ANZAC Day Tours, Gallipoli 2016. Start: 23rd April. Our Gallipoli and Giza is a ready made 13 day combo tour! Sightsee Istanbul and attend the ANZAC Day memorials at Gallipoli then onto sunny Egypt - for pyramids, a 2 night felucca cruise and more ancient relics than you can shake a stick at!

**HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS**

**Trip Highlights**
- Istanbul - old city, Blue Mosque, Hippodrome, Hagia Sofia and the Underground Cistern
- Bosphorus Strait - the strategic waterway dividing Europe and Asia
- Gallipoli Peninsula - ANZAC Cove, Lone Pine and Chunuk Bair memorials, National services of Australia or New Zealand
- Gallipoli and trenches
- ANZAC 2016 Dawn Service
- Cairo - Pyramids and Sphinx at Giza Plateau, Necropolis of Saqqara, Egyptian Museum
- Aswan - High Dam and Philae Temple
- Nile felucca cruising - islands en route
- Kom Ombo - Temple of Kom Ombo
- Edfu - Temple of Horus
- Luxor - Temple of Karnak
- Luxor - West Bank - Valley of the Kings, Colossi of Memnon, Temple of Queen Hatshepsut

**What’s Included**
- 11 breakfasts, 3 lunches (including ANZAC Eve Turkish BBQ) and 2 dinners
- 4 nights 4 - 5 star hotels (Egypt), 3 nights 3 - 4 hotel (Turkey)
- 2 nights aboard felucca (open deck)
- 2 overnight Sleeper trains: Cairo - Aswan and Luxor - Cairo.
- Airport arrival transfer on day 1 from Atatürk International Airport at any time of day or from Sabiha Gökçen Airport at 2.30pm and 8pm.
- Airport arrival transfer to Cairo on day 5 and departure transfer to Cairo airport on day 13.
- Guided sightseeing of the Blue Mosque, Underground Cistern, Hagia Sofia and Hippodrome area and Gallipoli
- Guided sightseeing of Galiopoli (subject to site opening times set by the Anzac Day Organising Committee)
- Guided touring of Cairo, Giza, Saqqara, Aswan, Edfu & Luxor
- Visits to the Grand Bazaar and Egyptian Spice Market
- Morning Cruise along the Bosphorus in Istanbul
- Escorted by an English speaking, degree qualified Turkish tour guide in Turkey and degree qualified Egyptologist throughout Egypt
- All relevant transfers and transportation in modern air-conditioned touring coaches/vehicles
- Commemorative ANZAC hoodie

**What’s Not Included**
- Tipping Kitty: Egypt: $30-40 USD Turkey: $30 USD
- Entrance Fees: Egypt: US$105-110 Turkey: US$110-120
- International flights, visas and flight from Istanbul to Cairo
- Tip for your tour guides in Turkey and Egypt - we recommend you allow $3 - 5 USD per day, per traveller. Tip for your driver in Turkey and Felucca Crew/ Nile Cruise staff in Egypt, we recommend you allow $10 USD for each. These tips are an entirely personal gesture.

**DETAILED ITINERARY**

Day 1: Istanbul - Gateway to the East
Saturday 23rd April 2016. Welcome to Turkey and your ANZAC experience! Airport to hotel arrival transfer. The earlier you arrive the more time you’ll have to independently explore the city its fantastic sights. Istanbul is easy to get around on foot and there are plenty of attractions dotted about the old city.
Gallipoli & Giza

This evening after our welcome meeting opt for a drink in the bar, a great way to break the ice and meet fellow travellers. **Overnight - Istanbul**

Day 2 : ANZAC Eve - Gallipoli

Istanbul - Gallipoli. Today it’s an early morning departure to the WW1 battlefields on Gallipoli. There will be a wake up call, which your guide will arrange, though please set your personal alarm as well to avoid missing the bus). Breakfast from 06.30hrs. Please bring your bags with you and place them on the bus. Pay all room bills and hand your key into reception before going to breakfast. Please make sure you have separated your luggage into a smaller day pack that you want to keep with you at Anzac Cove, ie warm clothes, blankets, snacks, toiletries etc and place them on the bus with you. Large bags will go underneath the coach and will not be accessible until the following morning.

