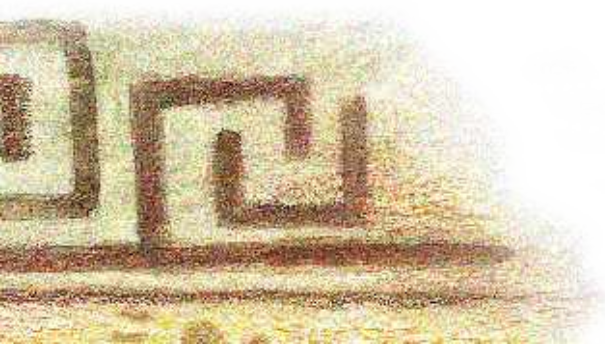


Meander Travel



the art of travel...

“enter the world of Meander Travel”





a warm welcome

Turkey, the world's largest open air museum...

At the crossroads of Europe and Asia, with a rich mosaic of cultures, blending history and legendary civilizations - TURKEY today is an exciting destination that offers modern amenities and an endless variety of diverse attractions for even the most sophisticated travelers.

Explore this World Class Destination for customized private tours and programs, yacht charters, exclusive shore excursions and incentive/meeting trips, Biblical tours, world class hotels where all dreams will come true with the personalized touch of us...

Abdullah GUR
President of Meander Travel

MEMBER OF



The Evangelical
Theological Society





content

page 1	Istanbul
page 3	Private Tours
page 5	Pre & Post Cruise Services
page 7	Incentive Travel
page 9	Special Interest Travel
page 11	Biblical Tours
page 13	Biblical Tour Program Footsteps of St. Paul
page 15	Tour Packages
page 17	Tour Packages Program Tales of Turkey
page 19	The Blue Voyage
page 21	Hotel Collections
page 23	Ferries & Charter Boats





Istanbul

Where Continents Converge,
Cultures Cross and
History Comes Alive

Few cities have seen so much history as Istanbul. Even fewer places in the world have been the central focus points of entire civilizations. For all its great heritage, Istanbul remains beautiful, mysterious, friendly and welcoming.



Private Tours



Istanbul

Just some of the main highlights of these guided excursions include the rich treasures of Topkapi Palace and its elegant four courts with intriguing Harem... a gentle sea breeze and relaxing boat cruise along the Bosphorus lined with decadent Ottoman villas of old... the golden mosaics of great Byzantine architectural accomplishment in the Hagia Sophia... shopping in the unending maze of historic arched passages of the Grand Bazaar or Spice Market to haggle over unusual antiques, colorful spices, beautiful jewelry and richly textured fabrics of Istanbul...

Ephesus

For ancient pagans and Christians alike, just a half hour drive from the Kusadasi Port, Ephesus was a religious center. The cult of Artemis flourished here, and the Virgin Mary is said to have spent her final days nearby. St. Peter and St. Paul both preached in this powerful trading post of the Roman Empire, that later was to become the honeymoon playground of Anthony and Cleopatra. Walk the ancient marble streets as your guide points out the wealth of antiquity: the Library of Celsus, the Grand Theater, the Odeon, the Gymnasium, the Fountain of Trajan, the Temple of Hadrian - and the surprisingly efficient public toilets. At the conclusion of the tour, on the way back to Kusadasi. You may either return directly to the pier, or be dropped off in Kusadasi to enjoy a carpet demonstration and some time for shopping. Explore the town and return to the pier on your own.

Your Privacy Matters

We provide customized, private tours carried out by professional guides and qualified drivers for our guests travelling with top rated cruise ships visiting Istanbul, Ephesus (Kusadasi), Izmir and Antalya.

Our bespoke services are perfect for families, private groups, VIPs and seniors with a team that is the most experienced and knowledgeable in Turkey. You will travel in privacy and on your own schedule while enjoying the comfort, enriching sightseeing.



Izmir

Archaeologically rich, historic Izmir dates back over 5,000 years. Virtually rebuilt from scratch in 1922, Izmir is a booming city today. The ancient city of Ephesus, home to the Artemis Temple is one of the world's best preserved archaeological wonder. Pergamum as important as Ephesus is another excellent archeological site to visit from Izmir. The city is also known as one of the Seven Churches of the Book of Revelation. The visit consists of the Acropolis, Asclepion and the Red Basilica.

