

Turkey Explorer - ETTE

15 days: Istanbul to Istanbul

What's Included

Arrival transfer, guided tour of the Blue Mosque and Hippodrome, entrance and guided tour of Aya Sofya, dinner in local family home, guided visit to an underground city, orientation walk in Antalya, boat trip from Kas, boat excursion on the Dalyan Delta, guided visit in the village of Kayakoy, guided visit of Pamukkale and Hierapolis, guided visit of Ephesus, visit to the village of Sirence.

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing January 1st, 2013 - December 31st, 2013

Itinerary



Day 1 Istanbul

You are free to arrive in Istanbul at any time. A G Adventures representative will meet you at the airport and transfer you to our joining hotel. Please note that check in time is approximately 2pm, but the hotel will be happy to store luggage if you arrive early. There are no planned activities today, until the evening when you will meet your Tour Leader and fellow group members for a welcome meeting. Check the notice board for a message from your Tour Leader or ask at reception for the exact time and location of this group meeting. Afterwards, why not take the option of heading out for a meal in a local restaurant nearby with your travel companions. If you arrive late, your leader will leave you a message at the front desk.

Today is a good day to visit the atmospheric Grand Bazaar if you have some free time, as it is closed on Sundays.

Overnight in Istanbul.

Day 2 Istanbul (B)

We begin our day in Istanbul with a tour to the Blue Mosque, Hippodrome and the magnificent Aya Sofya. Built as one of the great churches of the Byzantine Empire, it was converted into a mosque after the Ottoman conquest. We explore the beautiful Blue Mosque, admiring the symmetry and internal tile work of the building. As it is a working mosque, take the chance to learn more about the ceremony behind Islam, the religion of around 98% of Turks. In front of the Blue Mosque, the ancient Hippodrome was once the scene of chariot races and now houses monuments from various stages of Istanbul's history.

The remainder of your time is free - consider visiting the Topkapi Palace, the magnificent former home of the sultans, or wander down to the Bosphorus to check out the hubbub of the ferries and fishermen going about their daily business. Take a rest at a café overlooking the busy waters and sip on some sweet Turkish tea.

Overnight in Istanbul.

Days 3-4 Goreme, Cappadocia (2B,1D)

Flight to Ankara then transfer by private bus to the town of Goreme, our base for exploring Cappadocia. We will have plenty of free time to take in the area and its attractions. Why not visit the Goreme Open Air Museum, a complex of medieval painted cave churches carved out by Orthodox monks. There are more than 10 caves to visit, many of the churches are up to 1000 years old and still retain amazing colour and vibrancy.

Hire a bike or catch a local bus and explore some of the other villages in the area. The village of Mustafapasa, is a popular choice. Many of the houses date back to the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth centuries and display fine examples of stonework. One of the best ways to explore Cappadocia is on foot. Take the two-hour trek through the beautiful Pigeon Valley, named for its many dovecotes. Explore many old houses, churches and orchards, all boasting fabulous views. The walk finishes in the town of Uçhisar, which is well worth exploring. The natural castle-like fortress is riddled with man-made cave homes and dovecotes and dominates the skyline of Cappadocia. This is a great place to take a lunch break in one of the many restaurants before catching a local bus back to Goreme.

During one of our evenings here, we will travel to a local village and have dinner with a local family. While enjoying the home made menu, with dishes that change according to the food in season, take the chance to ask our friendly hosts all about life in rural Cappadocia.

Please note if you have pre-booked the Turkey Hot Air Balloon Adventure, you will be flying on Day 4.

Overnight in Goreme (2 nights).

Estimated travel time:

Flight Istanbul to Ankara, 45 minutes

Ankara to Goreme, 6hrs

Day 5 Beysehir (B)

Departing Goreme, we explore an underground city. First built by the Phrygians between the eighth and seventh centuries BC, this underground city was most famously used as the hiding place for the first Christians of the area, when they were escaping from the persecution of the Roman Empire between the fifth and tenth centuries AD.

During our visit you'll be able to see how people transferred their surface lives to the underground. There are cellars, rooms for food storage, kitchens, churches, stables, wine and oil presses and shafts for ventilation. The underground city, covering eight levels and extending to a depth of 85m, was large enough to shelter thousands of people together with their livestock and food stores. Part of its mystery is that what you see is only one tenth of the city's true size.

