

## Full Itinerary & Trip Details

# 10 Day Ecotourism Tour

Welcome to Turkey! The Western Black Sea is a treasure of wonder usually unvisited by foreigners. Visit the wondrous Abant and its many lakes. Safranbolu which is one of the oldest cities in Turkey, one of the most flourishing cities in its time that housed a major stopping and trade point for all trade routes into Europe from the east and Asia. Pinarbasi offers nature with hiking and horse safaris and adventure, villages and home stays litter the tour route which will not only enhance your local knowledge but give you a taste for rural Turkey that you will not find anywhere else.

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**PRICE STARTING FROM**

€0 €0

**DURATION**

10 days

**TOUR ID**

59

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 : Istanbul - Arrival Day

Dinner Included

Welcome to Turkey, arrival into Istanbul. Transfer from airport & check in to your hotel. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.

## **Day 2 : Istanbul City Tour**

Breakfast and Dinner Included

We depart at 09.00 for the Istanbul City Tour. We will begin with the ancient Hippodrome, which was 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 continue with Sultanahmet Mosque across from the St. Sophia built in the 16th century by the architect Mehmet. It is also known as the Blue Mosque because of its magnificent interior decoration of blue Iznik tiles. We will then arrive at our last stop, which is the famous Hagia Sophia. This ancient basilica was built by Constantine the Great in the 4th century and reconstructed by Justinian in the 6th century, it is one of the architectural marvels of all time. After the tour you have the option to experience The Bosphorus Cruise. You will have the chance to enjoy magnificent views of Bosphorus, which connects Asia to Europe. The rest of the evening is your to enjoy Istanbul. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.

## **Day 3 : Seven Lakes and Abant Lake Tour**

Breakfast and Dinner Included

Visiting 7 lakes which are found to be different height points from each other and at the same time connected with each other on foot. You find seven small lakes in a valley formed as the result of a landslide: Buyukgol (Big Lake), Seringol (Cool Lake), Deringol (Deep Lake), Nazligol (Elegant Lake), Kucukgol (Small Lake), Incegol (Thin Lake) and Sazligol (Reedy Lake). The lakes are on an area of 550 hectares, while the National Park they are located in is 2019 hectares. The area is among the best-known trekking places. There are only small bungalows belonging to the Forestry Ministry where visitors who want to linger can stay. Deer and trout production farms are also in the area. An entrance fee is paid according to the type of vehicle and the number of visitors. Tables, firepits and fountains are available for picnickers. Fishing is available in Yedigoller between April 1st and September 1st. We will then have some lunch and depart for Abant Lake. Abant is most probably the most famous lake in Turkey. It is 30 kilometers away from Bolu, and you can reach it from the crossing on the Ankara-Istanbul highway. The lake is at the end of a 22-kilometer drive. The seven-kilometer walk around the lake offers a great opportunity to enjoy the area. Those who don't wish to walk can ride horseback or complete the tour on a horse cart. Abant lake is surrounded with pine trees. The manner in which the lake was formed is a topic of discussion. Its deepest point is 45 meters. The countryside is pleasantly different in each season. Water lilies embellish the surface in summer. It is also famous for its trout. Later, we will have free time for shopping at the bazaar in the village. Dinner and overnight near Abant in traditional village house.

## **Day 4 : Safranbolu**

Breakfast and Dinner Included

After breakfast, We have a walk to the historical Safranbolu Bazaar. We then visit Cinci Hodja Caravanserai, Cici Hodja Bath, Kaymakamlar House (Museum), Izzet Mehmet Pasha mosque and more. Continue to Kastamonu, we visit government house, Kaya tomb, Seyh Saban-i Veli Mausoleum, Nasrullah Seyh Mosque and more historical sites. Dinner and overnight in authentic wooden houses in Safranbolu.

## **Day 5 : Ilgarini Cave Pinarbasi**

Breakfast and Dinner Included

Today, we will depart for Ilgarini Cave, which is in the region of Pinarbasi (northwest of Kastamonu), it is one of the largest caves in Turkey. It is a wonderful place for trekking and exploration off the beaten path. The cave had been composed by two sections. The cave is an active one and the stalactite and stalagmite activity still continues. A chapel and a burial ground was found in this cave. Ilgarini Cave was chosen as the 4th biggest cave in the world. There is no roads to Ilgarini Cave so we will be trekking to the Cave so make sure you bring suitable footwear. Dinner and overnight in Pinarbasi.

