



ISTANBUL ITINERARY
for
THE GIAMPOLI *and* HABEN PARTY

VIP CLIENTS OF PHYLIS JAGER • ANDREW HARPER

August 25-September 1, 2011

(July 6, 2011)



Thursday August 25:

Arrival at Istanbul's Ataturk International Airport (please provide flight information) where you will be met and escorted to your hotel, the Four Seasons Sultanahmet (booked independently of this package).

You will have the remainder of the evening to rest and rejuvenate at your hotel.

Overnight in Istanbul.

Friday August 26:

Enjoy a full-day walking tour of Istanbul's old city.

Today's tour starts at the magnificent Hagia Sophia. Built at the command of the Emperor Justinian during the Golden Age of Byzantium, Hagia Sophia was the greatest church in Christendom for centuries.

Stroll through the Hippodrome - the site of Roman chariot races and the center of Byzantine civic life.

Next see the Blue Mosque - one of the major monuments of Old Istanbul - with six minarets and famous turquoise tiles.

Enjoy a visit to the mysterious and surreal 6th-century cistern under the streets of ancient Constantinople. Supported by over 300 Corinthian Columns and still filled with water, it is so extensive that the means of transport was once small boats.

Visit the stunning Museum of Turkish and Islamic Art, one of the highlights of Turkey. Housed in a 1524 palace of Ibrahim Pasha, the Grand Vizier to Sultan Suleyman the Magnificent, the museum is renowned for its collection of Turkish carpets, illuminated Korans, miniatures and colorful tiles.

The afternoon concludes in the largest covered marketplace in the world - the Grand Bazaar in the heart of old Istanbul with over 3,000 shops.

Overnight in Istanbul.



Morocco
Spain
Portugal
Turkey
Southern Africa

Saturday August 27:

Today, you will enjoy a full-day tour with expert guide. In the afternoon, you will have private transportation as well.

Begin your day at Topkapi Palace, the legendary palace of the Ottoman Sultans and now one of the finest museums in Turkey. Your visit includes the once secret harems where the vast concubines of the sultans were once kept.

- Visit the outstanding Treasury Museum at the Topkapi; it is filled with spectacular pieces from the period of the sultans.

Visit the Mosque and complex of Suleyman the Magnificent built by eminent 16th-century architect Sinan in an attempt to rival the Hagia Sophia. It is perhaps the most prominent example of Ottoman architecture and recently underwent extensive renovations.

Explore the Spice Bazaar. This colorful, covered bazaar has shops selling all sorts of exotic goodies.

Continue to the magnificent Santa Kariye, an 11th-century church with Byzantine mosaics and frescoes considered to be among the world's most important.

Drive out to see the city's double walls, which protected Constantinople from invasion for more than a thousand years.

Overnight in Istanbul.

Sunday August 28:

Enjoy a full-day tour with expert guide and private transport.

At 10:00 AM, enjoy a private cruise up the Bosphorus. Embark on a leisurely exploration of this historic waterway between Europe and Asia (two hour cruise).

- The cruise conclude at the quay of Bey Balik, a restaurant located on the Asian banks of the Bosphorus (cost of lunch not included).

After lunch, discover the Asian side of Istanbul.

- Visit the Beylerbeyi Palace, built by Sultan Abdulmecid on the site of another wooden mansion. The original furniture, carpets, curtains and other fixtures have been preserved in good condition. The façade on the seaside, the well-kept gardens, the hall with a pool in the central section and the spiral staircase are some of the eye-catching features palace.

- Continue to the architecturally significant Sakarin Mosque. This is the first mosque in all of Islamic history whose interior was designed by a female.

Continue to Kadikoy, a large populous and cosmopolitan district and cultural center of the Asian side of Istanbul.

Cross back to the European side of the city and return to your hotel.

Overnight in Istanbul.

Monday August 29:

This morning you will be transferred to the airport for your 12:00 PM flight to Kayseri aboard Turkish Airlines TK 2012.

1:25 PM arrival where you will be escorted to your hotel, Anatolian Houses (booked independently of this package).

Rest and relax at your hotel. When you are ready, begin your visit to Cappadocia in Goreme Valley, an open-air museum comprising dozens of

Monday August 29 (continued):

early Christian chapels and churches carved from the soft stone and covered with millennium-old frescoes.

- Visit the restored "Dark Church" at Goreme – just opened to the public after years of painstaking restoration of the frescoes.

Overnight in Goreme.

Tuesday August 30:

- *If you like, we would be pleased to make a morning reservation for a one hour hot air balloon ride (payable upon receipt of services and not included in the cost of this package).*

Enjoy a full-day tour with expert guide and private transport.

Begin in Rose Valley, named for the rose-colored rock found in this area.

Continue to Pasabag Valley, containing some of the region's most striking fairy chimneys.

Afterwards, depart for the vast underground city of Kaymakli, a 7-floor city buried beneath the surface of the earth designed to shelter and protect up to 15,000 civilians against the Arab raids of the 7th century.

Overnight in Goreme.

Wednesday August 31:

Enjoy a full-day tour with expert guide and private transport.

Begin at Sinasos, Mustafapasa in Turkish. Known for its beautiful architecture and remarkable frescoes that have been remarkably well-preserved since the village's Greek inhabitants departed in the population exchange of the 1920's.

Head to the natural citadel of Uçhisar, strategically cut into an entire mountainside, with a 60 ft. rock-carved Byzantine fortress on top.

Take a stroll through the fantastic landscape in stunning Pigeon Valley.

Visit the Zelve Open-Air Museum, a picturesque cave town once home to one of the region's larger communities.

Continue to the town of Avanos, set on the banks of the Kizilirmak (also known as the Red River) the longest river in Turkey. The river is famous for the abundance of red-pottery clay found within, which has long been Avanos' claim to fame. Pottery has been produced in the Avanos area for centuries and some of the traditional pottery techniques date back to the era of the Hittites, around 2000 BC.

Overnight in Goreme.

Thursday September 1:

Today you will be transferred to Kayseri's airport for your 9:30 AM flight to Istanbul aboard Turkish Airlines TK2011.

10:40 AM arrival where you will connect to your departing flight.

Bon voyage!



Contact Information

Main contacts:	Mrs. Nicki Kandemir	mobile +90 537 308 9727
		office +90 252 313 6832
	Tamera Neufeld	mobile +90 530 330 2029
Istanbul representative:	Mr. Tamer Aynaci	mobile +90 532 377 5244
Istanbul guide:	Mrs. Ferruh Armutcuoğlu	mobile +90 532 434 7733
Cappadocia representative:	Mrs. Sevim Karabiyik	mobile +90 533 427 6381

Included in your land package:

Airport transfer and assistance: Istanbul (Aug. 25).

Istanbul: Full-day walking tour with expert guide (Aug. 26).

Istanbul: Full-day tour with expert guide; half-day with private transport (Aug. 27).

Istanbul: Full-day tour with expert guide and private transport (Aug. 28).

Private Bosphorus cruise (two hours; Aug. 28).

Airport transfer and assistance: Istanbul (Aug. 29).

Airport transfer and assistance: Kayseri (Aug. 29).

Cappadocia: Half-day tour with expert guide and private transport (Aug. 29).

Cappadocia: Full-day tours with expert guide and private transport (Aug.30-31).

Airport transfer and assistance: Kayseri (Sep. 1).

All sightseeing and admission fees when touring with your guide.

18% Value Added Tax and all service charges.

24/7 assistance of our office in Istanbul.

Not included in your land package:

Flight arrangements.

Hotel accommodations.

Services on day at leisure.

Gratuities.

Visa fees (for US citizens, \$20 payable on arrival).