



## Itinerary

### ANZAC SPECIAL TURKEY TOUR W/FLIGHTS

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** This is the default version of the tour itinerary. Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this version. If you have booked extras, Please contact [info@myholiday2.com.au](mailto:info@myholiday2.com.au) for a personalised version of your itinerary\*

#### DAY 1: Depart Australia

Today you will embark on your journey to fascinating Türkiye! Fly from either SYD/MEL/PER/\*BNE on this once in a lifetime tour! Note: Some flight schedules may depart on Day 0.

**MEALS:** In-Flight

**OVERNIGHT:** In-Flight

#### DAY 2: Arrive Istanbul, Türkiye

Welcome to Istanbul! Upon clearance at immigration, you have the option to take our included group transfer or make your own way to your hotel for the night. The remainder of the day is at your own leisure.

**NOTE:** The 1x group transfer is booked for the majority of arrivals. You may be required to wait for the transfer upon arrival. You are free to make your own way should you decide not to wait.

**MEALS:** In-Flight

**OVERNIGHT:** Ramada Taksimkent, Istanbul

#### DAY 3: Istanbul City Tour

We depart from your hotel after breakfast at 08:30am for your guided half day Istanbul City Tour. Full Day Istanbul City tour including Blue Mosque, Hippodrome, St Sophia Mosque and Museum, Spice Bazaar and Topkapi Palace. Transfer back to the hotel.

**Sultanahmet Mosque/Blue Mosque:** The mosque, built between 1609 and 1616, is popularly known as the Blue Mosque for the blue tiles adorning the walls of its interior. With its six minarets and a great cascade of domes, the mosque is a worthy sibling to Ayasofya (Hagia Sophia). Pope Benedict XVI visited the Sultan Ahmed Mosque on 30th November 2006 during his visit to Turkey. It marks only the second papal visit in history to a Muslim place of worship.

**Topkapı Palace:** Is a large museum and library in the east of the Fatih district of Istanbul in Turkey. From the 1460s to the completion of Dolmabahçe Palace in 1856, it served as the administrative center of the Ottoman Empire, and was the main residence of its sultans.

**Hippodrome:** Today the area is officially called Sultan Ahmet Square, and is carefully maintained by the Turkish authorities. The course of the old racetrack has been indicated with paving, although the actual track is some 2m below the present surface. The surviving monuments of the Spina, the two obelisks and

the Serpentine Column, now sit in holes in a landscaped garden. The German Fountain, an octagonal domed fountain in neo-Byzantine style, which was constructed by the German government in 1900 to mark the German Emperor Wilhelm II's visit to Istanbul in 1898, is located at the northern entrance to the Hippodrome area, right in front of the Blue Mosque.

**Spice Bazaar:** The Spice Bazaar, or Egyptian Bazaar is one of the oldest bazaars in the city. Located in Eminonu, it is the second largest covered shopping complex after the Grand Bazaar. The air here is filled with the enticing aromas of cinnamon, caraway, saffron, mint, thyme and every other conceivable herb and spice. After your Istanbul city tour there is an option to experience a Bosphorus boat cruise, enjoy the magnificent views of the Bosphorus which connects Asia to Europe, the best way of seeing the Bosphorus in all its beauty. With the shores rising to heights up to 200m, lined with palaces, ruins, villages, and gardens, this is one of the most beautiful stretches of scenery in Turkey.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Ramada Taksilkent, Istanbul

OPTIONAL: Bosphorus Dinner Cruise

#### DAY 4: Gallipoli Tour

We depart for Gallipoli at 7:00am (4.5 hour drive). Full Day Canakkale Tour including Eceabat, Brighton Beach, Beach Cemetery, ANZAC Cove, Ariburnu Cemetery, Respect to Mehmetcik Statue, Lone Pine Australian Memorial, Johnston's Jolly, Turkish 57th Infantry Regiment Cemetery, The Nek, Chunuk Bair and New Zealand Memorial. Transfer to hotel.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch (at local restaurant), Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Iris Hotel, Canakkale

#### DAY 5: Troy Tour & ANZAC Cove

Today, we will visit the Trojan horse and the ancient city of Troy, located on the other side of the Dardanelles (approx. 1.5 hour distance including ferry). Troy is one of the most famous cities in the history, recalling us Hector, Achilles and Achaean Greeks, the sake of Helen, Paris, Agamemnon and Priam. Your guide will explain the mythology surrounding Troy, Trojan Horse and Helen of Troy. If you wish to buy snacks for the overnight camp, today is best time to do it. There are also some food and drink stalls available at ANZAC Cove. Camping under the stars at ANZAC Commemorative site is an experience not to be forgotten. However, we can provide optional hotel accommodation in Canakkale if camping is not for you. This option is not available after your arrival in Turkey, pre-booking is required.

