

# Jewels of Sultans Crown

12 days | Starts/Ends: Istanbul



*From historic and majestic Istanbul to surreal Cappadocia, all the classics of Turkey are here with an added visit to Antalya, Perge and Aspendos with some of the world's most beautifully preserved amphitheatres.*

## HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

### Trip Highlights

- Istanbul - old city, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sofia, Hippodrome and Topkapi Palace
- Ankara - Mausoleum of Ataturk
- Cappadocia, Uchisar Castle, fairy chimneys and underground city
- Konya - Silk Road and Mevlana Museum
- Pamukkale thermal pools and Roman Hierapolis
- Roman ruins of Pergamum and Ephesus
- Aegean Coast - Kusadasi and Cannakale
- Troy - Trojan horse, ancient ruins
- Gallipoli Peninsular - ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine, Chunuk Bair, trenches and battlefields
- Antalya and the ancient city of Perge
- Aspendos and its magnificent amphitheatres

### What's Included

- 11 nights 4 star hotels
- 11 breakfasts and 8 dinners

- Touring as per itinerary
- Airport arrival and departure transfers on days 1 and 12
- Services of an English speaking, Turkish guide
- Private air-conditioned transportation
- all relevant transfers
- Entrance fees for all included sightseeing

### What's Not Included

- International flights and visa

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 : Istanbul

Welcome to Istanbul. You will be met upon arrival at the airport by one of our representatives and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is free. **Overnight - Istanbul**

### Day 2 : Old City sights

After breakfast enjoy a full day tour of the magnificent city of Istanbul. Explore Topkapi Palace, Hagia Sofia, the Blue Mosque and the Roman Hippodrome; once home to chariot races, gladiatorial battles and public executions, before trying your hand at a spot of haggling in the Grand Bazaar. Tonight there is an optional Turkish dinner with traditional Turkish entertainment. **Overnight - Istanbul (B)**

### Day 3 : Cappadocia

Istanbul - Cappadocia. Driving to Ankara we visit the mausoleum and museum of Kemal Ataturk, one of Turkey's most revered leaders, famous for his progressive reform of Turkish society and his incredible strategic command during World War I, thwarting the Allied attempts at invading Turkey. You will then enjoy a picturesque journey through the Lakeland before arriving in Cappadocia. **Overnight - Cappadocia (B, D)**

### Day 4 : Cappadocia



Cappadocia. This morning opt for a hot air balloon ride over the incredible landscape of Cappadocia, before embarking upon a full day sightseeing tour of the region. Discover the surreal landscapes of Cappadocia, visit the Kaymakli Underground City where early Christians took refuge from their persecutors and the Open Air Museum in Goreme - where you can view some of the best examples of Byzantine art in the rock cut churches with frescoes and paintings dating back to the 10th

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century. You will also visit the natural fortress of Uchisar before

being given a demonstration of the local handicrafts of hand-made carpets, Turkish tiles, onyx and potteries. **Overnight - Cappadocia (B, D)**

## Day 5 : Konya

Cappadocia - Konya. Today we drive onward to Pamukkale via the 13th century Seljukian masterpiece of Sultanhan Caravanserai and Konya. In Konya visit the 13th century Mevlana Museum; the original lodge of the Mevlevi Whirling Dervishes, a mystical Sufi Muslim group. It contains the tomb of Mevlana, a leading philosopher and mystic of Islam, which remains an important place of pilgrimage. Tonight you have the option to watch a Whirling Dervishes performance.

**Overnight - Konya (B)**

## Day 6 : Antalya



Konya - antalya. This morning drive to Antalya and visit the ancient city of Perge, originally settled by the Hittites around 1500BC. Perge has an impressive colonnaded street and is the site where most of the statues on display at the Antalya Museum were unearthed. Also visit Aspendos, which is home to one of the best preserved

amphitheatres in the world. **Overnight - Antalya (B, D)**

## Day 7 : Pamukkale

Antalya - Pamukkale. After breakfast depart for Pammukale. Remainder of the day at leisure. Perhaps try the beautiful thermal baths of your hotel. **Overnight - Pamukkale (B, D)**

## Day 8 : Pamukkale

Pamukkale - Kusadasi. After breakfast visit the incredible white calcium terraces of

Pamukkale and ancient Hierapolis, with its Necropolis graveyard of over 1200 graves. The Temple of Apollo, the Plutonium, dating back to third century BC and the sacred pool are some of the highlights of Hierapolis. The shallow thermal waters ripple over a wonderful scattering of ancient roman ruins that lie beneath. This afternoon, en route to Kusadasi we visit the ruins of the great Temple of Artemis (one of the Seven Ancient Wonders of the World), which is situated in a marshy basin between Selcuk and Ephesus.

**Overnight - Kusadasi (B, D)**

## Day 9 : Ancient Ephesus



Kusadasi. This morning you will drive to the ancient and magnificent city of Ephesus, one of the largest and most well preserved ancient city's in the Mediterranean, with Roman theatres, fountains, buildings, churches and temples. Ephesus was originally built on the north slope of Mount Pion in 1000 BC but was later relocated to its current location in 4th century BC. This afternoon you can visit a Turkish leather manufacturing house where products are available for

sale. **Overnight - Kusadasi (B, D)**

## Day 10 : Pergamum

Kusadasi - Canakkale. This morning, departing early we visit Bergama, the site of the ancient city of Pergamum which remained hidden from the modern world until 1871 when the German engineer Carl Humann rediscovered it when some locals showed him an interesting and strange mosaic that turned out to be the Altar of Zeus. Pergamum, one of Turkey's oldest civilised settlements, inhabited since pre-historic times through to Ionic, Roman and Byzantine civilizations. You will have the chance to visit the ancient acropolis situated on top of a steep hill and the aforementioned Altar of Zeus. We continue

to Troy, the ancient city made famous by Homer's Odyssey and the fable of Helen, Achilles and the Trojan horse. Afterwards drive on to Canakkale. **Overnight - Canakkale (B, D)**

## Day 11 : Gallipoli



Canakkale - Istanbul. After breakfast cross the Dardanelles to visit the evocative battlefields of Gallipoli. In World War 1 the Allies tried in vain to capture Turkey in order to better supply troops in Europe via access to the Black Sea and also open up better supply routes to Russia. It was on the beaches of the Gallipoli peninsula where the Allies landed and over 11,000 Anzacs lost their lives. Visit key sites such as Anzac Cove, Lone Pine, Chunuk Bair, The Nek and other Turkish and Allied trenches. **Overnight - Istanbul (B)**

## Day 12 : Istanbul

Istanbul. Your tour arrangements end after breakfast. Onward transfer to the airport.(B)

### PRICES / DATES INFO

Prices shown are 'per person', based on a travelling party of at least 2 adults. The single supplement price needs to be added to the per person price if single rooms are required. If travelling solo, an additional '1-person' supplement will apply.

### PRICES / DATES 2019

Date	Twin Share	Single
09 Dec	AUD 8,845	AUD 9,695

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