

Aegean Explorer 7 Days



Kicking off in the powerhouse of the Ottoman empire, discover exciting Istanbul, embrace Gallipoli, impressive Roman ruins, the Aegean Coast and Pamukkale's beautiful cascading mineral pools.

TOUR DETAILS:

- Starts in: Istanbul / Ends in: Istanbul
- Departs: Saturdays - year round
- No local payment required
- Breakfast:5, Lunch: 0, 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

[Turkey Prices](#) ::: [Turkey - Why Us?](#) ::: [Turkey Reviews](#) ::: [Our Turkey Blog](#) ::: [Turkey Top Spots](#) ::: [Festivals & Events](#) ::: [Hotels in Turkey](#) ::: [Turkey Visas](#) ::: [Turkey Useful Info](#) ::: [FAQs on Turkey](#) ::: [Legacy Tours](#) ::: [Turkey Gallery](#)

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Day 1: Istanbul

Saturday. 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.

Crossing the Dardenelles by ferry (offering panoramic views of the entire Gallipoli Peninsular) we proceed to our hotel for a little rest and relaxation. Overnight - [Gallipoli region](#)



Day 4:

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](#)

Day 5: Kusadasi

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 6: Pamukkale

Kusadasi - Pamukkale - Istanbul. Today, after breakfast, we drive to Pamukkale visiting the region's famed calcium rich terraced pools.

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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 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 - Public bus/coach



Day 7: Istanbul

Friday. 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
- Troy - Trojan horse and ancient ruins
- Aegean Coast
- Roman ruins of Pergamum and Ephesus
- Pamukkale thermal pools and Roman Hierapolis
- Turkish carpet weaving and leather manufacturing houses.

What's Included

- 5 breakfasts and 4 dinners
- 5 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 7
- Guided sightseeing - Istanbul, Gallipoli, Troy, Ruins of Ephesus and Pergamum, Pamukkale terraces and Hierapolis
- Escorted by an English speaking, degree qualified Turkish tour guide
- All relevant transfers and transportation (excl overnight bus) in private modern air-conditioned vehicles

What's Not Included

- Tip for your tour guide and driver. We recommend you allow \$3 - 5 USD per day, per traveller as a tip for your guide and \$2 USD per day for your driver. Tipping your

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guide and driver is an entirely personal gesture.

- International flights and visa
- Entrance Fees: \$110 USD
- Tipping Kitty: \$25 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.

Oil Wrestling Championships - July 2012 - USD \$249

Every year since 1640 Turkey's best wrestlers, men and boys, gather and lather up for the oldest wrestling contest in the world. Competitors pair off, grappling and struggling to gain a grip on their opponent. Tactical moves include a hand down the side of the pants trick and the common schoolboy 'wedgie' (grab, lift, flip and throw) to pin ones opponent to the ground! The winner goes on to fight another winner, and so on, until there is only one wrestler left standing.

Join us at the Kirkpinar Oil Wrestling Championships on Saturday 07 July 2012, perfectly timed with the commencement of our Aegean Explorer, Istanbul to the Med, Turkey Unplugged, Turkey & Tutankhamen and Turkey Discovered tours starting on this date.

PRICES AND DATES: from USD \$979

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, thus avoiding the single person supplement. All our scheduled tour departures are guaranteed subject to a minimum of 2 travellers.

2012

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
26 MAY - 01 JUN	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
02 JUN - 08 JUN	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
23 JUN - 29 JUN	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
07 JUL - 13 JUL	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
14 JUL - 20 JUL	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
21 JUL - 27 JUL	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
28 JUL - 03 AUG	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
04 AUG - 10 AUG	USD \$1,299	USD \$449

