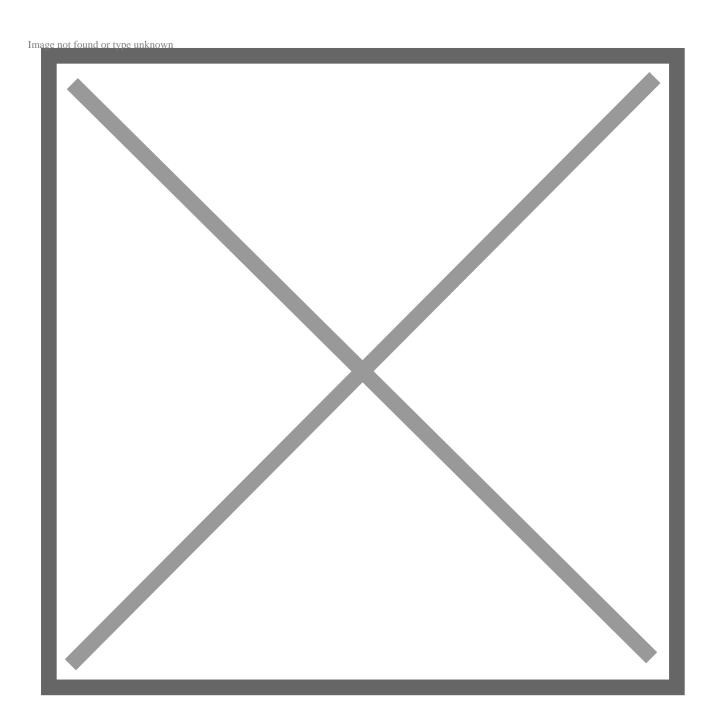


**Full Itinerary & Trip Details** 

# 16 Day Turkey - Bulgaria - Greece Combined Tour

Welcome to Turkey! You will first see the best of Turkey, Istanbul, Ephesus and Cappadocia. And move onto Bulgaria, the Exotic country of Eastern Europe. You finally get to Greece, the birth place of all ancient cultures. Come with us to feel the best of Turkey, Bulgaria and Greece! There is no better option to experience these three countries in 16 days. If you have 16 days for your holiday, we highly recommend you to choose this program.



PRICE STARTING FROM	DURATION	TOUR ID
<b>€</b> 0 <b>€</b> 0	16 days	22801

# **ITINERARY**

# Day 1 : Turkey - Istanbul - Arrival Day

Meet at the airport and transfer to your hotel. You will be given your room key and the rest of the day is yours to explore Istanbul. Overnight in Istanbul.

# Day 2: Turkey - Istanbul City Tour

# Breakfast Included

We pick you up at 08.30 from your hotel for the daily tour of old Istanbul City, upon breakfast. Visit to ST. SOPHIA This ancient basilica, built by Constantine the Great in the 4th century and reconstructed by Justinian in the 6th century, is one of the architectural marvels of all time.

TOPKAPI PALACE The great palace of the Ottoman sultans from the 15th to the 19th centuries housing an exquisite collection of crystal, silver, and Chinese porcelain, robes worn by the sultans and their families, the famous jewels of the Imperial Treasury, miniatures, the Holy Mantle; enshrining relics of the Prophet Mohammed.

SULTANAHMET IMPERIAL MOSQUE Across from St. Sophia built in the 16th century by the architect Mehmet, is known as the BLUE MOSQUE because of its magnificent interior decoration of blue Iznik tiles. HIPPODROME Ancient Hippodrome, the scene of chariot races, with the three monuments; the Obelisk of Theodosius, the bronze Serpentine Column and the Column of Constantine.

