

Exclusive Virginia Museum of Fine Arts departure – April 11-25, 2025

# Legendary Türkiye from Istanbul to the Turquoise Coast

**15 days for \$5,492 total price from Washington, DC**

**(\$4,895 air & land inclusive plus \$597 airline taxes and fees)**

*Fascinating sights, scents, and sounds reign in this land where Europe and Asia meet. From Istanbul, magnificent “Empress of the World,” to ancient ruins, stunning landscapes, and the dramatic – and legendary – Turquoise Coast, Türkiye engages and beguiles, offering us an unparalleled small group experience.*



## Physical Activity Level



**Moderate**

Refer to page 5 for more information.

## Your Tour at a Glance

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Istanbul		
2-5	Istanbul	Hilton Istanbul Bosphorus	Deluxe
6	Canakkale/Troy	Doubletree by Hilton Canakkale	First Class
7-9	Kusadasi	Charisma Hotel	Deluxe
10-11	Fethiye	Alesta Yacht Hotel	First Class
12-14	Antalya	Akra Barut	Deluxe
15	Depart Antalya for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.



An Antalya landmark, the Yivli Minare (fluted minaret) overlooks the Turquoise Coast.

### Day 1: Depart U.S. for Istanbul, Türkiye

**Day 2: Arrive Istanbul** We arrive in Türkiye’s cultural and spiritual heart today and transfer to our hotel located near Taksim Square, the heart of modern Istanbul. As guests’ arrival times may vary greatly, we have no group activities or meals planned; on our own we can explore the area surrounding our hotel or simply relax. Dinner tonight is on our own.

**Day 3: Istanbul** We get our first real taste of this city straddling two continents today as we set out on a walking tour along lively pedestrian Istiklal Street, lined with boutiques, galleries, restaurants, and late Ottoman-era buildings. We see the magnificent 16<sup>th</sup>-century Suleymaniye mosque then walk along the shores of the Golden Horn. We’ll visit intimate Rustem Pasha mosque, with its exquisite Iznik tiles, followed by the renowned Spice Market. After lunch on our own here, we take a private cruise on the Bosphorus, the waterway that separates Europe from Asia. This evening we take a short walk to a local restaurant for a welcome dinner of traditional Turkish fare. *B,D*

**Day 4: Istanbul** Today we encounter Old Istanbul, beginning with the ancient Roman Hippodrome, the 3,500-year-old obelisk brought from Egypt in 390 CE.

Next we visit the Blue Mosque, with its 20,000 blue Iznik tiles and signature six minarets. We then visit the renowned Museum of Turkish & Islamic Art, housing priceless artifacts from the 8<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. After lunch at a local restaurant we continue on to Hagia Sophia, the 6<sup>th</sup>-century church that was Christendom’s most important before becoming a mosque in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. *B,L*

**Day 5: Istanbul** This morning we tour splendid Topkapi, for 400 years the palace of Ottoman sultans that today ranks among the world’s richest museums. We continue on to the Basilica Cistern, the marble-columned underground chamber that provided water to Istanbul in antiquity. Our next stop is the Grand Bazaar, the covered market housing some 5,000 shops along 60 “streets.” The remainder of the day and evening is free for independent exploration. *B*

**Day 6: Istanbul/Gallipoli/Canakkale** Leaving Istanbul this morning, we travel to the northern Aegean Coast for a brief visit to Gallipoli, haunting site of 31 Allied cemeteries from World War I. Then we ferry across the Dardanelles to Troy, once believed to exist only in Homer’s epic poem until the present site was discovered in the 1870s. After touring here we continue on to Canakkale, where we spend the night. *B,L,D*

**Day 7: Canakkale/Pergamum/Kusadasi** Today we explore one of Türkiye’s most spectacular ancient sites: windswept Pergamum, a major power in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries BCE, with a wealth of Hellenistic ruins. Then we continue on to Kusadasi. *B,L,D*

**Day 8: Kusadasi/Ephesus** Few ancient sites compare to Ephesus, the world’s best-preserved classical city that we explore today. Dating to at least 1300 BCE, Ephesus was Asia Minor’s largest metropolis and principal port. Our tour includes the Terrace Houses, the recently restored “houses of the rich,” with their outstanding mosaic floors and frescoed walls. Then we enjoy lunch in the rustic village of Sirince. *B,L*

**Day 9: Kusadasi/Ephesus** We return to Ephesus to visit the Basilica of St. John, the 6<sup>th</sup>-century ruins that stand over what is believed to be the burial site of John the Apostle. Then we learn about Ephesus through the ages, as we tour the Ephesus Museum, housing treasures from the archaeological site. After lunch together, we stop at a carpet factory to watch a demonstration of this age-old craft. *B,L,D*



Istanbul’s Hagia Sophia

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**Day 10: Kusadasi/Fethiye** En route to Fethiye today, we stop in Dalyan, where we board a small skiff for a trip through a maze of channels. Reaching the Lake of Koycegiz, we see our first

