

Lone Pine Express 8 days



Join us in commemorating the Battle of Lone Pine at a special 100th Anniversary Service on 06 August. Visit fortified trenches, crucial battlefields, and pay your respects to the soldiers who gave their lives at poignant memorial sites. Plus take in the highlights of Turkey en route, from the old city of Istanbul and fabled Troy to the ruins of Ephesus and thermal pools of Pamukkale.

TOUR DETAILS:

- Starts in: Istanbul / Ends in: Istanbul
- Departs: Tuesday 04 August 2015
- No local payment required
- Breakfast:6, Lunch: 1, Dinner: 4
- Hotel Rating: 4 star
- Tour Guide: Yes

ONLINE RESOURCES:

- For a detailed GO GUIDE - [click here](#)
- To book this trip - [click here](#)
- To enquire about this trip - [click here](#)

TOUR MAP:



QUICK WEB LINKS

Lone Pine Express 8 days

Day 1: Istanbul

Welcome to Turkey! Arrive Istanbul and included transfer to our hotel. Spend the afternoon at leisure or head out to explore the city. This evening our tip filled welcome meeting takes place. Overnight - [Istanbul](#)

Day 2: Istanbul

Istanbul. This morning we enjoy a guided tour of Istanbul's old city. Our tour includes visits to the stunning Blue Mosque famed for its blue Iznik tiles and unique 6 minarets, the ruinous Hippodrome – now a small park of sorts and once scene of chariot races and political activities in Byzantine times, Hagia Sofia Museum - constructed as a Basilica in the 6th century by Emperor Justinian, Topkapi Palace and the Underground Cistern – an ancient underground water tank - replete with carved and fluted Corinthian columns and a puzzling head of Medusa. Visitors walk on walkways suspended above the shallow water. It's very cool and peaceful. Overnight - [Istanbul](#)



Day 3:

Istanbul – Gallipoli. Early this morning, we travel to the WW1 battlefields of Gallipoli. Here, we'll embark upon a guided tour of the region, once the site of fierce fighting and today almost hauntingly beautiful, with its wooded landscape dotted with understated memorials to the war dead. Our guided tour of the region will take in sights such as ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine Australian War Memorial and cemetery, Chunuk Blair New Zealand War Memorial and cemetery, the Nek, Johnston's Jolly and the many fortified trenches still clearly visible amongst the scrub after all these years.

This afternoon we'll make our way to the Lone Pine to attend the official commemorative service marking (to the day) the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Lone Pine. The battle of Lone Pine saw some of the most fierce fighting of the Gallipoli campaign. Over four days, Australia suffered more than 2,000 casualties. Seven Australians were awarded the Victoria Cross for their bravery at Lone Pine. With dignitaries, current and ex-service men and women present it is sure to be a memorable, yet moving occasion.

After we cross the Dardanelles by ferry (offering panoramic views of the entire Gallipoli Peninsular) arriving at our hotel late in the evening. Overnight - [Canakkale](#)



Day 4:

Returning to the Gallipoli Peninsular we visit Shrapnel Valley cemetery and walk up to Shell Green where the Australians infamously played cricket in full view of the Turks. After we'll tour some of the British landing sites such as X beach, Seddul Bair and W beach - the site of the Lancashire Landing. Later we head over to Krithia Vineyard, the war museum and nearby Redoubt Cemetery. Before visiting Kilitbaher Fort, another site that had much effect on the Gallipoli Campaign where artillery was set up to fire on the British warships as they tried to sail up the Dardanelles prior to the landing campaign. After lunch we take a boat trip off the cove to see the Gallipoli Peninsular from a different perspective before heading back to our hotel for dinner and free time. Overnight - [Canakkale](#)



Day 5:

Gallipoli – Kusadasi. Heading south, we enjoy a guided tour of Homer's Troy, famed for the Trojan wooden horse and fabled Helen. Continuing to ancient Pergamum - the cultural and political capital of its time, before continuing onto coastal Kusadasi. Make the most of the hotel facilities this evening. Overnight - [Kusadasi](#)

Lone Pine Express 8 days

Day 6:

Today, we enjoy a guided tour at the legendary Roman ruins of Ephesus. Positively the best-preserved classical city in the eastern Mediterranean, and among the best places in the world to get a feel for what Roman life must have been like. Ephesus, under the Romans was a vast city with a population nearing 250,000. It became the Roman capital of Asia Minor. We'll have plenty of time to tour the marble ruins of Ephesus. Be sure to see the famous Library of Celcus, the gymnasium of Vedius and Stadium, the great theatre and stroll the streets in the ruins of this large Roman ruined city. It's completely fascinating. We'll see public toilets, a brothel, fountains and various temples. Carpet weaving has long traditions in Turkey and afterward we stop to watch a demonstration of how they are made. Overnight - [Kusadasi](#)



Day 7:

Kusadasi - Pamukkale - Istanbul. Today, after breakfast, we drive to Pamukkale visiting the region's famed calcium rich terraced pools. Known locally as the Cotton Castles, they are a natural phenomena and gift of Mother Nature.

Pamukkale was formed when warm, calcium rich mineral water cascaded over the cliff edge, cooling and depositing in the process. The calcium built natural shelves and pools on the cliffs, known as travertines. Today, some of the pools are closed. However, areas of the travertines can be walked upon, albeit in bare feet. We can however opt to enjoy a unique and very pleasant dip in the warm waters at the Pamukkale Thermal, with its submerged fragments of fluted marble columns in the centre of the ruined spa town of Hierapolis, which was a cure centre founded around 190 BC by the Romans.

