



## Itinerary

### 16 Day Turkey & Egypt Cruise & Tour

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this itinerary.

#### DAY 1: Arrive Istanbul, TÜRKİYE! (Friday)

Upon arrival at Istanbul, you will be met by a tour representative for your [group] transfer to the hotel. After check-in, the remainder of the day is at your own leisure.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Ramada by Wyndham Taksilkent, Istanbul

#### DAY 2: ISTANBUL CITY TOUR

After breakfast between 08:00 am and 09:30 am pick up from the hotel. Visit the "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. Outside the Blue Mosque we find the "Hippodrome". The Ancient Hippodrome was the scene of chariot races and entertainment. The Hippodrome comprises of three monuments; the Obelisk of Theodosius, the bronze Serpentine Column and the Column of Constantine. In the afternoon we visit the Grand Bazaar for shopping and then Topkapi Palace.

**NOTE:** *The order and timings of the city tour may differ to the above.*

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Ramada by Wyndham Taksilkent, Istanbul

#### DAY 3: ISTANBUL ~ GALLIPOLI TOUR

At around 6.30am we depart for Gallipoli to visit the battle fields. Morning tea break on route to Gallipoli. We arrive at Gallipoli around 12 o'clock and take a lunch break – you will have a chance to eat and relax before we depart for the battle fields. Visit Gabatepe Museum. Start visiting the fields with Ariburnu Cemetery and Anzac Cove because these are the places where the war had started. Then Beach Cemetery, Shrapnel Valley and Plugges Plateau. After the tour drive to your hotel. Overnight in Canakkale.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Iris Hotel, Canakkale

#### DAY 4: TROY TOUR ~ PERGAMON ~ KUSADASI

Depart at 8:30am and drive for 30 minutes to the city of Troy. Visit the famous archeological and mythological site of Troy, home of the Trojan Horse and Helen of Troy. After the Troy tour, we drive 3 hours to Pergamon. Lunch break around 1pm and after lunch head to the magnificent acropolis of Pergamon. Its impressive temples and library made it a renowned cultural and political centre at that time. Pergamon is a famous city for its jewellery, stones and silver. So on the way, we will visit a jewellery centre for shopping. Arrival to Kusadasi around 6pm. Overnight in Kusadasi.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Ladies Beach Suite Hotel, Kusadasi

#### **DAY 5: FULL DAY EPHEBUS TOUR**

After breakfast around 9am you will be picked up from the hotel. Enjoy a fully guided tour of Ephesus, one of the best preserved ancient sites in the world en – route, visiting the Temple of Artemis, Isa Bey Mosque and Virgin Mary Church. Back to hotel and evening at your leisure to discover the many dining options in Kusadasi.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Ladies Beach Suite Hotel, Kusadasi

#### **DAY 6: KUSADASI ~ PAMUKKALE TOUR**

Pick up from the hotel after breakfast about 9am. We depart for Pamukkale. We will check in at the hotel around 12.00 and have lunch. Afterwards we shall visit the calcium terraces of Pamukkale (cotton castle) and the ruins of Hierapolis, then walk around this natural phenomenon and have the option of lying in the waters of the natural springs. Overnight in Pamukkale.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Pam Thermal Hotel, Pamukkale

#### **DAY 7: PAMUKKALE ~ CAPPADOCIA**

Today we transfer to Cappadocia by private transfer. Upon arrival you will check in to your hotel and enjoy the evening at your own leisure.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Dedeli Cave Hotel, Cappadocia

#### **DAY 8: FULL DAY CAPPADOCIA TOUR**

Breakfast and hotel and then pick up for a full day tour of Cappadocia including North Devrent Valley, known as 'imagination Valley' as it is a very beautiful valley full of unique rock formations. We visit a handmade pottery making workshop at Avanos Village and then the famous Goreme Open Air Museum. Transfer back to the hotel and evening at your own leisure.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Dedeli Cave Hotel, Cappadocia

## DAY 9: CAPPADOCIA ~ ISTANBUL

Enjoy a final breakfast in the hotel prior to check out. Transfer back to Istanbul via domestic flight. Transfer to your hotel and spend one last evening before your return flight home tomorrow. **NOTE:** Depending on the timing of the domestic flight, you may stay at an airport hotel ready for your flight on DAY 10.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Ramada by Wyndham Taksim OR Grand Hamit by Karadayi Hotel, Istanbul

## DAY 10: Depart Istanbul ~ Arrive Cairo, Egypt (SUNDAY)

This morning after breakfast and check out, you will be transferred to Istanbul international airport for your flight to Cairo, Egypt! Upon arrival at Cairo international airport, you will be met by our tour representative and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day is at your own leisure.

