TransAnatolie 3403: 8 Day
Classic Cultural Turkey Tour:
Explore Western & Central
Anatolian Cities, Civilizations
& Cultures: Cultural Heritage
Tour Turkey: Istanbul-AnkaraAcemhoyuk-Cappadocia: The
Essential 8 Days in Turkey

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Day 1: Europe-Istanbul (Cultural Capital of Turkey)

Arrival in Istanbul. Welcome cocktail, sightseeing of the city, dinner and overnight at the hotel. \underline{i}

Day 2: Istanbul - "This is Byzance"!

Morning: discovery of the Golden Horn and Pierre Loti area. Visit of the Ottoman Cemetery and the Eyüp Mosque. Walks on the Roman-Byzantine city-walls and visit of the Chora church. Lunch in a Turkish-Greek restaurant, next to the Roman Circus. In the afternoon we pay a visit to the Ayasofya (Hagia Sophia: "The Holy Church of Wisdom") and The Topkapi Palace Museum, and finish the day in the Grand Bazaar. Free dinner and overnight at the hotel. i

Day 3: Istanbul-The Capital of Civilisations

Morning visit to the Hippodrom, Ibrahim Pascha Palace and Ethnografical Museum. Then walk across the Sultan Ahmet Square and visit the famous Blue Mosque (Sultan Ahmet MOsque). Lunch in a Mesopotamian restaurant with a a special Turkish cuisine.

Afternoon: visit to the Egyptian and 2nd hand markets. Possibility to affect a cruise on the Bosphorus. Stop in a leather manufacturer. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. i

Day 4: Istanbul-Ankara-Lake Salt (Tuz Golu)-Archelais (Aksaray)

Morning: depart from hotel to Ankra via the pittoresk road of the Black Sea – the Euxine Sea. Discovery of the deserted landscapes of Central Anatolia.

Once in Ankara, visit to the Mausoleum of Atatürk and the Museum of Turkish Revolution and Dardanelles. Lunch at the Ethnographical Museum Konak of Zenger Pascha, located at the old part of the Ankara. Afternoon: visit to the Anatolian Civilizations Museum, one of the top points of our trip. After having driven along the Salt Lake, we arrive in Aksaray-the Seljukian town from the Middle Age. Dinner and overnight. i

Day 5: Cappadocia- 'The Land of Beautiful Horses'

Morning: visit of the Seljukian town Aksaray with its Pizz Tower and Grand Mosque. We depart for Acemhöyük, the first capital of the Hittite Empire and one of the three main Assyrian trading posts. Discovery of the site through imperial palaces: Sarikaya-Hatiplar and the necropolis of Enver Aribas. Strolls in the village, chat with Acemhöyük inhabitants in typical Turkish village cafés.

Lunch by inhabitants or at the Townhouse.

Afternoon: relaxing ballad on the Melendiz Canyon through the Peristreme Valley: Selime- Belisirma- Ihlara with its early Superstring churches dated from the first period of Christianism. Agzikarahan on the Silk road welcomes us with its camels and mules. Alevit Wine-tasting with inhabitants of the underground City of Saratli. Dinner and overnight in Cappadocia. <u>i</u>

Day 6: Cappadocia- The Holy Land of the Christianism

Morning: discovery of Cappadocia and its valleys: Dyns, Urgup, Uchisar, Hunters and Göreme. Visit to the beautiful Church St John the Baptist in Cavusin. Lunch at the hotel or in a countryside restaurant.

Afternoon: relaxing walk in the Rose Valley and visit to a carpet-school. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. <u>i</u>

Day 7: Cappadocia – Whirling Dervishes of Hacibektas Veli– Ankara – Istanbul

We still enjoy Cappadocia with stops to take pictures, short walks, discovery of craft industries (onyx), and Pasabag, a part of the Zelve Valley. Walk across the Red River and Venessa-Avanos to take pictures of the typical houses. We also visit the monasteries of the Whirling Dervishes in Hacibektas. After having lunch along the route, we head towards Istanbul via motorway. Diner and overnight at the hotel. <u>i</u>

Day 8: Istanbul – A nostalgic day – Europa

After breakfast, some free time in Istanbul to enjoy the city at your own pace until transfer time to the airport. \underline{i}

Pricing

- For Pricing Click <u>List of TransAnatolie Turkey Tours</u>, <u>Services and Pricing</u> or
- Contac Us: Contact Information for TransAnatolie Tour i

Optional evening activities

- Istanbul by Night with a 'Son et Lumière' programme (from May to September) with the visit to the Sulaymaniye Mosque
- Evening with fishermen in Kumkapı + Istanbul by Night
- Dinner with show in Cabaret Gar
- Dinner with show in Caravanserail Night Club or at the Galata towers, or by the Orient Huis i

Options

- During the Cappadocia tour, a Turkish evening with traditional dances and Mevlevi performance
- Discovery of Cappadocia in hot air balloons i

Rates Include

- 8 days-7 nights full pension
- Transportation in Turkey
- Lunches in traditional Turkish restaurants, one of the best cuisine in the world.
- All admission fees to the museums and sites mentioned
- Guide Services i

Rates Exclude

- Return Flights Europa/Istanbul/Europa
- Insurance
- Airport tax
- Drinks and tips. i

Links

- Istanbul
- Byzantium,
- Ottoman Empire
- Museums i

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