



TURKEY

TURKEY & EGYPT EXPLORER JOURNEYS (TOUR CODE: 12977)

STARTS AND ENDS

Istanbul to
Cairo

TRAVEL PERIODS

14 Apr 24 - 10 Nov 24

EXPERIENCE

Cruising
Escorted

TRAVEL STYLE

Group Journeys

Experience a thrilling 15-day journey from Istanbul to Cairo, immersing in historic sites, surreal landscapes, and timeless wonders across two extraordinary Countries.

Highlights

- **Guaranteed Departures.** Small group sizes (max 24 passengers). English speaking only tour with an experienced Tour Director.
- Experience a river cruise aboard the **Nile Premium with full board** included
- Sail on a **traditional felucca**, gliding along the tranquil waters to experience the charm of Elephantine Island
- Explore the remarkable **temples of Ramses II and Nefertari**, a testament to ancient Egypt's grandeur and artistic prowess.
- Visit the **Blue Mosque** and the **Hagia Sophia Mosque**, iconic symbols of Istanbul.
- Admire the **Fairy Chimneys in Cappadocia**, unique rock formations that enhance the landscape, resembling fantastical shapes.
- Be amazed by **Pamukkale's natural marvel**: white waterfall, hot spring pools, and distinct calcareous formations, shaped by lime-rich waters.

Commence in Istanbul with visits to iconic landmarks like the Blue Mosque and Hagia Sophia. Traverse the unique Bosphorus on a boat trip. Explore Cappadocia's stunning terrain, then witness Pamukkale's marvels. Uncover Ephesus' history. Return to Istanbul before transitioning to Egypt's wonders in Cairo.

Travel to Luxor and board the luxurious Nile Premium cruise ship. Marvel at the grandeur of Luxor and Karnak Temples, explore the mystique of the Valley of the Kings, and visit Edfu's Horus Temple and Kom Ombo's riverside sanctuary. Experience Aswan's tranquil felucca ride and Temple of Isis. Venture to Abu Simbel's awe-inspiring temples. Uncover Giza's mysteries, meet the Sphinx, explore the Egyptian Museum, and embrace Cairo's charm.



**GUARANTEED
DEPARTURES**



**SMALL GROUP
SIZES**



**SUSTAINABLE
TRAVEL**



**ENGLISH-ONLY
EXPERT GUIDES**



**CITY-CENTRE
QUALITY HOTELS**



**SPECIAL EVENTS
INCLUDED**



**SLOWER-PACED
ITINERARY**



✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period

✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind

✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support

✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices

✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited

✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

INCLUSIONS

- 10-nights accommodation in 4-star & 5-star hotel
- 4-nights accommodation onboard the Nile Cruise
- One way flight from Istanbul to Cairo
- Transportation by luxury coach
- Private transfers to/from airport as per itinerary
- Daily Breakfast
- Guided visits in Istanbul, Cappadocia, Pamukkale, and Esmirna
- Guided visits in Cairo & Aswan
- Full program of excursions on the cruise included
- Visit to Temple of Luxor, Temple of Karnak, Valley of the kings, Colossi of Memnon
- Visit to Temple of Hatshepsut, Temple of Edfu, Temple of Komombo, Temple of Philae
- Traditional Felucca ride around the Elephantine Island
- Visits in Cairo to the Pyramids of Giza and Sphinx
- Entrance fees to monuments as described in the itinerary
- English-Speaking Only Tour Director throughout the journey

ITINERARY

Intro Map

Turkey & Egypt Explorer Journeys



Day 1 Istanbul Airport Istanbul

Upon your arrival at the airport, a private transfer will be awaiting for you and transfer you to your hotel.

At 19:00, meet with your Tour Director at the hotel's Reception Desk for a welcome meeting where you will also be meeting your fellow travellers. Following the meeting, enjoy a delightful dinner in a local restaurant.

Overnight stay in Istanbul at **Hotel Barcelo Istanbul**.

Dinner



Day 2 Istanbul

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Departure from the hotel to visit the **Topkapi Palace**, residence of the sultans of the Ottoman Empire and it's situated in a strategic location overlooking the Bosphorus and the Golden Horn. The palace is renowned for its opulent architecture, lush

gardens, and intriguing collections of artifacts.

