

TURKEY AT ITS BESTSM

DELUXE PRIVATE TOURS BY
 NEWPORT
INTERNATIONAL
TRAVEL
Established in 1986

WINGS OVER TURKEYSM *AN ULTRA LUXE TOUR EXPERIENCE*

A special tour for discerning travelers who prefer VIP arrangements that include maximum privacy and safety. Their exclusive experience will include private mansions & villas, private flights & helicopters in Turkey, along with private cruises & balloon rides, private wine tasting, cooking tutorials, among many other special touches. This is an ideal program for Couples, Families, or Friends!

As society adjusts to the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic, there may not be a better choice than all-private, ultra-luxury travel arrangements.



Image Credit: Forbes/Getty

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TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1: ARRIVAL IN ISTANBUL

As you exit your plane, you will be met by the Welcoming Agent and a porter holding greeting you by name. Please note that citizens of the US and several other nations will need a Turkish Visa to enter the country, which can be easily obtained online at www.evisa.gov.tr. (Tourist Visas are currently \$50 per person for US citizens). Your procedures for entrance into the country shall start at the Exclusive Passport Counter. You will have Porter and Buggy Service, to carry your luggage. You will be accompanied by your Welcoming Agent to your private vehicle outside the Terminal Building, which is waiting for you with your local host. You will be transferred to *Six Senses Kocataş Mansions* on the shores of Bosphorus Straits, where the *Sait Pasa Mansion* will be your private home for three nights.



Note: Shortly after your hotel check-in, members of your party will be tested for Covid-19 by health officials who come to your hotel; this is a requirement for chartering private planes in Turkey at this time.

Day 2: ISTANBUL

At 10:00 a.m., your guide will meet you at your Mansion and take you – weather permitting - for a **helicopter ride** that provides an aerial view of one of the most beautiful cities in the world, uniquely built on two continents. You will fly for about an hour over Istanbul, spanning the Princes Islands in the Sea of Marmara on the Southeast, to the entrance of the Black Sea on the North.



Following the flight, you will visit some of the most famous venues in the ‘old town’ of Istanbul: The **Blue Mosque**, with its six graceful minarets and superb interior that is highlighted with more than 20,000 blue tiles. You’ll walk around the nearby **Hippodrome**, a large open square which was once the site of the ancient stadium - now decorated with historic monuments such as the Serpent Column (originally from Delphi in Greece), the Egyptian Obelisk (from the Temple of Karnak in Egypt), and the German Fountain.



Afterwards, visit **St. Sophia (Hagia Sophia)**, which at the time of its construction in the 6th Century was the largest church in the world; later it was converted into a mosque, and then a museum, before being converted to a mosque again. Its interior is elaborately decorated with beautiful mosaics and precious marbles, including marble columns brought from the Temple of Artemis (which was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World).



Continue your tour with a visit to the famous **Covered Bazaar** (also known as the



Grand Bazaar), one of the oldest and biggest malls with over 4000 shops under hundreds of domes. Today, the Grand Bazaar houses four fountains, two mosques, two *hamams* (Turkish Baths), and multiple restaurants and cafes. The sprawling complex consists of 12 major buildings and has 22 gates.



At the end of the day's tour, your guide will bring you to the pier where your private motorboat will meet you and take you back to your hotel, sailing on the

Bosphorus between Asia and Europe. (Breakfast)

Day 3: ISTANBUL



At 10:00 a.m., your guide will meet you at the lobby of your Mansion and take you on another exciting tour. First, embark on your **private boat** to sail to the Historic Center for some of the other highlights that await you.

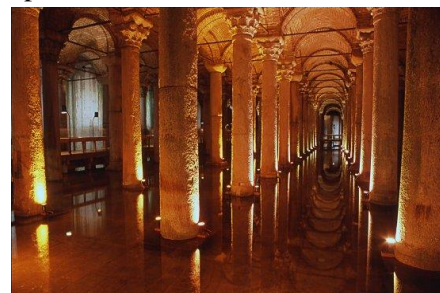
Visit **Topkapi Palace**, home of the Ottoman Sultans for many centuries. Located on the peninsula where



Constantinople was founded, Topkapi Palace was built as the center of administration of Ottoman Empire after the city was conquered by Ottoman Turks in 1453 AD. Topkapi Palace is famous for its Treasury (with the famed "Topkapi Diamond" "Topkapi Dagger", among others) and its China Collection. If you like, you can also visit the **Harem** section, where the many wives and concubines of the Ottoman Sultans spent their lives.