At this point it is a good time to fix in your mind the letter of your coach. All On The Go coaches are clearly identifiable by an On The Go Tours sign on the right side of the windscreen front and more importantly remember your coach letter – ie – coach A, B, C etc.

08.00hrs: we depart for Gallipoli. A stop will be made at a medium-sized grocery store with adjoining take away restaurant or similar facility for you to purchase lunch and stock up on food and snacks for the following day at lower prices than on the peninsula. Whilst some hot food can be purchased at Gallipoli from Turkish vendors present at Lone Pine and other points, some people consider the range limited and expensive.

Arriving to Gallipoli early, will allow us the maximum time to visit the sites that dot the region. Visits will be made to many of the war memorials for example; Lone Pine, Chunuk Bair, Johnston’s Jolly, trenches and battlefields (sites visited are subject to ANZAC Cove opening times as set by the ANZAC Day Organising Committee).

Early this evening, we’ll relax at our exclusive ANZAC Eve Turkish BBQ before later taking our places amongst the many at the Dawn Service site. Important instructions will be given about where to meet with your coach on 25 April, after the national services have concluded. It is very important you follow meeting instructions in order that you rendezvous with your correct coach.

Whilst drop-offs usually run smoothly, be prepared for a long walk from where your coach is ordered to stop, to get to ANZAC Cove proper on ANZAC Eve. At the Dawn Service site we take our places amongst the many, with the atmosphere charged we wait for dawn’s first light.

**Overnight - Dawn Service site (ANZAC Cove)** 
(B, L)

Day 3 : ANZAC Day 2016 - Gallipoli

Gallipoli - Istanbul. Today, the 25th April marks 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.

On completion of the Dawn Service at approximately 06.15hrs, visitors have a four-hour period before commencement of the Australian National Memorial Service at Lone Pine Service at around 10.30hrs. Many walk the 2.3 kilometres distance via Ari Burnu, Beach, Shrapnel Valley and Shell Green Cemeteries. Please note: For those intending to attend both the Lone Pine and Chunuk Bair services, the only method of travelling between these two sites is on foot. The time between the Australian National Service at Lone Pine ending, and the New Zealand National Service at Chunuk Bair beginning, is approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. The route from Lone Pine to Chunuk Bair is approximately 3.3 kilometres on foot up a gradual incline. The route is well marked but will take a reasonably fit individual about 1 hour to complete. It is not thought the average person would have enough time to attend both services due to the uphill climb of some 3.3 km from Lone Pine to Chunuk Bair. However, if you do decide you think you’ll have the time, en route, just off the road you’ll be walking up will be a Turkish Service in progress at a Memorial dedicated to the Turkish war dead. Please respect the solemnity of the occasion as you walk past, by remaining quiet.

If you don’t think you’ll be able to make it to Chunuk Bair between the Australian Service ending and the New Zealand Service commencing, don’t start the walk. Remain around the area where Lone Pine Memorial is located. This afternoon, we re-group at a designated pick up point (probably Chunuk Bair and Lone Pine) for the drive back to Istanbul. Exercise patience on 25 April after the national services at Lone Pine and Chunuk Bair as you wait for our coaches to collect you. Everybody wants out as soon as the services draw to a close, and hundreds of coaches must wait in turn on the service road across the hill that runs parallel with the road you’ll be waiting on.

With On The Go’s organisational skills and plans honed through many years, we take the sweat and frustration out of visiting during the region’s busiest time. Still, it’s important that you take any little hiccups during the hosting of such a large event in your stride. Remember our Diggers had it a lot harder. Late evening arrival (timings on 25 April subject to coach traffic). **Overnight - Istanbul**

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.
Day 4 : Istanbul Old City Tour
This morning we spend a couple of hours cruising the Bosphorus before embarking on a guided sightseeing tour of the old city, taking in the Hippodrome area, the stunning Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, the ancient Underground Cistern and more. This afternoon, time is given for you to explore the mammoth Grand Bazaar and exotic Egyptian Spice Market, the latter located opposite from the ferry terminal. From here we return to our hotel for a little R&R. Overnight - Istanbul (B)

