



## Timeless Turkey

21<sup>st</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> September, 2026

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### **Itinerary Overview: Day 1 – Malta – Istanbul – Izmir**

We will meet our Tour Leader at Malta International Airport at 04:00hrs for check-in for our flight departing to Istanbul at 06:00hrs. Upon arrival at Istanbul Airport, we will collect our luggage and proceed on foot to the domestic terminal for our connecting flight to Izmir, scheduled to depart at 13:00hrs.

Upon arrival in Izmir, Türkiye's third-largest city, we will transfer to our hotel for check-in and time to settle into our rooms.

Later, we will enjoy a sightseeing tour of Izmir, visiting Konak Square, the iconic Clock Tower, Kemeraltı Bazaar, and the Agora of Smyrna, an impressive Roman-era marketplace with Greek origins. These landmarks provide a fascinating insight into Izmir's rich history and vibrant daily life through the centuries. Overnight stay in Izmir.

### **Itinerary Overview: Day 2 – Izmir – Ephesus – Pamukkale**

After breakfast at the hotel, we will check out and depart to visit Ephesus, one of the best-preserved ancient cities in the world. During our visit, we will see the Temple of Hadrian, the Library of Celsus, the Great Theatre, and the Ephesus Experience Museum. We will also make a stop at a traditional leather goods shop, a well-known local craft of the region.

Later, we will continue our journey towards Pamukkale. Upon arrival, we will visit the ancient city of Hierapolis, rebuilt after the earthquake of 17 AD, followed by a visit to Pamukkale, famous for its spectacular white terraces formed by the millenary flow of mineral-rich limestone waters. The site resembles a frozen waterfall, giving rise to its name, meaning "Cotton Fortress."

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Afterwards, we will transfer to our hotel, check in, and settle into our rooms. Dinner will be served at the hotel, followed by time to relax. Overnight stay in Pamukkale.

### **Itinerary Overview: Day 3 – Pamukkale – Konya – Cappadocia**

After breakfast at the hotel, we will depart for Konya, a city closely linked to Mevlana, the founder of the Whirling Dervish movement and a Muslim mystic contemporary of Saint Francis of Assisi. Here, we will visit the Mevlana Mausoleum, now transformed into a museum but still an important place of pilgrimage, where a deep sense of spiritual devotion can be experienced.

Following our visit, we will continue our journey towards Cappadocia. Upon arrival, we will transfer to the hotel, check in, and settle into our rooms. Overnight stay in Cappadocia.

### **Itinerary Overview: Day 4 – Cappadocia**

Early this morning, there is an optional hot air balloon excursion offering the opportunity to admire Cappadocia's breathtaking lunar landscape illuminated by the first light of dawn from above. *(Please note that this excursion may be cancelled even a few hours before departure due to adverse weather conditions.)*

Guests who do not participate in the hot air balloon excursion will enjoy breakfast at the hotel. After breakfast, the whole group will begin our exploration of Cappadocia, visiting Devrent Valley (also known as Imagination Valley), where erosion has shaped the rocks into remarkable peaks and natural formations. We will continue to the Göreme Open-Air Museum, renowned for its rock-cut churches and the famous "fairy chimneys," named for their unique and magical appearance.

During the day, we will also stop at a traditional carpet cooperative to discover the craftsmanship behind this ancient art. We will enjoy an external visit to the Uchisar Citadel, dramatically situated within a cone of tuff rock, followed by visits to Avclar Valley and Mustafapaşa, formerly known as Sinasos.

Mustafapaşa is a remarkable historic town which, until the early 20th century, was inhabited by Greek Orthodox families. Its stone buildings, carved façades, elegant colonnades, decorated doors, and painted motifs reflect the rich Hellenic heritage that has endured through the centuries. After the visits, we will return to the hotel.

In the evening, there is an optional excursion to attend a traditional Whirling Dervishes ceremony. Overnight stay in Cappadocia.

### **Itinerary Overview: Day 5 - Cappadocia - Istanbul**

After breakfast at the hotel, we will visit one of Cappadocia's fascinating underground cities remarkable subterranean settlements once used as shelters by early communities.

We will then continue to the beautiful Pink Valley, one of the most scenic areas of Cappadocia, famous for its hundreds of pink-hued rock formations and rock-cut churches hidden within the cliffs.

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Our journey continues with a visit to Çavuşin, an extraordinary abandoned troglodyte village perched on a cliffside. Here, we will explore a steep and labyrinthine complex of rock-carved dwellings and visit one of the oldest churches in Cappadocia, the Church of St. John the Baptist, located near the top of the cliff.

