

TURKEY

PLACES THAT WE WILL VISIT

1. DAY 1

Once you arrived in Istanbul, you will be welcomed by a tour guide at the airport. Then you will be transported to the hotel to organise the accommodation and have dinner.

2. DAY 2

After breakfast, we will head off towards the old city and the monumental spices market from the 17th century, where you can still smell the profusion of the herbs and oriental species. Then, we will start experiencing the glamour of the Ottoman Empire which can be found reflected in the architecture and interior decoration of the Dolmabahce palace. The decorations, the chandeliers, rugs and furniture has been kept original since the 19th century, and will definitely dazzle you. After this we will go on a boat to sail along the Bosphorus waters that runs between Asia and Europe. During this voyage we will see the historical mansions and palaces, you will find yourself overwhelmed by the Istanbul horizon which is garnished with domes and minarets of numerous buildings. We will depart the boat on the Asian side of Istanbul, and after a short drive we will arrive at Camlica Hill where we will observe the panoramic view of the city and the beautiful landscape of Bosphorus. In the afternoon we will be visiting the great bazaar, where we can find luxury shops for jewellery, leather and handcraft work. After all this, we will return to the hotel for dinner.

3. DAY 3

Morning is free. In the afternoon we will be visiting St. Saviour church in Chora where you will be amazed by its golden mosaics from the 13th century. You will then be accompanied to the famous racecourse square, which used to be the sport and social centre of Constantinople.

Istanbul has monumental temples of different religious and the Blue Mosque which is probably the most famous architecture of the Ottoman religion. Besides the Blue Mosque we will see the Basilica of Hagia Sophia which was built by Justinian the Great in the 6th century. This enormous structure and its massive dome will amaze you. After this we will head off to the Byzantine cisterns, also constructed by Justinian the Great in the 6th century to preserve water during the siege threats. The Sunken Cistern is a building that compiles 336 quarry pillars of the ancient Roman Temples. In the afternoon we will visit the home of the Ottoman sultans, the Topkapi Palace which is located on the promontory of the peninsula where Constantinople was founded. This palace was built as the administrative centre of the Ottoman Empire. Return to the hotel for dinner.

4. DAY 4

After breakfast we will head off to the airport to travel to Izmir. Then we will drive towards the north along the coast of the Aegean Sea to the Bergama city where we will be visiting the Acropolis which is the Hellenistic City of Pergam. After that we will go to Akhisar to see Tiatira, the church complimented for its intense faith but also critiqued for its tolerance to Jezebel (Rev 2:18-28). Then we will have accommodation and dinner that evening in Esmina.

5. **DAY 5**

After breakfast we will be visiting the Pagos' Mount where we will see the remains of the Hellenistic castle of Lisimaco. Here we can take in the whole view over Izmir and the Roman Agora in the old city of Esmirna. We will then walk along the suburb of Plaka, close to the Monstiraki square towards the second Agora from the VI Century BC. This area was partially excavated by the German and Turkey archaeologist on 1932-1941. The doors are aligned on the north and west side of the Agora as well with the Zeus altar. Members of this church were warned by John, that they were going to be prosecuted but if they remain faithful they will receive a crown of life.

After this, we will head off towards the old city of Sardis which is part of the Roman province of Asia as written in the New Testament. This church was asked to confess the name of God. Then we will drive to Alasehir city to visit the remains of the ancient city of Philadelphia where Paul praised the people for keeping their word with a promised of being a pillar in the temple of God. At the end of the day we will be accommodated in Denizli and have dinner.

6. **DAY 6**

After breakfast, we will be visiting the remains of the old cities of Hierapolis, the roman Basilica of calcified Travertine. This Basilica is like nothing else you will ever see and it was recently declared a World Heritage and is under the UNESCO protection. Then, we will head off towards the city of Laodicea, which is one of the seven churches mentioned in the book of the Revelations. After that, we will drive towards Kusadasi where we will have our accommodation and have dinner.

