

JET TOURS & TRAVEL

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GREECE/TURKEY – 15 Day Tour

GREECE

Day 01: Begin Your Tour | Arrive Athens

You arrive in Athens where your tour representative greets you at the 'meeting point' and transfers you comfortably to your hotel .

Day 02: Athens City Tour

After breakfast, you will be picked up from the hotel, and you will be led to a guided Athens sightseeing tour to the House of Parliament, the Unknown Soldier's Tomb, the Hadrian's Arch, the Olympian Zeus Temple, the Panathenaic Stadium, the Academy, the University and the National Library & New Acropolis Museum Balance of the day at leisure



Day 03: Onto Mykonos | Mykonos Tour



Morning transfer to the port to embark the cruise ship for the 3 day cruise to the Greek islands and Turkey First port of call is the beautiful island of Mykonos famous for the sandy beaches and the incredible nightlife

Day 04: Onto Kusadasi Turkey | Patmos Island Greece



First port of call is the Kusadasi with the optional tour visiting Ephesus one of the most complete ancient cities ever excavated. Then continue on to the island of Patmos where participating the optional tour you have the opportunity to visit the Monastery & Grotto where St John leaved and wrote the book of Revelation.



Day 05: Onto Crete | Santorini



Next port of call is the Cretan port of Heraklion. Don't miss the opportunity to participate in the optional tour to the Palace of Knossos, the center of the Minoan Civilization. Departure from Crete and arrival to Santorini in the afternoon, the island which is said to be the lost continent of the Atlantis.

Day 06: Goodbye Athens | Onto Istanbul

Arrival at Piraeus port early in the morning disembarkation after breakfast and transfer to the airport for flight to Istanbul. Arrival and meeting at the airport transfer to your hotel over night in Istanbul.

TURKEY

Day 07: Sultanahmet | Old Istanbul

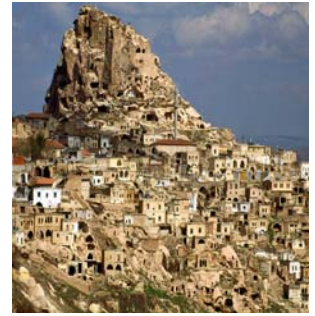


Visit The St. (Haghia) Sophia, which was built by the Emperor Justinian. It was the largest building in the world for over 1000 years. See its intricate mosaics and huge central dome. Continue to Dolma Bahce Palace. After lunch break we will see the Blue Mosque, built for Sultan Ahmet I, which is a unique piece of architecture with its six minarets and features 20,000 beautiful Iznik tiles. Visit the ancient Hippodrome with Obelisk of Theodosius, Snake Pillar and German Fountain of Wilhelm II. Walk through the back streets of Old Istanbul and Visit the Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum originally built as the Palace of Ibrahim Pasha in 1524 with fine examples of Islamic Calligraphy, tiles and carpets. See the Grand Covered Bazaar (except Sundays). *May be done as a walking tour if your hotel is centrally located. Overnight Istanbul.

Day 08: Istanbul | Onto Cappadocia

Pick-up from hotel 2 hours before flight departure.

Take the early morning flight from Ataturk Airport in Istanbul to Cappadocia. Arrival at the airport and meeting just outside the arrival's gate with a sign bearing your name with your driver. Transfer to Cappadocia. Tour to Kaymaklı Underground City, one of the most interesting underground settlements in Cappadocia. Soğanlı Valley, an Open Air Museum in a wild natural setting near a typical Cappadocian village with its different style Rock-Cut churches and frescoes. Villages in the valleys, surrounded by the "table top" mountains, are spectacular. Lunch and Visit to Sahinefendi newly discovered (01 May 2002) mosaic houses & Archaeological excavation site. Continue with Keslik Monastery near Cemil, that hides its frescoes behind a very thin smoke layer which we can only see by torch light. Our tour finishes with a visit to Mustafapaşa (Sinassos), an old Greek town with its spectacular old Greek houses; very fine examples of late Greek settlements and architecture. Overnight Cappadocia



Day 09: Cappadocia | Cappadocia Tour



Meeting at the hotel reception at 09:30am

In the morning, first meeting with the lunar landscape of Cappadocia: rock formations beyond belief in Devrent valley; a journey in the past with its troglodyte houses, visit to Pasabag "fairy chimneys" where the voice of wind mixes with the "songs of fairies" near Zelve. Lunch in Avanos, centre of terra cotta work of art since 3000 BC. and a demonstration in a traditional pottery workshop. Afternoon, visit the famous Goreme Open Air Museum and see the best examples of Byzantine art in Cappadocia in rock-cut churches with frescoes and paintings (10th to 13th century). Continue to Uchisar Rock-Castle to have a panoramic view of the valleys of Cappadocia. Overnight Cappadocia

Day 10: Onto Konya | Selcuk Caravanserai Sultanhan | Mausoleum of Mevlana | Pamukkale

Drive to Konya, en route, visit to Sultanhanli Caravanserai, roadside inn where travellers could rest and recover from the day's journey. Caravanserais supported the flow of commerce, information and people across a network of trade routes of Asia, North Africa and South-Eastern Europe on the legendary Silk Road and the Spice road. In Konya center, visit to Mevlana Sufi temple. Mevlana is the founder of Sufism and whirling Dervishes. Overnight Pamukkale.