We will then take you to the Grand Spice Bazaar which is a unique atmosphere with reasonable prices for your shopping on many Exotic Spices and Herbs, Turkish Baklava, Turkish Delights, Turkish Coffee, nuts and fruits, small souvenirs such as Ceramic Handicrafts, Evil Eyes totems, all naturel olive oil, soaps and many other goods in Souvenir Shops and stores. After the tour, depart for Istanbul airport for domestic flight to Izmir. Transfer from airport and check in to your hotel in Kusadasi. Overnight in Kusadasi. Please Note: Hagia Sophia is closed on Mondays, Topkapi Palace closed on Tuesdays, and Grand Bazaar closed on Sundays. If your tour is on one of these days we would offer you to visit Underground Cistern instead of Hagia Sophia and Topkapi palace museum, instead of Grand Bazaar you will visit Spice Bazaar.

# Day 3: Turkey - Kusadasi - Ephesus Tour - Turkish Village Sirince

#### Breakfast Included

After breakfast at 08.30, we depart from hotel for fully guided tour of Ephesus, one of the best preserved ancient sites in the world en-route, visiting the Temple of Artemis, Curetes street, famous Roman baths, Celsus Library, Grand theatre and House of the Virgin Mary. Lunch break around 13.00. After the lunch, we will visit a place which continues to perform one of the oldest arts of Turkey; a carpet weaving center. After lunch, we will have a Turkish Village Tour. Sirince's construction style today belongs to Anatolian Greeks. The houses on the slope are all original with their white paints. Sirince Village also has a fantastic reputation for making some of the best wines in Turkey - especially fruit wines. We will visit the vineyards and it is time to learn how to make fruit wine with Turkish wine makers. In the evening, you will be tested about your knowledge of making fruit wine. On the way, we will visit one of the famous leather production centers of the region, where you will have the opportunity to get a good factory rate. On this guided tour, you will avoid the constant nagging and sometimes bullying that is well known in the markets of Turkey. Enabling you to enjoy the shopping experience whilst gaining the knowledge of the ancient craftsmen. Overnight in Kusadasi.

# Day 4: Turkey - Kusadasi to Izmir / Kayseri airport and Cappadocia

#### Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Included

After breakfast, we depart for Denizli airport for our domestic flight to Cappadocia. Transfer from Kayseri airport to your Cave hotel. The rest of the day is yours to explore Cappadocia. Overnight in Cave Hotel in Cappadocia.

# Day 5: Turkey - Cappadocia Tour

# Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Included

Today, after breakfast, we will get to know the Cappadocia region, a volcanic area in which the geological formation started 10 million years ago. As a result of these formations phallic like pillars have come to life. The beautiful horse country Katpatuka, (as the Persians called her) is an unbelievable strip of land, enchanting and mysterious. Cappadocia region is also famous for its arts, including ceramic and carpets. You will be picked up approximately 09.30 from your hotel to join our regular tour. Tour starts with Uchisar Castle, the highest point of Cappadocia. After Uchisar, you visit Goreme Open Air Museum, the Heart of Cappadocia. Goreme Open Air Museum is famous for frescoes dating to 10th century describing the life of Jesus Christ and monks. Next stop is Cavusin which is an abandoned village with old cave Greek houses. After Cavusin, you go to the restaurant in Avanos to have lunch. After lunch, you visit a pottery work shop, to see how to make potteries. Then, you go Pasabagi where you can see three - headed fairy chimneys. After Pasabagi, you visit another workshop to see Cappadocian handwoven carpets and kilims. Next stop is Devrent Valley which is also called Imagination Valley where you can see natural rock formations looking like animals. Then, you head to a wineshop in Urgup for wine tasting. Last stop is Three Beauties, three beautiful fairy chimneys with their hats which are the symbol of Cappadocia. This tour will end approximately 18.00 and you will be returned back to your hotel. Overnight in Cappadocia.

# Day 6: Turkey - Cappadocia to Istanbul

#### **Breakfast Included**

After breakfast, you will have free time shopping in Cappadocia. Today, we depart for Kayseri airport for our flight to Istanbul. Upon arrival you will be free to explore Istanbul. Overnight in Istanbul.

# Day 7: Turkey - Istanbul - Turkish-Bulgarian Border - Plovdiv

#### **Breakfast Included**

Today, we will transfer you to bus station and transfer you to Bulgarian border. Upon arrival to border, boarding on coach at the Turkish – Bulgarian state border. Arrival in Plovdiv around noon. Overnight in Plovdiv.

