



Join **Limitless Planet** on a journey to Turkey.

Turkey is a dazzling destination, a country that occupies a unique geographic position, lying partly in Asia and partly in Europe, situated at the crossroads of the Balkans, Caucasus, Middle East, and eastern Mediterranean. Throughout its history, it has acted as both a barrier and a bridge between the two continents. The legacies of the empires of the past make Turkey one of the most fascinating destinations in the world. There are ruins of ancient cities, 2 ancient world wonders, sacred mountains, mosques, and so much more.

All along the way, we will be tasting the best of Turkish cuisine. Turkey may be famous for its kebabs, but the popular dish is just the tip of the iceberg! Plateaus and plains of fertile soil formed by now-extinct volcanoes, snow-covered mountains, and fast-flowing rivers lend themselves to a rich and varied table. We'll taste the same dishes served to Ottoman sultans, sample street food, and visit local family-owned restaurants to hear their stories...

Come with us and see—and taste—for yourself!

Day 1: Saturday, September 7, 2024- Arrive Istanbul

Meals: Dinner

Over the centuries, many cultures have added their mark to Istanbul. We will experience those influences firsthand by exploring its mahallas (neighborhoods). From the holy sites of Sultanahmet and the 19th-century European elegance of Beyoğlu to the high fashion of Nişantaşı, the vibrant cafe society of Kadıköy, and the football-loving streets of Beşiktaş.

Upon arrival from your international flight to Istanbul, you will be met at the airport and transferred to our hotel, the Orientbank Hotel Istanbul, a boutique property on the European side of the city with a unique history- it began as a bank 130 years ago!

This evening we will meet our fellow travelers for an evening cruise on the Bosphorus to take in this unique perspective of the city, before enjoying a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight Istanbul, Orientbank Hotel Istanbul or similar

Day 2: Sunday, September 8, 2024- Istanbul

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

This morning we will meet our local guide and head out to explore the city. On the tour we will see the extraordinary imperial residence of 25 Ottoman Sultans- Topkapi Palace- with its library, royal jewelry and gem collection, and imperial

living quarters, all surrounded by serene gardens and fountains. We will also see the Hippodrome- the stadium of ancient Byzantium, which held 100,000 spectators and featured objects from all corners of the empire. The morning will conclude with a visit to one of the highlights of Istanbul- the fabulous Blue Mosque, one of the most important places of worship in the world. It is named for the blue Iznik tile work that decorates its interior and its iconic dome and six minarets.



We will have lunch at a local restaurant before venturing to the city's famous Old Spice Market where you can find a vast diversity of spices, sacks of henna, many varieties of oils and herbs, and of e the world's very best Turkish delight. Your evening is at leisure.

Overnight Istanbul, Orientbank Hotel Istanbul or similar



Day 3: Monday, September 9, 2024- Istanbul

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

This morning we will head out again to explore the Karakoy neighborhood, one of the oldest areas and a commercial hub since Byzantine times. Highlights include the SALT art & cultural institution, the Camondo Stairs pedestrian walkway donated by a Sephardic Jewish family of the same name. We will then take part in a workshop for traditional Turkish baklava- the Karakoy Gulluoglu. Not only is it the best of Turkey, but also one of the most well-known baklava makers in the world.

We will have lunch at a local restaurant before heading to the Grand Bazaar, one of the most famous must-see attractions of Istanbul. A unique atmosphere reflects Istanbul's spirit, offering an almost endless selection of Turkish carpets, gold, jewelry, and artworks offered in over 4,000 shops! The evening and dinner are at leisure.



Overnight Istanbul, Orientbank Hotel Istanbul or similar

Day 4: Tuesday, September 10, 2024- Istanbul

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

This morning we will visit the Old Town to see the extraordinary Church of St. Sophia/Aya Sofya Mosque. Built in the 6th Century by the Emperor Justinian, this church stands as a testament to the sophistication of the former Byzantine capital and influenced architecture in the medieval world for centuries. Its original design was supposedly created as a mirror image of the heavens. From there we will head to the beautiful Byzantine Underground Cistern built in the 6th Century as a secure water reservoir for the city. It is one of Istanbul's most unusual tourist attractions! It was laid out in 532 under the rule of Justinian.

