

Topdeck

TURKEY EXPLORED



TRIP CODE:

EXTUII-9



Topdecker, MEET EUROPE

Fascinating culture paired with stunning scenery make a tour of Turkey a truly unforgettable experience. Starting in the historical grandeur and modern wonder that is Istanbul, we'll check out ancient ruins before being swept away by the otherworldly Cappadocia and gorgeous coastal villages on the Mediterranean. Along the way there's local cuisine and traditional hospitality to look forward to.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Explorer



Nights



Android/iPhone app
download info



This is a principal
package.

Hi, AND THANKS FOR CHOOSING TO HOLIDAY WITH TOPDECK

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We really appreciate your decision to travel with us, and rest assured that the entire Topdeck team will be pulling out all the stops to make your trip an unforgettable one.

Now it's time to get excited and get ready for a fantastic holiday!

From all the crew at Topdeck Travel

ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs, including where to meet, what to bring and what you can expect on your trip of a lifetime! Also, you can easily download and print this document off so you can check off the lists or bring it with you when you travel.

Please do bear in mind though, some points should be taken as a guide only - after all, everyone's different! For example, daily spending money and clothing lists can vary greatly from one person to the next so don't be alarmed if you don't expect to spend (or even wear) so much! However, we're sure you'll find the information in general to be very useful.

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PLEASE NOTE: We strongly urge you to refresh this document as close to the time of your departure as possible to ensure you have the most up-to-date accommodation list and information available.

ON THE BUCKET LIST (INCLUDED)

- + Visit Pergamon
- + Walking tour of Istanbul
- + Visit the ruins at Hierapolis
- + Pamukkale
- + Visit the ancient Greek city of Ephesus
- + Visit Gordion, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- + Visit Saklikent Gorge
- + Gallipoli visit including Lone Pine, Chunuk Bair and ANZAC Cove

MORE INCLUSIONS

- + Walking tour of Istanbul
- + Visit Gordion, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- + Photo stop at Salt Lake
- + Visit Love Valley
- + Visit the ruins at Hierapolis-Pamukkale
- + Visit the ancient Greek city of Ephesus
- + Visit Pergamon Acropolis
- + Gallipoli visit including Lone Pine, Chunuk Bair and ANZAC Cove

YOUR TRIP WILL START

PICK UP:

Istanbul
Europe

YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

DROP OFF:

Istanbul
Europe

Trip currencies

- + Turkey - TRY

Your Itinerary



**AWESOME TRIP
LEADER**



DRIVER

DAY 1 | ISTANBUL, TURKEY

Arrive, check in and dump your gear. Meet the crew, get the lowdown on local etiquette and culture, then get your Turkish love affair started with your first taste of local cuisine. That's right, dinner's on us.



MEALS:

- + Dinner

DAY 2 | ISTANBUL TO ESKISEHIR

This morning is one big Istanbul bucket list. Tick off the city sites on a walking tour. Then, why not do the optional activity and get yourself entry to the Topkapi Palace, the Hagia Sophia and Basilica Cistern? After, grab a quick bite before we set off to experience the bustling student life in the city of Eskisehir tonight.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Walking tour of Istanbul



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Entry to Topkapi Palace, Hagia Sophia and Basilica Cistern

DAY 3 | ESKISEHIR TO CAPPADOCIA

If the promise of a drug-free psychedelic daydream doesn't get you out of bed, what will? Cappadocia next. Cue alien landscapes, fairytale mountainside villages and epic hiking potential. But that's not before a photo stop at the nearby UNESCO World Heritage site of Gordion and a visit to an underground city. Pretty cool, huh?



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Visit Gordion, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- + Photo stop at Salt Lake



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Visit Saratli Underground City

DAY 4 | CAPPADOCIA

Wander the streets of Göreme, fall in love at Love Valley and check out the Uchisar Castle (optional) for more epic views. Tonight: get your groove on at an optional Turkish dance show.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Visit Love Valley



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Visit Göreme Open-Air Museum
- + Visit Uchisar Castle
- + Traditional Turkish dance show

DAY 5 | CAPPADOCIA TO ANTAYLA

Kick back on today's drive to Antalya where more otherworldly landscapes await. Tonight is a good time to see a man about a kebab. The food here is famous for a reason (we're talking about slow-roasted mutton the local way).



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Visit Sultan Han

DAY 6 | ANTAYLA TO FETHIYE

Fethiye and another fifty shades of blue. And white beaches. Wade through the icy blue to waterfalls set against limestone canyon walls on an optional visit to Saklikent Gorge. Locals call this place a paradise granted to Earth by God. When you see the beaches, you'll know why. Ready for it?



