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Istanbul/Pamukkale-Transit Tour (4 nights/5 days)

Day 1 - Arrival at Istanbul Airport

On arrival you will be received by a friendly Mavi Tour representative for transfer to the hotel.

Stay at Great Fortune Design Hotel, a 4-star hotel located in the old city and at walking distance for most of the historical sites. <https://greatfortunehotels.com>. Stay in a single, double, or triple bedroom with breakfast or similar hotels depending on the availability at the time of booking.

No tour will be organized this day for you to rest, relax and overcome the jet lag. You are free to explore the city or nearby places to hotel on your own.

Day 2 - Istanbul

Pick up from the hotel after breakfast at 9.00am. An English-speaking tour guide will be available today to visit the following sites:

- **Topkapi Palace Museum:** This palace was built in 1460 by Fatih Sultan Mehmet, the conqueror of Istanbul. It is used as an official administration center and residence of the sultans with separate quarters for women called “Harem”. In 1856 the sultans moved to Dolmabahce. *Closed on Tuesday’s alternately you will be visiting the Dolmabahce palace.*
- **Hagia Sophia:** This structure was built in 537 by Byzantine Emperor Justinian as basilica which was converted to a mosque in 1453 when Sultan Mehmet captured Istanbul in 1453, Ata Turk converted this into a museum in 1935 and again in 2019 it was converted into a mosque.
- **Blue Mosque:** The Blue Mosque (Called Sultanahmet Camii in Turkish) was built during the reign of Sultan Ahmet in 1616. It is also known as Blue Mosque because of blue tiles surrounding the walls of interior design.
- **Hippodrome:** Built by Roman Emperor Severus in early 3rd Century. The Byzantine emperors loved nothing more than an afternoon at the chariot

aces, and this rectangular arena alongside Sultanahmet Park was their venue of choice. In its heyday, it was decorated by obelisks and statues, some of which remain in place today.

- **Cistern:** This underground water storage system was built by the Byzantine Emperor Constantine in the 4th Century to supply water to the city of Constantinople. The water was transported from the Belgrade Forest by the immense aqueducts.

Lunch break: 12.00- 13.00. Tour ends at 19.00 hours, after the show walk back to the hotel.

Day 3 – Istanbul/Cappadocia.

Please check out from the hotel as we will be taking a flight to Kayseri (Cappadocia) in the evening.

Pick up from the hotel after breakfast at 9.00am to visit the historical sites of:

- **Covered Market:** Covered Bazar built in 15th century, is the oldest covered market in the world having around 4,000 shops selling all type of items including tiles, ceramics, gold, silver, leather goods, carpets, and kilims and many more gift items. Half a day. *Closed on Sundays, an alternate could be to visit the spice market.*
- **Dolmabahce Palace:** Dolmabahçe Palace was built between years 1843-1856 by the Empire's 31st Sultan Abdulmecid I. The palace was home to six Sultans from 1856, when it was first inhabited, up until the abolition of the Caliphate in 1924. It has 285 rooms, 46 halls, 6 baths and 68 toilets. The world's largest Bohemian crystal chandelier is in the Ceremonial Hall having 750 lamps and weighs 4.5 tonnes. Dolmabahçe has the largest collection of Bohemian and Baccarat crystal chandeliers in the world. *Closed on Mondays, alternately you will be visiting the Topkapi palace.*
- **Istiklal (walking) street at Taksim and Galata Tower:** İstiklal Avenue, historically known as the Grand Avenue of Pera is one of the most famous avenues in Istanbul, Turkey, visited by nearly 3 million people in a single day over the course of weekends. It is a 1,5 km. long colorful pedestrian street and grand boulevard cutting through Beyoglu and full of all kinds of shops, restaurants, cafes, street shows and it is located by the Taksim Square. The nostalgic tram runs through the length of the Istiklal Street.

Day 4 – Pamukkale:

Leave for the airport at 4.30pm to catch a flight TK 2576 to Denezli at 6.30 to reach at 7.35.

Pick up from the airport and drive you to the hotel in Denezli, it's about half an hour's drive.

Stay at Park Dedeman Hotel, a 4-star hotel with bed and breakfast in a single, double, or triple bedrooms. <https://www.dedeman.com/en/hotels/park-dedeman-denizli> or similar hotels depending on the availability.

Visit the following sites in Pamukkale.

- **Hierapolis:** It is the place of St. Philip's martyrdom in 80 A.D., commemorated by his Martyrium building in the 5th century, Hierapolis with its several churches became an important religious center for the Eastern Roman Empire
- **Cleopatra pool:** According to legend, this artificially sculpted pool was a gift from Marc Anthony to Cleopatra. It is actually the most famous of the Marc Anthony gifts to Cleopatra, the Egyptian Queen. It is said that the historical pool, which dates back to the 16th century, was formed by the collapse of the buildings in the region into a pit formed as a result of earthquakes, and that this pit was filled with healing and soda thermal water.
- **Travertines of Pamukkale:** Pamukkale was formed when a spring with a high content of dissolved calcium bicarbonate cascaded over the edge of the cliff, which cooled and hardened leaving calcium deposits. This formed into natural pools, shelves and ridges, which tourists could plunge and splash in the warm water.
- **Optional Paragliding: Optional: -45 minutes**

Day 5 –Pamukkale/Istanbul:

Leave for Denizli airport after breakfast at 6.30 hours to catch flight TK 2577 at 8.20am to reach Istanbul airport by 9.35am to catch an onwards flight for your ultimate destination.

END OF THE TOUR

Price

	Number of Persons				
	2	3	4	5	6
Adults Over 11 Years					
US Dollars Per Person	1,160.00	965.00	950.00	880.00	835.00
Children 7-11 Years	870.00	720.00	710.00	660.00	630.00

Children under 6: \$175

- **Payment:** The full amount needs to be paid 10 days prior to the start of the tour.
- **Refund:** A full refund will be issued (excluding bank fees) if the cancellation is made 3 days prior to the start of the tour. No refund be made if the cancellation occurs within 3 days from the start of the tour.

Inclusions:

- Hotel accommodation in Istanbul/Cappadocia in 5-4-star hotels for 4 nights with Bed and Breakfast.
- Transportation by luxury air-conditioned Van or minibus for sightseeing including pick and drop from/to the airport.
- A qualified/Licensed English-speaking tour guide will be provided for one day each in Istanbul and Cappadocia.
- Airfare from Istanbul to Kayseri (Cappadocia) and back to Istanbul.
- Museum entrance fees.
- Dervish dance in Cappadocia.
- Help desk located in Istanbul speaking English, Turkish, Urdu, and Hindi languages will be available to assist you at cell number +90 533 634 95 15.

Exclusions:

- Air ticket from/to from your home country to the destination.
- Visa and related expenses
- Lunches and Dinners and drinks
- Tips to the driver
- Medical Insurance and cost incurred due to medical condition and emergency medical treatment.
- Force majeure

Notes:

- We strongly advise you to get Travel Insurance policy to safeguard against any contingencies.
- We also advise you to take care of your personal belongings, Mavi Tours is not responsible for the loss of baggage or personal items during the duration of the tour.
- Please give tips to the supporting staff including concierge at the hotel, driver, and other staff for helping you with the luggage and other support services provided. It is normal practice in Turkey to give a tip of around 10% of the bill at the restaurants.