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Türkiye Holidays-2024
Istanbul & Trabzon-6 nights/7 days
May to November

Day -1: Arrival at Istanbul Airport

On arrival in Istanbul, you will be met at the airport and transferred to the hotel. Please share the details of your arrival with us.

Stay at Ottoman Imperial Hotel, a 4-star hotel located in the old city and at walking distance for most of the historical sites. <https://www.ottomanhotelimperial.com> located right next to historical landmark of Istanbul, Hagia Sophia. Stay in a 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 9.30am. An English-speaking tour guide will be available today to visit the following sites:

- **Topkapi Palace:** 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. *2 hours. (Closed on Tuesdays’, alternatively we will take you to visit Dolmabahce Palace).*
- **Hagia Sophia Mosque:** 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. *1 hour*
- **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. *1 hour*

- **Basilica Cistern:** The cistern was built under the Byzantine Emperor Justinian. The cistern is a large underground structure that held about 100,000 tons of water to supply water to the residents of Constantinople. It occupies a rectangular area equal to 140 meters in length and 70 meters in width. Inside the tank there are 336 columns with a height of 9 meters each, which form 12 rows of 28 columns each. *1 hour.*
- **Hoca Pasha Dervish Dance:** It starts at around 7.00pm to last for an hour. Watch the mystical ritual of the Mevlevi Order, whose whirling dance has been declared a UNESCO Heritage of Humanity. The Sema ceremony is a journey through man's spiritual ascent to "perfection" through mind and love—a truly unmissable and astonishing experience of music and moves.

Day-3: Istanbul

Pick you up from the hotel at 9.30 after breakfast to visit.

- **Covered Market:** Built in 1456 this is one of the largest and oldest covered market in the world, with 61 covered streets and over 4,000 shops, attracting between 250,000 and 400,000 visitors daily. The shops sell Carpets & Kilims, Colorful Lamps & Lanterns, Ceramics, Turkish Metalware, Gold and Silver Jewelry, leather Jackets etc. Price bargains are customary at most of the shops which could be in the range of 10% to 40%. *3 hours.(Closed on Sunday's alternatively we will take to the Spice Bazaar).*
- **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 tons. Dolmabahçe has the largest collection of Bohemian and Baccarat crystal chandeliers in the world. *2-hours (Closed on Mondays, alternatively we will take you to Topkapi Palace).*
- **Taksim/Istiklal Street:** 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.
- **Bosporous Cruise Dinner:** Starting at 8.00pm enjoy this cruise of the Bosporous with dinner, dance and music to last for about 3 hours. Drop back to the hotel after dinner.

Day -4: Istanbul/Trabzon.

Pick up from the hotel after breakfast at 9.00am to be transferred to Istanbul airport for flight TK 2820 at 11.10 to reach Trabzon by 12.00.

You will be picked up from the airport to be transferred to the hotel. It's about 15 minutes' drive.

Stay at Mercure Hotel, a 5-star hotel in the city center with a stunning view of the black sea in a twin/Trible bedroom with breakfast.

https://all.accor.com/hotel/B6I5/index.en.shtml?utm_campaign=seo+maps&utm_medium=seo+maps&utm_source=google+Maps or similar hotels depending on the availability at the time of booking.

No tour will be organized for you to rest and relax. You can explore the areas around the hotel on your own.

Day-5: Trabzon:

Pick up from hotel after breakfast at 9.30 for sightseeing.