MEALS:

+ Breakfast
+ Dinner



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Visit Saklikent Gorge

DAY 7 | FETHIYE

Like most rivieras, this place doesn't lack options of places to worship the sun. Check out tombs carved into rock cliffs or alternate between dips in the water and sandy naps on the beach. This afternoon: set sail on an optional boat cruise. Then, mingle with the newbies joining tonight or split off to dig into some more local cuisine.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Islands of Fethiye boat tour

DAY 8 | FETHIYE TO KUSADASI

On to Pamukkale for a dip in the best natural hot tubs in Turkey. Then, take a tour of the ancient Roman city Hierapolis before we roll into Kusadasi in the early evening.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast
+ Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Visit the ruins at Hierapolis-Pamukkale

DAY 9 | KUSADASI

More Indiana Jones vibes today as we check out the ruins of the Roman city Ephesus. Apart from buildings dating back to 3,000 BC, this is also the home of the Temple of Artemis, one of the seven ancient wonders of the world. See forgotten city halls, a former library, a Greek amphitheatre and a stadium whose last race saw chariot and horses compete. The rest of the day is free to explore Kusadasi. Flex your haggling skills at the Grand Bazaar, hit the beach or go baklava hunting. You can't go wrong.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Visit the ancient Greek city of Ephesus

DAY 10 | KUSADASI TO ÇANAKKALE

On to Troy. Yep: an ancient battle, hidden soldiers and that movie with Brad Pitt. But first, a visit to the ruins of Pergamon to see the Acropolis. Spend the night in Çanakkale after a photo op with the notorious wooden horse. New profile pic?



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Visit Pergamon Acropolis



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Visit Troy, a UNESCO World Heritage Site

DAY 11 | ÇANAKKALE TO ISTANBUL

Today we take on a more sombre tone. On to the WWI-scarred shores of Gallipoli for one of the most defining events in the histories of Australia, New Zealand and Turkey. Pay your respects at the Australian War Memorial at Lone Pine and the New Zealand Memorial at Chunuk Bair. Visit ANZAC Cove and the Turkish Memorial. Then more Turkish delight and teary goodbyes at our farewell dinner in Istanbul this evening.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast
+ Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Gallipoli visit including Lone Pine, Chunuk Bair and ANZAC Cove

DAY 12 | ISTANBUL

You can never have enough baklava. Eat yourself into a food coma this morning. We're out of here after breakfast.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast

Meals

Breakfasts are included every day in the hotel (except on the first morning). They are usually 'continental breakfasts', which are typical in most European countries. A typical breakfast may consist of cereals with milk or yoghurt, bread, croissants, cold meats, cheese and a range of spreads, with fruit juice, tea or coffee to drink. It is rare to get a hot breakfast in continental Europe, though on some occasions there may be some hot food available as well.

Included evening meals are in local restaurants or accommodation places, and are either two or three courses. In most cases table water is provided with the meals, and if you wish to purchase additional drinks you can do so at your own expense.

If you have any dietary requirements we will make every effort to cater to your specific needs as long as you advise your travel agent or Customer Service Consultant when you book, or make note of this in the Topdeck App when you check in (refer below). However, please be aware that although we will do everything in our power to arrange it, we cannot guarantee that every restaurant we use will be able to cater to all dietary needs, particularly in Eastern Europe. We also cannot cater for tastes or dislikes, as most of our included evening meals feature a set menu.

Tipping

Your Topdeck crew never expect tips themselves and will not ask for any; that's not what friends do! We also know how much tipping can cost you. So go ahead, spoil yourself with the money you will save by travelling with Topdeck (just don't forget Mum's souvenir).

Topdeck Travel App

Our travel app is **AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD BEFORE YOU TRAVEL**. With a range of cool features including a Currency Converter, Budget Planner, Check-In tool and Social Timeline (so your next #TravelEnvy post is never too far away) you can plan your trip like a pro.

Think of it like your very own Topdeck Trip Leader, always on call with the latest info, weather, maps and city guides to give you the trip of a lifetime, all in the palm of your hand.

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[GET IT FOR ANDROID](#)



Passenger safety

One of the best parts of travelling is experiencing the nightlife and entertainment each city has to offer. However, amidst the fun and excitement, it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety as well. Before you hit the road with us, be sure to familiarise yourself with the following safety information.

When you're on a night out, remember to avoid walking alone, particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation details so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. It's also a good idea to get your Topdeck trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking, and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

OTHER INFORMATION



THAT'S IT!