Then, see the **Underground Cistern**, the largest of several hundred ancient cisterns that lie beneath the city of Istanbul. The Cistern, located about 500 feet southwest of the St. Sophia, was built in the 6th Century and is supported by 336 Corinthian columns (featured in many movies, including James Bond's *From Russia with Love*).



Continue your tour with a visit to the **Spice Bazaar**. Built in the 17th Century, it is also known as the

Egyptian Bazaar and is one of the oldest markets in the city as well as the second largest old covered shopping complex after the Grand Bazaar. The Spice Bazaar, located very close to Galata Bridge, is an "L"-shaped building, consisting of 88 vaulted rooms, almost all of which are now divided into an upper and lower story. You will enjoy the aromas, the colors, as well as the delicacies there.

At the end of the day, your private motorboat will take you back to your hotel.

(Breakfast)



NOTE FOR ALL GUIDED TOUR DAYS: YOUR GUIDES MIGHT HAVE TO CHANGE THE ORDER OF THE SITES, DEPENDING ON CONDITIONS. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO TALK TO THEM TO COORDINATE DAY-OF TIMING.

Day 4: ISTANBUL – IZMIR – EPHEBUS – BODRUM

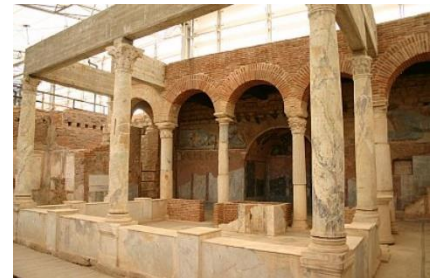
After breakfast, you will be transferred to the airport for your private flight to Izmir, gateway to Ephesus - a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Ephesus was home to one of the original Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Temple of Artemis (Diana), and has an important place in the history of early Christianity. It was visited by Apostle Paul (twice) and Apostle John, and mentioned in the *Book of Revelation* (as one of the ‘Seven Churches’) as well as in *The Acts of the Apostles*.



Your guide will meet you at the airport, and take you to the site of the **ancient Ephesus** where you will walk on historic marble streets among the many temples, houses, baths, the spectacular theater, library, among others.

You will see the **Grand Theater** that accommodated over 24,000 people, the marble toilets, and even an ancient advertisement carved on the marble

street - giving directions to the “house of ill-repute”! One of the highlights of your visit will be a tour inside the “**Terrace Houses**”, the pristinely excavated homes of wealthy residents that afford a rare look into everyday life of families during the Roman period.



Afterwards, the greatness and splendor of ancient Ephesus shall come alive again at the **Archaeological Museum** in nearby Selcuk. You will see two famous statues of the Ephesian Artemis, who was the mother goddess for whom one of the Seven Wonders of the World was built, a collection of medical and cosmetic tools, and statues of famous doctors (as Ephesus had housed an important school of medicine), a monument that bears an inscription of customs regulations and of tax collection – in short, providing an insight into how life was 2000 years ago!

Stop at the site of the **Temple of Artemis** and visualize thousands of people coming from all parts of the then-known world to worship the Mother Goddess.

If you are interested, you can also visit the **House of the Virgin Mary**, believed to be the last house of Mary, which is now a place of pilgrimage for the Catholic Church.



After the tour, your guide will accompany you to Bodrum (about a 2 ½-hour drive) and transfer you to the *Mandarin Oriental Hotel*, where your private villa awaits you. (Breakfast and Lunch)

Day 5: BODRUM

Enjoy the morning on your own, getting familiar with your lovely hotel. Bodrum is the undisputed fun "hotspot" of the



Aegean Coast. This swinging, singing, dancing town, with its bohemian atmosphere, gathers Turkey's artists, intellectuals, and lovers of the good life, and is referred to as 'the new St. Tropez of the Mediterranean'. Your guide will show you the highlights of this charming town.