Day 11: Pamukkale | Onto Kusadasi | Visit Hierapolis



Discovery of Travertine terraces and Hierapolis. The travertine terraces at Pamukkale are one of the most spectacular natural wonders we ever have seen from various mineral springs in a vast white cliff side, about 200 m overlooking the plain, calcite-laden waters have dripped down over a series of terraced levels and created a fairyland of bizarre solidified cascades and shell-shaped basins. It looks like creations from snow or like balls from cotton, which gave the scenery the Turkish name Pamukkale (cotton castle): "pamuk" for cotton and "kale" for castle. Moreover the water in the basins is changing its color according to how the light enters. Visit to Aphrodisias. Aphrodisias was primarily known as a center for the arts, specifically sculpture. The Aphrodisias School of Sculpture had a distinctive style and was very well circulated throughout the Greek and Roman world. Overnight Kusadasi.

Day 12: Onto Ephesus

Visit to the ancient city of Ephesus. We will spend several hours walking in the footsteps of Alexander the Great, Caesar, Cicero, Apostles Paul and John and many other familiar historical names. The recently opened Terrace Houses (entry included) where the wealthiest Romans lived are an excellent example of sensitive excavation and presentation. The mosaics and frescos are spectacular. Tradition has it that Virgin Mary was brought here by St John after the Crucifixion and lived her final years near the city of Ephesus on an isolated mountaintop. A lovely chapel is constructed on the site tended by Franciscans and open to visitors. It has been designated a pilgrimage site by the Pope. We will continue with Saint John Church where Apostle John spent his final years and he was buried. Visit to temple of Artemis to see the remains of one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Overnight Kusadasi near Ephesus



Day 13: Kusadasi | Pergamum | Canakkale



Meeting at the hotel reception at 08:00am

Visit Pergamon or Pergamum that became an important kingdom during the Hellenistic period, Pergamon had the second best library in the ancient Greek civilisation (the ancient Library of Pergamum), after Alexandria. When the Ptolemies stopped exporting papyrus, partly because of competitors and partly because of shortages, the Pergamenes invented a new substance to use in codices, called pergaminus or parchment after the city. This was made of fine calf skin, a predecessor of vellum. Asclepion, located to the southwest of the lower city, was a sanctuary dedicated to the god of health, Asclepius which was one of the largest hospitals in history, is located to the west of the city, which was a great center of culture, art and medicine and continue on to Canakkale for overnight.

Day 14: Troy | Dardanelles | Gallipoli | Istanbul Fly to Athens

Meeting at the hotel reception at 09:00am

Visit Troy with its famous wooden horse, continue to Gallipoli and then across the Dardanelles to Istanbul for overnight.



Day 15: Fly Home

Today after the breakfast transfer to the Istanbul International airport for your flight back home. Depending on your departure flight time we can set up a Topkapi Palace visit if the time permits. Transfer to airport to connect your international flight and leave Turkey.



GREECE SECTION INCLUDES:

- 2 nights hotel accommodation in Athens 3 day cruise in double inside cabins / full board basis
- Half-day Athens city tour including Acropolis Museum
- Entrance Fees during the guided tour
- Hotel taxes
- Daily breakfast
- All Transfers

TURKEY SECTION INCLUDES:

- Flight from Istanbul to Cappadocia
- Airport transfers where needed.
- Tours and transfers by a comfortable non smoking with AC bus with professional driver.
- Professional experienced English-speaking guide during the tours
- Flight from Athens to Istanbul
- Istanbul: Old City Hotel, Garden House or Taksim Area Hotel, Grand Oztanik or again in Taksim Gallery Residence Hotel.
- Cappadocia Hotel: Gamirasu Cave Hotel Special Class (BB) or similar class hotel
- Pamukkale Hotel: Richmond Thermal Hotel or Tripolis Hotel 4 Stars Thermal SPA Special Class or similar class hotel
- Kusadasi Hotel : Charisma deluxe or Korumar Hotel or Fantasia Deluxe 5 Stars Deluxe Hotels
- Assos : Assos Kervansaray Special Class or Kolin Hotel 5 Star
- Entry fees to the sites and museums

Excludes:

- Dinner, Lunch
- International flights
- Drinks