



www.SterlingVacations.com

Toll-free 1-866-345-7755

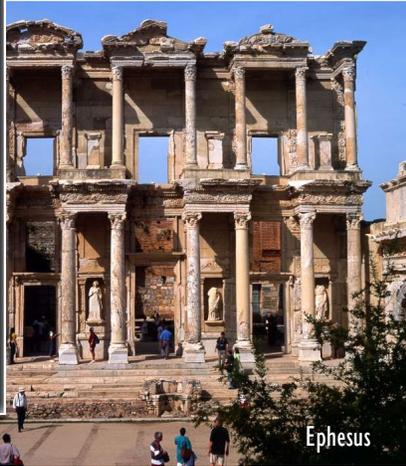
STERLING VACATIONS...an experience in travel since 1973

Best of Turkey Land Tour FAM

Land Tour from **\$1099*** 12-days/11-nts Istanbul to Istanbul



Istanbul



Ephesus



Cappadocia



Troy

From coastal Turkey to its hinterland, tour Istanbul, visit the classical city of Troy, explore Pergamum and the ruins of the ancient city at Ephesus and visit the Virgin Mary's cottage. Enjoy the hot springs of Pamukkale, view the fascinating surreal landscape of fairy chimneys at Cappadocia, and the capital city of Ankara.

TRIP INCLUDES:

- * 11-nights accommodations in 4-5 star hotels (3 Istanbul, 1 Canakkale, 2 Kusadasi, 1 Pamukkale, 1 Konya, 2 Cappadocia, 1 Ankara)
- * 22 meals (11 breakfast, 2 lunch, 9 dinners)
- * All sightseeing as described in the itinerary
- * Wireless earphones for enhanced hearing of guides
- * Touring by air-conditioned small motor coach
- * Professional English-speaking tour director throughout
- * Luggage handling one luggage per person
- * Discounted airfares (e-mail or call for quote)
- * Full travel insurance available for \$99 (due at deposit)

2015-16 DEPARTURES:

Nov 30; Feb 29; March 30

TRAVEL AGENT & COMPANIONS USD RATE*

per person/double occupancy (two in a room)

	Nov & Feb	March
Land only rate	\$1099	\$1199

*Additional taxes & service charges per person: \$199

Not included: Optional tours, customary gratuities for guides and drivers, Turkey tourist visa (\$20 online), arrival and departure transfers unless you purchase air from us.

Note: You are responsible for having a passport valid at least six months beyond return date and to obtain your tourist visa, if required.

BOOK EARLY! Use our online booking form for reservations:

http://sterlingvacations.com/main/book_trip/book_trip.php



HOTELS (similar properties may be substituted)

Istanbul—(pre) Legacy Ottoman Hotel or Grand Hotel Gulsoy

Canakkale—Akol Hotel or Kolin Hotel

Kusadasi—KoruMar Hotel

Pamukkale—Pam Hotel or Doga Thermal Health & Spa

Konya—Anemon Konya or Hilton Garden Inn Konya

Cappadocia—Dinler Hotel Urgup or Peri Tower Hotel

Ankara—Crown Plaza or Swissotel Ankara

Istanbul—(post) Hilton Park SA or Renaissance Bosphorus Hotel

Best of Turkey Itinerary

Key: B=breakfast; L=lunch; D=dinner; O=overnight

DAY 1, Monday - Depart for Turkey

Depart for Turkey

DAY 2, Tuesday - Arrive in Istanbul

Arrive in Istanbul and transfer to your hotel. Balance of the day at leisure. This evening, enjoy dinner and orientation with your Tour Manager. (D,O)

DAY 3, Wednesday - Istanbul City Tour

Enjoy a half day morning tour of Istanbul, the only city that straddles two continents. Your tour includes a view of the Blue Mosque, a 17th century Ottoman Mosque famous with its six minarets and magnificent interior with blue tiles. Continue to the Hippodrome, the place chariot races and competitive athletic events took place during the Roman period. You will also visit St. Sophia - the great Byzantine Basilica built in the 6th century, later converted to a mosque and now serves as a museum. Afternoon at leisure or take the *optional* tour . (B,O)

Optional: PM Istanbul Topkapi Palace & Grand Bazaar (\$65).

DAY 4, Thursday - Anzac Cemetery, drive to Canakkale

This morning, drive to the town of Gallipoli, site of the famous Ottoman victory against the Allies during World War I. Visit the Anzac Cemetery, a memorial to the casualties of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, who's fame grew back home as word of their heroic efforts spread. Afterwards, cross the Dardanelles by ferry and continue to the Canakkale province, in northwest Turkey, where you arrive in the early evening. (B,D,O)

DAY 5, Friday - Visit Troy, Pergamum, drive to Kusadasi

This morning, proceed to the classical city of Troy. Tour this 4000-year-old city and legendary center of the Trojan War, made immortal by Homer's epic poem the Iliad. Then, drive to Pergamum, a powerful kingdom during the ancient Hellenistic period, and visit the Asclepion, the ancient Roman spa center. Continue to Kusadasi, a city believed to be the birthplace of Homer, where you will arrive in the early evening. (B,D,O)

