ESSENCE OF TURKEY

Itinerary: 09 Days/ 08 Nights

Program in Brief	
Day 01	ARRIVAL IN ISTANBUL
Day 02	HISTORICAL ISTANBUL
Day 03	ISTANBUL BOSPHORUS — ANKARA
Day 04	ANKARA — CAPPADOCIA
Day 05	WONDERS OF CAPPADOCIA
Day 06	CAPPADOCIA — PAMUKKALE
Day 07	PAMUKKALE — EPHESUS — KUSADASI
Day 08	KUSADASI — BURSA — ISTANBUL
Day 09	ISTANBUL — RETURN

Itinerary day by day

Day 01: ARRIVAL IN ISTANBUL

Arrival at Istanbul airport. Regardless of your flight time, our team will be ready to welcome you and arrange your transfer to the assigned hotel in Istanbul. Just inform us in advance of your arrival time.

Accommodation	ISTANBUL Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 02: HISTORICAL ISTANBUL

After breakfast at the hotel, meet your guide to begin a fascinating tour of the historical part of Istanbul. We will discover architectural and cultural gems such as Hagia Sophia, the Blue Mosque, the ancient Roman Hippodrome, and the majestic Topkapi Palace, former residence of the Ottoman sultans. The tour concludes with a visit to the charming Grand Bazaar.

Accommodation	ISTANBUL Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 03: ISTANBUL BOSPHORUS — ANKARA

After breakfast, check out with luggage for a day rich in contrasts. We will enjoy a private cruise on the Bosphorus with stunning views between Europe and Asia. Then we will visit the Spice Market, the picturesque Balat district, and the Greek Patriarchate. We will also stop at the elegant Rüstem Pasha Mosque. Afterwards, we will drive to Ankara. Arrival and check-in at the hotel, with dinner included.

Accommodation	ANKARA Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 04: ANKARA — CAPPADOCIA

Breakfast at the hotel. Visit to the impressive Atatürk Mausoleum, the founder of the Turkish Republic. Next, we will explore the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations. The journey continues toward Cappadocia, with a stop at Salt Lake (the second largest in Turkey), where we will have lunch (not included). In the afternoon, we visit the underground city of Saratli. Arrival at the hotel and dinner included.

Accommodation	CAPPADOCIA Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 05: WONDERS OF CAPPADOCIA

Optional hot-air balloon ride in the morning (extra cost). After breakfast, we begin our full-day excursion in magical Cappadocia: Visit the Göreme Open-Air Museum with rock-cut Byzantine churches, frescoes, and murals. Explore the panoramic Avcilar Valley, famous for its "fairy chimneys." Visit a certified jewelry handicraft center and Devrent Valley, known for its imaginative rock formations. End the day at a state-run cooperative that produces traditional Turkish carpets. Dinner and overnight in Cappadocia. Optional: Attend a Turkish folk dance show in a cave, with unlimited local alcoholic drinks.

Accommodation	CAPPADOCIA Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 06: CAPPADOCIA — PAMUKKALE

Departure for Pamukkale. En route, visit a 13th-century Seljuk caravanserai that served as a rest stop for merchants along the Silk Road.
Lunch along the way (not included). Upon arrival in Hierapolis, explore the famous white travertine terraces and the ruins of the ancient Greco-Roman city. Check-in at a thermal hotel in Pamukkale. Time to relax and enjoy a rejuvenating bath. Dinner included.

Accommodation	PAMUKKALE Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 07: PAMUKKALE — EPHESUS — KUSADASI

Departure for Ephesus. On the way, visit the House of the Virgin Mary, a sacred Christian site. Then explore Ephesus, one of the most important Roman cities in Asia Minor. Lunch (not included). End the day with a visit to a leather factory outlet. Dinner and overnight in the Izmir or Kusadasi area.

Accommodation	KUSADASI Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 08: KUSADASI — BURSA — ISTANBUL

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to Bursa to visit the famous Green Mosque, decorated with stunning Ottoman tiles, and the tomb of its founder. Stroll through the traditional silk market. Lunch in Bursa (not included). Arrival in Istanbul in the afternoon. Overnight at the hotel.

Accommodation	ISTANBUL Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 09: ISTANBUL — RETURN

Transfer to Istanbul Airport according to your flight time.

End of Program

Price Included:

- Accommodation in all listed hotels
- Daily breakfasts (starting Day 2)
- Daily dinners (Days 1–8)
- Round-trip transfers
- Entrance tickets for all visits (as per itinerary)
- Guided city tour of Istanbul
- Private Bosporus cruise
- Professional English-speaking guide
- 3 nights in Istanbul
- 1 night in Ankara
- 2 nights in Cappadocia
- 1 night in Pamukkale
- 1 night in Izmir or Kusadasi
- Air-conditioned coach with Wi-Fi
- Daily water
- 24-hour assistance via WhatsApp

Price excluded:

- Optional excursions or personal expenses