A Journey to Turkey

MARISSA & JAMES GATDULA

MAY 01, 2019 - MAY 08, 2019

This journey starts in Istanbul and marvel at the Blue Mosque before navigating the warrens of the Grand Bazaar, then travel to the Aegean Sea to soak up sun, salt and history in Kusadasi with a visit to the ancient city of Ephesus. Travel on the overnight train to Central Anatolia and the fairytale landscape of Cappadocia, where hot air balloons dot the skyline and dwellings are cut into the cliffs, then finish back in Istanbul, the long-lived metropolis where East meets West.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>DETAILS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>01 May 2019</strong></td>
<td>Welcome to Istanbul, Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destination</td>
<td>Istanbul, the city of the past, the present and the future. Istanbul not only joins continents, it also joins cultures and people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>01 May 2019</strong></td>
<td>Transfer - Istanbul Airport to Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>Arrival Time: 10:00AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arrival Location: Istanbul Atatürk Airport</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drop Off Location: Courtyard by Marriott Istanbul</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>01 May 2019</strong></td>
<td>Courtyard by Marriott Istanbul International Airport (Superior)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td>Relax in luxury at the Courtyard Istanbul International Airport. Our ideal location puts you in the heart of our famous capital city, near the airport, a bus station and downtown shops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>01 May 2019</strong></td>
<td>Istanbul Old City Walking Tour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Tour / Attraction</td>
<td>Meet your guide at 1 pm at the hotel in Istanbul, the continent-straddling metropolis that the Greeks, Romans, Byzantines and Ottomans have all called home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>02 May 2019</strong></td>
<td>Transfer - Hotel to Istanbul Airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>Pick-Up Location: Courtyard by Marriott Istanbul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drop Off Location: Istanbul Atatürk Airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>02 May 2019</strong></td>
<td>Flight - Istanbul to Izmir, Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>Departure: Istanbul Atatürk Airport, Thurs May 02, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arrival: Adnan Menderes Airport, Thurs May 02, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Airline: Turkish Airlines 2354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Flight Duration: 01:10 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>02 May 2019</strong></td>
<td>Izmir City, Turkey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Destination</td>
<td>Located in the west of Turkey and on the Aegean shores, Izmir, the pearl of the Aegean, is the third largest city in Turkey.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>02 May 2019</strong></td>
<td>Transfer - Izmir Airport to Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>Pick-Up Location: Adnan Menderes Airport</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drop Off Location: Royal Palace Kusadasi Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>02 May 2019</strong></td>
<td>Kusadasi Day Tour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Tour / Attraction</td>
<td>This resort town lies on Turkey’s western Aegean coast and is the perfect jump-off point for visiting the classical ruins at Ephesus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>02 May 2019</strong></td>
<td>Royal Palace Kuşadası Hotel (Suite Room)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td>Hotel Royal Palace is located 700 meters from Kusadasi city center. It is approximately 90 km from Izmir. It is very close to the important ancient cities in the Aegean Region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>03 May 2019</strong></td>
<td>Ephesus Experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Tour / Attraction</td>
<td>Lace up your sensible shoes and charge your camera. Today starts with a visit to Ephesus, one of the best-preserved classical cities in the Eastern Mediterranean and arguably the greatest Greco-Roman site in the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>04 May 2019</strong></td>
<td>The Kusadasi Town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Tour / Attraction</td>
<td>It's all about you today. Whatever you want to do, do it. Within reason, y’know? Take a day tour to the famous Pamukkale World Heritage Site...</td>
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<td>Dates</td>
<td>Details</td>
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<tr>
<td>04 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>Transport</strong>&lt;br&gt;Transfer - Hotel to Konya Train Station&lt;br&gt;Pick-Up Location: Royal Palace Kusadasi Hotel&lt;br&gt;Drop Off Location: Konya Blue Train (Mavi Tren)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>Day Tour / Attraction</strong>&lt;br&gt;Konya Blue Train (Mavi Tren), Izmir&lt;br&gt;Overnight travel this evening on the Mavi Konya.</td>
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<tr>
<td>05 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>Destination</strong>&lt;br&gt;Konya City, Turkey&lt;br&gt;Wake up in Konya, a traditional Turkish city that’s closely linked with the whirling dervish sect of Islam developed...</td>
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<tr>
<td>05 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>Transport</strong>&lt;br&gt;Transfer - Konya Train Station to Hotel&lt;br&gt;Pick-Up Location: Konya Train Station&lt;br&gt;Drop Off Location: Ascension Cave Suites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>Destination</strong>&lt;br&gt;Cappadocia, Turkey&lt;br&gt;A three-hour journey from Konya to Cappadocia</td>
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<tr>
<td>05 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>Accommodation</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ascension Cave Suites (King Suites With Terrace)&lt;br&gt;Göreme Ascension Cave suites the pearl of cappadocia is located at the most attracting sight of the town which is known as lover’s hill ( aytin kiragi).</td>
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<td>06 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>Day Tour / Attraction</strong>&lt;br&gt;Cappadocia Adventure&lt;br&gt;This morning you have the option to take a hot air balloon flight, a once-in-a-lifetime experience during which the sun illuminates a skyline dotted with balloons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>Transport</strong>&lt;br&gt;Transfer - Hotel to Goreme Airport&lt;br&gt;Pick-Up Location: Ascension Cave Suites&lt;br&gt;Drop Off Location: Nevsehir Kapadokya Airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>Transport</strong>&lt;br&gt;Flight from Cappadocia to Istanbul, Turkey - TK 2011&lt;br&gt;Departure: Nevsehir Kapadokya Airport, Tue May 07, 2019&lt;br&gt;Arrival: Istanbul Atatürk Airport, Tue May 07, 2019&lt;br&gt;Airline: Turkish Airlines&lt;br&gt;Flight Booking Ref: TK 2011&lt;br&gt;Class: Economy Class&lt;br&gt;Flight Duration: 01:30 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>07 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>Transport</strong>&lt;br&gt;Transfer - Istanbul Airport to Hotel&lt;br&gt;Pick-Up Location: Istanbul Atatürk Airport&lt;br&gt;Drop Off Location: Courtyard by Marriott Istanbul</td>
</tr>
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<td>07 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>Accommodation</strong>&lt;br&gt;Courtyard by Marriott Istanbul International Airport (Superior)&lt;br&gt;Relax in luxury at the Courtyard Istanbul International Airport. Our ideal location puts you in the heart of our famous capital city, near the airport, a bus station and downtown shops.</td>
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<tr>
<td>07 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>Day Tour / Attraction</strong>&lt;br&gt;Istanbul at Night&lt;br&gt;Grab your bags and head to the Sultanahmet District for the final evening of the trip.</td>
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<tr>
<td>08 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>Custom</strong>&lt;br&gt;Morning at Leisure&lt;br&gt;Spend the morning and explore Istanbul at your own leisure before heading back home.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Welcome to Istanbul, Turkey