DAY 6, Saturday - Kusadasi and Ephesus

Full day tour to Ancient Ephesus where the Temple of Artemis, one of the "Seven Wonders of the Ancient World" once stood. Walk along the 2000 year old marble streets; see the Great Theatre, the Odeon, the Fountain of Trajan, Temple of Hadrian, and the Library of Celsus. Visit the peaceful House of the Virgin Mary, believed to be her last residence and the Basilica of St. John. Following the tour, participate in an optional leather factory visit to shop or return to the hotel. (B,L,D,O)

DAY 7, Sunday - Pamukkale Hot Springs, Necropolis, & Hierapolis

Depart Kusadasi and drive to Pamukkale. Visit the Necropolis and the ancient city of Hierapolis ("Holy City"), a UNESCO a World Heritage Site situated atop the Pamukkale hot springs. The Pamukkale hot springs have served as a therapeutic thermal bath since the 2nd century B.C. (B,D,O)

DAY 8, Monday - Pamukkale to Konya

Today, travel from Pamukkale, the "Cotton Castle," to Konya, a city renowned for its Seljuk architecture and also as the home of the "Whirling Dervishes." Arrive in the afternoon and visit the Mausoleum of Mevlana before dinner this evening. (B,D,O)

DAY 9, Tuesday - Visit Caravanserai of Sultanhan en route to Cappadocia

Depart for Cappadocia, visiting the magnificent Caravanserai of Sultanhan en route. Afterward, visit Guzelyurt, a fine example of cave dwellings and Greek influences in the Cappadocia region. Following a special home-hosted lunch, continue to Nevsehir in

Cappadocia. Upon arrival in Cappadocia, visit a carpet atelier and have a demonstration of carpet weaving. Tonight, attend the Whirling Dervish performance; their captivating mystical ritual connects one in infinite spinning to perfect harmony. (B,L,D,O)

DAY 10, Wednesday - Day at leisure in Cappadocia

Awake very early to participate in the *optional* hot air Balloon Ride that takes you soaring over the magnificent Cappadocian landscape with its incredible fairy chimney rock formations – the feeling is both serene and sublime. Enjoy a full day exploring Cappadocia independently. Famed for temples and houses cut directly into the region's captivating rock formations. Or *opt* to join the full day tour of Cappadocia that includes the Open Air Museum in Goreme Valley; see early Christian churches decorated with unique frescos. Explore the fascinating Ozkonak Underground City, built on the northern slopes of Mt. Idis. Visit a carpet atelier and watch a demonstration of carpet weaving. The tour ends at the village of Avanos famous for its beautiful old houses, pottery and onyx. (B,D,O)

Optional: Cappadocia Early Morning Balloon Ride** (\$169);

Optional: Full Day Cappadocia (\$72)

**The Cappadocia Balloon Ride tour ends before the Full Day Cappadocia tour begins. Both tours can be done on the same day.

DAY 11, Thursday - Ankara, Mausoleum of Kemal Ataturk

This morning depart for Ankara, the capital and the second largest city of Turkey. Upon arrival, visit the Mausoleum of Kemal Ataturk, founder and first president of the Turkish Republic. Leading up to the Mausoleum, also known as the Anitkabir, lies a vast brick courtyard and monumental avenue lined with NeoHittite stone statues and cenotaphs beneath its colonnades. The most noted cenotaphs within the complex are those of General Ismet Inonu, a close comrade of Ataturk's and his successor, and that of Ataturk himself, a large and highly decorative marble cenotaph, beneath which lies his tomb. Continue to the Anatolian Civilizations Museum - built in two Ottoman buildings located near Ankara Castle. The Museum, being among exceptional museums with its unique collection, exhibits Anatolian archaeological artifacts, as well as artifacts from the Paleolithic Age to the present . (B,O)

DAY 12, Friday - Day at leisure in Istanbul

Depart for Istanbul, arriving in the early afternoon. Leisure time to explore on your own on this last day in Turkey. Perhaps, embark on the *optional* cruise along the Bosphorus, the winding straits separating Europe and Asia. View humble fishing villages and suspension bridges set against the dramatic outline of the Strait. Tonight, a festive Farewell Dinner with your new-found friends. (B,D,O)

Optional: Half Day Istanbul Bosphorus Cruise (\$59)

DAY 13, Saturday - Depart Turkey

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight. (B)

Land Tour Deposit at confirmation: \$450 per person; Final due 65 days prior to departure.

Airfare: Full payment at time of booking. Subject to airline rules.

Cancellation Land Only: Up to 60 days prior to departure: \$300 per person; 59 to 31 days prior to departure: 50% of cost; 30 to 2 days prior to departure: 90% of cost; 1 day or less prior to departure: 100% of cost .

Contact: Sterling Vacations

E-mail: info@sterlingvacations.com

Phone: 512-863-6100