



TURKEY - Affordable Turkey – 7N / 8D – (CODE – AT TKY 08)
FROM R16,490 Per person sharing – LAND ONLY

Affordable Turkey Tour is the best way to see Turkey. Its history is an extraordinary tapestry woven with layers of culture, heritage, and stunning landscapes. Starting in Istanbul, you'll find yourself at the crossroads of continents, where East meets West in a breathtaking collision of history and modernity. The city's pulsating energy and architectural wonders like the Hagia Sophia and Blue Mosque truly embody its rich past.

Cappadocia, with its surreal landscapes of fairy chimneys and underground cities, paints a vivid picture of ancient civilizations. Exploring the open-air museums and taking in the sunrise via a hot-air balloon ride offers unforgettable experiences.

As you journey westward to Antalya, the Mediterranean's allure beckons with its turquoise waters and ancient ruins. The city itself, with its blend of modernity and history, offers a fascinating contrast.

The convenience of domestic flights between these destinations ensures you spend less time on the road and more time soaking in Turkey's beauty and history. The diversity in landscapes, from bustling cities to ethereal landscapes, makes this tour an enticing option for the individual traveler eager to immerse themselves in the tapestry of Turkey's past and present

At a glance

- Day 1 Arrive in Istanbul. Meet and transfer to your hotel
- Day 2 Full-day Princess Island tour
- Day 3 Full-day Bursa tour
- Day 4 Flight to Cappadocia
- Day 5 Full-day South Cappadocia tour
- Day 6 Flight to Antalya
- Day 7 Full-day Antalya and Waterfall tour
- Day 8 Services end with transfer to Antalya Airport

Highlights

Istanbul: Visit the beautiful Princess Island and Bursa, the "Green City"

Cappadocia: Join us in exploring the spectacular natural valleys, rock-cut churches and abandoned cave homes of *Cappadocia*, together with some of its most important historic sites

Antalya: Visit *Kaleici* - the picturesque *old quarter* of the city

Inclusions

- Meet and assist on arrival and departure by our local representative
- Transfer and transportation as per itinerary in AC vehicle
- Accommodation in selected hotels in a double/twin room sharing
- Meal plan as per itinerary
- Excursions with a Local English-speaking Guide
- Entrance fees

Exclusions

- International/Domestic flights – Departure & Fuel taxes (Contact us for best international airfares)
- Personal expenses, meals and drinks unless otherwise specified
- Travel Insurance
- Visa fee
- Tips
- Services not stated in the itinerary