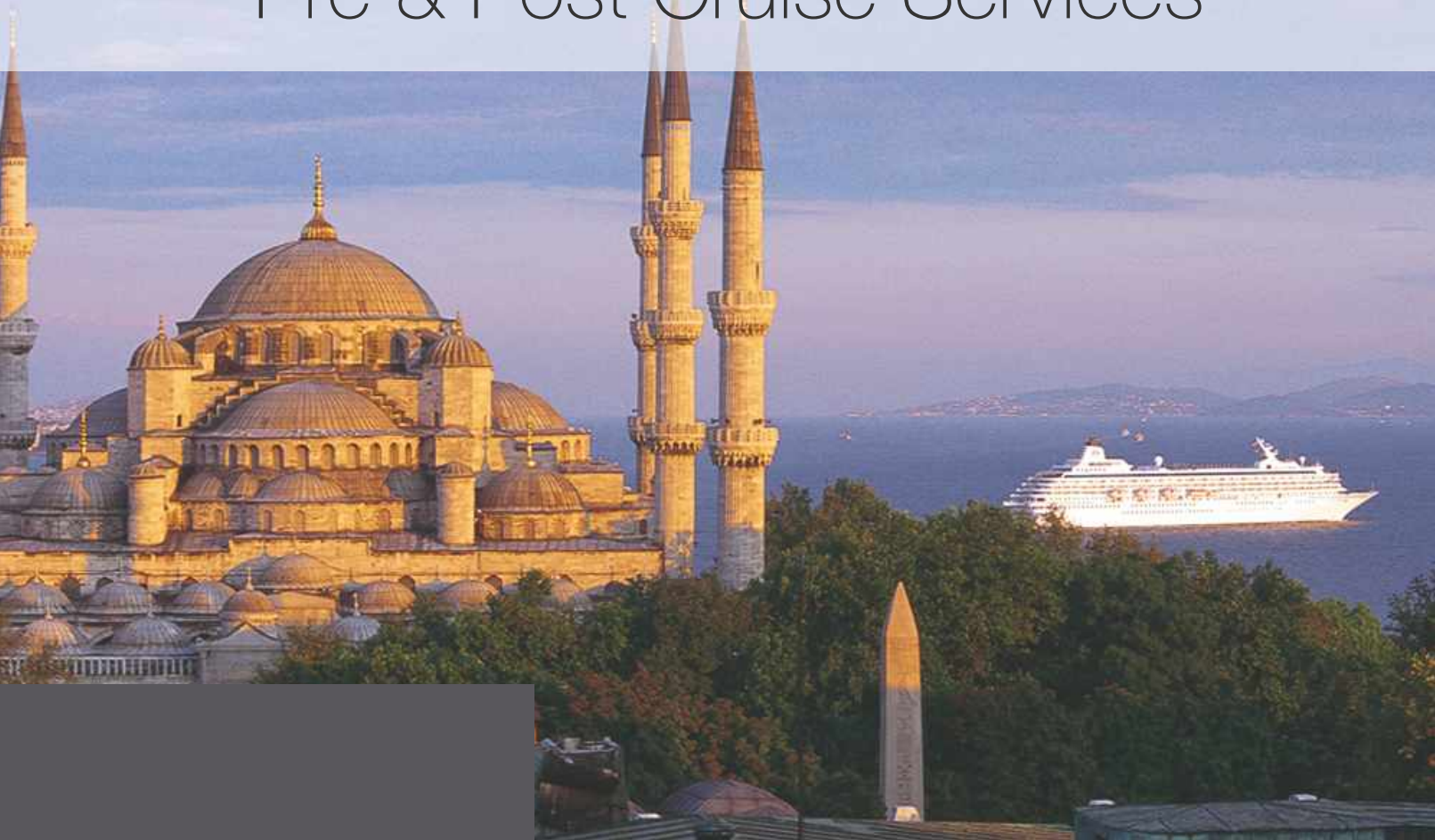
Antalya

Discover this delightful ancient town and its many treasures, from the superb artifacts in the museum to Ottoman mansions, Byzantine churches and mosques, Hadrian's Gate, and the ancient Roman harbor now restored and alive with cafés and pleasure boats. Or head for the magnificent ruins of Perge and Aspendos and imagine the history of these cities, from Alexander to St. Paul, the Romans and Arabs. Stand in awe of the huge Roman theater and the crumbling aqueduct. Look for local handicrafts in the old town including carpets, copper ware, jewelry, leather goods and textiles.

Bodrum

Today Bodrum is a picturesque yacht harbor filled with traditional wood-varnished sailboats, charming outdoor cafes and streets bursting with small shops. In antiquity, it was the site of ancient Halicarnassus. Under King Mausolus, the city prospered, and in death, the king left the city its most enduring legacy, his majestic tomb, from which we derive the term "mausoleum." Only its massive foundations remain today but it was the largest tomb ever built by the Greeks and one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Models on the site recreate its form for visitors. Alexander the Great attacked the city in 334 BC, leveling all but the Mausoleum, which was later destroyed by an earthquake. When the Knights of St. John lost their castle in Smyrna in 1402, they came here. Finding the mausoleum in ruins, they used the stone to construct the Castle of St. Peter, which proudly stood sentinel to the city. Together with their fortifications on Kos and Rhodes, the Knights dominated the southeastern Aegean, running a hospital for passing pilgrims and ruling the seas as privateers in swift vessels. They remained until 1523, when Ottoman ruler, Suleyman the Magnificent, conquered Rhodes and the Knights' position became untenable. The castle still dominates the harbor and houses an archeological museum. A truly authentic Turkish experience is a ride in a "gulet" one of the region's typical wooden boats.

Pre & Post Cruise Services



Private Arrangements

What to do, where to go, which places to visit, eat and actually book. We'll take care of details such as private port or airport transfers with a private chauffeur, personal guides, organize special customized tours to visit world famous sites of Istanbul and the ancient cities of Aegean like Ephesus and many others. Enjoy a private dinner at the Bosphorus in Istanbul or world famous ancient city of Ephesus while a chamber group plays classical music and you will relish the ambience, as it must have been thousands of years ago. A unique and magical evening...

These are the special touches to make your holiday complete. All of these are private and tailored to suit your standards.



An Extensive Gateway

Cruise packages offer limited stays in departure cities. Depending on the cruise destination, more elaborate packages may be available to turn a cruise into an extensive getaway complete with transfers, deluxe accommodations, guided tours, and visits to local attractions.

With privately tailored Pre or Post packages, you will enjoy strolling the Byzantine Empire, feeling the easing breeze of the mosques of the Ottoman's in Istanbul or walking along the marble pavings. You will almost hear the steps of marching Roman legions in Ephesus.

You may even add on Cappadocia to fly over fairy chimneys or Bodrum to enjoy sailing crystal clear waters of The Mediterranean.

Whether on land or on sea, you can experience the luxury and conveniences of our packages, making your vacation truly unforgettable.



Two Nights Pre & Post Cruise Istanbul 3 days / 2 nights

Day 1

You will be met by your guide at Istanbul International Airport and transfer to your hotel by private vehicle. Check in at your hotel with some time to relax. In the mid-afternoon, you will begin your half-day tour of the wonderful highlights of Istanbul. First you will visit the Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum situated in the historical palace of Ibrahim Pasha, opposite the Blue Mosque. The museum opened in 1983 after 15 years of restoration. This unique collection was previously on display in the soup kitchen of Suleymaniye Mosque! Next, you will visit the Underground Cistern.

This amazing underground cavern measures roughly 210 feet wide and 420 feet long, with a capacity of 80,000 cubic meters of water. The 336 beautiful columns that support the cistern were salvaged from pagan temples destroyed during the Roman Empire's conversion to Christianity. At the end of the day, you will return to your hotel. (L)

Day 2

After breakfast, meet your guide in the hotel lobby for your full-day tour of Istanbul and surroundings. First, you will visit the Byzantine Hippodrome to see its famous Egyptian Obelisk, the Obelisk of Constantine, the Serpentine Column and the German Fountain. Then, you will proceed to the Blue Mosque, completed in 1616- a triumph of harmony, proportion and elegance. The mosque was a part of a complex that consisted of a mosque, tombs, fountains, kitchens and a bath. Its colorful 260 windows enable the sunlight to reach inside. The blue Iznik tiles covering the walls lend the mosque its name. Next, visit the magnificent Topkapi Palace-residence of the sultans for almost three centuries.