MEALS: None

OVERNIGHT: Barcelo Pyramids, Cairo

## DAY 11: Cairo ~ Luxor ~ Embark Cruise ~ Karnak & Luxor Temples

Breakfast at your hotel and check out. You will be transferred to Cairo Airport for a short flight to Luxor. Upon arrival you will be met by our tour representative for a visit to Karnak Temple. Aptly called Ipet-Sut "The Most Select of Places" by the ancient Egyptians, Karnak Temple was the most important temple in Thebes (modern Luxor), in Upper Egypt. This was where the cult of the great god Amun of Thebes was conducted. As such, it was extremely wealthy and its priesthood held great political power. Afterwards, transfer to the Nile cruise ship for embarkation and lunch on board. After lunch we will visit Luxor temple, which is dedicated to the rejuvenation of kingship. It may have been where many of the pharaohs of Egypt were crowned in reality or conceptually (as in the case of Alexander the Great, who claimed he was crowned at Luxor but may never have traveled south of Memphis, near modern Cairo). Return to cruise for dinner and your first night on board.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Hapi 5 Nile Cruise

## DAY 12: Visit The West Bank

Breakfast on board before your pick up to visit Valley of the Kings. The site for this royal burial ground was selected carefully. Its location on specifically the west side of the Nile is significant as well. Because the sun god set (died) in the western horizon in order to be reborn, rejuvenated, in the eastern horizon, the west thus came to have funerary associations. Ancient Egyptian cemeteries were generally situated on the west bank of the Nile for this reason. Visit The celebrated temple of Hatshepsut (c.1473–1458 BC), the queen who became Pharaoh, is located here, in Deir al-Bahari, on the west bank of Luxor. Made up of three man-made terraces that gradually rise up toward the sheer cliff face, this structure is truly a sight to behold. The site of Deir al-Bahari was sacred to Hathor, the goddess who nursed and reared every king, including their mythological ancestor, the god Horus, in Egypt's primordial past. Lunch is served back on board while we sail to Esna. Arrival Esna and pass the Lock, then continue sailing to Edfu. Dinner and overnight on board

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Hapi 5 Nile Cruise

### DAY 13: Visit Edfou Temple and Kom Ombo Temple

Breakfast on board. Pick-up to visit It is one of the best preserved shrines in Egypt. The temple was built in the Ptolemaic Kingdom between 237 and 57 BC. The inscriptions on its walls provide important information on language, myth and religion during the Hellenistic period in Egypt. In particular, the Temple's inscribed building texts "provide details [both] of its construction, and also preserve information about the mythical interpretation of this and all other temples as the Island of Creation." There are also "important scenes and inscriptions of the Sacred Drama which related the age-old conflict between Horus and Seth. Lunch on board during the sailing to Kom Ombo. Arrival Kom Ombo and visit the temple. The building is unique because its 'double' design meant that there were courts, halls, sanctuaries and rooms duplicated for two sets of gods. The southern half of the temple was dedicated to the crocodile god Sobek, god of fertility and creator of the world with Hathor and Khonsu. Meanwhile, the northern part of the temple was dedicated to the falcon god Haroeris ("Horus the Elder"), along "with Tasenetnofret (the Good Sister, a special form of Hathor or Tefnet/Tefnut and Panebtawy (Lord of the Two Lands). The temple is atypical because everything is perfectly symmetrical along the main axis. Return to cruise and sailing to Aswan. Dinner and overnight on board.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Hapi 5 Nile Cruise

### DAY 14: Aswan ~ Philae Temple

Breakfast on board before your pick-up to visit High Dam. Visit Philae temple; The temple of Isis was one of the last ancient Egyptian temples to remain active, as it continued to function until the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Justinian I (527–565 AD), who ordered the foreclosure of all pagan temples. It is here that a priest of Isis named Esmet-Akhom carved the very last dated hieroglyphic inscription, which dates to the late 4th century AD (394 AD). The temple was converted into a Christian church and many inscriptions were deliberately destroyed. Transfer back to the ship for lunch on board. In the late afternoon you will take a traditional Felucca boat trip overlooking Aswan and see the sunset. Back to cruise for Dinner and your final night on board.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Hapi 5 Nile Cruise

### DAY 15: Aswan ~ Cairo ~ Pyramids & Sphinx & Old Egyptian Museum

After breakfast we check out and transfer to the airport for our morning flight back to Cairo. Upon arrival in Cairo we will proceed to visit the Incredible Pyramids and Sphinx at Giza Plateau. It's estimated the largest - Khufu (Cheops) was constructed from no less than 2.5 million quarried limestone blocks, weighing around 6 million tonnes. No mean feats, when you consider the pyramids were built without the use of modern equipment. Visit papyrus institute, free time for shopping. Continue your day tour to visit Egyptian Museum where two hours are spent at the richest Museum world wide accompanied by our guide & enjoying his explanation about the history specially the King Tut's part with the master piece ~ His Golden Mask. In the afternoon we will visit Khan Khalili Market; a famous bazaar and souq in the historic center of Cairo and perfect for some souvenir shopping to end your trip. Transfer to hotel and overnight.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Barcelo Pyramids, Cairo

### **DAY 16: End of Tour ~ Departure**

Check out and transfer to Cairo international Airport for final departure with sweet memories of your Egypt and Turkey tour with MyHoliday2.

MEALS: Breakfast