In the afternoon, your guide will give you a private tour of the picturesque marina of Bodrum. Known in ancient times as Halicarnassus, Bodrum is the birthplace of Herodotus ('Father of History'), who lived in the 5th Century B.C., and is also famous for the site of King Mausolus's Tomb (4th Century B.C.),

which was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

The first stop will be at **Bodrum Castle**, which was built by Crusaders in the 15th Century, using the materials from the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus. Today, it houses the only **Underwater Archaeology Museum** in the world. The 'Sunken Boat Museum' features artifacts found underwater, dating from the Bronze Age to the Middle Ages.



This will be followed by a visit to the site of **The Mausoleum of Halicarnassus, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World**. It was built for King Mausolos, hence the origin of the word "mausoleum" that is used in almost all languages today.



If you like, you can also visit *Gümbet* Hill to see classic, old windmills and take in excellent vistas of Bodrum Harbor. After a short drive, you will arrive at the **Myndos Gate**, from where Alexander the Great entered the ancient city of Halicarnassus in 334 BC.



Visit the village of **Gümüşlük**, where strictly enforced building codes have ensured that the seafront has retained its original appearance and stunningly photogenic fishing village charm. Return to your hotel after the tour. (Breakfast)

Day 6: BODRUM

At 10:00 a.m. you will be met at your hotel for a visit to the **Farmers' Market**, where you'll shop for the ingredients of your lunch. You will encounter local food purveyors who offer self-harvested olives, wild seasonal greens, vegetables, as well as home-made noodles, jams, pickles,



breads and a delicious array of cheeses.

From the market, you will be transported to a special private kitchen for your **Cooking Class**. Here, you will be guided through the delicious secrets of regional Aegean cuisine, with its accent on olive oil and fresh herbs, a very special and particularly healthy branch of Turkish cuisine.



In early afternoon, you will be taken back to your hotel to rest for a few hours.

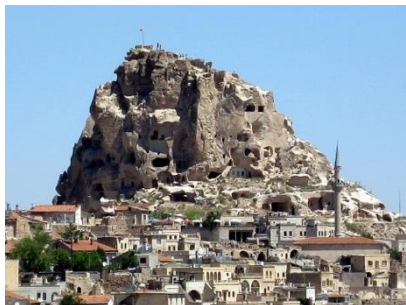
Around 5:30 p.m., you will be picked up from your hotel for a **sunset cruise on a private boat** in the bay of Bodrum. The little bays around Bodrum are indeed lovely; this is the starting point of the famous “Blue Voyage” cruises that are enjoyed aboard traditional *gulet yachts or motorboats*.

Delicious cocktails will be served before returning back to your hotel.

(Breakfast and Cocktails)



Day 7: BODRUM / CAPPADOCIA



This morning you will be transferred from your hotel to Bodrum Airport for your private flight to Nevşehir, one of the two gateways to magical **Cappadocia**. Upon arrival, you will be met at the airport and transferred to the beautiful cave hotel, *Argos*, where you will be staying in their private Mansion.

This ancient region is called Cappadocia, which means “the Land of Beautiful Horses” in an old Persian language. It is indeed a

natural wonder that is reminiscent of a lunar landscape, with its unusual rock formations; but it is also a human wonder, in that people had carved underground cities and cave churches for themselves thousands of years ago.



Tonight, enjoy a special **Wine Tasting**, in the 1000-year-old cellar of your *Hotel Argos*. For thousands of years, the tunnels of the cellar were used to store wine for that location’s monastery. Popular grapes like *Kalecik Karasi*, *Shiraz* and *Misket* are grown right in the vineyards of the hotel.

You will experience this magical ambiance firsthand, as you taste various native wines of the region and learn about Anatolian winemaking, as well as Turkish wine in general.
(Breakfast and Wine Tasting)

Day 8: CAPPADOCIA



Very early this morning you will be picked up from your cave hotel Mansion for a private **Hot-Air Balloon Ride**, an amazing experience where you fly over this unbelievable landscape. You will return to your hotel in time for breakfast. Afterwards, your guide will meet and take you on a full-day tour, showing the highlights of this amazing

land.



First comes a walk in **Devrent Imagination Valley**, with its lunar-like landscape with different rock formations.



