

Anzac Discovered 2020

9 days | Starts/Ends: Istanbul



ANZAC Day Gallipoli 2020. Starts: 18th April. Kicking off in Istanbul, fly to Pamukkale to experience the incredible mineral rich natural pools. Visit Roman ruins, hear ancient stories and discover Turkey's diverse capital. Commemorate the brave fallen soldiers at the ANZAC dawn service.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Istanbul - old city, Hippodrome area, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia and the Underground Cistern
- Bosphorus Strait Cruise - views of the city skyline, Ottoman architecture and waterside palaces
- Pamukkale thermal pools and Roman Hierapolis
- Roman ruins of Pergamum and Ephesus
- Troy and the Wooden Trojan Horse (subject to time and if open)
- Aegean coast
- Gallipoli Peninsula - ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine memorial, Chunuk Bair memorial, trenches and battlefields

- ANZAC Dawn Service and option to attend Australian or New Zealand Memorial Services
- Visits to carpet weaving and leather manufacturing houses

What's Included

- 7 breakfasts and 3 dinners
- 7 nights 4 star and Special Class hotels
- 1 night at the Dawn Service site
- Airport arrival transfer on day 1 from Istanbul International Airport at any time of day or from Sabiha Gokcen Airport at 11am and 3pm
- Guided sightseeing of the Blue Mosque, Underground Cistern, Hagia Sofia and the Hippodrome area
- Guided sightseeing at Gallipoli, war cemeteries and battlefields
- Guided sightseeing of Pamukkale and Hierapolis, Roman ruins of Ephesus and Pergamum and Gallipoli (subject to site opening times set by the Anzac Day Organising Committee)
- Cruise along the Bosphorus Strait in Istanbul
- Visits to the Grand Bazaar and Egyptian Spice Market
- Escorted by an English speaking, degree qualified Turkish tour guide
- All relevant transfers and transportation in modern air-conditioned vehicles

What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$35-45pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD\$100-110pp, paid in local currency
- International flights & visa
- Tip for your tour guide and driver: as a guideline we recommend you budget USD \$3-5 per day, per traveller for your guide and USD \$1-2 per day, per traveller for your driver. Tipping your tour guide and driver is an entirely personal gesture
- Attendance Pass for ANZAC. Please see the Trip Notes for information on how to obtain your attendance pass - these are free of charge but need to be registered for in advance.

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Istanbul - Gateway to the East

18th April 2020. Welcome to Turkey and the start of a memorable ANZAC experience! Airport to hotel arrival transfer. The remainder of the day offers free time for you to explore Istanbul - a city that straddles both Europe and Asia!

If you are arriving to Istanbul early, you may wish to consider joining our Optional Backstreets Of Istanbul Tour taking place

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Anzac Discovered 2020

today. The tour commences at 9am. For further details of the excursion, please see our tour Trip Notes.

Overnight - Istanbul

Day 2 : Istanbul - City Tour



Today we enjoy a guided tour of the old city, taking in the stunning Iznik tiled Blue Mosque, Hippodrome area, the 6th century Hagia Sofia, the ancient Underground Cistern, Topkapi Palace and more. This afternoon, we take a relaxing cruise on the Bosphorus Strait. You'll see waterside palaces framed by a modern city skyline dotted with expansive domed mosques and towering minarets of traditional Ottoman style. Afterwards time is given for you to explore the exotic Egyptian Spice Market, located opposite the cruise terminal. From here you can opt to stay and discover the old city by night or return with your guide to our hotel for a little R&R.

Overnight - Istanbul (B, D)

Day 3 : Pamukkale

This morning we drive to Pamukkale - home of the famous gleaming white calcium terraced pools. Known locally as the Cotton Castles, they're a natural phenomena and gift from 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 are known as travertines. **Overnight - Pamukkale (B, D)**

Day 4 : Kusadasi



Pamukkale - Ephesus - Kusadasi. Famed for its unique cascades of natural mineral rich pools, Pamukkale is home to some stunning natural mineral pools. Here we can paddle our feet in the warm water flowing over the terraces or perhaps opt for a swim at the Pamukkale Thermal Baths. Just beyond the thermal pools a stop is made at the Roman ruins of Hierapolis.

