Prelude to Turkey
FROM $2,155 per person

Journey Overview
Cappadocia | Ephesus | Pamukkale | Istanbul

Highlights:
- Shop in the Grand Bazaar – one of the world’s largest and oldest covered markets
- Explore Kaymakli Underground City
- Visit the Greco-Roman archaeological site of Ancient Ephesus – a UNESCO World Heritage site
- Tour historic sites in Istanbul’s old city center

Optional activities include: Hot air balloon tour, whirling dervish performance, cooking class, “shop, cook, feast” culinary adventure

Ask our Destination Experts about great pricing on airfare.

Hotels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>NIGHTS</th>
<th>HOTELS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cappadocia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cappadocia Boutique Cave &amp; Stone Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Izmir</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nisanyan Evleri Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pamukkale</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Thermal Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Istanbul</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10 Karaköy by Morgan</td>
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</tbody>
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Detailed Itinerary

DAY 1
Arrival in Cappadocia
Welcome to Turkey. Upon arrival, meet and greet, then transfer to your hotel. The rest of the days is yours to relax and unwind.

DAY 2
Cappadocia
Visit the Devrent Valley to see the various types of fairy chimneys. Continue to an area where local artisans specialize in pottery made from red clay collected the Kizilirmak River. In the afternoon visit Open Air Museum in Goreme where the remains of rock-cut churches, chapels and monasteries carved into the fairy chimneys date back to the 10th to 13th centuries. (B)

DAY 3
Cappadocia
Light hike through the Rose Valley with visits to the churches. Afterwards visit the old Christian village of Cavusin. Continue on to see the Kaymakli Underground City, the place where early Christians hid from persecutors. The underground city consists of 8 floors below ground, only 4 of them are open to the public today. Visit the Ortahisar Rock Castle, with its magnificent panorama over the fairy chimneys of Hallacdere and the snowy peak of Mt. Erciyes.

DAY 4
Cappadocia | Izmir
Transfer to the airport for your flight to Izmir. Upon arrival, drive to your hotel in Sirince Village. Relax in the hotel’s lovely garden or enjoy a self-guided walking tour of the village (B)

DAY 5
Izmir | Ephesus | Pamukkale
Visit the remarkable ancient Greco-Roman archaeological site of Ancient Ephesus, a UNESCO World Heritage site, that has been painstakingly excavated and restored. Walk along Royal Road also known as the Arcadian Way, a 4th-century white marble chariot thoroughfare whose most striking sight is the two-story Library of Celsus once the 2nd largest library in the world. Uniquely beautiful, with its restored facade now the famed symbol of Ephesus. Your walk along the Royal Road will also take you past the remains of some of the ancient city’s major civic buildings and temples as you move toward the 25,000-seat Ephesus Theater from which St. Paul once preached to the Ephesians. Then visit the ongoing excavations at an current archeological site. In the afternoon, transfer to Pamukkale. (B,D)

DAY 6
Pamukkale | Istanbul
Visit the Cotton Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and explore the ancient city of Hierapolis. The mineral forests, petrified waterfalls, and terraced basins of Pamukkale perfectly complement the ruins of ancient baths and temples of Hierapolis, forming a truly distinct setting that will captivate any visitor of this remarkable area. It was famed for its sacred hot springs, whose vapors were associated with Pluto, god of the underworld. Transfer to the airport for your flight to Istanbul, where you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

DAY 7
Istanbul
Full-day walking tour of Istanbul, beginning at in the heart of Istanbul’s old city, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Visit the 17th-century Blue Mosque, the 100,000-seat Hippodrome and Hagia Sophia, once the largest building in the world. You then. Walk to the impressive Yerebatan Sarayi, built in the 6th century as a water source, it the largest of the city’s underground cisterns. Walk to the legendary Topkapi Sarayi. once the palace of the Ottoman Sultans for
over 300 years, now a museum housing treasures from the collections of the Ottoman Sultans including dazzling jewellery and unique porcelain. (B)

DAY 8
Istanbul
In the morning visit the aromatic Spice Bazaar from 1663 with its domed and vaulted shops selling spices and herbs along with a wide variety of commodities. Then embark the public boat and sail through the waterway separating the Asia and Europe. During this trip many palaces and other attractions will be visible from the sea. In the afternoon, drive to the impressive 5th-century Theodosian Walls and the nearby Kariye Museum. Originally a Christian church, then converted to a mosque, it is now a museum famous for its superb mosaics depicting scenes from the life of Christ, which mainly date to the 14th century. Continue your morning sightseeing with a visit to the grand Suleymaniye Mosque. Proceed to the Grand Bazaar, with 4,000 shops, it one of the oldest and largest covered markets in the world. (B)

DAY 9
Depart Istanbul
Transfer to the airport for your return flight home. (B)