At approx 10:30pm this evening we bid farewell to our guide and travel by overnight bus to Istanbul. Overnight - Overnight Bus



Day 8: Istanbul

Tuesday. Arrive Istanbul early this morning (approx 8 - 8:30am) where our representative will be waiting to meet you. We transfer to a nearby hotel where our luggage can be stored till our airport transfer to Ataturk International Airport depart later in the day (11am and 1:30pm). Consider heading out to one of the local cafes for a hearty breakfast followed by a visit to the Egyptian Spice market or the legendary, if cavernous Grand Bazaar - boasting some 4000 shops under one immense roof. The Grand Bazaar is just the ticket for souvenir, clothing, scarves, brassware, silver and handbag purchases.

Alternatively, you could choose to extend your stay by purchasing an additional nights hotel accommodation.

WHAT YOU SEE AND WHAT YOU GET:

Below is a list of key highlights and what is included on this tour. Further, where appropriate, we have listed the items that are not included in the tour price.

Trip Highlights

- Istanbul - old city, Istanbul, Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sofia, Basilica Underground Cistern and Topkapı Palace
- Gallipoli Peninsular - ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine and Chunuk Bair memorials, trenches and battlefields
- Attendance at the Battle of Lone Pine 100th Anniversary commemorative service
- Shrapnel Valley, Shell Green & British landing sites – X beach, Seddul Bair, W beach - the site of the Lancashire Landing and the war museum.
- Kilitbaher Fort, where artillery was set up to fire on the British warships as they tried to sail up the Dardanelles prior to the landing campaign.
- Afternoon boat trip off the coast, looking back at the landing sites
- Troy - Trojan horse and ancient ruins

Lone Pine Express 8 days

- Roman ruins of Pergamum and Ephesus
- Pamukkale thermal pools and Roman Hierapolis
- Carpet weaving and leather manufacturing houses

What's Included

- 6 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 4 hotel dinners
- 6 nights 4 star hotels
- 1 overnight public bus journey - Pamukkale - Istanbul
- Airport arrival transfer on day 1 and departure transfer (to Ataturk International Airport) at 11am and 1:30pm on day 8
- Guided sightseeing - Istanbul, Gallipoli, Troy, Ruins of Ephesus and Pergamum, Pamukkale terraces and Hierapolis
- All relevant transfers and transportation (excl overnight bus) in private modern air-conditioned vehicles
- Escorted by an English speaking, degree qualified Turkish tour guide
- Boat ride off the coast of the Gallipoli landing sites

What's Not Included

- International flights and visas
- Tip for your tour guide and driver. We recommend you allow \$3 - 5 USD per day, per traveller to cover tips for these mentioned above. Tipping your tour guide and driver is an entirely personal gesture
- Entrance Fees: \$110-130 USD
- Tipping Kitty: \$30-40 USD

BOLT-ONS:

Make the most of your time away! Listed below are the optional activities that are available on this trip. Please note that you will need to book these prior to travel as we cannot always guarantee availability of these activities once you are on holiday.

Princes Islands - 1 day - USD \$179

Located in the Sea of Marmara off the coast of Istanbul, the Princes' Islands are a chain of nine islands offering a peaceful retreat from the hustle and bustle of Turkey's largest city. There are no cars on the islands and the main mode of transportation is horse and cart or bicycle, giving the islands a wonderful nostalgic vibe. Buyukada is the largest island of the nine and one of the most attractive with two peaks and gingerbread-style villas lining the slopes.

PRICES AND DATES: from USD \$2,299

Prices shown are per person travelling. 'Twin/Double' prices per person apply when there are 2 people travelling, sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the 'Twin/Double' price.

If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same sex on your tour, this can be arranged, (if another solo traveller of the same sex is already booked upon the tour), thus avoiding the single person supplement. All our scheduled tour departures are guaranteed subject to a minimum of 2 travellers.

2015

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
04 AUG - 11 AUG	USD \$2,299	USD \$749

Supplementary Prices

	Price/Person	Single Supp.
Aegean Explorer Flight Option	USD \$489	USD \$129
Pre-Tour Accommodation	USD \$129	USD \$80
Post-Tour Accommodation	USD \$129	USD \$80

HOTELS:

The hotels listed below are ones which we frequently use on this tour. We reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard when necessary.

Kent Hotel - Istanbul

Renovated in 2009, the charming Kent Hotel offers is a great example of contemporary design and a friendly atmosphere. Guest rooms are superbly equipped with modern facilities including Wi-Fi connectivity, state of the art technology and bright marbled bathrooms. Enjoying a delicious Turkish meal at the in house Calcedoine Restaurant after a hard days sightseeing is highly recommended. Fantastically located within 10 minutes walk of the Grand Bazaar and Old Town in the Bayazit area in the European side of Istanbul.



Tusan Hotel - Canakkale

The family run Tusan Hotel offers modern facilities in a tranquil setting. Rooms are comfortable and well equipped and offer guests beautiful forest or sea views. The hotel benefits from a

Lone Pine Express 8 days

private beach and an indoor and outdoor restaurant. A refreshing pint of beer in the English Pub whilst challenging the bar staff to a game of pool is a great way to spend the evening. Set within a beautiful pine forest looking across the Dardanelles with a private beach exclusively for guests.



Alish Hotel and Spa - Kusadasi

Opening in 2012, the Alish Hotel and Spa is one of Kusadasi's most modern hotels. All rooms are well equipped with modern facilities, private balconies and laminate flooring. A number of restaurants and bars exist including the pool bar that serves refreshing beverages and snacks whilst you sunbathe. An early morning swim in the pool is a great way to start the day. Well located with close links to the city centre, local beaches and the famous waterparks.