# Day 8 : Bulgaria – Plovdiv – Sofia

# **Breakfast Included**

After breakfast, depart for Sofia. Guided sightseeing tour of the city center including visit to Alexander Nevski Cathedral - one of the largest Eastern Orthodox cathedrals in Europe, as well as one of Sofia's symbols and a primary tourist attraction; St. George Rotunda, St. Sophia Church, built by the Roman Emperor Justinian in the 6th century, National Theatre, former Royal Palace, today housing the National Revival Art Gallery and the Ethnographic Museum, Presidency, etc. Upon request – dinner at a traditional restaurant with folklore music and dances. Overnight in Sofia.

# Day 9 : Bulgaria - Sofia – Rila Monastery – Sandanski

#### Breakfast Included

Departure for Rila Monastery after breakfast - the most exquisite example of the monastery art and architecture in Bulgaria. Guided tour of the monastery complex. Visit to Nativity of the Virgin Church with

its miracle icon of the Virgin and splendid gilded iconostasis, the old kitchen, the monastery museum where you can learn about the long and heroic history of the monastery, the wood carved cross made for a period of twelve years by a monk called Rafael, Hrelyo's Tower and many spectacular views from the mountain and the surrounding nature. Drive to Sandanski in the afternoon. Overnight in Sandanski.

# Day 10 : Bulgaria - Sandanski - Melnik - Thessaloniki

#### Breakfast Included

Drive to Melnik – the smallest town in Bulgaria famous for its excellent wines and sandstone rocky pyramids. Visit to Kordopulova museum-house. Around noon departure for Greece. Arrive Thessaloniki in the afternoon. Overnight at the Hotel.

# Day 11: Greece - Thessaloniki - Vergina - Meteora - Kalambaka

#### Breakfast Included

Breakfast at the hotel. Meet at the lobby of your hotel with a professional English speaking guide and depart for Vergina, a small town in northern Greece near Veria, principal of the prefecture of Imathia. After the tour, proceed to Kalambaka. Free time at leisure in Kalambaka. Overnight in Kalambaka.

# Day 12: Greece - Kalambaka - Delphi

# Breakfast Included

Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning, visit the Meteora Monesteries and after the visit drive to Delphi. Visit the pan-Hellenic sanctuary of Delphi, where the oracle of Apollo spoke and was the site of the omphalos, the 'naval of the world'. Blending harmoniously with the superb landscape and changes with sacred meaning, Delphi in the 6th century BC, was indeed the religious centre and symbol of unity of the ancient Greek world. While at the site, visit the Treasury of the Athenians, the Temple of Apollo and the Museum. Departure for Athens. Overnight in Athens.

# Day 13: Greece - Athens Sightseeing Tour With Acropolis & Half Day All in One

#### Breakfast Included

After breakfast, we will start the tour of the city of Athens, visiting Syntagma Square - the center of modern Athens and view the changing of the guard in front of the Parliament building. On the way to Acropolis, we will have a stop to the Panathenaic Stadium-made of white marble- where the first modern Olympic Games were held in 1896. The impressive, work of Art, Stadium was the finish line of the Marathon Race of Athens 2004 Olympics. We will also see the Temple of Olympian Zeus - the largest Temple ever built in Greece. We will view the National Gardens, the Academy, the National Library, the University, and finally we will visit the most magnificent monument in the world - the Parthenon on the Acropolis. Then drive to Piraeus, Greece's main port and continue by the coastal road to Kastella, a picturesque hill area overlooking the Mikrolimano yacht harbour, having the opportunity to see numerous restaurants and cafes by the sea. On the way to Mesoghia and the Winery, enjoy the journey through the southern suburbs of the city, along the coastal avenue of Athens Riviera with its magnificent view to the sea. Arrive at the Winery\* and enjoy the visit. After the visit, drive to McArthur Designer Outlet shopping village. In continue, we drive at a Pottery workshop to see the craft of making vases and the exhibition of different products. Afterwards, drive back to hotel, passing by the facilities of the Olympic Athletic Center of Athens, where the majority of the athletic events were held during the 2004 Olympic Games. Overnight in Athens.