Istanbul, the city of the past, the present and the future. Istanbul not only joins continents, it also joins cultures and people. Close your eyes and imagine yourself in a city; the mysticism of the East and the modernity of the West, the constant time travel between past and the future, the balance of the traditional and the contemporary. Istanbul is one of the most visited and important places in the world, a central hub connecting Asia and Europe, blending the past and the future, bringing together cultures and people from all over the world.
Relax in luxury at the Courtyard Istanbul International Airport. Our ideal location puts you in the heart of our famous capital city, near the airport, a bus station and downtown shops. Enjoy our stylish, oversized rooms with soundproof walls, high-speed Wi-Fi, sweeping city views, spacious work areas and deluxe pillowtop bedding. Savor the fine Mediterranean and Turkish cuisine at Oleo Pazzo Restaurant inside our hotel and stop by our Lobby Bar for refreshment after a busy day. Dive into our circular indoor pool, work out in our 24-hour gym, rejuvenate with a massage or get a hair cut at Caretta Health Club and Spa. Our redesigned meeting venues can accommodate up to 320 guests for weddings and special events, while planners and caterers are on hand to help make it spectacular. Our hotel offers easy access to CNR-Expo Center, Istanbul Fair Center, Mall of Istanbul and TÜYAP Fair and Exhibition Center. Take our complimentary shuttle to and from Ataturk Airport.

Check-in:
Wednesday, 01 May 2019

Check-out:
Thursday, 02 May 2019

Address:
Basin Ekspres Yolu, Fatih Caddesi, Dereboyu Sokak No 2, Halkali Istanbul Turkey

Phone:
+90 212 692 00 00

Inclusions:
Breakfast
Meet your guide at 1 pm at the hotel in Istanbul, the continent-straddling metropolis that the Greeks, Romans, Byzantines and Ottomans have all called home. You will head out with your guide to explore the Old City of Instanbul after the meeting. Visit the scene of many a chariot race in the ancient hippodrome, check out the Blue Mosque, take a walk past the wares of the Grand Bazaar and marvel at the jewel in Sinan the Great Ottoman Architect’s crown, Suleymaniye Cami. If you’re not too exhausted after all that, join your new friends for dinner and bask in the beauty of a real Turkish kebab, not the regrettable 2 am kind.

Other Optional Activities

- Bosphorus Boat Cruise (Public Boat)
- Istanbul - Galata Tower
- Istanbul - Archaeology Museum
- Istanbul - Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts
- Istanbul - Hagia Sophia
- Istanbul - Topkapi Palace
Located in the west of Turkey and on the Aegean shores, Izmir, the pearl of the Aegean, is the third largest city in Turkey. With its 8,500 year history, fertile land, favorable climate, 629 km coastline, 300 sunny days a year, a sea that offers every shade of blue and the heritage left behind by the 32 civilizations it has been a home to, Izmir is ready for you to discover.

