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Best of Istanbul - 5 days

TR-04

This 5-day tour is the perfect introduction to this fascinating city, allowing you to tour its sights at an unhurried pace. Before it became Istanbul, this was Constantinople, and before that, Byzantium. Straddling Europe and Asia, this captivating city is one of the most exciting city break destinations in the world, at once exotic and familiar. Its long history, rich cultural heritage and extraordinary physical geography will not disappoint.

DEPARTURE DATES: 21.11.2026; 28.11.2026; 05.12.2026; 12.12.2026; 19.12.2026; 02.01.2027; 09.01.2027; 16.01.2027; 23.01.2027; 30.01.2027; 06.02.2027; 13.02.2027; 20.02.2027; 27.02.2027; 06.03.2027; 13.03.2027; 20.03.2027; 27.03.2027; 03.04.2027; 10.04.2027; 17.04.2027; 24.04.2027; 01.05.2027; 08.05.2027; 15.05.2027; 22.05.2027; 29.05.2027; 05.06.2027; 12.06.2027; 19.06.2027; 26.06.2027; 03.07.2027; 10.07.2027; 17.07.2027; 24.07.2027; 31.07.2027; 07.08.2027; 14.08.2027; 21.08.2027; 28.08.2027; 04.09.2027; 11.09.2027; 18.09.2027; 25.09.2027; 02.10.2027; 09.10.2027; 16.10.2027; 23.10.2027; 30.10.2027; 06.11.2027; 13.11.2027; 20.11.2027; 27.11.2027; 04.12.2027; 11.12.2027; 18.12.2027.

ITINERARY

Day 1 - Istanbul
Today you'll board your flight bound for Istanbul. On arrival at the city's Ataturk Airport, you'll be met and, once immigration formalities have been completed, transfer to your centrally located hotel. Overnight in Istanbul.

Day 2 - Istanbul
It's time to get acquainted with this fascinating city. After breakfast at the hotel, you'll cross the Bosphorus to take a look at the Maiden Tower. This mediaeval gem perches on a rocky islet beside Istanbul's GнskGjdar neighbourhood and featured in the Bond movie "The World is Not Enough". We'll move on to the KadıkG¶y district, still on the Asian side of the city, for lunch. The views across the Sea of Marmara toward Sultanahmet are breathtaking. After lunch there'll be a little free time to enable you to explore on foot or by vintage tram to and from Moda. We recommend you call in at confectioners Hacı Bekir Efendi; they've been making Turkish Delight here since 1777. Later, return to the European part of the city by ferry. Overnight in Istanbul. (Breakfast)

Day 3 - Istanbul
The SGjleymaniye Mosque is one of the largest mosques in Istanbul, built by SGjleyman the Magnificent during his 16th century reign. Today, this is where we begin our sightseeing programme before enjoying the ride by cable car up the hill to the Pierre Loti cafG©. Named after a French writer, the views over the Golden Horn from its shady terrace are a real treat. Next, you'll visit the EyGjp Sultan Mosque and Tomb. Learn why it means so much to the faithful as the city's oldest mosque and final resting place of Abu Ayyub al-Ansari, the right-hand man of the Prophet Muḥammad. After lunch, it's time to discover a more modern side to Istanbul. We'll concentrate on the area once called Pera, around Taksim Square and Istiklal Street, one of the liveliest in the city and known for its many shops, restaurants and bars. Don't miss the ornate architecture of the G‡iG§ek Pasajı while you're there. Overnight in Istanbul. (Breakfast)

Day 4 - Istanbul
On the itinerary today is the beautiful Topkapi Palace, which occupies a commanding spot on the promontory overlooking the Golden Horn and the Bosphorus. Once, this sprawling palace was home to the Ottoman Sultans. We'll allow plenty of time to do justice to the harem's quarters, kitchen and gardens before moving on to nearby Hagia Sophia. In its long history, this imposing building has been a church, a mosque and a museum. Our third stop is equally magnificent: the stunning Blue Mosque, famed for the blue Iznik tiles which lend the place its name. Afterwards, we will stroll through Sultanahmet Square and have lunch at a nearby restaurant; if there's time, you could squeeze in a visit to the atmospheric Basilica Cistern. The afternoon is devoted to the Grand Bazaar. Shop for handicrafts and more at this historic covered market. Overnight in Istanbul. (Breakfast)

Day 5 - Istanbul
Today's your final day in Istanbul. Before you depart, pay a visit to the Egyptian Bazaar, also referred to as the

Spice Market, which has delighted foodies since it opened in the 17th century. It's conveniently located close to the Bosphorus, and you'll end your trip taking a relaxing cruise up this iconic waterway. It's flanked by palaces and gardens - highlights include the gorgeous DolmabahГ§e Palace and the Ciragan Palace, now the Kempinski Hotel. It's the perfect end to your trip. Disembark and transfer to the airport for your flight home. (Breakfast)

TOUR INCLUSIONS AND OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Included
International flights
Accommodation
Guided tours & cultural programme
English - speaking guides
Breakfasts in the hotels
Ground transportation
Airport transfers

Not included
Personal travel insurance
Optional excursions

Practical information
About Best of Caucasus company
Contact our travel consultants