Day 5 : Egypt - Land of the Pharaohs

Wednesday 27 April 2016. Today, make your own way to Cairo where your Egyptian adventure begins. If you provide us with your incoming flight details to Egypt we will be there to meet you at Cairo airport and transferred to your hotel. For more info on our arrival transfer from Cairo Airport, please read notes titled ‘Arrival Transfer Egypt’ found further on in this document. Afternoon and evening at leisure. Overnight - Cairo (B)

Day 6 : Pyramids & Saqqara

Cairo – Aswan. After a good night’s rest, we have a full day of touring planned for today. You’ll need to have your bags packed as we’ll be travelling down to Aswan in southern Egypt tonight. Throughout the tour, you’ll be fully briefed by your tour guide as regards touring arrangements.

We then visit the famous pyramids and huge Sphinx at Giza Plateau. Sole survivors from the ancient Greek-listed Seven Wonders of the World, the pyramids are the planet’s oldest tourist attraction! Known as Cheops, Chephren and Mycerinus, the pyramids were already more than 2,000 years old when Herodotus the Greek historian visited them (5th century BC). A highly skilled corps of mathematicians, masons, surveyors and stonemasons did the job of building the Pyramids. 100,000 slaves were used to carry out the backbreaking task of moving and laying the stones of the largest pyramid – Cheops. About 2.5 million limestone blocks, quarried locally and weighing in excess of 6 million tonnes, were used in the construction of Cheops.

Leaving the Pyramids of Giza, we’ll visit a Government supervised papyrus emporium. Here, you can buy genuine papyrus at quite reasonable prices. Continuing to the necropolis of Saqqara, we can explore the myriad tombs and temples at this site and see Zhoser’s step pyramid - constructed by Imhotep, the pharaoh’s chief architect in 2700 BC!

Later there will be a chance to have dinner, before taking the overnight sleeper train to Aswan. Each member of the group’s entrance fees and tip kitty will also be collected at this time. En-route to the train station a stop will be made for you to buy more water and snacks for the trip ahead. Overnight - Sleeper train (B)

Day 7 : Aswan & Philae Temple

Aswan – breakfast box. Arrive and check into our hotel. A visit out of town takes us to the mighty High Dam – a modern feat of engineering, the by-product for which is Lake Nasser – the world’s largest artificial lake! Continuing, we enjoy a short boat trip to Agilkia Island for Philae Temple - dedicated to the goddess Isis. The temple dates from 4th century BC but the Ptolemies and the Romans up to 3rd century AD built most of the existing structures.

Later, free time to perhaps do some shopping in the colourful souks and markets or simply relax in this attractive town which straddles the River Nile. Overnight - Aswan (B)

Days 8-9 : Felucca Sailing

Aswan – Nile felucca cruise – Kom Ombo. Day 8 - Optional early morning excursion to Abu Simbel. Travelling due south through the vast sandy desert we arrive at the site. Abu Simbel - the gargantuan rock-cut temple of King Ramses II, the Great Builder is possibly the most awe-inspiring temple of all ancient Egypt, with its mammoth rock-cut facade. Abu Simbel was created to revere the mighty pharaonic ruler King Ramses II. Guarding the entrance to the temple, the four famous colossal statues of Ramses II sit majestically, staring out across the desert, seemingly since time began. Famously, the temple was re-located in a multi-million dollar operation in 1972, further up from the shoreline of Lake Nasser, which had threatened to erode the foundations of this monolithic temple complex.

If you choose not to embark upon this optional excursion, there is plenty to do in Aswan, before our early afternoon departure on our Nile felucca cruise. You can relax at the hotel, explore Aswan and its beautiful shoreline and cornice or perhaps do a spot of shopping. This afternoon, we board our wind-powered Nile felucca for a 2-night voyage on the River Nile upstream to Kom Ombo. Felucca’s are simple sailboats based on a unique design and have plied the mighty Nile since ancient times.