7. **DAY 7**

We will leave Kusadasi by boat sailing towards the island of Patmos in Greece. We will tour during the day along the island. Then we will return to Kusadasi to be accommodated and have dinner.

8. **DAY 8**

After breakfast we will departure towards Selcuk. We will go to the hills behind Ephesus, This place is believe to be where the Virgin Mary spent her last days of life. Then we will visiting the city of Ephesus, where the history and archaeology will offer us its incredible wealth. We will then walk along the Marble walkway which is the path between the Great Theatre and Celso's library. These are part of the sacred path of Panayirdagi. Towards the Adrian Temple which was built on 130 year AD in honour of the emperor. After that, we will head off towards the Celso's library which has the statues that replicates the virtues followed by Celsus all his life. To finalise, we will visit the Basilica of St. John which was built by Justinian I in the VI century. It is located in the place that is believed John the Apostle was buried. After this we will go to the Esmirna's airport to flight back to Istanbul. Once we arrive, we will go to the hotel for dinner.

9. **DAY 8**

We will meet at the Hotel's foyer to be transported to the Istanbul airport.

Turkey data:

- **Official name:** Republic of Turkey (It is a sovereign transcontinental country, located in Asia and Europe that extends across the Anatolian and Thracian peninsula in the Balkan area)
- **Capital:** Ankara
- **Currency:** Turkish lira
- **Official Language:** Turkish
- **Population:** 74,93 million (2013)
- **Weather in October:** max 21°C – min 10°C

ISRAEL

PLACES THAT WE WILL VISIT

1. DAY 1

Arrival of the travelers at Ben Gurion Air Port, they will be met by guides and then transported to Tiberias, where they will check in and set up in the hotel.

2. DAY 2:

We head out towards Megiddo, Hill of Israel located 90 Km, north of Jerusalem, on our way to the City of Haifa where we will visit Muhraka. This is the place where Elijah defied the false priests of Baal. After that, we will visit Caesarea Maritime, where we will see the theatre of the city and an illustrative film. We will have lunch during the day on the road. We will visit the city of Nazareth and the Basilica of the Annunciation. We will continue on to Mount Precipice and at night we will enjoy the ceremonies of the Dedication of the children, and Sweet 15.

3. DAY 3:

We will commence the day with a boat tour and a special prayer time on the Galilea Sea. We will continue our tour to the Ancient Boat Museum in the Kibbutz Ginossar on the coasts of the Kineret on the Galilea Sea. The artefacts have been displayed since the year 2000 in the Beit Gallo Allon Museum. After that, we will visit Mount Beatitudes, Capernaum, Tabgha, and the Gadarene Precipice. Our lunch will be the famous fried fish of Peter. We will head off to the Jordan River in Yardenit where we will perform the Baptisms. At night we will have an outside barbeque in the Hotel.

4. DAY 4:

We will begin to ascend to Mount Hermon. After that we will go to the National park Tel Dan and the springs of Banias, which are the biggest in Israel and also one of the oldest cities. We will have lunch on the road. After that, we will visit the Store of Diamonds (optional). At night we will attend the Wedding's and the marriage vowsrenewals ceremony in the Hotel.

5. DAY 5:

We will head off towards the Dead Sea going via Beit Shean situated in the Jordan Valley around 30 Km south of the Galilea Sea. We will continue our journey, to Bet Alpha and the ancient Synagogue and the Springs of Gideon. We will travel through the Jordan River Valley before our visit to Jericho. We will have lunch on the road. Then, we will stop at Masada which is famous for its important roleplayed during the First Jewish-Roman War. We will have our dinner and check in the second hotel.

6. DAY 6:

A day of leisure where we will have the whole day to enjoy the Spa, swimming pools, mudding and swimming in the Dead Sea.

