availability. Optional add-ons are available at an additional cost and are not included in the base package price.

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