Our feluccas are proudly owned and crewed by friendly local sailors and they have been adapted to comfortably carry our travellers. NOTE: As feluccas are wind-powered, our itinerary cannot be rigidly defined. However, during our cruise, we make plenty of stops to visit points of interest, areas for swimming and for the purpose of performing our ablutions.
Day 10 : Kom Ombo Temple & Luxor

Kom Ombo - Edfu - Luxor. Disembarking in Daraw we drive to Kom Ombo to explore the waterside temple dedicated to the crocodile headed god - Sobek.

After we visit the Temple of Horus at Edfu, having the distinction of being the largest and most completely preserved pharaonic, albeit Greek-built, temple in Egypt, it was one of the last monumental temples built on a large scale. Though much newer than the temples of Karnak and Luxor, its excellent state of structural preservation fills in a lot of historical gaps because it is, in effect, a 2000 year old replica of an architectural style that was already age-old during Ptolemaic times. Back on the bus, we rejoin the police convoy as we drive north to Luxor. Home of the legendary Valley of the Kings and Temple of Karnak, 4000 year-old Luxor is ancient Egypt at it's best. Enjoy some rest and relaxation. Tonight, an optional visit is available to the Temple of Luxor with a restaurant dinner afterwards. The excursion is payable locally. **Overnight - Luxor (B)**

Day 11 : Valley of the Kings

Luxor - Cairo. Rising early we cross the Nile to arrive a Valley of the Kings. The first monument you'll see on the West Bank is the imposing 18m-high Colossi of Memnon, which represent the remains of the temple of the hedonistic Amenophis III. Further highlights include the legendary Valley of the Kings and the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut. The Valley of the Kings is studded with often highly decorated tombs, constructed to once house the regal sarcophagi enclosed mummies of the mighty pharaohs awaiting their passage into the after-life. Some of the best known tombs are those of Ramses II, Seti I, Amenhotep II and of course, the tomb of King Tutankhamen. Discovered intact in 1922 by Howard Carter, it represented possibly one of the most dazzling archaeological finds ever. King Tutankhamen’s solid gold funerary mask and his priceless cache of treasures entombed with him for his journey to the afterlife, are now on display at the world famous Egyptian Museum in Cairo. In all, more than 60 tombs have been excavated. Deir al- Bahri, otherwise known as the famous Temple of Queen Hatshepsut rises out of the desert plain, in a series of terraces partly rockcut, partly freestanding. It is one of Egypt’s finest and most photographed monuments.

Later this afternoon after time to relax, we visit the Temple of Karnak - a spectacular temple on a gigantic scale dedicated to the Theban gods. Karnak is a spectacular complex of sanctuaries, pylons, chapels, halls and obelisks, all dedicated to the Theban gods and to the greater glory of Egypt’s Middle and New Kingdom rulers. Gigantic in proportion, at over 1.5km by 800m and the fact that almost every pharaoh left his (or her) mark here with evolving artistic and architectural styles, wandering through the temple is one of the highlights of a visit to Egypt. There will be time for a little R&R, before later this evening we return by overnight sleeper train to Cairo. **Overnight - Sleeper Train (B)**

Day 12 : Egyptian Museum

Cairo. Arrive Cairo and embark on a guided visit to the Egyptian Museum. A mind-boggling array of relics and antiquities from almost every period of ancient Egyptian history are housed in the museum, making it one of the foremost in the world. Arguably the most famous exhibit is the solid gold funerary mask of King Tutankhamen. Opt to see also the Royal Mummies, if you wish. Remainder of the day free to relax, shop and explore. Perhaps head to Khan el-Khalili bazaar and pick up a few souvenirs. An optional Cairo city tour is also available locally. **Overnight - Cairo (B)**

Day 13 : Cairo

05 May 2016. Hotel check out and included onward departure transfer to airport.

Fancy a holiday to Egypt that includes lazing about by the Red Sea? If so check out our 18 day ANZAC & Ancient Egypt tour. (B)

**Surcharges for your holiday**

Whilst every effort has been made to provide you with an accurate cost for this tour, prices are subject to change. Additional costs may apply should hoteliers, transportation companies or the guiding association increase their prices/fees for arrangements relating to the event.

**Visa - Egypt**

Please be advised that visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Egypt.