7. DAY 7:

We will visit Qumran which is the place where the Scrolls of the Dead Sea were found. We will continue to Jerusalem where we will have our entrance to the City Ceremony from the Mount of Olives. Here we will take our Official group picture. Lunch will be on the road. We will continue our travels to Dominus Fleuit, which is known for being the place where Jesus cried seeing Jerusalem and the olive gardens in the grove of Gethsemane. Later that day we will visit the Western (Wailing) Wall.

8. DAY 8

We will visit Lithostrotos, the pools of Bethesda and the Church of St. Peter of Gallicantu which reminds us of the denial of Peter towards Jesus. We will visit the Model of Jerusalem and the Museum of the Book, it is here where the Scrolls of the Dead Sea are currently located. Lunch will be on the road. We will then continue to Bethlehem the city where our Lord Jesus Christ was born; and visit the Nativity Church and the Shepherds Fields.

9. DAY 9:

Firstly we will visit the Western Wall. Then we will head to the Upper Room, the place where the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles (Pentecost Day), the Tomb of David, the Jewish Suburb, and the Roman Thistle before we head off to the Davidson Museum. After that, we will visit the Museum of the Tower of David, its Walls and the Museum of the history of Jerusalem. We will have lunch on the road and then we will also visit the Museum of the Holocaust "YadVashem". At night we will have dinner, followed by an Israel Folk Dancing show in the Hotel and finishing with a vigil in the Garden of Gethsemane, famous for being the place where Jesus cried the night before being crucified.

10. DAY 10:

We will go to the Esplanade's Temple where we will visit the Mosques. We will then visit Mount Olives and walk along the via Dolorosa up to Empty Tomb. We will have lunch on the road. Then we head off to the Time Travelling Lift, continuing on we will visit the Candelabrum and the Knesset. Dinner will be in the hotel followed by a spectacular show of Lights and Sounds in the Museum of the tower of David.

11. DAY 11:

We will head off towards the Church of Pater Noster where the prayer of “Our Father in Heaven” is written in various languages of the world. Then we will head off towards Mount of Ascension, place where our Lord departed to Heaven. We will continue our journey with a visit the City of David. Lunch will be on the road. In the afternoon we will have a free time for shopping at Ben Yehuda, then visit the Western Wall for a final prayer and farewell. At night we will have dinner in the hotel followed by the closing ceremony of the Pilgrimage.

12. DAY 12:

We will be taken to the airport for our departure to our country of origin.

Israel data:

- **Official name:** Israel State (It is a sovereign country of the Near East that is located in the south-eastern side of the Mediterranean Sea)
- **Capital:** Jerusalem
- **Establishment:** 14th may 1948
- **Continent:** Asia
- **Currency:** Shekel
- **Official Language:** Hebrew and Arab
- **Population:** 8.38 million (2015)

JORDAN

Dates: 2017: From 5TH to 9th November

2018: From 2nd to 6th March

From 4th to 8th November

PLACES THAT WE WILL VISIT

1. DAY 1

We will leave towards the frontier of Acaba. Once we arrive we will be welcomed by the Representative of the Tour Agency who will assist us on the process of immigration. From there, we will visit the Wadi Rum desert, this is the place where the story of "Lawrance of Arabia" originated. Here we will have a 4 wheel drive tour experience for two hours guided by Bedouins, the local people who have intimate knowledge of the area. Then, we will have a time to rest and dinner at the Hotel in Petra.

2. DAY 2

We will spend the whole day visiting the Lost City of the Nabateos in Petra; starting the day on a horse guided tour by Bedouins heading towards the fabulous al-Siq, the immense stone that marks the entrance to the ancient city of Petra. Here we will continue seeing hundreds of antique temples, royal tombs and Roman houses and theatres. Finally we will go back to the hotel to have dinner and stay overnight.

