

TURKEY

IZMIR ISTANBUL AND CAPPADOCIA
OCTOBER 16 THROUGH 27, 2009



JOIN YOUR HOSTS MARY WEISMANN AND KATIE MEYER FOR A COMPREHENSIVE TOUR OF TURKEY. OCTOBER IS THE BEST MONTH TO TOUR TURKEY! YOU WILL VISIT THE MAJOR SITES IN ISTANBUL, TOPKAPI PALACE, CISTERN, ST. SOPHIA'S, BLUE MOSEQUE AND HIPPODROME. IN IZMIR THE TOUR WILL BEGIN WITH THE ANCIENT AGORA, EPHEBUS INCLUDING THE MUSEUM, HOUSE OF THE VIRGIN MARY, ST. JOHN'S BURIAL SITE AND THE NEWLY OPENED TERRACE HOUSES!!! OF COURSE YOU WILL BE STAYING AT THE HILTON IN IZMIR!! BEST OF ALL CAPPADOCIA IN CENTRAL TURKEY!! GROUP WILL FLY TO THE CAPPADOCIA AREA SO TIME WILL NOT BE WASTED ON A BUS. CAPPADOCIA IS PHENOMINAL!!! THE HAUNTING SURREALIC LANDSCAPES ARE A RESULT OF 3 VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS 30 MILLION YEARS AGO. THE EROSION FROM WIND AND WEATHER HAS CREATED THE FAIRY CHIMNEYS THAT FILL THE VALLEYS. THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF NATURAL ROCK FORMATIONS THROUGHOUT THE AREA. THE FIRST KINGDOM OF ANTOLIA WAS SETTLED IN THE REGION BY THE HATTISIN 2000BC.

I AM VERY EXCITED TO SHARE ALL OF TURKEY WITH YOU AND ESPECIALLY CAPPADOCIA AND THE TERRACES HOUSES OF EPHEBUS.

THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF TIME FOR SHOPPING, DINING AND RELAXING IN THIS FABULOUS COUNTRY!! THE DOLLAR IS STILL STRONG IN TURKEY!

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IZMIR, CAPPADOCIA AND ISTANBUL TURKEY
OCTOBER 16 THROUGH 27, 2009

OCT 16 DEPARTURE FROM US TO TURKEY.

OCT 17 ARRIVAL IZMIR TURKEY. CHECK IN THE IZMIR HILTON, YOUR FABULOUS 5 STAR HOTEL. REMAINDER OF DAY AT LEISURE.

OCT 18 BREAKFAST. DEPARTURE FOR THE ANCIENT GRECO- ROMAN CITY OF EPHEBUS DATING FROM THE 4TH CEN BC. MANY NEW EXCAVATIONS OF THE SITE HAVE BEEN UNEARTHED IN THE PAST YEAR. EVEN IF YOU HAVE VISITED EPHEBUS IN THE PAST YOU WILL SEE RECENTLY DISCOVERED AND RECONSTRUCTED AREAS. YOU WILL TOUR THE RECENTLY OPENED TERRACE HOUSES FROM THE PERIOD OF POMPEII ONE OF THE MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TOUR. VISIT THE HOUSE OF THE VIRGIN MARY ON THE TOP OF A HILL ABOVE EPHEBUS. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS IS THE PLACE THAT MARY SPENT HER LAST YEARS. A TOUR OF THE MUSEUM OF ARCHEOLOGY IN SELJUK, HOUSING MANY OF THE ARTIFACTS FOUND AT EPHEBUS IS INCLUDED. RETURN TO IZMIR. EARLY EVENING TURKISH WINE TASTING HOSTED BY BORG JEWELERS.

OCT 19 BREAKFAST. MORNING VISIT TO A CARPET SHOP FOR A LECTURE ON HANDMADE TURKISH AND ORIENTAL CARPETS. ORIGIN, HISTORY AND FABRICATION WILL BE DISCUSSED. AFTERNOON VISIT TO THE KONAK, IZMIR'S SHOPPING BAZAAR. SHOP FOR THE WONDERFUL TREASURES TURKEY IS FAMOUS FOR!!

OCT 20 BREAKFAST. MORNING TOUR OF THE ANCIENT AGORA, THE MARKET PLACE FOR THE ANCIENT CITY OF SMYRNA. THE SITE IS ACTIVELY BEING EXCAVATED AND MANY TREASURES ARE BEING UNEARTHED EVERYDAY. DINNER IS SUGGESTED AT ONE OF IZMIR'S GREAT RESTAURANTS!