After booking your holiday, please provide us with your passport details as soon as possible so that we can proceed to book trains and flights tickets on your behalf, if included within your holiday.
Gallipoli & Giza

Visas are required by all visitors to Egypt. It still remains possible for nationals of some countries to procure their tourist visa upon arrival at Cairo International Airport. Costs are currently USD 25/ GBP 15/ Euro 20/ EGP 175. Please note that in the event of visa refusal at port of entry, On The Go Tours cannot be held responsible.

Contrary to the above the Egyptian Embassy recommends that all visitors to Egypt procure a visa in advance of arrival. Please contact your nearest Egyptian Embassy or Consulate for application forms, processing times and costs.

Note: When filling in an Egyptian visa form, you will be asked to provide your address in Egypt. For the purposes of this form, please use either of the following addresses:

Mercure Le Sphinx
1 Alexandria Desert Road,
Pyramids, Giza, 12556, Egypt
Tel: +20 233776444, +20 233776444

Oasis Hotel
Cairo - Alexandria Desert Road,
Pyramids, Giza 12556, Egypt
Tel: +20 238387333, +20 23838766

Climate - Egypt
Temperatures in Egypt are generally high (25 - 30 degrees) and even hotter in the summer months from May to September, when the sun can be fierce and temperatures soar, so pack light comfortable clothing, sunscreen and a hat.

In Cairo and the Nile Delta region, winter (October to February) can be cooler - so take a jacket, long-sleeved tops and trousers for the cooler evenings. The south remains warm during this time but again, temperatures do drop in the evenings. Rainfall is negligible with the most falling along Egypt’s Mediterranean coastline.

Health Requirements - Egypt
It is recommended that you be vaccinated for Tetanus and Polio, if you haven’t had a booster in the last ten years. Food and waterborne diseases are more common, so we recommend vaccinations for typhoid (valid 3 years) and Hepatitis A (validity varies). Vaccination requirements can change so please check with your local health care provider before travel.

Currency - Egypt
The currency of Egypt is the Egyptian Pound.

Pound Sterling, US Dollars, Euro and other major currencies can be exchanged in Egypt. Exchange facilities are available at various bureaux de changes and all major towns have ATMs. It’s advisable to request bank notes in smaller denominations, as it can sometimes be hard to get change from large notes and smaller notes are handy for smaller purchases and gratuities.

Traveller’s Cheques are not recommended as they’re often difficult to exchange and incur high fees.

Time - Egypt
Egypt is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)

Essential Packing - Egypt
- Sleeping bag for the felucca or for camping in the White Desert (if applicable to your tour).
- Lightweight cotton garments.
- Comfortable walking shoes for the Pyramids and Valley of the Kings
- DEET based mosquito repellent & antihistamine cream
- 2 pin, European electrical adaptor.
- Two spare passport photos & a photocopy of your passport
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs.
- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, swim costume and torch

Airport Arrival - Egypt
Upon arriving at Cairo Airport you will be met by a representative from On The Go either just before immigration or in the baggage hall near the luggage belt of your respective arriving flight. The prominent sign depicting our company logo easily identifies our representative. Please have your tour voucher handy and make it available to our representative. After collecting your luggage you will be escorted to our awaiting transportation.

If, for any reason you have trouble locating our representative (after waiting 20 minutes in the arrival hall) or your flight to Egypt is delayed, please call or send a text message to the emergency contact number as stated on your tour voucher.

Entrance Fees & Tipping
Entrance fees are not included in the cost of our tours. Funds collected in Turkey (and Egypt if travelling on one of our combo tours) for entrance fees are payable in local currency - Turkish Lira and Egyptian Pounds and will be collected by your tour guide.

Your tip kitty (approx USD$30 - $35), as noted in the ‘Not Included’ section of our trip notes is collected in local currency - Turkish Lira (TL). If travelling onward to Egypt the kitty relevant to the Egypt section of your holiday is payable in Egyptian Pounds (EGP).

The kitty will be collected from all tour participants to cover tips throughout your holiday. This saves you the hassle of knowing when and how much to tip bellhops, luggage luggers, antiquity guards, housekeeping, waiters and other support staff throughout the tour.

This tip kitty amount does not include a tip for your tour guide OR driver. For a job well done, we would suggest USD$3 - 5 per day for your tour guide and USD$1 - 2 for your driver. Tipping your guide and driver is an entirely personal gesture and ultimately the amount is up to you.

