

Anzac & Turkey Explorer 2021

11 days | Starts/Ends: Istanbul



ANZAC Day Gallipoli 2021. Starts: 16th April. Take in breathtaking Turkey on a spellbinding historical journey to the ANZAC memorial site at Gallipoli - explore captivating underground cities at Cappadocia, Roman ruins of legend, churches, hermit caves, temples, monasteries, traveller stop-offs and the stunning Mediterranean, before embracing the history at Gallipoli and commemorating the brave ANZACs during two powerful services.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- ANZAC Service Site - Commemorate at the Anzac eve vigil and 25th April Dawn Service, with the option to attend the Australian or New Zealand Memorial Services
- Anzac Cove - Settle in your seat for the poignant ANZAC eve vigil at the Dawn Service Site
- Istanbul - Take in the the old city of Istanbul featuring the Blue Mosque, ancient Hippodrome area, Topkapi Palace, Hagia Sofia mosque and the Underground Cistern

- Gallipoli Peninsula - Set foot on WW1 Battlefields, see famous Anzac Cove and a range of memorials and trenches on this active history lesson
- Troy - Rediscover the lost city of Troy and inspiration behind Homer's timeless tales
- Ephesus and Pergamum - Explore enormous Ephesus and the 25,000 capacity Great Theatre of ancient marvel, and the hillside amphitheatre at Pergamum
- Pamukkale - Dip your toe in marvellous mineral pools or have a swim in the thermal baths
- Konya - Visit the Mevlana Museum (or Green Mausoleum) and discover the original home of a mystical Sufi Muslim group and their founder Mevlana
- Cappadocia - Delight in surreal landscapes, hermit cave villages and World Heritage Listed Goreme Valley with its rock cut churches and Zelve Monastery
- Silk Road from Konya - Stop off at the traditional roadside inn of Sultanhan Caravanserai and sit in the resting point of former weary travellers

What's Included

- 9 breakfasts and 4 dinners
- 9 nights 4 star and Special Class hotels
- 1 night at the Dawn Service site

- Guided sightseeing of Ephesus, Pergamum, Pamukkale/Hierapolis and Cappadocia
- Guided sightseeing of Istanbul including the Blue Mosque, Underground Cistern, Hagia Sofia, Topkapi Palace, Hippodrome area and Egyptian Spice Market
- Guided sightseeing of Gallipoli, battlefields and war memorials (subject to site opening times set by the Anzac Day Organising Committee)
- Visit to the Grand Bazaar
- Cruise along Bosphorus Strait in Istanbul
- English speaking, degree qualified Turkish tour guide
- Airport arrival transfer on day 1 from Istanbul International Airport at any time, or from Sabiha Gokcen Airport at 11am and 3pm only
- All relevant transfer and transportation in private modern air-conditioned vehicles

What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$40pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD\$130-140pp, paid in local currency
- International flights and visa
- 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

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- Tip for your tour guide and driver: as a guideline we recommend you budget USD \$5 - 7 per day, per traveller for your guide and USD \$2 per day, per traveller for your driver. Tipping your tour guide and driver is an entirely personal gesture

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Istanbul - Gateway to the Exotic East



16th April 2021. Welcome to Turkey and the start of a unforgettable ANZAC experience! Airport to hotel arrival transfer. Rest of the day free in Istanbul.

If you are arriving to Istanbul early, we recommend joining our optional Backstreets Of Istanbul Tour taking place today. The tour commences at 9am. For further details of the excursion, please see our tour Trip Notes.
Overnight - Istanbul

Day 2 : Istanbul - Old City Tour



Today we set off on guided tour of the old city, taking in the stunning Iznik tiled Blue Mosque, historic Hippodrome area, 6th century Hagia Sofia (exterior only), ancient Underground Cistern, Topkapi Palace and more. This afternoon, we take a relaxing cruise on the Bosphorus Strait. Look out

for waterside palaces framed by a modern city skyline dotted with expansive domed mosques and towering minarets of traditional Ottoman style. Afterwards enjoy free time to explore and get lost in the Grand Bazaar. From here you can either stay and discover the old city by night or return with your guide to our hotel for a little rest and relaxation. **Overnight - Istanbul (B)**

Day 3 : Cappadocia

Istanbul - Cappadocia. Today we depart Istanbul and begin our lengthy journey across the country towards Cappadocia. We'll make a number of stops on route. After arriving into Cappadocia this afternoon, the rest of the day is at leisure. **Overnight - Cappadocia (B, D)**