OCT 21 BREAKFAST. MORNING FLIGHT TO KAYSERI. UPON ARRIVAL DRIVE TO THE UNDERGROUND CITY SITUATED IN A MAZE OF TUNNELS AND ROOMS 200 FEET UNDERGROUND. LATER VISIT THE OPEN AIR MUSEUM WHERE MANY CHURCHES AND MONASTERIES AS WELL AS DWELLINGS WERE CARVED INTO THE CONES OF VOLCANIC ASH FROM THE 4TH CEN AD. THE WELL PRESERVED FRESCOS IN THESE CHURCHES DEPICT SCENES FROM THE BIBLE AND APOCYRPHA. DINNER

OCT 22 BREAKFAST. FULL DAY TO TOUR AND EXPLORE CAPPADOCIA. OUR MORNING ADVENTURE WILL BEGIN WITH A VISIT TO CAVUSIN, PASABAGLAR AND ZELVE, A NATURAL AMPHITHEATRE AT THE JUNCTION OF 3 CANYONS WHERE THE CLIFF FACES ARE RIDDLED WITH OPENINGS TO HOUSE AND CHURCHES. TOUR WILL CONTINUE ON TO AVANOS TO THE FAMOUS POTTERY TOWN, THE POTTERY IS CREATED WITH SILT FROM THE HALYS RIVER. LATE AFTERNOON WINE TASTING OF THE FAMOUS CAPPADOCIA WINE BEFORE RETURNING TO THE HOTEL. DINNER.

OCT 23 BREAKFAST MORNING FLIGHT TO ISTANBUL. CHECK INTO YOUR HOTEL. AFTERNOON WALKING TOUR OF THE ANCIENT ROMAN HIPPODROME, WITH ITS EGYPTIAN OBELISK AND SERPENTINE COLUMN. CHARIOT RACES WERE HELD IN THE HIPPODROME DURING ROMAN TIMES. NEXT YOU WILL VISIT BASILICA CISTERN WHERE THE WATER WAS STORED FOR TOPKAPI PALACE.

OCT 24 BREAKFAST. MORNING VISIT TO TOPKAPI PALACE, HOME OF THE OTTOMAN SULTANS. VISIT TO THE FAMOUS TOPKAPI TREASURY WITH ARTIFACTS TO RIVAL THE CROWN JEWELS, INCLUDING THE 86 CARAT SPOON MAKERS DIAMOND, VISIT THE KITCHEN AND THE BUILDING HOLDING THE HOLY RELIC'S OF MOHAMMAD. AFTERNOON VISIT TO THE WORLD FAMOUS BLUE MOSQUE BUILT IN THE 17TH CENTURY BY SINAN THE MOST FAMOUS OTTOMAN ARCHITECT. THE BLUE MOSQUE TAKES ITS NAME FROM THE DECORATION OF BLUE TILES FROM THE CITY OF IZNIK. PERHAPS ENJOY DINNER IN ONE OF ISTANBUL'S EXCELLENT RESTAURANTS (NOT INC.)

OCT 25 BREAKFAST. VISIT TO THE EGYPTIAN BAZAAR WHERE SPICES HAVE BEEN TRADED FOR CENTURIES. BOATRIDE ON THE BOSPHORUS STRAIT CONNECTING THE BLACK SEA AND THE SEA OF MARMARIS. VIEW THE HOMES AND PALACES FROM OTTOMAN TIMES BUILT ON THE BANKS OF THE BOSPHORUS DIVIDING THE ASIAN AND EUROPEAN CONTINENTS. LUNCH (NOT INC.) IS PLANNED IN A FISH RESTAURANT ALONG THE BOSPHORUS. AFTERNOON VISIT TO THE SADBERK HANIM MUSEUM WITH ARTIFACTS FROM ANCIENT TO MODERN TIMES.

OCT 26 BREAKFAST. MORNING VISIT TO SOPHIA'S BUILT AS A CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN THE 5TH CEN. AD, THEN USED AS A MOSQUE DURING OTTOMAN TIMES. TODAY IT IS A MUSEUM AND IS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF EARLY BYZANTINE ARCHITECTURE. VIEW THE FABULOUS MOSAICS FROM THE 5TH CENTURY. AFTERNOON AT LEISURE TO PERHAPS VISIT WORLD FAMOUS GRAND BAZAAR OR SPEND TIME ON YOUR OWN EXPLORING ISTANBUL. FAREWELL DINNER IN OUR HOTEL.

OCT 27 BREAKFAST. DEPARTURE FOR FLIGHT TO US

TOUR INCLUDES:

2 INTERNAL AIR FLIGHTS
10 NTS 4/5 STAR HOTELS
ENTRANCES TO ALL SITES
DAILY BREAKFASTS, 3 DINNERS
LOCAL GUIDE TURKISH GUIDE/ TOUR ESCORT
PRIVATE MOTOR COACH
TIP TO DRIVER AND GUIDE

SUPPLEMENTARY COSTS:

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT FROM US TO TURKEY
\$20 VISA FEE UPON ARRIVAL TO TURKEY

TOUR COST" LAND ONLY"	\$2690
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT	\$450

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL OR CONTACT:

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mary@vacationextra.com ITINERARY SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "MEYER GROUP", 1005 CROATIA COURT, ROSEVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95661. PLS FILL OUT THE "BOOKING REQUEST " FORM ON THE WEBSITE www.meyertravelgroup.com AND SEND IT SIGNED WITH YOUR DEPOSIT.