



presents

Istanbul Turkey

July 9, 2012

INCLUDES ROUNDTRIP COACH FROM SAN DIEGO



Day 1: Depart USA

Board your overnight flight to Istanbul Turkey.

Day 2: Arrival Istanbul Turkey (D)

Welcome to **Istanbul, Turkey's** most famous city and the country's undisputed cultural and financial centre. Crowned European Capital of Culture in 2010, Istanbul offers a great deal in the way of history, culture, food and entertainment. Istanbul is the only city in the world that straddles two continents and surrounded by the waters of the Bosphorus, and it is the former capital of three great empires, Eastern Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman. The city exudes history at every turn, with its centuries-old palaces, castles, mosques, churches and other monuments. You will need to come back time and time again to truly see all that this atmospheric city offers. Meet your **Chamber Explorations Tour Director** at the **Istanbul Ataturk Airport**, transfer to your hotel and unpack for a **seven night stay**. Once at your hotel you can relax, or start exploring the wonders of this glorious city! Dinner is included this evening.

Overnight: Istanbul**Day 3: Istanbul Sightseeing - The Blue Mosque, Topkapi Palace & Hagia Sofia (B,L)**

After breakfast we start our day with a full day tour of **Istanbul**. Visit to the exotic and impressive **Topkapi Palace**, a walled city perched above the **Bosphorus**, which served as the palace of the Ottoman Sultans Empire for 400 years between the 16th and 19th centuries. This complex is a museum housing the spectacular artifacts such as Kaftans (exquisite robes), beautiful ornamented weapons and porcelain from China and Japan. This afternoon our tour continues with a visit to the fascinating and impressive **Sultan Ahmet Camii Mosque** also known as **The Blue Mosque** famous for its six minarets, thousands of beautiful blue Iznik tiles, unique architecture and marble latticework. Next visit the **Byzantine Hippodrome**, the centre of Byzantine life for 1000 years, where chariot races and competitive athletic events took place. Following an included lunch stop, we then visit one of the world's true architectural gems, the beautiful **Hagia Sophia**. A Byzantine masterpiece first constructed in 537 AD and reigned for almost 1,000 years as the largest Christian church in the world.

Overnight: Istanbul**Day 4: Istanbul Walking Tour and Turkish Bath (Optional) (B,D)**

This morning along with our guide we will enjoy an included **walking tour** of Istanbul. We will view this great city up-close as we explore off the beaten track. In the afternoon we give to the opportunity to sample part of the Turkish life on a Turkish bath optional excursion. Enjoy the tradition of public bathing. Lacking baths or running water at home, society embraced the hamam, which evolved into not only a place to cleanse body and soul, but a social destination as well. (Turkish Bath - \$79 per person)

Overnight: Istanbul**Day 5: Istanbul Sightseeing - Grand Bazaar, Spice Bazaar and School Visit (B,D)**

After breakfast we start our half day tour with a visit to **Grand Bazaar** which is the biggest and the oldest shopping venue in the world. This colorful bazaar offers a kaleidoscope of Turkish traditions that can tempt all with its 4,000 shops exhibiting a collection of handmade carpets, jewelry, antiques and leather. We then proceed to the Authentic **Spice Bazaar**, which was built as part of the Yeni Cami complex (New Mosque). This a covered market filled with the scents and aroma of spices from all over the Near East. The market gives you an insight of how life was at one time and how it contrasts modern Istanbul. Afterwards we will visit a local school in Istanbul. After the change from the Ottoman to the Turkish Republic many reforms in education were made. The Ottoman language was difficult to learn and the literacy ratio was very low. Education has been made a top priority of national development. It has the largest budget of any ministry with an allocation of over 22% of the national budget. The aim of the Turkish educational system is to nurture productive, happy individuals with broad views on world affairs who will unite in national consciousness and thinking to form an inseparable state, and will contribute to the prosperity of society through their skills. This is thought to be instrumental in making the Turkish nation a creative and distinguished member of the modern world.

Overnight: Istanbul**Day 6: Istanbul – Free day (B)**

The day is at your leisure. It's a day to relax and watch the world go by, or head out on an Istanbul adventure. Why not visit the underground Basilica Cistern. Built in the fourth century, this is one of the underground cisterns that riddle the foundations of the city. Extensively excavated and renovated, it is worth visiting and exploring while listening to the tunes of classical music. Or the Pera Palace Hotel, built to service the famous Orient Express. Politicians, artists and writers, kings, queens and heads of state have all strolled along the halls of Pera Palace Hotel. King Edward VIII, Queen Elizabeth II, Emperor Franz Joseph, as well as Sarah Bernhardt, Alfred Hitchcock, Ernest Hemingway, Pierre Loti and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis have all stayed, to name a few. As testimony to the hotel's en vogue reputation, the first fashion show in Istanbul was held at the hotel in 1926. The world famous thriller writer Agatha Christie allegedly wrote Murder on the Orient Express whilst staying at the hotel. A small key, possibly to her diary, was found in her favorite room, 411.