During the day, we will also stop at a local workshop specialising in the processing of precious stones, gold, and silver.

Later, we will transfer to Kayseri Airport for our flight to Istanbul, scheduled to depart at 20:45hrs. Upon arrival in Istanbul, we will transfer to our hotel and check in. Overnight stay in Istanbul.

### **Itinerary Overview: Day 6 – Istanbul**

After breakfast at the hotel, we will depart for the historic Old City (Ancient Peninsula) to discover some of Istanbul's most iconic landmarks. Our visit begins at the Hippodrome, once the centre of Byzantine public life and famous for its chariot races and monumental obelisks. We will then visit the Sultan Ahmet Mosque, widely known as the Blue Mosque, renowned for its magnificent 17th-century Iznik tiles.

We continue with a visit to Hagia Sophia, a masterpiece of Byzantine architecture commissioned by Emperor Justinian to demonstrate the greatness of the Roman Empire. The tour proceeds with a visit to Topkapi Palace, including the Harem section, the residence of Ottoman sultans for nearly four centuries and a symbol of the empire's splendour. We will also visit the Church of Saint Irene and the impressive Underground Roman Cistern, built during the reign of Justinian I in 532 AD, one of the most remarkable engineering achievements of the Eastern Roman Empire.

After the visits, we will return to the hotel. Overnight stay in Istanbul.

In the evening, there is an optional Bosphorus Dinner & Show Cruise, offering the opportunity to admire both the Asian and European shores of the city while enjoying dinner and entertainment — an experience not to be missed.

### **Itinerary Overview: Day 7 – Istanbul**

After breakfast at the hotel, we will visit Dolmabahçe Palace, including the Harem section. We will continue with a visit to the Rüstem Pasha Mosque, built in 1560 by the famous architect Sinan for Rüstem Pasha, son-in-law of Suleiman the Magnificent. The mosque is celebrated for its exquisite Ottoman architectural design and intricate Iznik tile work.

Next, we will explore the Spice Market (also known as the Egyptian Market), an extension of the Grand Bazaar, with stalls offering spices, coffee, sweets, and fruits in a vibrant and bustling atmosphere. Our tour will then take us to the historic Byzantine neighbourhoods of Balat and Fener, famous for their colourful streets and as settings for many films. Here, we will see the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, the spiritual seat of the Eastern Orthodox Church, often regarded as the equivalent of St. Peter's in Rome.

Finally, we will visit the Grand Bazaar, the largest covered market in the world, before returning to the hotel. Overnight stay in Istanbul.

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**Itinerary Overview: Day 8 – Istanbul -Malta**

Breakfast in the hotel. Transfer to the airport for the return flight to Malta scheduled to depart at 10:35hrs.

**Tour Pricing and Inclusions**

Adult in a single room	€1915
Adult in a twin/double room	€1610
Adult in a triple room	€1570

**Price includes:**

- KM Malta Airlines – Malta – Istanbul -Malta
- 20kgs checked in luggage, 10kgs cabin bag and small bag
- Accommodation on bed and breakfast basis
  - 1 night in Izmir in Ontur Hotel 4\* or similar
  - 1 night in Pammukale in Polat Thermal & Spa 5\* or similar
  - 2 nights in Cappadocia in Dinler Hotel 4\* or similar
  - 3 nights in Istanbul in Titanic City 4\* or similar
- All transfers mentioned in the programm
- All excursion mentioned in the programm apart from the optional excursions
- Dinner during the night in Pammakule
- All entrances fees
- Domestic flights
- Local guide
- Service of a Maltese speaking Kerçem A' Tours tour leader
- Insolvency Fund Certificate

**Price does not include:**

- Hot air Balloon €250 including the transfers
- Dervish Show €50 including transfers
- Bosphorus Dinner and Show Cruise €70 including transfers

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**NB. The itinerary may be subject to slight adjustments due to unforeseen circumstances that may occur.**

**The booking is confirmed upon payment of €550 deposit.**

Payments can be made with a cheque made payable to Kercem A' Tours, via bank transfer or by cash. Card payments are also accepted over the phone.

**For bank transfers kindly issue the payments to the following Bank Account details:**

Kercem A Tours

Account Number: 50023350130

IBAN: MT68VALL22013000000050023350130

Account Currency: EUR

**With bank transfers please make reference to the tour and provide your full name. Eg.  
TURKEY - MR AND MRS VELLA**

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