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Treasures of Ancient Turkey

17 Day Conducted Tour
for **\$4,875** per person twin share

This price includes airport taxes & levies

This is amazing value for a destination for such a fascinating country. The price includes:

- Return Economy Class air fares with Singapore Airlines from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Istanbul.
- A wonderful 15 day tour of historical Turkey, including the 10 UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Istanbul, Troy, Pergamon, Ephesus, Aphrodisias, Pamukkale, Catahoyuk, Cappadocia, Mt Nemrut and Gobekli Tepe. The tour also visits Gallipoli and Anzac Cove.
- Good accommodation, mainly 3½ - 4½ star.
- Many meals and entrance fees to most attractions.
- All transport and transfers.
- Prepaid gratuities to the main tour guide and driver.
- Services of a local tour guide and if there are 15 or more participants there will be an Australian tour escort.



Turkey is a nation straddling eastern Europe and western Asia with cultural connections to ancient Greek, Persian, Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman empires. The country has stunning scenery and a rich historic legacy. Join Macleay Valley Travel on this exclusive tour, limited to a maximum of about 22 passengers.

If you don't have anyone to share with but wish to travel at twin share rates, we will try and assign you with another person, but this is not guaranteed. For a single room there is an extra cost of \$690.

Tour departs Australia 25th October and returns 10th November 2020

We try harder to find you the best travel deal

Itinerary for Treasures of Ancient Turkey Tour

Included meals are indicated as B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

25.10.20 Australia – Singapore

Depart Brisbane at 6.10pm on flight SQ 266, arriving in Singapore at 00.10am the next morning (26.10.20).

Depart Sydney at 7.10pm on flight SQ 242, arriving in Singapore at 00.20am the next morning (26.10.20).

Depart Melbourne at 7.25pm on flight SQ 208, arriving in Singapore at 00.05am the next morning (26.10.20).

26.10.20 Singapore - Istanbul, Turkey

Depart Singapore at 01.50am on SQ 392, arriving in Istanbul at 8.25am.

Upon arrival in Istanbul we are met and taken to our hotel for a welcome briefing.

Today we commence exploring the old city of Istanbul with a visit to Topkapi

Palace, first built by Mehmet the Conqueror in 1453 and the home of the sultan until the 19th century. Later we check into our hotel for a two night stay.

Accommodation: Ramada Old City or similar

27.10.20 Istanbul

(B)

Today we visit the Hippodrome of Constantinople, which was the sporting and social centre of the city. We visit the Blue Mosque, which was commissioned by Sultan Ahmet in 1603 and was constructed with the deliberate intention of rivalling the St. Sophia. Following this we visit St. Sophia, which was built by the Roman Emperor Justinian and was completed in 537 A.D. For more than 1,000 years it was the largest Christian church in the world.

Later we will visit the Grand Bazaar in the old city.

Accommodation: Ramada Old City or similar

28.10.20 Istanbul – Gallipoli – Dardanelles – Canakkale

(B/D)

This morning we leave Istanbul for Canakkale. On the way, we will visit Gallipoli to see the World War I memorial and battlefields such as ANZAC Cove, Chunuk Bair and Lone Pine Cemetery. Afterwards, we will take a ferry to Canakkale, a small city on the Dardanelles across from Gallipoli. Dinner this evening is included.

Accommodation: Hotel Troia Tusan or similar

29.10.20 Canakkale – Troy – Pergamon - Kusadasi

(B/D)

This morning we will visit the legendary city of Troy and have the opportunity to see a replica of the Trojan horse. We will see nine different city settlements of ancient Troy in the same location, each one built on top of the other. Afterwards, we will drive to Pergamon to see the Asklepion, which was perhaps the world's most famous ancient medical centre. We will drive to Kusadasi and check into our hotel for a two night stay. Dinner this evening is included.

Accommodation: Ramada Resort or similar

30.10.20 Kusadasi – Ephesus - Kusadasi

(B/D)

Today we will drive to the incredible city of Ephesus and see its colossal Greek Theatre, which is still used for performances today. Among the many things we will be seeing are the Marble Road, the Celsus Library and the Temple of Diana. We will also visit the house where Virgin Mary lived her final days and the Ephesus Museum in Selcuk. Following this we return to our hotel in Kusadasi. Dinner this evening is included.