Day 4 : Underground cities of Cappadocia



Perhaps the jewel in Turkey's crown, Cappadocia is an extraordinary national treasure. Gaze in awe at this unbelievable landscape with its cave dwellings and phallic 'fairy chimneys' landscape that are the stuff of fables. Whole troglodyte (hermit) villages, subterranean churches and fortresses have been hewn from the soft, porous, eerily eroded rock of Cappadocia. A guided tour of the region takes us to the World Heritage listed Goreme Valley where we'll see stunning examples of rock-cut Byzantine churches, chapels and temples, and Zelve monastery with its jaw-dropping landscape of towering eroded rocks. **Overnight - Cappadocia (B, D)**

Day 5 : Konya's Whirling Dervish Museum

Cappadocia - Konya - Pamukkale. It's an early departure this morning as we head for Pamukkale. On the way we visit the 13th century Seljukian masterpiece of Sultanhan Caravanserai before arriving in Konya. In

Konya we visit the Mevlana Museum also known as the Green Mausoleum which is the original lodge of the Mevlevi Whirling Dervishes. We then continue our drive to Pamukkale for our overnight stay. **Overnight - Pamukkale (B, D)**

Day 6 : Pamukkale



Pamukkale - Ephesus - Kusadasi. Famed for its unique cascades of natural mineral rich pools, Pamukkale captures the heart of any traveller. Here we can paddle our feet in the warm water flowing over the terraces or take a relaxing dip in the Pamukkale Thermal Baths. Just beyond the thermal pools we make a stop at the Roman ruins of Hierapolis.

This afternoon we continue to the legendary Roman ruins of Ephesus. Easily the best-preserved classical city in the eastern Mediterranean, Ephesus stood as a vast Roman 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 and enjoyed prosperity thanks to commerce and visiting pilgrims who flocked for a glimpse of the magnificent Temple of Artemis - one of the Seven Ancient Wonders. Strong archeological remains can be seen at Ephesus 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 - underlining its status as a centre point for Roman urban life. 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)

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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.

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Day 7 : Roman Ruins of Pergamum



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 8 : Gallipoli - WW1 Battlefields



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)

Day 9 : Troy & 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. Spend the afternoon as you please relaxing at Kilitbahir before entering the Cove. Once we're in Anzac Cove you are free to visit the memorials and trenches in the area before taking our places among the many at the Dawn Service site for the atmosphere-charged ANZAC Eve vigil. **Overnight - Dawn Service site (ANZAC Cove) (B)**

Day 10 : ANZAC Day - Gallipoli 2021



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. Let's not forget.

The service lasts for an hour and public wreath laying at the ANZAC Memorial site is possible afterwards. Later this morning Australians 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 11 : Istanbul

26th April 2021. Your tour ends after breakfast and hotel check out. We hope you have had a wonderful holiday in Turkey and a memorable ANZAC Day 2021 experience. (B)

HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

Kent Hotel

The charming Kent Hotel 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. The hotel is also fantastically located within a 10-minute walk of the Grand Bazaar and Old Town in the Bayazit area in the European side of Istanbul.



Crowne Plaza Nevsehir

Situated only 15 minutes from the UNESCO World Heritage-listed site of Goreme, this modern hotel boasts an excellent location in Cappadocia. Its guestrooms are located in quiet zones to ensure you have a restful sleep and offer modern amenities including free WiFi so you can stay connected to friends and family back home. Guests can unwind in the indoor pool or book a revitalizing treatment at the onsite spa

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centre. A rich breakfast is served in the Gurme Restaurant, then for dinner head to the a la carte Manzara Roof Restaurant on the top floor for some delicious international cuisine.



Pamukkale Doga Thermal Hotel

Complete with both indoor and outdoor pools, the Doga Thermal Hotel is a modern hotel with excellent amenities. Guest rooms are bright and spacious with wonderful en suite facilities. There is complimentary Wi-Fi offered throughout and a sumptuous buffet served for breakfast and dinner. The spa facilities on offer include sauna, Turkish bath, hot spring bath, massage treatments and a fitness centre.



Richmond Ephesus Resort Hotel

With a beautiful sandy beach lining the shore between the hotel and the sea, the Richmond Ephesus Hotel is a perfect place to relax. Take a dip in one of the two pools or enjoy a delicious dinner and drink at one of the three restaurants. Rooms are spacious and comfortable with air conditioning throughout the hotel.



Parion Hotel

The Parion is an elegant property situated in the heart of Canakkale on the southern coast of the Dardanelles in Turkey. The hotel features 162 guest rooms and suites with en suite facilities, air conditioning, flat-screen satellite TV and a fully stocked minibar. Those looking for a bite to eat can check out the hotel restaurant, which serves a breakfast buffet and a la carte menus at lunch and dinner. There is also a hotel bar and room service is available.



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 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
16 Apr	USD 1,645	USD 2,425