

TURKEY Magic Line Tour – 5N / 6D - (CODE AT TKY 03)
FROM R15,950 Per person sharing LAND ONLY

Magic Line tour of Turkey

Absolutely! Turkey is a treasure trove of history, culture, and natural beauty. Ephesus is an incredible site to explore with its well-preserved ruins, including the Library of Celsus and the Great Theatre, offering a glimpse into the ancient world. Pamukkale's stunning white terraces of mineral-rich thermal pools are not just visually captivating but also offer a unique and relaxing experience.

Kusadasi itself is a lively coastal town with a vibrant atmosphere and access to beautiful beaches. Turkey truly offers a rich tapestry of experiences for travelers.

At a glance

- Day 1 Welcome to Istanbul. Transfer to hotel
- Day 2 Full Day Istanbul tour
- Day 3 Morning Bosphorus Cruise. Flight to Izmir
- Day 4 Spend the day in the ancient city of Ephesus
- Day 5 See the gleaming calcite terraces in Pamukkale
- Day 6 Return flight to Istanbul. End of tour

Highlights

- Daily departures
- Spend a day touring in Istanbul with a professional guide - Topkapi Palace, Blue Mosque and Hippodrome
- Shop at the famous Grand Bazaar
- Visit Ephesus where Greek, Persian, Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman once ruled over the city

- Spend the day in Pamukkale, the centre of natural thermal spring waters with healing properties

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 City Tour (B-L)	Pick up from your hotel around 8:00 am and travel to the Sultanahmet district, the oldest, most historic part of the city. The first stop of the day will be the Hagia Sophia. As our tour guide explains the significance of this massive building that was once a Christian church, then a mosque, and now a museum. Continue to the Hippodrome of Constantinople, where we will see the impressive obelisk, before reaching the Blue Mosque. Make sure to take pictures of both the interior and exterior of this impressive building. Next, we continue to the Grand Bazaar: a massive, bustling complex housing clothing, decorative furnishings, food, and so much more. On the way to the bazaar, pass by other historical monuments, such as the Tomb of Sultan Ahmet I, the Firuz Aga Mosque, and the exterior of the Tomb of Mehmed II. After our shopping spree at the Grand Bazaar, stop for some lunch. The afternoon includes visits to the Topkapi Palace, the primary residence of the Ottoman sultans for nearly 400 years and Little Hagia Sophia After the tour return to your hotel Please Note: St. Sophia Museum is closed on Mondays, Topkapi Palace is closed on Tuesdays and The Grand Bazaar is closed on Sundays
Day 3 Istanbul to Izmir (B)	Half Day Bosphorus Cruise Tour: (08:00-12:00) First visit the Spice Bazaar, one of the city's most colorful and bustling attractions and in operation since the 17th century. It still remains a very popular attraction for locals and visitors alike. The tour guide will give us tips on the best stalls and kiosks to visit as to not be overwhelmed by the busy market. Spend some 45 minutes exploring the Bazaar and shop. Then head to the shores of the Bosphorus Strait for a cruise, learning about this important, strategic waterway that straddles the Asian and European continents. On our voyage, see impressive historic Istanbul buildings: the decadent façade of Dolmabahce Palace; 15th-century fortress Rumelihisari; the Beylerbeyi Palace, the summer home of Ottoman sultans; and many more. After the tour, you will be transferred to the airport for onward flight to Izmir. Arrive and transfer to hotel.
Day 4 Ephesus Tour (B-L)	The journey between your Kusadasi hotel and the House of the Virgin Mary includes scenic views of the Byzantine fortress in Selcuk and the Temple of Artemis. A long and winding road will take you through wonderful views of the valley en route to the Shrine of St. Mary. The diminutive house, beautifully situated in the Solmissos Mountains, is considered by the Vatican the final resting place of the Virgin Mary. Continue your tour to ancient Ephesus, where you'll pass through the arched Magnesia Gate and begin a slow, downhill walk to the ruins of the Roman provincial capital. Your knowledgeable guide will highlight sights such as the beautifully preserved Temple of Hadrian, the magnificent Trajan Fountain, the Odeon Theater, once used for both political and entertainment purposes See the beautiful Celsus Library with its imposing façade and two-story Corinthian-style columns.

	<p>The dramatic Great Theater is one of the few structures still in use today. It seats twenty-five thousand and, although it was once an arena for gladiator games, it is now home to the annual spring festivals.</p> <p>Finally arrive at the Temple Of Artemis (Diana), one of the seven wonders of ancient World .</p> <p>Return to your hotel in Kusadasi after the tour</p>
<p>Day 5 Pamukkale tour (B-L)</p>	<p>Pick up from your hotel at around 08:00 for the full day tour to Pamukkale, the center of natural thermal spring waters with healing properties.</p> <p>Because of its chemical properties in the water, pure white colored travertines and stepped water terraces have been created on the mountain slope. It resemblance cotton piles and is therefore called "Cotton Castle" in Turkish.</p> <p>Visit the travertines and the ancient city of Hierapolis housing the biggest Necropolis with 1200 gravestones in Anatolia.</p> <p>The tour includes a stop at the Sacred Pool; a highlight of today's tour (entrance is 35 TL per person extra self-payment). Here shallow thermal waters ripple over a wonderful scattering of ancient roman ruins</p>
<p>Day 6 Kusadasi – Izmir to Istanbul – End of Tour (B)</p>	<p>Depart for Izmir airport for your domestic flight to Istanbul and then back to home.</p>

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

Inclusions

- Meet and assist on arrival and departure by our local representative
- Transfer and intercity transportation as per itinerary in AC vehicle
- Accommodation in selected hotels in double/twin-sharing
- Meals: as mentioned
- Local English-speaking Guide
- Entrance fees

Exclusions

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

Validity

Rate valid for travel between 01 MAY and 31 OCT 24

Contact us for any alternative travel date

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 breads, 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

Rich in culture and customs and brimming with hospitality, natural beauty, and historical heritage. Turkey serves as a crossroads between Asia and Europe. The landmass known as Anatolia on which Turkey thrives has been home to numerous civilizations and their faiths and cultures. Attested by the 13 World Heritage Sites and countless religious sites you'll find here. Relive the ancient world through the ruins, customs, and traditions that are among the nation's most precious heritage.

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