Afterwards we will continue to Istiklal Street, closed to traffic except the trams. We can explore the many shops and the atmosphere of the neighborhood. We will also be sampling some of the best examples of Istanbul street food! While sipping our Turkish coffee, we will be amazed with the spectacular view of the Golden Horn and the old buildings located on its shores. We will also have a chance to explore the Fener-Balat neighborhood, another hidden gem of Istanbul. There will be an optional Turkish cooking class for those interested!

Overnight Istanbul, Orientbank Hotel Istanbul or similar

Day 5: Wednesday, September 11, 2024- Istanbul to Cappadocia

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

After breakfast we will say goodbye to Istanbul and head to the airport for our flight to Kayseri. We will venture to the magical, otherworldly landscape of Cappadocia. The caves, fairy chimneys, and rock formations must be seen to be believed!

Enroute to Cappadocia we will have lunch at a local restaurant and make a visit to one of the best vineyards in the region for a wine tasting before arriving at our Cave hotel.

Overnight Yunak Cave Hotel or similar

Day 6: Thursday, September 12, 2024- Cappadocia

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

For those who don't mind getting up before sunrise, you have the option to take a hot air balloon ride - one of the most popular activities in the Goreme Valley. The pilots follow the air currents and float along the valleys, often below the ridgeline and close to the famous natural phenomena – the chimney rocks, truly a once in a lifetime experience.



After breakfast we will visit the heart of local Christian history at Goreme Outdoor Museum– a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Carved here within the earth are 15 churches, 7 refectories and numerous storerooms and living quarters. The churches are decorated with frescoes of stories and symbols of the New and Old Testaments dating back to the 11th, 12th, and 13th centuries. The frescos also provide records of visits by St. George, St. Theodore, and St. Barbara. These structures at Goreme are a marvel of ingenuity, engineering, and faith. Goreme Valley is where thousands of people once lived in homes cut into the soft rock walls of caves and “fairy chimneys”. Many of the churches in Goreme are from the 11th century.

Lunch will be a truly unique local experience, cooking, and dining at a local family-owned restaurant. The locals will show us how MANTI (Turkish Ravioli) is prepared and cooked. We will enjoy various local tastes of Cappadocia with Turkish mezes and experience true Turkish hospitality.

After lunch, we will make our way to the village of Avanos, famous for its beautiful old houses, pottery, and onyx. People have been working terra cotta here for thousands of years. The ceramic trade in this district and its countless pottery