It is located on the promontory between the Bosphorus and the Golden Horn. This setting provides a magnificent view. As the imperial residence of the Sultan and his court, the palace was also the seat of government for the Ottoman Empire. 4,000 people lived here. Visit the general exhibitions and the Treasury Section displaying the priceless pieces of jewelry that once belonged to the Ottoman Sultans. You will stop for lunch at the Green House Garden-an old Ottoman house-and taste traditional Turkish cuisine in a lovely atmosphere. After lunch, you will visit one of the greatest buildings in the world: St. Sophia, the Church of the Divine Wisdom.

It was built during the reign of Emperor Justinian (AD 537) and remained the greatest church in Christendom until the conquest of Constantinople in 1453. Sultan Mehmet II ordered the conversion of Hagia Sophia into a Mosque. The great dome, the semi-domes, the north and south tympana and the vaults of the narthex, aisles and gallery were all covered with gold mosaics, many of which are still intact today. Continue to the famous Grand Bazaar, where you will explore some of its 92 streets and 4,000 shops. A variety of Turkish handicrafts, oriental carpets, rare jewels and inexpensive souvenirs are all sold here. The streets are named according to the trades, such as gold and silver sellers, carpet sellers, booksellers, etc. At the end of the day, you will return to your hotel. (B & L)

Day 3

Enjoy breakfast and a transfer to your ship in the afternoon.



Incentive Travel

“It’s yachting, not cruising”

Be pampered by award-winning service and cuisine by cruising on one of the mega-yachts is as if you were cruising aboard your own personal yacht. Guests can be as active or as laid back as they wish while experiencing what our guests believe to be the best service at sea. All elegantly appointed staterooms are ocean view. Visit the intimate yachting playgrounds, harbors and ports where large cruise ships cannot go. In true yachting fashion the our specially designed yachting itineraries also feature overnight stays in port so guests can experience the night life of some of the most famous yachting ports in the world.



We create rare, eminently successful Group Incentive Travel programs that will be talked about all year long...

- Creativity and Reliability
- Ultimate Client Satisfaction
- The Best Value and Quality
- State-of-the-Art Facilities
- The Success of Your Event
- Hotel Bookings / Hospitality Desks / Meeting Facilities
- Creative Theme Events and Concert at Unique Venues
- Gala Dinners-Receptions at Private Homes / Museums
- Trade Shows-Exhibitions
- Special Events and Social Programs with Exclusive Sightseeing
- Exotic Entertainment and Private Art Collections
- Post / Pre Tours to Cappadocia and Ephesus
- Fun Shopping with Expert Escorting
- All required Security, Administrative and Secretarial Assistance.



GALA DINNER AT EPHEBUS

You will be greeted at the Kusadasi Port by a deluxe air-conditioned bus and taken to the world-renowned ancient site of Ephesus, where you will dine before the ornate facade of the Library of Celsus. The site will be kept open in the evening exclusively for the use of Meander Travel guests. You will be greeted by the sounds of a string quartet from the Izmir Philharmonic and presented with laurel wreaths in the antique fashion. The meal will be accompanied by the best local wines available, and as you leave you will be presented with souvenirs of your visit: handmade, silver-framed mirrors for the ladies, and evil eye glass paperweights for the men.

AN OTTOMAN SULTAN'S BANQUET IN ISTANBUL

A lavish night out evoking the heyday of the Ottoman Empire, at one of Istanbul's finest restaurants, where you will discover an elegant and luxurious setting of richly colored Turkish carpets, copperware, and lavish floral centerpieces. Traditional Turkish musicians will play for us throughout the evening. Actors portraying a sultan and his grand vezir will invite the guests to begin their meal. During dinner there will also be an Oriental Floor Show featuring belly dancers and folk-dances from the different regions of Turkey.

GALA DINNER AT THE PRIVATE MUSEUM OF SADBARK HANIM ISTANBUL

The guests will be welcomed at the Buyukdere pier by an Ottoman military band, that will escort them to the museum. Housed in the lovely, late-Ottoman Azaryan Mansion by the shore of the Bosphorus, the Sadberk Hanım Museum boasts a magnificent collection of Turkish silverware, jewelry, embroidery and fine porcelain. On arrival the guests will enjoy the charm of a traditional Turkish home over cocktails, while watching authentic folk dances. In the grand salon (specially decorated for our exclusive dinner) a gourmet meal will be served to the accompaniment of the chamber ensembles soft music. The evening will end with the exciting performance of Istanbul's most celebrated belly dancers.



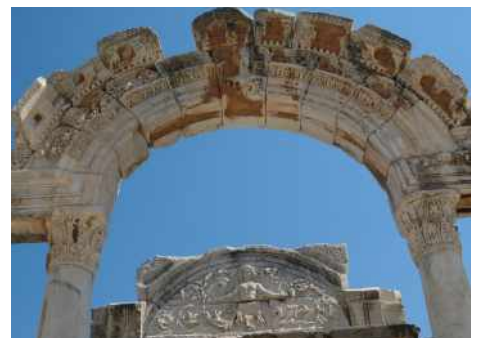
Special Interest Travel



A food-lover's journey is Istanbul has a range of highlights on offer when it comes to dining. The heart of world's richest and finest cuisine, Istanbul delights with its blend of traditional and modern tastes. Whether you want to try Ottoman style dishes or the creation of



A journey of art with the professionals on music, drawing....



An archeological journey to the wonders of Turkey including Istanbul, Ephesus, Pergamum, Catalhoyuk, Aphrodisias, Hattusas...



We create one of a kind journey for any interest, from history to art and architecture and culture. We co-operate with every group from the market such as museums, wineries, actresses, gourmets and perfectly tailor your unique program.



A journey of faith... Turkey is a melting pot of temples, synagogues, churches and mosques...



Ecological tours, bird watching, organic farm life



Artcraft, traditional local arts, wieving, textile, patchwork, yorgancılık

Biblical Tours



The Church of St. Peter
ANTIOCH

Biblical Importance of Asia Minor

Christianity has a long history in Anatolia, which is the birthplace of numerous Christian Apostles and Saints, such as Apostle Paul of Tarsus, Timothy, St. Nicholas of Myra, St. Polycarp of Smyrna and many others.

Two out of the five centers (Patriarchates) of the ancient Pentarchy are in Turkey: Constantinople (Istanbul) and Antioch (Antakya). Antioch was also the place where the followers of Jesus were called "Christians" for the first time in history, as well as being the site of one of the earliest and oldest surviving churches, established by Saint Peter himself. It was in Alexandria Troas that Paul had the vision of a man appealing to him to extend his work to Macedonia. For a thousand years, the Hagia Sophia was the largest church in the world.

