

# **GEMS OF TURKEY TOUR**

07 Days/06 Nights ISTANBUL – CAPPADOCIA





### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- 1. Visit the most popular places in Sultanahmet area of Istanbul
- 2. See the world from above on a fabulous hot-air balloon experience
- 3. Explore underground cities on a sightseeing tour of Cappadocia
- 4. Explore underground cities and fairy chimneys on a sightseeing tour of Cappadocia

# **ITINERARY IN BRIEF**

Day 01	Arrival in Istanbul
Day 02	Istanbul City Tour
Day 03	Princess Island Tour from Istanbul
Day 04	Transfer to Cappadocia
Day 05	Hot air balloon Experience
Day 06	Cappadocia day free
Day 07	Departure



### **PACKAGE COST**

	Deluxe Hotels	Premium Hotels
Package Cost (Double / Twin Sharing)	INR 50,999/- per person	INR 62,999/- per person

These are indicative pricing based on 2 travelers. Actual pricing will depend on travel dates, availability, and number of travelers.

# HOTELS ENVISAGED

	Standard Hotels	Deluxe Hotels
Istanbul (3 nights)	Hotel Erboy/ Edition Old City / Black Bird Hotel /or similar	Hotel Crowne Plaza Harbiye / Hotel Biz Cevahir / Hotel Uranus / or similar
Cappadocia (3 nights)	Ottoman Cave Suites / Agarta Cave Hotel / or similar	Tekkaya Cave Hotel / MDC Cave Hotel/ or similar



# **COST INCLUSIONS**

- Stay for 6 nights in proposed hotels on bed and breakfast basis
- Return transfers from Istanbul airport to hotel (Private Basis)
- Bosporus dinner cruise with live entertainment (SIC Basis)
- Istanbul city tour with lunch (SIC Basis)
- Princess Island Tour with lunch in Istanbul (SIC Basis)
- Return transfer from Cappadocia hotel to airport (Private Basis)
- Full day Cappadocia sightseeing tour with local lunch (SIC Basis)

# **OPTIONAL TOURS**

- Hot Air Balloon Ride in Cappadocia
- Horse / ATV Safari tour in Cappadocia
- Jet Boat ride in Cappadocia

# **COST EXCLUSIONS**

- Applicable Government Taxes (5% GST and 5% TCS)
- All optional tours and any other tours not mentioned in inclusions
- All International and internal flights
- Visa charges and assistance charges for Visa
- Tips, city tax, security deposit or any expenses of personal nature such as porterage, laundry expenses, mini-bar, mineral water, telephone charges, food & drink that are not a part of the package.
- Land surcharges due to Local Events or on black-out dates



#### DAY 01: ARRIVE IN ISTANBUL

On arrival at Istanbul International Airport, you will be met by our local representative in Turkey for a brief meet and greet. Later, proceed to your city centre hotel in Istanbul for check-in.



With one leg of the city in Europe and the other in Asia, Istanbul is the only city in the world that stretches across both the continents. Its strategic location and marvellous natural beauty shaped it into one of world's most important historic and cultural city. For over 1500 years, Istanbul served as the imperial capital for the great Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman empires. The rulers of these great empires beautified the city with magnificent monuments and turned Istanbul into a city where people from diverse cultures, religions and nations thrive.

Rest of the day is free for you to explore Istanbul on your own.

In the evening, enjoy the popular Bosphorus dinner cruise. Bosphorus strait separates Istanbul's European side from its Asian side. So, a cruise along the Bosphorus gives you the opportunity to see Asia on one side and Europe on the other and offers a glimpse of the complete charm of Istanbul. Enjoy your dinner on the cruise while watching fabulous Turkish folk dance performances.





#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Arrive at Istanbul International Airport
- Explore Istanbul at your own leisure
- Enjoy a scenic dinner cruise along the Bosphorus to explore Asian side of Istanbul



#### DAY 02 : ISTANBUL CITY TOUR

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed for a sightseeing tour of Sultanahmet area, Istanbul's old city.

We will begin the sightseeing tour of the Old city with a visit to Hippodrome to see the Egyptian Obelisk and Serpent Column, remnants of a now extinct stadium for horse racing and chariot racing. Next, we will visit the beautiful Sultanahmet Mosque, also popularly known as Blue Mosque. This Ottoman era mosque incorporates many elements of Byzantine architecture into the Islamic architecture and is considered by many as the last great mosque of Classical period. Afterwards, we will visit magnificent Haggia Sophia. Built in the 6th century, it was the largest church in the whole world for almost a thousand years. In 1453, when the Ottoman empire expanded to Istanbul, it was repurposed as a Mosque. Till today, Hagia Sophia remains the epitome of Byzantine architecture.

After lunch, we will continue our tour of Istanbul as we visit the Topkapi Palace. Built in the 15th century, it was home to the family of Ottoman Sultans and also their administrative headquarters. Today it serves as a museum showcasing Ottoman clothing, weapons, religious relics and the wondrous Spoonmaker's diamond, the fourth largest diamond in the world. After the palace tour, we will conclude our tour at the Grand Bazaar, the world's first shopping mall. This huge market is completely covered and comprises of over 4000 shops selling all things, from Turkish Lamps and teas to ceramics and rugs.