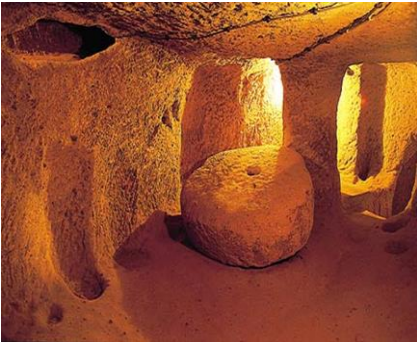
You will also see *Peri Bacalari* (“**Fairy Chimneys**”), the towering rock formations which are now the symbol of Cappadocia, in **Paşabağ Valley**. Then, try your hand on an old-fashioned potter’s wheel to create your clay masterpiece in **Avanos**. Stop at **Esentepe** to see the panoramic view of Goreme Valley as well as **Uçhisar**, the tallest point in Cappadocia.



Afterwards, you will be visiting **Goreme Valley, the open-air museum** with its many rock churches that are decorated with frescoes. At the end of the tour,

you will be transferred back to your hotel. (Breakfast).

Day 9: CAPPADOCIA



After breakfast you will continue discovering this unforgettable region. First visit the underground city at **Kaymakli**. (Archaeologists estimate that there are at least 30 such underground dwelling complexes, first started by the Hittites around 2,000 B.C.; some are inter-connected with tunnels that have been built over the millennia). The underground city you will be visiting has 8 stories carved into the ground beneath the surface. You’ll see the living areas, dining quarters, kitchens, storage areas, churches, etc. The spaces are well lit, and there is good ventilation; but you do need to stoop down where the ceilings are low at certain places.



Visit **Soğanlı Valley**, and enjoy a 3 km walk where you will see Byzantine-period rock tombs.



Then, stop at **Sobesos** to see Roman Bath from the 5th Century, mosaics, and graves from the Byzantine Period. If time permits, you can also visit the **Taskinpaşa Medresesi**, an Ottoman theological school, and the picturesque village of **Mustafapaşa (old Sinasos)** for examples of Ottoman and Greek Architecture.

After the tour, your guide will bring you back to your hotel. (Breakfast)

NOTE: WE CAN ALSO ARRANGE HORSEBACK RIDING, HIKING, BIKING AND OTHER ACTIVITIES IN CAPPADOCIA, AS WELL AS MUSIC CONCERTS (see hotel info for more detail).

Day 10: DEPARTURE TO ISTANBUL

Today, you will be transferred to Kayseri or Nevsehir Airport for your private flight to Istanbul Airport where you can connect to your next (return) destination. (Breakfast)

End of Services

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TOUR LOGISTICS

İSTANBUL:

Six Senses Kocatas Mansion



The newest and the most exclusive property is the Six Senses Kocatas Mansion. Once owned by Ottoman Minister of Justice Kocataş, the 19th-century Kocataş Mansion was badly damaged in a fire years ago. In restoring the property—and combining it with the Sait Paşa Mansion next door—Six Senses has stayed true to the original style, with recreated historic architectural features, salvaged artifacts and marbled tiled bathrooms reminiscent of a traditional hammam.

The waterfront location affords sweeping views of the Bosphorus just as it reaches its last bend toward the Black Sea. Sariyer

neighborhood is the northernmost part of Istanbul. It is a very upscale neighborhood with Ottoman era mansions, ancient fortresses, small fishing ports, great seafood restaurants, and pine forests. The hotel's private boat is there to transfer guests to the historic center, if desired.

The 45 rooms and suites are spread across the two three-floor mansions, and are outfitted with all the modern necessities, like iPads with smart home controls, Nespresso machines, Bluetooth speakers, and yoga mats.