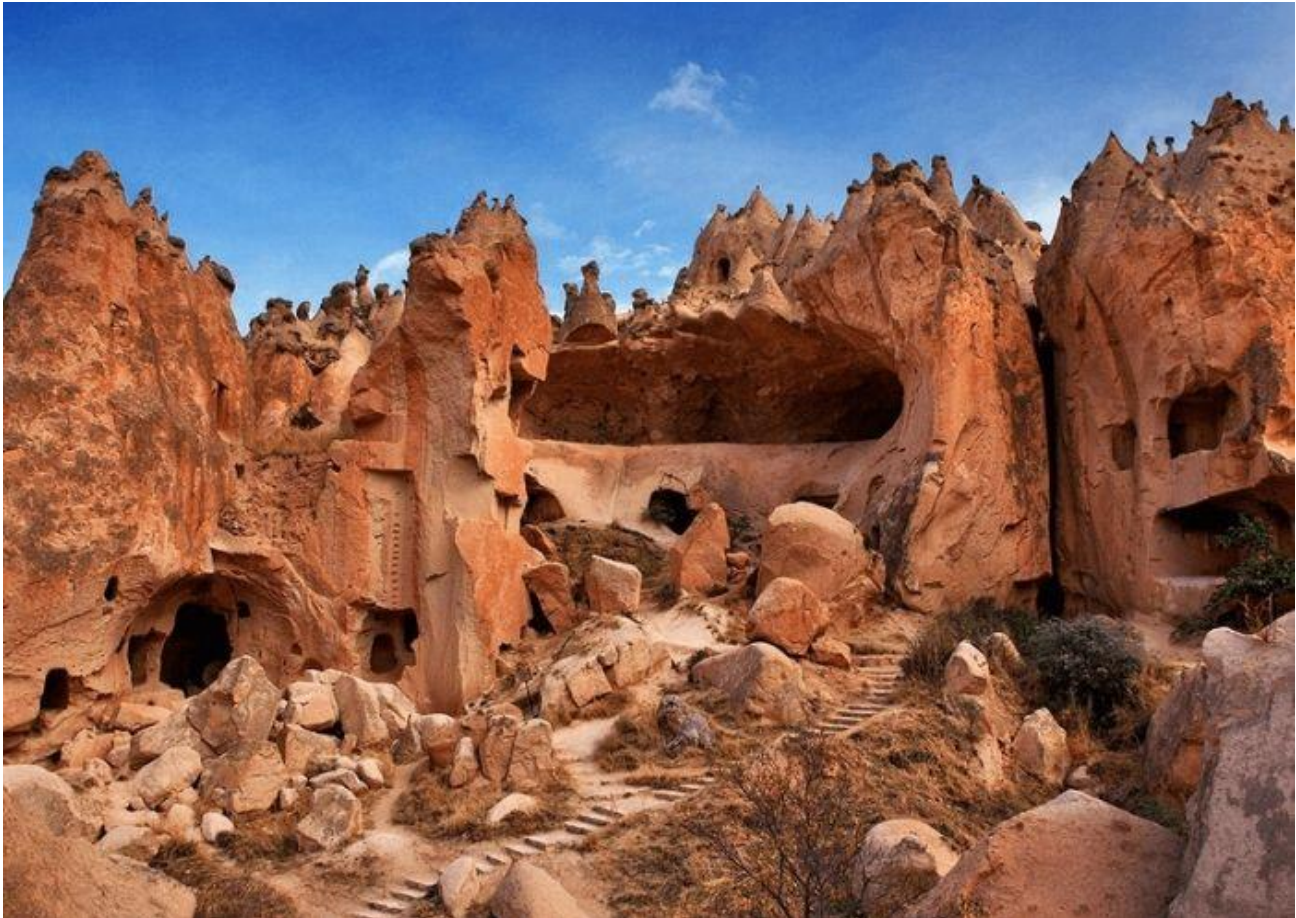
factories date back to the Hittites. On our way back to the hotel, we will see the famous Pigeon Valley where the guano of revered pigeons was collected and used as a fertilizer.

Overnight Yunak Cave Hotel or similar

Day 7: Friday, September 13, 2024- Cappadocia

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will explore Zelve and the Red Valley. The architecture of Zelve is made from deep red stone, versus the white stone of Goreme. The central ridge that runs through the valley used to be the natural divide between the Christian and Muslim communities. Here we can visit two of the most interesting churches in the area: The Church of Grapes and the Fish Church. We will also visit Pasabagi (Monk's Valley) known for multiple stems and caps, peculiar to this area.



We will have lunch at a local restaurant before continuing to the Underground city Kaymakli, which was cut out of volcanic rock as deep as 300 feet during the period from the 6th to the 10th Centuries. You can go as deep as seven floor levels in the underground city through an intricate labyrinth of tunnels.

This evening, we will enjoy a fabulous barbeque party in a private valley with local food & beverages for a memorable farewell dinner in Cappadocia.

Overnight Yunak Cave Hotel or similar

Day 8: Saturday, September 14, 2024- Cappadocia to Istanbul

Meals: Breakfast

After breakfast, we will check out of the hotel and transfer to the Kayseri Airport for our flight back to Istanbul. Upon arrival, if you are taking the post extension you will connect to your flight to Izmir. If you are heading home, you can connect to your homeward bound flight, or transfer to your hotel in Istanbul for one last evening at leisure.

Thank you for traveling with Limitless Planet!



IMPORTANT: This trip is designed for adventurous travelers seeking an off-the-beaten path experience. Itineraries are planned to give you an authentic experience, and as such, organic changes may come about to enhance the journey.

Optional Post Extension:

Day 8: Saturday, September 14, 2024- Izmir

Meals: Breakfast

Upon arrival at the Istanbul airport, you will connect to your flight to Izmir. Once you land you will be met by your private guide and driver and transferred to Izmir. This port city was, in Ottoman times, a melting pot that included Greeks, Armenians, Jews, French and Italians. Seaside Izmir is Turkey's third largest city, yet it oozes with the laid-back charm of an Aegean coastal village. Said to be the hometown of Homer, Izmir (once called Smyrna) dates back some 5,000 years.