Turkey is also home to the Seven Churches of Asia Minor, where the Revelations to John were sent. It is believed that Apostle John is reputed to have taken Virgin Mary to Ephesus in western Turkey, where she spent the last days of her life in a small house, known as the House of the Virgin Mary, which still survives today and has been recognized as a holy site for pilgrimage by the Catholic and Orthodox churches.

All of the first seven Ecumenical Councils which are recognized by both the Western and Eastern churches were held in Turkey. Of these, the Nicene Creed, declared with the First Council of Nicaea (Iznik) in 325, is of utmost importance and has provided the essential definitions of present-day Christianity.



on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my own race, dangers from Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers at sea, dangers among false brothers;

(2 Cor 11.26)

Ephesus



The desirable church that left its first love (Revelation 2:1-7). Ephesus was the influential capital city of Asia Minor on the Aegean Sea. Ephesus is now known for its huge metropolis of ancient streets, arches and ruins.

Smyrna



The persecuted church that suffered poverty and martyrdom (Revelation 2:8-11). Smyrna was located north of Ephesus in a powerful trading position on the Aegean Sea known for its harbors, commerce, and marketplaces. The primary ruins of Smyrna are located in the modern Turkish city of Izmir.

Pergamum



The worldly church that mixed doctrines and needed to repent (Rev. 2:12-17). Pergamum is located on the plains and foothills along the Caicus River in Western Turkey. It was considered a major city in Asia Minor since the 3rd century BC, and became a Greek and Roman hub for temple worship.

Thyatira



The false church that followed a seductive prophetess (Rev. 2:18-29). Thyatira is located in western Asia Minor about 42 miles inland from the Aegean Sea. The ancient city was known for its textiles and dyeing trade, and is now known as the Turkish city of Akhisar.

Sardis



The "dead" church that fell asleep (Revelation 3:1-6). Sardis is located on the banks of the Pactolus River in western Asia Minor, 60 miles inland from Ephesus and Smyrna. Popular ruins include the decadent temples and bath house complexes.

Laodicea



The "lukewarm" church with a faith that's neither hot nor cold (Rev. 3:14-22). Laodicea is located in the Lycus River Valley of western Asia Minor, a primary trade route between the cultures of the West and East. Laodicea was known as a primary hub for the Roman aqueduct system.

Philadelphia



The church of brotherly love that endures patiently (Revelation 3:7-13). Philadelphia is located on the Cogamis River in western Asia Minor, about 80 miles east of Smyrna. Philadelphia was known for its variety of temples and worship centers.



Biblical Tours in Asia Minor

The course on the Bible, study of geography, books on history or archaeology can never give more insight into the Bible and its message than a personal trip to the Asia Minor, today's Turkey itself. You should see, hear, touch, feel, smell and experience the land where the apostles and prophets lived and the great events of the Bible took place. This is an event of a lifetime.

We welcome you to join us for a trip across this second holy land following the footsteps of the Apostles. It is sure to build your faith and forever enrich your reading of the Bible. These tours will definitely be the trips you will never forget!

"We will not only follow in their steps but will find and follow something of their hearts."



Patmos

In the Book of Revelation St. John does not give any detailed information about the cause of his exile. He merely says that he was exiled to Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Christ (Rv 1:9). A late Greek tradition has it that after arriving in Ephesus the story of St. John's miracles reached the ears of Domitian and he was called to Rome. Here his power was tested in front of the emperor by making him drink a cup of poison which killed a criminal but did not harm him, and by asking him to raise a girl who had supposedly been slain by an evil spirit. Domitian, impressed by what he had witnessed, decided only to banish him to Patmos.

His banishment lasted until the death of the emperor. The place chosen to banish St. John was one of the volcanic islands scattered in Aegean about fifty miles south of Ephesus, and was used as a penal colony. A later Byzantine chronicle refers to the island as being "deserted and uncultivated, covered with a made impassable by thorns and shrubs, and by reason of its aridity completely barren". The length of his exile is claimed to have been one and half, or five or fifteen years. During his stay there he did not stop preaching the Gospel and converting the inhabitants.



Footsteps of St. Paul

Day 1 ISTANBUL

You will be met upon arrival by our airport representative and transferred to your hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 2 ISTANBUL - ADANA

The bejeweled city of Istanbul sits between two continents and is home to 3000 mosques. Today's visits begin with Istanbul's Hippodrome, once a stadium with 100,000 seats, where chariot races and circuses often degenerated into violence. Then the famous Blue Mosque, with its six minarets and sparkling interior. You'll visit the Topkapi Palace, once home to royal Sultans. Inside, you'll see the famed jewels of the Treasury, delicate displays of Chinese porcelain in the Kitchen Quarters. Walk through St. Sophia (Hagia Sophia) which, for 1000 years, was the largest church in Christendom. Built by Justinian (532-537 AD), the church has 107 columns, fossil imbedded white marble floors and beautiful glass mosaics. Today, it is the Museum of Byzantine Art. Catch a whiff of cinnamon, cloves, thyme and other exotic spices as you explore the Grand Bazaar. Over 4000 shops sell everything from herbs to gold. This afternoon, you'll fly to Adana, known as the "biggest village in Turkey" due to its rural atmosphere. Adana is also home to the 5,000 US service men and women at Incirlik Airbase. Overnight in Adana.

Day 3 ANTIOCH (ANTAKYA) - TARSUS

Ancient Antioch was the center of Hellenistic civilization in the region and home to a massive temple and oracle complex dedicated to Apollo. The temple functioned until the visiting Emperor Justinian threw out the last remaining priest and ordered the place burned to the ground. Christian roots go deep into Antioch's soil. It was to Antioch that many Jerusalem Christians fled after the death of Stephen (Acts 11: 19-21).

St. Paul and St. Barnabas stayed in Antioch for a year and assembled with the church and taught many people (Acts 11:22-26). Later, the city became the center from which St. Paul performed his missionary labors (Acts 13: 1-5, 14-44; 14: 26-28; 15: 22-41; 18: 22-23). It was in Antioch that the disciples were

first called "Christians", and it was here that the first non-Jews were accepted into the early church. You will visit one of the oldest churches in Antioch, Church of St. Peter. Paul (Acts 22:3) and he visited on his second and third missionary journeys. Reaching back to the 14th century B.C., Tarsus is a city with a resplendent history. Back to Adana for an evening flight to Antalya.

Day 4 PERGA - HIERAPOLIS

Perga, a Hellenistic city where St. Paul preached (Acts 14:25). The ruins of a large stadium, baths and tomb give ample evidence of its former greatness. St. Paul and St. Barnabas visited here on their first journey. Hierapolis is blessed by hot mineral springs and some of the best preserved Roman ruins in Asia Minor. Paul mentions Hierapolis in his Letter to the Colossians in saluting Epaphras, a fellow laborer, for his love of the brethren there (Colossians 4: 13). The ruins cover more than a mile. You'll see the impressive theatre with seats still in perfect condition. You'll see the City Gates, column-lined streets and arches which have stood through time and earthquakes. Today, the area is known as Pamukkale, meaning the "Cotton Castle", named for the limestone-laden hot springs, which cascade from one white-edged terrace pool to the next. Overnight in Pamukkale.

Day 5 COLOSSAE - LAODICEA

You're Famous as the receiver of St. Paul's Letter to Colossians, the town of Colossae has fallen into obscurity. While you can still see traces of the theatre, the Necropolis and the Church, the ancient city is mostly indistinguishable ruins. Not far away is Aphrodisias, another town whose fame has been obscured by time. This city of marble thrived as the major center for worship of the pagan goddess Aphrodite until 500 years after Christ. The Christians of Laodicea, one of the Seven Churches, (Rev. 3: 14-22) were chastised for being lukewarm, "You are neither cold nor hot" (Rev. 3: 15), and for being too comfortable incorporating pagan and Christian beliefs. In the famous scripture from Revelation (3: 20-21), Jesus says to the Laodicean church: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock...". Today, there are many acres of ruins to see, including the stadium and columned streets. Overnight in Kusadasi.

Day 6

EPHESUS

Ephesus is one of the Seven Churches of Revelation (Rev. 1: 11). In ancient days, Ephesus was a bustling port town of 250,000, graced with wide, colonnade bordered streets. Today, you will be impressed with the spectacular excavations of the major streets of ancient Ephesus. You will view the Library and the huge Agora. The Temple of Artemis was declared one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Today, only a single column remains to mark the site.

You will visit the Basilica of St. John, traditional site of his grave. From the basilica, enjoy a commanding view of the area. You will visit the Museum of Ephesus for an up-close look at artifacts from the ancient city. You will have time to explore this powerful city on your own and recreate some of the footsteps of Paul. Overnight in Izmir.

Day 7

SMYRNA - SARDIS - PHILADELPHIA

The third largest city in modern Turkey is Izmir, long a center for Jewish and Christian communities. In St. Paul's day, the town was known as Smyrna. It was one of the Seven Churches of Revelation (Rev. 2: 8-11). You'll see the Agora, the colonnaded commercial center where Roman statues can still be seen. Continue to Sardis, another of the Seven Churches of Revelation.

Jesus told Sardis, "I know thy works, that thou hast a name, that thou livest, and art dead" (Rev. 3: 1-6). Coins were minted and the dyeing of wool originated in Sardis. You will be impressed by the massive scale of the Temple of Artemis, by the white marble Royal Road, by the gymnasium, and by the synagogue.

Visit the site of Philadelphia also one of the Seven Churches of Revelation (Rev. 3: 7-13). Christ told those who overcame that He would write upon them "the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem." (Rev. 3: 12) Today, not much is left to mark the spot. You will see an ancient wall and the remains of a Byzantine basilica. Back to Izmir and overnight.

Day 8

THYATIRA - PERGAMUM

Depart for the visit of Thyatira; was once a busy trading center and famous in dyeing of purple clothes. Thyatira is one of the Seven Churches mentioned in Revelations tolerated the false prophetess, Jezebel (Rev. 1: 11; 2: 18-29). Continue to Pergamum which was another of the seven churches mentioned in Revelations (Rev. 2: 12). It displeased the Lord because it tolerated the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes which Christ hated (Rev. 2: 13-17).

Towering 1000 feet above the town and commanding a spectacular panorama is the fabled Acropolis. As you pass through the Royal Gates, you will enter one of the great centers of classic Greek culture. You will see the foundations of the Temple of Zeus, the Temple of Athena, and the ruins of the Library which once held 200,000 parchment volumes. You will see the remains of the Temple of Trajan, the Grand Theatre, the Gymnasium, and the Health Center (Asclepion). Overnight in Ayvalik.

Day 9

ASSOS - ALEXANDRIA TROAS

Today you begin your tour with Assos where Paul rejoined his companions after walking across the headland on his own and visit the ruins of the city. Then drive to Troas, founded about 300 B.C. by one of the generals of Alexander the Great. During St. Paul's Second Journey, it was from Troas that he received the "Macedonian call" to Europe. This is where Luke's account



Temple of Hadrian - EPHESUS

changes from "they" to "we" (Acts 16:6-12), indicating that he joined St. Paul's team at Troas. Returning from Macedonia during his third journey, St. Paul was in Troas for a week, when the young man Eutychus fell from the third loft as St. Paul preached. Overnight in Canakkale.

Day 10

ISTANBUL

Continue to Istanbul via the beautiful Dardanelles and you will visit the Church of St. Saviour in Chora which is located at the city walls and famous for its mosaics and frescoes.

Day 11

DEPARTURE

Transfer to airport for the flight home.

TOUR FEATURES

- Round-trip air fare between USA-Turkey
- Istanbul-Adana domestic flight ticket
- Adana-Antalya domestic flight ticket
- 10 nights accommodation at 4 star hotels in Turkey
- Bible oriented English speaking professional guide throughout the tour
- Sightseeing as per the itinerary
- All escorted transfers
- Daily breakfast and dinners
- Transportation by private a/c bus with professional driver throughout the tour
- Entrance fees of the sites and museums
- Service charges & local taxes

EXCLUDING

- All drinks and lunches
- Turkish visa fee (to be paid upon arrival at the airport)
- All personal expenses

REMARKS

- We can design shorter or longer itineraries according to your interest.
- You may combine above program with "St. Paul in Greece Tour" mentioned in our website or our Biblical Brochure
- We may organize Mass at the sites where possible if demanded in advance

ADD PATMOS TO YOUR TOUR PROGRAM



Monastery of St. John - Patmos



Private Boat to Patmos Island

PATMOS

You may add one day trip to Patmos Island with private boat including the tour of St. John Monastery, The Museum and The Cave of St. John to above program.



Tour Packages

The Tales Of Turkey

Your first tale will be one and only Istanbul with its palaces, churches, mosques and the biggest covered mall in the world The Grand Bazaar. Then Cappadocia, with it's fairy chimneys, underground cities, unique geography and pottery making since 4000 years. Your tale will go on with Ephesus, the shining star of archeology and history. You will relax on your private Gulet Yacht while you cruise on the beautiful turquoise waters of Mediterranean Sea and explore seduced coves of Turkey. Your unforgettable tale will finish in Istanbul by visiting Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum and The Great Byzantine Mosaics Museum.



The Mystique Turkey

This unique tour includes visits to Turkey's Capitol Ankara, to the Anatolian Civilizations Museum which has the most important artifacts from The Hittites, to the land of fairy chimneys, Cappadocia, to the underground city of Kaymakli, to the city of Konya which is the home of The Whirling Dervishes, to the ancient cities of Perge and Aspendos very rich of antiquity and finally to the magnificent city of Istanbul.



The Coasts of Turkey

Explore Turkey by its coasts. Stay in Istanbul staring at breathtaking Bosphorus. Fly to Antalya visit Aspendos having the best preserved ancient theater in the world. Travel along The Lycian Coast by visiting Myra, Kekova Island, Simena, Xanthos and Patara. Observe the Caretta Caretta turtles of Iztuzu Beach in Dalyan and finish your tour with one of the best and biggest archeological sites in the world Ephesus.

12 Days Private Tour

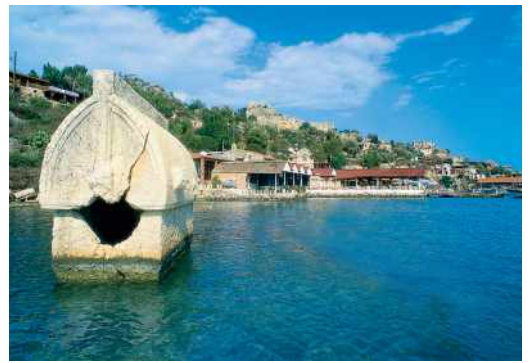
Cappadocia, the unique wonder of the nature including cave churches, fairy chimneys and underground cities will be the first visit of your private tour. Then Konya, the home of Mevlana and whirling dervishes also known as Iconium that was visited by St. Paul will be followed by another wonder of nature the snow white calcium terraces "Pamukkale". After visiting ancient sites Hierapolis and Laodicea, Bodrum with it's medieval castle and Mausoleum (One of the seven wonders of the ancient world) will welcome you. Enjoy your cruise on a private Gulet Yacht while you end your day. Continue to Kusadasi where you visit a living history "Ephesus", learn the traditional life and cuisine of Turkey by visiting villages Sirince and Kirazli. With its churches, palaces, mosques, bazaars and Bosphorus, Istanbul will be the last part of your unforgettable adventure in Turkey.

A Journey...

Hagia Sophia, The Basilica Cistern, Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum and cruise along Bosphorus in Istanbul is the beginning of your journey. Fairy chimneys, cave dwellings, rock churches, underground cities, pottery making since thousands years are just a few examples of your next journey, the one and only Cappadocia. You will explore Turkish culture, traditions and cuisine while you dine in a family home. Continue to Konya the city of the whirling dervishes. After crossing the mighty Taurus Mountains visit Aspendos and Perge of Pamphilia and extraordinary archeological museum of Antalya. On the road to Kusadasi you will be amazed by Aphrodisias, one of the best sites of ancient sculpture and art. Explore Ephesus, the largest archeological site of Turkey and fly back to Istanbul to finish your journey by visiting Dolmabahce Palace, Suleymaniye and Rustem Pasha Mosques and the Spice Bazaar.

Around Turkey Tour

After arriving in Istanbul fly to Cappadocia, the land of fairy chimneys, underground cities, cave churches and pottery making. From there to Konya ancient Iconium, home of Mevlana and whirling dervishes, a city that was visited by St. Paul. Drive across of the rugged Taurus Mountains to Aspendos which has the best preserved ancient theater in the world. Then another ancient city of Pamphilia, Perge will welcome you as it welcomed St. Paul and Barnabas. On the road to Fethiye, Myra of St. Nicholas, Patara and Xanthos in Lycia will be the ancient sites to visit. Before getting to Kusadasi, Didyma having a great temple dedicated to Apollo is another wonder of archeology. Continue to Ephesus with its temples, fountains, marble streets, library and the grand theater with 24.000 seating capacity. Fly back to Istanbul and visit Hagia Sophia, Blue Mosque and cruise along the Bosphorus. Topkapi Palace and the Grand Bazaar will be the last highlights of your tour in Turkey.





Tales of Turkey Tour

Day 1: ISTANBUL

Upon arrival in Istanbul Airport you will be welcomed by your private hostess to assist you throughout all the passport and visa procedures. After meeting your private guide at the airport, you will be transferred to your hotel to have some time to relax. In the afternoon you will board your private boat and launch for a cruise along the Bosphorus, which is a narrow, navigable strait between Europe and Asia connecting the Black Sea to Marmara Sea. View grand Ottoman palaces including Dolmabahce, Ciragan, Beylerbeyi and witness the bridges on the Bosphorus combine continents together like pearl necklaces as your guide narrates the city's history and points out its landmarks. Return to your hotel for overnight.

Day 2: ISTANBUL

After the breakfast at the hotel, depart for the full day tour of Istanbul. Your first stop will be the Hippodrome where chariot races were held with a capacity of 100000 spectators. Walk to the Blue Mosque famous for its six minarets and magnificent blue tiles from Nicea. Then continue to world famous Hagia Sophia (The Divine Wisdom Church) which has one of the largest domes in the world and was built in 6th century A.D. by the Emperor Justinian. After visiting this breathtaking church you will be introduced to the richness of Ottomans by visiting the Topkapi Palace housing the Sultans for 400 years. Today your last visit will be the oldest covered market place in the world with around 3000 shops, the mind boggling Grand Bazaar. Overnight in your hotel.

Day 3: ISTANBUL

Today your first visit will be the Chora Monastery (Church) baring the extraordinary frescoes and mosaics which indicated a new Byzantine art movement that was parallel to the Italian Renaissance started by Giotto. Then to the Suleymaniye Mosque that was built between 1550 and 1557 by the famous architect Sinan for the Sultan Suleyman the Magnificent.

Enter to a mystic world by visiting the Underground Cistern with 336 columns. Later catch a whiff of cinnamon, cloves, thyme and other exotic spices as you wander around the Spice Bazaar. Free afternoon to explore Istanbul on your own and overnight in your hotel.

Day 4: CAPPADOCIA

Transfer to the airport for the morning flight to Cappadocia; "the land of beautiful horses" will welcome you with an outstanding geography. The rock formations beyond belief in Devrent Valley and walking in Zelve is like a journey in the past with its troglodyte houses. Visiting Pasabag is like hearing the voice of wind mixing with the songs of fairies. Then you will continue to Avanos, the center of terra cotta art since 3000 B.C. and feel the clay & mud with your fingers while you enjoy the demonstration by a master in a traditional pottery workshop. In the afternoon, visit the Goreme Open Air Museum and the best examples of Byzantine Art in rock-cut churches with frescoes and paintings. Climb on top of the Uchisar rock-castle as you have the panoramic view of the valleys in Cappadocia. Overnight in your unique cave hotel.



Day 5: CAPPADOCIA

Your adventure in Cappadocia continues with a visit to the Kaymakli Underground City, one of the most interesting underground settlements in the area. Another open air museum; Soganli Valley located in wild natural settings near a typical Cappadocian village with its different style rock-cut churches and frescoes. Villages in the valleys, surrounded by the "Table Top" mountains, are spectacular. Next visit is a newly discovered ancient site called Sobessos with mosaics, houses and a big church. You will see the latest excavations here. Continue to the Medrese (Theological School) from Seljuk Turks in Taskinpasa is the witness of an early and rich Turkish settlement in the town. Your tour finishes with a visit to Mustafapasa (Sinassos), an old Greek town with its spectacular Greek houses; a very fine examples of the late Greek settlements and architecture.

Day 6: EPHEBUS (KUSADASI)

Today, you will fly to Izmir from where you will drive to world famous archeological site, ancient city of Ephesus. It was once the most important commercial center of Asia Minor where St. Paul spent three years during his missionary journeys. Visit the council chamber, the temples, the fountains, the Terrace Houses (houses of rich people) and the Great Theater with 24000 seating capacity, walk on the harbor street where mark Anthony and Cleopatra had walked. Then continue to the Ephesus Museum where you can see the artifacts were found. Continue to the Basilica of St. John and to the Temple of Artemis which was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. If required, you may conclude your tour with the House of Virgin Mary where she spent her last days. You will be transferred to Bodrum where you will embark your private gullet boat for your blue cruise.



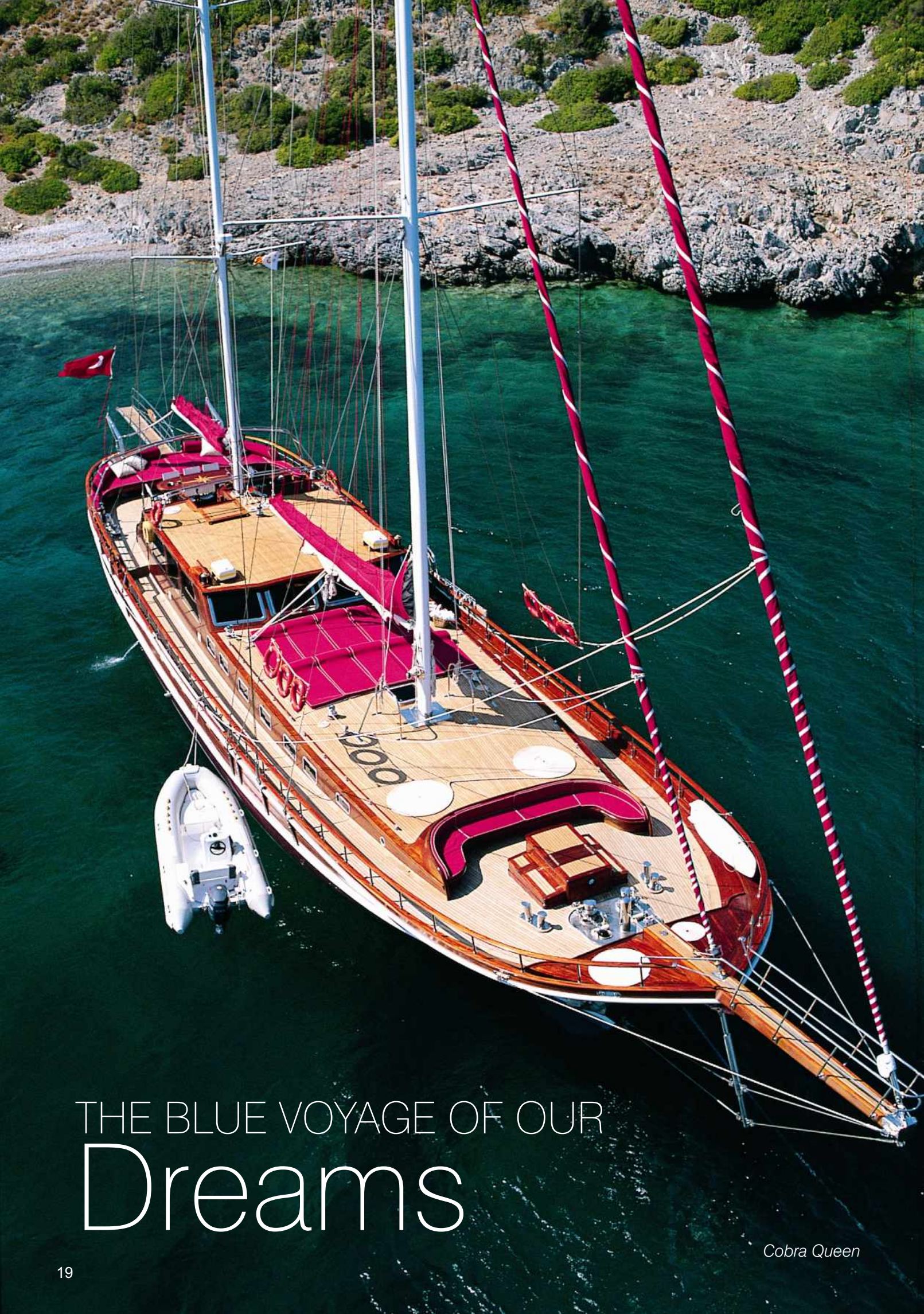
Day 7 - 10: BODRUM - BLUE CRUISE

Day 11: ISTANBUL

This morning, you will disembark your gullet and be transferred to the Bodrum Airport for your flight to Istanbul. After arriving in Istanbul, you will be transferred to your hotel for some time to relax. In the afternoon, your first visit will be to the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts. It was built in 1521 by the Grand Vizier to Suleyman the Magnificent, Ibrahim Pasha as his residence. Today it holds a superb collection of ceramics, metalwork, miniatures, calligraphy, textiles and woodwork as well as some of the oldest carpets in the world. Then continue to the Mosaic Museum which preserves exceptionally fine fifth and sixth century mosaic pavements and decoration pieces from the Grand Palace of the Byzantine emperors. Overnight in your hotel.