Estimated travel time: 4hrs

Day 6 Antalya (B)

Today is an relatively early start (8am) as we travel by private vehicle directly to the city of Antalya. Arriving around lunchtime, spend your time wandering the charming cobbled hillside streets of the district of Kaleici. This is a great place to stop and have a drink at one of the restaurants with great views of the marina below.

Those searching for a little culture may want to check out the Antalya Museum, offering some great reconstructions of life under the Ottoman Empire. For a break from the hustle and bustle why not head for the greenery and teashops of one of Antalya's beautiful parks. Sun lovers may want to head to one of the nearby beaches. Overnight in Antalya

Approx travel time: Konya to Antalya, 5hrs

Days 7-8 Kas (2B,1L)

Continuing on our journey we arrive at the beautiful coastal village of Kas. You'll be charmed by Kas' cobbled streets and white washed buildings. Spend time wandering the little antiques stores, or enjoying a coffee and cake at one of the stylish cafes. Afterwards head down to the picturesque harbour. While there is no beach as such, buying a drink at one of the many seaside cafes entitles you to a deck chair and direct access to the turquoise waters. In the evening, pick one of the many attractive outdoor restaurants for a meal of local seafood specialties.

The following morning we head to the small village of Uçagiz, where we will board our boat, ready to enjoy a full day excursion on the beautiful Turkish waters. On board, the facilities are simple. There is a toilet and open air shower. Lunch is included and cold drinks are available for purchase. This really is the perfect place to relax and enjoy the crystal waters Turkey is famous for! We return

to our hotel in Kas this evening. Overnight in Kas (2 nights).

Estimated travel time: Antalya to Kas, 4hrs; Kas to Uçagiz, 1hr30mins (rtn)

Days 9-10 Fethiye/Dalyan (2B)

Travel the stunning Mediterranean coast to the city of Fethiye and en route to Dalyan visit Kayakoy, an old Greek village became a virtual ghost town overnight when in 1923 the Turkish and Greek governments ordered an immediate population exchange. Now preserved as a museum village, it consists of hundreds of run down but still mostly intact Greek-style houses and churches covering a small mountainside. After that we'll go to the famous "Blue Lagoon" beach at nearby Oludeniz.

On Day 10, we embark on a boat excursion for a close-up view of the famous Carian rock tombs and some remains of the ancient city of Kaunos and Dalyan. Cruising to Iztuzu Beach, past rock faces peppered with ancient tombs, there is time to relax at the beach and enjoy a cold drink. There is also the chance to make an optional visit to some local mudbaths before we make our way back to Dalyan. Overnight in Dalyan (2 nights).

Estimated travel time: Kas to Kayakoy 2 hrs, Kayakoy to Dalyan 2hrs

Day 11 Pamukkale (B)

Start the day with a visit to the village of Kayakoy. This old Greek village became a virtual ghost town overnight when in 1923 the Turkish and Greek governments ordered an immediate population exchange. Now preserved as a museum village, it consists of hundreds of run down but still mostly intact Greek-style houses and churches covering a small mountainside. We take a lunch break here - a great chance to taste some gözleme, sometimes called "Turkish pancakes": fresh pastry rolled out, filled and sealed, then cooked over a hotplate - delicious!

After lunch, we will make our way by private bus to the famous white cliffs of Pamukkale, where we spend tonight. Overnight in Pamukkale.

Estimated travel time: Fethiye to Pamukkale, 4hrs

Days 12-13 Selçuk (2B)

This morning, we visit the famous white cliffs of Pamukkale. 2700m long, 160m high and visible from up to 20km away, it is made up of 17 hot water springs in which the temperature varies between 35 and 100 degrees. The white cliffs, or travertine, are formed when the calcium carbonate deposited at first as a soft jelly hardens with time.

We will also explore the ancient site of Hierapolis which was built on top of the white "castle" of Pamukkale. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is evidence that the hot springs of Pamukkale have been used as a spa since the second century BC and vestiges of large public baths can be seen in the city.

After lunch, we continue our journey to the town of Selçuk, arriving in the early evening.

The following morning, we visit the ruins of the ancient Roman town of Ephesus. One of the foremost cities of the world in its time, with a strategic location on the trade route, this well preserved city is one of the best places in the world to get a real feeling of what life must have been like during Roman times. The massive, well preserved theatre dominates the view down Harbour Street, which leads to the long-silted-up harbour. The impressive two-storey library, whose façade has been carefully reconstructed from all original pieces, was built in 125AD and once held nearly 12,000 scrolls. There is even a chance to see 2000 year-old public toilets! Once part of Ephesus itself, but now to be found on the outskirts of Selçuk, are the remains of one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Temple of Artemis. Today only one column remains of this ancient structure. You might like to compliment your exploration of the site, by visiting the small but exquisite Ephesus Museum in Selçuk.