11 AUG - 17 AUG	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
18 AUG - 24 AUG	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
25 AUG - 31 AUG	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
08 SEP - 14 SEP	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
15 SEP - 21 SEP	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
22 SEP - 28 SEP	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
29 SEP - 05 OCT	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
06 OCT - 12 OCT	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
13 OCT - 19 OCT	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
20 OCT - 26 OCT	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
27 OCT - 02 NOV	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
03 NOV - 09 NOV	USD \$1,099	USD \$449
17 NOV - 23 NOV	USD \$1,099	USD \$449
01 DEC - 07 DEC	USD \$1,099	USD \$449
22 DEC - 28 DEC	USD \$1,299	USD \$449

2013

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
05 JAN - 11 JAN	USD \$979	USD \$449
19 JAN - 25 JAN	USD \$979	USD \$449
16 FEB - 22 FEB	USD \$979	USD \$449
09 MAR - 15 MAR	USD \$1,099	USD \$449
23 MAR - 29 MAR	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
30 MAR - 05 APR	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
06 APR - 12 APR	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
04 MAY - 10 MAY	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
25 MAY - 31 MAY	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
01 JUN - 07 JUN	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
22 JUN - 28 JUN	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
06 JUL - 12 JUL	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
13 JUL - 19 JUL	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
20 JUL - 26 JUL	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
27 JUL - 02 AUG	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
03 AUG - 09 AUG	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
10 AUG - 16 AUG	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
17 AUG - 23 AUG	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
24 AUG - 30 AUG	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
31 AUG - 06 SEP	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
07 SEP - 13 SEP	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
14 SEP - 20 SEP	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
21 SEP - 27 SEP	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
28 SEP - 04 OCT	USD \$1,299	USD \$449

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05 OCT - 11 OCT	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
12 OCT - 18 OCT	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
19 OCT - 25 OCT	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
26 OCT - 01 NOV	USD \$1,299	USD \$449
02 NOV - 08 NOV	USD \$1,099	USD \$449
16 NOV - 22 NOV	USD \$1,099	USD \$449
07 DEC - 13 DEC	USD \$1,099	USD \$449
28 DEC - 03 JAN	USD \$1,299	USD \$449

Supplementary Prices

	Price/Person	Single Supp.
4 star Pre-Tour Accommodation	USD \$109	USD \$50
4 star Post-Tour Accommodation	USD \$109	USD \$50

POSTCARDS:

Here's what some of our past travellers have written in to us and said about their experiences on this trip.

I love Turkey. Every part of the trip was well organised. Recep was an excellent tour guide with fantastic knowledge, he is an absolute asset to on the go.

[Sharon Gune , Jul 2011](#)

A really enjoyable tour I wish I could stay for longer!! Very informative which is what I love about tour & makes such a difference when your guide is so knowledgeable. Thanks for a great trip!

[Michelle Connor, May 2011](#)

Hi Janet I had an absolutely fabulous time! Not for one minute sorry that I chose on the go!! We couldn't have had a better guide.....Metin (Turkey) was just the best!!!!!! Very informative with a sense of humour! I am already interested in more destinations for next year! All the best and thank you once again for your super service!

[Maria Silver , May 2011](#)

Hi Cherylyn, Just to let you know we had a fantastic tour and everything was great, lovely hotels and a really good tour guide! Thanks again for everything..Nora and I were really impressed with On the Go.

[Maggie Doyle , May 2011](#)

A really enjoyable tour I wish I could stay for longer!! Very informative which is what I love about tour & makes such a difference when your guide is so knowledgeable. Thanks for a great trip.

[Michelle Connor , May 2011](#)

Hi Sharon, Turkey was great! I wanted to mention how Great Ksenia was she was my first female tour guide and I enjoyed her knowledge and her willingness to be a big part of our group. I am starting another On the go Tour in China on the 24th of April..can't wait!

[Evan Hunken, Apr 2011](#)

I was originally planning to travel to Egypt, Turkey was a last minute decision. Very glad that I came, I had an excellent time. Our guide, Kemal was great! Thanks

[Natalie Scott , Apr 2011](#)

Absolutely fantastic trip. All aspects of the trip great. Guide & Driver fantastic. Looking forward to my Road to Jordan trip immediately after this.

[Miss Elisia Nichol , Sep 2010](#)