

## Full Itinerary & Trip Details

# 8 Day Combined Turkey And Armenia Tour

Welcome to our combined Turkey and Armenia Tour! First class service and guided transportation through the historical and picturesque sites of Istanbul, including private daily excursions to Sultanahmet Imperial Mosque, Istanbul's famous, Hagia Sophia, Grand Bazaar, Topkapi Palace, the Egyptian Spice Bazaar and the Bosphorus followed by a visit to Armenia Including Yerevan City Tour, Etchmiatsin, Khor Virap Monastery, Noravank, Lake Sevan, Dilijan, Garni Temple and Geghard Monastery. Come and join TravelShop Turkey to enjoy your unforgettable holiday in Turkey and Armenia combined.



**PRICE STARTING FROM**

€1 € 1

**DURATION**

8 days

**TOUR ID**

22836

# ITINERARY

## Day 1 : Istanbul - Arrival Day

Welcome to Turkey, Istanbul Airport. Meet with TravelShop Turkey staff and transfer to your hotel. Overnight in Istanbul.

## Day 2 : Istanbul City Tour

Breakfast Included

After breakfast, we pick you up at 08.30 from your hotel for the daily tour of old Istanbul City. 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 natural olive oil, soaps and many other goods in Souvenir Shops and stores. After the tour, transfer back to your hotel. Free Evening and optional Istanbul Evening Shows or Bosphorus Dinner Cruise including traditional Turkish entertainment and dinner. Overnight Istanbul.

## Day 3 : Istanbul Bosphorus Cruise and Shopping Tour

Breakfast Included

We pick you up at 08.30 from the hotel and depart for the Istanbul Bosphorus Cruise and Shopping Tour following the breakfast. BOSPHORUS BY BOAT a traditional excursion by boat along the waterway separating Europe and Asia. The shore is lined with old wooden villas, palaces of marble, fortresses, and small fishing villages. During the excursion you will see the magnificent sights of the following attractions from your boat. See Dolmabahce Palace, and further along, the parks and imperial pavilions of Yildiz Palace. On the coastal edge of this park, is Ciragan Palace, 300 meters of its marble facade faces the shore. At Ortakoy a great variety of artists gather every Sunday to display their work along the street. Ortakoy is a symbol of tolerance with a church, a mosque and a synagogue existing side by side for centuries.

RUMELI FORTRESS Built by Mehmet the Conqueror in 1452 prior to the conquest of Istanbul was completed in only four months to control and protect the infamous Bosphorus passage. It is one of the most beautiful works of military architecture anywhere in the world.

BEYLERBEYI PALAS (PALACE) The summer residence of Ottoman sultans exists in its original renovated glory featuring original antique furniture and magnificent gardens with the Harem on the Asian side of Istanbul.

**BOSPHORUS BRIDGE** enjoy a unique chance to step from one continent (Asia) to another (Europe)  
**CAMLICA HILL** the highest point in Istanbul. At the top of it you can rest and admire the magnificent panorama of Istanbul and the Bosphorus from the beautiful gardens, landscaped in traditional Turkish Ottoman style.

**SHOPPING TOUR** (after cruise) Experience the traditional silk weaving skills of Turkish women at the carpet weaving courses provided by The Ministry of National Education. You will get the opportunity to see jewellery, handicrafts centre and a modern leatherwear show. Enjoy the experience of shopping whilst gaining the knowledge of the ancient craftsmen, with Murti's Tour's local escort full of knowledge about how to haggle the streets of Istanbul. The rest of the evening is yours to explore Istanbul. Overnight in Istanbul.

#### **Day 4 : Istanbul - Armenia**

Breakfast Included

After breakfast, we check out from the hotel and depart for Istanbul Airport through an international flight to Armenia. Upon arrival in Yerevan, you will meet with our local representative at the airport and get transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is yours to explore this historical and cultural city. Overnight in Yerevan.

#### **Day 5 : Yerevan City Tour and Etchmiatsin Tour**

Breakfast and Dinner Included

After breakfast, we will be picked up from your hotel by 10.00AM. Firstly we will go to see the panoramic views of Yerevan. **Matenadaran Museum:** The Institute of Ancient Manuscripts is one of the oldest and most well-endowed libraries in the world dominates the center of Yerevan from its location on top of the hill at the end of Mashtots Avenue. The Matenadaran has a collection of more than 17000 books and manuscripts, many from ancient times, covering not only different facets of Armenian history and culture but also of many other countries as well.

Along the way, you will get to see the Sports and Concert complex, Kievyan Bridge, Baghramyan Avenue-the Presidential Palace, Academy of Sciences, National Parliament, Writers Union and the Opera House, Republic Square

**History Museum of Armenia:** The State History Museum of Armenia was founded in 1919. The Museum had Archeology, Ethnography, Historiography and Fine Arts sections. The Museum collections became the main resource for starting up a number of museums (Museum of History of Yerevan, Armenian Ethnographic Museum, etc.). The archeological groups of the Museum conduct excavations on various sites and publish monographs and collections of research papers. Currently the Museum has about 400,000 exhibits, over 5,000 of which are on a permanent display. Pilgrimage to Etchmiadzin Cathedral, the first official Christian church in the world, built in 301.