Then, enjoy a lunch in a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, visit the **Sultanahmet** neighborhood with the Roman Hippodrome square, the Blue Mosque, unique among all Ottoman mosques in having 6 minarets and the splendid 6th century Hagia Sophia Mosque.

In the evening, discover the **Egyptian Bazaar**, a vibrant market filled with an array of aromatic spices, teas, sweets, nuts, and more.

Overnight stay in Istanbul at **Hotel Barcelo Istanbul**.

Breakfast, Lunch



Day **3**

Istanbul Cappadocia

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

In the morning, we will have a **panoramic tour of the city**, passing through the important neighborhoods of the historical part and the modern part of the city, including a walk along the pedestrian street of Istiklal.

Time at leisure in the **Grand Bazaar** (closed on Sundays, religious holidays and on October 29), a building that houses more than 4,000 shops inside.

Take a **boat trip through the Bosphorus**, the strait that separates Europe from Asia where we can enjoy the great beauty of the forests of Istanbul, its palaces and the yalı, wooden palaces built on both banks.

After the tour, transfer to the airport to take a **domestic flight to Cappadocia**.

Upon your arrival in Cappadocia, you will be transferred to your hotel. If your arrival time at the hotel is after 10:00 p.m., dinner will be provided in the form of a boxed meal.

Overnight stay in Cappadocia at **Hanedan Cappadocia Suites**.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day 4

Cappadocia

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

The morning is free for you to enjoy at your leisure. Alternatively, you have the option to enhance your experience by choosing a **sunrise balloon ride** (*Please note: This is not included in the package and can be purchased on-site*).

Later, we will embark on a captivating exploration of this remarkable region, characterized by a unique landscape sculpted by the volcanic eruptions of Erciyes and Hasan Volcanoes that occurred 3 million years ago. Our journey begins with a visit to the **Göreme valley**, where you will discover a multitude of monasteries and chapels intricately carved into the rock formations and adorned with exquisite frescoes.

Continue to the **Avclar and Güvercinlik valleys**, both boasting awe-inspiring vistas of the iconic "Fairy Chimneys." This route also leads us to the troglodyte **town of Uçhisar**, a living testament to its era, with dwellings etched into the rock and a commanding fortress that has withstood the test of time. In Cappadocia you have the opportunity also to visit the **typical workshops of Turkish carpets**.

In the evening, enjoy a delightful dinner at your hotel.

Overnight stay in Cappadocia at **Hanedan Cappadocia Suites**.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day

5

Cappadocia Konya

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

During the morning, we will have the opportunity to visit a **traditional pottery workshop**, where the age-old craft comes to life. Continuing our journey, we will encounter a remarkably intact 13th-century **Caravanserai**, a haven for travelers seeking respite along their routes.

En route, we will explore the **Serhatli underground city**. Constructed by Christian communities as a safeguard against Arab assaults, this city offers a glimpse into the strategic craftsmanship of its time.

Upon arriving in **Konya**, we will visit the **Mevlana Monastery**, the spiritual home of the whirling dervishes. This immersive experience provides a captivating window into the rich tapestry of traditional Turkish culture.

In the evening, enjoy a delightful dinner at your hotel.

Overnight stay in Konya at **Hotel Dedeman**.

Breakfast, Dinner



Konya Pamukkale

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

We depart to **Pamukkale**, a true marvel of nature boasting a massive white cascade, intricate stalactite formations, and inviting natural pools created by the thermal springs. Renowned for its remarkable calcareous terraces, which have crystallized over time due to the calcium-rich water sourced from the region.

We will, then, visit **Hierapolis**, where a vast necropolis featuring over 150,000 tombs awaits our discovery.

In the evening, enjoy a delightful dinner at your hotel.

Overnight stay in Pamukkale at **Hotel Doga Termal**.

Breakfast, Dinner



Pamukkale Ephesus Izmir Istanbul

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Departure to **Ephesus**, the capital of Asia Minor in Roman times. Visit the archaeological vestiges, where the temple of Hadrian and the library of Celso stand out. We will have the chance to visit a typical fur production center.