Overnight: Istanbul**Day 7: Istanbul (B) School Visit and Turkish Dinner Show (Optional)**

This morning we will visit a local school in Istanbul and learn more about the Turkish education system. In the afternoon do your last minute shopping in the fine shops of Istiklal Street or consider an optional tour to learn how to make traditional Turkish handicrafts. Tonight an optional local folklore show with dinner is available. Your Turkish night out includes a drive through Istanbul's illuminated streets to a supper club featuring Turkish and European cuisine. The floor show includes live traditional Turkish music, regional folk dance troupes, and of course, belly dancing. (Turkish Night with Dinner Show \$109 per person)

Overnight: Istanbul**Day 8: Istanbul - Bosphorus Cruise (B,D)**

Today we have an included half day cruise on the **Bosphorus**. We will pass by the **Ottoman palaces** of **Dolmabahce** and **Beylerbeyi**, ancient wooden houses, and modern villas leading to the opening of the Black Sea. You will see the **Rumeli Fortress** which is situated on the Tracean side of the Bosphorus. This fortification was built by Sultan Mehmet the Conqueror in 1452. The afternoon gives you the opportunity to explore Istanbul on your own or with friends. You may wish to visit the **Ortaköy**, once literally "the village in the middle" (orta) the European Bosphorus shore, is now among Istanbul's coolest, chicest, most artsy neighborhoods, with trendy boutiques, atmospheric cafes and bistros, and crowds of young, sophisticated residents and visitors. It's a good place to stop for tea or coffee, enjoy typical Turkish cuisine, take a stroll, or some boutique window shopping. A Farewell Dinner is included this evening at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Istanbul**Day 9: Istanbul (B)**

This morning after breakfast you will be transferred to the airport for your flight back home filled with treasured souvenirs and memories of Istanbul Turkey or continue onwards to Cappadocia for our post trip extension.

Optional tours have been provided for your enjoyment to some of the most interesting sites in Istanbul. Our Turkish host/guides will make recommendations of things to see independently if you decide not to partake in an optional program.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Istanbul
- Topkapi Palace
- Blue Mosque
- Byzantine Hippodrome
- Hagia Sophia
- Grand Bazaar
- Spice Bazaar
- Bosphorus Cruise
- Cappadocia (optional)
- Gerome Open Air Museum
- Derinkuyu

INCLUSIONS

- Round trip Airfare - (LAX)
- Round trip Coach from San Diego
- Airline Fuel Surcharges / Fees
- 7 Nights Four Star Hotel
- 12 Meals (7-B, 1-L, 4-D)
- Sightseeing per Itinerary
- Admissions per Itinerary
- Professional Tour Director
- Baggage Handling
- Hotel & Airport Transfers
- Transportation by deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach
- Two school visits

ACCOMMODATIONS

- 7 NIGHTS ISTANBUL TURKEY

Eresin Taxim Hotel or Prince Hotel Sultanahmet.

Hotels and itinerary are subject to change.

TOUR RATES

\$2,949 Per Person Double

\$550 Single Supplement

OPTIONAL CAPPADOCIA EXTENSION

\$599 pp double
\$150 single supplement

Day 9 - Istanbul - Cappadocia (B,D)

Overnight: Cappadocia

This morning after breakfast you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to breathtaking **Cappadocia**. This region is known for its volcanic landscapes and "fairy chimneys". The valleys are carved by erosion, a soft rock carved by volcanic ashes accumulated over millions of years. These natural rock formations were utilized for everything from housing to churches to underground villages. Cappadocia's traditional rural life still goes on providing unique opportunities to observe a lifestyle that is quickly changing. We will visit **Kaymaki**, an **Underground City**, where Christians hid from their persecutors. Check into the first class **Dedeman Cappadocia Hotel** or similar for a **two night stay**. Dinner is included this evening.

Day 10 - Cappadocia Sightseeing (B)

Overnight: Cappadocia

Early this morning an incredible **optional hot air balloon** of the region. is available We Depart from the hotel this morning and visit the valleys where animal-like natural formations like camels and fair chimneys are abundant. Drive on to **Pasabagi** in Zelve area where monks used to live in seclusion in rock cut rooms. Proceed to the pottery town of **Avanos** where the **Kizilirmak** (Hallys), the longest river in Turkey, meanders leaving the red clay on its banks that has been the raw material of pottery dating back to Hittite times. In the afternoon visit the **Open Air Museum** in **Goreme** where we visit the early Christian churches which are decorated with unique frescoes depicting various scenes from the Bible. Stop by **Pigeon Valley** near **Uchisar** for some shopping of local items. We return in the early evening back to our hotel.

Day 11 - Cappadocia - Istanbul - Home (B)

After breakfast you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Istanbul connecting to your flight home filled with memories of **Istanbul and Cappadocia**.