Overnight stay at hotel in Istanbul.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

• Visit the most popular places in Sultanahmet area of Istanbul



#### DAY 03 : PRINCESS ISLAND TOUR FROM ISTANBUL

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed for a tour of Princess Island from Istanbul.

Enjoy a 1-hr boat ride to Büyükada island – the biggest among Princess islands. Byzantine princes used to holiday on these islands! Today, they are famous for their sandy beaches, wooden mansions and natural beauty. On the island, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant and enjoy glamorous views of Kınalıada, Burgazada and Heybeliada. Later, you will have free time to swim or explore on your own.



Overnight stay in Istanbul.

# HIGHLIGHTS

• Enjoy fun time at Princess Islands



#### DAY 04 : TRANSFER TO CAPPADOCIA

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed to the airport to catch a flight to Cappadocia. Upon arrival, we will transfer to and check-in at our boutique Cave hotel there.

Renowned for its unique and surreal rock structures, Cappadocia is a region in central Turkey that comprises of multiple towns and cities. Located on the silk road, the region's affluent resources were often looted forcing locals to live in caves. These caves gradually developed into underground cities. The region was plagued by volcanic activity over millions of years – dispersing lava over the entire region. This lava was eroded by the actions of wind, rain and ice, leading to formation of these fantastic and uniquely shaped structures that are today synonymous with Cappadocia.



Overnight stay at the Cave Hotel in Cappadocia.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- See the amazing cotton castles in Pamukkale and soak your legs in thermal springs
- Learn about the ancient thermal spa resort at Hierapolis
- Transfer to airport to catch a flight to Cappadocia and check-in at the Cave Hotel



#### DAY 05 : HOT AIR BALLOON EXPERIENCE AND CAPPADOCIA SIGHTSEEING

Early morning, catch a breath taking hot-air balloon ride over Cappadocia. With over hundreds of hot-air balloons taking off each morning, Cappadocia is indeed one of the best places in the world to enjoy this fun activity. Generally lasting for about an hour, you get to hover above the region and enjoy aerial views of the lunar landscape below.



After the hot-air balloon experience, return to the hotel for freshening up and a lovely breakfast. Afterwards, proceed for a sightseeing tour of Cappadocia.

We will begin the tour with a visit to the underground city of Kaymakli. The underground cities developed in this region as a way of natives to safeguard themselves against plundering tribes. These cities were built over multiple stories, with stables, tunnels, cellars and shafts to reach underground rivers. After exploring the underground, we will move above the surface and climb to the top of Uchisar Castle and be rewarded by magnificent views of the fairy chimneys in the surrounding valley. After marvelling at these fantastic rock structures, we will head over to Göreme National Park, a spectacular and unique UNESCO World Heritage site. At Göreme valley you can see the beautiful rock-



cut churches with decorative frescoes on the roof. Finally try your hand at pottery making in Çavuşin village.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- See the world from above on a fabulous hot-air balloon experience
- Explore underground cities and fairy chimneys on a sightseeing tour of Cappadocia



#### DAY 06 : DAY FREE IN CAPPADOCIA

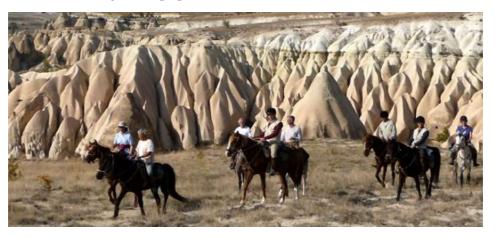
After breakfast at the hotel, the day is free for you to explore Cappadocia on our own.

Depending on your interests, you can choose from one of our curated speciality experiential tours :

1. Jet Boat Ride Adventure : The Jet Boat Cappadocia is a thrilling experience and a must-do activity for the whole family and adrenaline enthusiasts. The jet boat takes off from Avanos and takes you along the historical Kizilirmak River. Performing exciting manoeuvres of 360-degree spins and high speed drifting, the Jet Boat experience will leave you breathless with excitement and laughter.



2. Horse riding/ATV tour - The word Cappadocia means the 'land of beautiful horses'. Having a number of beautiful valleys and fascinating scenery, Cappadocia is a popular spot for horse riding tours and ATV tours. These tours offer a chance for the visitors to explore the vineyards, orchards and rock formations that are off the roads and away from popular tourist attractions.





Overnight stay at your hotel in Cappadocia.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Day is free for you to explore Cappadocia on your own
- Opt from any of these adventure activity Jet Boat ride / Horse Riding / ATV Tour [ RECOMMENDED]

#### DAY 07 : DEPARTURE

After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to Cappadocia airport to catch a flight back to India via Istanbul.

Arrive home with pleasant memories of your Turkey tour organized by State Express Global Voyages, which we are sure you will treasure for a lifetime.

### HIGHLIGHTS

• Board flight to return back to India