Accommodation: Ramada Resort or similar

31.10.20 Kusadasi – Aphrodisias – Pamukkale

(B/D)

Today we will drive to Aphrodisias, the city of art and beauty, dedicated to the Goddess Aphrodite. We will see the ancient temple, the marble theatre and the immense stadium, which is the largest and best preserved in the world and seats over 30,000. We will also visit the spectacular museum of Aphrodisias. Afterwards, we will continue to Pamukkale, which is also called 'Hierapolis'. This city has an incredible ancient necropolis (city of the dead) and it is world famous for its white calcium travertine. We will stay in a spa hotel, where we can swim in the heated pools of enriched mineral water. Dinner this evening is included.

Accommodation: Hierapark Thermal Hotel or similar

01.11.20 Pamukkale – Konya

(B/D)

This morning we will drive to Konya to visit the Whirling Dervish Museum, a very holy place for Turkish Muslims. There are exhibits of Dervish costumes, instruments, illuminated manuscripts and various ethnographic artefacts. We will also visit the Karatay Madrasa, a 13th century school, now a museum displaying historic ceramics and archaeological relics. We have an overnight stay in Konya. Dinner this evening is included.

Accommodation: Hilton Garden Inn Konya or similar

02.11.20 Konya – Catalhoyuk - Cappadocia

(B/D)

Today we will visit Catalhoyuk, which is the best preserved and largest Neolithic site and is considered by archaeologists to be the oldest communal living city in the world. It goes back to 7,500 B.C. Layer by layer, archaeologists have excavated this tumulus/mound and put a cover over their excavations.

We then continue to Cappadocia. On the way we will visit the Sultan Han Caravanserai, which is a 13th century Seljuk Turkish monument on the ancient Silk Road. We will see the volcanic Hasan Mountain and the Ihlara Valley which is a 14 kilometre long canyon with many rock carved early Christian Churches and chapels. Dinner this evening is included. We will have a three night stay in Cappadocia.

Accommodation: Dinler Hotel Urgup or similar

03.11.20 Cappadocia

(B/D)

In Cappadocia we will enjoy the unique landscape of volcanic rock formations, eroded by the wind and rain. We will tour the amazing underground churches and cities carved into the rocks by early Christians. Going off the tourist track, we will have wonderful strolls where we visit small villages and discover the unknown parts of Cappadocia. Today we will visit Magic Valley to see incredible red coloured rock formations, followed by Zelve Open Air Museum, which was once an amazing cave town. We will also visit the Pasabag Valley with unique conical rock formations and

the White Valley, also known as Akvadi, to see how the rock formations geologically formed in Cappadocia. Dinner this evening is included.

Accommodation: Dinler Hotel Urgup or similar

04.11.20 Cappadocia

(B/D)

Today we continue our exploration of Cappadocia with our guide. We will visit the Goreme Open Air Museum to see the best preserved ancient Christian frescoes in rock churches and monasteries. We will visit an underground city where early Christians took refuge and produced wine. We also see Uchisar rock fortress. In the afternoon we will visit some local handcraft manufacturing workshops to see carpets and ceramic production.

For those who wish there should be an optional hot air balloon ride over Cappadocia, which is a spectacular experience and suitable for people of all ages. The optional tour is booked locally through our tour guide. The estimated cost is 180 Euro per person. Please note that the optional hot air balloon ride is subject to weather and operational conditions. Dinner this evening is included.

Accommodation: Dinler Hotel Urgup or similar

05.11.20 Cappadocia – Adiyaman

(B/D)

This morning we commence our drive to Adiyaman for an overnight stay. Upon arrival in Adiyaman we visit the Adiyaman Archaeological Museum or the Perre Ancient Roman City. Dinner this evening is included.

Accommodation: Hilton Garden Inn Adiyaman or similar

06.11.20 Adiyaman – Mt Nemrut - Gobekli Tepe – Urfa

(B/D)

Early this morning we drive to Mt Nemrut to visit the mausoleum of Antiochus I (69-34 B.C.). This extraordinary mountaintop funerary-temple complex is located at an elevation of 2,134 metres with huge statues and fallen heads of Greco-Roman Gods Zeus, Hercules, Fortuna, Apollo, as well as King Antiochus, who considered himself a God. Each head measures 2-3 metres high.

We then drive to Urfa, the birthplace of the Prophet Abraham. We will also visit Gobekli Tepe, a recently discovered site that presents monumental circular and rectangular megalithic structures, interpreted as enclosures, which were erected by hunter/gatherers in the pre-pottery Neolithic age between 9,600 and 8,200 B.C.