Lycian rock-cut tombs on the cliffs above. Dating to 350 BCE, the tombs number more than one thousand along Türkiye’s Mediterranean coast. Then we

**Post-Tour Extension**

April 25-29, 2025

**Cappadocia & Konya**

5 days/4 nights for \$1,395 total price

Single Supplement: \$395

*We visit ancient Konya then explore in depth the bizarre rock formations and underground cities of Cappadocia and the Goreme Valley.*

**Your Tour Price Includes**

- Private motorcoach transportation Antalya/Konya/Cappadocia
- 4 nights’ accommodations: one night in Konya at Hilton Garden Inn (First Class); 3 nights in Cappadocia at Yunak Evleri Hotel (Superior First Class)
- 11 meals: 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners
- Extensive included sightseeing: Mevlana (Rumi) Museum in Konya, rock churches of Goreme Valley (including open-air museum), Kaymakli’s underground city, Zelve Valley, Avanos and Troglodyte villages of Cavusin and Uchisar
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Gratuities for dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



AS YOU START TO WALK ON THE WAY, THE WAY APPEARS.”

– RUMI

continue our journey to the port town of Fethiye, known for its beautiful natural harbor. *B,L,D*

**Day 11: Fethiye/Cruising** This morning we coach to the Greek “ghost town” of Kayaköy, abandoned after WWI and now preserved as a historical monument. Then we board a private yacht for our Turquoise Coast “Blue Voyage” cruise along the stunning coastline that Antony is said to have given to Cleopatra as a wedding gift. We visit secluded coves (including Aquarium Cove, with its waters of brilliant blue and green), have the opportunity to swim and snorkel, and enjoy lunch on board. *B,L*

**Day 12: Fethiye/Antalya** We set out this morning on a scenic drive along the coastal road to Antalya, stopping along the way in Demre (ancient Myra). Here we visit the 6<sup>th</sup>-century Church of St. Nicholas, known for its impressive frescoes, its significance to both Roman Catholics and Eastern Orthodox Christians, and as its namesake’s inspiration for Santa Claus. Then we travel on to the evocative seaside ruins of Phaselis, the ancient Greek and Roman port city now a national park. Following our visit here, we continue on to Türkiye’s premier resort town of Antalya. *B,L,D*

**Day 13: Antalya** We discover Antalya’s charming old city (Kaleici) on a morning walking tour through its narrow streets, past historic buildings, mosques, and parks. After lunch at a local restaurant, we visit the acclaimed Archaeological Museum, housing priceless artifacts unearthed from nearby sites. *B,L*

**Day 14: Antalya/Perge** This morning we explore the ruins at Perge, an ancient Greek city once among the world’s prettiest and most prosperous. We also visit the Düden Waterfalls, which tumble about 130 feet into the Mediterranean. Returning to our hotel, this afternoon is at leisure. Tonight, we celebrate our Turkish adventure over a farewell dinner together. *B,D*

**Day 15: Depart for U.S.** This morning we board an early flight for our return to the United States. *B*

**Your Tour Price Includes**

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 13 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe and First Class hotels
- 29 meals: 13 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 7 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



We tour the ruins at Ephesus on Day 8.

**Tour Departs: April 11, 2025**

Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees

Boston, New York	\$5,192
Chicago, Washington, DC	\$5,492
Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle	\$5,592
Minneapolis, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), Tampa	\$5,692
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$4,095

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$597, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,395. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: \$4,395 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrade is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

*Important Information About Your Tour*

# General Terms and Conditions

The following is intended to provide you with a description of what to expect when you reserve a tour with Odysseys Unlimited. Upon booking, you will be asked to acknowledge your acceptance of the full Terms and Conditions on My Odyssey, our secure on-line portal.

## Tour Prices

Tour prices quoted are guaranteed through December 31, 2025, and include accommodations based on double occupancy; airfare from your departure city; airline taxes, surcharges, and fees, and port charges and cruise line fees (where applicable), which are subject to change until final payment has been made; internal air, rail, and motorcoach transportation; meals, sightseeing, and transfers as described; hotel taxes; entrance fees for included sightseeing; the services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director; luggage handling for one bag per person; and all gratuities as described below. Please note that the cost of air upgrades is subject to change.

## Gratuities

Tour prices include all gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers on base tours and on optional extensions when accompanied by an Odysseys Unlimited representative. Please note that gratuities for the Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour) are not included. These tips are optional and should be extended on a voluntary basis. Gratuities are not included on "On Your Own" optional extensions.

## Not Included in Your Tour Price

Airfare from your hometown to your departure city; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; immunizations and inoculations; communications charges; airport transfers when purchasing a land-only

package; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour), which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per guest, per day); and a Travel Protection Plan. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

## Registration and Payment

A deposit of \$500 per person confirms your reservation. Full payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure and may be made by personal check or credit card. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. reserves the right to cancel any reservations that are not paid in full at any time after final payment is due. If you make your reservation after the final payment date, payment in full will be required upon reservation.