Izmir owes its position as an economically and socially dynamic city to its location, climate and the fact that it has been a home to many different cultures and religions. Persians, Ancient Greeks, Assyrians, Romans, Byzantines and Ottomans are just a few of the dozens of different civilizations that the city has hosted throughout its long history.
Kusadasi Day Tour

This resort town lies on Turkey's western Aegean coast and is the perfect jump-off point for visiting the classical ruins at Ephesus. It's also a great spot to soak up the vibes along the seafront promenade, check out the local beaches or have a bit of a fun with the nightlife. Despite being a resort town, Kusadasi isn't all new hotels and marinas. It has a long history and some phenomenal traditional Aegean cuisine featuring fresh seafood and local olive oil.

Pick Up:
Wednesday, 02 May 2018 11:30am

Address:
Kusadasi Turkey
Hotel Royal Palace is located 700 meters from Kusadasi city center. It is approximately 90 km from İzmir. It is very close to the important ancient cities in the Aegean Region.

Our hotel is comfortable and peaceful, away from the stress, is a wonderful hotel. Royal Palace is 700 m from the city center. distance. There are 151 standard, 4 suites and 2 handicapped rooms in our hotel. All of our rooms are tastefully furnished; In our rooms, direct telephone line, split air condition, electronic valuables, TV, mini bar, hair dryer, toilet, bath, shower, bathtub, electronic door lock system and balcony (139 rooms) are available.
Lace up your sensible shoes and charge your camera. Today starts with a visit to Ephesus, one of the best-preserved classical cities in the Eastern Mediterranean and arguably the greatest Greco-Roman site in the world. Once the capital city of Roman Asia Minor, the city has a fascinating history that really comes alive with a local guide to enhance the experience. The ruins are in incredible shape, considering their age, and it’s not difficult to imagine them in their full glory 2000 years ago. This ancient city was extremely sophisticated with running water, public toilets, a renowned medical institute, a brothel and Roman baths. The theatre is well preserved and regularly hosts concerts, but it’s the magnificent library that takes most people’s breath away. From Ephesus, drive to Selçuk to feast on the popular gozleme (Turkish pancake) as it’s made in front of you, then visit the Isa Bey Mosque, the Artemis Temple and the small village of Sirince to taste the local fruit wine.

Included Activities
Ephesus - guided archaeological site visit
Selçuk - Gozleme making demonstration and lunch
Selçuk - Isa Bey Camii
Selçuk - Artemis Temple Visit
Sirince - Wine Tasting
The Kusadasi Town

Pick Up:
Saturday, 04 May 2019 9:00am

Address:
Kusadasi Turkey

It’s all about you today. Whatever you want to do, do it. Within reason, y’know? Take a day tour to the famous Pamukkale World Heritage Site, Turkey’s ‘Cotton Castle’ thermal pools that have been used as a spa since the 2nd century BC. Though you won’t be able to bathe in these pools, you can take a walk through them, visit the nearby ancient city of Hierapolis and take a dip in what used to be Celopatras’s old pool.

Alternatively, you could take to the Aegean and explore the coastline on a gulet, a traditional wooden Turkish vessel. Swim in the crystal-clear waters of Soguksu Bay, Claros Island and Baradan Beach and enjoy lunch on deck. If you’d rather have a low-key day, there are plenty of beaches in town that have sunbeds, umbrellas and your name on it. Whatever you do, make sure you’re ready to head back to Izmir by 6 pm as the Mavi Konya, an overnight train, will be waiting to transport your group through the night to the central Anatolian city of Konya.
Address:
Izmir Turkey

Overnight travel this evening on the Mavi Konya. Sleeping couchettes are two berth and have excellent facilities including a washbasin, small fridge and plenty of luggage storage. Fresh bedding is supplied but you are required to make your own bed. Western-style toilets are located in each carriage, but we recommend bringing additional toilet paper. There is a dining car for breakfast in the morning and if you get hungry during the evening. You can even enjoy a local beer over a game of backgammon.
Wake up in Konya, a traditional Turkish city that’s closely linked with the whirling dervish sect of Islam developed in the 13th century by Celaleddin Rumi, considered one of Islam’s greatest Sufi mystics. Take an opportunity to visit the Meviana Museum and stretch your legs in town.
A three-hour journey from Konya to Cappadocia. Keep an eye out for the fairy chimneys, the hallmarks of Cappadocia’s otherworldly landscape, as you drive across the Anatolian plains and stop en route at one of the underground cities that once provided a safe haven in times of war or persecution. Arrive in Goreme in the late afternoon and take a sunset valley walk before settling in for the evening.
Göreme Ascension Cave suites the pearl of cappadocia is located at the most attracting sight of the town which is known as lover’s hill (aydin kiragi). Where you can see the most stunning sunset, sunrise and also the take off process of the balloons.