These monuments were probably used in connection with rituals, most likely of a funerary nature. Distinctive T-shaped pillars are carved with images of wild animals, providing insight into the way of life and beliefs of people living in Upper Mesopotamia about 11,500 years ago.

We have an overnight stay in Urfa. Dinner tonight is included.

Note: The hike to Mt Nemrut consists of a 20-40 minute partially uphill hike, with stairs. Considerable time is allocated and most passengers can undertake the hike.

There are also donkeys or mules available for hire at your own expense.

Accommodation: Hotel El Ruha or similar

07.11.20 Urfa – Harran - Gaziantep

(B/D)

Before we leave Urfa we will explore the Balikligol, a sacred pool with domesticated fish and see the Roman Fortress. Afterwards, we will drive to Harran and see the incredible beehive houses. Harran, according to the Bible, was the site where the Prophet Abraham lived with his family for several years before moving to Israel, the

Promised Land. We then proceed to Gaziantep to visit the Zeugma Mosaic Museum and see the famous mosaic of a gypsy girl. This is the one of the best mosaic museums in the World, displaying 2000 year old Roman mosaics. Gaziantep is famous for its cuisine, including the well known Turkish sweet Baklava and also marinated meat kebabs. We will have a sightseeing tour of the old city of Gaziantep, to see the incredible Roman Castle, old markets, spice merchants and the traditional lifestyle of the area. We have an overnight stay in Gaziantep. Dinner this evening is included.

Accommodation: Sirehan Hotel or similar

08.11.20 Gaziantep – Istanbul

(B/D)

This morning we fly to Istanbul. Upon arrival in Istanbul we will visit the Rustem Pasha Mosque with its exceptional tiles. We will also see the spice market and take an included Bosphorus cruise. This evening we enjoy an included farewell dinner.

Accommodation: Ramada Old City or similar

09.11.20 Istanbul – Singapore

(B)

After breakfast we will be transferred to the airport for our flights home.

Depart Istanbul at 2.25pm on flight SQ 391, arriving in Singapore at 5.45am the next morning (10.11.20).

10.11.20 Singapore – Australia

Sydney passengers depart Singapore at 7.05am on flight SQ 241, arriving in Sydney at 5.55pm.

Brisbane passengers depart Singapore at 7.15am on flight SQ 265, arriving in Brisbane at 4.55pm.

Melbourne passengers depart Singapore at 7.45am on flight SQ 207, arriving in Melbourne at 6.10pm.

Tour Difficulty Ratings & Advice

To ensure that you select the right tour for you, Macleay Valley Travel has provided a clear set of tour difficulty and fitness recommendations for our tours. The ratings, from 1, being the easiest, to 5 the most strenuous, will give you a good idea of what is reasonably required for you to be able to participate on each tour. Most tours require a moderate to good level of fitness, however there are others that are quite challenging. For your enjoyment of the tour, and also the enjoyment of your fellow travellers, please consider whether or not the suggested difficulty level for the tour you are interested in is compatible with your health and fitness.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|

Tour Difficulty Level 4

This tour rating typically involves an above average level of physical activity, such as ascending stairs, getting into a bathtub shower, being responsible for your own luggage at airports and hotels, walking distances of up to 2 kilometres at a time over possible uneven ground and/or cobblestone streets. Walking tours of considerable distances should be expected on tours with this rating as well as early departures. This tour rating is not recommended for individuals who cannot walk unaided.



Conditions for Macleay Valley Travel's Treasures of Ancient Turkey Tour

Deposits and Payments: A non-refundable deposit of \$400 per person is payable within 7 days of booking. This deposit is not refundable should you later cancel. The balance is payable 10 weeks prior to departure. Macleay Valley Travel often has to adhere to strict payment deadlines and your booking on the tour may be cancelled if final payment is not received by the due date, with no refund applicable.

Refunds and Cancellations: Cancellations after final payment will result in a refund limited to whatever we can recoup from the airline.

Airline Tickets - Please note that any changes made to airline tickets once they have been issued will likely incur high cancellation and/or reissue fees. These fees are typically set by the airline and are outside of our control.

Insurance: Adequate travel insurance is essential. We can arrange this for you if desired. Macleay Valley Travel offers Suresave Travel Insurance. Please note that we can only process your travel insurance when we have received full payment for the insurance and the signed Suresave Travel Insurance application form. Until this time the travel insurance may not be processed and will not be valid. Macleay Valley Travel will bare no responsibility for any consequences that may occur as a result of an incomplete insurance application.

Passports: All travellers require a current passport with at least 6 months left on it at the end of the tour. Non-Australian passport holders require a re-entry visa for Australia. An Evisa is required for Turkey and must be obtained prior to travel at www.evisa.gov.tr Current cost is \$60 USD per person, subject to change.

Basic Tour Price and Taxes: Air taxes and fuel levies are included in the basic tour price if the tour is paid in full on or before the due date on the final invoice. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to charge for any increase in air taxes and fuel levies if the tour is not paid in full by the due date.

Not Included in the Cost: All items of a personal nature such as telephone calls, drinks, excess baggage, tips, meals, (except those specified in the itinerary), etc. Also travel insurance. Similarly, credit card payments (Visa / MasterCard) can only be accepted if 1% is added to the price to help defray the heavy merchant fees charged to us by the credit card companies. There is a 2.75% surcharge for American Express.

Breakaway Fee - All fully inclusive prices are based on group travel and any deviation from the set itinerary will incur a breakaway fee. The breakaway fee for deviations on this tour is \$55 per person, plus any applicable increase in airfare & taxes. Please inquire with our office for specific prices on any tour extensions.

Accreditation - Macleay Valley Travel is a fully accredited travel agency under the AFTA (Australian Federation of Travel Agents) ATAS - AFTA Travel Accreditation Scheme. As such, you are assured of a consumer focused and quality assured business, ensuring professional conduct and ethical business practices. We are happy for any prospective traveller with us to check us out with your local Consumer Affairs (Fair Trading) department.

Twin Share Bookings - If you do not have a travel partner, but wish to travel at twin share rates, we will try and assign you with another traveller but this is not guaranteed. We assign passengers by their gender, on a first come, first served basis and do not assign twin share passengers according to their age, profession, interests etc. There are risks with sharing a room with a person you do not know, and Macleay Valley Travel accepts no responsibility if you are incompatible with your assigned room mate. Additionally, if you are assigned a travelling companion to share with and they cancel off the tour prior to making the final payment, then you will either be required to pay the single room supplement or we will try our best to assign you with another twin share passenger, if one is available.

Health and Fitness - Macleay Valley Travel recommends that the passenger is reasonably healthy and/or fit to participate in this tour. Persons with a disability requiring special assistance must be accompanied by a companion. Macleay Valley Travel and their representatives cannot provide this service. The Health & Fitness Questionnaire located on the last page of this itinerary needs to be completed in full by each passenger and accompany your booking form. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to accept/decline or terminate a passenger's participation in the tour under certain circumstances. Macleay Valley Travel is not permitted to provide medical advice as to vaccinations/injections which you may require for this tour and advise you to consult your local medical practitioner for specific medical advice. There are no compulsory injections required for this tour.

Limitation of Liability - As Macleay Valley Travel acts only as agent for the Airlines, Hotels, Coach Companies etc., providing accommodation, transportation and other services, Macleay Valley Travel shall not be liable or responsible for death or injury to any person or loss or damage to any property including baggage arising out of or connection with any transportation, accommodation or other services, or resulting directly or indirectly from acts of God, fire, breakdown in machinery or equipment, acts of Government or other authorities, de jure or defacto wars, whether declared or not, hostilities, civil disturbances, strikes, riots, thefts, epidemics, quarantines, medical or customs regulations, delays or cancellations caused by changes in schedules or itinerary, or over bookings or defaults or for any causes beyond Macleay Valley Travel's control or any loss or damage resulting from improper or insufficient passports, visas or other documents and neither Macleay Valley Travel, and its servants or employees shall be or become liable or responsible for any additional expenses or liability sustained or incurred by the tour member as a result of the foregoing causes. Additionally you must meet the entry requirements for each country you visit. Macleay Valley Travel will not be liable if you are denied entry to a country for any reason, including a past criminal history. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to decline bookings made for any group tour. Any tour booking confirmation is conditional, contingent on our view of the ability of a person to be able to participate in a tour without the likelihood of conflict between members of a tour whether perceived or actual.

Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to modify the itinerary or the accommodation if circumstances make this necessary, provided that the amended itinerary is of equal value or greater value than that of the original program.

MACLEAY VALLEY TRAVEL - BOOKING FORM

PLEASE PRINT DETAILS CLEARLY IN BLOCK LETTERS AND ALSO

A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR PASSPORT MUST BE SENT WITH BOOKING FORM

Name of Tour : _____ Departure Date: _____

Passenger 1 (as written in passport) _____

Title: **Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss. Dr.** _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Passenger 2 (as written in passport) _____

Title: **Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss. Dr.** _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Postal Address: _____

_____ **PostCode** _____ **Email** _____

Telephone / Fax Number: _____ **Mobile** _____

Passport Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Passport Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Passport Nationality: _____ Preferred Name: _____

Passport Nationality _____ Preferred Name: _____

(Passport must have 6 months validity from the time of tour completion)

Single room / Twin beds / Double bed: (Room type is subject to availability)

Circle which airport you wish to depart from: SYDNEY / MELBOURNE / BRISBANE

Special Dietary Needs – Passenger 1: _____ Passenger 2: _____

Optional Extensions: _____

Would you like to receive details of our travel insurance?: YES / NO (Please Circle)

Any existing medical conditions – Passenger 1: _____ Passenger 2: _____

In case of emergency, please notify :

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please return this sheet with your non-refundable deposit of \$400 per person and the health & fitness form.

DECLARATION. I have read and understand fully the booking conditions and I accept them.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

A copy of passport is required to verify spelling of name; If this is not provided and the information we have for the airline is incorrect and ticket is issued, then the airline will charge a reissue fee.

HEALTH & FITNESS QUESTIONNAIRE

Macleay Valley Travel strives to make our tours enjoyable experiences for all passengers, however some countries and tour services lack the standards that you can typically expect in Australia.

To help ensure your personal safety and enjoyment on tour, please answer the following questions. The information you provide will be treated confidentially and will be used to check that the transportation, accommodation and facilities on tour are suitable for you:

1. Do you have any allergies? Yes / No
If yes, please provide details and severity: _____
2. Can you walk 500 metres to 1km in distance comfortably and unaided? Yes / No
3. Can you negotiate uneven, undulating and sometimes challenging terrain? Yes / No
If no, please provide details about these limitations: _____
4. Do you use a mobility aid? Yes / No
If yes, please provide details: _____
5. Are you travelling with a companion or carer who is able to provide all the assistance you need to enter buildings, disembark and embark ships, aircraft, coaches, small boats and assist you on excursions? Yes / No
If yes, please provide the name of your carer/companion and your relationship to them: _____
6. Are you taking any medical equipment to assist you? Yes / No
If yes, please provide details: _____
7. Do you suffer from any condition which may cause you to experience memory loss or become disoriented? Yes / No
If yes, please provide details: _____
8. Are you asthmatic or do you have other breathing difficulties? Yes / No
If yes, please provide details (travelling to high altitudes is not recommended): _____
9. Do you require supplementary oxygen? Yes / No
10. Are you currently taking medication? Yes / No
If yes, are you able to administer your own medication? Yes / No
11. If you have any other medical information that is not covered in the previous questions, please provide a description here: _____

The information you supply us will be passed onto relevant travel suppliers who will do their best accommodate you. However, it is very important to remember that meeting your needs cannot be guaranteed, especially when travelling to third world countries.

DISCLAIMER

I confirm that the information provided on this questionnaire is both true and correct and I understand that there is no guarantee that all these needs will or can be met. I agree that Macleay Valley Travel may offer a recommendation with regard to fitness to travel, based on the information I have provided. I also understand that this information may be passed onto those responsible for supplying the land arrangements for my travel, and that my information will not be communicated to any party which is not directly responsible or otherwise associated with my travel arrangements. I further confirm and agree that should I choose not to disclose information which subsequently requires me to return or be returned home from a tour or cruise, Macleay Valley Travel is not responsible for any costs associated with cancellation penalties, airfares, land transportation or any other related hardship. Please note that a refund for lost touring cannot be claimed. I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to update the information I provided to Macleay Valley Travel immediately should my circumstances change.

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

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4. Do you use a mobility aid? Yes / No
If yes, please provide details: _____
5. Are you travelling with a companion or carer who is able to provide all the assistance you need to enter buildings, disembark and embark ships, aircraft, coaches, small boats and assist you on excursions? Yes / No
If yes, please provide the name of your carer/companion and your relationship to them: _____
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If yes, please provide details: _____
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If yes, please provide details (travelling to high altitudes is not recommended): _____
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Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____