Also visit the picturesque village of Sirince where you can sample some of the local wine or shop for crafts. On our return to Selçuk, why not walk up the the remains of the town's hilltop castle or just wander the streets and cafes of this vibrant Turkish town. Overnight in Selçuk (2 nights).

Estimated travel time: Pamukkale to Selçuk, 3hrs; Selçuk to Ephesus, 15mins; Selçuk to Sirence, 40mins (rtn)

Day 14 Istanbul (B)

This morning we head to the airport for a short flight back to bustling Istanbul. After transferring to our hotel, enjoy some free time for last minute sightseeing and shopping before meeting your group for a final optional dinner to celebrate your journey.

Overnight in Istanbul.

Estimated travel time: Selçuk to Istanbul, 1hr (flight time)

Day 15 Istanbul (B)

You are free to depart at any time today. Please note that check-out time from the hotel is normally mid-morning, but luggage storage facilities are available. We are able to organise extra post-trip accommodation if you wish to extend your stay for a few more days. Please ask at the time of booking.

What's Included

Arrival transfer, guided tour of the Blue Mosque and Hippodrome, entrance and guided tour of Aya Sofya, dinner in local family home, guided visit to an underground city, orientation walk in Antalya, boat trip from Kas, boat excursion on the Dalyan Delta, guided visit in the village of Kayakoy, guided visit of Pamukkale and Hierapolis, guided visit of Ephesus, visit to the village of Sirence.

Highlights

Discovering historic cities and Roman ruins, Dining in a traditional family home, Relaxing on a full day boat cruise, Meeting local people and exploring their culture.

Dossier Disclaimer

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Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

Important Notes

Depending on the lunar cycle, Ramadan will fall between July 10 to August 10, 2013. Please note that Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims throughout the world, during which time the followers of Islam should not eat or drink between sunrise and sunset. There may be some limitations to services and disruptions to schedules during Ramadan, but generally our tours still operate effectively during this period and food is available to non-muslims throughout the day.

Train travel:

Ongoing improvements to the rail system in Turkey will continue throughout 2012/13 - due to this, we have adjusted this itinerary to replace any train service with flights.

Looking to add to your experience? Check out our Theme Packs! Specially designed for travellers with unique interests, theme packs are optional add-ons to your G adventures trip that make your adventure more you-centric. Theme Packs must be booked prior to departure, please see details in our optional activities field and ask you sales CEO.

Group Leader Description

This G Adventures group trip is accompanied by one of our group leaders. The aim of the group leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting - we think it's the best of both worlds.

Group Size Notes

Max 15, avg 10

Meals Included

14 Breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 dinner

Meals

Breakfast

Many breakfasts are included as part of your tour. Turkish breakfasts are very different from your usual cereal and toast morning fare - when was the last time you had olives for breakfast? In most cases they consist of large slices of fresh "french style" white bread accompanied by slices of tomato, cucumber, white and yellow cheeses, olives, jam and honey. This is accompanied by tea or coffee (usually instant coffee). You will of course want to sample the famous Turkish coffee, but it is usually taken after a big lunch or dinner, or in the late afternoon with a pastry. While we think these breakfasts are absolutely delicious, some travellers do find them a bit repetitive and enjoy buying market fruit the day before and eating this for breakfast.

Lunches

Lunches will usually be simple and on the run. They are a great chance to try Turkey's delicious and healthy array of "fast foods". This may include, "gozleme", a type of Turkish savory crepe, "chorba", delicious lentil soup, and of course doner kebabs in both beef and chicken varieties. You won't want to miss the chance to try "pide", Turkish pizza, and lahmacun- thin crust pizza you fold greenery into. You may also find "kumpir", Turkish stuffed potatoes.

Dinner

Most Turks start their dinners with a couple of mezes- small taster dishes such as grilled octopus, aubergine salad, and many more. You could also choose a soup made of fresh local ingredients. Main courses tend to be based around fresh seafood if you are near the coast (expect to pay around 15 lira for a whole fish) or the ubiquitous kebab- skewers of charcoaled meat which comes on bread with salad. There are plenty of variations of the kebab-many regions have their own specialty so be sure to ask your leader.

Desserts

Baklava (about 2 TKL a piece) is something of a national obsession and it is believed the best comes from the East. There are endless varieties of pastries and milk based deserts available and you are sure to spend at least some time in a Turkish bakery taste testing.

Snacks

Don't miss trying a simit, a Turkish pretzel or perhaps some grilled sweet corn to get you through between meals.

Drinks

Tea, served in small tulip glasses, is the number one beverage of choice in Turkey. It is freshly brewed and a tea bag is a rare thing. Turkish coffee is wonderful thing to try. The national beer is named Efes and is very good (usually 4-5 TKL a bottle) Wine is made in Turkey and is getting better every year (expect to pay around 6-7 liras for a glass in a restaurant).

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip.

Meal Budget

Allow USD190-250 for meals not included

Transport

Private air-con van, boat, plane, walking

About our Transportation

Transport on this trip will mainly be by private air-conditioned minivan and flights.

Local Flights

All local flights are included in the cost of your tour unless otherwise noted. It is important that we have your passport information at the time of booking in order to process these tickets. Internal flight tickets are issued locally and will be given to you prior to the flight departure.

Solo Travellers

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Accommodation

Comfort hotels (14 nts)

My Own Room

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops

About Accommodation

On this trip we will stay in comfortable local hotels. Rooms will be on a twin-share basis unless you have booked our My Own Room service. You can expect the rooms to have air-conditioning, private bathrooms and breakfast will be included daily. Some hotels may also have swimming pools and/or other recreational facilities.

Joining Hotel

Q Inn Hotel - Old City
Hocapasa Mahallesi Dervisler Sokak No 9 Sirkeci
Istanbul, Turkey
+90 (212) 514 1200

Please note, if you are on the 14th September 2013 departure, your joining hotel will be:

Q Inn Laleli Hotel
Koska Cad. No. 30
Laleli Fatih
Istanbul
Turkey
+90 212 638 2000

Joining Instructions

An arrival transfer is included with all Comfort Class tours when you arrive on Day 1, or when you arrive up to three days prior to the tour, provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through G Adventures at our joining hotel.

Please note that Day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned, so you may arrive at any time. Similarly the last day is a departure day in which no activities are planned.

Your CEO will organize a short meeting soon after arrival, during which you will meet other tour participants and receive information about general and specific aspects of the trip. If you arrive late, s/he will leave you a message detailing what time and where you should meet the next morning.

When arriving at Istanbul Intl Airport our driver will be waiting for you with a G Adventures sign with your name on it. Please check

carefully once you exit the baggage hall as there always a large crowd of people waiting outside in the arrival area. If for any reason your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30-45mins of the scheduled time you should take a metered taxi. Please follow the signs for taxis, which are clearly marked once you exit from the baggage hall. The ride from the airport to our starting hotel will take between 35-45mins depending on traffic and should cost approx. 35 Turkish Lira (23 USD).

Important note If you are advised of the flight schedule change within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please contact the number listed as the emergency contact for your tour which can be found below (the below Sales office numbers should not be used). We will do our best to rearrange your arrival transfer however we cannot guarantee this. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

Arrival Complications

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details.

Emergency Contact

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, we will do our best to rearrange your arrival transfer however we cannot guarantee this. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Local Representative (Turkey)

During office hours: + 90 212 296 80 36

After hours emergency number +90 532 481 51 73 (Yavuz)

G Adventures Turkey Manager - Yaviuz (Istanbul Turkey)

Emergency number: +90 532 481 51 73

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below, which will connect you directly with our 24 hour Sales team, who will happily assist you.

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0844 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 01805 70 90 30 00

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

Finishing Point Instructions

From the hotel you can get to the airport by private transfer for an extra cost of approx. USD\$35 per person/USD\$60 for two people. At the beginning of the tour please advise your CEO that you will need a departure transfer, giving them your departure details and they will arrange this for you. We are able to organise extra accommodation post-trip should you require it. Please enquire at the time of booking.

What to Take

You will be on the move a lot, so our advice is to pack as lightly as possible. Your baggage should be clearly labelled and restricted to one backpack, soft compact suitcase, or sports bag (maximum 15kg) plus a daypack. Luggage limits on airlines are strictly enforced

and space on vehicles is limited. Porters are not often available, so be prepared to carry your own bags. It is important to pack clothes for warm to hot days and cool evenings. A set of smart casual clothes is also advisable.