Arrival Instructions

AIRPORT TRANSFERS
An arrival transfer/shuttle bus from Ataturk International Airport is provided on day 1 of your tour from 00:01 through till 06:00 on day 2 (or relevant day if travelling on a tour that commences in Egypt and travels to Turkey at a later stage). If arriving to via Sabiha Gokcen Airport an arrival transfer is available on day 1 at 2.30pm & 8.00pm. If you are arriving earlier than day 1 and have purchased pre-tour
Gallipoli & Giza

accommodation with On The Go, a transfer will be provided. If you have not booked pre-tour accommodation with On The Go you will need to make your own way to the start hotel on day 1 after 14.00.

ARRIVAL INSTRUCTIONS

Upon arrival at Ataturk International Airport or Sabiha Gokcen Airport please proceed to the Arrival Hall. Upon entering the Arrival Hall turn LEFT. Here, you will be met by an On The Go Tours representative, carrying an On The Go Tours sign. Please present your tour voucher to our representative as you meet. Later you will need to hand it to your tour guide at your welcome meeting on the evening of day 1 (or relevant day). If, for any reason you are unable to commence your tour as scheduled, or on arrival are unable to make contact with our rep after 30mins of waiting in the Arrival Hall (at the Information Desk located to the left of the Arrivals Area, please do not exit the airport or make your own way to the start hotel, please call one of our 24 hour contact persons.

Mr Sevre Koc: +90 532 779 1184, Mr Orkut Atalay: +90 533 463 7035, or Mr Ihsan Aykol + 90 530 511 61 98.

Solo Travellers

Due to capacity restraints we do not offer single rooms on the majority of our ANZAC Tours. On tours which do not offer a Single Supplement, we will match solo travellers up in a room with a person of the same sex.

Solo travellers will be allocated a single room for any pre and post tour accommodation and a compulsory single room supplement will apply. Then when the tour starts, you will move into a twin room to share with a room mate.

Day 1 - Hotel Check-in & Welcome Meeting

Upon arrival, please check in with the hotel reception, you will need to complete a hotel registration card and hand over your passport to which you can collect from reception later in the day. Please look for the welcome sign located in the hotel foyer which will outline our arrangements for the coming days (including the exact time of your welcome meeting this evening, usually at 8pm) and the name of your tour guide. You’ll then receive a room key and you can head up to your room.

Please note that most accommodation is based upon twin share, i.e. rooms are made up as twin rooms with two single beds. At time of booking we do take requests for those who wish to share a double bed though with the constraints of each hotels inventory this can not be guaranteed.

Visas

It is no longer possible to obtain a visa on arrival in Turkey. Australian, British, Canadian, Irish and USA passport holders can apply for a 3-month tourist e-visa online at: https://www.evisa.gov.tr. The form is easy to complete and only takes a few minutes.

Costs are currently USD$60 for Australian and Canadian passport holders, USD$20 for USA, Irish, British and South African passport holders. New Zealand passport holders currently do not require a visa for a stay not exceeding 3 months.

Ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your date of departure from Turkey. Please double-check all visa requirements with the Turkish embassy at least one month before travel, as the above is intended as a guide. Visa procurement is subject to change and remains the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

Climate

Turkey is a destination that can be visited year-round. Temperatures in April can spring up surprising results. Days can be amazingly warm, though temperatures do drop at night so it’s important to pack some warmer clothes.

The weather on the Gallipoli Peninsula in April can be very hot during the day and bitterly cold overnight (with temperatures below freezing). Rain and very cold winds are possible and you can also get burnt from the sun and wind. It is important to ensure you have sufficient warm and protective clothing for all weather conditions.

Health Requirements

Turkey - It is recommended that you be vaccinated for Tetanus and Polio, if you haven’t had a booster in the last 10 years. Food and waterborne diseases are more common, so we recommend vaccinations for Typhoid (valid 3 years) and Hepatitis A (validity varies). However vaccination information can change and this information is intended as a guide only. Please contact your local healthcare professional for the most up to date and accurate advice.

Currency

The official currency in Turkey is the Turkish Lira.