Etchmiatsin, called New City and Vagharshapat in the past, lying 20 km from Yerevan, is the city where the Mother Cathedral - the throne of the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians - is located. It was founded in the beginning of the 4th century A.D. According to the Revelation of Gregory the Illuminator, Jesus Christ descended from the heavens and pointed to the site on which the Cathedral was to be built. That is why it was named 'Etchmiatsin' which means The Only Begotten Descended. At the end of the tour, we will drive back to Yerevan and you will be invited to our welcome dinner. We will transfer you back to hotel at the end of the dinner. Overnight in Yerevan.

### **Day 6 : Yerevan - Khor Virap Monastery – Noravank Tour**

Breakfast and Dinner Included

Today, we will pick you up from your hotel at 09.00AM. We will drive to Ararat Region, visit Khor Virap Monastery - If you want to see Mt. Ararat at its best, we highly recommend you to visit Khor Virap. The latter is a royal dungeon in Artashat (Artaxata), the ancient capital of Armenia which is located just in front of the biblical mountain. Afterwards, we will keep moving on, we will drive to Vayots Dzor Region to visit Winery and tasting in Areni Village. Also we will visit Noravank - The architectural complex of Noravank (13-14th centuries). At the end of the tour, drive back to Yerevan and transfer you back to your hotel. The rest of the day is leisure. Dinner and Overnight in Yerevan.

### **Day 7 : Yerevan - Lake Sevan - Dilijan Tour**

Breakfast and Dinner Included

After your breakfast, at 09.00AM, we will pick you up from your hotel and will start our tour. TravelShop Turkey will accompany you to visit Lake Sevan and Sevan Monastery on the peninsula. Then, we will drive to Dilijan where is a small paradise in Armenia with its charming nature and extraordinary architecture.

In Dilijan, we will visit Sharambeyan Street that has been preserved as an "Old Town Dilijan" complete with craftsmen's workshops, small shops with traditional Armenian products and crafts, museum, showing a typical 19th century home with all its locally made furnishings, guest house and a Tufenkian Restaurant. Afterwards, we will visit Goshavank Monastery in Dilijan before we drive back Yerevan. At the end of the tour, drive back to Yerevan and transfer you back to your hotel. The rest of the day is leisure. Dinner and Overnight in Yerevan.

### **Day 8 : Yerevan - Garni Temple - Geghard Monastery - End of the Tour**

Breakfast Included

Today our tour starts with a pick up from your hotel at 10.00AM. Firstly, we will drive to Garni village to visit Garni Pagan Temple where is the ancient architectural complex of Garni (3rd century B.C. - 1st c. A.D.), 28 kilometers away from Yerevan, in the province of Kotayk, includes a fortress, a palace and a pagan temple. On this triangular plateau, plunging from a height of 300 meters to the rushing River Azat, stand the ruins of a powerful fortress with huge basalt slabs designed for defense of the royal summer residence of Armenia. Also we will visit Rustic House in Garni with you. In here, we will organize Armenian bread-lavash making ceremony and the visitors will participate in it. Then, We will visit Geghard Monastery with you. The cave monastery of Ayrivank or Geghard.

Six kilometers from Garni, dates back to the 4th century. Subsequently destroyed, it was rebuilt in the 12th century. The main Cathedral of the Virgin Mary was erected in 1215. The spear that pierced Christ's body is believed to have been kept here. That is why the monastery was named Geghard ('Spear' translated from Armenian). It is a unique complex of churches carved into the mountain and linked to each other by a series of tunnels and caves. The last stop of today is the old food market. Afterwards, we will drive back to Yerevan for a farewell dinner for you before we transfer you to airport for flying back home. We hope your tour was a memorable one and we would like to see you in future in one of our tours again. Have a nice trip back home and thanks for choosing us.

## **Includes**

- 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
- Guided Istanbul Bosphorus cruise
- Arrival airport transfer from Istanbul airport
- 4 local dinners
- 3 nights hotel in Istanbul
- 3 open buffet breakfasts
- Guided Istanbul Bosphorus Cruise and Shopping Tour
- 4 open buffet breakfasts
- Return airport transfer to Istanbul Airport
- Arrival Airport transfer from Yerevan Airport
- 4 nights' hotel accommodation in Yerevan
- Guided Yerevan Tour
- Guided Sevan Tour
- Return transfer to Yerevan Airport
- Guided Khor Virap Monastery Tour and Wine Factories
- Armenian Bread Making Ceremony
- Armenian Souvenir

## **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

## **Routes**

## Available On Dates

10 March, 2020 - 15 March, 2021	Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday
5 April, 2021 - 10 April, 2021	Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday