Welcome to Turkey! While having an essential sightseeing of Istanbul and visiting the landmarks of the city, you will be getting cooking and ceramics lessons, enjoying the historical Peninsula by the water with folkloric dances and spending an exotic day out. Topkapi Palace Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, and Covered Grand Bazaar, Bosphorus Bridge, Spice Bazaar, 2 different Cooking Lesson and Belly Dancing and Folklore Class.

**ITINERARY**

**Day 1 : Istanbul - Arrival Day**

Dinner Included

Welcome to Turkey, arrival into Istanbul. Transfer from airport and check in to your hotel and have
some rest. Tonight you will have a welcome dinner, be introduced to our friendly crew and other travelers while enjoying traditional Turkish food and enjoy the mystical atmosphere of Istanbul at night. Overnight in Istanbul.

**Day 2 : Istanbul City Tour - Turkish Cooking Lesson Istanbul**

Breakfast and Lunch Included

After a morning orientation, sightseeing tour of Istanbul, you participate in your first Turkish cooking lesson: preparing lunch which you will enjoy! After lunch, we visit to TOPKAPI PALACE. The great palace of the Ottoman sultans from the 15th to the 19th centuries housing an exquisite collection of crystal, silver, and Chinese porcelain, robes worn by the sultans and their families, the famous jewels of the Imperial Treasury, miniatures, the Holy Mantle; enshrining relics of the Prophet Mohammed. SULTANAHMET IMPERIAL MOSQUE: Across from St. Sophia built in the 16th century by the architect Mehmet, is known as the BLUE MOSQUE because of its magnificent interior decoration of blue Iznik tiles. HIPPODROME: Ancient Hippodrome, the scene of chariot races, with the three monuments; the Obelisk of Theodosius, the bronze Serpentine Column and the Column of Constantine then visit the famous Grand bazaar (Cover Bazaar) In this labyrinth of streets and passages are more then 4,000 shops with each trade having its own area: the goldsmiths' street, the carpet sellers, Turkish arts and crafts, such as handpainted ceramic plates, hand-honed copperware, brassware and trays, water ewers, onyx-ware and meerschaum pipes. Overnight in Istanbul.

Please Note: Hagia Sophia is closed on Mondays, Topkapi Palace closed on Tuesdays

**Day 3 : Istanbul Bosphorus Cruise - Belly Dancing and Folklore Class**

Breakfast Included

Pick up at 08:30am from your hotel for the Istanbul Bosphorus Cruise by boat along the waterway seperating Europe and Asia, then visit the SPICE BAZAAR (Egyptian Bazaar) The air here is filled with the enticing aromas of cinnamon, caraway, saffron, mint, thyme and every other conceivable herb and spice. After the Tour return to hotel for a rest. In the evening, we depart for your Belly dancing and folklore class. This will be a very memorable class learning belly dancing techniques and folklore dance. You will learn the special moves and how to get the attention of the audience. We have dinner at the Restaurant. Overnight in Istanbul.

**Day 4 : Istanbul City Tour - Ceramics Lesson**

Breakfast Included

After breakfast between 08:00 am and 09:30 am pick ups from hotel. Final timing one day before will be given you by your tour consultant.

Today you will depart for a day tour of old Istanbul city. Visit to ST. SOPHIA; This ancient basilica, built by Constantine the Great in the 4th century and reconstructed by Justinian in the 6th century, is one of the architectural marvels of all time. You will be assisted by professional ceramic artists to make your own ceramic piece that you will take home as a memory and souvenir of your trip to Turkey. Ceramic art is the most famous artwork coming from the Cappadocia region. Overnight in Istanbul.
Day 5: Istanbul - End of Tour

Breakfast Included

We hope your tour was a memorable one and we would like to see you in the future in one of our tours again. After breakfast, we check out from the hotel. We organize your return airport transfer services. Have a nice trip back home and thanks for choosing us.

Includes

- Professional English-speaking tour guides
- All entrance fees mentioned in the itinerary
- Transportation in a fully air-conditioned, non-smoking coach
- Return airport transfer
- Arrival airport transfer from Istanbul airport
- 4 nights’ accommodation hotel in Istanbul
- 1 Turkish Cooking Lesson Istanbul
- 1 Belly Dancing and Folklore Class
- 1 Ceramics Lesson
- Bosphorus Cruise
- 1 welcome dinner
- 1 lunch
- 2 different Istanbul City Tours
- 4 breakfasts
- Hotel room taxes

Excludes

- International flights
- Insurance: All types
- Personal expenses: Lunches, extras at hotel or additional meals
- City tax
- Tipping: Tips for guides and drivers

Routes

Available On Dates
Hotels

SILVER TOUR PACKAGE CATEGORY HOTELS Pullman Hotel or Ramada Hotel Golden Horn
GOLD TOUR PACKAGE CATEGORY HOTELS The Marmara Pera Hotel