Later, we will make our way to Izmir's airport to catch a flight back to Istanbul. Upon arrival, we will come together with the fellow travelers for a memorable **Dinner** hosted at a local restaurant.

Overnight stay in Istanbul at **Hotel Barcelo Istanbul**.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **8**

Istanbul Cairo

After a full buffet breakfast, check out of your hotel and take a private transfer to the airport to reach Cairo.

Upon your arrival at the airport in Cairo, a private transfer will be awaiting for you and transfer you to your hotel.

At 19:00, meet with your Tour Director at the hotel's Reception Desk for a welcome meeting where you will also be meeting your fellow travellers. Following the meeting, enjoy a delightful dinner in a local restaurant.

Overnight stay in Cairo at **Sheraton or Conrad Hotel Cairo**.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **9**

Cairo Luxor Nile Cruise

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Commence your journey by transferring from your hotel to the airport for a flight to Luxor. Upon arrival, you'll be transferred to your river cruise ship, the **Nile Premium M/S Premium**.

Experience the elegance of Nile Premium, boasting inviting common areas, a chic restaurant accommodating 130 guests with international cuisine, a panoramic bar, disco/pub, pool, solarium, snack bar, gym, reading room, gift shop, medical services, and laundry facilities. With a total of 60 cabins, including 2 Presidential Suites (32.5 m2), 2 Ambassador Suites (27.5 m2), and 56 Junior Suites (21 m2), Nile Premium offers one of the most comfortable Nile cruise experiences.

Settle into your Junior Suite cabin and delight in the remainder of the day onboard, soaking in the exceptional ambiance. Lunch and dinner will be served on board.

Overnight stay onboard the Nile Premium M/S Cruise **in a Junior Suite Cabin.**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 10 Cruise: Luxor

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at the ship's restaurant.

Following breakfast, the day's enthralling shore excursions commence as part of your cruise package. Explore the remarkable **Temple of Luxor**, highlighted by the **Sphinxes-lined** avenue, the striking **Obelisk**, imposing **statues of Ramses II, and the Naos.**

Next, venture to the awe-inspiring **Karnak Temple**, a treasure trove where more than 18,000 statues have been unearthed, immersing you in a rich historical tapestry.

Journeying to the west bank of the Nile, discover the **Valley of the Kings** and marvel at the captivating Colossi of Memnon statues and the Temple of Hatshepsut.

Indulge in onboard lunch and dinner, completing your day of exploration in utmost comfort.

Overnight stay onboard the Nile Premium M/S Cruise **in a Junior Suite Cabin.**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 11 Cruise: Edfu Kom Ombo

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at the ship's restaurant.

Upon arrival in **Edfu**, immerse yourself in history as you explore the best-preserved temple in Egypt, devoted to the god Horus. Journeying onwards, sail to Kom Ombo to visit its distinctive temple perched on a rocky platform along the Nile's graceful curve.

Lunch and dinner will be served on board.

Overnight stay onboard the Nile Premium M/S Cruise in a **Junior Suite Cabin**.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 12 Cruise: Aswan

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at the ship's restaurant.

Venturing to **Aswan**, situated on Egypt's southern frontier, you'll embark on a felucca ride around Elephantine Island. Explore the enchanting Temple of Isis on the Island of Philae, weaving history and beauty into your journey.

Lunch and dinner will be served on board.

Overnight stay onboard the Nile Premium M/S Cruise **in a Junior Suite Cabin**.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 13 Cruise: Abu Simbel Aswan Cairo

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at the ship's restaurant.

Unforgettable day to **Abu Simbel** to visit its impressive temples of Ramses II and Nefertari, rescued from the depths of the Nile.

After this remarkable experience, return to Aswan and prepare for your transfer to the airport, where you'll catch a flight to Cairo.

Upon arrival at the airport, enjoy a private transfer to your hotel in Cairo, followed by a dinner.