We will visit the Roman Agora, the open-air museum of Izmir (used as a square shaped marketplace during the Roman rule of the city), and a visit to the antique Bazaar where we can taste a great variety of delicious local street food.

Overnight Izmir, Swissotel Grand Efes or similar

Day 9: Sunday, September 15, 2024- Ephesus

Meals: Breakfast

After breakfast at the hotel, our guide will meet us in the lobby of the hotel for our private sightseeing tour of the world-famous ancient city of Ephesus. Ephesus was one of the twelve cities of the Ionian League during the Classical Greek era. We will see the Odeon, the steam baths of Scholastika, the temple of Hadrian and the impressive library of Ephesus. The Grand Theater, where Saint Paul preached, is the largest theater in antiquity with a capacity of 24,000 seats. We will have a very special visit to the Terrace Houses which will give us a magnificent picture of the daily life of the Romans and the wealth of Ephesus.



Lunch will be at leisure at a local restaurant.

After lunch, we will drive to the House of Virgin Mary, which is the place where Mary might have spent her last days. See the small stone house, built by the Apostle John who, according to popular belief, brought Mary with him from Jerusalem to Ephesus. After this stop we will transfer to our hotel in Bodrum (approx. 3 hours). Dinner will be at leisure.

Overnight Bodrum, The Marmara Hotel or similar

Day 10: Monday, September 16, 2024- Bodrum

Meals: Breakfast

After breakfast at our hotel, we will meet our guide to explore the city of Bodrum with its picturesque setting on the Aegean. Named Halicarnassus in ancient times, Bodrum was the birthplace of Herodotus and the home of one of the seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Mausoleum of which only ruins remain. On a small promontory lies the Castle of St. Peter, built in the 15th century by Crusader knights and later captured by Suleiman the Magnificent. It houses the fabulous Museum of Underwater Archaeology, where we'll have a special visit, seeing many items excavated from

shipwrecks of the Bronze Age and subsequent eras, including artifacts from all over the Mediterranean. Your afternoon and evening are at leisure.

Overnight Bodrum, The Marmara Hotel or similar

Day 11: Tuesday, September 17, 2024- Cruise the Aegean Coast

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

We will enjoy a leisurely breakfast at our hotel before transferring to the pier to board our private wooden gulet, or yacht, for a day cruise on the Aegean Coast. We will visit Tavsan Burnu, Haremten and Aquarium Bay. Lunch will be served onboard. After the cruise we will transfer back to our hotel for dinner at leisure.

Overnight Bodrum, The Marmara Hotel or similar

Day 12: Wednesday, September 18, 2024- Departure

Meals: Breakfast

You will be picked up from your hotel for your private transfer to Bodrum Airport for departing flights to Istanbul and homeward.

Thank you for traveling with Limitless Planet!



PRICING

Total Trip Cost- \$6590 per person, double occupancy*
\$8590 per person, single occupancy*

**This trip requires 10 participants to take part in the program. If this minimum is not met, you will be fully refunded.*

If you would like to extend your stay in Turkey and explore the ancient ruins of Ephesus, and the coastal gem of Bodrum, join us on the optional post trip extension!

Post extension Cost: **\$2,800 per person, double occupancy***
\$3,400 per person, single occupancy*

**This trip requires 4 participants to take part in the program. If this minimum is not met, you will be fully refunded.*

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Hotel Accommodation as mentioned or similar
- Tours- All tours mentioned in the program are included
- Entrance Fees- All entrance fees to the sites mentioned in the program
- Transportation- All transportation from your arrival to departure are included in the program
- Meals as mentioned above
- Water-Unlimited water will be provided every day on tour and in your room
- Living like a Local- Travel with us and find out!

NOT INCLUDED:

- International Airfare
- Personal expenses such as laundry, beverages, phone call, internet access
- Services not mentioned in the program
- Tips for guides and drivers
- Travel Insurance
- Meals not specified in the itinerary.

CANCELLATIONS

- 75 % fee for cancellations up to 90 days prior to arrival / full charge for no shows and cancellations 0-90 days prior arrival.