Traveller’s Cheques are not recommended as they’re often difficult to exchange and incur high fees.

Time

Time Zone - Turkey is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. Daylight saving time (+3 hours) is observed from the last Sunday in March to the Saturday before the last Sunday in October.

Istanbul Sightseeing

Istanbul sights are closed on the following days: Topkapi Palace is closed on Tuesdays and the Grand Bazaar is closed on Sundays. This in NO way affects your touring program.

Two of our tour start hotels - The Novotel Istanbul and Ibis Hotel Istanbul offer a hotel
Gallipoli & Giza

shuttle bus service to and from Sultanahmet - the old City (taking approximately 35 minutes) and Taksim Square a few times a day. If you are arriving early and wish to independently explore, consider making use of the service. Taxis are also available from the hotel at all times, if all taxis are taken at any time another is typically along every few minutes, if not, ask reception to organise one for you.

**Essential Packing**

- These Trip Notes
- If spending the night at the Dawn Service site you will need snacks and water, warm clothes, hat/beanie, scarf, gloves, WC paper, wet wipes, camera and cushion. A torch is also handy. Blankets & compact sleeping bags are are permitted. Temperatures can be sub - zero and there is always the threat of prevailing threat of rain.
- For those not staying out all night you will still need to bring along warm clothes and possibly a cushion to sit on.
- Voltage in Turkey is 220V and outlets fit a two-pin European plug. Pack a Universal Adapter suitable for Turkey
- Spare camera batteries and memory cards.
- A small day pack for day to day use and while at ANZAC Cove - large bags or back packs are not permitted in ANZAC Cove.

**What to expect at the commemorations?**

Attending Anzac Day commemorations at Gallipoli is challenging, even for experienced travellers. Visitors stay overnight at the Anzac Commemorative Site located in the open-air Gallipoli Historical National Park. At 5:30 am the one-hour Dawn Service commences. After the Dawn Service, most Australians walk 3.1km uphill on a very steep graded dirt road. You will also need to stand for long periods at times, including in queues for security screening to enter each commemorative site. Some assistance is available, by advance application, for visitors with mobility issues.

A moderate level of fitness is required as you will walk around 10km during the commemorative period. The terrain includes reasonably flat sealed roads, sloped and uneven gravel tracks and grassed areas (which can become slippery or muddy when wet), as well as walking uphill on a very steep graded dirt road. You will also need to stand for long periods at times, including in queues for security screening to enter each commemorative site. Some assistance is available, by advance application, for visitors with mobility issues.

All of the basic facilities like portable toilets, lighting and non-drinking water are brought in for the commemorations. Seating is not allocated and is extremely limited at all services.

**Facilities for people with mobility issues or medical conditions at Gallipoli.**

The commemorative sites are difficult to access for individuals who require special assistance. Limited mobility assistance is available including: seating in reserved stands, with access to a reserved disabled toilet, and seats on assisted mobility shuttle buses, which move between the commemorative sites.

The commemorative sites are not wheelchair-friendly and there are no wheelchairs available for use onsite. Only basic first aid facilities are available from the evening of 24 April and during the day on 25 April.

If you do have limited mobility it is also essential that you contact On The Go Tours and complete a fit to travel form so that we can assess if the tour is suitable for you.

**Seating at the ANZAC Commemorations**

- Seating at the commemorations is not allocated or reserved (other than for registered Assisted Mobility visitors) and some locations have restricted or no view of the commemorative services, other than on large video screens.
- The stands (with plastic bucket-style seats) will hold 50% of visitors and the grassed areas will hold 50% of visitors. You will not be able to lie down. Large groups may not be able to sit together and you may be separated from your group and/or tour guide or leader.
- On the Go requests that you try to obtain seating (when facing the stage) in the grandstand on the far right. We will try to gather as many On The Go groups here as possible to maintain commraderie for the evening.