AVAILABLE PACKAGES

COMFORT - 3* PACKAGE

Dates	Excl. flights	Incl. flights*	Single suppl.
21/11/2026 - 25/11/2026	£1095	£1495	£245
28/11/2026 - 02/12/2026	£1095	£1495	£245
05/12/2026 - 09/12/2026	£1095	£1495	£245
12/12/2026 - 16/12/2026	£1095	£1495	£245
19/12/2026 - 23/12/2026	£1095	£1495	£245
02/01/2027 - 06/01/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
09/01/2027 - 13/01/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
16/01/2027 - 20/01/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
23/01/2027 - 27/01/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
30/01/2027 - 03/02/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
06/02/2027 - 10/02/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
13/02/2027 - 17/02/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
20/02/2027 - 24/02/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
27/02/2027 - 03/03/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
06/03/2027 - 10/03/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
13/03/2027 - 17/03/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
20/03/2027 - 24/03/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
27/03/2027 - 31/03/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
03/04/2027 - 07/04/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
10/04/2027 - 14/04/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
17/04/2027 - 21/04/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
24/04/2027 - 28/04/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
01/05/2027 - 05/05/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
08/05/2027 - 12/05/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
15/05/2027 - 19/05/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
22/05/2027 - 26/05/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
29/05/2027 - 02/06/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
05/06/2027 - 09/06/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
12/06/2027 - 16/06/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
19/06/2027 - 23/06/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
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14/08/2027 - 18/08/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
21/08/2027 - 25/08/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
28/08/2027 - 01/09/2027	£1095	£1495	£245

04/09/2027 - 08/09/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
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27/11/2027 - 01/12/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
04/12/2027 - 08/12/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
11/12/2027 - 15/12/2027	£1095	£1495	£245
18/12/2027 - 22/12/2027	£1095	£1495	£245

PREMIUM - 4* PACKAGE

Dates	Excl. flights	Incl. flights*	Single suppl.
21/11/2026 - 25/11/2026	£1195	£1595	£345
28/11/2026 - 02/12/2026	£1195	£1595	£345
05/12/2026 - 09/12/2026	£1195	£1595	£345
12/12/2026 - 16/12/2026	£1195	£1595	£345
19/12/2026 - 23/12/2026	£1195	£1595	£345
02/01/2027 - 06/01/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
09/01/2027 - 13/01/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
16/01/2027 - 20/01/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
23/01/2027 - 27/01/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
30/01/2027 - 03/02/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
06/02/2027 - 10/02/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
13/02/2027 - 17/02/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
20/02/2027 - 24/02/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
27/02/2027 - 03/03/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
06/03/2027 - 10/03/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
13/03/2027 - 17/03/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
20/03/2027 - 24/03/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
27/03/2027 - 31/03/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
03/04/2027 - 07/04/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
10/04/2027 - 14/04/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
17/04/2027 - 21/04/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
24/04/2027 - 28/04/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
01/05/2027 - 05/05/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
08/05/2027 - 12/05/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
15/05/2027 - 19/05/2027	£1195	£1595	£345
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ALTERNATIVE TOURS AND TAILOR-MADE ARRANGEMENTS

In addition to organized group tours, we also offer individual trips. This could be an entirely separate holiday arrangement or an extension to a regular "Best of Caucasus" trip. Whether you would like to travel independently, or just with the group of your friends or colleagues, we can help to realise your holiday plans. Depending on your preference for either comfort or budget, we can help you to design the ideal itinerary and provide the optimal value-for-money quote. Please contact us for a quote.

Based on your chosen tour we believe you might be interested in alternative trips listed below:

> Short Break in Istanbul - 3 days (TR-01), Price from £645, 3 days
> Short Break in Istanbul with a Visit to Cappadocia - 6 days (TR-02), Price from £1,295, 6 days
> Classical Turkey Tour: Istanbul, Cappadocia, Ephesus, Pamukkale, Izmir - 8 days (TR-03), Price from £1,795, 8 days
> Best of Turkey Tour - 13 days (TR-05), Price from £3,495, 13 days
> Highlights of Armenia - 5 days (AM-01), Price from £995, 5 days
> Best of Armenia and Georgia - 12 days (CT-05), Price from £2,195, 12 days
> Great Georgian Discovery - 11 days (GE-03), Price from £1,995, 11 days

HOW TO BOOK

Step 1 - Choose Your Holiday & Departure Dates

It is important that you choose a trip that is well suited to your interests, capabilities and experience. All our staff has first hand experience of a range of Best of Caucasus holidays and will be happy to talk to you about your chosen trip, enabling you to assess its suitability. We also recommend that you read the descriptions of the relevant region, general information about our services, booking conditions, and trip dossiers carefully. Once you know what tour is right for you, as well as your departure dates, you can start your booking.

Step 2 - Complete the Booking Form

Online: log on to www.best-of-caucasus.co.uk and open the tour you wish to book and click "Book now". To provide you with a more personalised and relevant experience in all your contact with Best of Caucasus, when you book online we ask you to register on our system. Once registered you can retrieve your bookings, update newsletter subscriptions, passenger and emergency contact details, submit special dietary requests, view invoices and receipts, download trip documents.

Email: alternatively, you can book your tour per email - info@best-of-caucasus.co.uk, or

Phone: call us on **+44 (0)20 30 51 76 40**

When booking by email or over the phone please confirm your personal details (full name and address), chosen tour, departure date, package type (hotel category), and available upgrades.

Step 3 - Confirmation of your booking

On receipt of your booking form, we will make any necessary reservations for you and send you confirmation invoice, including the flight details, and additional information about your destination: advice on visas, vaccinations and what to take. The invoice will also show you the exact due date of the payment.

Step 4 - Payment

Please note, if your departure date is more than 56 days you will need to pay the deposit, which should cover the full cost of the flight (if applicable), plus 10% of the land-only arrangements (minimum BJ100) per person towards your tour. The outstanding payment must be made 56 days prior to departure. If you book less than 56 days before departure, full payment must be made at the time of your booking. You can make your payment by bank transfer, debit or credit card, cheque, bankers draft or postal order. You will find all relevant payment details in your invoice.

YOUR NOTES

On request we can organise an additional programme for you, please inquire about the price and availability of the optional excursions.

Please find below some space to write down your queries or comments regarding this trip.