Overnight stay in Cairo at **Sheraton or Conrad Hotel Cairo**.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 14 Cairo

Start your day with a lavish buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Prepare for another unforgettable day as you embark on a journey to the world-renowned **Pyramids of Giza and the enigmatic Sphinx**, gaining access to these iconic sites.

Your exploration continues with visits to the **Egyptian Museum, the Coptic neighborhood, and the Citadel**, revealing layers of Cairo's history.

As evening approaches, come together with your fellow travelers for a heartwarming Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight stay in Cairo at **Sheraton or Conrad Hotel Cairo**.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 15 Cairo Cairo Airport

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before a private transfer takes you to the airport.

Breakfast

ACCOMMODATION

Barcelo Istanbul

The recently renovated Barceló Istanbul hotel is situated at the heart of the city near the elegant Taksim Square. It offers 270 well-designed rooms and suites with modern amenities, providing utmost comfort. The hotel boasts contemporary facilities including a rooftop lounge, sunbathing area with jacuzzis, and an impressive 1,200 square meter Wellness and Fitness Center. Additionally, it features 7 versatile event spaces accommodating up to 600 individuals, equipped for successful meetings and gatherings. The hotel's prime location in the Beyoglu district makes it an excellent choice for both business and leisure travelers, allowing them to immerse themselves in Istanbul's rich historical, cultural, and economic offerings.



Hanedan Cappadocia Suites

Experience the captivating allure of Hanedan Cave Suites in Nevsehir, situated 6 km from Urgup Museum. With a charming garden and terrace, the hotel offers a 24-hour front desk service, elegantly designed rooms with vintage furniture, private bathrooms, and select rooms featuring terraces. A comfortable seating area graces each room, while a buffet breakfast starts your day. Cycling activities are available, allowing you to explore nearby attractions including Tatlarin Underground City (34 km) and Dark Church (8 km). Conveniently close, Nevsehir Airport is approximately 38 km away, inviting you to revel in the unique blend of comfort and adventure that Hanedan Cave Suites promises.



Dedeman

Nestled in the heart of Konya, Dedeman Hotel presents rooms with complimentary Wi-Fi, conveniently situated next to one of the city's largest shopping centers. The hotel boasts a rooftop bar and a range of recreational amenities, including an outdoor swimming pool, squash court, and fitness center. The contemporary air-conditioned rooms at Dedeman Konya Hotel Convention Center are equipped with a flat-screen TV and minibar. Indulge in Turkish and International cuisine at the Safran Restaurant amidst sophisticated surroundings. For panoramic city views, the Roof Restaurant and Bar is a perfect choice, and 24-hour room service is at your disposal. The hotel's offerings encompass an indoor swimming pool, hot tub, and hammam, inviting relaxation and massage indulgence.



Doğa Thermal

Beyond being a localized thermal hotel, Doğa Thermal Health & Spa boasts consistent therapeutic thermal water temperatures throughout the year, an expansive 693-square-meter spa and wellness center, four distinct conference venues, and a variety of leisure and communal spaces. As an opulent 5-star gem in the Karahayıt-Pamukkale region, this extraordinary establishment, located approximately 3 kilometers from the UNESCO World Heritage site of Pamukkale and conveniently situated about an hour's drive (60 km/37.28 miles) from Denizli Çardak Airport, offers an unparalleled experience.



Conrad Hotel Cairo

Delight in the sight of the River Nile from our downtown Cairo hotel. Located a short distance from shops and cafés, the concierge is ready to assist you in creating an ideal day of discovery in Egypt's rich history. The around-the-clock international casino awaits, and the selection of six restaurants caters to every appetite. Enjoy a refreshing swim in the pool and indulge in relaxation through a massage at the health club.



Nile Premium M/S Premium

Embark on a delightful Nile journey aboard the MS Premium. Experience the luxury of well-appointed suites, a refined dining area, an expansive sundeck with a pool, and more. Immerse yourself in the enchantment of history as you discover iconic sites like Karnak Temple, Luxor Temple, the Valley of the Kings, Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, High Dam, Philae Temple, Unfinished Obelisk, Kom Ombo, and Edfu Temples.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fee
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package (Entrance tickets to sites and museums)

IN PARTNERSHIP