The location also gives you the feeling the joy of the great view of spectacular landscapes and rock shapes such as well known fairy chimneys. The town is not a large town, the furthest point is 10 minutes away from the town centre; that is you can easily reach the restaurants and shops.

Our cave rooms still retain their original looks, we decorated our rooms carefully with the stuff which does not spoil the flow of history. In the every corner of our hotel, you can see an ancient pieces that makes you feel you are travelling in old times and again makes you get an idea how people were able to live in those caves. You enjoy the great scenery of beautiful landforms by having your coffees at your own terraces.
This morning you have the option to take a hot air balloon flight, a once-in-a-lifetime experience during which the sun illuminates a skyline dotted with balloons. Even if you’d prefer not to take a flight, it’s still worth waking up for this truly incredible sight. Your leader will take you for a walk through one of the nearby valleys, possibly the Valley of Love, which features fairy chimneys, deserted rock-cut homes and churches. Your leader will know a number of fantastic scenic routes and a good walk is by far the best way to experience this unique environment. In your free time today, maybe visit the UNESCO-listed Goreme Open Air Museum, a monastic complex composed of churches, rectories and dwellings cut into the soft cliff face. You could also hire a bicycle and ride to Avanos to check out the Red River, or relax in a Turkish bath. This evening, your leader will give you the option of sharing a meal with a local family in their own home, or alternatively you could grab a local testi kebab, an evening hookah in one of the cafes or a glass of the local wine while overlooking the valley. A perfect last night in Cappadocia, whatever you choose.

Included Activities
•Goreme • Valley Walk in Capadoccia

Optional Activities
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Check-in: Tuesday, 07 May 2019
Check-out: Wednesday, 08 May 2019
Address: Basin Ekspres Yolu, Fatih Caddesi, Dereboyu Sokak No 2, Halkali Istanbul Turkey
Phone: +90 212 692 00 00
Inclusions: Breakfast
Grab your bags and head to the Sultanahmet District for the final evening of the trip. Take a stroll across the Galata Bridge to one of the city's hippest neighbourhoods, a place of contradictions where tool-selling tradesman share space with chic cafes and galleries.

This is the place to be seen. Try a local favourite, Balık Ekmek (fish sandwich), for dinner, then cleanse the palate with baklava. Maybe check out a few of the bars, or simply enjoy a farewell cay (Turkish tea) overlooking the Bosphorous.
Prices

Package price $2,325 total price for 2 adults

Total deposit required to secure your reservation: $1,255

The above package price is discounted for check/wire transfer payment, should you wish to pay by credit card an additional 3% fee will apply for MasterCard, Visa, Discover or American Express.

For payment by credit card a signed Credit Card Authorization Form is required which will acknowledge you have authorized us to charge your credit card and have read, understand and agree to the Terms & Conditions.

Securing your booking
A non-refundable deposit of 20% of your package price is required at the time of making the reservation, if the reservation is made more than 42 days prior to departure. Deposits exceeding 20% of your package price are required for certain escorted tours, rail journeys, cruises and exclusive island resort hotels. Your Travel consultant or travel agent will advise you of the required additional deposit at the time of making your reservation.
Important Information

Passports & Visa requirements
All passengers require a passport (valid for 3-6 months beyond the date of return) for entry into Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Tahiti and the Cook Islands. It is the passenger’s responsibility to have a valid passport and the necessary visas for the countries being visited. US Passport holders do not require a visa to enter New Zealand, Fiji, Tahiti or Cook Islands. An Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) is required to enter Australia in addition to your passport if you originate from an ETA eligible country, otherwise a visa is required.

Visas
Visas are the responsibility of the individual traveller. Entry requirements can change at any time, so it’s important that you check for the latest information.

Changes to your vacation
Should you wish to make changes to your final travel itinerary you must notify us as soon as possible. Whilst we endeavor to assist we cannot guarantee we will be able to meet any such requests and cancellation of a previously confirmed service will be subject to the cancellation conditions set out below under “cancellation of your vacation”. Any amendments to an airline ticket departure date or routing will be subject to the airline amendment fees plus $75 per person. For certain airfares, changes cannot be made after reservations have been ticketed.

Health Information
All travellers need to be in good physical health in order to participate fully on this trip. When selecting your trip please make sure you have read through the itinerary carefully and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel.

TURKEY:
We recommend that you check your government’s advice for their latest information on travelling in Turkey before your departure and ensure that your travel insurance covers you for all areas of your itinerary.