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ERDTGURUL GHAZI TOUR
Istanbul/Bursa/Sogut-Turkey Tour (4 nights/5 days)
January to December 2024

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 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 9.30am. 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.*
- **Hodjapasha:** The SEMA ceremony is a spiritual journey of whirling dervishes for divine love. Starts at 7.00pm to last for one hour.

45 minutes lunch break. Back to the hotel at around 8.00pm

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%. *2 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.

45 minutes lunch break. Back to the hotel at around 8.00pm.

Day 4 – Istanbul /Bursa/Sogut

Pick up from the hotel at 8.00am after breakfast to visit Bursa, it is about 160 km and could take around 2 ½ hours' drive. Reach there by 11.00am. Have a stopover at the start of “Osman Ghazi suspension bridge” at Oxygen outlet mall for an excellent view of Marmara Sea and have tea or Coffee. Visit the following sites in Bursa.

- **Cable Car:** This is world's longest cable car taking you up to Uludağ mountains famous for skiing.
- **Silk market and Covered Bazar:** One of the must-see places in Bursa is visit to the covered and silk market (Koza Han). If you want to buy silk scarfs and accessories it's a place to go and buy some beautiful pieces at great prices.
- **Ulu Mosque:** Built in 1399 “The *Ulu Camii*” or "Great Mosque" is the largest mosque in Bursa, the first capital of the Ottoman Empire, and a landmark of early Ottoman architecture evolved out of Seljuk architecture.
- **Mausoleum of Osman Ghazi:** the founder of Ottoman empire and his son.
- **Green Bursa Mosque:** Built in 1415, the green mosque is a brilliant example of tile art. The tiles are bluish green and decorated with turquoise ornaments. The name of the mosque 'Green' is actually coming from this mihrab. One of the most notable features in the Green Mosque is its tile mosaics. The muezzin's pulpit and Sultan's dais are decorated with exquisite tiles as well.

Have for lunch or dinner, the famous “Bursa Iskandar Kebab”. Leave for Sogut/Bilecik at around 7.00pm to reach by 9.30pm.

Stay at point hotel in Bilecik, a 4-star hotel with breakfast. <https://www.newpointhotel.com.tr> or similar hotels depending on the availability at the time of booking.

Day 5 – Sogut/Istanbul:

Pick up from the hotel at 8.30am after breakfast to visit the following sites.

- Mausoleum of Shaikh Adabali.
- Museum of Ertugurul Ghazi

Leave for Istanbul at 11.00 to reach the airport by 1.00pm for onwards flight to the home country.

END OF THE TOUR

Prices:

GROUP TOUR-MINIMUM 12 PERSONS:

From January-March/October-December 2024.

Double Room: \$ 740.00

Triple Room: \$ 695.00

From September-September 2024.

Double Room: \$ 780.00

Triple Room: \$ 725.00

Children under 3 is free, for under 4-11 a 10% discount is available.

Tour Prices for Number of Persons:

	January-March/October-December 2024				
Number of Persons	2	3	4	5	6
USD Per Person	1,205.00	970.00	905.00	825.00	805.00
Children Under 4-11	1,085.00	875.00	815.00	740.00	725.00

	April-September 2024				
Number of Persons	2	3	4	5	6
USD Per Person	1,350.00	1,065.00	995.00	920.00	880.00
Children Under 4-11	1,215.00	960.00	895.00	830.00	790.00

Children under 3 is free.

Payment & Refund:

- **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 Istanbul/Bilecik for 4 nights with Bed and Breakfast.
- Transportation by luxury air-conditioned Van or minibus including pick and drop from the airport.
- Intercity travel from Istanbul to Bursa and Sogut and back to Istanbul and sightseeing within these cities.
- A qualified/Licensed English-speaking tour guide will be provided for one day in Istanbul.
- Museum entrance fees.
- Dervish dance.
- Cable car ride in Bursa.

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, if incurred due to medical condition and emergency medical treatment.
- Force majeure

Notes:

- **We can also organize a one-day tour to Bozdag Studio where the TV series Erturul and Osman is shot for additional cost.**
- 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.