We have secured a number of exclusive amenities (like private restaurant access) and discounts (on food and shopping) for this tour specifically. Dining Amenities include: private use of the Toro Latin Gastro Bar (just for your group for your breakfast and other meals), daily Turkish breakfast, and 15% discount for F&B expenses in all hotel outlets (including the 24-hour in-room dining). Lodging amenities include: a 24-hour Guest Experience Maker, Concierge service, free valet parking service, complimentary high-speed wifi access in every corner of the hotel, complimentary daily boat shuttle to the old town, all with VAT and Service Charges included. Hotel amenities include: 20% discount at the Six Senses Spa & treatment rooms, 15% discount at the Retail boutique, a fitness center, and an Earth Lab (with complimentary workshops)



Meserburnu Cd. No: 7, 34450 Sarıyer/İstanbul

Phone: +90 212 355 55 00

<https://www.sixsenses.com/en/resorts/kocatas-mansions-istanbul>

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BODRUM:

Mandarin Oriental

Situated on the Bodrum Peninsula near the up-market resort of Goltürkbükü, the stunning 5-star hotel overlooks Cennet (Paradise) Bay in the Aegean Sea, where sleek yachts and gulets bob gently in the clear blue waters. Chic Bodrum, with its yacht harbor, Castle of the Knights of St. John and remains of the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus, is only 13 miles south.

All rooms, suites, and villas have either sea or garden views, and feature amenities such as free Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs, Nespresso coffeemakers and sofa beds. Villas include a kitchen, terrace and private pool, plus fitness room with sauna and steam room.



The hotel has two private beaches and excellent leisure facilities. In addition, it has 8 restaurants, 3 bars and a cake shop! And the three-story spa is one of the best on the Turkish Med, with enormous treatment rooms and a bewildering array of facilities. There's also a water sports center, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, private curtained beach cabanas, a pilates and yoga studio, five designer shops and an outlet of Turkish designer department store Brandroom.



**Cennet Koyu Comca Mevkii
Golturkbuku, Bodrum 48400
Mugla**

Phone: +90 252 311 1888

<http://www.mandarinoriental.com/bodrum/>

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CAPPADOCIA:

Argos Hotel

Argos is located in the heart of Cappadocia, on the site of an ancient monastery in Uchisar Village. It was carefully restored from the remains of historical dwellings, underground tunnels, and caves. The views from the hotel are 'magical'.



The unique cave cellars hold thousands of bottles of great Cappadocia wine, which do get top awards in international competitions. We arrange private wine tastings in the cave cellars, unique to Cappadocia.



*We will be using their **Vasil Mansion** for your party. This is the structure that is built on the steepest slope of the hotel complex. The design has taken special care to preserve the irregular curves of the rock-carved spaces below the ground, while the courtyard layout and the rational rectangular lines of the upper levels provide a contrast.*



The structure succeeds in blending harmoniously with the architectural texture of the region, with the proportion of the elements on its facade, with the cubic blocks forming its terraces, and its street-courtyard-landscape relationship in areas of common use.

NOTE: *We can arrange concerts – featuring jazz soloists, chamber music groups, or Sufi concerts – at nearby **Bezirhane Hall**, which has incredible natural acoustics.*



Uchisar 50240 Nevsehir

Phone: +90 (384) 219-3130

<http://www.argosincappadocia.com/EN/>

TURKEY AT ITS BESTSM



RATE: \$29,900 PER PERSON, BASED ON EIGHT GUESTS IN GROUP

The Package Includes:

- All transfers per itinerary with portage
- All tours as listed on a private basis with a Professional Licensed English-speaking guide
- All entrance fees
- Chauffeured Private Deluxe Vehicles
- COVID-19 Test upon arrival in Istanbul
- Three-night accommodation Six Senses Sait Pasa Mansion, Istanbul with special amenities
- Three-night accommodation at the Mandarin Oriental, at the Lily or Magnolia Suite, in Bodrum
- Three-night accommodation at the Argos Hotel in a private Mansion (Cave and stone rooms), Cappadocia
- Daily buffet breakfast (Private Breakfast at Six Senses)
- One-hour private helicopter sightseeing ride in Istanbul
- Private flights from Istanbul to Izmir, from Bodrum to Cappadocia, and from Cappadocia to Istanbul
- Private hot-air balloon ride in Cappadocia
- Farmer's Market and Cooking Class with lunch
- Sunset "Happy Hour" cruise on a private yacht or a private *gulet* in Bodrum with Cocktails (no dinner)
- All taxes

Package does not include:

- Gratuities to the guides and drivers
- Turkish Visa fee
- Any food or beverage not listed on Itinerary
- Any items of a personal nature
- International flights / Any flights not included in Itinerary