## Cancellations and Refunds

If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges:

*For all tours (except as noted)*

<u>Prior to departure</u>	<u>Charge</u>
95 days or more:	\$200
94-65 days:	25% of tour price
64-45 days:	50% of tour price
44-30 days:	75% of tour price
29-0 days:	No refund

## *For Africa's Wildlife*

<u>Prior to departure</u>	<u>Charge</u>
95 days or more:	\$200
94-65 days:	50% of tour price
64-30 days:	75% of tour price
29-0 days:	No refund

Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. If due to unforeseen circumstances Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

### Pre-Departure

Upon reservation, you will be able to access all information regarding your tour in My Odyssey, our secure on-line portal. This material includes your invoice, a detailed day-by-day itinerary, visa requirements (if applicable), Travel Protection Plan information, and more. Your final tour documents, including airline itineraries (with e-ticket numbers), will be available in the portal two to three weeks before departure.

### Single Travelers

We welcome single travelers, and offer a limited number of single accommodations on each tour. Because hotel and cruise rates are priced by the room or cabin, the per person cost for accommodations occupied by one person is higher than that shared by two people. We endeavor to keep single supplements at a reasonable cost. Please note that single rooms in many foreign hotels may be smaller than those to which you are accustomed.

### Changes to Your Reservation

We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure. From 94 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a \$100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason or at any time, you will be charged the single supplement. **Please note that no changes to your name(s) or departure date are allowed within 95 days of departure. No changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure.**

### Required Information

Upon reservation, we will need to obtain from you the following, in accordance with the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Secure Flight program (for details, please visit [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov)), as well as for our international travel partners: **your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender; for domestic tours – your full name as it appears on the accepted form of government-issued photo identification that you plan to use, date of birth, and gender.** In addition, airlines may require that we provide them with your contact information prior to departure. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

### Travel Documents

A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on all of our international tours. For all domestic tours, where we fly into a U.S. city to begin the tour or out of a U.S. city at the end, you must present a valid U.S. government-issued photo identification. Starting on May 7, 2025, your government-issued photo ID must be REAL ID-compliant (or you can present an alternate form of ID, such as a passport). Visit [www.dhs.gov/real-id](http://www.dhs.gov/real-id) or contact your local DMV for more information. If your tour requires a visa(s), we strongly recommend that you have at least six blank visa pages available; for tours not requiring a visa(s), we recommend that your passport have at least three blank visa pages. We will send you specific visa and entry requirements after you make a reservation. You are responsible for obtaining these documents. If you need to obtain a visa, we recommend our preferred provider G3 Global Services. If you are traveling with a minor, please contact us for special entry requirements. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please contact your embassy or consulate to ensure you obtain the proper documentation.

### Health and Medical Issues

We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate in an Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day), often uphill or on uneven or cobblestone streets. **You must be able to**

**get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own.** We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire, and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have.

We ask that all guests review our guidelines for health on tour, which can be found on our website: [www.odysseys-unlimited.com/travel-health](http://www.odysseys-unlimited.com/travel-health).

We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. While we do our best to accommodate food allergy concerns, we cannot guarantee zero cross-contamination.

### **Travel Protection Plan**

Odysseys Unlimited makes available an optional Travel Protection Plan that is available for purchase until your final payment. We strongly recommend that you protect yourself and your investment in the event you have to cancel or interrupt your tour. Your Plan payment is fully refundable if you cancel outside of the final payment due date. In order to provide you with the most effective coverage, the policy exclusion for “Pre-Existing Conditions” will be waived if you purchase this plan within 14 days of making your initial deposit/payment for your trip and are medically able to travel at the time the plan is purchased. Information on this Travel Protection Plan will be included with your tour confirmation package. To review full plan details please visit [www.tripmate.com/wpGR350](http://www.tripmate.com/wpGR350).

### **Air Transportation**

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated departure cities as shown and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. Airline upgrades at additional cost may be available on request for the round-trip trans-Atlantic or trans-Pacific portion of your flights. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your**

**international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, booking the tour “Land Only” is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

### **Responsibility**

The liability of VMFA, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchase transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers.

We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary or staff changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality. Cruise itineraries may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions.

**VMFA Member Travel reserves the right to use photos that might include you in marketing materials and for other purposes unless you specify otherwise.**



### RESERVATION FORM

To reserve your place on tour, please call **Odysseys Unlimited toll-free at 888-370-6765**. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

*If you prefer*, you may also complete this Reservation Form and mail it to Odysseys Unlimited’s office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.**  
**Attn: Special Interest Groups**  
**One Newton Place**  
**275 Washington Street, Suite 300**  
**Newton, MA 02458**

Tour Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Pre- or Post-Tour Extension (as described on tour page): Please sign me/us up

I/We would like to request \_\_\_\_\_ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)  
Full Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Please book my/our air from \_\_\_\_\_ I/We request an air upgrade to \_\_\_\_\_  
I will share a room with \_\_\_\_\_ I request a single room (limited availability)