Checklist

- Fleece or wool jumper/jacket
- Windproof/waterproof jacket
- Small towel and swimwear
- 5 shirts/t-shirts, cool and breathable
- Long-sleeved shirt or sweater for evenings
- 2 pair of shorts
- 3 pairs of long trousers
- 1 pair hiking pants
- Comfortable shoes
- Sport sandals
- Sun hat, Bandana
- Sunblock
- Sunglasses
- Watch or alarm clock
- Water bottle
- Flashlight or Headlamp (with extra batteries and bulbs)
- Money belt
- First-aid kit (should contain Lip balm with sunscreen, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamine, Antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhoea, rehydration powder, insect repellent, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Toiletries (biodegradable)
- Hand sanitizer gel/Sanitizer wipes
- Toilet paper
- Camera and extra memory card/film
- Extra batteries (recommended)
- Electricity Plug Adapter

Optional Items:

Camera and film, reading/writing material, binoculars, cover for backpacks.

Documents:

- Passport (with photocopies)
- Travel insurance (with photocopies)
- Airline tickets (with photocopies)
- EUR cash
- Credit or debit card (see personal spending money)
- G Adventures vouchers, pre-departure information and dossier
- Any entry visas or vaccination certificates required

Laundry

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge or ask your CEO where the closest laundromat is. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

Visas

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy, or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provided the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visas for Turkey can be purchased on arrival at the airport. Please get into the line to get your visa before going through passport control.

An entry visa is required for citizens of the following countries (not limited to this list):

- U.S.A (US\$20),
- Canada (US\$60 on arrival; CAD\$75 for advance application)
- U.K. (US\$20; US\$45 for advance application)
- Australia (US\$20 on arrival)
- Austria, Belgium, Holland, Ireland, Israel, Portugal & Spain (varies from US\$10-100)

Visa costs can change at any time and with little notice depending on the political climate of the region.

A valid passport is sufficient for citizens of most other countries including New Zealand, Argentina, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland for stays up to 3 months. All other nationalities please check with your nearest Turkish Embassy.

Length of validity of your visa is dependent on your nationality, but is commonly 3 months.

For information on whether your nationality is eligible for visa on arrival, we recommend the following link

<http://www.canberra.emb.mfa.gov.tr/ConsularServices.aspx>

Spending Money

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

Money Exchange

The local currency in Turkey is the Turkish Lira (TRY).

Almost all local purchases in Turkey (meals, souvenirs, optional activities, etc) will be paid for in TRY

ATMs are found within main cities in Turkey and will generally accept cards on the Visa and Mastercard networks. It is a great idea to travel with both a Visa and Mastercard if at all possible as while there is no hard and fast rule, some banks seem to only work with one brand of card. Please note, your bank will charge a fee for overseas withdrawals.

Cash is recommended for times when ATMs are not accessible. Euros, British Pounds and US Dollars are easy to exchange into Turkish Lira. Please note - while you should bring some cash with you for emergency situations, carrying cash only is a high safety risk. Money on ATM card/s and some cash is the ideal mix.

Cash advances can also be made with some banks but are time consuming and tend to have high fees attached.

Credit cards are in general not very useful in Turkey - they can be used at some larger stores if shopping for big items such as carpets.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: www.xe.com

Emergency Fund

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

Departure Tax

Usually included in international flight tickets.

Tipping

It is customary in Europe to leave a small tip for service providers, such as waiters, if you are pleased with the service (€1-2). Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides. You may do this individually, or your CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping local guides would range from €3-5 per day depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture. Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures CEO or skipper did an outstanding job, tipping is

appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline €20-25 per person, per week can be used.

Optional Activities

CUSTOMIZE YOUR ADVENTURE

Our trip designers work very hard to assemble the life-altering experiences that fill this brochure. That said, our travellers are a diverse group driven by all sorts of different tastes, motivations and interests. What's a trip designer to do? The solution? Theme Packs! Specially designed for travellers with unique interests, theme packs are optional add-ons to your G adventures trip that make your adventure more you-centric. Theme Packs must be booked prior to departure.

Theme Packs available on this trip:

CAPPADOCIA BALLOON RIDE

Cappadocia, 1 hour ride

When travelling, perspective is everything. Get a god's-eye view of ancient civilizations and rugged landscapes with this unique balloon-based tour. Cappadocia is captivating from the ground, but that's just the half of it. See the seemingly hand-painted landscapes of Cappadocia as they deserve to be seen: From the air aboard a hot air balloon.