Celsus Library - EPHEBUS



THE BLUE VOYAGE OF OUR Dreams

Cobra Queen



Cobra King

Cruise Along The Spectacular Turquoise Coasts; "The Blue Paradise" of Turkey

*This is the country of boundless skies
Catch a song coming from within
The song will merge with the blue of the sky
I would rather live here in peace
than lie peacefully elsewhere
When the moon blinks on the horizon
The universe becomes a fairy tale.*

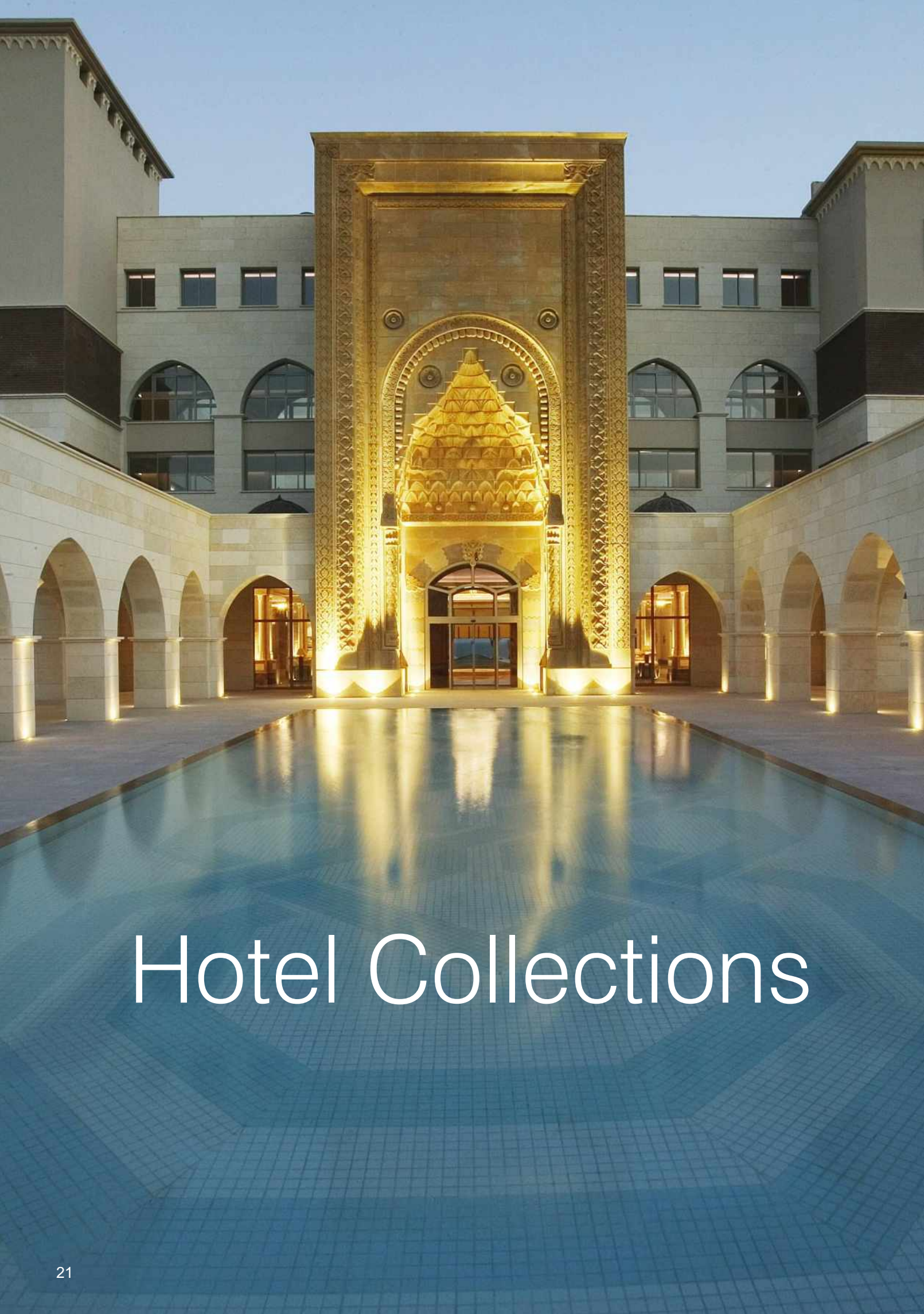
Halicarnassus Fisherman



Cobra King

A private yacht cruise along the crystal clear waters of the Aegean Sea or the Mediterranean is a "dreamlike experience", onboard one of our Turkish wooden yachts named "GULET".

The exotic charm of Gulets as the yacht moves from one hidden cove to another along the lace-like shores, to dock for the night until next days' cruising starts, at the guests' pleasure, after the day's activities of swimming, fishing or discovering the historical riches on the shores, as they please.



Hotel Collections



Hotels for people who care where they stay...

We have a passion for travel and are proud to provide highest standards for the places our guests stay. Every hotel, including those belonging to well-known international brands, is personally reviewed by one of our experts before they're included in our collection. Hotels can be excluded should they no longer meet our high standards.

Rest assured that when you choose a property we recommend from fabulous resorts to hip boutique hotels you'll always stay at the very best.





Ferries & Charter Boats



We operate our company's ferries between Kusadasi & Samos and provide ferry connections to all other Greek islands.

In addition, our boats will be at your service for the private charters to transfer your groups from/to Kusadasi, Samos or Patmos islands beside the regular departures.

While following your Biblical tour program in Turkey, you may use our boats to take your group to Patmos Island for a daily trip. By chartering the boat, you may visit this holy island, tour the Monastery of St. John, visit The Holy Cave, and even have a Mass.

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take,
but by the moments that take our breath away.

George Carlin

Meander Travel

the art of travel...

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