**Timings for ANZAC Day**

- The Anzac battlefield area of the Gallipoli Peninsula will close to all visitors from 12.01am on the morning of 24 April.
- Turkish security personnel will conduct a full security sweep of the National Park on the morning of 24 April to clear any unauthorised visitors.
- While many coaches and tour buses arrive at the Gallipoli Peninsula in the morning or during the day of the 24th, the Anzac Commemorative Site, where the Dawn Service is held does not open for visitor entries until 4pm.
- Due to the large crowds and a number of security processes, it may take a while to reach the Anzac Commemorative Site after the opening time.
- The overnight reflective program commences at 8pm on 24 April and runs until the early hours of the morning on 25 April.
- The reflective program includes documentaries and interviews about the Gallipoli campaign, as well as musical performances by the Defence Force band.
- The Dawn Service commences at 5.30am on 25 April and finishes at 6.30am.
Gallipoli & Giza

- After the conclusion of the Dawn Service, Australians will walk to Lone Pine to attend the Australian Memorial Service, while New Zealanders will walk on to Chunuk Bair.
- The Australian Memorial Service at Lone Pine commences at 10.00am and concludes at 11.00am.
- The New Zealand Memorial Service at Chunuk Bair commences at 11.45am and concludes at 12.15pm.
- All Australians may be required to remain at Lone Pine until the conclusion of the New Zealand Memorial service, when coaches will be released to pick up their passengers at Lone Pine and then Chunuk Bair.
- Several hundred coaches may be queued in a random order and it could take a number of hours before your coach arrives. Therefore, you may not be able to leave the Gallipoli Peninsula until mid to late in the afternoon on 25 April. REMEMBER YOUR BUS NUMBER & LETTER

What will you need to bring to ANZAC Day Commemorations...

What to Take

- When you disembark your coach on arrival, you will need to ensure you are carrying everything you need for that night and the next day, including a sleeping bag, food, water, prescription medications, protective clothing, torch, sunscreen, camera, etc.
- As you will be seated for a long period of time, for extra comfort we recommend bringing a foam cushion to pad your seat.
- En route to the Gallipoli Peninsula from Istanbul we stop at a supermarket giving you the chance to pick up reasonably priced snacks and drinks.
- Your main luggage will be stored securely in the coach.
- You will not be able to return to your coach if you have forgotten something or wish to return prohibited items.
- You will not return to your coach until the end of the commemorations period on the afternoon of 25 April.

What is prohibited?

- You can not take large backpacks or luggage, camping or cooking equipment, opened bottles of liquid, flammable liquids, weapons or sharp objects, other large objects or alcohol to the commemorative sites.
- Intoxicated persons will be denied entry to the commemorations.
- Alcohol is prohibited at the site.
- You should be aware that Turkey has very strict penalties for the possession of drugs.
- Swimming in the waters off the Anzac area is prohibited.
- As the area is a national park, the lighting of fires on the Gallipoli Peninsula is prohibited.

The ANZAC Campaign

The Gallipoli and ANZAC Campaign - With the intention of capturing and securing the Ottoman capital of Istanbul, thus opening the road to Eastern Europe during World War One, Winston Churchill, British First Lord of the Admiralty, organised a naval assault on the strait. A strong Anglo-French fleet tried first in March 1915 but failed to secure the region.

Then, on a date now etched in history – 25 April, 1915 - British, Australian, New Zealand and Indian troops landed on Gallipoli at what is now known as ANZAC Cove. It is thought that the small harbour of Kabatepe Village may have been the object of the Allied landings on this fateful date but in the darkness of the early morning the landing crafts were swept northwards by uncharted currents to the very steep cliffs of Ariburnu. Unfortunately whilst the Allies were forced to advance inland up and over the steep cliffs, Mustafa Kemal (Atatürk) had foreseen the landing here and sent his Turkish troops here to do ferocious battle with the partly unsuspecting Allies. Both Allied and Turkish troops fought desperately and gallantly, slaughtering one another in vast numbers.

After nine months of ferocious and often futile battle whilst trying to push forth, the Allied forces were withdrawn in January 1916. The 13,000 souls who rest in unidentified graves in the cemeteries, together with more than 14,000 whose remains were never found, are individually commemorated by name on the Lone Pine Memorial (Australian and New Zealand servicemen), the Twelve Tree Copse, Hill 60 and Chunuk Bair Memorials (New Zealand servicemen) and also Helles Memorial (British, Australian and Indian servicemen).