# Day 14: Greece - Athens to Mykonos

#### Breakfast Included

Breakfast at the hotel. After breakfast, transfer to Piraeus Port for a boat to Mykonos. Arrival in Mykonos Port and transfer to the hotel. Then spend the whole day at leisure. Enjoy your day on this Cycladic Island known for its great night life and the town's Cycladic architecture. Mykonos beaches a must to experience, such as Platy Gialos, Psarou, Ornos, Paranga "Paradise", "Super Paradise", Elia, Kalafati, Kalo Livadi. On Mykonos western shore are Agios Stefanos, Houlakia, Tourlos, Megali-Ammos. Walk through the narrow alleyways in Mykonos town and visit beautiful churches and the famous windmills. Overnight in Mykonons.

### Day 15: Greece - Mykonos

# Breakfast Included

Breakfast at the hotel. Free day to explore the island on your own. Mykonos Island is the most famous and cosmopolitan tourist island in the Eastern Mediterranean amongst the Cyclades, something which is not just by chance.

Expect to experience the exquisite visuals of white-washed houses, proud windmills, and a multitude of chapels, busy back streets with balconies full of flowers and a multi-coloured fleet of fishing boats at the port. If you're after a bit of history and culture, the island has five museums you can visit as well as a beautiful church. The church of Panagia Paraportiani is located beyond the Delos Ferry Quay on the way to Little Venice. Overnight in Mykonos.

# Day 16: Greece - Mykonos to Athens - Tour End

#### Breakfast Included

Breakfast at the hotel and transfer to Mykonos port for a boat to Piraeus or Rafina Port. When you arrive at Piraeus or Rafina port you will be transferred to Athens International airport for an evening flight back home.

# **Includes**

- Domestic flight from Cappadocia to Istanbul
- 2 nights hotel in Cappadocia
- Guided Istanbul city tour
- Professional English speaking tour guides
- All entrance fees mentioned in the itinerary
- Transportation in a fully air conditioned, non smoking coach
- 2 nights hotel in Istanbul
- Domestic flight from Istanbul to Izmir
- Guided Ephesus tour
- 2 nights hotel in Kusadasi
- Domestic flight from Izmir to Kayseri / Nevsehir
- 1 night hotel in Thessaloniki
- 1 night hotel in Kalambaka

- 2 nights hotel in Athens
- Guided Athens tour
- Guided tour in Cappadocia
- 1 Night accommodation in Plovdiv
- 1 Night accommodation in Sofia
- 1 Night accommodation in Sandanski
- All airport transfers in each city
- 2 nights' hotel accommodation in Mykonos
- 15 breakfasts
- Guided Visit of Rila Monastery
- Guided Sightseeing tour of Koprivshtitsa
- Guided Walking tour in Bansko
- Guided Sightseeing tour of Sofia
- Escorted Half All in One Panoramic Tour
- Guided Delphi Tour
- Guided Vergina Tour
- Guided Meteora Tour
- Transfer from hotel to Piraeus port
- Ferry tickets to Mykonos
- Arrival transfer from Mykonos port to hotel
- Transfer from hotel to Mykonos Port
- Ferry tickets to Piraeus or Rafina
- Departure transfer from Piraeus port or Rafina to Athens International airport

# **Excludes**

- International flights
- Insurance: All types
- Items of a personal nature such as alcoholic drinks, cold drinks, laundry
- Any others expenses which are not mentioned at the included section
- Country entry Visa
- Personal expenses: Lunches, extras at hotel or additional meals
- Evening panoramic tour "Sofia by night" and dinner at a traditional restaurant with folklore music and dances

# **Routes**

# **Available On Dates**

# **Hotels**

Istanbul Ramada Golden Horn Kusadasi Suhan 360 Hotel Sofia Princess Hotel Sofia - Jasmin Hotel Athens Polis Grand Hotel Sandanski Sveti Nikola Hotel Thessaloniki Ramada Kalambaka Antoniadis Hotel