**OPTION:** Upgrade to a hotel overnight instead of camping - \$350 per room. Add to cart at checkout. Pre-booking essential.

**Please Note:** The opening time of ANZAC Commemorative Site will be decided later on and before guests arrival we will inform you. The ANZAC Commemorative Site will not open before the designated opening time. All the guests should be registered for attendance passes on their own before arriving to Turkey. Dinner included only for the ones who book hotel accommodation

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Camping under the stars at ANZAC Commemorative Site

**NOTE:** Sleeping bags are not provided

**OPTIONAL:** Hotel instead of camping [includes dinner]

## **DAY 6: ANZAC Dawn Service at Commemorative Site Gallipoli (25th April 2025)**

Don't forget your warm clothes, sleeping bags, wet weather gear, torches, hat, sunscreen and good walking shoes because Gallipoli is still as cold and dark as it was 107 years ago!

**05.30-06.15 Dawn Service, ANZAC Commemorative Site, North Beach**

**09.30 – 10.15 Australian Memorial Service, Lone Pine**

**11.30 - 12.15 New Zealand Memorial Service, Chunuk Bair**

After attending the ANZAC services, at approx. 15:00, we will travel back to your hotel in Canakkale. The night is yours to relax, dinner will be served at the hotel. Overnight in Çanakkale.

MEALS: Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Iris Hotel, Canakkale

## **DAY 7: Pergamon Tour ~ Kusadasi**

Drive to Pergamon (2 hour drive) - see Asklepion, Zeus's alter, the Red Basilica and more. Pergamon is the site of the Hellenistic, and later Roman city of Pergamon, ruled for several centuries by a powerful local dynasty. Its foremost attraction is the Red Basilica, a huge edifice on the river not far from the acropolis, originally built as a temple to the Egyptian god Osiris and converted to a basilica by the early Christians, when it was one of the Seven Churches of Asia Minor addressed by St John in the book of Revelation - though sadly it's now a crumbling ruin with a mosque in one of its towers. After our guided Pergamon Tour, we continue towards Kusadasi. On the way, we will visit a place which continues to perform one of the oldest arts of Turkey; a carpet weaving centre, followed by an optional Turkish Bath. After a good scrub down we will check-in your hotel in time for dinner. Dinner and overnight in Kusadasi.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Signature Blue Resort, Kusadasi

OPTIONAL: Turkish Bath

## **DAY 8: Ancient City of Ephesus**

At 08:30 we depart to Ephesus (20 minute drive). Once the commercial center of the ancient world - is a highlight of any visit to Turkey. Ephesus, whose wealth and patronage supported its splendid architectural program, was dedicated to the goddess Artemis. Her enormous temple, considered one of the Seven Wonders, dates in its latest form from the third century B.C. The guided Ephesus tour also includes a theatre, gymnasium, agora and baths, as well as the Library of Celsus. After lunch, we will make a shopping tour in which you will be aware of the ancient arts of Turkey like jewellery and leather manufacturing. 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. Dinner and overnight in Kusadasi.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Signature Blue Resort, Kusadasi

### DAY 9: Pamukkale & Hierapolis Tour

At 08.30, we leave Kusadasi for Pamukkale (2.5 hour drive). We visit the spectacular Cotton Castle calcium terraces of Pamukkale and ancient Hierapolis, walking around this natural phenomenon, gives you the option of lying in the waters of the natural springs that flow down the calcium terraces. Check-in your hotel in time for dinner and the rest of the evening is yours to explore the small village or relax around the swimming pool. Overnight in Pamukkale.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Pam Thermal Hotel, Pamukkale

### DAY 10: Pamukkale ~ Istanbul

After breakfast, you can enjoy the thermal pool and sun until 10:00am then, we depart to Istanbul. It's a long drive but we have plenty of stops, so settle in and watch the scenery pass you by. (8.5 hour drive). The night is yours in Istanbul once we arrive. Overnight in Istanbul.

**OPTION:** Upgrade to a domestic flight from Pamukkale to Istanbul - \$350 per person. Add to cart at checkout.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Ramada Taksimkent, Istanbul

### DAY 11: End of Tour ~ Departure

After breakfast, we check out from your hotel before 11:00. You have the option to take our included group transfer or make your own way to your airport in time for your return flight home. If you would like to stay on in Turkey or travel elsewhere add our 'Tour Extension' to change your flights. Talk to us about Cappadocia add-ons. **NOTE:** The transfer is booked for the majority of arrivals. You may be required to wait for the transfer upon arrival. You are free to make your own way should you decide not to wait.

MEALS: Breakfast, In-Flight

OVERNIGHT: In-Flight

### DAY 12: Arrive Australia

Today you will arrive home in Australia after your flight from Türkiye. Thank you for choosing to travel with MyHoliday2. Hope to see you again next time!