INCLUDED FEATURES: Roundtrip air from Istanbul, 2 nights first class Dedeman Hotel, 2 Breakfasts, 1 Dinner, Professional Tour Director, Deluxe Motorcoaches, Sightseeing & Admissions Per Itinerary, All Transfers & Baggage Handling. *(Minimum of 20 passengers required to operate this extension)*

RESERVATION FORM ISTANBUL TURKEY / JULY 9, 2012 / BOOKING # 61968

TSA SECURE FLIGHT REQUIREMENT

Please submit names exactly as they appear on passports:

Passport Name: _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____
 (MM/DD/YY) _____ M F

Passport Number: _____ Date of Issuance: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Roommate's Passport Name: _____ (MM/DD/YY) _____ M F

Passport Number: _____ Date of Issuance: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Your Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Email Address: _____

CONTACT PHONE # _____ EMERGENCY CONTACT: (Name/Phone #) _____

NOTES: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND A DEPOSIT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____ (\$500 PER PERSON) TO SECURE RESERVATIONS FOR _____ # OF PEOPLE.
 RESERVATIONS ARE ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS. PLEASE SIGN UP EARLY TO SECURE YOUR SEAT.

I (WE) WISH TO PURCHASE THE OPTIONAL POST CAPPADOCIA EXTENSION - (\$599 PP DBLE YES NO) (\$749 SINGLE YES NO)
 CAPPADOCIA EXTENSION MUST BE PAID AT TIME OF DEPOSIT.

I (WE) WISH TO PURCHASE CANCELLATION WAIVER & TRAVEL PROTECTION AT THIS TIME: YES NO

ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____ (\$180 PER PERSON) TO SECURE THE CANCELLATION WAIVER & TRAVEL PROTECTION
 OR \$210 PER PERSON IF PURCHASING THE CAPPADOCIA EXTENSION.

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

CHAMBER EXPLORATIONS ACCEPTS PAYMENT BY CHECK, VISA, MASTERCARD, & DISCOVER.



FOR PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD (select one) VISA___ MASTERCARD___ DISCOVER___

CREDIT CARD # _____ EXP. DATE _____

AMOUNT \$ _____ SIGNATURE _____ TODAY'S DATE _____

Istanbul Turkey / July 9, 2012 / BOOKING # 61968

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CHAMBER EXPLORATIONS

Contact your Chamber Travel Coordinator or Mail or Fax Reservation to:

San Diego East County Chamber of Commerce
 201 S. Magnolia Ave • El Cajon, CA 92020

ph: (619) 440-6161 fax: (619) 440-6164
 email: eccham@eastcountychamber.org

PASSPORT INFORMATION: A valid passport is required for this tour and is the responsibility of each passenger. Passports should be valid for up to six (6) months beyond the travel dates. All names must be submitted to Chamber Explorations exactly as they appear on passenger passports.

-AIRLINE FUEL SURCHARGES/FEES: Airline fuel surcharges/fees are presently \$260 per person and are **INCLUDED** in the tour rates. (subject to increase / change).

-AIRLINE DEPARTURE TAXES: Airline departure taxes presently are \$100 per person and are **NOT INCLUDED** in the tour rates. (subject to increase / change).

-Tour payment in full outside of 6 months prior to the departure date guarantees that airline fuel surcharges/ fees & air departure taxes/ fees will not increase prior to departure. (Simply pay in full at time of initial sign up OR anytime outside of 6 months prior to the departure date and the fuel surcharges & the departure taxes will not increase).

OPTIONAL CANCELLATION WAIVER & TRAVEL PROTECTION is \$180 per person (\$210 pp if including Cappadocia Extension) and is highly recommended. Please contact your chamber representative for a more detailed description and information on the Cancellation Waiver & Travel Protection coverage. The Cancellation Waiver & Travel Protection must be paid prior to **OR** with final payment and is non-refundable.

Cancellations not covered by the cancellation waiver or if the cancellation waiver is not purchased, are subject to the following per person refunds:

- Cancel up to 75 days prior to departure - \$250 per person is non refundable; Cancel 74-45 days prior to departure - 75% of total price is refunded.
- Cancel 44-15 days prior to departure - 50% of total price is refunded; Cancel 14 days or less prior to departure/no shows - No refunds.

RESPONSIBILITY: Premier World Tours LLC dba Chamber Explorations (hereafter CE), whose vouchers are used by respective agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to hotel accommodations, sightseeing tours and transportation, hold themselves free of responsibility for any damages occasioned from any cause whatsoever. (CE) will not be responsible for any damages or inconvenience caused by late arrivals, departures and change of schedule or other conditions nor will they be responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time the passenger is not on board their conveyance. The passage contract in use by the airline concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the purchaser of this tour/cruise, and/or passenger. (CE) does not hold any responsibility for the conduct of any of its members, hotel, motorcoach, cruiseline, train, airline or other personnel. (CE) reserves the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of a tour/cruise at its discretion. (CE) &/or its Tour Director retain the right to require any participant to withdraw from a tour/cruise at any time, if determined to be in the best interests of health, safety & general welfare of the tour/cruise group or of the individual participant. Arbitration - I/We agree, any and all disputes concerning this contract or any other material concerning the trip, or the trip itself must be resolved exclusively pursuant to binding arbitration in the state of California, pursuant to the then current rules of the American Arbitration Association. Payment of the deposit for this tour/cruise constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Itinerary and hotels are subject to change. CST #2048841-40