Validity

Rate valid for travel between 01 MAY to 31 OCT 24

Contact us for any other date of travel required

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Itinerary

Day City	Day to Day Itinerary
Day 1 Istanbul - Arrival Day	Meet at the airport Transfer to your hotel. You will be given your room key and the rest of the day is yours to explore Istanbul. Early check-in is subject to availability. Overnight in Istanbul.
Day 2 Istanbul Princess Island Tour (B/L)	This tour is a relaxing way to leave the hush of Istanbul. Enjoy the cool air and attractive sights along the way to Buyukada, the largest and most visited island in the chain. The most important charming side of these islands is that there is no traffic jam as cars and motorcycles are banned. You can only see bicycles and horse-drawn carriages around you, called phaetons which will be used by us to tour the island and the scenery beautified with flamboyant mansions draped with purple and white bougainvillea's, redolent of a more inactive and admirable era. Stop for lunch at a restaurant near the waterfront and gaze across the Asian shore towards Istanbul, so close and yet worlds apart.
Day 3 Bursa Tour (B/L)	Visit the city of Bursa, once the capital of the Ottoman Empire, on this day trip from Istanbul that starts with a 2-hour ferry ride. Enjoy the views during the trip, and visit Tophane for a panoramic look at Bursa. Enjoy a local lunch, and ascend Mt. Uludag, the ancient Olympus, by cable car to take in the scenery. Other activities include a silk market and covered bazaar.
Day 4 Istanbul - Cappadocia(B)	After breakfast, check-out of your hotel The transfer is booked to the Airport and board your flight to Cappadocia On arrival, you are met and taken to your hotel for dinner and overnight
Day 5 Cappadocia (B/L)	Start your day visiting the Fairy Chimneys in Urgup and its most famous family of fairy chimneys: Three beauties. These are the official symbol of both Urgup and Cappadocia. Continue to the Red Valley, one of the most attractive valleys of Cappadocia. Visit to Cavusin, one of the earliest inhabited and latest abandoned monastics settlements of Cappadocia. Lunch at a local restaurant. After lunch, visit an Underground City, one of the largest and deepest underground cities of Cappadocia and Pigeon Valley for a panoramic view. Return to the hotel after the tour
Day 6 Cappadocia - Antalya (B)	After breakfast, check out of your hotel and transfer to the Airport Board your flight to Antalya You are met on arrival by our representative for transfer to your Hotel
Day 7 Antalya (B/L)	You will be picked up from your hotel at around 09:30 for a tour of Antalya Waterfalls formed by the Duden River (one of the major rivers in Southern Anatolia). They end where the waters drop off a rocky cliff directly into the Mediterranean Sea. Stop for lunch. You are taken to the old city centre of Antalya for a few hours of free time to explore the Harbour and indulge in some local shopping After the tour return to your hotel for dinner and overnight
Day 8 Depart Antalya (B)	Check out of your hotel after breakfast Transfer to the airport to check-in for your return flight to South Africa via Istanbul

Thank you for choosing **Sure Mirage Travel** for your **Turkey experience**. We value your patronage and look forward to serving you again in the near future.

Country information

Best time to go

The best times to visit Turkey's archaeological sites and cities are in spring (Apr-May) and autumn (Sep-Oct) as the temperature is warm, but not too hot.

High summer (Jun-Aug) can be hot: best time for beach holidays. Winters can be cold and many hotels though city breaks are still an option. Turkey does offer ski options during the winter months

Turkey food & drink

Turkish food is varied and delicious. It's often meze style – lots of small dishes to sample, including aubergine dips, calamari, borek (stuffed pastries), mashed broad beans and stuffed vine leaves – plenty of options for vegetarians, too. Local food involves a lot of meat, often in kebab form – the smell of charcoal-grilled beef, lamb and chicken permeates Turkey.

A Turkish menu includes wonderful slices of bread, super-sweet baklava (pistachio and syrup pastry) and salty white cheeses. Despite being a Muslim country, alcohol is easy to find in Turkey, especially in the touristy coastal regions. Efes is the Turkish beer of choice. Raki, grape spirit, is potent.

Turkish coffee is pitch black, very strong and often sweet. Tea is widely drunk and served black

Culture and Language

Turkish is the official language, however, English, French and German are widely spoken in all major cities and tourist areas. Shaking hands is the common form of greetings. Hospitality is a top priority. Pointing fingers at a person is considered rude. Declining an offer is done by putting your hand over your heart. Observe dress code when visiting Islamic sites

Getting around

Train travel is a very popular mode of transport between the major cities. It may be slow but can sometimes offer you some inspiring scenic moments. Coach travel is the most used way of getting around Turkey. Bus routes are relatively cheap and are most comfortable. Just about any city is connected by coach. On certain upmarket coaches, extra legroom and Wi-Fi is offered. If your journey is more than 5 hrs, a 30-minute stop is made about every three hours.

Taking a taxi is by far the most convenient way of travel in major cities, but not always the quickest way. Taxis can easily be hailed on the street. Important: only take the official bright yellow taxis. If they do not have a meter, then it is a no go

Tipping

The basic rule is: tip 5-10% in restaurants, cafes and bars. Hotel staff does, however, expect a tip between 5 and 20 Turkish Lira. Do not tip taxi drivers but round up the fare. Tour Guides do not depend on tips, however, if a tour has really gone beyond what you expected, a tip of between 20 and 30 TL will be greatly appreciated

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