



HIGHLIGHTS OF ISTANBUL

Full Day

We start our tour in Istanbul with the highlights of the city. Famous Sultanahmet Mosque also known as Blue Mosque, which is a masterpiece of architecture from 17th century. Located in the very heart of the historical peninsula of Istanbul, Sultanahmet Mosque built in 1616 by Architect Mehmet Aga for Ottoman Sultan Ahmet I. Wouldn't you like to discover the ethereal workmanship in its domes, mastership of its fine blue Iznik tiles and fine details of its exterior with us.

The tour continues with the Istanbul has been the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire and our tour starts at the Roman Hippodrome where once wild animals fought and gladiators waged numerous battles. The mighty Emperor Septimus Severus builds the Roman Hippodrome in 203.

Another world famous highlight of Istanbul is the Museum of Haghia Sophia, built in 537 as a Greek Orthodox Cathedral, and it means Holy Wisdom. It continued to serve its millions of visitors as a mosque since 1453 and now is a museum since 1935. Prepared to captivate by an extensive interior design, authentic historical mosaics at Haghia Sophia Museum offering the best examples of Oriental and Western art to its visitors.

The last stop before lunch will be the oldest shopping mall of the world, Grand Bazaar offering beautiful sights for the sore eyes with its 4400 shops, 61 streets and 2 Bedesten (inner covered bazaars). The Grand Bazaar has been elected as the best Tourist Attraction Sight most visited in the world in 2015 by Travel & Leisure magazine followed by Times Square in New York City as the second most visited site.

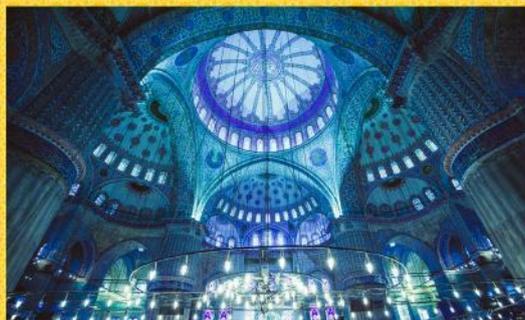
Spice Market or in other words, Egyptian Bazaar will offer you all tastes of Orient with its colorful shops. You may not only find the herbs, spices, caviar and many others but also feel the unique atmosphere.

Just after a short walk we will embark on the boat for Bosphorus Cruise that will last about 1,5 hours. The Istanbul Strait, or the Bosphorus, has arguably the most magnificent views in the world. There is nowhere on earth where two continents and civilizations meet, and with the unique grandeur of the combined east and west cultures. For those who visit Istanbul, the Bosphorus tour by boat is a must-see. The trip is like being on a fascinating, magical journey as you witness centuries of history in a beautiful setting along the wide and captivating Bosphorus.

Excludes: Lunch

ITINERARY

Transportation by air conditioned vehicles, English Speaking Guide, Admission Fees, Bosphorus Cruise for 1,5 hrs., Snack Pack.



GROUP TOURS 4

May 23, Thursday



HIGHLIGHTS OF ISTANBUL (*Full Day*)

08:15

Depart from Ciragan Palace Kempinski

09:45

The visit of Hagia Sophia

13:00

A short visit to Spice Market

09:00

Arrival at Historical Peninsula (Sultanahmet)

10:45

Drive to Grand Bazaar

14:30

Embark on boat from Eminönü for Bosphorus Cruise

09:10

The first visit is to Hippodrome and Blue Mosque

11:30

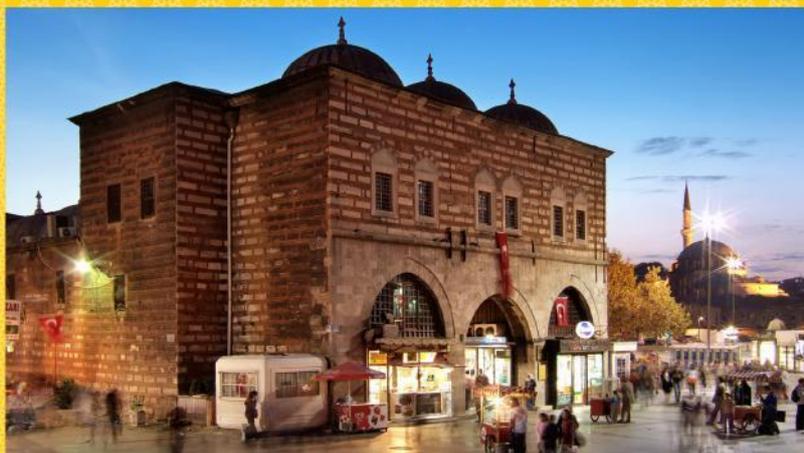
Free Time for shopping and lunch

16:00

Drive back to Ciragan Palace Kempinski

17:15

Arrival at Ciragan Palace Kempinski



Minimum 4 participants required.