This afternoon our journey continues to the legendary Roman ruins of Ephesus. Positively the best-preserved classical city in the eastern Mediterranean, Ephesus, under the Romans was a vast city with a population nearing 250,000. Rumoured to have been founded in the 13th century BC, it became the Roman capital of Asia Minor. It revealed in its prosperity from commerce and visiting pilgrims who came to see its great Temple of Artemis - one of the Seven Ancient Wonders. Exemplifying the finesse of Roman urban life, Ephesus boasts carefully restored elements within the huge archaeological area including the Great Theatre once capable of seating 25,000 spectators at one time, Curetes Way (one of the main thoroughfares) the Temple of Serapis, the elegant façades of the Temple of Hadrian and the awesome Library of Celsus. Off Curetes Way are ancient public toilets, a brothel, remains of fountains and various temples. We end our day at our hotel in Kusadasi.

Overnight - Kusadasi (B, D)

Day 5 : Ayvalik



Kusadasi - Pergamum - Ayvalik. This morning we drive north, stopping at the Roman ruins of Pergamum and its impressive hillside amphitheatre. We also visit the neighbouring Asclepion - a Roman precursor to modern-day hospitals before continuing onto to Ayvalik.

Overnight - Ayvalik (B)

Day 6 : Gallipoli - WW1 Battlefields



Istanbul - Gallipoli - Canakkale/Ayvalik. Today we explore ANZAC Cove and the many memorials dotted across the WW1 battlefields. Our guided tour takes in sights including ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine Memorial and cemetery, Chunuk Bair Memorial and cemetery, the Nek, Johnston's Jolly and the many fortified trenches still clearly visible amongst the scrub after all these years.

Overnight - Ayvalik/Canakkale (B)

Anzac Discovered 2020

Day 7 : Kilitbahir & ANZAC Eve



Ayvalik - Troy - Kilitbahir - Gallipoli. This morning we enjoy a short-guided tour of Troy. The legend of the lost city of Troy and Homer's poetry was brought to life by its rediscovery in 1863. We then continue to the village of Kilitbahir, situated on the eastern shore of the Gallipoli peninsula, and dominated by the fortress of the same name.

You'll have some free time this afternoon before early this evening we all relax at before entering the Cove. Once we're in Anzac Cove you are free to visit the memorials and trenches that dot the area before taking our places amongst the many at the Dawn Service site for the atmosphere-charged ANZAC Eve vigil.

Overnight - Dawn Service site (ANZAC Cove)
(B)

Day 8 : ANZAC Day - Gallipoli 2020

Gallipoli - Istanbul. Today, the 25th April is the reason we came to Turkey and Gallipoli. Dawn and first light signals the commencement of the annual Dawn Service, attended by Australian, New Zealand and other foreign dignitaries, military personnel and a strong following of regular Australian and New Zealand folk. The poignant and emotive service commemorating this important and historical date allows us time to reflect. Lest we forget.

The service lasts for an hour and public wreath laying at the ANZAC Memorial site is possible afterwards. Later this morning Australian's have the opportunity to visit the Lone Pine Memorial Service. Our New Zealanders are invited to attend the New Zealand service

at Chunuk Bair later on in the morning Everyone will be picked up after the service at Chunuk Bair (exact time and location to be confirmed with your guide). We anticipate an early afternoon departure time from Gallipoli for onward travel to Istanbul. Crossing the Dardanelles by ferry we will arrive into Istanbul later this afternoon.

Overnight - Istanbul

Day 9 : Istanbul

26th April 2020. Tour ends after breakfast and hotel check out. We hope you have had a wonderful holiday in Turkey and memorable ANZAC Day 2020 experience.(B)

PRICES / DATES INFO

Prices shown are per person when there are 2 persons sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the per person price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same gender on your tour, this can be arranged, thus avoiding the single person supplement. Please note that if booking pre or post tour accommodation, single travellers will need to pay the single supplement for nights booked.

PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
18 Apr	USD 1,495	USD 2,115

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