Other optional activities:

Istanbul:

Archaeological Museum 10TRL

Topkapi Palace 20TRL

Topkapi Palace Harem 15TRL

Aya Sofya Museum 20TRL

Mosaic Museum 8TRL

Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts 10TRL

Rumeli Fortress 3TRL

Dolamabahçe Palace 20TRL

Galata Tower 15 TRL

Entrance to (touristic) hamam 35 EUR

Cappadocia:

Hot air Ballooning

Short flight (1h00) 165 Euro PP cash

Short flight (1h00) 175 Euro PP with Credit Card

Long flight (1h45) 230 Euro PP Cash

Long flight (1h45) 250 Euro PP with Credit Card

Turkish Night 35 Euro inc drinks

Göreme Open air museum 10 Euro

Horse riding 20 Euro/h

Quad bike 30 Euro/h

Mountain bike 20 Euro/h

Turkish bath 25 Euro

Whirling Dervishes 25 Euro

Konya:

Mevlana Museum 2 TRL

Antalya:

Suna and Inan Kirac Kaleici Museum 2 TRL

Fethiye

12 Island Tour 35 EUR (approx)

Sea kayaking 30 EUR (approx)

Dalyan

Entrance to ruins of Kaunos 8 TRL

Entrance to mudbaths 4 TRL

Pamukkale:

Hierapolis Archeological Museum 3 TRL

Ancient pools swim 20 TRL (approx)

Selçuk:

Ephesus Museum 5 TRL

St John's Church 5 TRL

Slope Houses (Ephesus) 15 TRL

Virgin House (Ephesus) 15 TRL

Local dolmus to Sirence one way 3 TRL

Local dolmus to Kusadasi one way 5 TRL

All prices are per person in Euro amounts(unless stated otherwise), and are subject to change as services are provided by third party operators.

Health

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

DRINKING WATER: It is advisable to drink bottled water in Turkey.

There are no specific health requirements for this trip. However, you should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities for some time during this trip, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc.

Safety and Security

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

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www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/

Trip Specific Safety

Like anywhere in the world, major cities have areas safer than others, use common sense, be aware of your surroundings and mind your personal belongings.

Medical Form

Our small group adventures bring together people of all ages. It is very important you are aware that, as a minimum, an average level of fitness and mobility is required to undertake our easiest programs. Travellers must be able to walk without the aid of another person, climb 3-4 flights of stairs, step on and off small boats, and carry their own luggage at a minimum. Travellers with a pre-existing medical condition are required to complete a short medical questionnaire, which must be signed by their physician. This is to ensure that travellers have the necessary fitness and mobility to comfortably complete their chosen trip. While our CEOs work hard to ensure that all our travellers are catered for equally, it is not their responsibility to help individuals who cannot complete the day's activities unaided. Please refer to the physical ratings in this Trip Details document for more information.

The medical questionnaire can be found online at:

www.gadventures.com/medical-form.

A Couple of Rules

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

Travel Insurance

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

Planeterra-The G Adventures Foundation

Through our commitment to responsible tourism we have developed the Planeterra Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of people and communities around the world through support of international charities, local organizations and community projects in the places that we visit on our tours. G Adventures matches all individual donations and pays all administration costs, which means that 100% of each donation is doubled and goes directly to support our projects. For more information about Planeterra and the projects we support, or to make a donation, please visit www.planeterra.org

Planeterra Dollar-A-Day Program

Our Dollar-A-Day Program provides travellers with the opportunity to help us give back to the people and places visited on our tours by donating one dollar per day for the duration of their tour. 100% of these proceeds will go directly to support our Planeterra projects.

To participate in this program please indicate at the time of booking that you would like to participate in G Adventures' Dollar-A-Day program, either by clicking the check box online, or by advising your G Adventures specialist or travel agent. (Note: Donation will be charged in the currency of your booking)

Local Dress

While visiting mosques and other religious monuments you should dress modestly, cover your shoulders and you shouldn't wear short shorts or skirts.

Feedback

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at customerservice@gadventures.com and we will send it on to you.

Newsletter

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

Travel Forum - The Watering Hole

Be sure to stop by [The Watering Hole](#), our adventure travel forum. If you're interested in meeting others booked on your upcoming trip, check out the [Departure Lounge](#) section of our forum and introduce yourself. Otherwise, just drop in at anytime to share some travel tips, ask questions, meet other travellers and quench your thirst for travel. Our forum is located at wateringhole.gadventures.com.