### **Day 6 : Ilisu Waterfall & Varla Canyon**

Breakfast and Dinner Included

After breakfast we will visit Ilisu Waterfall which is at Kure national Park, near Pinarbasi, which is in the town and district of the Kastamonu Province in the Black Sea region of Turkey. After lunch you can either relax in the surroundings of this beautiful natural Turkish village or you can take a walk to the Varla Canyon. The walk to the Canyon is about 4km. Dinner and overnight in Pinarbasi.

### **Day 7 : Comlekçiler Village Horse Riding**

Breakfast and Dinner Included

After breakfast depart for Comlekçiler Koyu this village has fantastic horse riding facilities which you can do as an optional activity. Horse riding is not only for the advanced riders they have lessons and treks for beginners also. This village is rich in natural beauty. All meals are home made the farm produce all their own vegetables, butter and milk. If you are interested in doing a week's horse riding adventure then this can also be arranged. Dinner and overnight in Comlekçiler Village.

### **Day 8 : Halacoglu Valley Tour**

Breakfast and Dinner Included

After breakfast we depart for Halacoglu Valley. We will visit this valley by different methods of transport such a horses or tractors and a little bit of walking. This is one of the best valleys in this area. You can smell and breathe in the fresh mountain air. We will have a fantastic bbq lunch set in lush green surroundings. On the way you will get to see many farms and shepherds who still work in this area. You will see how friendly everyone is in this area. Dinner and overnight in Comlekçiler Village.

### **Day 9 : Amasra - Akcakoca Tour**

Breakfast and Dinner Included

After breakfast, you will depart from your hotel to the ancient city of Amasra. A beautiful 1 hour scenic drive through the mountains, canyons and little villages, where we will stop along the way so you can take pictures of this beautiful region. Once you get there you will have free time to discover Amasra. Visit Ceneviz Castle, historical streets and houses of Akcakoca. Akcakoca is one of the most beautiful places on the Western Black Sea coast. It is famous for its fish and over 20 different Turkish vegetable dishes. Make sure you sample the local dishes before you leave. Akcakoca is the last stop of the tour before we depart back to Istanbul we will meet for one last get together at one of the restaurants. Dinner and overnight in Akcakoca.

## **Day 10 : Istanbul - End of Tour**

### **Breakfast Included**

After breakfast depart for Istanbul. We hope your tour was a memorable one and we would like to see you in the future in one of our tours again. Have a nice trip back home and thanks for choosing us.

## **Includes**

- Guided Istanbul city tour
- Guided Abant Lake 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
- Return airport transfer
- Arrival airport transfer from Istanbul airport
- 9 dinners
- Accommodation in 4 Star hotels, village houses, bungalows and boutique hotels
- 1 night hotel in Abant
- 1 night hotel in Safranbolu
- 2 nights hotel in Pinarpasi
- 2 nights hotel in Comlekçiler
- Guided tour at Seven Lakes
- Guided tour in Safranbolu
- Guided tour in Ilgarini Cave
- Guided tour in Ilisu Waterfall
- Guided tour in Varla Canyon
- Guided tour in Pinarbasi
- Guided tour in Comlekçiler Village
- Guided tour in Halacoglu Valley
- 1 night hotel in Akcakoca
- 9 breakfasts
- Guided tour in Amasra
- Guided tour in Akcakoca
- Hotel room taxes

## **Excludes**

- International flights
- Insurance: All types
- Turkey entry visa
- Items of a personal nature such as alcoholic drinks, cold drinks, laundry
- Any others expenses which are not mentioned at the included section
- City tax
- Tipping: Tips for guides and drivers

## Routes

## Available On Dates

16 October, 2019 - 31 March, 2022   Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

## Hotels

SILVER PACKAGE Pullman Hotel or Ramada Hotel Golden Horn 4 Star Abant Hotel 4 Star Safranbolu Hotel 4 Star Kastamonu Hotel 4 Star Duzce Hotel GOLD PACKAGE The Marmara Pera Hotel 5 Star Abant Hotel 5 Star Hilton Garden Inn Safranbolu Hotel 5 Star Kastamonu Hotel 5 Star Duzce Hotel