3. DAY 3

We will go to Amman where we will visit the Old City. Here is where the Hercules Temple is located, as well as the Roman Theatre, the old Souk (the colourful and traditional market), the old and new part of the city and lots more. From here we will travel north to visit Jerash, also known as the city of the thousand columns. We will also go to the entrance of the Three Arches, the immense racecourse, the theatre and the only Roman forum which is surrounded by 63 Ionic Columns (Roman architecture). Then we will return to the hotel and have dinner.

4. DAY 4

We will start the day visiting Bethany beyond Jordan, place of the recent religious and archaeological discoveries, also understood as the place where John the Baptist used to baptise. We will then head towards Mount Nebo, where Moses saw the Promised Land. Here, we will visit the Byzantine church and its surroundings. After taking in all of this, we will go to Madaba where to see an old mosaic with the Jerusalem map, finally returning to the hotel for dinner.

5. DAY 5

We will leave to the airport.

Jordan data:

- **Official name:**TheHashemite Kingdom of Transjordan
- **Capital:** Amman
- **Continent:** Asia
- **Currency:** Jordanian dinar
- **Population:**
- **Official Language:** Standard Modern Arab

SERVICES INCLUDED WITHIN THE PILGRIMAGE

- All meals, including dinner on the arrival day, and breakfast on the last day of the pilgrimage.
- All transportation and transfers, including pick-up and drop off from and to the airport
- All entries to the places and sites we will visit
- Tips to the people who help us with baggage transport at the hotels
- Local tour guide and a CENTI director on each bus
- Busses with panoramic views and comfortable seats
- High class hotels and specialized tour guides along all routes
- Experience of difference cruises: Tour along the Marmara sea, Patmos Island by boat, Day cruise along the Nile River in Egypt, Gondola in Turkey and Israel, Boat on the Galilee sea, Ski seats on the Hermon Mount, 4 wheel drive in the Jordan desert and ride on a camel in Egypt.
- Special ceremonies in Israel: Dedication of the children, consecration of the youth, sweet 15, weddings, marriage vows renovation, baptism in the Jordan River.
- Time for shopping at special places: Istanbul at the Great bazaar and the spices market. The great Khan Al-Khalili market in Cairo, The Arab market (Souk) in Jerusalem, The Roman thistle and Ben Yehuda, and the oldest market at the downtown (Souk) in Amman
- Exclusive booking for CENTI in some places such as: Rooms at the hotels for the devotionals, devotional at the shore of the Galilee sea in Tiberias, Speech at the bleaches of the Beatitude mount, place of the baptisms, Mount of Olives, Gethsemane Garden for the vigil in Jerusalem and the highest room.
- Certificate as a pilgrim in the Holy Land by the ministry of tourism of Israel, certificate at the baptism place.
- Leaflet with the pilgrim's memories where we can record the experiences in the Holy Land and a picture of the whole group in Jerusalem.
- Every day the tour starts very early in the morning and finishes late in the evening. There is not a day without agenda. The only leisure time will be at the Dead Sea which is a day allocated for people to enjoy it in its entirety.

SERVICES NOT INCLUDED

- Passport expenses
- Visas (to those countries which need it)
- Extras in the hotels (laundry or ironing etc)
- Restaurants and Drinks apart from the ones given within the pilgrimage package
- Phone Calls
- Connection flights between Istanbul and Tel Aviv
- Excess luggage
- Departure fees at the airport from your country

IMPORTANT TIPS TO THE TRIP:

- **PASSPORT:** It should be in good state, have a expiry day longer than 6months and have a minimum of 5 blank pages. If your passport doesn't tick all the above, the pilgrim should obtain a new passport before travelling.
- **AT THE AIRPORT:** Arrive on time, do not forget your passport, bring your ID, and money in your hand carry luggage not in your checked in bag.
- **DURING THE FLIGHT:** Try to rest as much as you can. Don't lose the boarding pass (this is the document to board the airplane). To redeem your flight points, register online before your trip. Do not reject the food offered on the plane and do not take from the plane the blankets, pillows etc. provided to you.