- **Sera Lake Nature Park:** It is located at about 12 km from the hotel. It is one of the best natural landmarks that will please your spirit! It has an area of nearly 140000 M2 and it is about 20 meters deep. Now, you must be enthusiastic to get to know such an adorable place; believe us: this is one of the best things to do in Trabzon with your family. The magic of this lake extremely lies in the great spectacles of nature it has because there are many forests that surround the lake adding beauty to the lake. In addition, the lake is surrounded by some mountains like Sera Mountain resulting in a second-to-none view.
- **Sumela Monastery:** The monastery, built in the name of the Virgin Mary and known with this name by the local people, was founded in the 4th century AD as the dream of two monks named Barnabas and Sophronios, who came from Athens and built a small church here. It was expanded into a monastery during the Byzantine Empire; has become a science and culture center with its rich library. It continued to exist after the conquest of Trabzon by the Ottomans. *4 hours*
- **Hagia Sophia:** Hagia Sophia is a formerly Greek Orthodox church that was converted into a mosque in 1584. It is located in Trabzon, northeastern Turkey. It was converted into a museum in 1964 and back into a mosque in 2013. The building dates back to the thirteenth century, when Trabzon was the capital of the Empire of Trebizond.
- **Çal Cave:** It is about 40 minutes' drive from the hotel. It is located at an altitude of 1050m above the sea level and is a popular tourist destination that offers visitors a chance to explore one of the longest caves in the world, measuring approximately 2 kilometers in length, the cave features breathtaking stalactites, stalagmites, streams, waterfalls, and ponds that add to its natural beauty.

Back to the hotel at around 8.00pm after dinner.

Day- 6: Trabzon

After the breakfast at 9.30 you will be picked from the hotel to visit.

- **Uzungol: 125 km from Trabzon-2 hours' drive**

Pick up from the hotel at 10.00 to visit Uzungol which is about 125 km from the city and will take about 2 hours. This is one of the popular spots attracting tourists from all over the world. The tourists enjoy the beauty of the picturesque green nature surrounding the Uzungol lake, and various tourism activities, such as water biking, skydiving from the highlands, and walking in

the arms of nature. These all things together attract tourists from all over the world, especially those from Arab countries.

- **Sultan Murad Heights:** It is about 35km from Uzungol lake.

Sultan Murat Yaylasi one of the most beautiful attractions for tourists from all over the world. Where the most beautiful landscapes and called the Sultan Murad because of the tomb of Sultan Murad.

Sultan Murad Heights embracing the clouds, imagine yourself sitting in a beautiful place, watching the clouds around you like you are in heaven! Feels great, isn't it? Not only that, but snow also covers the place throughout the winter to separate a white coat like the bride's dress between the lawns. In the summer and spring, the green plain in the lawns and the mountains. The clouds that occupy their place among the mountains and meadows have a striking appearance like white gazelles.

Return back to the hotel at 8.00pm.

Day -7: Trabzon/Istanbul:

Leave for Trabzon airport after breakfast at 9.0 hours to catch flight TK 2817 at 11.05 to reach Istanbul airport by 13.10 to catch an onwards flight for your ultimate destination.

END OF THE TOUR

Prices:

1. Group Tour (Minimum of 12 Persons):

- *May, September, October & November 2024.*
 - Double Room: USD 1,135.00
 - Triple Room: USD 1,075.00
- *June, July & August 2024:*
 - Double Room: USD 1,350.00
 - Triple Room: USD 1,260.00

Children under 3 is USD 350, for under 4-9 a 10% discount is available.

2. Price Per Person: Tour for number of Persons:

	Number Of Persons				
	2	3	4	5	6
Adults Over 9 Years					
May, Sept, Oct & Nov	1,650.00	1,340.00	1,300.00	1,240.00	1,195.00
June, July & August	1,900.00	1,610.00	1,515.00	1,455.00	1,420.00

Children Under 6: \$250

- **Payment:** The full amount needs to be paid 10 days prior to the start of the tour.
- **Refund:** 70% of the amount paid will be refunded in cancellation is made between 10 to 5 days prior to the start of the tour, 60% of the amount paid will be refunded if the cancellation is made 3 to 5 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 4/5-star hotels for 6 nights with Bed and Breakfast in Istanbul and Trabzon.
- Transportation by luxury air-conditioned Van or minibus with driver, petrol, car park and highway tolls for:
 - sightseeing for 5 days
 - Airport pick and drop in Istanbul and Trabzon.
- Museum entrance fees
- Tour guide for 1 day in Istanbul
- Bosphorous Dinner Cruise in Istanbul
- Dervish dance in Istanbul
- 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, 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.