***Prices do not include credit card fees. All credit card fees come from the company and not Limitless Planet. We cannot waive or remove credit card fees. You do have the option of paying with a check or Cashapp to bypass any credit card fees.*

***Payment plans available upon request. Deposit will be required to confirm the reservation.*

GENERAL INFORMATION

Airfare and Transfers

Limitless Planet is happy to book your airfare. If you use miles, you will be responsible for booking your airfare on your own. Transfers are included in the trip price. If you are arranging your own flight arrangements, please send a copy of your itinerary to nancyjane@limitlessplanettravel.com.

Passport

Each traveler will be required to have a passport valid for at least six months after your travel departure date. Limitless Planet is happy to assist you with your passport application or renewing an expired passport. Additional fees may apply. Please send a copy of your valid passport with your deposit payment.

You must also have 1 full, blank page in your passport for entry and exit stamps.

Visa

A visa is required for US citizens to enter Turkey. Visas can be obtained [HERE](#).

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is not included in the quote of this itinerary. For your convenience Limitless Planet offers travel protection plans through Travelex Insurance Services. We are happy to send you a quote. A Limitless Planet Travel staff member will be onsite to assist in case of any emergency.

Tours

All activities on this trip are optional. Tours will meet in the hotel lobby prior to departure to travel as a group. Any passenger that is not in the lobby upon designated time will be responsible for their transportation to that day's activity location. If you would like to sleep in and skip a tour, no problem! It is your trip; we want you to enjoy it as you wish.

Have something you want to do while in Turkey that is not listed on the itinerary, let us know. We are happy to make special arrangements.

Concierge Service

Limitless Planet is happy to provide on-site VIP Concierge Service for the duration of your trip. Our on-site travel directors will ensure your restaurant reservations are made and your flights are on time. Travel Directors are experienced in managing the most intricate on-site details of today's complicated programs. Rest assured; you will have on-site assistance for any issue that occurs during your travels.

Health & Wellness

Your health and wellness are very important to us. We are happy to accommodate any dietary restrictions and special requests if possible. All participants of Limitless Planet's tours must be physically fit enough to participate in the tour. Limitless Planet reserves the right to deny participation on any of our tours, according to the tour itinerary.

IMPORTANT:

For every booking entrusted to us, we require the following information:

- Full passengers name, date of birth, nationality & passport number
- International arrival/departure flight (if not arranging through Limitless Planet)
- Active medical problems
- Bed preference (subject to availability)

LIMITS ON LIMITLESS PLANET'S RESPONSIBILITY:

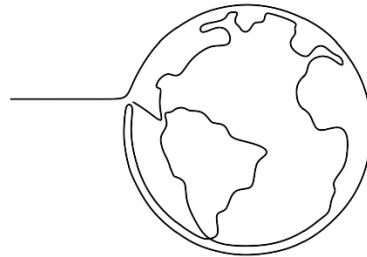
Limitless Planet acts as Tour Operator. It purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurants, and other services from various independent suppliers that are not subject to its control. Limitless Planet cannot, therefore, be liable for death, personal injury or any other loss that may occur due to any act or omission of any such a supplier or by reason of any other event over which it has no control. Domestic flights are, occasionally, subject to overbooking, cancellation, and schedule changes. If this occurs, Limitless Planet will do all in their power to assist clients in boarding flights or finding alternate arrangements. It must be stressed that this is done as a courtesy to clients and Limitless Planet cannot be held responsible for denied boarding, nor for the additional costs thus incurred; nor for payments not recovered for missed land arrangements due to airline delays.

Optional Activities that may be Dangerous

Depending on the itinerary you have selected, optional activities will be available at some of the places they will visit. Some of these activities carry with them the inherent risk of serious personal injury. These activities include, but are not limited to horseback tours, canoe trips, hiking, river rafting, etc. You should be aware that your personal safety cannot be guaranteed, and Limitless Planet assumes no responsibility for your safety.

Acts of God and the Like

Limitless Planet is not responsible for acts of God, fire, acts of local government or other authorities, wars, civil disturbances, riots, terrorist acts, strikes, thefts, pilferage, epidemics, quarantines, earthquakes, adverse weather conditions, dangers incident to sea, land, and air travel and other similar acts or incidents beyond its ability to control or its suppliers.



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